

Rosters for this Week 4th & 5th March 2023

Counting Team No. 3	Ian Veal, Frances Moloney, Toni Cutroni, Larry Rigoni, Susan Jamieson
Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Larry Rigoni 8.30am Ivonne Cram, Maryanne Wenzel 10.30am Di Collins
Mass Readers	6.00pm Emma Pinzone 8.30am Charles Hili 10.30am Richard Van der Merwe
Children's Liturgy	8.30am Ros Jacklin

Rosters for next Week 11th & 12th March 2023 (Labour Day Weekend)

Ministers of the Eucharist	6.00pm Mary Soppitt, Gail Tull 8.30am Stephen Littleton, Doreen Mitchell 10.30am Alison Silke
Mass Readers	6.00pm Evol Farrelly 8.30am Peter Kirwan 10.30am Olga Reinato
Children's Liturgy	8.30am Eilin Taylor, Joe Cavelli

IN OUR PRAYERS

We pray for Haizil Joseph, Santhi Komatineni, Kevin Murphy, Sarah Rodgers, Cathy Reid, Assunta Delgrosso, Yemme Reddy, Mary Debenham, Peter Conroy and Joseph Falzon.



RECENTLY DECEASED & ANNIVERSARIES



We pray for Cathy Kelly who died recently and for Thelma Luft, Gilbert Augustin, Fr. Joe Micallef, Giovanni Trifilo, Roger Dawson, Herbert Augustin, Frederick Lazarus, Kevin Hynes, Maria Guastalegname, Mary Lewis, Joyce Rudd, Sheila Webster, Silvana Rossi, Blaze Phillips-Mitchell, Carmel Harrison, Brian Mitchell, Dennis Vanstone, Chiara Lubich, Mike Linehan, Anthony Kennedy, Vittoria Paone, Gwen Sturrock, Sue King, Maria Scabelloni, Hilda Wood, Tanya Pickergill, Margaret Dooley, Daniel Rudd, Mary McLinden, Muriel Bowes, Marjory Cuthbert, Giovanni Raunik, Peter Wentworth, Cynthia Frawley,

Nance McRae, Carmelo Pisano, Giuseppina De Bono, Roger Wilson, Cath Wickham, Doris Dean, Serafina Basilone, Eileen Storey, John Day, Vincenzo Timpano, Agnes Lynch, Giuseppe Nardo, Francesco Galle and Immacolata Laudato; whose anniversaries are at this time

The Williamstown Vinnies need new members



“The Williamstown Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society are looking for new members. We provide financial and personal support to the poor and dispossessed in the local community and within our parish. The work is very rewarding, and we are a close knit and supportive group who meet every first Tuesday of the month to discuss their needs and how to best administer to them. We would be delighted if you have an interest in joining us, so if you do, please call John Brooks (Conference President) on 0466 824 044.”

St Mary's Parish

We proudly acknowledge the Boonwurrung People of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land.

A community where we bring together our gifts and talents



116 Cecil Street, Williamstown 3016
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Email: williamstown@cam.org.au
Web: www.stmaryswilliamstown.org.au

5th March, 2023

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT — YEAR A

Parish Priest
(Fr.) Greg Trythall
0400 524 363
Email: greg.trythall@cam.org.au

Pastoral Associate
Monique Julian
0450 789 951
Monday, Tuesday

Parish Office Manager
Heidi Zahra
Tuesday 8:30am – 4.00pm
Thursday 8:30am – 4.00pm

Parish Secretary
Kylie Skinner-Wednesday
8.30am–3.30pm
Sheridan McCutcheon-Friday
8.30am–3.30pm

St. Mary's School
Principal Anthony Hockey

Normal Mass Times
Consult bulletin inside for any changes.
Saturday at 6:00pm
Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am
Tuesday to Friday 9:15am

Reconciliation
Saturday 10:00am

Silent Adoration in Church
2:30pm – 3:30pm
Wednesday

Baptism Preparation Night
Third Thursday monthly
7.00pm at Parish Centre.
Baptism must be booked prior to attending Preparation Night.

Baptisms 12:30pm Sunday

FIRST READING:

A reading from the book of Genesis. 12:1-4

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

SECOND READING:

A reading from the letter of Paul to Timothy. 1:8-10

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: This is my beloved Son, hear him.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW: 17:1-9

After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light. And behold,



Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, “Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” while he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.”



When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Raise, and do not be afraid.” And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone. As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, “Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

Tuesday 7th March	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church. 4.00pm Funeral Mass For Mark Torjussen. 7.00pm Continuation of Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults at Presbytery with Fr. Greg. All welcome especially those who desire deeper faith.
Wednesday 8th March	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church.
Thursday 9th March	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church.
Friday 10th March	9.15am Mass at St. Mary's Church.

Dear Parishioners,

This week at the 8:30am and 10:30am Masses we will be **welcoming Gwen from Australian Caritas** which has raised so far over a million dollars to help earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria. She will talk after communion about the important work of Project Compassion run by Australian Caritas which means I will shorten my sermon at those two Masses. Also, at the same Masses we will probably be joined by two seminarians: Tue Pham and Cameron Ryan as our local archdiocesan seminary wishes them to come here on a Sunday approximately once a month as an occasional pastoral placement. Please make them welcome. They both should know Tom Christie.

