



# OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH

3rd Sunday of Lent

Year B Cycle II

3 March 2024



## Revive the Soul

The author of today's Responsorial Psalm speaks of God's law as refreshment for our journey through life. The law of God revives the soul; it gladdens the heart and brings light to the eyes.

I wonder if we think of God's law as refreshing. We can sometimes experience law as a burden imposed from without that restricts our enjoyment of life. Laws formulated by humans can have these characteristics but not the law of God. This law, expressed in the Ten Commandments and in Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, reveals the wisdom and love of God for all. It is the law most true to our human nature. If we are faithful to this law we will be at rights with God, and in harmony with our fellow human beings and all of creation.

The Ten Commandments were given by God to the people of Israel more than three thousand years ago. They retain their validity and freshness. Not one commandment has reached its 'use by' date. To dispense with any one of these commandments would be to impoverish humanity, indeed, to threaten its very survival. Yes, 'the precepts of the Lord are right, they gladden the heart'.

*God's Word* Fr Michael Goonan SSP

## Not Just a Set of Rules

Reflecting on the Readings and Gospel of each Sunday of Lent is a good practice that can bring us closer to God and to one another. The Third Sunday of Lent invites us to contemplate on the Ten Commandments and their significance in our lives. As we examine the teachings of the Commandments, we realise that they are not just a set of rules, but a way of life that can help us attain spiritual fulfillment.

The First Reading reminds us of how God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai to guide the Israelites. In the Gospel, Jesus cleanses the Temple in Jerusalem, which was meant to be a place of prayer but had become corrupt. These Readings encourage us to focus our lives on worshipping God and treating others with respect and love.

As we journey through the season of Lent, we should ask ourselves if we are living in accordance with the teachings of the Ten Commandments. Are we placing God at the center of our lives? Are we treating others fairly and honestly? By reflecting on these important questions, we can make positive changes in our lives and become better versions of ourselves.

Colleen Smith *Pastoral Associate*



### Reflection Mornings

Presented by  
Rosan, our  
Seminarist,  
Wednesdays of  
Lent in the  
Reynolds Room  
after 9am Mass.

### Parish Morning Tea



The Simply the Best Family Group is hosting our Morning Tea next Sunday 10 March in the Parish Centre after 9:30am Mass. All Welcome!

### The Popes March Prayer Intention



For the New Martyrs: We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.



### Nursing Home Mass

Mass and Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated at Killarney Court Killarney Vale on Tuesday at 11am.

## Turn the Tables

Everywhere we go, we are bombarded with messages to buy. Advertising looms over our streets, at bus stops and train stations. Adverts pop up on our computer screens, as we scroll through our phones or as we stare at the television. Hawkers loiter outside major tourist attractions. Museums and art galleries have their shops.

We have been conditioned to consume. An experience often only seems valuable if we have a souvenir to help us to remember it. Our worth is too often measured in the possessions that we have accumulated, regardless of the consequences to our earth, or to those who are exploited in the manufacturing, sale or purchase of these goods.

This is not a new phenomenon as we can see in today's Gospel. Even the Temple has been turned into a place of commerce. Animals are being sold for sacrifice. Money changers are welcoming pilgrims from all over the place and changing their money so that they can buy what they need to worship.

And yet, Jesus drives all of these people out of the Temple. Why? Does he feel that people should not be able to get what they need to offer the appropriate sacrifice? Surely not. In the Temple is a captive audience. People who need certain items, and people who can provide them. The situation is ripe for exploitation. There is nothing to stop the money-changers and the pigeon-sellers from charging whatever they want, no matter what the people can afford. For pilgrims and other worshippers to give glory to God, they must take part in this system that is designed to take advantage of them. Instead of helping people to draw closer to God, the merchants' motive was personal profit and gain.

Not only this, but the area where the traders had set up was the place set aside for Gentiles (non-Jews) to pray. How could they concentrate on their prayer and worship while surrounded by the hubbub of this marketplace?

This is what Jesus is taking a stand against. He could not allow the exploitation of those who were trying to draw closer to God. He could not accept the hollow gestures, the lip service to religion being offered by those benefiting from this exploitation. He could not have earthly priorities preventing all people from coming to know God.

Instead, he turns the tables, prophesies the destruction of the sanctuary and proclaims that he will raise it all up again in three days. So what does this mean for us today? We know that when Jesus spoke of raising up the sanctuary after three days, he was talking of himself. Through the resurrection he has made all things new.

And yet, our world is still filled with exploitation. We still see people who put profit before other people and before their relationship with God. We might not be able to fully break down the systems that enable this, but perhaps we can each try to turn the tables in our own small way.

