



St Patrick's Parish Gosford

The Communities of St Patrick's East Gosford,
St Francis of Assisi Somersby & Holy Trinity Spencer

Neighbourhoods of Grace, entrusted to the care of the Salvatorians.



LENTEN PENANCE

In the liturgy and liturgical catechesis of Lent, the reminder of baptism already received or the preparation for its reception, as well as the theme of repentance, renew the entire community along with those being prepared to celebrate the paschal mystery, in which each of the elect will share through the sacraments of initiation. For both the elect and the local community, therefore, the Lenten season is a time of spiritual recollection in preparation for the celebration of the paschal mystery. RC/A 125

This year the season of Lent commences on Ash Wednesday, 26 February, and concludes on Thursday 9 April. In our Catholic tradition, it is marked as a time for conversion, repentance, and renewal. It begins on Ash Wednesday with the imposition of ashes coupled with the words of invitation, "Turn away from sin and believe the good news". In this annual invitation, we recognise our human frailty and our reliance on the grace and mercy of God.

As Jesus fasted for forty days and forty nights in the desert (Matthew 4: 1-11); he accompanies us as we too make the journey into the desert of our souls. It is there that we are encouraged to resist and turn away from sin, which places limitation on our lives and relationships. It is precisely in those moments of vulnerability that we are called to take refuge in the God of mercy and compassion.

Lent is a time of pruning back the obstacles in our relationships so that we might flourish and have "life to the full" (John 10: 10). Through the season of Lent we come to Easter, which is a celebration of the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. It is a joyful time to celebrate the new life promised to us and the whole world by the risen Jesus, our hope and our salvation.

DAYS OF PENANCE

On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, abstinence from meat is to be observed by those who have completed their fourteenth year of age. Those who are aged between 18 and 60 are to fast on these days. Priests should encourage those under their pastoral care to embrace the spirit of abstinence and fasting. This Lenten practice is not to be a burden upon those who have health issues or special needs.



On all other Fridays of the year the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following:

1. Prayer - for example, Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying the Rosary; or in other ways;
2. Self-denial - for example, not eating meat; not eating sweets or desserts; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor in one's own country and elsewhere; or in other ways;
3. Helping others - for example, special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or overburdened or feeling isolated from our Church community; or in other ways.

Lent is from Ash Wednesday (26 February 2020) until to Mass of the Lord's Supper

(9 April 2020) inclusive. Fasting is also observed on Good Friday and if possible on Holy

Saturday until the Easter Vigil.

Partial extract of a letter to the people of Broken Bay

Most Rev Anthony Randazzo DD JCL

Bishop of Broken Bay

21 February 2020

(Full copies of the letter are available in the Foyer of the Church today.)



FR FRANCIS JORDAN SDS

"Let your zeal always proceed from the love of God, according to His will, and let it be ordered by prudence, consistency and justice." SD I/137



YEAR OF LOVE AT ST PATRICK'S

BELOVED,
LET US LOVE ONE ANOTHER:
FOR LOVE IS OF GOD;
AND EVERYONE THAT LOVES
IS BORN OF GOD,
AND KNOWS GOD

1 JOHN 4:7



POPE FRANCIS' FEBRUARY 2020 INTENTION

LISTEN TO THE MIGRANTS' CRIES

We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

A warm welcome to our parishioners and visitors who are celebrating the Eucharist with us this weekend at St Patrick's Parish.



ST PATRICK'S PARISH GOSFORD

PASTORAL CARE

Fr Grzegorz [Greg] Skulski SDS

Parish Priest

Email: greg@sds.org.au

Paul Tran SDS

Deacon:

SALVATORIANI

Society of the Divine Saviour

<http://www.sds.org.au>

PARISH OFFICE

Secretary:

Colleen Kirk Mon – Thurs:

8:30am – 4:30pm

Friday

8:30am – 1:00pm

Bursar:

Darren Fitzgibbon

Sacramental Programme

Coordinator:

Frances Mathey

Email: franceshanna@yahoo.com

Catechists' Coordinator:

Alain Corne

Email: saintpatscdd@acs.net.au

Wed:

