

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! / God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, / that all who believe in him might have eternal life. / Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

Jn 3:14-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him.

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

‘The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God’s only Son. On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil. And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.’

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT / B

10 MARCH 2024

GOD’S LOVE, GIFT AND GRACE

On this *Laetare* Sunday (so called for the first word of the liturgy is “rejoice”) we find in the Letter to the Ephesians: “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God” (2:8). To contemplate this statement is to begin to understand the generous mercy and love of God for each of us.

This reading follows 2 Chronicles that recounts the fall of Jerusalem, despite the compassion of God for the people, but then King Cyrus of Persia liberating the exiles. So as the passage begins in Ephesians we see the continuity with God, who is rich in mercy. Three times “grace” is repeated: “by grace you have been saved,” “the immeasurable riches of God’s grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus” and “for by grace you have been saved through faith.” This reiteration accentuates the love of God and invites us to know that “we are God’s work of art, created in Christ Jesus for good works.”

John’s Gospel reminds us “God so loved the world that he gave his only son so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life” (3:16). With his clear illumination of light and darkness, John affirms that “those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

How will we respond to God’s love, gift and grace?

Dr Rosemary Canavan

FIRST READING

2 Chron 36: 14-16, 19-23

A reading from the second book of Chronicles.

The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of his people.

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, ‘Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.’

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: ‘Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, “The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up.”’

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 136. R. v. 6

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

1. By the rivers of Babylon / there we sat and wept, / remembering Zion: / on the poplars that grew there / we hung our harps. **R.**



2. For it was there that they asked us, / our captors, for songs, / our oppressors, for joy. / ‘Sing to us,’ they said, / ‘one of Zion’s songs.’ **R.**

3. O how could we sing / the song of the Lord / on alien soil? / If I forget you, Jerusalem, / let my right hand wither! **R.**

4. O let my tongue / cleave to my mouth / if I remember you not, / if I prize not Jerusalem / above all my joys! **R.**

SECOND READING

Eph 2: 4-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

When we were dead through sins, he brought us to life.

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ – it is through grace that you have been saved – and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God’s work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he has meant us to live it.

■ The word of the Lord.



St Patrick's Parish, Kilmore

Parish Priest: Fr Prakash Cutinha

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Email: kilmore@cam.org.au

Website: pol.org.au/kilmore/Home.aspx

(Emails or calls outside of office hours will be attended to when we are next in the office.)

Parish Secretary: Caterina Bosevski

Bookkeeper: Lorraine Nagle

Pastoral Worker: Sr. Yen Phung LHC (Sr. Anne)

Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri, 9.30am – 4.30pm

OUR CHURCHES

Kilmore: St Patrick's Church, 37 Sutherland Street, Kilmore Vic 3764
Broadford: Our Lady Help of Christians, Cnr The Parade & McKenzie Sts, Broadford Vic 3658
Wallan: Our Lady of the Way, 30 Alcantara Blvd, Wallan East Vic 3756
Wandong: St Michael's, 33-35 Wandong Ave, Wandong Vic 3758

MASS TIMES

Saturday: Broadford at 5.00 pm & Kilmore at 6.30 pm
Sunday: Kilmore at 7.45 am, Wallan at 9.00 am & Kilmore at 10.30 am
Weekday Masses: Kilmore, Tuesday—Saturday Mass at 9 am (Except: Wednesday at 9am in Wallan)
Reconciliation: Tuesday after 9am Mass, Kilmore
Adoration: Thursday after 9am Mass, Kilmore
Rosary: Thursday at 2.00pm in the Church, Kilmore *(Not running during school holidays)*

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, 1 Conway Street Kilmore VIC 3764

Phone: (03) 5782 1579 **Website:** <https://www.spkilmore.catholic.edu.au>
Principal: Mr Michael Bourne **Email:** principal@spkilmore.catholic.edu.au

OUR LADY OF THE WAY, 30 Alcantara Blvd, Wallan East VIC 3756 (P.O. Box 284, Wallan, VIC 3756)

