

BULLETIN

St Pius X Church

Second Sunday of Lent - Year C

16th March 2025



Christ our Anchor

Manning Parish

Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

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Scripture Commentary by Dianne Bergant CSA



The first reading consists of three distinct though related parts. God promises Abram a multitude of descendants. Abram puts his faith in this promise. This is followed by directions for a covenantal ceremony. The last part is a brief account of the actual ceremony and a further promise of land. Abram's faith is credited as righteousness. In the ritual ceremony known as 'cutting the covenant', the covenant partners cross through the divided carcasses of the animals. This action, a dramatised curse, signifies that transgression of the covenant will result in the same fate as that suffered by the separated animals (cf. Jer 34:18-20). The harshness of the penalty signals the seriousness of this covenant-making.

The psalm response is a prayer of profound confidence in God, who is characterised as light, salvation and refuge. In a world where darkness was both a danger to one's safety and a symbol of evil forces, light was considered the force that dispels any kind of danger. Because it conquered cosmic darkness, light enjoyed mythological prominence as well. Salvation, or deliverance, is always

granted out of the beneficence of another; one did not save oneself. God is the saviour. Finally, a refuge is a place of safety to which one in danger could flee for protection. The psalmist pleads for the presence of God. Every aspect of this psalm response proclaims trust in God.

Paul compares the fate of true believers with that of opponents of the gospel. He admonishes his hearers to follow his own example and the example of those who imitate him in his commitment to Christian living. Most scholars maintain that the enemies of whom Paul speaks were gnostic Christians whose view of realised eschatology led them to believe that they had already passed into a spiritualised form of existence. They saw little value in embracing the cross of Christ, since they were already living resurrected lives. Unlike the enemies of the cross, true believers knew that they would have to embrace that cross, and then, with Christ's coming, they would be transformed into his glory.

The gospel report includes the actual transfiguration of Jesus and the conversation between him and the two men from heaven. The symbolism in the account suggests that the significance of this event is less in its historicity than in its theological meaning. Both Moses and Elijah, the glorified men who represent the law and the prophets respectively, also had encounters with God on mountains. While he is in a glorified state, the men speak with Jesus of his imminent 'exodus'. Thus Jesus' death was not a tragic mistake, something that he was unable to avoid. Rather, it was known beforehand by those who represented the entire religious tradition of Israel. It will take the actual unfolding of the events of Jesus' death for the disciples to understand its meaning.

Divine Mercy Holy Hour

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 at 3.00pm

SPX Safeguarding Officers

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

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

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

First Reading

Genesis 15:5-12. 17-18

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied, 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 26:1. 7-9. 13-14. R. v.1

(R.) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1. The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life
before whom shall I shrink? (R.)
2. O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer.
Of you my heart has spoken:
'Seek his face.' (R.)
3. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek,
hide not your face.
Dismiss not your servant in anger;
you have been my help. (R.)
4. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.
Hope in the Lord! (R.)

Second Reading

Philippians 3:17 – 4:1

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

Luke 9:28-36

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' – He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

Reflection for Young People

by Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart

Abraham and Sarah were old and childless, and they longed for children. Descendants, like stars, meant to them a permanent place in history, because their names would be carried on. Today, a 'star' is a celebrity, someone with a name that is well known. In fact, people often confuse 'stars' with 'heroes'. Just because a person is famous and well known does not mean that person is a good role model for people.

Who are your heroes? Are they 'stars'? What makes them heroic in your opinion?

When you stare up at the stars at night, what do you think of? life on other planets? alien creatures and UFOs? TV shows and movies based on space travel? astronomy? astrology? How do the stars affect your imagination?