9:00am – 1:00pm

Thurs:

9:30am – 1:30pm

Youth Ministry:

Matthew French
Ph: 0411 792 587

Media Coordinator:

Tom Croll

Thursday:

9:00am – 2:00pm

Email:

tcroll@photom.com.au

VOLUNTEER ROLES

Office Admin:

Denise Jay

Maria Andrzejewska

9:00am – 3:30pm

Friday:

AV Presentation:

Peter McLean

Greg McBride

Ron Begg

John Malicki

Caretakers:

Gardeners:

Trevor Byrne

Joyce Byrne

Victor Camilleri

Barbara McCarthy

Ph: 4322 0250

Seniors' Ministry:

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Hilary Pope

If you see any activities involving children or vulnerable adults that worries you, please email Hilary Pope, our Safeguarding Officer at hilary.p1@optusnet.com.au

School Principals

St Patrick's Primary: Mrs Cheryl Walsh 4325 1159

St Joseph's College: Mr Tony McCudden 4324 4022

St Edwards College: Mr Mark Bonnici 4321 6400

St Peter's College: Mr Tim Hilderbrandt 43512344

Christian Brothers' Community

Frederick Street, East Gosford

Br Peter Hester cfc [Community Leader]

Br Rod Shoebridge cfc

MONDAY PRAYER GROUP

Has been suspended for Lent

Regulars and others interested are asked to attend the Lenten Listening Program each Wednesday at 10:00am

CHURCH OPEN DAILY 8:30AM – 4:30PM.

STANDARD WEEKDAY MASSES

Gosford:

Monday: 9:00am

Tuesday: 9:00am

Wednesday: 11:30am

Thursday 9:00am

Friday: 12 noon

Saturday: 9:00am

WEEKEND MASSES

Gosford:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm Sunday:

7:30am Children's Liturgy:

9:00am During 9:00am Mass

6:00pm Each Sunday of School Term.

Somersby, 30 Lutana Road: Saturday Vigil: 6:30pm

Spencer, Wiseman's Ferry Rd: 2nd Sunday Monthly: 4:00pm

OTHER MASSES

Filipino Mass 2nd

Sunday Monthly:

12 noon

Korean Mass Monthly:

[Enq: Peter 0409-

508-123] 6:00pm

ADORATION IN OUR CHURCH

Before the Blessed Sacrament

Mon: 8:30am – 9:00am Wed: 11:00am – 11:30am Fri: 12:30pm – 3:00pm

Tues: 8:30am – 9:00am Thur: 8:30am – 9:00am Sat: 8:00am

RECONCILIATION – 1ST RITE

Gosford:

Mon-Thur:

during Adoration - see above.

1st Friday of Month

Prior to Mass 11:30am

Other Fridays

After Mass 12:30pm

Saturday:

8:30am and 4:30pm.

Sunday:

7:00am and 5:30pm

St Francis of Assisi 30 Lutana Road, Somersby:

Saturday after Vigil: 7:30pm

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

After weekday Masses to 3:00pm and to 1:00pm Fridays.

ROSARY

Weekday

Monday, Tuesday Thursday

8:05am

Wednesday

10:35am

Friday

11:35am

Saturdays Monthly

8:05am: 1st – For Priests & Religious.

8:05am 3rd Saturday – For Mothers & Abortion.

8:05am 4th Saturday – For Persecuted

Christians and their Persecutors.

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA

Last Wednesday of each Month at 12 noon

ADORATION AT BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL

Located on Chapel Lane at the Admin Centre

Monday to Thursday

8:30am – 3:30pm

Friday

9:00am – 3:30pm

GROUP MEETINGS

Bible Study Lectio Divina / Christian Unity / Christian DVD:

Mondays at 9:30am twice monthly,

Wednesday at 10:00am in the Jordan Room.

Bible Study Monday Night

7:00pm in the Jordan Room.

RCIA: in Admin Centre 7:30pm Tuesdays.

