



Please pray for: Frank & Alice May Purcell (deceased)

Mass Times in St Benedict's Church:

Sunday 21st February 2021 – First Sunday of Lent (B)

Sunday, 21 Feb	10.30 am	Solemn Mass
Sunday, 21 Feb	6.00 pm	Young Adults Mass
Monday, 22 Feb	12.35 pm	Chair of St Peter, apostle (Feast)
Tuesday, 23 Feb	12.35 pm	St Polycarp, bishop (Optional)
Wednesday, 24 Feb	12.35 pm	Wednesday of First Week of Lent
Thursday, 25 Feb	12.35 pm	Thursday of First Week of Lent
Friday, 26 Feb	12.35 pm	Friday of First Week of Lent
Saturday, 27 Feb	No Mass	Saturday of First Week of Lent

Regular Confession Times in St Benedict's Church:

Monday to Friday: 11.45 am – 12.30 pm (before 12.35 pm Mass)
Sunday: 5.30 pm (before 6.00 pm Mass)

Mass at St James' Church,

Forest Lodge:

Saturday Vigil: 5.00 pm
Sunday: 8 am, 9.30 am & 11 am
Wednesday & Friday: 9.00am
Saturday (morning): 8.30am

Confession at St James' Church

Saturday: 4.15pm - 4.50pm,
ahead of Vigil Mass
(No Confession on Sundays)

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office



If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney we invite you to contact us. We will listen to you respectfully, offer support and discuss the options you have available to you. *Please contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office on ph 02 9390 5812.*



A VOCATION VIEW: *Lent – let light shine out of darkness...*

Project Compassion 2021 – this year's Project Compassion theme is **Be More, inspired by the words of Saint Oscar Romero – *Aspire not to have more, but to be more.***

This year's Project Compassion showcases how Caritas Australia works with its local partners around the world to walk alongside communities as they strive to be the architects of their own development. Saint Oscar Romero's message challenges us to step up for those who do not have essential resources they need for survival. Through your generosity and aspiring to '**Be More**', you are assisting some of the world's most vulnerable people build better futures for themselves, their families and their communities.

Project Compassion – Week 1 – Jamila's story – Bangladesh

Twenty-two year old Jamila is a single mother living in the world's largest refugee camp in Bangladesh. A Rohingya woman, she fled the armed conflict in Myanmar's Rakhine State, to save herself, her elderly mother and her eight-month-old baby daughter. Having been abandoned by her husband, she faced life in the camp on her own. Hundreds of thousands of Rohingya people have crossed into Bangladesh since August 2017. Over 1.3 million people remain in the densely populated camps, in desperate need of humanitarian assistance. Thanks to the generosity of Caritas Australia's supporters and through our partnership with Caritas Bangladesh, Jamila had access to emergency food and shelter. Then, as her stay in the camp stretched on, Jamila joined the *Women Friendly Spaces* project where she received counselling and emotional support. She learned about health and hygiene, participated in a parenting program and learnt sewing skills to help her earn an income. Jamila now has a sense of community around her and feels less alone and more supported – and she is able to 'Be More' to her family. 'I want to offer my thankful greetings to those who are kindly thinking of us from overseas', Jamila says. 'Thank you and thanks Caritas Australia.'

Entrance Antiphon:

When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

Communion Antiphon:

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

Chair of St Peter – the chair (cathedra) of a bishop is a pre-eminent sign of his teaching authority and pastoral oversight of a local church. This feast, observed in Rome since the fourth century, celebrates Peter, first among the apostles, as founder of the See of Rome and the focus of unity in the communion of one faith

Saint Polycarp – Saint Polycarp is important for the meaning of tradition in the Church. According to the testimony of Saint Irenaeus, Polycarp, the bishop of Smyrna in Asia Minor, was taught by the Apostle John. So he was a link between the apostolic age and the second century. The 'Martyrdom of Polycarp' records how, at age eighty-six, he courageously met death through burning in the amphitheatre. Saint Polycarp died around 155.

Weekly Online Lenten Group – Receive the Grace to Go Make Disciples: A Lenten Companion

Join Fr Noel Custodio, host of the *Furnace* podcast, as he leads an online Lenten Group which will use *Receive the Grace to Go Make Disciples: A Lenten Companion*. Wednesdays of Lent – starting Ash Wednesday, 17th February – 7.30pm-8.15pm – To Register – www.gomakedisciples.org.au

Companions Matter – is a program of accompaniment that engages volunteer companions to be the link between the community and diverse individuals who are marginalised or neglected. *Companions Matter* offers recognised courses for promoting well-being and enjoyment and fostering change, and social gatherings to build community connection. You are invited to attend a Zoom information session – Thursday 18th February – 7.30pm-8.30pm. To Register: Email: peter.carroll@catholiccare.org

