

St Mary Queen of Heaven, Georges Hall



2nd Sunday of Lent | Year A | Sunday 8th March 2020



Mission Statement:

We the St Mary Queen of Heaven parish, are called to be a strong, loving, caring family united in faith. Guided by the Spirit of Jesus we desire to use our diverse talents to reach out and encourage others. We cherish the living tradition of our Catholic church and will seek to heal misunderstandings and hurt in our midst so that Jesus' prayer may be realised, "Father may they be one, as you and I are one."

Parish Priest:

Fr Joseph Kolodziej

Parish Office:

Monday - Friday ph: 9727 3759
parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com

Safeguarding Officer/Secretary:

Veronica Denning
veronicad.smgh@bigpond.com
(Please email to join our Bulletin mailing list)

Parish Website:

www.smgh.org.au

Parish Facebook:

Follow: [fb.me/smgh2](https://www.facebook.com/smgh2)



Parish School:

Ph: 9727 0000
www.stmgeorghall.catholic.edu.au



A Message from Fr Joseph

The Transfiguration drama is meant to remind us that, if we work hard and remain faithful to God's call and command, we shall be among the triumphant community. This glory is only a glimpse of the future glory of our final destination. "Lord, it is wonderful for us to be here..." Peter's amazement and his statement are interesting. Today's gospel is on the Transfiguration of Christ. Through it, Christ reveals himself and his future glory to us. Most importantly, with the Transfiguration, Christ reveals one of the constants of human life to us. There is no life without death, neither joy without pain, nor regeneration without destruction. All, take place at the same time. Hence, his future glory is for those who have washed themselves pure in the blood of the

Lamb. It is for those who have "suffered" for the sake of the good news.

So, in order to share in Christ's glory, we must first walk with him in this Lent. Also, if we want to share in the blessings and glory of Abraham, first, we must be ready to "leave something" behind.

A voice from the cloud said "listen to him". We are called to follow the Master with trust, with hope, notwithstanding his death; the divinity of Jesus must be made manifest precisely on the Cross, precisely in his dying "in that way", so that here, Matthew the Evangelist places in the mouth of the centurion the profession of faith: "Truly this man was the Son of God!". Let us confidently entrust ourselves to our Mother in order to support and continue with faith and generosity the journey of Lent.

EACH WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

SATURDAY:

Mass // 8am
Reconciliation // 4pm
Vigil Mass (English) // 5pm;
Vigil Mass (Vietnamese) // 6.30pm

SUNDAY:

Mass (English) // 8am, 10am, 5pm
Mass (Vietnamese) // 3pm

MONDAY:

Mass // 8am
Nursing Home Mass // 10.30am (fortnightly)
Prayer Group in the Chapel // 5.00pm

TUESDAY

Holy Hour and Rosary // 5pm
Mass // 6pm

WEDNESDAY

Rosary // 7.45am; Mass // 8am

THURSDAY

Rosary // 7.45am; Mass // 8am
Nursing Home Mass // 10.00am (fortnightly)

FRIDAY XX

Rosary // 7.45am; Mass // 8am

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

Saturday 7th:

Feast of Sts Perpetua & Felicity

Sunday 8th:

Ephesus Youth Group // 5.30pm

Monday 9th:

Reconciliation Lesson // 6pm

Tuesday 10th:

Reconciliation Lesson // 7pm

Wednesday 11th:

Playgroup // 8.45am

Friday 13th:

Stations of the Cross // 7pm

Saturday 14th

Vietnamese Funeral at 9.00am

Sunday 15th:

Children's Liturgy // 10am



"This same Jesus then accompanies his disciples back down the mountain and walks with them in the ordinary rhythms of their lives."

