



Diocese of Broken Bay

MANLY FRESHWATER PARISH

Mary Immaculate, Manly and
St John the Baptist, Freshwater

First Sunday of Lent – 1st February 2020

Message from Bishop Anthony...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. *RCIA 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. **Continued on page 5**

Parish Priest: Fr David Taylor

Assistant Priest: Fr Paul Kim

Parish Secretaries: Jenny Beninati
Paula Martin

Pastoral Coordinator: Michelle Ellis

Administration Office:

Mon – Thurs: 8:30am - 4:30pm

Fri: 9am – 4pm

6 Raglan St, Manly NSW 2095

Tel: 9977 5822 / 8379 1720

After Hours Urgent Sick Calls:

0499 910 010

Presbytery: 9977 2100

manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

www.bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater

Weekend Masses:

Manly: Saturday Vigil 6:00pm

Sunday 8:30am, 10:30am, 6:00pm

Freshwater: Saturday Vigil 5:00pm

Sunday 9am

Weekday Masses:

Manly: Tuesday – Friday 9:15am

Freshwater: Tuesday – Friday 9:15am

**Liturgy of the Word and
Holy Communion**

Manly: Monday 9:15am

Freshwater: Monday 9:15am

Mary Immaculate Church

6 Raglan St, Manly NSW 2095

St John the Baptist Church

cnr Johnson & Oliver St,
Freshwater NSW 2096

Baptisms: *by appointment only*

Manly 4th Sunday of the month

Freshwater 2nd Sunday of month

Reconciliation:

Manly Sat 10am – 11am

Freshwater Sat 4:30pm

WEEKEND MASS COLLECTIONS

Thank You for your financial support of our
Priests and Parish Community

The 1st Collection is for the financial support
of our priests.

The 2nd Collection is for the maintenance &
running costs of our Parish Community.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for March – Catholics in China

We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness
to the Gospel and grow in unity.

Parish website: bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater

Parish facebook: facebook.com/manlyfreshwaterparish

Manly Freshwater Parish promotes **SAFEGUARDING** which involves the implementation of proactive, common sense and practical ideas that ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults in our community.

Parish Pastoral Council: Paul Pervan (Chair), Ian Press (Deputy Chair), Margaret Dent (Secretary), Ivica Covic; Laurie de Ambrosis; Joanne Druery; Robert Marshall; Michael McGrath
St Mary's Primary School 9977 2225 Principal: Paul McGuire
St John the Baptist Primary School 9939 6699
 Principal: Judy Slattery
St Paul's Catholic College 9977 5111 Principal: Chris Browne
Stella Maris College 9977 5144 Principal: Elizabeth Carnegie

March 2020

Mon 2/3 – 1st week of Lent	Lev 19:1-2,11-18; Mt 25:31-26
Tue 3/3 – 1st week of Lent	Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15
Wed 4/3 – 1st week of Lent	Jonah 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32
Thurs 5/3 – 1st week of Lent	Esther 14:1,3-5,12-14; Mt 7:7-12
Fri 6/3 – 1st week of Lent	Ezek 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26
Sat 7/3 – 1st week of Lent	Deut 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48
Sun 8/3 – Second Sunday of Lent	Gen 12:1-4; 2 Tim 1:8-10; Mt 17:1-9

Year A

LET US PRAY FOR

1st March 2020

Recently Deceased: Tony Platti

Anniversary:

Prayers for the sick in our parish: Gavin Greenwood, Zacchaeus Emmanuel Joseph Ratnam; Mark Taylor; Kay Flenady; Leon Cochrane; Robina Dwyer; Ann Irvin; Prionsias Kearney; Brian Davies; Majella McLoughlin; Debbie Vernon; Desmond Connors; Lauren Hannahan; Rosalba Galuis; Vanessa Squirrel; Judith McKenzie; Jonathan Keil; Les Reilly; Wayne Smedley; Margaret Burridge

Mass Intention Publications: All Mass Intentions may be left at the Parish Office or on the collection plates on the weekend. Names for Mass Intentions for Recently Deceased, Anniversaries and for those who are sick (permission of the person is required) will be included in the weekly bulletin. All other Mass Intentions (including yearly offerings) will be given directly to the Priests who will offer the Masses.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION is held at Manly Church on Wednesdays from 2pm with Divine Mercy Hour held from 7:00pm – 8:30pm. To assist us on Wednesdays and present before the Blessed Sacrament, a Guard of Honour Roster has been placed on the notice board. We invite you to place your name in a time slot which suits you.

