

# The Parish of Saint Anthony Glen Huntly

# First Sunday in Lent, Year B

21 February 2021

PARISH PRIEST
Fr Leenus Neetany SAC

PARISH SECRETARY
Shobha Thomas

COORDINATOR
MUSIC & CATECHESIS
Veronica Blair

PARISH ACCOUNTANT
Bernard Negline

PARISH FINANCE OFFICER
Sue Leong

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS** Tue, Thu & Fri: 10am-2pm

WEEKEND MASSES Saturday Vigil: 6pm Sunday: 9am, 11am, 5pm

**WEEKDAY MASSES** Monday-Saturday: 9.15am

**RECONCILIATION**Saturday 9.45am-10.10am

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION** Saturday 9.45am -10.15 am.

HOLY ROSARY & NOVENA
Wednesday 6.30pm
(Currently suspended)

**BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS,** Contact the Parish Office; preferably by email

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK Contact the Parish Office/father.

**VENUE HIRE**Contact the Parish Office

**BAND PRACTICE**Thursday 7.30pm in Church

St Anthony's Primary School

Principal: Margaret Carlei

① 9563 6780

office@controlor exthelic adv

☑office@santglen.catholic.edu.au ■ santglen.catholic.edu.au PRAY FOR OUR SICK: Denise Kennedy, Will Jacob.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Salve Stuart

Anniversaries: Mary Arathoon, Nilo Stuart

PLEASE RING/EMAIL THE PARISH OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THE PARISH NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL OR WOULD LIKE A SICK, DECEASED OR ANNIVERSARY OF A FAMILY MEMBER MENTIONED IN OUR NEWSLETTER



#### ASH SUNDAY

As everyone knows, we could not celebrate the Ash Wednesday because of the Lockdown. Instead we did celebrate it the next day.

In addition to it, at all Masses of this Weekend the Blessed Ashes will be put on those who wish.



Every Thursday of Lent at 7pm we will be having Bible Reflection Sessions for an hour in our church, conducted by Fr. Pat Jackson SAC and Team. Please come along.

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

On Fridays of Lent
Mass at 7pm followed by Stations
of the Cross.

(Morning Mass as usual)



# First Reconciliation

Saturday 27 February 2021, Mass at 9.15am followed by First Reconciliation for those waiting from 2020; others can have Reconciliation after that.

St Anthony's Parish and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community in Melbourne.

#### LITURGY OF THE WORD

**20-21 FEBRUARY 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B** Genesis 9:8-15; 1Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:12-15

Liturgy Roster 27-28 February 2021			
Mass	Lector	Commentator	Special Minister
6.00pm	S D'Souza	S D'Souza	N/A
9.00am	M Dwyer	A O'Driscoll	C Arendtsz
11.00am	L Nguyen	J Wong	P Spotkaeff
5.00pm	E O'Keefe	L Shelton	N/A

#### LITURGY TEAM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of forming a team of volunteers who would plan ahead the forthcoming Liturgical Celebrations and organize the necessary Preparations. Please let the Parish Office, Veronica Blair or Fr. Leenus know of your willingness.

# READERS AND SPECIAL EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

We require volunteers for Readers and Special Eucharistic Ministers. If you would like to be part of this important ministry, please email or contact the Parish Office.

#### BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSIONS

Our next Session will have to be shifted from Fri 12 March due to Mass and Stations of the Cross at 7pm. New date and time TBA.

## ST ANTHONY'S PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL ENROLL NOW FOR 2022 School Tours

Wed 24 Feb 2021 - 9.30am Tues 2 March 2021 - 9.30am Tues 9 March 2021 - 9.30am

Please ring 95636780 to make a booking for a school tour or an appointment.

Contact: Principal@santglen.catholic.edu.au Website: www.santglen.catholic.edu.au

# NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER & FASTING 27 FEBRUARY 2021

This year to commemorate their Ten Year Anniversary, the National Day of Prayer & Fasting team has asked Indigenous Christian Leaders to help lead the day. The National Zoom Prayer Call is between 9am—6pm on Saturday 27 February 2021 as also the Official Prayer Service from 2pm—3.30pm. "Jesus himself has shown us by his own example that prayer and fasting are the first and most effective weapons against the forces of evil." (Pope John Paul II).

Register: www.nationaldayofprayer.org.au

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL

If you would like your child to receive formal education in the Catholic faith they are welcome to attend Sunday School. Classes are held every Sunday of the school term from 10-10.45am. Please ring/email the Parish office or contact Veronica Blair veronica.blair@cam.org.au for more details.

#### LET US RENEW OUR FAITH

Pope Francis in his message for Lent says that Lent is a time for believing, for welcoming God into our lives and allowing him to "make his dwelling" among us (cf. Jn 14:23). The Holy Father reminds the faithful that the Lenten practices of fasting, almsgiving and prayer make it possible for us to live lives of sincere faith, living hope and effective charity, thereby sharing in Jesus' mission of the salvation of the world.

Pope Francis says that accepting and living the truth revealed in Christ means opening our hearts to God's word, which the Church passes on from generation to generation. He emphasises that this truth is not an abstract concept for an intelligent few but a message available to all those whose hearts are 'open to the grandeur of God, who loves us even before we are aware of it.' Christ is this truth, the Pope writes, and fasting is a form of self-denial, which helps those who undertake it to rediscover God's gift and that because we are created in his image and likeness, we can find our fulfilment in him.

