

ST MARY'S PARISH, SALE

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL, SALE; ST PATRICK'S, STRATFORD;
ST ROSE OF LIMA, ROSEDALE; ST PATRICK'S, BRIAGOLONG;
THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF LOCH SPORT.

47 Foster Street, PO Box 183, Sale.

Parish Office Tel: 5144 4100 Hours: Tues - Fri 9am to 3pm (Closed Mondays)

Parish email: Sale@cdsale.org.au

Parish website: <http://www.stmaryscathedralsale.com.au/>

Bishop of Sale, Most Reverend Gregory Bennet. DD

Very Reverend Francis Otobo, Mobile 0448 529 712

Assistant Priest: Fr Jithin Anto. Mobile 0490 364 751

Fr Mark Hughes 5144 4100

PARISH OFFICE: Parish Staff: Clare O'Brien, Parish Secretary. Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9am - 3pm. **Mark Durrant**, Finance Manager.

Hours: Wednesday 9am - 3pm. **Jennifer Fitzgerald**, Sacramental Coordinator Email: Sale.sacraments@cdsale.org.au.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL: Fr Francis, Fr Jithin, Michele Wakeham (President), Rose Lee (Deputy President), Clare O'Brien (Secretary), Doug Waite (Deputy Secretary), Brenda Burditt, Cijo Kuriakose, John Dykun, Claire Everard, Tim Morrison, Carmel Kuizenga, Anita Little, Filomena Padula.

Safeguarding Statement: Our Parish is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for all people with special concern for children, young people and adults at risk. **Our Safeguarding Officer is Tim Morrison.** Ph 5144 4100



First Sunday of Lent, Year A 25 - 26 February 2023

MESSAGE OF THE HOLY FATHER for Lent 2023

Lenten Penance and the Synodal Journey

Dear brothers and sisters!

The Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke all recount the episode of the Transfiguration of Jesus. There we see the Lord's response to the failure of his disciples to understand him. Shortly before, there had been a real clash between the Master and Simon Peter, who, after professing his faith in Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God, rejected his prediction of the passion and the cross. Jesus had firmly rebuked him: "Get behind me, Satan! You are a scandal to me, because you do not think according to God, but according to men!" (Mt 16:23). Following this, "six days later, Jesus took with him Peter, James and John his brother and led them away to a high mountain" (Mt 17:1).

The Gospel of the Transfiguration is proclaimed every year on the Second Sunday of Lent. During this liturgical season, the Lord takes us with him to a place apart. While our ordinary commitments compel us to remain in our usual places and our often repetitive and sometimes boring routines, during Lent we are invited to ascend "a high mountain" in the company of Jesus and to live a particular experience of spiritual discipline – asceticism – as God's holy people.

Lenten penance is a commitment, sustained by grace, to overcoming our lack of faith and our resistance to following Jesus on the way of the cross. This is precisely what Peter and the other disciples needed to do. To deepen our knowledge of the Master, to fully understand and embrace the mystery of his salvation, accomplished in total self-giving inspired by love, we must allow ourselves to be taken aside by him and to detach ourselves from mediocrity and vanity. We need to set out on the journey, an uphill path that, like a mountain trek, requires effort, sacrifice and concentration. These requisites are also important for the synodal journey to which, as a Church, we are committed to making. We can benefit greatly from reflecting on the relationship between Lenten penance and the synodal experience.

In his "retreat" on Mount Tabor, Jesus takes with him three disciples, chosen to be witnesses of a unique event. He wants that experience of grace to be shared, not solitary, just as our whole life of faith is an experience that is shared. For it is in togetherness that we follow Jesus. Together too, as a pilgrim Church in time, we experience the liturgical year and Lent within it, walking alongside those whom the Lord has placed among us as fellow travellers. Like the ascent of Jesus and the disciples to Mount Tabor, we can say that our Lenten journey is "synodal", since we make it together along the same path, as disciples of the one Master. For we know that Jesus is himself the Way, and therefore, both in the liturgical journey and in the journey of the Synod, the Church does nothing other than enter ever more deeply and fully into the mystery of Christ the Saviour.