Phone: (03) 8609 1784 **Website:** <https://ourladywallan.catholic.edu.au>
Principal: Mr Terry Cooney **Email:** admin@ourladywallan.catholic.edu.au

ASSUMPTION COLLEGE, Sutherland St, Kilmore, VIC 3764 (P.O. Box 111, Kilmore VIC 3764)

Phone: (03) 5783 5000 **Website:** <https://assumption.vic.edu.au>
Principal: Paul Finneran **Email:** principal@assumption.vic.edu.au

ROSTERS:

	<u>9/10 Mar</u>	<u>16/17 Mar</u>
<u>BROADFORD 5pm (Sat):</u>	9 Mar	16 Mar
Reader	Amy Leahy	Peter Kelly
Eucharist Minister	Arthur Donovan	Amy Leahy
<u>KILMORE 6.30pm (Sat):</u>	9 Mar	16 Mar
Reader	Assumption College	Marita Dumaresq
Eucharist Minister	Marg Fleischmann	Paul Reed
PowerPoint	Pauline Duff	Boyd Family
<u>KILMORE 7.45am (Sun):</u>	10 Mar	17 Mar
Reader	Lance Phillips	Justine Sapiano
Eucharist Minister	Justine Sapiano	John Dixon
PowerPoint	Carroll Family	Carroll Family
<u>WALLAN 9am (Sun):</u>	10 Mar	17 Mar
Reader	Qaynath Britto	TBA
Eucharist Minister	Marie Hoban	Annette Moore
	Chris Banon	Tracey Brincat
PowerPoint	Fetu Thompson	Rosebelle Quinn
<u>KILMORE 10.30am (Sun):</u>	10 Mar	17 Mar
Reader	TBA	Ian Pirie
Eucharist Minister	Christine Dodd	Leonie Dunlop
PowerPoint	TBA	Sandra McCaughey
<u>FLOWERS:</u>	Marg Fleischmann	Ann Harrigan
<u>HOME EUCHARIST:</u>	Leonie Dunlop	Arthur Donovan
	Rose Rich	
<u>CLEANERS KILMORE:</u>	TBA	TBA

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Sick List:

Gerard McCaughey, Sonia Savolokin, Shae Newey, Steven Campbell, Danny Prelac, Jim Ahearn, Robert Duncan, Pina D'agostino, Vera Bosevski, Eva Aschberger, Ian & Sandy Domeyer, John Pannuzzo, Richard Lloyd, Theo Aitchison, Raul Brizzi, Lee Stewart, Allan Gourlay, Tessa Borg, Kelly Borg, Amanda Minniti, Vicky Katte, Peter Harvin, Ronnie Johnson, Angela Bradley & all the sick of the parish.

Anniversaries:

Thomas Rodda, James Jones, Guenter Siebold, Claire Moore, Eleanor Molan, Jean Clark, Bryan Rodda, Vinko Rostan, William Barry Gilbo, Frances O'Connor, Patrick John Scully, Annie Nugent, Muriel Mavro, Alice Wallace, Joshua Brian Mervyn Butler, George Sydney Wright, Kevin Patrick Brennan, Aileen Butler and the anniversaries of all which occur at this time as well as all people who are in need of our prayers.

Recently Deceased: Benjamin Charles Mifsud

Sun 10th Mar: Pray for the soul of James Clarke.

Mon 11th Mar: 9am Communion Service, no Mass.

Tue 12th Mar: Pray for the soul of Rustica Prieto Aragon.

Wed 13th Mar: Pray for the thanksgiving Mass for St Jude.

Thu 14th Mar: Pray for the soul of Alice Vallence.

Fri 15th Mar: Pray for the soul of Keith Hendy.

Sat 16th Mar: Pray for the intentions of Pina D'agostino.



