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OFFICE HOURS: 10.00AM - 3.00PM on MONDAY - FRIDAY; CLOSED ON WEDNESDAYS
PARISH TEAM: Fr Leonard Caldera, Fr Chathura Silva, Fr Jessie Banez
Carolyn Gutteridge—**Parish Secretary**
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Second Sunday of Lent - Year B - 25th February 2024

FIRST READING

Genesis 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham,' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.' When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son. The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of your enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 115:10. 15-19. R. 114:9

***(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.***

1. I trusted, even when I said:
'I am sorely afflicted.'
O precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful. (R.)
2. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:
I will call on the Lord's name. (R.)
3. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil
before all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem. (R.)

A VOCATION VIEW

If you need an example of a person responding to a vocational call, look at Abraham – called in old age to leave his country, father a child, and then asked to sacrifice the child. What faith! Vocation is a risky response to a unique call from God.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:31-34

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

***Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!***

GOSPEL

Mark 9:2-10

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.



We are located on the country of the Tyerenotepanner, the Panninher and the Litarimirina people of the Stoney Creek Nation. We acknowledge and pay respect to the Traditional Owners, who have cared for land, sea, waterways and sky, as the ongoing custodians, for thousands of years. We honour Elders, past and present. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

Dear Parish Family

Some thoughts to ponder for this week,

This second Sunday of Lent we are presented with the vision of Christ glorified, given to these Apostles on Mt Tabor, this surely was a very special privilege and it was one they did not forget easily. "We saw His glory," John says in his gospel, written over sixty years later. In his epistles John once again refers to this privilege. Peter, writing from Rome to the churches in Asia Minor about thirty years later, mentions this outstanding experience: as he says, "for we are not following fictitious tales when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we have been eye witnesses of His majesty. For He received from God honour and glory, when from out of that majestic glory a voice came down to him saying: "this is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." And this voice we ourselves heard, borne from heaven when we were with him on the holy mountain." (2 Peter 1:16-18).

It is for a good reason that the Church presents to us the story of the Transfiguration during this season of Lent, this season of self-discipline, where we are invited to go into the secret places of our heart, where we let go and let God take the lead in our life. Christ in his own Transfiguration seems to remind us that sufferings and trials leads us to a glorious and unending future life for us.

In Christ, Fr Leonard Caldera



Palm Sunday Pilgrimage - Sunday 24 March

This year our annual pilgrimage will start from and return to St Finn Barr's Church, Invermay in the afternoon of Sunday 24 March. The walk will follow a 5km track around Invermay and Heritage Forest, returning for Sunday evening mass and a sausage sizzle.

Further details on how to register will be provided over coming weeks.

ECUMENICAL WORLD DAY OF PRAYER— Prayers for Palestine

Friday 1st March, 10am in St Francis' Church, West Tamar Road, Riverside

Morning tea will follow the service in the parish hall. Enquiries: Margaret Cherry 0457575770

Making the most of Lent.....

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE Individual Confessions on Saturdays, Church of the Apostles, 9.30am - 10.30am or Sacred Heart Church, Newstead, 5.15pm-5.45pm.

LENT PROGRAM— A Resurrected Life Lent is a time of prayer, penance, renewal of faith and refocusing on God in our life and you are invited to consider joining a group for prayer, reflection and sharing based on the Sunday Gospels as we journey through Lent to Easter. **Friday 10.30am** - downstairs in the Pastoral Centre

Friday Holy Hour Adoration and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place for one hour every Friday after the 12noon Mass at the Church of the Apostles.

Prayer Partner Initiative A community building initiative based on our spiritual connection to each other through Baptism. Please take a paper cross from the church, write your prayer intention on it, befriend someone in church and ask them to pray for your intention. You may give them a different prayer request each week.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS at 7.00pm in Church of the Apostles on the Fridays of Lent from **Friday 8th March**. . Make this a focus for your Lenten prayer and renewal.

PROJECT COMPASSION is a way to make your Lenten efforts practical in assisting those most in need. Make sure every home has one of the boxes or a set of envelopes.