And so we come to its culmination. The Gospel relates that Jesus "was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light" (Mt 17:2). This is the "summit", the goal of the journey. At the end of their ascent, as they stand on the mountain heights with Jesus, the three disciples are given the grace of seeing him in his glory, resplendent in supernatural light. That light did not come from without, but radiated from the Lord himself. The divine beauty of this vision was incomparably greater than all the efforts the disciples had made in the ascent of Tabor. During any strenuous mountain trek, we must keep our eyes firmly fixed on the path; yet the panorama that opens up at the end amazes us and rewards us by its grandeur. So too, the synodal process may often seem arduous, and at times we may become discouraged. Yet what awaits us at the end is undoubtedly something wondrous and amazing, which will help us to understand better God's will and our mission in the service of his kingdom.

Rome, Saint John Lateran, 25 January, Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul

To be continued in next week's 2nd Sunday of Lent bulletin.....

PARISH CALENDAR.

Sun 26 Feb 3.00pm: Rite of Election Mass

Wed 1 Mar: Diocesan Lenten Clergy Reflection Day. **No Cathedral Mass.**

Wed 1 Mar 6pm: First Communion Parent/Child Workshop, Cathedral

Fri 3 Mar 6pm: Stations of the Cross

Fri 3 Mar 7pm: World Day of Prayer at Salvation Army, Cunningham St Sale

Sun 5 Mar: First Sunday Cuppa - PPC

Fri 10 Mar 6pm: Stations of the Cross

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

FIRST COMMUNION The first Parent/Child workshop for First Communion will be held on **Wednesday 1 March at 6pm** in the Assembly area of the Cathedral.

ELECTRONIC BULLETIN If you would like to receive an emailed bulletin each week please send an **email to Sale@cdsale.org.au**.

PALMS AUSTRALIA Mission: Change their lives ... and yours. Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills with those who have less opportunity to develop their talents. Explore 35 positions by scanning the QR code below. On our website you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know: **RING: 02 9560 533 or 0422 472 567**.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: Taiwan will be held at the Salvation Army in Cunningham St, Sale at **7pm this Friday 3 March**. For enquiries contact Min on 0430 861 114.

SERRA CLUB: The Serra Club will gather in the Cathedral on **Thursday 2 March** at 9.10am for Rosary and 9.30am Mass followed by their meeting in Chapter House. All welcome. Apologies to Brenda Burditt.

31 CLUB REMINDER 6 to 12 March. Please pray for vocations

LEGION OF MARY meet in the Chapter House from **10.30am each Wednesday**. New members are very welcome.

CATHEDRAL LENTEN REFLECTIONS You are all invited to an evening of Lenten Reflections with Frs Francis and Jithin in the Cathedral gathering space on **Fridays of Lent**. Our reflections will be centred on the Scripture texts for this season of Lent. Come with a copy of the Bible. Time is **5.00pm** (this will then be followed by the Stations of the Cross at 6.00pm).

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will take place in the Cathedral every **Friday of Lent at 6pm**. If you would like to be involved in **Lenten discussions with Fr Francis** please come along at **5pm on Friday** to the Cathedral.

RITE OF ELECTION for Catechumens and the Formal Recognition of Baptised Candidates. An invitation is extended to all catechumens, candidates, and their families, RCIA team members and parishioners to the Rite of Election, to be celebrated by Bishop Greg Bennet at **3.00pm on Sunday 26 February** in St. Mary's Cathedral, Sale.

2.00pm Bishop Greg warmly invites catechumens, candidates and their families, godparents, sponsors and RCIA teams to meet him at the Chapter House.

3.00pm The Rite of Election of Catechumens and Formal Recognition of Baptised Candidates in the Cathedral

4.00pm Afternoon tea in the Cathedral gathering space. Please bring some food to share.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED is still supporting the Catholic Church in Ukraine in its commitment to stay on the ground and keep serving its flock in the face of material and economic war. ACN is helping priests and religious, who are working across the country in parishes, with refugees, in orphanages and homes for the elderly. ACN needs your help to continue this mission.