Visiting sick at home - If you, or if you know of anyone who is unable to attend Mass because they are unwell and would like a home visit please contact the parish office 9977 5822 to organise for Communion or Anointing



St Mary's Church at Manly is fitted with an audio loop for hearing impaired.



Pope Francis #Lent is a time of grace, a time for recognizing that our lowly #ashes are loved by God and for letting God gaze upon us with love, and in this way change our lives. We were put in this world to go from ashes to life.



FR PAUL'S YOUTUBE Please take a minute to watch Fr Paul Kim's presentation on today's Gospel reading. You can view it through YouTube – search frpaulkim (one word with no space).



Please **TURN OFF** your mobile phones during all Church services; that includes sending/receiving text messages

DATES TO REMEMBER...

- **Reconciliation Classes commence 29/2 & 1/3**
- **SJB Yr 4 Class Mass** Tues 3rd March @ 9:15am
- **RCIA** Tues 3rd March @ 7pm
- **SMM Yr 4 Class Mass** Thurs 5th March @ 9:15am
- **Lenten Program** Thurs 5th March @ 7pm
- **World Day Of Prayer** Fri 6th March
- **SJB Family Mass** Sat 7th March @ 5pm

SUNDAY MORNING TEAS



FRESHWATER: following the 9am Mass

MANLY: following the Sunday 8:30am Mass each weekend, with the Filipino Family Group hosting a morning tea on the 2nd Sunday following the 10:30am Mass and the Tongan Community hosting a morning tea on the 3rd Sunday following the 10:30am Mass.



If you are a new parishioner to Manly Freshwater Parish, we invite you to complete a Parish census form. This will assist us in updating our records to include you and your family in our parish community activities. The census form can be found on the back wall of the Church or at the side door entrance and may be left in the collection plate.



Craft Group meets each week on Tuesday mornings from 10am to 12noon in the Parish Center. We invite you to come along for a cuppa and a chat in a friendly relaxed environment. Bring along your knitting or other craft if you wish. Visitors to the area are more than welcome.



Lectio Divina Read his story in the Gospels. Spend time with him. Listen to what he says. Lectio Divina groups meets Tuesday 7.30pm in the Parish Room and Wednesday mornings at 10am in the Parish Centre. All Welcome



CHRISTIAN MEDITATION Anyone interested in this form of silent prayer is most welcome to attend. We meet each Monday at 6pm in the Parish Centre. Enq: Hazel Cottee 0402 052 088 "Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46: vs 10)



Children's Liturgy is held each weekend at Manly during the 8.30am Mass and at Freshwater during the 9am Mass



The Parish Playgroup is held during school terms on Monday morning in the Parish Hall at Manly from 8.30am to 10.30am.



Fitness Sessions Manly Saturday Mornings at 9am & Wednesday Mornings at 8am Strength, Tone and Balance Training for over 50's both female and male. The trainer is Paul Pervan who is a fully qualified Cert 4 Fitness Professional. Specialist in training Older Adults, fully insured with First Aid Certificate. Come along and Try!



Lenten Program

discernment on the six Plenary Council 2020 Themes, in conjunction with the Lenten Year A Scripture texts.

Thursday Evenings at 7pm in the Parish Centre.
Commencing 27th Feb

As we journey together towards the Plenary Council sessions in 2020 and 2021, all Australians are invited to contribute through listening and discerning what the Holy Spirit is saying to us here and now. This Lenten program experience draws on the rich Scripture texts of this Year A Lenten Season, and invites us to reflect on these in conjunction with the Plenary themes, to discern what the Spirit is saying to us in our own local communities today. The focus, therefore, moves from a national conversation to a local community conversation, whether it be our parish, school or other ecclesial community group.

Please register at the Parish Office on 9977 5822 or come along on the night – each week is a different theme



Stations of the Cross

will be held at Manly 7pm each Friday during Lent.



Youth Masses are held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month at the 6pm Mass in Manly.

We will be serving a supper following the Mass on 3rd Sunday. All Welcome



We are currently seeking more Catechists and Helpers for our CCD Classes in 2020

Currently we have classes at all our schools that do not have a Teacher or Helper so please consider joining our wonderful team.