By living a life where we do not seek our own glory, but the glory of God; by standing up and speaking out when we see greed and unjust practices; by not seeking our own benefit or recognition, but by working together with others for the good of all; by stepping away from the endless need to consume; by stopping, being present and appreciating what we already have; by enabling others to draw closer to God, rather than putting barriers in their way.

*Sunday Living Word* Majellan Media

## Attention: Catechists Wanted

If you are a retired individual or a tertiary student, you may have of time to spare and would like to share your faith with Catholic students attending one of the four government primary schools in our Parish. These students may not have had the opportunity to hear about Jesus, and you can make a significant difference in their lives. This ministry is very fulfilling and rewarding, as you get to see the fruits of your labour, helping draw young Catholics into a closer, more personal encounter with Christ. It can be a life-changing experience for them (and you). There will be plenty of support available to you. Please feel free to make enquiries by contacting [leanne@ourladyoftherosary.org.au](mailto:leanne@ourladyoftherosary.org.au) or calling the parish office at 4332 2216.

## Family Mass

Join us on Saturday 9 March at 5pm for our next Family Mass. This is a special Mass for the young families of our parish to be welcomed by the Church community. There will be refreshments afterwards in the parish hall. For catering purposes or if you would like to volunteer to help please RSVP to 4332 2216, <https://forms.office.com/r/giedD6mrKB> or the QR code.



## Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Imagine a place... where children come to be with God to discover, to explore and experience God's love for them. 3-6 year olds are invited to join us at the Central Coast's newly established Atrium. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a particular way of journeying with children toward God. It is grounded in scripture and the liturgy of the Church, then framed by Montessori principles of education. Saturdays 9-10.30am, from 16 March in the Atrium (old Gift Centre). Cost is \$8 per week, \$5 for siblings. Contact Ashleigh: [centralcoastatrium@gmail.com](mailto:centralcoastatrium@gmail.com) or 0466 255 033.

## Atrium Opening Invitation

Please join us to celebrate the opening of the abovementioned Atrium Children's Ministry. There will be a Blessing and chance to see the space that so many have prayed for and donated their gifts, time and talents to help create. Saturday 9 March 3pm in the Atrium followed by afternoon tea in the Common Room.

## Please Note

### OLR Primary School Open Day

Meet our Principal, teachers, students and parents, and learn about our school's faith led approach and our inclusive learning programmes. Tuesday 19 March 9:30am and 6pm at 1a Shelly Beach Road Shelly Beach. Go to [olrte.catholic.edu.au](http://olrte.catholic.edu.au) or call 7256 2115 to register.

### 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 9:30-11:30am in the Parish Centre. Bookings essential [www.cfss.org.au](http://www.cfss.org.au) or 4340 1585.



### 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



### Secular Franciscans

We meet on the second Friday of the month (8 March) at 1pm in the Reynolds Room. All welcome! Enquiries: 0439 519 018.



### Please Donate via a Project Compassion Box

call 1800 024 413 or go to [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion)

# 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

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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

## 3rd Sunday of Lent

**Exodus 20:1-17**

**1 Corinthians 1:22-25**

**John 2:13-25**

**Entrance Antiphon:** My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

**Gospel Acclamation:** 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!

**Communion Antiphon:** The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

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

**Recently Deceased:** John LoPiccolo, Kerrie Snelling, Jill Lockyer, Kathleen Mulligan.

**Anniversaries:** Terrance O'Neill, Antun & Maria Radic, Pauline McCudden.

**Remembrances:** Pat Smith, Marie Powell, Jill O'Sullivan, Arthur Vella, Margaret Pizzuto, Terence & Josephine Smith, Terry Howard, John Giutronich, Sam & Carmen Ghirxi, Martin Ghirxi, Joe Bond, Frank & George Grech, Carolyn Finch, Sam Marmara, Charlie Borg, Augustin & Kata Tuka, Anto & Luca Kozul and all the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

**Families:** Clarke, Grech, Zahra, Grima, Cassar, Sciberras, Camilleri, Falzon & Patterson.

**Sick:** Jenny Balacco, Laila Calvi, John McClement, Susan Simmons, Anne & Trish Knoke, Paul Smith, Emma Horton, Linda Read, Peter O'Grady, Kelly Will and all with serious illness.

**Reception for Baptism:** We welcome the Apap, Towle & Mills Families for the Reception of their children for Baptism.

**Welcome Newly Baptised:** Laice Bush, Kiki & Hunter Henshaw, Ava Pulciani, Camille Spano.

## 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**