

**A reading from the Book of 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. Now 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. **The Word of the Lord.**

**Responsorial Psalm: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

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 sin. **R/**

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/**

A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, not deprive me of your holy spirit. **R/**

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/**

**A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the 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 **The Word of the Lord.**

**Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**

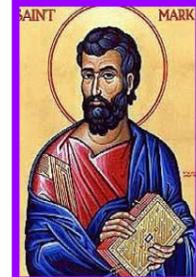
**A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew (4:1-11)** Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones 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. **The Gospel of the Lord.**



# Weekly Parish Newsletter

## Bollettino Parrocchiale Settimanale

Volume XVIII - Issue 9th - FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT Year "A" 26th February 2023  
The Parish Community of St. Brigid and St. Mark  
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*We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people, the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently on this land.*

### Homily Notes: In the desert

In the tradition of Israel, the desert is the place of trial, the place where one's choices are verified. It is an existential situation for everyone: faced with a choice we must make a decision. Nobody likes the desert and desolation because they are experiences that put us in touch with ourselves, with our fragility, with our limitations. The desert puts us in touch with our hunger for truth, only there can we truly know ourselves. Evil can only be overcome when it is forced to manifest itself, otherwise it acts undisturbed. Dear reader, the crisis is the theological place of encounter with God. Accepting to enter a crisis means accepting to meet God. Temptations are a necessary step for every man, they are not beautiful but necessary.

Jesus stays in the desert for forty days (Matthew adds forty nights to give the idea of continuity) fasting. Jesus' fasting is not a religious one because after sunset he can be eaten. It is a theological fast: after forty days Jesus feels the need to feed on the Word to give it. This period recalls the experience of Moses on Sinai and Elijah in the desert, the two witnesses of the transfiguration. The number forty indicates a phase of preparation, in function of something that must be accomplished.

### Temptations

Temptations are an invitation to put our choices in order, to choose how to live. Matthew invites us to look at the temptations of Jesus which are also ours.

Jesus must choose how to announce the good news, how to show the true face of God. Everyone is waiting for a strong, powerful Messiah who will punish the wicked and solve man's problems.

Jesus was truly a free man. He could have chosen the path of success, of charm, of power. He will choose the path of mercy. Like you, dear reader, he is not protected from fatigue, doubt, research. Every man is light and shadow, because where there is light, there is shadow. Where there is good, there is bad. Temptations show where the roots of my heart are.

### Choice

In the desert, Jesus had to choose which side to take. He chose to stake his life by betting on love. He could have started with a miracle and would have been more likeable and attractive and instead decides that he will try to convert hearts with mercy. Jesus, in solidarity with our humanity, lives the experience of temptations. Even Jesus was tempted, even his life was marked by the fight against evil.

The good news of this Sunday? The only way to go through temptations is to love.

Paolo De Martino, 26-02-2023, <https://www.lachiesa.it>



**Note dell'Omelia: Nel deserto** Il deserto nella tradizione d'Israele è il luogo della prova, il luogo in cui si verificano le proprie scelte. È una situazione esistenziale per tutti: di fronte a una scelta dobbiamo prendere una decisione. A nessuno piace il deserto e la desolazione perché sono esperienze che ci mettono in contatto con noi stessi, con la nostra fragilità, con il nostro limite. Il deserto ci mette in contatto con la nostra fame di verità, solo lì possiamo davvero conoscere noi stessi. Il male si può vincere solo quando è costretto a manifestarsi, diversamente egli agisce indisturbato. Amico lettore, è la crisi il luogo teologico dell'incontro con Dio. Accettare di entrare in crisi significa accettare di incontrare Dio. Le tentazioni sono un passaggio necessario per ogni uomo, non sono belle ma necessarie.