If you would like to know more about what is involved, please contact

Laurie: 9949 7750 (Manly) Toni: 9905 2894 (Freshwater)

No Cash! Tap and Go Units for your convenience are near the doors

Units set at \$10 and \$20 *Thank you for your generous support.*



Project Compassion 2020

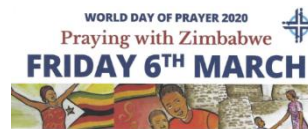
“Go Further Together”



Indigenous minorities in the Philippines have regular discrimination and disadvantage. Manide woman, Shirley faced challenges supporting her children and sending them to school. With Caritas Australis’s support, Shirley’s life has been transformed.

Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed **“Go Further Together”**. Your generosity will assist some of the world’s most vulnerable communities to lift themselves out of poverty. When we **Go Further Together** in love and compassion, the whole world thrives.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, or by phoning 1800 024 413 or visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion.



The Parish will be hosting the **World Day of Prayer** at **St John the Baptist Church**

Freshwater, commencing at 10am on Friday 6th March. There will be a Morning Tea following the service. All Welcome

All Saints Anglican Church Balgowlah will also be hosting a World Day of Prayer Service commencing with Morning Tea at 10am followed by the Prayer Service at 10.30am. All Welcome

Sacramental Dates for 2020

Reconciliation Program commences this weekend
Freshwater: Sat 4pm and Sun 10am
Manly: Sun 9:30am and 5pm

First Holy Communion Sunday 31st May
Program commences weekend of 3rd May
Freshwater: Sat 4pm and Sun 10am
Manly: Sun 9:30am and 5pm

Confirmation Sunday 30 August

PIETY STORE

Movie of the month “Bakhita from Slave to Saint”
A beautiful Italian film on the inspiring true story of “St Bakhita”, the patron Saint of “refugees”. How pain can be transformed and give life to others. Only \$10 @ the piety store.

CD of the Month – Religionless spirituality
Dr Tim Gray. Today many people mistakenly claim to be “spiritual” but not “religious”. Many people know why Jesus died, but have no idea why he lived? Only \$5 @ the piety store.



Parish Rite of Enrolment for Reconciliation

Could the young people who are present and are preparing to make the sacrament of Reconciliation to come forward with one of their parents

Priest:

We welcome you as you prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The program we are using is "A Family-Centered Parish Program"

Parents, you have registered your child in the Parish Sacramental Program. In doing so, you have committed to encourage and support your child by bringing them to Mass each Sunday and participating in the 4-week program. Is this your intention?

Response: Yes, it is.

Priest:

Children, you are preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In doing so you will learn more about Jesus' love and forgiveness. Do you want to do this?

Response: Yes, we do.

Children, you will be coming to Mass each Sunday with your parents and participating in the 4-week program? Do you want to do this?

Response: Yes, we do.

Priest:

Dear friends of Manly Freshwater Parish. Are you willing to support by prayer and example these young people and their parents as they prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation?

Response: Yes, we are.



RECONCILIATION

This year we have 120 children preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please keep these children in your prayers as they prepare for their Sacraments.

CARING FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT



Are you able to lend a hand and clear all the debris that our Cockatoo's and friendly Batts spread all over our Church carpark from chewing on the branches of our much-loved huge FIG TREE in Raglan Street, that is admired by the Manly Community.

We need to sweep every second day. Brooms, rakes and bins supplied.

Let's care about our environment!!!

PLEASE let Jenny in the office know if you are able to assist.....thank you.

St Mary's School News...

Last Tuesday the students and staff recognised Shrove Tuesday by holding a Pancake fundraiser, with funds being raised for Caritas Project Compassion. On Wednesday we recognised the beginning of Lent. All children from Kindergarten to Year 6 attended a reverent Ash Wednesday Mass, reverently prepared by our Year 5 students and teachers. In class children made Lenten promises to help guide them on their Lenten journey of Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving.

Kind regards, Alexis Conn (REC)

St John the Baptist School News...

Thank you to all parents who attended the Reconciliation Parent Information evening hosted by Father David and our Parish Sacramental Staff. Your continued support of Sacramental Programs assists in weaving the threads, helping to strengthen Parish and Community connections.

It was wonderful to celebrate our Ash Wednesday Mass (Wednesday 26th February) with so many parents and parishioners from our community in attendance. Well done to all of our students who participated by way of volunteering to read, singing hymns (as part of their class or in the School Choir), presenting the Offertory Procession and joining in prayer. At the conclusion of Mass, Mrs Slattery encouraged all students to take the time to commit to making a Lenten Promise, putting into action, words or deeds that put others first.