- Bishop Barron

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Sick:

Paul Roughley, Rosa Agostino, Christina Apolinario, Claudia Tabares, Daniel Matesic, Bronwyn Kolodziej, Daniel Clarke, David Sanders, Eileen Ellery, Eunice Davis, Heather Graham, John Sanders, Pam Schmidt, Romela Onkowidjaja, Tamara Kalass, Warren Clarke

Recently Deceased:

Anastazja Laniewska Weige & Mary Grech, Claudia Tabares, Karl Berner, Fay Frost, Dominic Nam Nguyen, Dr. Li. Wienliang, Piotr Januchta, Joan Pasa, Halina Donarska, Ryan Lynch, Elizabeth May Batley, Vincent Thai Nguyen, Doug Shedden

Anniversaries:

Sylvia Child, Michalina Greczek Gabor Morvar, Antonio Sherlock, Barbara Stephans, Paul Burke (1999), Marie Lise Goetz (2005), Zofia Wziqtek (2005), Terry King (2014), Bradley Michael Kerin (2016), Hope Bullen, Lisa May Kains (1990), Barbara Stephans, Sandra Valencic, Michael Grimes Costello, Hanah May King, Robert Tozer

For the Souls of the Faithful Departed:

Van Tu & Ancestors
Eternal rest grant unto them
O Lord and let perpetual light
shine upon them.

May all the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.



Youth Corner (Ephesus)

What does a burning bush, a well, a sycamore tree and the gentle breeze have in common?

They are all places that people of Scripture have encountered God.

At our next Ephesus night on Sunday March 8th, we will explore this theme of Encounter. All high schoolers are welcome from 5.30pm after Mass in the school hall.



St Mary's Primary School

Last Monday we celebrated Catholic Schools Week with an open day for our families. We started with a prayer of gratitude for the wonderful opportunities Catholic Education provides. We then enjoyed class visits including some hip hop dancing with our Dance Fever teachers. Parents could also observe our Music Tuition Program. We finished our day with a picnic under the gum trees. We were blessed with wonderful weather for the celebration.



Sacraments

- **Baptism:** Any weekend at a Mass or at 11.00am on Sundays. Please contact the Parish Office to make a booking.
- **Marriage:** Couples need to provide at least six months' notice. A marriage preparation course is required.
- **Reconciliation:** Saturdays at 4.00pm or any other time by appointment. Please contact Father Joseph.

Sacramental Program 2020 - First Reconciliation

Sacramental Lessons Monday 6.00pm and Tuesday 7.00pm
All children enrolled in the program and one parent must attend a lesson each week.
Enquiries: Nadia Dore on 0414 849 569

Family & Faith

**Love in the Laundry
Washing Powder Drive
for
The House of Welcome**



Thank you to those who have donated.
So far we have prepared 62 serves of laundry powder totalling 34kgs.



Wednesday @ 8.45am in the school hall.
Toys, books and puzzles are available for children; as well as an opportunity to listen to a bible story.

Coffee and tea is provided for adults.
Please bring any food & drinks for your children.

Parish Notices



Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy will take place next Sunday 15 March during the 10am Mass. Children will have the opportunity to reflect on the Gospel message and do an activity. All children are welcome. Enquiries: Gill 0407 413 376 OR Veronica 0407 231 262



24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration

All members of our parish and school community are encouraged to attend Eucharistic Adoration on Friday 20 March - Saturday 21 March from 9.00am - 9.00am. There are sheets at the back of the church to write your details for the time slot that you are available to be present in the church.



Parish Council Meeting

Father Joseph is keen to expand the Parish Council to ensure more parishioners understand the role of the Council - what it does and how it operates. To this end, there is a 'no obligation' meeting planned for **Tuesday 17th March at 7pm**. This will be an informal meeting with nibbles in the school staffroom. Come along if you would like to find out more.



Altar Service Training

Altar Servers in Year 6 or older are invited to receive Training for the thurible (incense burner). Training will take place on Friday 27 March at 3.45pm. This is to be prepared for Holy Thursday and the Easter Vigil. Parental approval is required to do the training. Parents to confirm availability for training by Friday 20th March. Enquiries: Michael Smith 9790 5156

Prayer Garden

We are looking to create a beautiful prayer garden outside the church within the present garden on the Georges Crescent side of the church. Three beautiful statues of the Holy Family, St Charbel and St Francis will be placed there. To be able to do this we are relying on the generosity of our amazing parishioners. If you would like to contribute, please place a donation in an envelope and write: 'For our Prayer Garden' and place in one of the collection plates at Mass. Or donate directly to Sandrella Ters - contact her on 0415812324. Thank you for your generosity.

