## **BULLETIN** St Pius X Church 1st Sunday of Lent - Year B 18<sup>th</sup> February 2024



## Scripture Commentary by Dianna Bergant CSA



After the flood, God made a covenant with Noah, his descendants, all the living creatures, and with the earth itself. In it, God pledged never again to destroy the world by means of chaotic waters. This promise carried more than meteorological implications; it also signalled God's control over primordial chaos. As a fearsome warrior, God fought and shackled these forces. Besides being a beautifully coloured arc proclaiming the end of a violent storm and the return of calm, the meteorological bow came to be seen as the divine archer's weapon, a weapon that was unnecessary once chaos was under control. An eternal sign of a cosmic covenant, the bow is a reminder of the pact made with all of creation, similar to the rest that God took after creation (Gen 2:2).

The word of the Lord came to Jonah with a message for Nineveh, a city considered one of Israel's mortal enemies. Much to the prophet's chagrin, the Ninevites heeded the message, believed in God, repented and proclaimed a fast. The incongruities of the story are striking. First and most important, God is concerned with the salvation of a nation other than Israel. Second, the city renowned for its wickedness repented of its sins as soon as it heard the prophet's message. Finally, the comprehensiveness of the spirit of

## Jesus proclaimed the Good News: 'The Kingdom of God is at hand'

repentance was exceeded only by its geographic breadth. All people, great and small, put on the garments of penance. Even the worst sinners can repent and be made new.

Christ's death was like the sacrifices of expiation that were offered daily in the temple, with the blood of the victim being sprinkled on the altar. However, unlike the sin-offerings that were made repeatedly and expiated only the guilt of the individual, Christ's vicarious sacrifice was effective for all time and for all people. By means of it, we have all been brought to God and have access to God's saving grace. Just as Noah saved others from the devastating waters of the flood, so Christ others from the ultimate saved destruction of separation from God. Baptism is not merely a simple cleansing; it is a transformative experience, just as the transformative resurrection was а experience for Christ.

The wilderness, into which the Spirit drove Jesus, was not a romantic place. It had been the place of Israel's testing (cf. Num 10:11-21:34). Forty days held special meaning for the two men who appeared with Jesus. Moses fasted for forty days and forty nights as he wrote the ten commandments on tablets of stone (Exod 34:28). Elijah fasted for the same length of time as he walked to Horeb (1 Kgs 19:8). It was in this same tradition that Jesus fasted. There he was prepared for the ministry that lay ahead of him. The eschatological time of fulfilment (kairós) has arrived. The long-awaited reign of God is inaugurated.

## Manning Parish Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

23 Paterson Street , Manning WA 6152 Parish Telephone: 9313 3251 Parish Email: manning@perthcatholic.org.au Parish Website: manningparish.org.au

Fr Patrick Lim Parish Priest Telephone: 9313 3251 E: patrick.lim@perthcatholic.org.au

#### Vinita Rai

Parish Secretary Office Telephone: 9313 3251 E: secretary.manning@perthcatholic.org.au

**Office Hours** 

Tuesday to Friday 9am to 12 noon E: manning@perthcatholic.org.au

### SCHEDULES

Confession Saturday 5.00 to 5.30pm Or anytime by appointment

Normal Weekend Masses Saturday 6.00pm Vigil Mass Sunday 7.30am, 9.00am Mass & 11.00am Chinese Mass

#### Normal Weekday Masses

Monday 8.00am Communion Service Tuesday to Saturday 8.00am Mass (Check Parish Calendar for Variations)

#### **Sacrament of Baptism**

Saturdays at 10.30am **No Baptism during Lent Other Time** Negotiable with Father Patrick

#### **Sacrament of Marriage**

By appointment with Fr Patrick At least 6 Months before wedding Marriage Preparation Course Enrolment Website: www.cmfs.org.au Email: enquiries@cmfs.org.au



#### SPX Safeguarding Officers

The role of Safeguarding Officers is to ensure the safety of children, young people and the vulnerable in the Catholic Church

6pm Vigil Mass - Harry Rai 7:30am Mass - Marie Chaperon- 9313 4585 9am Mass - Tina Fernandes 0411 821 065 11am Chinese Mass Gregory Lo 0435 383 417, Andrew Tai 0435 950 532, Juliana Tseng 0438 864 689



#### **St Pius X Primary School**

Cnr Ley St and Cloister Ave, Manning WA 6152 Phone: (08) 9416 5600 Fax: (08) 9416 5601 admin@stpiusx.wa.edu.au Web: https://stpiusx.wa.edu.au/

Melissa Vranjes Principal

#### Our Motto

At St Pius X Catholic Primary School, the values lived by Jesus Christ are the foundation for everything we do