On **Wednesday March 22nd at 7:30 pm** at our next 'Way of the West' meeting we will try to take a serious step to help out one chosen refugee family in a scheme started by the Australian Government. As for most families they will need help to adjust to our way of doing things and to a certain degree our way of life. Accordingly, for this scheme to work **we need several people as a sub group** of our 'Way of the West' committee otherwise we will not be able to be part of this new and good initiative. This is a chance to show what we are made of. I will try to detail more about this over the coming weeks but could you keep an open mind about helping as we need up to ten people in order to spread the burden of helping among a wider group. **The new Australian program is called "CRISP".**



One of the most important journeys in the Bible is the one of Abraham we will hear about on this Second Sunday of Lent. In the Gospel Jesus gathers three of his favourite apostles in order to seek their support as he knows his earthly journey is not only running its course but he has to suffer at the end of this journey as he is heading for Jerusalem to be crucified. Before he undergoes this way of the cross journey besides the three favourite apostles of Peter, John and James he is joined on the holy mountain by Moses and Elijah who are in deep conversation with him. Moses represents the Law. Elijah the prophets. He is virtually taking his last breaths with them as good supporters of his cause in order to continue the hardest part of his journey: his carrying of the cross and crucifixion.

We also have to carry our various crosses and to be able to undergo those crosses as we brace ourselves to gain strength by undergoing Lent. Lent is not only about Project Compassion and Prayer but it is also in conjunction with them about Penance and this needs to be seen in a positive light rather than a negative one.

The first thing we are doing when we undertake penance is acknowledging that we are sinners. The second thing we are doing is expressing the desire to change our lives. The whole object of penance is to reform a sinful way of life. Penance is an exercise in saying "no" to ourselves. Its purpose is to acquaint ourselves with our better side, and to convince ourselves that we can do better. It signifies that we want to reform our lives. It means taking a step in the right direction. When people prune a fruit tree, they are not doing it to punish the tree, but to enable it to produce more and better fruit. So, our penances have as their goal to lead us to a new and better life.

Although it is rare for me to go backwards to a previous Sunday reading or theme, I thought we can still learn something in regards to Lent and Easter generally if I retrace the 1st Sunday of Lent – especially the Adam and Eve story. *Continued...*



As I stated last week the writer/s of Genesis tell a profound truth about sins and its effects. Because of sin there is dislocation everywhere; everything becomes askew; nothing is as it was planned to be. It means that we can be open neither with God or with one another. We spend time and energy in cover-up. The sowing of fig leaves of Adam and Eve was a physical sign last week of a deeper meaning cover-up. Within this cover-up we (Adam and Eve) cannot face God. Thus, in the Genesis story God had to come searching for Adam and Eve. So, the first question of God in the Bible is the everlasting one: "Where are you?" "And if salvation is a matter of being found by God that first question is the root of all biblical questions: "Where are you?" When God finds Adam and Eve he expels them from the paradise garden into the wasteland. The first human beings are the first refugees: in the beginning there was the exile. Banished from the garden, they must make do in a world where they will have to struggle for survival: a world where human relationships will be fragile; a world where fidelity to God's word will always be a challenge. Genesis tells us that sin enters the world through disobedience to the word of God. But there is a promise of salvation which leaves room for hope. The promise of salvation comes in particular in the end from Jesus who comes in the name of God. Like God in the garden of Eden, he comes to look for those who have hidden themselves from God: "I have come to seek out and to save the lost." Jesus is the one who comes seeking us out, calling our names, knocking on our doors, asking to be let in.

The mission of Jesus is to save. Jesus is the Saviour. But his mission to save is not free from trial. Obedience to that word will take him through trial and temptation to the cross itself. At Easter then we will celebrate the Resurrection, the most important feast in the Christian calendar. Now we begin Lent as a time to ready ourselves for that great feast. We are invited to let God find us where we are. God has the same question to each of us: "Where are you?" During this Lent we can take time to look at where we are in our lives and discover God's presence anew. We are challenged to make time to listen to this word. We are invited to let him get close to who we are and how we are. Yours 'in Christ'
 Fr Greg 2/3/2023

St Joseph's by the sea
2023 Retreats

A CONTEMPLATE JOURNEY—WILLIAMSTOWN 27th March — 2nd April \$750

Oneness of Being. In this reflective, contemplative time, opening to the Spirit of Love, we embrace our oneness with Earth, Stars, Universe—our Cosmic Communication. **Katerie Duke rsj SA**


VISITING THE WELL—WILLIAMSTOWN 17th April — 23rd April \$750

An opportunity to use the scripture of the Woman at the Well as well as our own lived experience. A story of encounter, having our eyes opened, being vulnerable, going deeper, times of dryness, transformation and new life and being asked to proclaim the good news. **Jenny Scally rsj NSW**

St Joseph's by the sea, 16 Esplanade, Williamstown. Phone 9397 5012. email: admin.sjbtsw@sosj.org.au



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Thank you for your continued support. Fr. Greg