Contact the Parish Office to register interest.

menALIVE:

7:30pm commencing with Mass

1st Tuesday of Month

9:00am 4th Tuesday Monthly

in Jordan Room

Cancer Prayers:

Grief & Loss, Prayer & Support:

1st Thursday Monthly

2pm in Jordan Room

Craft Group - Friday each week of School Term

9:30am – 12:00pm

Movie Night Last Sat Night of Month after 5:00pm Mass.

SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE SHOP

After 9:00am Mass in the Jordan Room.

All proceeds to Charities



IN YOUR PARISH OF ST PATRICK'S THIS WEEK

Sunday Feb 23	7:30am 9:00am 6:00pm 7:00pm	Mass - Mass - Including Baptism presentations Youth Mass Youth Group in Jordan Room
Monday Feb 24	9:00am 6:45pm	Mass Bible Study Group in Jordan Room
Tuesday Feb 25	9:00am 9:30am	Mass Cancer Prayers Meeting in the Jrdan Room
Wednesday Feb 26 ASH WEDNESDAY	9:00am 10:00am 11:30am 6:00pm 7:30pm	School Mass Bible Study Group in the Jordan Room Mass. Mass at St Francis of Assisi Somersby Mass at St Patrick's
Thursday Feb 27	9:00am	Mass.
Friday Feb 28	9:30am 12:00pm	Craft Group in the Jordan Room Mass with reconciliation after Mass
Saturday Feb 29	9:00am 10:15am 5:00pm 6:30pm	Mass Choir Practice in St Patrick's Vigil Mass Gosford Vigil Mass Somersby
Sunday Mar 01	7:30am 9:00am 10:30am 6:00pm 7:00pm	Mass followed by breakfast in the Jordan Room Family Mass followed by breakfast in Jordan Room Baptisms Youth Mass Youth Group in the Jordan Room

KIDS CORNER

PINT SIZED PADDIES

Pint Sized Paddies is a group of young school children who gather regularly during School terms, in the School Hall. **Next on at 7:00 pm on March 6.**

A few hours of fun in a spiritual environment.

Enquiries to Melissa 0434 251 481

YOUTH GROUP MEETING

The Youth Group gather in the Jordan room, after 6:00 pm Mass each Sunday.

This has become a vibrant group and all youth are very welcome to join in.

MONDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY GROUP

6:45 PM MONDAY IN JORDAN ROOM

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY GROUP

WEDNESDAY 10:00 AM IN JORDAN ROOM

BREAKFAST IN THE JORDAN ROOM

NEXT SUNDAY AFTER 7:30 AM, AND 9:00 AM MASSES

All proceeds go to help fund Youth Activities like Sponsoring youth to World Youth Day.



PARISH NEWS AND NOTICES

ST PATRICK'S ANIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

15 MARCH 2020

THERE WILL BE NO 9:00 AM MASS ON THE DAY OF OUR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Bishop Anthony will concelebrate Mass at 10:30am in St Patrick's Church instead of 9:00 am. To celebrate St Patrick's Day and the 60th Anniversary of the school and the 55th Anniversary of St Patrick's Church.

After the Mass we will hold a Fete in the school grounds.

Note: 7:30 am and 6:00 pm Masses will be held as usual.

WHITE ELEPHANT STALL DONATIONS

FOR OUR FETE AT OUR ST PATRICK'S ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SUNDAY MARCH 15!

Calling on anyone who would like to donate goods, new or used or cakes and cookies to be sold at our White Elephant Stall on Sunday, March 15. If you have something in good, working condition, please drop it in at the office by Monday, March 2 to allow time to sort and price. Thank you.

CATECHIST CORNER

Catechist corner – This weekend we acknowledge and commission our catechist teams at St Patrick's. The teams include SRE teachers in State schools, Baptism & Sacramental preparation team members, RCIA team members and RE teachers in our Catholic primary and secondary schools. These parishioners respond to Christ's call to go out and "make disciples ... and teach them" (Matt 28:19-20).

If you are drawn to any of these ministries and want more details talk to a catechist, the catechist team leader or call the Parish office.

LOVE WITH FOOD PARCELS

FOR HOMELESS IN GOSFORD, STARTING SOON.