YOU ARE ASKED TO PRAY

FOR OUR NEWLY BAPTISED especially **Huxley Shakespear Manion** (Rhys and Jordan) who will celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism within our parish this weekend.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK: Sr Mary of the Holy Ghost, Kim Izard, Will Smith, Merril Thompson, Fr Terry Yard, Irene La Palombara, Tina La Palombara, Noelene Bye, Peter Brumby, Rod Badcock, Maria Holton, Teresa McMahon, Louisa Buttazoni, Patsy Heath, Alex Thrower, Marie Cousins, Alida Moolenschot, Archivaldo Pechon, Sharon Manzone, Suzy Fenton, Elizabeth Nettlefold, Shirley Ambrose, Bev Callahan, Helen Wright, Alfred Weeding, Maureen Saunders, Mary Morgan, Mary Carter, Scott Bailey, Ralf Roston, Kristel Latham, Jennifer Dowell, Andrew Campbell, Bill Lewis, Vincent Burke, Eduardo Bilanes, Brian Beardwood, Jane Gillard, Joel Wilkinson, Jesse Moore, Elaine Blake, John Walsh, Clare Maddox, William Siegrist, Anne Harris, Jane Savaro, Amelia Eckert, Allison Thambugala, Ava Woolley, David Lewis, Christian Barrett, Xavier Banks, George Donovan, Max Jamieson, Jan McClean and Peter Marshall..

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: Nancy Whatley, Lalla Smethurst and Helene Kaliszczak who have died recently, Henry Gebka, Patricia Atkinson, Hazel Smith, Max Watkins, Enid Fisher, Guido Grigolato, Darren Sheedy, Nancy Langford, Margherita Malerbi, Linda Midgley, Betty Rusden, Sister Mary Peter of the Trinity OCD, and we remember all victims of the COVID-19 virus.

PARISH ACTIVITIES, INFORMATION AND NEWS

ONE HOUR WITH JESUS *Next Sunday, 3rd March at the Carmelite Monastery.* You are welcome to join the Carmelite nuns in spending some time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament: 2.00pm Office of None (afternoon prayer of the Church); 2.15 - 3.00pm Silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament; 3.00pm Benediction

MORNING AND EVENING MEDITATION will be held in the **Stables, Emmanuel Centre** on **Tuesdays at 10.30am** and **Wednesdays at 5pm.** All are welcome. **Enquires: Tina: 0417305546**

MONDAY NIGHT ROSARY *Every Monday in Church of the Apostles at 7.30pm.* Come along and offer your thanks to "Our Blessed Mother Mary" for the Blessings she bestows on us each day. **All Welcome.**

THE CARMEL SHOP: The Carmel Shop is open between 11am—4pm on Wednesdays.

St Vincent de Paul Leaving Collection at all Masses next weekend.

DINING WITH FRIENDS

An initiative of the St Vincent de Paul Society together with the Launceston Parish.



If you are feeling lonely, would like to make new friends, or would just enjoy a FREE home cooked meal prepared by and shared with people who care, please come along to Dining with Friends.

Next gathering: Tuesday, 5th March

2024 at 6.00pm in the Pastoral Centre. Bookings are essential for catering

Enquiries and RSVP phone 6326 5551

2024 St Patrick's Pilgrimage

Colebrook to Richmond

Join Archbishop Julian Porteous for the 2024 St Patrick's Pilgrimage. Open to all young adults between the ages of 16 and 35, pilgrims will set out from St Patrick's Church, Colebrook on an overnight walk to St John the Evangelist Church, Richmond.