Gesù si trattiene nel deserto per quaranta giorni (Matteo per dare l'idea della continuità aggiunge quaranta notti) digiunando. Non è un digiuno religioso quello di Gesù perché dopo il tramonto si può mangiare. È un digiuno teologico: dopo quaranta giorni Gesù sente il bisogno di cibarsi della Parola per donarla. Questo periodo ricorda l'esperienza di Mosè sul Sinai e di Elia nel deserto, i due testimoni della trasfigurazione. Il numero quaranta indica una fase di preparazione, in funzione di qualcosa che si deve compiere.

### Tentazioni

Le tentazioni sono un invito a mettere ordine nelle nostre scelte, a scegliere come vivere. Matteo invita a guardare le tentazioni di Gesù che sono anche le nostre.

Gesù deve scegliere come annunciare la bella notizia, come manifestare il vero volto di Dio. Tutti attendono un Messia forte, potente, che punisca i malvagi e che risolva i problemi dell'uomo.

Gesù fu davvero un uomo libero. Avrebbe potuto scegliere la via del successo, del fascino, del potere. Sceglierà la via della misericordia. Come te, amico lettore, non è preservato dalla fatica, dal dubbio, dalla ricerca. Ogni uomo è luce e ombra, perché, dove c'è luce, c'è ombra. Dove c'è bene, c'è male. Le tentazioni mostrano dove sono le radici del mio cuore.

### Scelta

Nel deserto Gesù ha dovuto scegliere da che parte stare. Ha scelto di giocare la vita puntando sull'amore. Poteva esordire con un miracolo e sarebbe stato più simpatico e appetibile e invece decide che cercherà di convertire i cuori con la misericordia. Gesù, solidale con la nostra umanità, vive l'esperienza delle tentazioni. Anche Gesù è stato tentato, anche la Sua vita è stata segnata dalla lotta contro il male.

La bella notizia di questa domenica? L'unico modo per attraversare le tentazioni, è amare.

Paolo De Martino, 26-02-2023, <https://www.lachiesa.it>

### Entrance: LED BY THE SPIRIT

Led by the Spirit of our God, we go to fast and pray With Christ into the wilderness; we join His paschal way.

"Rend not your garments, rend your hearts. Turn back your lives to me." Thus says our kind and gracious God, whose reign is liberty.

Led by the Spirit, we confront temptation face to face, And know full well we must rely on God's redeeming grace. On bread alone we cannot live, but nourished by the Word. We seek the will of God to do: this is our drink and food.

Led by the Spirit, now sing praise to God the Trinity: The Source of Life, the living Word made flesh to set us free, The Spirit blowing where it will to make us friends of God: This mystery far beyond our reach, yet near in healing love.



Text: CMD; based on Joel 2:12-13; Matthew 4:1-4; Mark 1:12-15; John 4:5-42; Bob Hurd, © 1996, Bob Hurd. Published by OCP

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### Offertory: LORD PREPARE ME

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary pure and holy tried and true...

With thanksgiving I'll be a living sanctuary for you...

Tune: Text and music: John Thompson & Randy Scuggs. © 1982, Whole Armor Music/Final Armor Music. Administered by The Kruger Organization, Inc

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON: One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God. (Mt 4:4)

#### Communion: GOD OF MERCY AND COMPASSION

God of mercy and compassion, Look with pity upon me, Father, let me call Thee Father, 'Tis Thy child returns to Thee.

**Ref: Jesus, Lord, I ask for mercy; Let me not implore in vain; All my sins, I now detest them, Never will I sin again.**

By my sins I have deserved Death and endless misery, Hell with all its pains and torments, And for all eternity. **Ref:** By my sins I have abandoned Right and claim to heav'n above. Where the saints rejoice forever In a boundless sea of love. **Ref:** See our Saviour, bleeding, dying, On the cross of Calvary; To that cross my sins have nail'd Him, Yet He bleeds and dies for me. **Ref:**

#### Final: IN THESE DAYS OF LENTEN JOURNEY

**Refrain: In these days of Lenten journey we have seen and we have heard the call to sow justice in the lives of those we serve.**

We open our eyes to the weary, And hear the cry of the poor. To the voices that echo the song of despair, We will show our compassion and care. **(ref)**

We call on the Spirit of Justice and pray for righteousness' sake. We will sing for the freedom of all the oppressed; we will loosen the bonds of distress **(ref)**

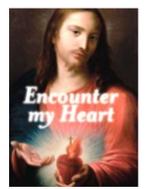
Text and Tune, Ricky Manalo, CSP; © 1997 Published by OCP.