Project Compassion – Virtual Immersions – during Lent

Each week during this coming Lenten season, Caritas is holding Virtual Immersion opportunities via Zoom. These digital engagements will allow participants to focus on prayer and reflection, Catholic Social Teaching and an interview and Q&A with Caritas International Program staff. Sessions will run Tuesdays and Thursdays across Australia. You can register for a Virtual Immersion by going to – www.lent.caritas.org.au

***Stay tuned next week for more Lenten online events and news!**

The Marriage Kit – Online Seminar – Starting Monday Evening 15th February – A good marriage doesn't happen by Accident; it happens by Intention – Join SmartLoving and the Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton for a six week online workshop series for married couples wanting a lasting, passionate relationship. The course cost is \$25 – To find out more – www.smartloving.org/rockhampton

At Sea with Bishop John Bede Polding – SGS Library presents – A Conversation with Fr Colin Fowler OP – Tuesday 16th March – 10am-11.30am – Good Samaritan Congregational Centre, 2 Avenue Road, Glebe – A Conversation with Fr Colin Fowler is timed to coincide with the anniversary of the death of Archbishop John Bede Polding. Fr Colin will talk about his historical publication, *. This timely and engaging conversation will be followed by questions, discussions and morning tea. Enquiries and Registration: Monica – 0447 668 876 – spirituality@goodsams.org.au Due to limited numbers, please register by Tuesday 9th March.

Streaming of Sunday Mass – from St Benedict's Church – 6pm – here's this Sunday's Mass link for – **First Sunday of Lent (21st February 2021) – <https://youtu.be/zxQM2mdWHTA>**

***Festival of Beauty – St Peter's – Sun 31st Jan – Sun 21st Feb– www.stpeterssurryhills.org.au**

eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 4: 4

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

Mk 1: 12-15

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT / B

21 FEBRUARY 2021

JOURNEYING WITH THE LORD

It is said that it's better to travel hopefully than to arrive. One element of the truth that underlies this saying is that it is the nature of life that we are continually on the move, that there is always another stage of the journey to be undertaken. As we begin this season of Lent the readings are filled with images of journeys, promises and hope. Noah's journey which began with trusting in the Lord's word and building an ark now comes to its conclusion. Having safely come to dry land another journey begins with a new word and promise of God's blessing and faithfulness towards all creation.

If it is true that we are called to walk towards the light it is also true that we are enabled to do so because God has already taken the first step towards us. Lent is a time when we rightly focus on the task of our on-going conversion but, lest we get discouraged, today's second reading and Gospel are timely reminders that we are not undertaking this journey alone. There is work to be done and Peter calls us to remember the responsibility that goes with our baptism. At the same time we are encouraged by the fact that Jesus has already gone where we hope to go and that not even the Dominations and Powers can really impede us. The testing that Jesus undergoes in the desert at the hands of Satan and his victory is a sign and promise that we too will overcome.

FIRST READING

Gen 9: 8-15

A reading from the book of Genesis

I will recall the covenant between myself and you ... the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

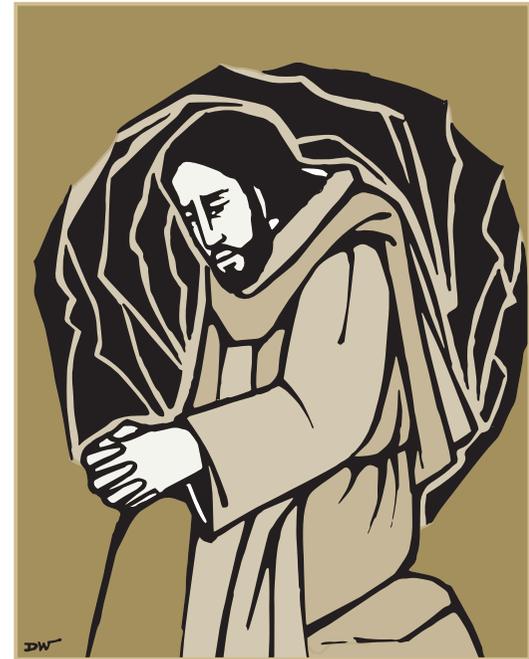
■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 24: 4-9. R. cf. v. 10

R. Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

1. Lord, make me know your ways. / Lord, teach me your paths. / Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: / for you are God my saviour. **R.**



2. Remember your mercy, Lord, / and the love you have shown from of old. / In your love remember me, / because of your goodness, O Lord. **R.**

3. The Lord is good and upright. / He shows the path to those who stray, / he guides the humble in the right path; / he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Pet 3: 18-22

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of

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