



# OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH

1st Sunday of Lent

Year B Cycle II

18 February 2024



## Journey Into the Wilderness

**O**n this First Sunday of Lent we are invited to journey into the wilderness with Jesus, a place of encounter and solitude. It was the Spirit who drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days. In the wilderness Jesus prayed, fasted and was tempted by the devil. This difficult experience prepared him and strengthened him for his ministry.

The forty days of Lent are also a time when we can be strengthened for the work that God has prepared for us. Are we aware of the ways that God desires to use our lives to reach out to others? Pope Francis invites us to take advantage of Lent as the privileged time to purify ourselves in order to experience the consoling presence of God in our lives'.

Lord, help us to seek moments of being alone with you. Teach us, Lord, the value of silence and solitude in our life. Help us to seek you in this time.

*God's Word* Dr Louise Byrne vdmf

## Turn Towards God

**I**n the First Sunday of Lent readings, we are reminded of the importance of repentance, prayer, and fasting as we journey towards Easter. The Gospel of Mark 1:12-15 tells us about Jesus' forty days in the desert, where he was tempted by Satan but ultimately remained faithful to God. This is a powerful reminder that we too will face trials and temptations, but we must remain steadfast in our faith and trust in God's plan for us.

In the reading from Genesis 9:8-15, we hear about God's covenant with Noah and how he promised to never again destroy the earth with a flood. This is a reminder of God's faithfulness and love for us, even in the midst of chaos and destruction.

As we begin this season of Lent, let us take time to reflect on our own lives, to repent of our sins, and to turn towards God. Let us pray for strength and guidance as we face the challenges of this world, and let us fast as a way to deepen our relationship with God and to focus on what truly matters. May this Lenten season be a time of renewal and transformation, where we grow closer to God and to one another.

Colleen Smith *Pastoral Associate*



**Feast Days  
this Week**

**The Chair of  
St Peter, Apostle**  
22 February  
**St Polycarp**  
23 February



**MEN'S GROUP**

**Men's Group**

Join us for lunch  
and a yarn.  
Wednesday 21  
February 12 noon  
at Diggers Club.  
We look forward  
to seeing you.  
Enquiries: Lui  
4388 9510.



**Nursing Home  
Mass**

Mass and  
Anointing of the  
Sick will be  
celebrated at  
Nareen Gardens  
Bateau Bay on  
Tuesday at  
10:30am.

**Please  
Remember  
Project  
Compassion  
this Lent**



## Repent and Believe in the Gospel

**B**eginnings are usually accompanied by hopes and expectations as well as by anxieties and uncertainties. If the prevailing experiences have been gloomy and enslaving, the dawn of a new era in a new leader, system, or environment promising change and better life is eagerly awaited.

Change does not happen automatically, however, no matter how good the leader or the new programs. The recipients must be prepared and ready to change and adjust to the new climate; otherwise, real change will not take place, and the new opportunities will be wasted in the process. As Jesus will later say, "No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak. If he does, its fullness pulls away, the new from the old, and the tear gets worse. Likewise, no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the skins are ruined. Rather, new wine is poured into fresh wineskins" (Mk 2:21-22).

On the First Sunday of Lent, we are invited to reflect on the need for a change of heart in view of the salvation that is coming to us.

At the beginning of his Galilean ministry, Jesus calls people's attention to the privileged time they are in: "This is the time of fulfillment. The Kingdom of God is at hand" (Mk 1:15). And, accordingly, he invites them to act in accord with this opportune time (kairos): "Repent (metanoete), and believe (pisteuete) in the Gospel." Jesus points to the presence of the Son of Man in their midst, making present God's Kingdom by his words and deeds.

Despite Jesus' manifestation of the signs of God's Kingdom, many do not heed his call to repentance. Change of heart requires hard work to make "shallow, rocky, and thorny soils" conducive for the seed of God's word to grow and bear fruit. Those who prove to be more "fertile and ready" bear fruit and become followers and co-labourers with Jesus.

We are a Christian country. But we wonder how many have gone through the process of conversion, of being, like farm soil, plowed, harrowed, cleared of stones and thorns. Corruption and other forms of injustice and poverty, prevalent in scandalous proportions, suggest that the Gospel challenge to take advantage of the opportune time and live according to it has not been well received.

As a people, we are grace-filled and blessed in many aspects. But we seem to have squandered these resources as time and again we go back to the same bickering, selfish, and corrupt ways. May the grace of God make us constant and steadfast in our resolve to humble ourselves and walk in the path of authentic conversion.

*365 Days with the Lord Fr Renato Repole SJ*

## Project Compassion

**T**his year Project Compassion presents the stories of resilient women from different corners of the world, facing vastly different challenges, but are all united by one dream: to create a better tomorrow for all future generations. Ronita from the Philippines is one such woman, a mother of two young boys living in a slum in Quezon City. She went back to school to finish her education so that she could earn income to support her children. Through Caritas Australia, she is forging a path to a brighter future. Please donate through the Project Compassion boxes available at the Church doors, call 1800 024 413 or go to [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion)

## Lenten Reflection Mornings

You are invited to join our Seminarian, Rosan, for Lenten Reflection focusing on the Sunday Gospel Reading. The Reflection mornings will be held on each Wednesday of Lent 21 & 28 February, 6, 13 & 20 March in the Reynolds Room from 9:30-10:30am (after 9am Mass). Refreshments will be provided. All Welcome!

