



Gospel Jn 2:13-25

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

**The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

REFLECTION by Fr. Thomas Toretkiu

I will raise it up: In the scripture, it is said "Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up." In the Jewish tradition, the temple manifests the physical connection between God and humankind. God's story is met with humanity's story. The powerful imagery is that the temple was destroyed by the Romans and Jesus is the new temple. The new point of connection is that Jesus is the embodied God, enfleshed in human history, in short God's sanctuary, the dwelling place of God. During the sacrament of baptism, we become a temple of the Holy Spirit and by adoption, we can share in this extraordinary status. At the end of the funerals, I burn incense and surround the coffin with sweet-smelling smoke as a sign of reverence for the body. We do the burning of incense to acknowledge respect for the body. So, If God's Spirit resides in the incarnated Jesus and in us the incarnated God's Spirit, then Jesus would be equally unhappy seeing us ill-treating and neglecting our bodies.

St. Paul says "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit?" (1 Cor 6:19). We take good care of the church building so also our physical body as well as others as the temple of the Holy Spirit. Every time we come to Church, we say the Penitential Act to cleanse our heart of all selfish motives and sins. Jesus' cleansing of the temple is also a prophetic sign of what he wants to do with us. When God delivered His people from slavery in Egypt, he brought them through the sea, and finally to Mount Sinai where God gave them a new way of life. The Ten responses are rather than the Ten Commandments. Worshiping God as the one and only liberator and not bowing down to others. He wants us to be purified and make us a living temple of the Holy Spirit. May our hearts be a worthy place for God to dwell. May our acts of worship become authentic as we strive to deepen our relationship with God through our concern for one another.

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**ST MARTIN DE PORRES & ST JOHN BOSCO'S
Catholic Parishes
Avondale Heights & Niddrie**



3rd Sunday of Lent, Year B

3 March 2024

First Reading (Shorter form)

Ex 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17

A reading from the book of Exodus

The Law was given through Moses.

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. 'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.

'You shall not kill.

'You shall not commit adultery.

'You shall not steal.

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

'You shall not covet your neighbour's house.

'You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 18:8-11. R. Jn 6:68

(R.) Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple. (R.)

2. The precepts of the Lord are right, they gladden the heart.

The command of the Lord is clear, it gives light to the eyes. (R.)

3. The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever.

The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just. (R.)

4. They are more to be desired than gold than the purest of gold and sweeter are they than honey, than honey from the comb. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 1:22-25

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

We are preaching a crucified Christ, a scandal to many, but to those who have been called, the wisdom of God.

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 3:16

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,

that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Parish Priest Fr. Nhân Le
St Martin de Porres Parish

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Weekend Masses Saturday Vigil 6:00pm
Sunday English 8:00am & 9:30am
Italian 11:00am
Vietnamese 12:30pm

Weekday Masses Tuesday - Friday 9:15am
Adoration & Benediction Wed after Mass

Stations of the Cross - After Mass
Vietnamese Mothers' Group Thursday
English Friday
Reconciliation Wednesday 9:45am
Saturday 5:30pm

St. John Bosco's Parish

29 Muriel Street, Niddrie 3042

Priest in Residence: Fr Thomas Toretciu

Parish Secretary: Faye Colaco
Phone: 9337 9994
E-mail: niddrie@cam.org.au

St. John Bosco's School

6 Teague Street, Niddrie 3042

Principal: Peter Monaghan
Phone: 9337 2314
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Weekend Masses Saturday Vigil 6:00pm
Sunday 8:30am & 10:30am

Weekday Masses Tuesday - Thursday 9:00am
Friday 9:15am

Stations of the Cross Friday 7:00pm
Reconciliation Saturday 5:30pm

The Augustinian Sisters

Convent: 2 Venice Court, Avondale Heights
Phone: 9337 4595
E-mail: spinelli@bigpond.net.au
Website: www.asjmoz.org

IN OUR PRAYERS

Sick: Veronica Dovey; Peter Falzon.

Recently Deceased:

Martin Fitzsimons; Nayara Ramos Gonzaga (Brazil); Gabriele Di Martino; Frank Testa; Larry Paulusz; Frank De Giorgio; Sr Carmelina Borg asjm; Sr Nancy Bezzina asjm; Pasqualina Rocca (Italy).

Anniversaries and Remembrances:

Angelo Michael Di Lisio; Frank Anile; Anna Le thi Them; Phillip Nguyen Tho; Basil O'Rourke, Alice Da Costa, Alan Gavin, Joan Cate, Jim Kelly, Beatrice Holmes, Charles Genoese, Kenneth Pinto; Charlie Sciberras; Francis, Bernarda, Joseph & Maria Consiglia Grima; Emmanuel, Teresa, Filomena Sammut; Carmelo & Rita Debono; Emmanuel & Nazzarena Farrugia; Dominic Cumbo; Tonina Darmanin.

