Second Sunday of Lent Year B

**This is my Beloved Son. Listen to him.**

**First Reading:** Genesis 22:1-2,9-13,15-18  
In your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing

**Psalm 115**  
*I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living*

**Second Reading:** Romans 8:31-34. If God is for us, who can be against us?

**Gospel Acclamation:** Glory and praise to you Lord Jesus Christ. *From the shining cloud the Father’s voice is heard: This is my beloved Son, hear him.* Glory and praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

**Gospel:** Mark 9:2-10, Rabbi, it is good that we are here

**Com. Verse:** *This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased. Listen to him.*


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**Prayers of the Faithful**

**Celebrant:** Like Peter, we believe that “It is wonderful for us to be here…” In the divine presence, we confidently bring our prayers to our God and Father.

**Leader:** We pray for Pope Francis, Bishops, and other leaders of the Church (pause)

**All:** May they always lead us into the glory of our heavenly homeland.

**Celebrant:** Lord, in your mercy

**All:** Hear our prayer

**Celebrant:** Gracious Father, with grace and glory you transform our lives; by these prayers may we come through our trials of this life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

**OUR POPE SAYS:** Pope Francis

“Lent is a time of spiritual battle against the spirit of evil and as we cross the Lenten ‘desert’, we fix our gaze toward Easter, which is Jesus’ definitive victory against Evil, against sin, and against death. In this desert we must decisively lose ourselves on the path of Jesus, the path which leads to life. It is a time of listening to God’s voice and the tempter’s voice, which cannot otherwise be done amidst noise and confusion, in which one only hears superficial voices. Therefore, we enter into the desert without fear, because we are not alone: we are with Jesus, with the Father, and with the Holy Spirit. Lent is a time of becoming ever more aware of how much the Holy Spirit, (who we received) in Baptism, has worked and is able to work in us.”  
Angelus address on 22nd Feb.

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.
Living the Gospel: Seeing only Jesus

The Gospel story of the Transfiguration is about seeing in a new way. In the midst of war and violence, the Gospel invites us to see the presence of God’s invitation to peace. Abraham learned to hear God’s desires in a new way. He gradually saw that God did not want the death of Isaac. The vision of Abraham, the standing with Jesus on the mountain, could be our way of learning that war and injustice, poverty and hunger are not inevitable. The Transfiguration is a sign of hope: It is possible to see God in others, to recognise their sacredness and dignity. It is possible that we can live together in our diversity — all the colours of the rainbow — to let go of racism; homophobia; anti-Muslim sentiment; to let go of fear that leads to paralysis and inaction. Like Martin Luther King, we have been to the ‘mountain’ and come back knowing that God is in all things, all people, and that we are sisters and brothers.

The Genesis story today is about the end of human sacrifice of any kind. We can connect it with the covenant of peace with all creation God made in the Noah story in last week’s reading with the sign of the rainbow This reading suggests that the killing of any human being ['human sacrifice'] has no sanction and no place in our religion. For the ancients, the flood symbolized the kind of destruction that would destroy the whole of civilization, as would the ‘mushroom cloud’ - the nuclear weapons of today that could destroy the whole planet.

The Gospel today is not just retelling what happened to Jesus but shows us what is involved and demanded whenever and wherever we recognize that Jesus is the Messiah. Jesus reveals to us the nature and implications of his "messiahship." What we need to keep in mind, is that which makes it do-able - the realization that we are not alone in this. Jesus in our world is God’s covenant in action. People making peace, and allowing God’s peace is becoming a reality in the world. Let us continue our fasting for peace.

PARISH NOTICES AND COMING EVENTS

Collections: 1st Collection: $1,200.30
2nd Collection: $1013.10 Direct Debit: $110.00

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.

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.

MARCH CALENDAR

Sunday 1st March Second Sunday in Lent
Monday 2nd Anointing Mass 5.30 pm
Sunday 8th March Third Sunday in Lent
Sunday 15th March Fourth Sunday in Lent
Thursday 19th 4.30/6.30 Reconciliation children Retreat

HARMONY DAY. Saturday 21st following 6.00 pm Mass. Come in traditional dress and bring a traditional dish to share.

Sunday 22nd March Children’s Mass