When: Saturday 16 March – Sunday 17 March 2024

Cost: Cost \$55 or Early Bird \$45 (ends Thursday, 29th February 2024)

Register: <https://events.humanitix.com/st-patricks-pilgrimage-2024>

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday	6.00pm Vigil	Sacred Heart, Newstead
Sunday	7.30am	Carmelite Monastery
9.00am	St Finn Barr's	Invermay
9.00am	St Patrick's Chapel	Prospect
10.30am	Apostles	
6.30pm	Apostles	

WEEKDAY MASSES 26th February—2nd March

7.30am Monday to Saturday at Carmelite Monastery

Tuesday:	12noon	Newstead
Wednesday:	5.30pm	Apostles
Thursday:	12noon	Invermay
Friday:	12noon	Apostles
Saturday:	7.30am	Carmel

RECONCILIATION

Saturday:	9.30am -10.30am	Apostles
	5.15pm –5.45pm	Newstead

Project Compassion—Second Sunday of Lent



After the birth of her children, 22-year-old **Ronita** was at risk of having to leave school permanently. But, with the support of Caritas Australia's partners in the Philippines, she resumed her studies and secured a job at a call centre to support her family. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations.**

Please donate to Project Compassion by using the boxes and envelopes available from the church, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.



Mission: Transform Lives - theirs...and yours.

Communities in Africa, Asia, Australia and the Pacific are looking for qualified and experienced Australians from ALL sectors to share their skills with those who have had little opportunity for formal training. You too will learn and grow within a most welcoming community. Experience the joy as you assist to change lives.

Learn more: Join our Mission **Webinar March 5th, 2024, 6:00 - 6:30 pm.** 63 years preparing Australians for enduring global relationships to build sustainable, self-reliant, community development.

Learn Even More: Join our two-week tour to Timor-Leste on 06/05/2024 to see Palms program participants our local partner communities in action together. Contact: 02 9560 5333 palms@palms.org.au

www.palms.org.au

Bank details for direct debit donations to support the financial needs of your Parish:

Account Name: Launceston Catholic Parish

BSB: 067 000; **Account No:** 1031 6153.

Reference: "your surname"

MASS LIVE-STREAMED Each and every Sunday at 9am

On Facebook @catholicparishlaunceston

if you don't have a Facebook account go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/CatholicParishLaunceston/videos/>

Sunday Mass is also televised every Sunday Morning on WIN and WIN HD, 6.00am - 6.30am.



PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. AMEN..

RETREATS 2024

March long weekend (9th - 11th March)

"Pause" a small group, semi-silent retreat for women in the middle years who seek a time of prayer, guidance and stillness amidst the natural transitions of life to discover the emerging call of transformation and flourishing that God is inviting you to. This will be held at Clayfield Homestead, Bishopsbourne. Cost is \$425 including accommodation, meals, prayer resources and spiritual direction.

Bookings: belindachapman.sd@gmail.com
0418141171

May 24th - 26th

Not perfect, but whole - Spirituality of Imperfection silent retreat. Maureen and Belinda welcome bookings for this retreat at the Emmanuel Centre. Cost \$350 including accommodation, meals, prayer resources and spiritual direction.

Bookings: Maureen 0400038095
Email: belindachapman.sd@gmail.com

Saturday 7th September - Save the date.

This will be another Reflection Day at the Emmanuel Centre (10am - 3pm). Details will follow.

GOSPELS FOR THE COMING WEEK:

Monday 26th:	Luke 6:36-38
Tuesday 27th:	Matthew 23:1-12
Wednesday 28th:	Matthew 20:17-28
Thursday 29th:	Luke 16:19-31
Friday 1st	Matthew 21:33-43,45-46
Saturday 2nd	Luke 15:1-3,11-32

NEXT SUNDAYS READINGS:

Third Sunday of Lent

Exodus 20:1-17
Psalms 18:8-11
1 Corinthians 1:22-25
John 2:13-25



Ponder and pray the living Word of God

LIFE TO THE FULL CONFERENCE '24

Featuring the Sister of Life from New York City

For high school students in Grade 7-12

26th-28th April 2024, Camp Clayton, Turners Beach

*Cost: \$230 includes food and accommodation
(siblings discount available)*

Further details: youth@aohtas.org.au or call 0448330238



God wants us to listen to Jesus.
What are some things that Jesus tells us?



Moses

Draw a line from each of the following statements to either Moses or Elijah.

God's law was revealed to him

He challenged King Ahab for worshipping a false god

A great prophet mentioned in the first book of Kings

He rescued God's people from Egypt

Elisha became his successor

He became the leader of the Israelites



Elijah