Please continue to bring food parcels and they will be distributed to the organisations in the Gosford area who feed the homeless on the Central Coast.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES

26TH FEBRUARY 2020

9:00 am St Patrick's School Mass

11:30 am Parish Mass

6:00 pm Somersby Mass

7:30 pm Gosford Mass

ANNUAL SALVATORIAN SEMINARY COLLECTION

THIS WEEKEND 22 - 23 FEBRUARY

SALVATORIAN SEMINARIES COLLECTION

Once a year the Salvatorians call on the people of their parishes worldwide to donate in support of their seminaries from which our future priests will hale. At all pews today you will find an envelope in which to place your donation to this appeal which will only be conducted this and next weekend. Fr Greg and [especially] Deacon Paul thank you for your donations on behalf of all seminarians.

POSITION'S VACANT: YOUTH MINISTER: 5.5 HOURS PER WEEK

An exciting opportunity has arisen to become part of the vibrant team at the Catholic Parish of Gosford.

The Youth Minister aims to uphold the following goal for Youth Ministry in the Parish of Gosford – 'To develop and maintain a young Catholic community of disciples that really lives the Gospel'. The Youth Minister will work under the leadership of the Parish priest and with other parish staff and leaders, and will be responsible for the youth programs and events in the parish.

Personal attributes:

It is vital that the Youth Minister:

- has a deep faith and a strong relationship with Jesus.
- demonstrates love in serving others through this ministry.
- engages the young people of our parish community
- is highly motivated and pro-active in leadership skills
- can work effectively in a team and can work well with adults and students.

Classification: Casual

Sunday Nights: 5.5 hours.

Qualifications (Education/ Background)

- Tertiary or certificate qualification in comparable field of study is recommended.
- Applicants who are currently undertaking study will be considered.
- Completed Higher School Certificate or equivalent is necessary.
- A good knowledge in theology would be an advantage.
- Must have good on-line communication skills (facebook, twitter, youtube)
- Any experience in marketing or advertising would be advantageous.

Responsibilities

The Youth Minister would be responsible:

- to manage and run Sunday night youth group sessions.
- to manage and run the various ministries at the Sunday evening Youth Mass [readers, welcomers, offertory etc]
- to identify, train and mentor other young leaders from the parish to assist with the running of youth groups and other activities.
- manage a database of all youth contacts, parents and older students.
- provide duty of care - pastoral care
- prepare forms, permission notes and sign in sheets and other forms for youth groups.
- manage online communication and advertising via facebook, twitter, youtube of photos and video footage from youth groups.
- manage fundraising activities for youth projects in the parish.

The Youth Minister is required to work under the direction of the Parish Priest. After six months there will be a review of the work undertaken, conducted by the Parish Priest.

The Youth Minister will take on a leadership role as part of the team at Gosford Parish and must act at all times as a representative of the Parish, displaying care, responsibility and integrity in all that they do.

Interested applicants are invited to write a cover letter of interest outlining why they would be suitable for this role. Particular reference must be made to the 5 personal attributes [mentioned above] and how the applicant demonstrates these qualities.

The successful applicant will require Working With Children Check (WWCC) verification.

Applications close on 13th March 2020.

Please send your cover letter and CV to:

Parish Priest

St Patrick's Catholic Parish

76 York Street

East Gosford NSW 2250

Or email to: patsgos@acs.net.au

SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

**NEXT MOVIE IS SAMSON
ON 29TH FEBRUARY AFTER 5:00 PM MASS.**



Who:

Young Adults (aged 18 - 35)

Topic:

Sacrificial Love

Guest Speaker:

Fr David Ranson (*Vicar General
of B.B. Diocese*)

When:

Friday, 6 March, 7.00PM

Where:

St Patrick's Parish, East Gosford,
Jordan Room



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER.

It's a year since we hosted The Combined Churches WORLD DAY OF PRAYER AT ST. PATS.

This year WORLD DAY OF PRAYER is on
FRIDAY 6TH MARCH AT 10AM.
GOSFORD UNITING CHURCH
129 DONNISON ST, GOSFORD.

St. Pats is part of the programme this year.

For catering purposes please put your name on the clipboard in the foyer.

