

GOSPEL

Jn 2: 13-25

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up'. The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT / B

3 MARCH 2024

CHRIST, THE POWER AND WISDOM OF GOD

The image of a limp, distorted body on the cross, which we know as the crucifix, has a long history of development. While its central place with the altar in our churches and its focus for personal devotion may seem normal to us, it is an anathema to others. How is this the focus of our belief and worship? A reminder of the sacrifice, its very presence points to the resurrection, salvation and the hope of everlasting life with God who loves us.

Today's readings grapple with this dilemma. Paul's words to the Corinthians capture something of the complexity of those early days of preaching the Good News: "preaching a crucified Christ." Who would believe in a dead Messiah? Yet Paul insists "but to those who are called, Jews and Gentiles, a Christ who is the power and wisdom of God" (1 Cor 1:24). Paul's tussle with this is juxtaposed with John's account of Jesus cleansing the Temple where Jesus says, "Destroy this sanctuary and in three days I will raise it up" (John 2:19). This imagery made no sense to the Judeans for this Temple, the Holy of the Holies and dwelling place of God took 46 years to build. The narrator adds that the temple Jesus spoke of was his own body. The narrator also recounts that the disciples had heard Jesus' words but it made no sense to them either until the event of the resurrection. Let us contemplate Christ as the power and wisdom of God.

Dr Rosemary Canavan

FIRST READING

Ex 20: 1-3, 7-8, 12-17

A reading from the book of Exodus.

The Law was given through Moses.

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

'You shall have no gods except me.

You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.

'You shall not kill.

'You shall not commit adultery.

'You shall not steal.

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

■ The word of the Lord.

Longer form, 20: 1-17.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 18: 8-11. R. Jn 6: 68

R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect, / it revives the soul. / The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, / it gives wisdom to the simple. **R.**

2. The precepts of the Lord are right, / they gladden the heart. / The command of the Lord is clear, / it gives light to the eyes. **R.**

3. The fear of the Lord is holy, / abiding for ever. / The decrees of the Lord are truth / and all of them just. **R.**

4. They are more to be desired than gold, / than the purest of gold / and sweeter are they than honey, / than honey from the comb. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Cor 1: 22-25

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

We are preaching a crucified Christ, a scandal to many, but to those who have been called, the wisdom of God.

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 3: 16

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

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

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



3rd Sunday in Lent (3rd March 2024)
St Joseph's Catholic Church, 30 Fitzgerald Street
St Thomas Aquinas' Church, 43 Bromby Street

In the Pastoral Care of the AUGUSTINIANS

- ▶ Fr Luca Park OSA Parish Priest
- ▶ Fr Marydas Arackal OSA Assistant Priest
- ▶ Fr Matteo Cho OSA (Korean Chaplain)
- ▶ Fr Brian Buckley OSA Prior

ADMINISTRATION

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH CENTRE
 Tel: Church & Office 9826 9677
secretary@parishofsouthyarra.org.au
www.parishofsouthyarra.org.au
Postal: Box 21 South Yarra 3141



OUR PARISH AND THE AUGUSTINIANS

Commit to creating an environment where the safety of children and vulnerable persons is paramount. All volunteers are required to have a Working With Children Check.

Pastoral and Administrative Support

- ▶ Stephy Coosnapa (Parish Pastoral Assistant)
- ▶ Safeguarding: Stephy Coosnapa & I-Lynn Lee
- ▶ Toni Stuart (Parish Secretary, Weddings & SJOS Volunteer Co-ordinator: Tues/Thurs/Fri)
- ▶ Juliet Oei (Business & Facilities Manager: Tues - Fri)
- ▶ Bernadette Dennis (St Joseph's Outreach Services)

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

St. Joseph's • 10.30am Mass
 Fourth Sunday of the month
 (except school holidays and long weekends)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Joseph's • Sat: 5.15pm – 5.45pm, by appointment or before/after Weekday Mass

ANOIDING / HEALING MASS

(Sacrament of the Sick) First Tuesday of the month 10am at St Joseph's Church

HOLY COMMUNION AT HOME

Anyone ill or housebound may contact us to request a visit for communion at home.