Next Sunday Readings

Third Sunday of Lent

23 March 2025 - Year C

First Reading: Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

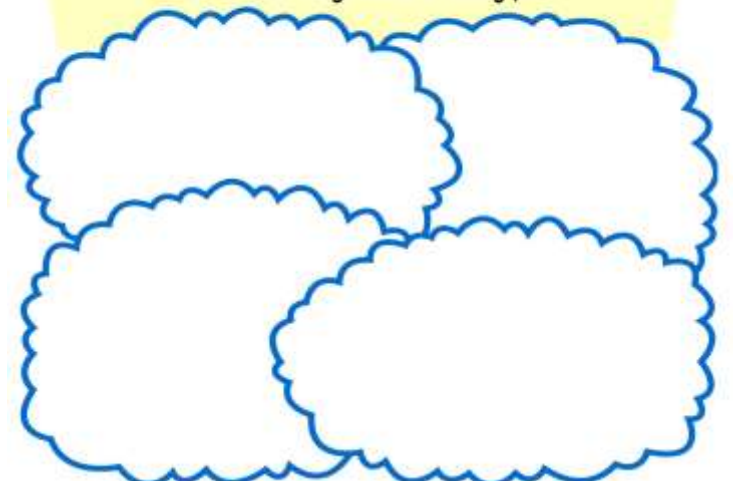
Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

CHILDREN'S CORNER

God spoke to the disciples and told them to listen to Jesus.

Write down two ways we can listen to Jesus.

What are two things Jesus is telling you?



ROSTER		Weekend of 15/16 March	Weekend 22/23 March
Special Ministers	Sat 6.00pm	Edith Handojo	Edith Handojo
	Sun 7.30am	B Molony	B Molony
	Sun 9.00am	Nancy Eliezer	Nancy Eliezer
Readers	Sat 6.00pm	Susanna Hooper	Marian Phillips
	Sun 7.30am	Mitchelle Cota	David Jenaway
	Sun 9.00am	John Collins	Antonia Chandra
Ushers	Sat 6.00pm	Chris Francis	Pam Vincent
	Sun 7.30am	Marie Chaperon	Cathy Ierace
	Sun 9.00am	Mary Fernandes	Patricia Lowry
Counters		D & B Molony	Elizabeth Noronha, Terry Scanlan

St Pius X Church Masses		
Mar Mon 17	8.00am	Mass (St Patrick's Day)
Tue 18	8.00am	Mass (2nd week of Lent)
Wed 19	8.00am	Mass (2nd week of Lent)
Thu 20	8.00am	Mass (2nd week of Lent)
Fri 21	8.00am	Mass (2nd week of Lent)
Sat 22	8.00am	Mass (2nd week of Lent)
	6.00pm	Vigil Mass (3rd week of Lent)
Sun 23	7.30am	Mass (3rd Sunday of Lent)
	9.00am	Mass (3rd Sunday of Lent)
	11.00am	Chinese Mass (3rd Sunday of Lent)

2025 Sacraments Schedules First Holy Communion

Commitment Mass
17 May 2025 Saturday 6.00pm
(Workshop Wednesday 28.5.25 at 5.30pm)

First Holy Communion Mass
22 June 2025 Sunday 9.00am

Sacrament of Confirmation

Commitment Mass
9 August 2025 Saturday 6.00pm
(Workshop Tuesday 26.8.25 at 5.30pm)

Confirmation Mass

14 September 2025 Sunday 9.00am

First Reconciliation

Commitment Mass
18 October 2025 Saturday 6.00pm
(Workshop Tuesday 14.10.25 at 5.30pm)

First Reconciliation

28 October 2025 Tuesday 5.00pm

**For further enquiries
please see Fr Anthony Vu**



Line Dancing Classes

Mondays and Wednesdays
10am - 12noon \$7 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



Seniors Lunch

Thurs 20.3.25 12 Noon - 2.00pm
Our Seniors Lunch for March will be held in the Parish Hall on Thursday, 20 March 2025.

If you wish to attend, please put your name and contact details on the list provided in the foyer of the Church.

Wear something green to celebrate a belated St Patrick's Day.

Anne King

(Passed away on 8 March 2025)

Our sincere condolences to Reg King on the sad passing of his wife, Anne, on Saturday 8 March.2025.

A private funeral will be held.

Please keep Reg in your prayers.



Second Sunday in Lent

This Lent we're invited to Unite Against Poverty with Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. This year is especially significant as we celebrate the Jubilee Year - a time of renewal and solidarity.

Each of this year's stories reflects diverse challenges, yet they are united by the shared determination to overcome adversity and create better futures for themselves and their communities.



Please donate today. You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion Or by calling: 1800 024 413



Stations of the Cross

7:00pm each Friday during Lent

Beginning Friday 7 March and concluding Friday 11 April

Stations of the Cross will be held at 10:00am on Good Friday 18 April

Parish Bank Details First Collection

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