



ST ANTHONY'S
PARISH
MARSFIELD

THE GOOD OIL

THE GOSPEL REMINDS US that it is essential for the Christian disciple both to be seen and heard. Christianity is not a private religion. Christianity is a vision which is meant to change the world and there is no doubt that, to a great extent it has.

Several images

Jesus uses a string of images to express this: He wants his disciples to be the salt of the earth. Salt is a basic & essential item in our diet but it had a particular value in ancient culture. It is a purifier, a seasoning and a preservative. What Jesus emphasises is its distinctive taste. We often judge food by saying it has too little or too much salt. Christians then, by their Gospel-centred lives, are to give a distinctive taste to society. Those who really have the spirit of the Beatitudes (including non-Christians) will permeate the world, renew it and retard its social and moral decay. But salt only produces its effect when it is totally merged with the food. It is indistinguishable from the rest of the food but its presence or absence is very obvious. The Christian, too, can only be truly effective when he or she is fully a member of society and, at the same time, gives an unmistakable taste to that society. In our Western society, we often put salt on the side of the plate. This is like the Christian who does have taste but who lives on the fringes of society and makes no impact on it. This can happen very easily when, for instance, we have a parish which is only concerned with its own spiritual well-being and makes no effort to reach out. The other extreme is when a Christian is totally immersed in secular society but has nothing to give, like tasteless salt which is good for nothing.

The light of the world

Jesus said of himself, "I am the light of the world." We are then called to be and to do what Jesus did for the world. The Gospel message is to shine out through our words & actions. Some people will not like that light, preferring darkness, and may try to put it out. Jesus has already dealt with that ..where he speaks of persecution for the sake of the Gospel.

What should be seen?

To answer that, let us listen to the First Reading from Isaiah...

READ THE FULL COMMENTARY at livingspace.sacredspace.ie/OA051

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9 FEBRUARY 2020

**FIFTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A**

1st Reading Isaiah 58:7-10

Resp Ps Psalm 111:4-9

***A light rises in the darkness
for the upright***

2nd Reading 1 Cor 2:1-5

Gospel Matthew 5:13-16

Masses This Week

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

Parish Staff & Contacts

Pastor **Greg Cooney cm**
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FUNDRAISING TRIVIA NIGHT

**FOR THE SOLOMON ISLANDS
GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH, RED BEACH.**

Sat 7 Mar, 7.15pm

at the Parish Hall.

Cost: \$15 per person. (Tables of 10)

Coffee, tea, supper included.

BYO glasses, drinks and nibbles.

Tickets from the Parish Office.

**There will be a bucket collection in aid of
the Solomon Islands Parish after all Masses that weekend.**

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 at the Parish Office and on saintanthonys.org.au . Enrolments close 17 Feb 2020.

LENTEN PROGRAM 2020. Each year, during the season of Lent, we are given the opportunity to prayerfully prepare ourselves to celebrate the life, death and Resurrection of Jesus. Here at St Anthony's we would like to assist your preparation for Easter, through our annual 6-week Lenten program. This is a wonderful opportunity to gather with friends, old and new, and to prayerfully reflect on the central mysteries of our faith. The program is clear and easy to follow and focuses on the Gospel reading for each Sunday of Lent. This year we are hoping to expand the program with several groups meeting either in homes or in the parish centre. We are looking for people willing to host a small group in their homes or in the parish centre, **commencing the week of 23 Feb**. These groups can meet during the day or in the evening. **If you would like to assist by being a host**, please put your details on the notice at the main entrance of the church. **If you would like to participate in a group** please indicate your preferred day and time and contact details on the notice for participants, also at the main entrance to the church.

For further information contact rachel@saintanthonys.org.au

REACH BEYOND: BECOME SIMPLY RICH. All trades and professions are requested by communities abroad seeking to build their capacity and skills. They're not asking for money or gifts that contribute to degrading dependence. Your assistance will help to develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty. [Palms Australia](http://www.palms.org.au) will provide you with thorough preparation and support. You will be rewarded with riches greater than you might imagine. Look at www.palms.org.au, email palms@palms.org.au or ring 0422 472 567.

CATHOLIC MISSION CAMINO PILGRIMAGES 2020. Spaces available May (2) & Sept. (1). See catholicmission.org.au/camino2020 Sr Veronica OP, 0451 387 906.

INVITATION TO ALL INTERESTED IN CATHOLIC MUSIC AND ITS HISTORY: Come to the OPEN NIGHT to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of The Gregorian Schola of Sydney. See and study digitized manuscripts with music copied hundreds of years ago including those composed by St Hildegard of Bingen d.1179. Listen to the schola singing them. Join with them and take part in Q&A. When: Thurs, February 13, commencing 6.30pm. Where: St Bede's Church, 43 Pyrmont Rd, Pyrmont. Why? This is all part of our search for the truth in passing on the faith and the message of the Gospel. Bookings essential. Email Stephens.harry@gmail.com. Enquiries 0418 230 322. Entry by donation

WOMEN'S LENTEN RETREAT, Mt Schoenstatt, Mulgoa from 6pm, Fri 28 Feb – 4pm Sun 1 Mar. Venue: Mount Schoenstatt Spirituality Centre, 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa 2745. Cost: \$170 twin-share, \$210 single room (when available) Day Participation: 9am – 5pm - \$60 Registration. For Booking Form & Payment contact: info@schoenstatt.org.au or ring: 4773 8338 by 14 Feb. The theme of this retreat will be: ***Wake up and awaken one another***. If you are looking for some quiet time to prepare for Easter and reflect on the role of women in today's Church and society, then this weekend is for you! We will look at how can we, as women, contribute to a better future? The challenge is great but with Christ and the Blessed Mother, everything is possible.

MASS TO LAUNCH THE CAUSE OF BEATIFICATION AND CANONISATION OF SERVANT OF GOD, EILEEN O'CONNOR, St Mary's Cathedral, Thu 20 Feb, 5.30pm. The co-founder of Our Lady's Nurses for the Poor, Eileen O'Connor has taken a major step forward to becoming Australia's second saint after the Archbishop of Sydney, Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP called on Catholics to submit evidence to support Eileen's cause for canonisation. All are welcome.

PARISH DIARY

9 FEB— 16 FEB 2020

St Anthony's Ladies Club	Thu 13	11am-1pm
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St Anthony's Book Club	Fri 14	9.45am
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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 FEB/MAR

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

1/3 - Team 6; 8/3 - Team 7; 15/3 - Team 8

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, Elana Tran.

The recently deceased

Fr Gerald Scott cm

Joan Johnson

(wife of the late Kevin Johnson)

And those with anniversaries
around this time.

Peter Brannigan

(3rd Anniversary 4th Feb)

Tony Scapellato

(6th Anniversary)

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.