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ROSTER		Weekend of 17/18 Feb	Weekend of 24/25 Feb
Special Ministers	Sat 6.00pm	Janine Banks	Janine Banks
	Sun 7.30am	John Miles	John Miles
	Sun 9.00am	Sandra McLlheney	Sandra McLlheney
Readers	Sat 6.00pm	Carmen de Sousa	Susanna Hooper
	Sun 7.30am	Jim Kelly	Les Price
	Sun 9.00am	lan Lane	Vincent Whyte
Counters		D & B Molony	Elizabeth Noronha, Terry Scanlan

#### **St Pius X Church Masses**

Feb Tue 20	8.00am	Mass (First week of Lent) Church
Wed 21	8.00am	Mass (First week of Lent) Church
Thu 22	8.00am	Mass (The Chair of St Peter) Church
Fri 23	8.00am	Mass (First week of Lent) Church
	7.00pm	Stations of the Cross - Church
Sat 24	6.00pm	Vigil Mass (Second week of Lent Year B) Church
Sun 25	7.30am	Sunday Mass (Second Sunday of Lent Year B) Church
	9.00am	Sunday Mass (Second Sunday of Lent Year B) Church
	1100am	Sunday Chinese Mass (Second Sunday of Lent Year B) Church



Mondays and Wednesdays 10am - 12noon \$6 per session All proceeds go to the Parish This is a community building initiative to keep you fit and active with the help of Francis and Hellen Tay All are welcome; no age limits



### Tai Chi Group

Mondays in Parish Hall except holidays Starts 7:30pm and finishes at 8:30pm All parishioners are most welcome For more information, please contact or text Maurice on 0408 782 224 or Stephen on 0403 167 838



## First Sunday of Lent 17 & 18 February



Caritas AUSTRALIA

This year, Project Compassion brings you the stories of three resilient women from three different corners of the world. They are facing vastly different challenges, but are all united by one dream: to create a better tomorrow for all future generations.

Meet Ronita from the Philippines. Ronita is a mother of two young boys living in a slum in Quezon City. She went back to school to finish her education so that she could earn income to support her children.

Meet Leaia from Samoa. Not having access to a reliable source of clean water was very difficult for Leaia and her family. But, with the support of Caritas Australia, a water tank was installed at their home, improving their health and living conditions.

Meet Memory from Malawi. Memory, the eldest daughter from a rural Malawian family, trained to become a carpenter and is now a trailblazer for future generations of women in her village.

Throughout Project Compassion, you will get to know the stories of Ronita, Leaia and Memory. Journey with them as they forge a path to a brighter future for all generations.

Please donate to Project Compassion. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.



# Safeguarding Induction for all Church workers

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference has broadened safeguarding to include adults at risk. **ALL** church workers (volunteers or paid) are to attend a 1-hour safeguarding induction. A church worker is anyone in the parish in any role – paid or voluntary. If you haven't attended the induction in the last 3 years, please register for the upcoming session.

This induction provides an overview of the Safeguarding Policies and Procedures, the role of the Parish Safeguarding Officer, and the importance of Safeguarding within the parish

To register online please visit: https:// safeguarding.perthcatholic.org.au/ training/#induction Or phone 9221 7762 to book

## Divine Mercy Sunday



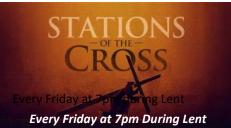
#### Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy prayers, Rosary and Benediction every 3rd Sunday of the month at 3.00 pm.

Please join us this Sunday

#### St Pius X Columbarium Expression of interest

If you are considering reserving a niche in our parish Columbarium, please do so soon as possible as prices will be increased after April this year!

This is an opportunity to consider reserving a niche for yourself or your loved ones.



## **First Reading**

Genesis 9:8-15

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.'

## **Responsorial Psalm**

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

- (R.) Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.
- 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.)
- 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 Peter 3:18-22

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 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.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Matthew 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

Mark 1:12-15

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.'

#### Reflection for Young People By Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

A rainbow is a symbol of diversity in harmony. In a rainbow, the individual colours are unique, but they blend together and form a beautiful unity. Being a 'Rainbow People' means we are a people of diversity who live together in harmony.

Can you think of people who are different from you yet live in the harmony of friendship with you? How are they different from you? How are these differences a blessing to your friendship?

A rainbow is a symbol of faithfulness. Have you ever broken a promise? Has anyone ever broken a promise to you? Have you ever had an experience of unfaithfulness in a friendship? What happened?

God said the rainbow was a sign of the covenant between God and the earth. How is your relationship to our planet earth and all of its life? What are some of the problems human beings are creating for other forms of life, and what are some things you can do to help solve those problems

Next Sunday Readings			
Weekend 24/25 February 2024			
Second Sunday of Lent - Year B			

First Reading: Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18 Second Reading: Romans 8:31-34 Gospel: Mark 9:2-10

# **CHILDREN'S CORNER**



The season of Lent is a special time when we prepare for the events of Holy Week and Easter. What things can you do to try and be more like Jesus during the forty days of Lent?