Kind regards, Sharna Taranto (REC)

LENT



PRAY FAST GIVE

We remember that God gave the world Jesus, and Jesus gave us his life.

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

In the words of Pope Francis

- *Fast from hurting words and say kind words*
- *Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude*
- *Fast from anger and be filled with patience*
- *Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope*
- *Fast from worries and have trust in God*
- *Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity*
- *Fast from pressures and be prayerful*
- *Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy*
- *Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others*
- *Fast from grudges and be reconciled*
- *Fast from words and be silent so you can listen*

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.

PASCHAL PRECEPT

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is done between **Ash Wednesday** (26 February 2020) and **Trinity Sunday** (7 June 2020), unless for a good reason it is done at another time during the year.

All of the faithful who have reached the age of discretion (seven years old) are obliged to confess their grave sins at least once a year.

I would encourage you also to consider being part of a Lenten prayer or discussion group and to read the Scriptures in your homes. A visit to a church for private personal prayer before the Blessed Sacrament is also a marvelous way to strengthen one's prayer life during this season. Do not hesitate or be fearful, "the Lord waits to be gracious to you" (Isaiah 30:18).

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, my prayer over these coming weeks is that our Catholic community in the Diocese of Broken Bay will seek to live the new life in Christ. This Lent, may we move with confidence and loving reverence deeper into the heart of the Father who is grace, mercy and love.

Most Rev Anthony Randazzo DD JCL
Bishop of Broken Bay
21 February 2020

PARISH WEEKLY EVENTS

- Christian Meditation: Mon 6pm – 6:45pm in the Parish Centre
- Craft Group: Tues 10:00am in the Parish Centre
- Divine Will Prayer Group: Mon 11:00am in the Parish Centre
- Eucharistic Adoration: Adoration on Wed from 3pm with Divine Mercy Hour from 7pm – 8pm
- Lectio Divina: Tues 7.30pm in the Parish Room and Wed 10am in the Parish Centre
- Parish Playgroup: Manly on Mon 9am – 10:30am
- Piety Store: Open 15mins before & after Mass
- Reconciliation:
Manly: Sat 10am – 11am
Freshwater: Sat 4:30pm
- RCIA: Contact the Parish Office 9977 5822
- Rosary: Manly: Mon – Fri at 9.45am
Freshwater: Tues – Fri before 9.15am Mass

PARISH MONTHLY EVENTS

- Anointing Mass at Manly and Freshwater
1st Friday of each month at 9:15am Mass
- Baptisms: By appointment enquires to Parish Office
- Crazy Whist Morning: last Tues of each month at 10:00am
- Parish Pastoral Council: contact Parish Office
- St Vincent de Paul: Manly & Freshwater Conferences
2nd Mon each month at 5:30pm

OUTSIDE THE PARISH

National Association of Catholic Families National Conference 2020 – 3rd – 5th April

The Collaroy Center – brochures can be found at the entrances to the Churches. Enq: Mary Clare Meney – 0435 496 624



Relics of St Thérèse of Lisieux return to Australia in 2020 Broken Bay Parishes schedule of relics tour
Friday 6 March: arrives at 10.00am at St Rose, Collaroy Plateau. Departs at 1.00pm
Arrives 1.30pm at St Joseph's, Narrabeen.

Saturday 7 March: Departs 8.15am from St Joseph's, Narrabeen. Arrives 9.15am at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara.

Saturday Sessions with Katie

All welcome to attend an introductory session to FertilityCare on Saturday 7 March, 10.30am - 11.30am at the Caroline Chisholm Centre, Pennant Hills. Natural medical approach to managing infertility, family planning and reproductive issues. For further information or to RSVP, please email Katie at katie.fullilove@bbcatholic.org.au

St Mary's Tower Retreat Centre

Paul's Letter to the Galatians: 6 Day 20-26 March \$750 or weekend 20-22 March \$250: Fr Michael Fallon msc.

Men's Prayer Weekend: 27-29 March \$250: Paul White and Fr Thang Nguyen msc.