Safeguarding our Parish

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding Office at 93905810. 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. Enquiries: Veronica on 0407231262 or email: veronicad.smgh@bigpond.com

Lenten Reflection Program

Lent is a great opportunity for Catholics to prepare themselves, through prayer, reflection and discussion, to experience Christ's Passion. You are invited to participate in a Lenten Reflection Program - small groups meet once a week to pray, consider the Gospel of the week and rediscover what God is saying.



The Grace Lenten Program is available for parishioners to use personally or as part of a Lenten group. It contains short daily reflections (from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday) in addition to longer-form Sunday gospel reflections and spiritual direction. Sheets are available at the back of the church for anyone who wants to lead a group, host a group or participate in a Lenten group. Enquiries: veronicad.smgh@bigpond.com

Caritas - Project Compassion

Project Compassion is CARITAS' Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal. Millions of Australians come together in solidarity with the world's poor to alleviate poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. Please collect your CARITAS Project Compassion donation box from the back of the church. **Please be generous.**



Jesus is Condemned to Death



It's easy to look at this scene now and think, 'How could they have accused you and condemned you to death? All you did was love every person you met.' Yet they are not alone in their condemnation of you. How often do I ignore you in the person no one wants to talk to? How often do my words condemn you in the way that I speak about others?

Prayer of Pope Francis: *Prayer of Pope Francis: Lord Jesus, do not allow us to be among those who act unjustly. Do not allow injustice to condemn the innocent. Illuminate the consciences of all those with authority in this world that they may govern with justice. Amen.*

Children's Corner

By using the words below, can you work out what the voice from the cloud said to the apostles?

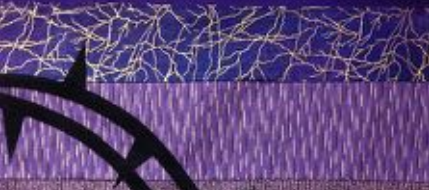
SON AM LISTEN TO SAYS
BELOVED HIM IS PLEASED

THIS __ MY


AND I _____

WITH _____

__ WHAT HE _____

First Reading	Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading
<p>Gen 12:1-4 A reading from the book of Genesis <i>The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.</i></p> <p>The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing. 'I will bless those who bless you: I will curse those who slight you. All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you.' So Abram went as the Lord told him.</p>	<p>(R) Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.</p> <p>1. The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. (R.)</p> <p>2. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. (R.)</p> <p>3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. (R.)</p>	<p>2 Tm 1:8-10 A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy <i>God has saved us, and called us to be holy.</i></p> <p>With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.</p>
<p>Gospel Acclamation</p>	<p>Next Week: 3rd Sun of Lent</p>	
<p>Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!</p>	<p>First Reading: Ex 17:3-7 Second Reading: Rom 5:1-2. 5-8 Gospel: Jn 4:5-42 (Jesus meets the Samaritan woman at the well.)</p>	

Gospel

<p>Mt 17:1-9 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew <i>His face shone like the sun.</i></p> <p>Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'</p>	
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Reflection by Richard Leonard

Just when some of us think Lent is a grim season of self-denial, the Church gives us the story of Jesus' Transfiguration to put our sacrifices in context. The only reason we deny ourselves anything or commit ourselves to actions of service for these 40 days is to grow more deeply in love with the God who loves us into life. Penance is not meant to attack our self-esteem, it's intended to help us sort out what really matters, to cast some light in the darkness of our lives and to focus on the relationship which gives meaning and purpose for this world and the next.

The God of Mount Tabor is not interested in each of us feeling isolated as we fulfil the letter of a legal code. He wants all of us to have hearts that listen to the Gospel of love so that we can gain the power to transform the world through the sacrifices of our daily lives. On a much gentler scale, Sunday Mass is meant to be a weekly mountaintop experience for us where we hear God call us by name and confess his love for us; where we feel re-energised for the commission we have to bear his light to the world. In this context anything we can do this Lent that helps remove the blocks in our full response to his love, must be worth the effort.