

BULLETIN

St Pius X Church

First Sunday of Lent - Year A

26th February 2023



Christ our Anchor

Manning Parish

Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

23 Paterson Street, Manning WA 6152

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New Testament Commentary by Mary Coloe PBVM



These are the very words at the heart of the Baptismal experience – ‘This is my Son’. This then becomes the real temptation – to doubt God’s power that Jesus has just experienced. This is true of Jesus and it is true of all who try to live a spiritual life – faith and doubt struggle within us.

The three quotations of Scripture that Jesus quotes in response to the Tempter all come from the book of Deuteronomy:

We live not on bread alone but on every word from God’s mouth. Deut 8:3.

You shall not tempt the Lord your God. Deut 6:16.

You shall worship and serve only the Lord your God. Deut 6:13.

The sequence here is significant: Deut 8:3; 6:16; 6:13. Matthew reverses the order of the scriptures found in the book of Deuteronomy (6:13; 6:16; 8:3). Jesus may experience the temptations faced by Israel in the wilderness, but he reverses the outcome. The Israelites failed, but Jesus remains faithful and comes to know the consolation of God as symbolised in the ministering angels.

The reading from Romans makes use of the Pauline imagery of Jesus as the New Adam, the beginning of a new creation. Not only is there a contrast between the first Adam and the New Adam, Jesus, but also between Sin and Grace. This word, ‘grace’ is a shorthand way of describing the gracious love of God poured out freely on us. This is what Jesus experienced in his Baptism – an overwhelming knowledge of God’s love for him, of his being God’s beloved. This is gift. The temptation is to think we can earn this gift by keeping the rules, but Jesus’ insight is that this love is utterly gracious, not earned, not deserved, simply given.

Lent might be a time to reflect on the graciousness of God, the gifts you and I experience in our lives that are small indicators of God’s presence and love. Like Jesus, this may mean overcoming the tendency to doubt and the temptation to disbelieve that God could possibly love us.

To fully appreciate the significance of today’s Gospel it is worth looking back at what came immediately before – Matthew 3:13-17 – the Baptism of Jesus by John. This scene concluded with the words, ‘This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.’

Keep in mind that it took many years for the early believers to come to speak of Jesus as divine, and Jesus himself never spoke of himself in this way. Like those called by God in ancient Israel Jesus’ baptism moment challenged him to understand himself in a new, very personal relationship with God, and following this, Jesus would need time to reflect and consider what this invitation and challenge meant for him. The Baptism moment did not come with a diary of what to do next.

The same Spirit who came upon Jesus at the Baptism now leads him out into the wilderness. What Jesus confronts in the wilderness is a very common human experience of self-doubt. It is one thing to have a powerful sense of call, or invitation or sense of God’s presence, but when the moment passes then doubt sets in. Was it real? Did it really happen? Why would God enter my life? In the spiritual life, the temptation to doubt frequently follows a powerful experience of God.

Look at the words the tempter says to Jesus – ‘If you are the Son of God... turn stones to bread; if you are the Son of God throw yourself down.’ If you are Son.

Fr Patrick Lim

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Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday 9am to 12 noon

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

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Email: enquiries@cmfs.org.au

SPX Safeguarding Officers

To ensure the safety of children, young people and the vulnerable in the Catholic Church

6pm Vigil Mass - Ryan Gonsalves 0423 708 777

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

Email: safeguarding@manningparish.org.au



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Melissa Vranjes

Principal

Our Motto

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ROSTER		Weekend 25/26 February	Weekend of 4/5 March
Special Ministers	Sat 6.00pm	Janine Banks	Edith Handojo
	Sun 7.30am	John Miles	Jessie Lonergan
	Sun 9.00am	Fay Collins	Lina DaSilva
Readers	Sat 6.00pm	Susanna Hooper	Pam Vincent
	Sun 7.30am	Les Price	Carol Nicklette
	Sun 9.00am	Vincent Whyte	Sandra McLlheney
Altar Servers	Sat 6.00pm	Volunteers	Volunteers
	Sun 9.00am	Volunteers	Volunteers
Counters		Terry & Meagan Scanlan	Kas Luczak, G Shankar

Parish Calendar		
Feb Mon 27	8.00am	Communion Service
Tue 28	8.00am	Mass (1st week of Lent) Church
Mar Wed 1	8.00am	Mass (1st week of Lent) Church
Thu 2	8.00am	Mass (1st week of Lent) Church
Fri 3	8.00am	Mass (1st week of Lent) Church
Sat 4	8.00am	Mass Suspended until further notice
	6.00pm	Vigil Mass (2nd Sunday of Lent - Year A) Church
Sun 5	7.30am	Mass (2nd Sunday of Lent - Year A) Church
	9.00am	Mass (2nd Sunday of Lent - Year A) Church
	11.00am	Chinese Mass (2nd Sunday of Lent - Year A) Church

Stations of the Cross
Every Friday at 7.00pm during Lent



2023 Sacraments Schedules

Parents, if your child/children are attending State Schools you need to enrol for the Sacramental programs. Please contact the parish office to obtain an Enrolment Form or visit our website to get one - manningparish.org.au/sacraments - so that we can organise the preparation for them.

Confirmation

6.00pm Saturday, 27 May 2023

Commitment Mass 6pm 29 April 2023

**Parent/Child Workshop 6.00pm
10 May 2023**

First Holy Communion

9am Sunday, 11 June 2023

Commitment Mass 6pm 6 May 2023

**Parent/Child Workshop 6.00pm
25 May 2023**

First Reconciliation

10.30am-12.30pm

Saturday, 28 October 2023

Commitment Mass 6pm 16 Sept 2023

**Parent/Child Workshop 6.00pm
12 October 2023**



Line Dancing Classes

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 & 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

25/26 February 2023



After losing her father when she was just 10-years-old, Laxmi was at risk of falling further into extreme poverty. But with the support of our partner Caritas Nepal, Laxmi joined a child's club, became a leader in her school and is now a mentor to other children in her village.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations.



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

Catholic Faith Renewal

Enjoy an evening of Songs of Praise

A talk by Fr Christian Irdi on "Christian Discipleship & the meaning of Lent"

Fellowship and light supper

Friday, 3 March 2023 at 7.30pm

**St John & Paul's Church
Pinetree Gully Road, Willetton**

First Reading

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. see v.3

(R.) Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

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. My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done. (R.)
3. 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.)
4. Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise. (R.)

Second Reading

Romans 5:12-19

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man's sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

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

Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says:

Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says:

He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

Reflection for Young People

By Lisa-Marie Calderone Stewart

Peer pressure works like a snake. Sometimes it is a slow process, and without realising it you just gradually start doing things and saying things and thinking things that your friends do, say and think. Sometimes it is a quick strike and you are suddenly in a situation and have to make a choice. Some friends are trying to get you to do one thing and some are trying to get you to do something else. Peer pressure can be negative or positive.

- Which kind of negative peer pressure are you more likely to be influenced by – the slow, gradual type or the high-pressure, fast type?
- Which kind of positive peer pressure are you more likely to be influenced by?
- Can you give an example of when positive or negative peer pressure influenced you?
- Do you ever use positive peer pressure to influence others? Do you think you are more likely to influence others slowly, over the long haul, or quickly, in a sudden or specific situation? Can you give an example of when you have had a positive influence on another person?

Next Sunday Readings

5 March 2023

2nd Sunday of Lent - Year A

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4
Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:8-10
Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

**SATURDAY 8AM MORNING MASS
IS SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**