



**ST ANTHONY'S
PARISH**
M A R S F I E L D

19 JANUARY 2020
SECOND SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A

1st Reading Isaiah 49:3, 5-6
Resp Ps Psalm 39:2, 4, 7-10
Here I am, Lord;

I come to do your will

2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 1:1-3
Gospel John 1:29-34

Masses This Week

Sat 6pm	Vigil Mass
Sun 9am & 6pm	Mass
Mon 9am	Liturgy of the Word
Tue - Fri 9am	Mass

Parish Staff & Contacts

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THE GOOD OIL

Who is Jesus?

We see him today simultaneously in the role of Lord and Servant. Today's Gospel speaks about Jesus being baptised by John the Baptist. As Jesus approaches, John announces to some of his own disciples: "There is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" Why is Jesus called by this strange title, the Lamb of God? It refers back to the origins of the great Jewish feast of the Passover. According to the tradition, God had been urging the Pharaoh to let God's people leave Egypt. There had been a series of plagues but each time Pharaoh reneged on his promise to do so. The final and most terrible plague involved the slaying of every firstborn child in Egypt. In order that the Israelites might not be punished, they were told to smear the doorposts of their houses with the blood of a lamb. When God's angel struck, he passed over the blood-painted houses of the Israelites and their children were spared. They had, in effect, been saved by the blood of the lamb. Pharaoh acknowledged defeat and finally said he would let the Israelites go. (He will go back on his word once more and with disastrous results for him.) On the night before the Israelites left, under the leadership of Moses, they had a final meal which included the eating of a roast lamb. (The same lamb whose blood had been painted on the doorposts of the house.) The lamb then becomes the sign and symbol of the liberation of God's people from slavery and oppression. This great event of the Exodus, the Going Out, was and is commemorated in the Passover meal which Jesus celebrated with his disciples at the Last Supper and which is still celebrated by Jews worldwide. (The Passover meal is now also being observed unofficially by many groups of Catholics and other Christians during Holy Week.)

Jesus the eternal Lamb

But for us – and this is John the Baptist's meaning – Jesus is the new Lamb which brings freedom and liberation from the oppression of evil and sin. He sacrifices himself to take away our sins.

FULL COMMENTARY at livingspace.sacredspace.ie/OA021

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SISTERS OF ST ELIZABETH from Belarus will visit St Anthony's on Tues 28 Jan. After Mass handcrafts from their workshops will be available for purchase. The proceeds will help support their works, which include a boarding home for children and adults with special needs, and rehabilitation centres for women and men who are homeless, recently released from prison and those struggling to overcome drug and alcohol addiction.

SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION 2020. If your child is in Year 3 or above this year and is baptised a Catholic, he/she is now eligible to enrol in the First Reconciliation program. The enrolment package is available on saintanthonys.org.au and the Parish Office. Enrolments close 17 Feb 2020.

BUSHFIRE APPEAL COLLECTION– ALL MASSES 25 & 26 JAN.

Friends, the sad tragedy of the bushfires has impacted upon our Catholic community across the Archdiocese of Sydney in a very real way. A brave Rural Fire Service volunteer Andrew O'Dwyer was farewelled at a Requiem Mass at Our Lady of Victories Parish in Horsley Park this week. The parish is providing ongoing support to his widow Melissa and 19 month old daughter Charlotte and our prayers are with them. Amidst the devastation of the fires, it has been encouraging to witness the support of so many ordinary Australians, including so many men and women of faith. While much of the response must be at a local parish and diocesan level, such a great crisis also requires a national response. Alongside my brother bishops across the country, I encourage you to donate to a special parish collection at Masses over the Australia Day weekend (25 and 26 January) through the St Vincent De Paul Society. Through this bushfire appeal, you can make a tangible difference in the lives of those affected, whether that be to cover basic clothing or the food bill for a family evacuated from their home. The support may also come through psychological counselling services for families left traumatised by the disaster or financial counselling as they struggle to pay unexpected bills. Together we can offer real comfort and long term support to families left struggling after the bushfires.

+ ANTHONY FISHER OP

CHANGES IN PARISH OFFICE HOURS. From Jan 15-25 the Parish Office it will be open for limited hours. For sick calls or funerals, please leave a message on voicemail (follow the prompts) when you ring. Normal office hours of 9.30am-1pm resume Tue 28 Jan 2020.

