



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

Mass Times in St Benedict's Church:

Sunday 21st March 2021 – Fifth Sunday of Lent (B)

Sunday, 21 Mar	10.30 am	Solemn Mass
Sunday, 21 Mar	6.00 pm	Young Adults Mass
Monday, 22 Mar	12.35 pm	Monday of Fifth Week of Lent
Tuesday, 23 Mar	12.35 pm	St Turibius of Mogrovejo (Opt)
Wednesday, 24 Mar	12.35 pm	Wednesday of Fifth Week of Lent
Thursday, 25 Mar	12.35 pm	The Annunciation (Solemnity)
Friday, 26 Mar	12.35 pm	Friday of Fifth Week of Lent
Saturday, 27 Mar	No Mass	Saturday of Fifth 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)

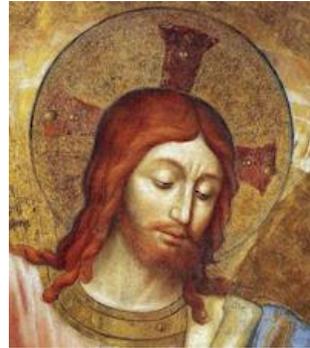
Mass at St James' Church,

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: 'Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.' *Aristotle*

'However dark things are, goodness always re-emerges and spreads. Each day in our world beauty is born anew.' Pope Francis

Project Compassion – Week 5 – Halima's story – Bangladesh

Halima is raising her two children in a Bangladeshi refugee camp while caring for her mother who has a disability. A Caritas Australia supported program helped her with a shelter, cooking equipment and hygiene training. Halima now earns a small income as a trainer, helping to maintain the health and cleanliness of her community. Halima aspired to 'Be More' for her family and her community around her. 'My hope is that our children will be able to do a job, to live with pleasure, they will find their happiness – that will bring well-being for them,' Halima says.

Day of the Unborn Child – Sunday 21st March 2021 – St Mary's Cathedral – 10.30am Mass – 12pm Angelus – followed by a street procession to Parliament House – 1.30pm Benediction at St Mary's

This is a day of celebration and remembrance of the dignity of the unborn child – Please see poster information in bulletin email and the church noticeboard. **'I will not forget you. I have carved you on the palm of my hands.'** – *Isaiah 49*

**Last Stations of the Cross for Lent - next Friday - 6pm, in St Benedict's Church*

Entrance Antiphon:

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning, rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

Communion Antiphon:

Amen, Amen, I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.

The Holy Triduum 2021 at St Benedict's

- **Holy Thursday – Mass of the Lord's Supper – 7pm**
- **Good Friday – The Way of the Cross (Via Crucis) – 10am & The Lord's Passion – 3pm – Confession will follow**
- **Easter Vigil Mass – 7pm or 8pm (to be confirmed)**
- **Easter Sunday Mass – 10.30am (please note there will not be an Easter Sunday 6pm Mass)**

Passiontide Carols – with Christian Catsanos and Choir – this coming Friday, 26th March – 6.45pm in St Benedict's Church – straight after Stations – please see poster

Congratulations to the Marian Community of Reconciliation (the Fraterna's) who are celebrating their 30th anniversary of formation, on the feast of The Annunciation. The Fraterna's were established in Peru in 1991 and are going strong. There is a small Fraterna community here in Australia whose perpetually professed members currently work in the UNDA and UNSW Chaplaincies. The Australian community of Fraterna's will be celebrating with Mass in St Benedict's Church next Thursday evening.

Saint Turibius – was born in 1538 and was an heroic, hard-working bishop who did much to organise the Church in Latin America. Born in Spain, he was named archbishop of Lima in 1580. The Latin American missions faced daunting religious, social and political problems. Turibius began a systematic visitation of his huge diocese, to deal with problems and to build up the faith. He used to say: 'Jesus Christ did not say "I am the custom" but "I am the Truth."' Saint Turibius died in 1606 and was canonised in 1726.

The Annunciation – This feast originated in the East during the sixth century and gave universal observance in the West during the eighth century. It is a feast of the Lord, commemorating the announcement to the Virgin Mary of the Word made flesh, Mary's acceptance of God's will, and the conception of Christ nine months before Christmas. Its occurrence close to Easter links the incarnation with the whole mystery of human redemption in Christ.



The feast of The Annunciation

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus'. Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you, most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!'

A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

'Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all to myself.' By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT / B

21 MARCH 2021

DYING IN ORDER TO LIVE

As Holy Week approaches, we are invited to enter more deeply into our own hearts and to accompany Jesus as he searches his heart in preparing to undergo his passion. The readings focus not only on the new life that we are offered, but also on the decisions that must be made to die to what is false within us so that God's new life may grow and flourish within us.

Jeremiah spoke to his contemporaries about the new covenant that God wanted to plant in their hearts. He powerfully calls for a decision to renewal. Would they give God the space in which to plant a seed? Did they have the courage to leave their past behind and journey towards a new future?

In the second reading and the Gospel we see how Jesus also shared in our struggle to choose the life that comes from dying to self. In the letter to the Hebrews, we are presented with the image of Jesus as God's Son who, like us, must search, struggle and pray so that the seed might grow and flourish. Some people may be disquieted by the image of Jesus having to come to perfection through struggle. It is a most precious gift – this is how seriously God takes it when God becomes one like us and shares in our humanity. In the gospel we see Jesus wrestling with this moment which is paradoxically the moment when he is already glorified. It is the moment of decision, when he must choose to become the living example of the seed that dies in order to live.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Jer 31: 31-34

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel and I will forgive their iniquity.

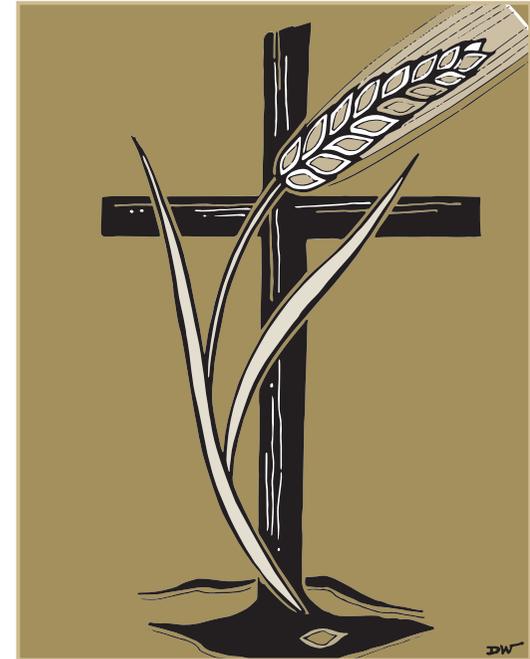
See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 50: 3-4, 12-15. R. v. 12

R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.

1. 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.**
2. 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.**
3. Give me again the joy of your help; / with a spirit of fervour sustain me, / that I may teach transgressors your ways / and sinners may return to you. **R.**



SECOND READING

Heb 5: 7-9

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation.

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 12: 26

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! / If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; / and where I am, my servant will also be. / Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!