Come, relax and enjoy God in tranquility at St. Mary's Towers Retreat Centre, Douglas Park, NSW. RSVP Ph: (02) 4630 0233 OR Email contact@towersretreat.org.au website: <https://towersretreat.org.au>

Positions Vacant - There are three positions available in parishes at the moment. For more information see: www.bbcatholic.org.au/people/positions-vacant

Manly and Freshwater Roster 7th – 8th March 2020

Ministry	Manly 6pm Vigil	Manly 8.30am	Manly 10.30am	Manly 6pm	Freshwater 5pm Vigil	Freshwater 9am
Acolytes	Kazuko Fischer	Louise Wareham	Ron Gravolin	Ivica Covic Ivana Covic	Mick O'Farrell	Lou Maruca
Servers	Bernie Lawler		Iona & Teresa Hearn	Michael, Kieran & Gabriel Wan		
Readers	Carmel Lawler Jean Halcrow	Ritz Bruzzese Anne Walton	Jane Fonua Therese Hava	Paul Novak Sandie Cornish	Family Mass	Toni Walsh
Ministers of Communion	Carmel Lawler Maree Rowan	Tiere Morgan Assistance Required	Kim McGrath Assistance Required	Paula Martin Richard Heasman	Angela Vumbaca	Pam Brown
Music	CDs	Bianca Zatz Parish Choir	Kath Papallo Gina Marshall	Josh Willard	Josh Willard	Pat Brown
AV Screens	Peter Simpson	Parish Choir	Robert Marshall	Bill Tango	Family Mass	Margie Gruca
Warden	John Zemek	Dom Ferragina	Marika Jones	Stephen Crowley		
Piety Shop	Louise Wareham	Jan Dorsen	Maria Condomitti	Lynette & Eliza Duffy		
Flowers/ Altar Society	Hazel Cottee Carole O'Donnell					Lyn Hillard
Morning Tea		Sophie Ford Rose Redding	Filipino Group			Feledy Family
Children's Lit		Claire Shefford				Rena Curll

Excerpts from Pope Francis' Lenten Message 2020



In this Lent of 2020, I would like to share with every Christian what I wrote to young people in the Apostolic Exhortation [Christus Vivit](#): "Keep your eyes fixed on the outstretched arms of Christ crucified, let yourself be saved over and over again. And when you go to confess your sins, believe firmly in his mercy which frees you of your guilt. Contemplate his blood poured out with such great love and let yourself be cleansed by it. In this way, you can be reborn ever anew" ([No. 123](#)). Jesus' Pasch is not a past event; rather, through

the power of the Holy Spirit it is ever present, enabling us to see and touch with faith the flesh of Christ in those who suffer.

It is good to contemplate more deeply the paschal mystery through which God's mercy has been bestowed upon us. Indeed, the experience of mercy is only possible in a "face to face" relationship with the crucified and risen Lord "who loved me and gave himself for me" (*Gal 2:20*), in a heartfelt dialogue between friends. That is why prayer is so important in Lent.

Christians pray in the knowledge that, although unworthy, we are still loved. Prayer can take any number of different forms, but what truly matters in God's eyes is that it penetrates deep within us and chips away at our hardness of heart, in order to convert us ever more fully to God and to his will.

In this favourable season, then, may we allow ourselves to be led like Israel into the desert (cf. *Hos 2:14*), so that we can at last hear our Spouse's voice and allow it to resound ever more deeply within us. The more fully we are engaged with his word, the more we will experience the mercy he freely gives us.

The fact that the Lord once again offers us a favourable time for our conversion should never be taken for granted. This new opportunity ought to awaken in us a sense of gratitude and stir us from our sloth. Despite the sometimes tragic presence of evil in our lives, and in the life of the Church and the world, this opportunity to change our course expresses God's unwavering will not to interrupt his dialogue of salvation with us.

First Sunday of Lent- Year A

First Reading

Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7 (JB)

A reading from the book of Genesis

Creation of our first parents, and sin.

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

Ps 50:3-6, 12-14, 17 (JB)

R. 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

Romans 5:12-19 (JB)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.

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

Matthew 4:4 (JB)

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

Matthew 4:1-11 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.

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.

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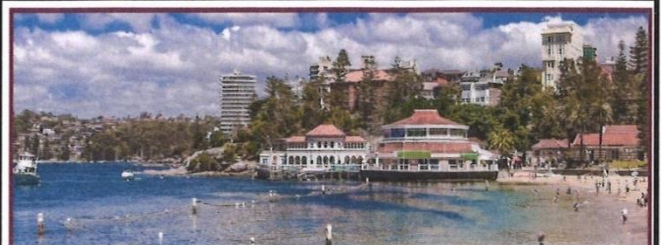
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