#### New Sanitising Stations Thank You

St Anthony's Parish would like to thank a parishioner who has made a significant contribution towards our new hand sanitising stations





Jamila is a Rohingya refugee living in a camp in Bangladesh with her elderly mother and baby daughter. With the support of Caritas Australia, and through Caritas Bangladesh, Jamila has been able to access to emergency food, shelter, counselling, and vocational training that will help to support her family. Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 to help mothers like Jamila be more for her family and her community.

Donations can also be made by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

**Theme of Project Compassion 2021** 

"Aspire not to have more, but to be more".

Project Compassion boxes are available in the church porches.

#### Tuesday 16 February, 2021

To the Laity, Religious and Clergy of the Archdiocese of Melbourne

#### Vaccine Program

Dear Friends,



We proclaim a crucified Christ

It is welcome news that the first batches of the Pfizer vaccine have arrived in Australia.

Soon the most vulnerable people in our country – our frontline workers and those at greatest risk – will receive their first dose against the COVID-19 virus.

I will be grateful to receive a vaccination when my turn in the staged roll-out comes around.

None of the vaccines are a cure for COVID-19, but indications are that they provide a significant measure of protection from the worst effects of the virus, for the time being.

For the common good, it is appropriate that our governments work together to roll out a nation-wide process of vaccination for all residents.

Likewise, for the common good, everyone should respect the decisions of individuals who, for medical, safety or moral reasons, are not ready to receive a vaccination immediately.

At this early stage in measuring the longer-term effectiveness and safety of each of the COVID-19 vaccines, calls for a 'No jab, no service' policy would be unjust.

The Catholic Bishops have already endorsed efforts to offer a vaccination as soon as possible to all who can safely receive one.

 $\frac{https://mediablog.catholic.org.au/a-letter-to-the-faithful-regarding-development-of-a-covid-19-vaccine/\#more-8597$ 

However, the Government has indicated that there is likely to be little, if any, choice as to which vaccine will be available to individuals in the shorter term.

This means that you can receive any one of the three vaccines to be made available, without moral complicity in the processes of its development. On balance, it is a good thing to do.

For anyone with health and safety concerns, please speak with your family doctor.

For anyone with ethical questions, please read the statement issued by the Vatican or speak with your Pastor.

I encourage the Australian government to do all it can to make a vaccine choice available to all residents in Australia as soon as possible, and offer the same care to our poorer neighbouring countries.

Please continue to pray for those impacted by this pandemic, and to work in whatever way you can to support your neighbour in need. The God of mercy and compassion is present to us all, through the tender heads, hearts and hands we offer to one another.

Yours Sincerely

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli Archbishop of Melbourne

# First Sunday in Lent, Year B **The Temptations of Jesus**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

In the beginning of Matthew's Gospel we are told that the angel appeared to Mary and said that her child's name would be 'Immanuel', meaning "God with us". Throughout his gospel Mathew tries to explain as to how in and through the person of Jesus 'God is with us'. Even at the end of gospel, as Jesus ascends into heaven, He says "I am with you always,"

The temptations of Jesus can also be understood in the light of this theme 'God with us'. Here Satan is trying to stop Jesus from being the Immanuel; to cut off his relationship with God and people. Satan is suggesting to Jesus that Jesus should do everything by himself and for himself; not for the glory of God the Father, nor for the Salvation of humankind.

All the three temptations are really about that. It is not about stones and bread; it is not about jumping down from temple-top and being rescued; it is not about worship the devil and owning all the kingdoms; rather it is about leading a life without God. It is about going it alone, it is about keeping away from God and people.

All of us have an urge inside us which says, "Why don't you go it alone? Why not chuck God out of your life altogether. Who really needs him? Be yourself.

In the case of Adam and Eve too, their problem was not about eating an apple or what. It was the little voice inside them that said "You can be like God; you don't need to settle for just being with God; break off the submissive relationship with God; claim your autonomy; why should God come in your way; Get him out of the way. And Adam and Eve gave in to that suggestion and sinned, and did not let "God be with them".

Probably, in our case too, we easily give in to similar suggestions and keep away from God and commit sin. But in the case of Jesus when he was tempted to be all by himself and for himself, he did not give in. He did not give-up his Father; did not give us up either. He proved true to his name, Immanuel; God is with us.

Suppose, Jesus had given in!, suppose he yielded to the temptations and did sin!, then it would have brought about unimaginable consequences for us. Then what would have been our fate? But Jesus chose to stay close to his Father and his plan of our Salvation. Jesus chose to continue to be "God with us", and continued to complete the mission he was born for. He did not forsake His Father; and He did not forsake His people.

We can trust Jesus. Not even for a moment would he choose to give us up. Jesus is with us even in the most vulnerable moments of our lives. If we are tempted, He is tempted too; If we are hungry, He is hungry too; If we are wounded, He is wounded too; If we are humiliated, rejected, hated, troubled, Jesus has experienced all these and more; but did not sin at all.

Therefore even in our most hopeless cases, we can learn to trust in His unseen but sure companionship. He is always there with us even when we cannot feel him. We can learn to live by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord, who says, 'I am with you always even to the end of time.

During this season of Lent let us make an extra effort to be with Jesus, to stand by him, to live for him, just as he suffers to be with us.