To make an offering and learn more visit <https://aidtochurch.org/ukraine>

DIOCESAN LENTEN CLERGY REFLECTION

DAY will take place on **Wednesday 1 March**. The Clergy from across our diocese will gather together for a day of prayer and reflection, preparing themselves for lent. Let us support them by remembering them in our prayers. **Please note there will be no Mass in the Cathedral on this day.**

PARISH PRAYER.

*God our loving Father,
we give you thanks and praise for our
Cathedral Parish of Sale,
for your people and your Creation.
Nourish us by your daily
Word and Eucharist.
Enrich us in our faith, hope and love.
Strengthen us with the spirit
of your mercy and grace.
Make us grateful for your gifts as we
journey through our lives together.
May we be a welcoming and
serving community,
always discerning and
doing your will for one another.
We make this prayer through
Christ Our Lord. Amen.*

FIRST SUNDAY CUPPA: On **Sunday 5 March**, the PPC will be our host for the 1st Sunday Cuppa in St Mary's Cathedral assembly Area. Everyone is invited to stay after Mass to enjoy a cuppa. Please bring a plate to share.

LENTEN JOURNEY VIA ZOOM You are invited to gather & engage with others focusing on prayer, discussion and fellowship via Zoom. Over the next 5 weeks we will journey reflecting on the Scriptures we will hear from the Sunday Gospels. They call us to consider our baptismal call and our response to that call as we head towards the great feast of Easter.

We will be using a Lenten Companion called Spirit and Truth, The Power of Christ Revealed, issued by the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney. If you can partake in only some of the sessions, your attendance is always welcome. For further details or enquiries, please contact Michelle Grimsted at the St Mary's Parish Centre, Bairnsdale on 5152 2942.

When: 27th February, 6th March, 13th March, 20th March, 27th March Time: 8 pm – 9 pm
To receive a link: email Michelle at stm.michelleg@gmail.com

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun 26 Feb 9.30am: Pip Borrman (A)

Sun 26 Feb 9.30am Briag: Ursula McCarthy (A)

BAPTISMS: By arrangement through the Parish Office phone 5144 4100.

ADORATION of the Blessed Sacrament, Friday after Mass 11.30am — 12.00noon

At St Rose of Lima, Rosedale on 1st Wednesday of each month 9.30am – 10.30am

RECONCILIATION: Cathedral: Friday 11.30am after Mass, **Saturday** 10.00 — 10.30am

Stratford and Briagolong on Sunday or Rosedale on Saturday evening: Before or after Mass or anytime by arrangement with the Priest.

MARRIAGES: Not less than six months notice please.

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND:

Planned Giving:	\$899.00
Presbytery:	\$1,037.10
Credit Cards	\$0.00
Direct Debits & Credits:	\$865.00
Cathedral EFTpos:	\$90.00

With thanks from a grateful parish.

K.J.ALLMAN LL.B

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**Mass Timetable this week
First Sunday of Lent, Year A
25 - 26 February 2023**

Day/Date	Time	Place
Saturday 25 February	9.30am	Cathedral
	11.00am	Loch Sport
	5.30pm	Cathedral
Sunday 26 February <i>Rite of Election Mass</i>	5.30pm	Rosedale
	9.30am	Briagolong
	9.30am	Cathedral
	3.00pm	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
WEEKDAYS		
Monday 27 February	<i>NO</i>	<i>MASS</i>
Tuesday 28 February	9.30am	Cathedral
Wednesday 1 March	<i>NO</i>	<i>MASS</i>
Thursday 2 March <i>Serra Club Mass</i>	9.30am	Cathedral
Friday 3 March <i>Reconciliation & Exposition</i> <i>Stations of the Cross</i>	11.00am	Cathedral
	11.30am	Cathedral
	6.00pm	Cathedral
WEEKEND		
Saturday 4 March	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Rosedale
Sunday 5 March	9.30am	Stratford
	9.30am	Cathedral
	5.30pm	Cathedral