MINISTRY TO THE SENIORS'

[55+] DAY TRIP TO THE HUNTER VALLEY

If you're interested in a bus trip to the Hunter Valley on Monday March 23 departing at 9.30am please contact Barbara on 4322 0250. Cost \$15 including travel & morning tea.

Lunch at your own expense.

BOOK SOON!

1ST RECONCILIATION INFORMATION NIGHT

PARENTS OF 1ST RECONCILIATION CHILDREN

Fr Greg is hosting an information night in the Church.

7:30 pm Thursday 27 2020

NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE OF THE RELICS OF ST THERESE

AND HER PARENTS ZELIE &
LOUIS MARTIN

ST PATRICK'S PARISH, EAST
GOSFORD

SUNDAY 8TH MARCH 2020

8:30 AM – 7:30 PM

E V E N T S

8:30-8:50 am	Arrival of the Relics
9:00 am	Mass (Principal Celebrant Fr Greg Skulski SDS, Deacon Paul and Concelebrants)
10:00 am	Litany of St Therese I
10:20 am	Rosary – Joyful Mysteries (With meditations from the writings of St Therese)
10:40 am	Private Veneration
11:15 am	Sorrowful Mysteries (With meditations from the writings of St Therese)
12:00 pm	Filipino Mass
1:00 pm	The Angelus
2:00 pm	Stations of the Cross
3:00 pm	Divine Mercy Chaplet
4:00 pm	Rosary - Glorious Mysteries (With meditations from the writings of St Therese)
5:00 pm	Litany of St Therese II
5:30 pm	Rosary – Mysteries of Light - Led by Youth (With meditations from the writings of St Therese)
6:00 pm	Youth Mass (Principal Celebrant Fr Greg Skulski SDS and Deacon Paul)
7:00 pm	Litany of All Saints
7:30 pm	Relics depart for The Entrance

St Patrick's Day Celebration The School's 60th Anniversary



The Church's 55th Anniversary

Bishop Anthony to Concelebrate
Mass at 10:30

in St Patrick's Church

Fete After Mass in the School
grounds

- SAUSAGE SIZZLE BBQ
- SOFT DRINKS
- FACE PAINTING
- JUMPING CASTLE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- POPCORN
- DOUGHNUTS
- BAKED GOODS
- WHITE ELEPHANT STALL
- CRAFTS STALL
- GAMES
- RAFFLE

LENTEN PASSPORT PROGRAM 2020

The Lenten Children's program is designed to give formation about this season to families in Gosford Parish.

All children and their families are invited to come to Mass on Sundays during the Lenten season at the parish churches. During this time, there will be a special program including children Liturgy and children's homilies to learn more about Lent and its observances.

After each attended Mass on these six Sundays, children can collect a special sticker and place them on their Lenten passport on the corresponding spot. Anyone who brings their Lenten passport to church on Palm Sunday with a minimum of 4 stickers in it (including Palm Sunday) will receive a prize (a brand-new toy!) very kindly donated by the public school in Pymble.

This program is designed to help us better understand the true meaning of Lent. **All children up to Year 6 at school are invited to participate.**

Get a Passport from the Church foyer this Sunday and then:

GET A STICKER FOR YOUR PASSPORT EACH WEEK IN LENT.

Everyone is welcome

LENTEN LISTENING PROGRAM FOR 2020
WEDNESDAYS IN LENT IN JORDAN ROOM
10:00 AM.

THE THEMES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Facilitated by Anne Lovell

- Week 1: Prayerful and Eucharistic
 - Week 2: Missionary and Evangelising
 - Week 3: Inclusive, Participatory & Synodal
 - Week 4: Humble, Healing and Merciful
 - Week 5: Open to Conversion, Renewal and Reform
 - Week 6: A Joyful, Hope-Filled and Servant Community
- Each session lasts 2 hours.

REMEMBER TO TAKE YOUR BULLETIN HOME WITH YOU, IT IS YOURS TO KEEP.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

PS 12:6

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord who has been
bountiful with me.

FIRST READING

LV 19:1-2. 17-18

A reading from the book of Leviticus

You must love your neighbour, as yourself.