The Missionaries of St. Charles Borromeo - Scalabrinians - [www.Scalabrin.org](http://www.Scalabrin.org) Ministering to the Parish and Migrants in St. Brigid since 1959

Our Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

## Liturgical Calendar and activities

Day of the Week	Liturgical Celebration	Intention St. Mark	Intention St. Brigid	Parish Activity
<b>SATURDAY/ SABATO</b> 25th Sunday of Lent First Sunday of Lent Year "A" VIGIL	<i>Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.</i> 	<b>Baptism Celebration for Esteban GIL JIMENEZ</b> <i>Congratulations!</i> 	6.00pm PRO POPULO  7.00pm Spanish Mass	<b>Wedding Celebration for Gipsy Devia RODRIGUEZ &amp; Julian David BUITRAGO BETANCOURT</b> <i>Congratulations!</i> 
<b>SUNDAY/ DOMENICA</b> 26th February 2023 First Sunday of Lent Year "A"	<i>Perdonaci, Signore: abbiamo peccato.</i> 	8.30am Vincenza BOFFA	9.45am 11.00am Carlo RIBONI Antonietta ALLEGRO ACQUARO Peter BILIC & dec.family members. Alfredo BERNAR & dec.fam. mbrs Antonietta ZOTTI & dec.fam. mbrs 5.00pm Mass Brazilian Community	<b>Baptism Celebration for Rafael and Selena SHIRAKAWA TORRES</b> <i>Congratulations!</i> 
Monday/Lunedì of the 1st week of Lent 27th February 2023 Lev 19:1-2, 11-18: Mt 25:31-46:	<i>Responsorial Psalm Your words, Lord, are spirit and life.</i>		9.15am	<b>7.30pm In Church Baptism Preparation for Parents &amp; Godparents</b>
Tuesday/Martedì of the 1st week of Lent 28th February 2023 Is 55:10-11 Mt 6:7-15:	<i>Responsorial Psalm From all their afflictions God will deliver the just.</i>		9.15am	
Wednesday /Mercoledì of the 1st week of Lent 1st March 2023 Jonah 3:1-10: Lk 11:29-32:	<i>Responsorial Psalm A broken, humbled heart, O God, you will not scorn.</i> 		9.15am  7.30pm Novena in Honour to Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Filipino Chaplaincy)	<b>LENTEN RECONCILIATION</b> 6.30pm Followed by Mass Everyone is invited
Thursday Giovedì of the 1st week of Lent 2nd March 2023 Esther 14:1, 3-5, 12-14: Mt 7:7-12:	<i>Responsorial Psalm Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me.</i>		9.15am  Carmelina CAFARELLA	
Friday/Venerdì of the 1st week of Lent 3rd March 2023 Ezek 18:21-28: Mt 5:20-26:	<i>Responsorial Psalm O Lord, laid bare our guilt, who would endure it?</i>	<b>St. Mark's Church</b>  7.00pm Mass followed by Stations of the Cross	9.15am  7.30pm 1st Friday Spanish Mass 	<b>6.30pm Intercultural Via Crucis Stations of the Cross</b> 