Liturgical Calendar for the week commencing 3rd March 2024

DAY	ST JOSEPH'S	ST THOMAS AQUINAS'
	TIME	TIME
Saturday 2nd March 2024	6.00pm Vigil Mass	
Sunday 3rd March 3 rd Sunday in Lent	10.30am Mass	9.00am Mass
Monday 4th March 3 rd Week in Lent		
Tuesday 5th March 3 rd Week in Lent	10.00am Anointing/Healing Mass	12.45am Mass
Wednesday 6th March 3 rd Week in Lent	10.00am Mass	12.45am Mass
Thursday 7th March 3 rd Week in Lent	10.00am Mass	12.45am Mass
Friday 8th March 3 rd Week in Lent	10.00am Mass Stations of the Cross	12.45am Mass
Saturday 9th March 3 rd Week in Lent	9.00am Mass 6.00pm Mass	

PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Parish AGM is to be held Sunday 24th March at 11.45am at St Joseph's. All parishioners are invited. The Annual Report will be presented and nominations for council membership presented.

PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

Nomination forms for new Council members are available at the church doors and must be received at the parish office by Friday 15th March.



EVENTS AND MEETINGS

- ▶ Stations of the Cross: Fridays 10.30am
- ▶ Anointing/Healing Mass: Tues 5th March 10am
- ▶ RCIA Meeting Thursday 7th March 7pm.
- ▶ Lenten Reflections – Tues 5th March 7pm
- ▶ Parish AGM – Sunday March 24th (Palm Sunday)

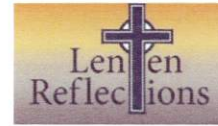
AUGUSTINE 'GOD IS YOUR LIFE'



“If you are afraid of death, love life. Your life is God, your life is Christ, your life is the Holy Spirit. You don't please him by behaving badly. He won't live in a

tumbledown temple, he won't enter a filthy temple. But plead with him to clean a place out for himself; plead with him to build himself a temple; to construct himself what you have destroyed; to restore himself what you have defaced; to raise up himself what you have thrown down. (Sermon 161)

STATIONS OF THE CROSS in St Joseph's church 10.30am on Fridays during Lent.



This Tuesday 5th March and each Tuesday during Lent 7pm in the Parish Centre. The reflections will focus on the Lenten Sunday Gospel readings. All welcome.



Project Compassion boxes and envelopes are available at the church doors, or you may donate by visiting Caritas Project Compassion or by phoning 1800 024 413

SAVE WITH CDF COMMUNITY FUND

By opening an account, you receive a competitive financial return and your savings will help build parishes, classrooms, hospital wings, aged care homes and social service facilities. With competitive interest rates available, it's a way to save while doing good. To find out more, scan the QR code or google Catholic Development Fund



IN LOVING MEMORY
Recently Deceased

- ✦ Margaret Lochtenberg
- ✦ Margaret Quealy



Anniversaries

- ✦ Benedict Boudville
- ✦ Edward Lavery-Bellman
- ✦ Anna Kubsik
- ✦ Dr James O'Collins
- ✦ Corinne Furnell
- ✦ Ben Lochtenberg

FRIENDS OF ST AUGUSTINE.

Friends of St. Augustine begin their 2024 Program on Thursday, March 14, at 7.00pm in the Archive Room. An Invitation is extended to parishioners, interested in exploring their faith journey in a deeper sense, to become part of this group. Please contact Judith on 0417 309 747 or Mary on 0419 134 075

WELCOME TO RCIA CANDIDATES 2024

It is with pleasure that we introduce the candidates for our RCIA program for 2024 with their sponsors this Sunday at our 10.30am Mass with a Rite of Welcome. Please pray for candidates Michelle Lim, Aaron Rhodes, Patrick Vo, Mirna Boulous and Melati Russ



MARGARET LOCHTENBERG & MARGARET QUEALY – REST IN PEACE

The parish is saddened at the loss of two of our long-standing parishioners Margaret Lochtenberg and Margaret Quealy. We extend our sincere condolences to their families and friends. Margaret Quealy's funeral is on Tuesday 12th March 10.30am and Margaret Lochtenberg's funeral is Wednesday 13th March 11am, both at St Thomas Aquinas church.

MASS COLLECTIONS 25/02/2024

Clergy (Augustinian Community)	
1 st Collection, CDF & bank deposits.	\$ 919.60
Church (Parish Ministries)	
2 nd Collection	\$ 724.15
Envelopes.....	\$ 131.85
Direct Debit/EFT/ CDF Pay/ Cr Cards	\$ 585.60
Tap Point Terminals.....	\$ 560.00
<i>Thank you for your generosity</i>	

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

Margaret Wallin, Mark Ho, June Cochrane, Ronald Seaman, Mitos Gloudemans, Anne Rigg, Ced John Netto, Julie Mahony, Inge Halim, Paul Chong, Larissa Popowski, Mary Ireland, Caroline O'Neil, Isabella Chong, Tony Duarte, Thomas Bedier, Luke Dennis, Sonia Guzman, Damien Ryan, Stephen Soh, Anne Morton.