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.

"You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord."

The Word of The Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PS 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R. V.8 (R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings.

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion.

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults.

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins.

As a father has compassion on his sons, the Lord has pity on those who fear him.

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

SECOND READING

1 COR 3:16-23

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

All things are yours, but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

Didn't you realise that you were God's temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is

foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men's thoughts: he knows how useless they are, or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

The Word of The Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 JN 2:5

Alleluia, alleluia!

Whoever keeps the word of Christ, grows perfect in the love of God.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

MT 5:38-48

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Love your enemies.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

PS 9:2-3

I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY

BY DIANNE BERGANT CSA

The command to love is the second of a two-part passage that serves as the first reading for today. The first part is an injunction to be holy as God is holy. The holiness of God is the ground of all religious living. God is holy, and the people with whom God is in covenant are required to be holy as well. Holiness is much broader in scope than mere goodness. It might best be understood as 'godness'. The life of holiness to which we are called requires integrity, honesty, and faithfulness to one another. These are very demanding values, but they give us a glimpse of what the holiness of God is like.

The responsorial psalm begins with a

summons to bless or praise God. The reason for praising God is God's willingness to pardon, to heal, and to redeem or save. These are all acts that flow from God's loving kindness and compassion, two attributes closely associated with covenantal commitment. God's compassion is immeasurable, extending from 'east to west'. It is much more than empathy. It comes from the Hebrew word for 'womb', suggesting that God's compassion love is like the love a mother has for the children of her womb. In other words, God's compassion might be called 'womb-love'.

Paul insists that the temple of God is no longer a material building. Rather, it is the collection of people gathered in God's name. According to him, the Corinthians are this temple. Paul then contrasts the wisdom of the world with the wisdom of God. He argues that the standards the world uses to determine wisdom are frequently diametrically opposed to the standards of God. Therefore, those who wish to be wise with God's wisdom will have to choose a path that may be judged foolish by the standards of the world. The reading ends with a discussion about boasting, that false pride the Corinthians took in identifying with various religious leaders. Such boasting is evidence of the wisdom of the world, a wisdom which must be overturned.

'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth', known as *lex talionis*, was really a moral advance over the common custom of blood vengeance, that is, exacting a price that far exceeds the wrong that was done. Jesus instructs his disciples to offer no resistance at all when someone tries to take advantage of them. He then reinterprets the law of love in an even more radical manner, insisting that his disciples' love must be patterned after God's love, which is given unquestioningly to the just and the unjust alike. If they only love those who love them, but harm those who harm them, they are merely fulfilling the *lex talionis* admonition. Those who would be known as children of God are expected to love as God does.

© Dianne Bergant CSA

THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

SUNDAY 1 MARCH

1st Gen 2:7-9, 3:1-7

2nd 1 Rom 5:12-19

Mt 4:1-11



LENTEN PROGRAM FOR SOMERSBY.

**Commencing Monday March 2,
7:00 pm at the St Francis of
Assisi Centre**

**using the Diocese of
Wollongong's 'Grace'
programme.**

Please contact

Mary Luci on 4374 1108.