Date & Time	Sat 25 Feb 5.30pm	Sun 26 Feb 9.30am	Sun 26 Feb 5.30pm
Welcomer	Marietta Dykun	Marie & Nick Centra	Mary Chiller
Commentator	Liz Tabuteau	Christine Lyon	Veronica Stewart
Reader	Brenda Burditt	Kate Meehan-Oxford	Brenda Bowden
Counter	Theo & Sandra S		

Date & Time	Sat 4 Mar 5.30pm	Sun 5 Mar 9.30am	Sun 5 Mar 5.30pm
Welcomer	Theo Smolenaars	Vince Beer	Claire Everard
Commentator	Sandra Smolenaars	Kate Meehan-Oxford	Please offer
Reader	Marietta Dykun	Margaret Shirreffs	Lyn Althaus
Counter	John Dykun (Tues)		

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

We offer prayers for those who have died **Concy Tissera** and those whose anniversaries occur about this time **Pip Borrmann, Joe Dimarco, Ursula McCarthy, Fr Daniel O'Shea, Fr John Shanley, Fr Tom O'Connell**. We pray for those who are sick **Maureen Cunningham, Jacobus Toonen, Andrew Lyon, Madeleine Evans, John Schroeder, Jim Clottin, Priyantha Welgama, Nimal and Vajira, Dushyanthi, Robert Bailey, Helen O'Kane, Andrew Geary, Michael McGrath, Troy Barney, Miguel Stehr, Bill Harkin and Maureen O'Kane**. **We pray in thanks for all who care for the sick.**

A Day with the Spirit

THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY SALVATION. PS 27



Featuring: Mass with Fr Francis O'tobo, Reconciliation, Adoration, Prayers, Teachings, Music, Fellowship

Saturday 4th March

*Venue: MacKillop Hall,
Next to St Michael's Church,
Traralgon*

*Time: 10am Mass in the Church
following on in the Hall*

**SPECIAL GUEST:
FR FRANCIS OTOBO**

BYO Lunch

**ALL
WELCOME**

RCIA CATECUMENS FOR OUR PARISH

Congratulations to our parishioners who will be participating in the formal election of Baptised Candidates this weekend.

**Shari Balog
Faye Flint
Kirby Lawson
Adam Collins
Sam Richardson**



We wish them well on their journey to the Rite of Christian Initiation. Please keep them in your prayers.

NEW TO THE PARISH? CHANGED ADDRESS IN THE LAST YEAR? NEED PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES OR TO UPDATE THE PARISH RECORDS?

Please let us know we'd like to meet you!

NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

EMAIL:

Please tick: If you would like to join the Planned Giving Program

If you would like to join a Family Group

Please place on the plate at Mass or drop into the Parish Office

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ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.

FIRST READING:

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

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 its 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 that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

The Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

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.)

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.)

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.)

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 letter of St Paul to the Romans 5:12-19

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. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law. Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man's sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. 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. **All: Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

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 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. **All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

**One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.**



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Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Cathedral

Every Friday following Mass for half an hour

RECONCILIATION: Cathedral

Friday & Saturday morning following Mass for half an hour

READINGS NEXT WEEK:

Second Sunday of Lent, Year A

1st Reading: **Genesis 12:1-4**

2nd Reading: **2 Timothy 1:8-10**

Gospel: **Matthew 17:1-9**

WEEKEND MASS TIMETABLE

Saturday: Loch Sport - 11.00am (2nd & 4th Saturday of the Month)

Saturday: Cathedral - 5.30pm

Saturday: Rosedale - 5.30pm

Sunday: Cathedral - 9.30am and 5.30pm

Sunday: Stratford - 9.30am (1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday of the Month)

Sunday: Briagolong - 9.30am (2nd & 4th Sunday of the Month)

Please check the bulletin each week for weekday Mass times.