Easter Mass and Service Times 2024

Tuesday 26th March 7pm – Reconciliation at Wallan

Wednesday 27th March 7pm—Reconciliation at Kilmore

Thursday 28th March 7pm—Holy Thursday Mass at Kilmore
7pm—Holy Thursday Mass at Wallan

Friday 29th March 9.30am—Live Stations of the Cross at Wallan Church grounds
11 am – Stations of the Cross at Kilmore Church
3pm—Good Friday Service at Wallan Church
3pm—Good Friday Service at Kilmore Church

Saturday 30th March 5pm—Mass at Broadford
7pm—Mass at Kilmore (Easter Vigil Celebration)
9pm—Mass at Wallan (Easter Vigil Celebration)

Easter Sunday 31st March 7.45am—Mass at Kilmore
9am—Mass at Wallan
10.30am—Mass at Kilmore

Divine Mercy Sunday 7th Apr 2pm – Confessions, Adoration, Prayers, Chaplet of Mercy & Holy Mass



Stations of the Cross: Each Friday during Lent at 7pm in both the Kilmore and Wallan Churches.



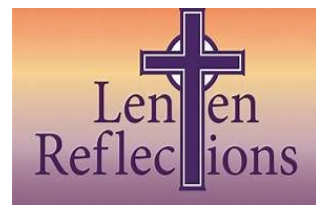
Lenten Reflections—“An Introduction to Reading the Bible and the Gospels”:

Each Wednesday during Lent at 7pm at Assumption College, Shandon House. Please park on the street & enter via Gate 5.

Weekly topics are as follows:

-Wednesday 13 March: An Introduction to Mark’s Gospel 2

-Wednesday 20 March: An introduction to Mark’s Gospel 3



Parish Pastoral Council Members for 2024

Fr. Prakash, Michael Bourne (Chairperson), Paul Reed, Margaret Fleischmann (Secretary), Peter Appleton, Paul Finneran, Brian Clancy, Pauline Ryan, Amy Leahy, Nisha Kurien, Romesh De Vos, Marita Dumaresq.

St Patrick's Day Celebrations—Sunday 17th March

Following the 10.30am Kilmore Mass on Sunday 17th March, we will be having a celebration in the parish centre. Sausage sizzle will be provided, everyone is welcome to bring a plate to share, tea & coffee provided. Please come dressed in GREEN!



Cemetery Working Bee

Our pre-Easter working bee will be held next Saturday, 16 March from 9am to 12noon. Morning tea provided. Bring mowers and whipper snippers. Brian Clancy 0429 186 830

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Inviting all “Encountered Couples/Spouses/Priests” to join us in Celebrating 50 years of WWME in Australia. On Saturday 16 March 2024, At St John’s Parish, Mitcham [Enter via Elizabeth St]. **A Formation Day: “Love & Respect: The Love She Most Desires; the Respect He Desperately Longs for”.** (A light lunch will be provided) & An Evening of celebration starting at 6pm. Catered Spit Roast Dinner. BYO Drinks and a Wedding Photo

For further details and to register, <https://www.trybooking.com/COSSN> , Or contact Steve & Sue Hollowood 0431 477 556 / 0412 130 845



Wallan Children’s Choir:

Choir practice will start in second term (22nd of April) at 5.30pm at Our Lady of the Way Church, Wallan. If any new members would like to join the children’s choir please ring Bernadette on 0411353600.

An opportunity to help the Church:

We will be refurbishing the Kilmore Parish Centre. If anyone would like to donate, please call the Parish Office or speak with Fr Prakash. Thank you
Thank you for donations made this week:
1 x anonymous

ROSARY:

The next Rosary will be held at Kate Archer’s house, 12 Andrew Street, Kilmore at 1pm on Wednesday 13th March. All are welcome!



Fourth Sunday of Lent 9 & 10 March



As the eldest child in a low-income farming family in rural Malawi, **Memory** faced many barriers to her education. But, with the support of Caritas Australia, she enrolled in a technical school and became the first female carpenter in her village.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

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 and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.