**Prayer to Saint John Baptist Scalabrini**

*O Blessed John Baptist Scalabrini, missionary of the Word of God, minister of the Eucharist and of the Church, man of charity and communion, most loving son of Mary, apostle of the catechism, and father to the migrants. We rely on your intercession to receive God's blessings on ourselves and our beloved ones, on those who face migration and on all humankind. May the Holy Trinity, through your intercession, grant us the grace ... (pause for your intention) that we entrust to your fatherly love. Amen. Saint John Baptist Scalabrini. Pray for us!*

<b>Parish Community</b> Parish Priest: Fr. Fransiskus (Frank) Yangminta, CS (03) 9489 6777  Migrant Chaplain to the Italian Community: Fr. Vito Pegolo, CS Tel: 0419 736 890	<b>Parish Office</b> Monday to Friday 9.30am - 4.30pm  Parish Secretaries Giovanna Bellissimo & Rachel Mamone Tel: (03) 9489 6777	<b>Comunidad Pastoral De Habla Hispana</b>  Chaplain Fr. Gesner Felix, CS Tel: (03) 9482 5362 Mob: 0432 214 910	<b>Comunidade Pastoral De Expressão Portuguesa</b>  Chaplain P. Fabio Esteban Duque Supulveda, CS Mob: 0410 001 462	<b>Filipino Pastoral Community</b>  Chaplain Mons. Joselito Asis Tel: (03) 9482 5349 Mob: 0404 261 228
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## Parish News... Notizie di casa nostra...

Liturgy of the word 4th & 5th March 2023	6.00pm Vigil St. Brigid	8.30am St. Mark	9.45 am St. Brigid	11.00am St. Brigid
I Reading & Responsorial Psalm	N. Solomon	G. Piantella	C. Smith	Pia Marca / N.Oro
II Reading	N. Solomon	G. Piantella	M. Pereira	G. Catena
Prayers of the Faithful	N. Solomon	G. Piantella	MC Sisters	T. Toscano

**RCIA EVENTS**  
The Rite of Election will be held today Sunday 26th February at 3.00pm at St Patrick's Cathedral.

**Sacramental Program and Formation** will commence next Sunday 5th March 2023 after 9.45am Mass with Sr. Guadalupe MC in the Media Room.

**Lenten Reconciliation Form II (Wednesday, 01 March 2023 at 6:30PM Followed by Mass)**  
**RICONCILIAZIONE Forma II Mercoledì 1 Marzo 6.30pm seguita dalla S. Messa**

**ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL CONCERT:**  
Elyane Laussade Friday 3 March, 2023 6:30pm – 8:30pm Tickets: \$30 Adult, \$25 concession, children 15 years and under admitted free. Don't miss the opportunity to hear one of Australia's finest performers!

**CARITAS AUSTRALIA**  
**Support for Syria and Turkey is urgently needed.** Turkey and Syria have been struck by a devastating 7.8 magnitude earthquake, which has caused thousands of deaths. Your support is needed now with prayers and financial help. Please donate through the parish, or online: <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/turkey-and-syria-earthquake/>

**INTERCULTURAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS/ VIA CRUCIS** Every Friday night during Lent in various languages 6:30pm - 7:15pm in Church.  
  
Durante il tempo di Quaresima Via Crucis in varie lingue ogni Venerdì sera in chiesa 6.30 - 7.15pm Tutti benvenuti.

**Religious Education Institutions and Anti-Discrimination Laws Inquiry**  
The Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC) current Inquiry into the Framework of Religious Exemptions in Anti-Discrimination Legislation has produced a Consultation Paper which proposes severe limits on the ability for religious schools to appoint staff who support their mission other than roles in which 'the teaching, observance or practice of the religion is a genuine requirement of the role.' For every other role it would become unlawful for the school to give preference to teachers who share, or who are willing, to support the religious beliefs of the institution. This would effectively remove the right of faith-based schools to express their religious identity and culture. Archbishop Comensoli, along with other faith leaders, encourages you, as well as parents and other members of the Catholic community, to complete the following survey with an expression of hope to protect faith-based schools from further obstacles that will impede their ability to express our Catholic faith: <https://www.alrc.gov.au/inquiry/anti-discrimination-laws/submission/survey/>

