

SACRED HEART PARISH - MUNDARING

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LOVE

NEWS, HAPPENINGS & CELEBRATIONS

FROM AN ITINERANT DEACON

Hello to all! I'm borrowing on the idea from Fr John's recent messages from an itinerant priest in Calcutta, but without his journalistic flair! This is a much shorter message from me on my Lenten journey, visiting parishes in the Archdiocese of Perth, assisting as deacon and preaching the homily at weekend Masses by connecting the Sunday readings with Caritas and Project Compassion 2023. Last weekend was Project Compassion Sunday, visiting St Mary's Cathedral. Big numbers at these Masses, with many nationalities, all age groups, and many young families.

This coming weekend I'm visiting St Anthony's Parish Wanneroo – well known to Fr John. This is the first Sunday of Lent and the Project Compassion story is about Laxmi from Jajarkot, a remote district in Nepal, where almost half the population live below the poverty line. Your donations help our partner, Caritas Nepal, provide young people with skills and confidence training to become leaders. I'm looking forward to visiting Wanneroo parish.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow 'For All Future Generations' (our Project Compassion theme this year).

Have a blessed Lent. Dcn Paul

THE CATHOLIC GUY

LENT 2023 WITH THE CATHOLIC GUY BRUCE DOWNES

Lent is a time when we can grow closer to God and prepare our hearts for the true meaning of Easter. Be inspired. Be refreshed. Be renewed!

For 40 days you will receive a short, practical and inspiring video in your inbox every morning to help you make this Lenten journey more powerful and prayerful. This program is

FREE and you can sign up here: <https://BruceDownes.org/Lent23>

Go to BruceDownes.org for more info

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This coming **Friday March 3 at 9.30am, followed by morning tea**, at Mundaring Uniting Church, 120 Stoneville Rd, Mundaring.

This year World Day of Prayer will focus on praying for Taiwan.

All are welcome.

CUPPA AFTER MASS NEXT WEEKEND

Next week is the first weekend in the month, so we will have a cuppa after each of the weekend Masses. Come with the intention of staying for a bit of communal interaction...always makes us a stronger parish community!



NEW PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE ROSTERS AVAILABLE FROM THE FRONT PEW

WEEKDAY Mass Times for Tuesday 28th February - Saturday 4th March

Tuesday 8:00am; Wednesday 9:00am

Friday 8:30am (followed by Adoration)

Saturday 8:30am (followed by Reconciliation)

WEEKEND MASSES: Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm (Sacred Heart Mundaring)

Sunday - 7:30am (Our Lady of Good Counsel Chidlow)

9:30am (Sacred Heart Mundaring)

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During the season of Lent, we will pray the stations of the cross each **Friday evening at 7pm**. We seldom contemplate the Pathos of God in and through the Passion and Death of Jesus; and this season is so absolutely relevant for us to engage in this contemplative liturgy.

There will be an added bonus for those who are interested: a talk from Bishop Robert Barron, each week, on the Seven Deadly Sins.

SACRED HEART 90TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

We will celebrate **90 years of Sacred Heart on Sunday, June 18 at the 9.30am Mass** (that is the first Sunday after the Feast of the Sacred Heart).

It is with great delight that I am able to advise that Archbishop Tim Costelloe will be the main celebrant.

After the Mass we will gather for a catered lunch provided by the parish.

As part of our celebrations, we are calling for photographs, anecdotes and anything else you (wise old souls who have been here for longer than most) have hidden away in cupboards and in your recesses of your hearts and minds.

MASS ON TUESDAY MORNING

I have a funeral in Wanneroo on Tuesday morning at 10am, so **Tuesday morning Mass will be at 8am**. Please let others know. *Many thanks Fr John*

First Sunday of Lent - Year A

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

Creation of our first parents, and sin.

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden. The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death."' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So, she took some of the fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it.

Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised they were naked.

So, they sewed fig leaves together to make themselves loin cloths.

■ The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM. Ps 50:3-6, 12-14, 17. R. v. 3

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence. O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. **R.**
2. My offences truly I know them: my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone have I sinned; what is evil in your sight I have done. **R.**
3. A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **R.**
4. Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise. **R.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Romans 5:12, 17-19

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned.

If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

■ The word of the Lord.

First Sunday of Lent – Year A

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Mt 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew. 4:1-11

Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied. '**Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.** The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, '**Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.**' Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these,' he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.'" Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! **For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God and serve him alone.**' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

IN JESUS' FOOTSTEPS

At the dawn of human history, Adam and Eve were seduced into trying to grasp equality with God. In their quest to become like God they gained some knowledge, but it left them chastened and disillusioned. Created in God's image they now saw that dignity was distorted by sin and became aware of their nakedness, vulnerability and need for God.

Prior to commencing his public ministry, Jesus undergoes a time of testing and preparation. During this time Jesus shares in all the trials that Israel experienced in the desert. They lost their way in the desert but Jesus gives us hope as he reveals the qualities that mark God's children. He knows the source of his life is to be found in God so there is no need to make his own bread. He knows that God is with him and does not need to put God to the test. He is certain that God is the source of his life and power and rejects the call to worship Satan.

Paul looked at all of salvation history and saw that Adam and Jesus marked two vital moments in God's dealing with humanity. What had been lost by one had been more than regained by the other. Through the gracious gift of Jesus' death, we are able to begin anew as God's children. As we begin the season of Lent we are invited to reflect on our own story, to begin once again with thankful hearts, and follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

Christopher Monaghan CP