

SACRED HEART PARISH - MUNDARING

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WEEKDAY MASSES: Tuesday 5th March - Saturday 9th March

Tuesday 8:30am, Wednesday 9:00am

Friday 8:30am Mass { followed by Adoration }

Stations of the Cross 7:00pm

Saturday 8:30am (followed by Reconciliation)

WEEKEND MASSES: Saturday Vigil - 6:00pm (Sacred Heart Mundaring)

Sunday – 7:30am (Our Lady of Good Counsel, Chidlow)

9:30am (Sacred Heart Mundaring)

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Each Friday during Lent at 7pm in Sacred Heart Church Mundaring. The Stations of the Cross always remind us of how much Jesus loves us! “When the hour is come when life must be lost that you may find it in God; when danger of death is on you, and you see plainly that to obey God you must sacrifice life, then, I know not how, it comes to pass, that what before seemed a very clear precept is involved in incredible darkness”. *St Francis Xavier*

THOSE ADULTS WISHING TO BECOME CATHOLIC

I would like to invite any adults who are not Catholic, and would like to become Catholic, to join a small group of people entering the RCIA process later this month. I have 3 adults who wish to be received into the Catholic Church and one who wants to be confirmed. Some people have approached me about attending the classes to help deepen their understanding of the faith...if you have that desire...you are more than welcome. The course has already started and runs from 7pm -8pm during school terms. New people are welcome!

PROJECT COMPASSION

Don't forget to take a Project Compassion Box and/or a Set of giving Envelopes this weekend. It is through this Catholic Charitable Organisation that we are linked through Corporal and Spiritual works of Mercy with the less fortunate.

NEWS, HAPPENINGS & CELEBRATIONS

A MESSAGE FROM OUR ITINERANT DEACON

Hello to all! This weekend 2nd Sunday of Lent I have been in Adelaide to join the celebrations for the 60th anniversary of Caritas Australia. This is where we began in 1964. The event centred on the Mass at St Francis Xavier Cathedral with Archbishop Patrick O'Regan as the principal celebrant. In the Transfiguration of Our Lord this week in the Gospel, Jesus presents his apostles with a promise of what is to come. There is **hope** because He will soon triumph over sin and death and be raised in the fullness of glory. The work of Caritas is about being 'Hope in Action', bringing hope to those who most need our help.

Blessings, Dcn Paul.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Many thanks to the people who came along to support the World Day of Prayer on Friday. It's seldom that we get the opportunity to gather with Christians from different denominations, which is important. Many thanks to Corry Harmer and Mary Sheehan...who accepted the responsibility of preparing the service and making the people who came feel welcome. Also, thanks to the people who contributed to the morning tea...a hospitable gesture which is much appreciated!

INTERESTING ARTICLE

I've been a Christian for 20 years but have only just discovered the church season of Lent, the six weeks or so in the lead-up to Good Friday, Easter Saturday and Easter Sunday. Now, with the annoying zeal of a new convert, I'm convinced whether believer or agnostic, we'd all be better off leaning into the season... When believers observe Lent, what they add on top of the discipline is discipleship, the commitment to bring their everyday life in line with their convictions. It's hard. According to Jesus, the greatest commandment, or what helps life go best, is loving God and loving your neighbour as yourself...

The experience helps me face myself: someone who'd prefer to eat feelings rather than feel them, whose interests are curved in on themselves rather than oriented around other people. Without distraction from a sugar rush, I try to seek comfort in prayer and show up for others. It's not going brilliantly, but there's more time to keep trying...

The aim isn't to give up the sweet stuff forever: Sundays throughout Lent are feast days when the fasting is broken... If you are interested in the whole article which I found interesting, go to:

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2024/feb/26/whether-believer-or-agnostic-wed-all-be-better-off-leaning-into-lent>

THIRD SUNDAY of LENT- Year B

FIRST READING Ex 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17

A reading from the book of Exodus.

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

'You shall have no gods except me.

You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.

'You shall not kill.

'You shall not commit adultery.

'You shall not steal.

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman or his ox, or his donkey or anything that is his.'

■**The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps-18:8-11. R. Jn 6:68

R. Lord you have the words of everlasting life.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect; it revives the soul. The rule of the law is to be trusted; it gives wisdom to the simple. **R.**

2. The precepts of the Lord are right; they gladden the heart. The command of the Lord is clear, it gives light to the eyes. **R.**

3. The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding forever. The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 Cor. 1:22-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

■**The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn 2:13-25

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

THIRD SUNDAY of LENT - Year B

GOSPEL Mk 9: 2-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Just before the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: 'Zeal for your house will devour me.' The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary and in three days I will raise it up'. The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

■**The Gospel of the Lord.**

CHRIST, THE POWER AND WISDOM OF GOD

The image of a limp, distorted body on the cross, which we know as the crucifix, has a long history of development. While its central place with the altar in our churches and its focus for personal devotion may seem normal to us it is an anathema to others. How is this the focus of our belief and worship? A reminder of the sacrifice, its very presence points to the resurrection, salvation and the hope of everlasting life with God who loves us.

Today's readings grapple with this dilemma. Paul's words to the Corinthians capture something of the complexity of those early days of preaching the Good News: "preaching a crucified Christ." Who would believe in a dead Messiah? Yet Paul insists "but to those who are called, Jews and Gentiles, a Christ who is the power and wisdom of God". (1 Cor 1:24). Paul's tussle with this is juxtaposed with John's account of Jesus cleansing the Temple where Jesus says, "Destroy this sanctuary and in three days I will raise it up". (John 2:19). This imagery made no sense to the Judeans for this Temple, the Holy of the Holies and dwelling place of God took 46 years to build. The narrator adds that the temple Jesus spoke of was his own body. The narrator also recounts that the disciples had heard Jesus' words, but it made no sense to them either until the event of the resurrection. Let us contemplate Christ as the power and wisdom of God.

Dr Rosemary Canavan