**Online Giving:** If anyone wishes to make a donation online to the parish this is the link to St. Brigid's Parish North Fitzroy or you can scan the bar code and it will take you straight to the link <https://melbourne.cdfpay.org.au/details/?id=622453>



**PROJECT COMPASSION 2023**  
This year's theme is: **"For All Future Generations"**. It reminds us that what we do today can have an impact For All Future Generations. **LAXMI'S STORY, NEPAL**  
16-year-old Laxmi lives in one of the most remote communities in Nepal which experiences high levels of poverty. Laxmi's chance at a better life was through education, supported by her parents. Sadly, when she was 10 years old, her father passed away and Laxmi stopped going to school. Before her father's passing, Laxmi joined a child's club at her school that was run with the support of Caritas Nepal, Laxmi was encouraged to resume her education. She became an active member of her child's club, She has become a mentor to other girls in her village, encouraging them to stand up for their rights and creating lasting change For All Future Generations. Project Compassion Boxes or Sets of Envelopes are available for you to take home and return it on Good Friday. **Please give generously.**



**St. Brigid & St. Mark Collections**  
1st Collection \$ 450- 00  
2nd Collection \$ 300- 00  
Envelopes \$ 159- 00 *Thank You!*

**Canto D'Ingresso:**  
**PADRE, PERDONA**

*Signore, ascolta: Padre, perdona! Fa' che vediamo il tuo amore.*  
  
A te guardiamo, Redentore nostro, da te speriamo gioia di salvezza: Fa' che troviamo grazia di perdono.  
**Rit:**  
Ti confessiamo ogni nostra colpa, Riconosciamo ogni nostro errore E ti preghiamo: dona il tuo perdono.  
**Rit:**  
O buon Pastore, tu che dai la vita, Parola certa, Roccia che non muta, Perdona ancora, con pietà infinita.  
**Rit:**

**Offertorio: MISTERO DELLA CENA**

Mistero della Cena è il Corpo di Gesù. Mistero della Croce è il Sangue di Gesù. È questo pane e vino è Cristo in mezzo ai suoi. Gesù risorto e vivo sarà sempre con noi.  
  
Mistero della Chiesa è il Corpo di Gesù. Mistero della pace è il sangue di Gesù. Il pane che mangiamo fratelli ci farà. Intorno a questo altare l'amore crescerà.

**Canto Di Comunione SEI TU SIGNORE IL PANE**

Sei tu Signore il pane, tu cibo sei per noi. Risorto a vita nuova, sei vivo in mezzo a noi.  
  
Nell'ultima sua cena, Gesù si dona ai suoi: prendete pane e vino, la vita mia per voi.  
  
Mangiate questo pane: chi crede in me vivrà chi beve, il vino nuovo, con me risorgerà.  
  
È Cristo il pane vero, diviso qui fra noi: formiamo un solo corpo e Dio sarà con noi  
  
Se porti la sua Croce, in lui tu regnerai. Se muori unito a Cristo, con lui rinasci. Verranno i cieli nuovi, la terra fiorirà. Vivremo da fratelli, la Chiesa è carità

**Fine: MIRA IL TUO POPOLO**

Mira il tuo popolo, o bella Signora, che pieni di giubilo oggi t'onora. Anch'io festevole corro ai tuoi pie'  
**O Santa Vergine, prega per me; O Santa Vergine, prega per me.**  
  
Il pietosissimo tuo dolce cuore Porta e rifugio del peccatore. Tesori e grazie racchiude in sé.  
**O Santa Vergine, prega per me; O Santa Vergine, prega per me.**  
  
In questa misera valle infelice, tutti t'invocano: Soccorritrice. Questo bel titolo conviene a te.  
**O Santa Vergine, prega per me; O Santa Vergine, prega per me.**