*St. Theresa’s Parish Community Newsletter*



Parish Priest: Fr Barry Hughes

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Polish Chaplain: Fr Marian Szeptak

Residence: 185 William St., St Albans 3021

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 St. Theresa’s Primary School - 93119070

 16 Drummartin St., Albion 3020

 Principal: Rob Macklin

Mother of God Primary School - 93631734

 Blanche St., Ardeer 3022

 Principal: Assunta Iacovino

*“Do Small Things Well”*

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SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year B 10 & 11 February 2024

Dear Parishioners,

The Leadership team invites you to farewell Fr Barry after 39 years of service to our parish.

Date: Sunday 25th February, location: St Theresa’s School Multipurpose Room, time: Midday onwards for a shared lunch. Please RSVP and advise your Parish contact with dish to be provided either main (finger food) or dessert by 18th February. Mary Azzopardi 0418 308 843, Mary Poulter 0404 101 632, Ann-Maree 0401 192 079 and Jadzia 0417 776 427 or in person at Mass.

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| MASSES THIS WEEK ST THERESA’SDrummartin St, Albion 9.00am Friday10.30am SundayMOTHER OF GODBlanche St, Ardeer 9.00am Thursday 6.00pm Friday (Polish) 5.30pm Saturday10.15am Sunday (Polish)QUEEN OF HEAVENHolt St, Ardeer 9.00am SundayRECONCILIATION (Individual Confession)Saturday 17th February, 10.00am at St Theresa’s or other times and places on request |  | MASSES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY 14th February 8.00am at Queen of Heaven 9.10am at St Theresa’s  10.00 am at Mother of God (Polish Mass) 12 noon at Mother of God 7.00pm at St Theresa’sPARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM Meeting on Thursday 15th February, 7pm at the Presbytery CHRIST’S CATHOLIC COMMUNITYPrayer Group meets every Thursday, 7.00 - 8.30pm, at Queen of Heaven Church. All are welcomeCOLLECTIONS RECEIVEDThanksgiving $698 Loose Money $308 Presbytery $389COUNTERS 18th February  Team 5: J Camilleri, M Buhagiar, J ZammitFEAST DAYS St Cyril & Methodius, 14 FebruaryREADINGS Today Next WeekLeviticus 13.1-2,45-46 Genesis 9.8-15Ps 32.1-2,5,10bc-11(r7) Ps 25,4-5a,6+7b,8-9(R.10)1 Corinthians 10.23- 11.1 1 Peter 3.18-22Mark 1.40-45 Mark 1.12-15 |

PARISH DINNER Back for 2024 Tuesday 20th February 6pm at Deer Park Club, Ann-Maree 0401 192 079

ST JOSEPH’S BY THE SEA 16 Esplanade, Williamstown

Reflexology & Reiki for relaxation service in our Wholeness Room here in the beautiful environment of SJBTS. Reflexology 15th February Thursday Reiki 1st March Thursday

Cost $60.00 Concessional rate\* $80.00 Non-Concessional rate Paid directly to your therapist via cash/bank transfer, please contact Christine on 0420 715 259

*St Theresa’s Parish is committed to the safety of children, young people and vulnerable adults*

REFLECTION ON TODAY’S READINGS

Have you ever felt a little nervous when asking for help? You might need to borrow someone’s car or get them to read over a job application. Isn’t it wonderful when they say ‘of course I want to!’ It is so much better than ‘I’ll see if I can fit it in’ or ‘I’d love to, but I can’t.’

The person affected by leprosy in today’s Gospel had a lonely life. The first reading from the book of Leviticus tells us how those suffering certain diseases were required to live away from the community, ‘outside the camp.’ There was surely a fear of contagion, but it must have been tough for the people in isolation.

Jesus stretched out his hand. He reaches into the world of the lonely. Jesus is always creating community, especially with those overlooked by others.

Lent starts this week with Ash Wednesday. As we prepare to celebrate once again the death and resurrection of Jesus at Easter, Project Compassion gives us the chance to act as Jesus did. To reach out to those in some of the most challenging situations imaginable.

Once again, the theme for Project Compassion is For All Future Generations.

This year, that theme is being drawn from the story of the burning bush (Exodus 3:1-20).

Moses was part of a stolen generation. He was taken from his family because Pharaoh was committing genocide against the people of Israel. One day, he was working for his father-in-law in what seems to have been a family business. His sheep wander off and suddenly Moses encounters a bush that is burning but not consumed. He is stunned. A voice tells him to remove his shoes because he is standing on ‘holy ground.’ The earth beneath our feet is indeed a sacred place. It is God’s gift to us.

God tells Moses that he has heard the cry of his people. God responds to injustice and chooses Moses to speak to Pharaoh. Moses is scared but God promises ‘I will be with you.’ God will share the journey. All the time, God remains a mystery. He tells Moses ‘I am who I am.’ Moses wants more detail, so God simply says that this is the same God who has been longing for justice for the whole of history:

‘By this name I shall be invoked for all future generations.’

As God called Moses, so now God calls us to work ‘for all future generations.’

*(From Caritas Australia’s Project Compassion booklet)*



*Project Compassion Sunday marks the beginning of Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal. This Sunday, millions of Australians will come together to stand in solidarity with vulnerable people around the world, to help end poverty remote justice and uphold dignity.*