**Everyone is
welcome**

Your Roster – March 1 1st Sunday of Lent – Year [A/2]					
MASS	VIGIL 5:00	7:30am	9:00am	6:00pm	Somersby - 6:30
DATE	29.02.20	1.03.20	1.03.20	1.03.20	29.02.20
Audio/Visual	Cheryl Parry	Bernie Pannell	Greg McBride	Joe Tropiano	Melissa Monaghan
Acolytes	Sean Pearson Sam Giddings	Alan Pont Sheila Evans	Katrina Pratt Peter Julius	Patrick Nicholls Kevin O'Donnell	Altar Society Vicki Muscat
Lectors	Bridget Sharp Jan Blanch	Ron Begg Regina Fong	John Miller Isobel O'Neill	Youth Milen Shiju	Dakota Xuereb Joanne Comensoli
Commentator	Jan Blanch	Ron Burgess	Frances Mathey	Youth	Charlene Xuereb
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Fiona Bolton Vic Camilleri Terry Cooke Nicole Murphy	Regina Fong Pam McCrae Josie McGuinness Joy McHugh	Frances Mathey Margaret Mathieson Isobel O'Neill	Lyn Beglin Corrie Dunn Nora Koleszar Anna Llige	Michael Monaghan + Senior Server
Altar Servers	Lachlan Murphy Taz Parry	Sebastian Eager Laura Eager	Logan Farris Yuna Iwasaki Heath Ford Derik Sind	Vito De Toffol Remi De Toffol Luca De Toffol Lorenzo Arango	Dakota Xuereb Alex Camilleri Flowers Roseanne Dominello
COUNTERS Feb 24 Lyn Beglin Joyce Byrne Mar 02 Dianna Addis Fiona Eaton	ALTAR LINEN Pick up Feb 24 Clem & Marie O'Donovan Return Feb 28 Mar 02 Hazel Walsh	ALTAR SOCIETY Fri 28 Helen Moore Colleen Kirk	CHILDRENS LITURGY Mar 1 Family Mass	PARISH BUS Mar 1 Driver: John Moriarty Helper: Ros Moriarty	HOSPITAL VISITATION Mar 1 Neryl Tyrrell Shelia Evans

MASS INTENTIONS		
Date	Mass	Intention
Sat 22/02	9:00a Gosford 5:00p Gosford 6:30p Somersby	+ Anniversaries WILLIAM & LIAM FLANAGAN Mass of Thanksgiving To Jesus & Mother Mary Recently Deceased NENA SCIBERRAS
Sun 23/02	7:30a Gosford 9:00a Gosford 6:00p Gosford	PARISH INTENTIONS + Remembrances SEAN [JOHN] KYRAN DEVINE + Remembrance NELSON FERNANDES
Mon 24/02	9:00a Gosford	+ Remembrance LEO FRY
Tue 25/02	9:00p Gosford	+Remembrance FRIQUET FAMILY
Wed 26/02	11:30a Gosford	+ Remembrance FARIBA GHAZI
Thr 27/02	9:00a Gosford	+ Remembrance DIONSIO GLER
Fri 28/02	12:00n Gosford	
Sat 29/02	9:00a Gosford 5:00p Gosford 6:30p Somersby	+ Remembrances KEEVERS, KNIGHT & MERCHANT FAMILIES
Sun 01/03	7:30a Gosford 9:00a Gosford 6:00p Gosford	+ Remembrances FARIBA GHAZI PARISH INTENTIONS

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY:

Leonie Barnes, Leanne McDonagh, Judy Ryan, Peter Gloss, Marie O'Donovan, Megan McGowan, Kellie Nevin, Charlie Sammut, Rachael Lees, Brian Graham, Arlene Peters, Kath Ryan, John Burg, Peter & Lena O'Donovan, Tina Learwood, Allan Francis, Brian Loo, Bev Meehan, Michael Graham, Glenn Mills, Frank McGuinness, Angela Cunningham, Simon Low, Frances Cannon, Margaret Gunnison, Sonia Cummings, Anna-Marie Rowan, Judy Wennerbom, Helen Bligh.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Sean [John] Kyran Devine, William & Liam Flanagan, Gilberto Dal Busco, Joe Sanfilippo.

REMEMBRANCES:

Nelson Fernandes, Leo Fry, Friquet Family, Fariba Ghazi, Dionsio Gler, Paul & Maria Bigeni, Melita Waters, Keevers, Knight & Merchant Families, Michael Kokegei.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Nena Sciberras, Connie Sultana, Antony, Angelina & Sienna Abdullah, Veronique Sakr, Rhonda Lee, Connie Sultana, Rod Frazer.



BAPTISM PRESENTATIONS

9:00 AM MASS TODAY

Gavin Hugh Donnelly and
Joaquin Levy Ceballos

REFERENCE FORMS FOR SCHOOL ENROLMENTS 2021

BRING THEM TO MASS FOR FR GREG TO SIGN

Parents who require Fr Greg to sign their reference forms for entry into St Joseph's or St Edward's are asked to please bring it with them to the Mass they attend and Father will speak to them in the foyer after Mass.

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