First Sunday of Lent  Year B

Repent and believe in the Gospel

First Reading: Genesis 9:8-15. I will remember the covenant I have made between me and you and all living things

Psalm 24: Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22 It is an appeal to God for a clear conscience

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: Mark 1:12-15. The kingdom of God is at hand

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


Prayers of the Faithful

Celebrant: In today’s Gospel we are invited to hear how the Spirit drove Jesus out of his comfortable place into the wilderness. We invite that same Spirit to be with us now as we pray to the Father.

Leader: We pray for the people of our world and our Church (pause)

All: May we feel the need to repent by coming home to ourselves and to our God.

Celebrant: Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer

Leader: We pray for missionaries in our community and around the world. (pause)

All: May they call people to repent and believe in the Good News.

Celebrant: Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer

Leader: We pray for Laura McCosh preparing for Easter (pause)

All: May she always remember this day of her election and be grateful for the blessings she has received from heaven.

Celebrant: Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer

Leader: We pray for our children preparing for their first Reconciliation and their parents (pause)

All: May their journey together make them experience the unconditional love and forgiveness of our God.

Celebrant: Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer

Celebrant: Loving Father, hear the prayers of this community gathered today, as we journey out into the wilderness may the Spirit guide and protect us. We ask these prayers through Christ our Lord. Amen

OUR POPE SAYS: Pope Francis

“There are two ways of thinking and of having faith: we can fear to lose the saved and we can want to save the lost. Even today it can happen that we stand at the crossroads of these two ways of thinking. Jesus responds immediately to the leper’s plea, without waiting to study the situation and all its possible consequences. For Jesus, what matters above all is reaching out to save those far off, healing the wounds of the sick, restoring everyone to God’s family. And this is scandalous to some people! Jesus is not afraid of this kind of scandal He does not think of the close-minded who are scandalized even by a work of healing, scandalized before any kind of openness, by any action outside of their mental and spiritual boxes, by any caress or sign of tenderness which does not fit into their usual thinking and their ritual purity.” Preaching last Sunday in St Peter’s

Please Pray For the sick: Les and Clare Fern, Margaret Schubert, Joe & Rosemary Valle, Br James Maher MSC; Josephine Di Lembo; Margaret Morrissey, Margaret McDonald, Margaret Heagney (Catherine Phillip’s mother) Loretta Grimster, Ray McKirdy (Uncle Raelene Dawson), Mona Spain-Pedder, Arturo Bavato.
Mass Times:  Saturday Vigil.  6.00 pm Sunday 8.30 am and 6.00 pm.
Syro-Malabar Mass on First Sunday of the month 10.00 am Children’s Mass 8.30 am last Sunday of month.
Monday 5.30 pm. (8.00 am Public Holidays)  Tuesday – Friday.  6.45 am
Saturday:  8.00 am  Sacraments:  Reconciliation: Ask at least 15 minutes before any Mass
and immediately after Saturday Mass.  Baptisms/Marriage  By appointment. Book well ahead

Minister’s Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE: 2015</th>
<th>MASS TIME</th>
<th>WELCOMER</th>
<th>COMMENTATOR</th>
<th>READER 1</th>
<th>READER 2</th>
<th>Children’s Lit</th>
<th>SPECIAL MINISTERS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>22nd Feb</td>
<td>SAT 6pm</td>
<td>Felicity Sharp</td>
<td>Helen Smith</td>
<td>Armida Monteith</td>
<td>Maria Alvarado</td>
<td>Peter Liddle</td>
<td>Paul Gilbert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 8:30am.</td>
<td>Bryan Adams</td>
<td>Brigid Myerscough</td>
<td>Children’s Mass</td>
<td>Children’s Mass</td>
<td>Children’s Mass</td>
<td>Garry Blackett</td>
<td>Nancy Yong</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 6pm</td>
<td>Betti Knott</td>
<td>Adrienne Furlan</td>
<td>Pauline Feehan</td>
<td>Jennifer Ros- terio</td>
<td>Jaoa Monteiro</td>
<td>Betti Knott</td>
<td>Pat McGregor</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st March</td>
<td>SAT 6pm</td>
<td>Yvonne El-lison</td>
<td>Bern Morriss</td>
<td>Jaclyn Monteith</td>
<td>Rida Joseph</td>
<td>Armida Monteith</td>
<td>Paul Gilbert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 8:30am.</td>
<td>Sylvia Kervin</td>
<td>Marty Musco</td>
<td>Peter DeSouza</td>
<td>Deci Alves</td>
<td>Edel &amp; Kiara Musco</td>
<td>Anne Davey</td>
<td>Martha Swart</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 6pm</td>
<td>Betti Knott</td>
<td>Pat McGregor</td>
<td>Annabelle Singh</td>
<td>Catherine Voumaard</td>
<td>Jaoa Monteiro</td>
<td>Catherine Phillips</td>
<td>Betti Knott</td>
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Living the Gospel  Are you a satsan or ministering angel?