## Altar Service Training

Are you in year 4 or above? If yes, and interested, we invite you to embark on a rewarding and enriching journey by becoming a Junior Altar Server in our parish. This is an opportunity to actively contribute to our worship community, fostering spiritual growth and forming lasting friendships. As a Junior Altar Server, you'll play a vital role in our liturgical celebrations, learning the sacred rituals and traditions that make our parish unique. This experience not only deepens your understanding of the Mass but also allows you to develop leadership skills, responsibility, and a strong sense of belonging.

We welcome you to embrace this chance to contribute to the spiritual life of our parish. Your enthusiasm and dedication will undoubtedly enrich our worship experience, and we look forward to welcoming you into the cherished tradition of altar service.

Take the first step toward a meaningful and fulfilling journey – become a Junior Altar Server! Saturdays 2, 9, 16 & 23 March 4pm followed by the Vigil Mass. Enquiries to Rosan 4332 2216.

## Roll Call of Catechumens 2024

The Roll Call of Catechumens is a process where individuals who are seeking to become members of the Catholic Church are publicly recognised and acknowledged. It is a way for the Church community to welcome and support these individuals on their journey of faith. During the Roll Call, the names of the Catechumens are read aloud and prayers are offered for their spiritual growth and development. It is an important step in the process of joining the Church and becoming a part of the faith community. This ceremony will take place this Sunday 18 February 2pm at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara, and will be celebrated by Bishop Anthony Randazzo. Please pray for our three Catechumens, Leanne Boase, Michael Rhodes and Dylan Ross.

## Please Note

### Triple P Positive Parenting Programme

The Triple P Programme teaches parents how to use effective strategies to promote their children's development and deal with common developmental challenges. Thursdays 22 February to 21 March 9:30-11:30am in the Parish Centre. Bookings essential [www.cfss.org.au](http://www.cfss.org.au) or 4340 1585.

### The Mystery of the Divine Mercy Lenten Retreat

All are invited to a Retreat Day at the John Paul II Shrine, Gosford Parish, with international Guest Speaker Fr Peter Prusakiewicz csma. Saturday 24 February 9am-3:20pm, 76 York Street East Gosford. Please RSVP to [JPll.centre@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:JPll.centre@bbcatholic.org.au)



**Welcome**  
to the  
Henshaw  
Family for the  
Reception of their  
children for the  
Sacrament of  
Baptism.



**Stations of the  
Cross**  
Stations will be  
held on Fridays of  
Lent after the  
11:45am Mass.



**Lenten  
Adoration**  
Adoration of the  
Blessed  
Sacrament is held  
each Saturday  
of Lent following  
9am Mass  
for one hour.



**Low Gluten  
Hosts**  
Please see one of  
the Priests before  
Mass if you are  
a coeliac.

# THE ENTRANCE PARISH DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY

*A beacon of Faith, Hope and Love*

**PARISH PRIEST & DEAN OF THE CENTRAL COAST** Fr Brian Moloney **ASSISTANT PRIEST** Fr Joshi Naduppura

**DEACON** Paul Simmons **SEMINARIAN** Rosan Mathew **PASTORAL ASSOCIATE** Colleen Smith

**SAFEGUARDING OFFICER** Leanne McGill **PROPERTY MAINTENANCE MANAGER** Karen Green

**Office Hours** Monday-Friday 9.30-5.00pm **Telephone** 4332 2216

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**OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PRIMARY SCHOOL** Tel 7256 2115 **ST PETER'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE** Tel 4351 2344

## Mass & Devotions

**Sunday Masses** Saturday Vigil 5:00pm Sunday 8:00am & 9:30am (11am at Reynolds Court, Bias Ave Bateau Bay)

**Weekday Masses** Monday - Thursday 9:00am Friday 11:45am Saturday 9:00am

**Reconciliations** Saturdays 9:30-10am and 4-4:30pm

**Liturgy of the Hours** Saturday 8:40am **Rosary** Monday-Thursday 8:35am Friday 11:20am Saturday 9:30am

**Cenacle Prayer Group** Wednesday 9:30am **Christian Meditation** Friday 10:30am-11:30am Reynolds Room

## 1st Sunday of Lent

**Genesis 9:8-15**

**1 Peter 3:18-22**

**Mark 1:12-15**

**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.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

**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!

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

## Keep Us In Your Prayers *There is no gift more precious than prayer - Fr Benedict Groeschel*

**Recently Deceased:** Kathleen Mulligan, Jenny King, Fr Michael Kelly, Fr Kevin Bates sm, Anthony Clare, Diana Dakula.

**Anniversaries:** Sr Jeannette Bubb, Isabelle Woodlands, Jim Rosewarne.

**Remembrances:** Pat Smith, Marie Powell, Jill O'Sullivan, Arthur Vella, Margaret Pizzuto, Terence & Josephine Smith, Terry Howard, John Giutronich, Sam & Carmen Ghirxi, Martin Ghirxi, Simon Butcher, Luba Banovic, Margaret & Leo Foley, Ronald & Gwen Foley and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

**Families:** Moore, Langley, Clarke.

**Sick:** Peter Drinan, John McClement, Susan Simmons, Anne & Trish Knoke, Lyle Dunn, Paul Smith, Anne O'Rourke, Collette O'Grady, Emma Horton, Marc Sabat, Linda Read, Peter O'Grady, Tanya Doorn, Kelly Will, and all with illness.

**Welcome Newly Baptised:** Tihana Tofilau, Skyla Sevelle, Lachlan Cannane.

## Pearly Gates Revisited



Our Lady of the Rosary

GIFT CENTRE

*For all your devotional needs...*

## Everyone Welcome!

The Gift Centre is open each weekend before and after the 5pm Vigil Mass on Saturdays, and before and after the 9:30am Mass on Sundays.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

**Enquiries 4332 2216**