ST JOHN BOSCO'S INFORMATION

Collections:

Thanksgiving \$265 Loose: \$1,143
Presbytery: \$195 Credit Card: \$795

Easter Reconciliation

Thursday 14th March 7pm

Bible Study Group

Exploring the wonders of God's word through the guidance of the Holy Spirit will truly enlighten and uplift our hearts. Join us at 4pm in the Presbytery for our next meetings on 6 April & 27 April.

Communion to the Sick and Elderly

Please ring the office on 9337 9994 if you could help take Communion to those unable to attend Mass.

Statue of Our Lady

Please contact the office if you wish to have the Statue of Our Lady in your home for one week,

ST MARTIN DE PORRES' INFORMATION

Collections: Parish Support Programme:

Pledge: \$2,588 Received: \$1,699 Shortfall: \$899
Loose: \$891 Presbytery: \$1,705



Christian Meditation

Maranatha ... Come Lord Jesus

All welcome: Mondays 10 - 11am in the Church Parent's Room. March 4 & 18

St Martin's Parish Picnic Sunday 17 March

11am Brimbank Park - Car Park A. Bring chairs, and food to share. Activities provided for the kids.



St Martin's Prep Enrolments for 2025

Applications Now Open Please apply at the School Office or phone 9331 9000.

Handcrafted Bethlehem Olivewood Carvings

On sale this weekend in the foyer. These items are hand crafted in the Holy Land by catholic families. Any purchases will help support & improve their livelihood and also support maintaining the Holy sites there.

Lenten Programme

Easter Reconciliation

Vietnamese Monday 18th March 7pm
English & Italian Tuesday 19th March 7pm

Easter Rosters in the Church Foyer

Please indicate where you can help.



Reflection Sessions with Sr. Connie

Tuesdays after Mass in the Pastoral Centre Meeting Room. All welcome.

Lenten Faith Film Nights in St Martin's Hall

Symbolon - the Catholic Faith Explained

7pm - Tues 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th March. 4 stunning episodes starting with The Story of Salvation - Free. (Handouts per episode & Refreshments provided). Register online: <https://bit.ly/42XgoGH> or email: rosecalandra22@gmail.com or call 0411 040 669

CDF "Save with CDF Community Fund - it's in everyone's best interest"

Email Anton Pan-Cassin apancassin@melbcdf.org.au or Bernard Docherty bdocherty@melbcdf.org.au visit, www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund/offer for competitive interest rates.

Catholic Vocations Melbourne

Dear friends,

I would like to thank you for your prayers for Vocations over the years. We were delighted to accept eight men to the Seminary for Melbourne this year: Chinh Tran, Rohan Prince, Luke Kennedy, Joseph Maae, Tung Phan, Mathews Noble, Luke Emslie, Patrick Harris. Many of you have personally helped and encouraged these men along their journey to apply to join the Seminary; it truly is a team effort! Please continue to pray for them!

Part of the work of the Vocations Office is to promote Vocations throughout our Archdiocese. Please feel free to contact us if you have any thoughts/plans of how we can do so better.

In Christ, Fr Dishan and the Vocations Team



Caritas
AUSTRALIA



Third Sunday of Lent 2/3 March

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.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow for all future generations.

Please donate to Project Compassion

through Project Compassion boxes & envelopes, or call 1800 024 413 or go to caritas.org.au/project-compassion



Project Compassion Prayer 2024

God of all hope,
we pray for our world with all its beauty and need.
We thank you for the love in our lives that is a mirror of your unending love.

May all creation know your compassion this Lent and may we take courage to share it, especially with those who don't have what they need.

In our time, we hear the same words you spoke to Moses:

'I will be with you,'

when you ask us to do courageous things.
Through our prayer, fasting and almsgiving, move us to act in the company of your Spirit, showing compassion and acting for justice to renew the face of the Earth, now and for all future generations.

We ask this in the name of Christ.

Amen



Palms Australia



Mission: Transform Lives - theirs...and yours

Check out the poster in the foyer.

Learn more: Join our Mission Webinar

palms.org.au/event/global-development-webinar/
March 5th, 2024, 6:00 - 6:30 pm.

Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility.

The Parishes of St Martin de Porres and St John Bosco, and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. Child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of everyone.

NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome you and ask that you make yourself known to us by completing this form and leaving it in the collection basket.

Parish of: _____

First Name: _____

Surname: _____

Phone No. _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

PARISH SUPPORT PROGRAMME

We encourage you to join our programme.
Please ring the Parish Office or visit our website.