Today in our readings we find rich symbols of God’s presence among us. The ‘bow in the clouds’ signifies God’s covenant of peace with humanity and creation. Noah’s story is a story of re-creation where things are put together again — healed. God is present and has care for the earth and all upon it. The flood story is a myth, one of many flood stories in Ancient Near Eastern literature. The story of Noah and the flood was adapted from these and used to convey important messages: God is not indifferent to human injustice and sin. That God is going to bring about something new. That God is faithful and gracious to all creatures; and stands with and protects all creation. Nothing can disrupt God’s faithfulness. The bow in the clouds was a sign of a new beginning with God. A weapon of war and sign of destruction became a sign of peace and reconciliation for all of the renewed creation.

In Mark’s Gospel Jesus is baptized and driven into the wilderness where we are told he encountered wild beasts, and angels ministered to him. The wilderness can be a place of danger as well as a place of grace. The wilderness for us is the world we live in. We find here the ‘adversary’ [systems and forces opposed to God] but also the Spirit — and angels who minister to us. Jesus is put to the test. The word ‘satan’ originally meant one who is a ‘hinderer’, anything, anyone, any event or circumstance, decision, culture, or relationship that hinders us from fulfilling our promises and faithfulness to God and one another. Following his testing in the wilderness, Jesus begins to proclaim that God’s reign is near: God is among the poor; among the victims of injustice, and among all who suffer at the hands of others.

We need to understand that the reign of God is not a future event but is here in the present. It is not so much a place but is more about relationships. It emerges in situations of conflict as the ‘power’ that confronts all that would threaten the lives of people. When Jesus speaks of the reign of God his eyes are fixed on earth and not heaven. God’s reign is among us, he declares. The reign of God exposes division as incompatible with what God intends for human community. The rich cannot exploit the poor without also exploiting God. One cannot infringe upon the humanity of another without also infringing upon God.

Anyone who would discriminate against another because of religious, sexual identity, sex, racial background or creed needs to be aware that he/she also discriminates against God.

Lent is a time for listening to all creation. The whole of creation is more and more threatened by our abuse. These days of Lent are our days of re-building the ‘Ark’, re-building that which is broken and needs healing. The Good News is that God never abandons the beloved creation and all the living beings with whom the covenant has been made.

Parish Notices and Coming Events

Collections:  1st Collection:  $1,025.50
2nd Collection:  $1205.70 Direct Debit:  $250.00
St Vincent de Paul: If you would like to volunteer with, or join, the St Vincent de Paul Society or need the Society’s help please call the Society on 8948 8100.

February Calendar

Stations of the Cross Every Friday in Lent at 6.00 PM  Syro-Malabar at 7.00 PM
ACTIV8 every last Tuesday of the month for young people from years 9-12 from 6-8.30pm.  $3 for pizza.

St. Paul’s Ladies who lunch Tuesday 24th 12 midday Nightcliff Sports Club. All welcome
Thursday 26th at 6pm parents and children second Reconciliation meeting.
Saturday 28th OLSH associates meeting

March Calendar

Sunday 1st March Second Sunday in Lent
Sunday 8th March Third Sunday in Lent
Harmony Day. Saturday 21st following 6.00 pm Mass. Come in traditional dress and bring a traditional dish to share.