MASS AND BLESSING OF THE SICK at Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto, Earlwood, on Sun 9 Feb, entrance via St. James Avenue, Earlwood, commencing with recitation of the Rosary at 2.30pm followed by Mass and the Blessing of the Sick at 3pm. Principal celebrant: Fr Brian Lucas.

GRIEF SUPPORT-BUSHFIRE CRISIS FROM ALBERT & MEYER.

Times of adversity can serve to strengthen bonds and it's because of this and what we are witnessing around our country that Albert & Meyer would like to offer free grief support to anyone who feels they need assistance during the bushfire crisis. Up until 31 Mar if you feel you or someone you know would benefit from some time with a grief support worker, please call us on 9484 3992 to arrange a time.

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREGORIAN SCHOLA OF SYDNEY.

Thu 13 Feb, 6.30pm at St Bede's Church, 43 Pymont Rd, Pymont. Digital copies of medieval manuscript sources will be shown including those composed by St Hildegard of Bingen d.1179. Audience participation will with a Q&A. Bookings essential. Ring 0418 230 322 or email Stephens.harry@gmail.com . Entry by voluntary donation.

PLENARY COUNCIL. Do you feel called to express your interest in being a delegate from our diocese to participate in the plenary council general assembly held in Adelaide in October? If so, speak with your Parish Priest or Barbara Perry (Sydney Plenary Council Working Group) at barbara.perry@sydneycatholic.org or 0438 012 964 . Application: <https://sydneycatholic.org/plenary-council.pdf>.

YOUTH LEADERS EVANGELISATION SCHOOL 2020, 25 JAN-1 FEB.

A week long live-in experience for youth leaders and young adults between 18 and 35 years old. The school will allow leaders to explore their call to discipleship through community life, daily prayer and building a culture of responsibility for themselves and others in their daily lives. More info email elizabeth.pasion@sydneycatholicyouth.org

PARISH DIARY

19 JAN — 26 JAN 2019

BUSHFIRE APPEAL

All Masses 25-26 Jan

PASTORAL SESSIONS

Mon: **Rosary** in Italian 7pm.

Tue: **Cenacle** 9.30am. **Cenacle & Adoration** 4pm.

Wed: **Adoration** 9.30am. **Meditation** 10am Parish Centre.

Fri: **Rosary** 9.30am. **Adoration** 6pm.

Reconciliation by appointment or Sat 5.30-5.50pm



THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY
is available at the church doors.
Please put \$2 in the Poor Box.

Parish Collections

1st collection supports the needs of the Parish Priest, presbytery upkeep, food, utilities, support of the Archdiocese, care of elderly priests.

2nd collection supports the maintenance & upkeep of Parish buildings and grounds, pastoral works, Parish administration, insurance, utilities, salaries, priest car expenses & Charitable Works Fund shortfall.

COUNTERS ROSTER JAN/FEB

19/1 - Team 10; 26/1 - Team 1; 2/2 - Team 2;

9/2 - Team 3; 16/2 - Team 4; 23/2 - Team 5

COMMUNION UNDER BOTH KINDS

- If you have a cold or flu symptoms (or any other communicable disease, cold sores, etc.) you **MUST NOT** receive communion from the Chalice.
- In accordance with the General Instruction, we **DO NOT DIP** the Host in the Chalice.

Please turn off your mobile phone in Church. Thank you.

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY
CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE IS A CRIME. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you or anyone you know have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

PRAYER MINISTRY

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER:
Those who are sick, especially-

Fr Michael Walsh CM, Eddie Yap, Phillip Hopson, Moonki Nam, Victor Fernandez, Terry Wallace, Chris South, Kevin South, Konrad Wrzesinski, Alan Griffith, Barbaro family, Janet Godsell, Bishop Geoffrey Robinson, Victor Galea, Margaret Cusack, Karen Kuek Ah Lan, Jac Smits, Ann Chippendale, Ian Lim.

The recently deceased

Joan Johnson

(wife of the late Kevin Johnson)

And those with anniversaries
around this time.

John Chippendale

(7th anniversary 21 Jan)

Due to privacy laws, if you would like the name of a family member or friend printed in the Good Oil, please contact the Parish Office.