



Gospel Jn 2:13-25

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.

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

The Ten Commandments are badly named. Rather, they are the Ten Responses which should characterise a liberated people, freed from slavery by 'the Lord, your God'.

By the time Jesus came on the scene, the Temple in Jerusalem was no longer a fit dwelling place for a God who desires to free people from oppression and exploitation. To the contrary, Jesus saw the Temple ideology as placing undue burdens and shackles on people.

His anger at this erupted in dramatic street theatre. His overturning of the tables of the money-changers signalled the overturning of the Temple system.

What Our Lord revealed to uncomprehending authorities was that His body was the true sanctuary. The body of Jesus of Nazareth is the dwelling place of God, the habitation of the Lord God who liberates people. In short, God's sanctuary is not a place, but a person.

We could take a moment to pray, using the Ten Responses to review and guide our reflection and practice as we move towards Easter. This will help us to celebrate the enigmatic saying: 'Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it again.'

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The Living Word

Third Sunday of Lent, Year B

3 March 2024

First Reading Ex 20:1-17

(or shorter form Ex 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17)

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 have no gods except me.

'You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or on earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God and I punish the father's fault in the sons, the grandsons, and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

'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. For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath for the Lord your God. You shall do no work on that day, neither you nor your son nor your daughter nor your servants, men or women, not your animals nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the sabbath day and made it sacred.

'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.'

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 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

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.

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!



Catholic Parish of St Mary Queen of Heaven Georges Hall

Parish Priest: Rev. Peter Krigovsky
Secretary: Mrs. Zenna Azar (Tues 9.30am—5.30pm)
Address: 15 Georges Cres, Georges Hall NSW 2198
Telephone: 9727 3759
Website: <http://www.smgh.org.au>
Email: parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com
Facebook: fb.me/smgh2
Streaming: <https://cutt.ly/StMarys>

St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Georges Hall
God and Us Together

Principal: Mrs Monica Palmer
School Tel: 02 9727 0000
Website: www.stmgeorghall.syd.catholic.edu.au
School email: info@stmgeorghall.catholic.edu.au

MASS TIMES (English):
 Vigil Mass 5:00pm (Saturday)
 Sunday 8:00am & 10:00am
 Weekdays:
 Mon. Tue. Thu. Fri. Sat. 9:00am
 Wednesday 6:00pm

VIETNAMESE MASS
 Vigil Mass 6.30 pm (Saturday)
 Sunday 5.30pm

RECONCILIATION
 Saturday 4.30pm-4.55pm
 or anytime on request

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
 Wednesday 5.00pm—6.00pm
 Friday after Mass 9am-10.30am

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK
 Offered to those in need on
 1st Tuesday at 9.00am Mass

Baptisms: Sunday 11.00am
 Bookings are necessary

Parish Pastoral Council:
 Michael Anderson, Veronica Denning, Elaine Nehme, Zenna Azar, Paul Abdul Ahad, Natalie Goetz, Monica Palmer, Linh Bui, Jannette Samawi, Grace Mokdassi

Finance Committee:
 Michael Anderson, Ted Goetz, Veronica Denning, Eileen Stevenson

Children first Sacraments:
 Please contact Elaine Nehme:
nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au

Golden Oldies: Lorraine Impala

St Vincent de Paul: Mary Scott

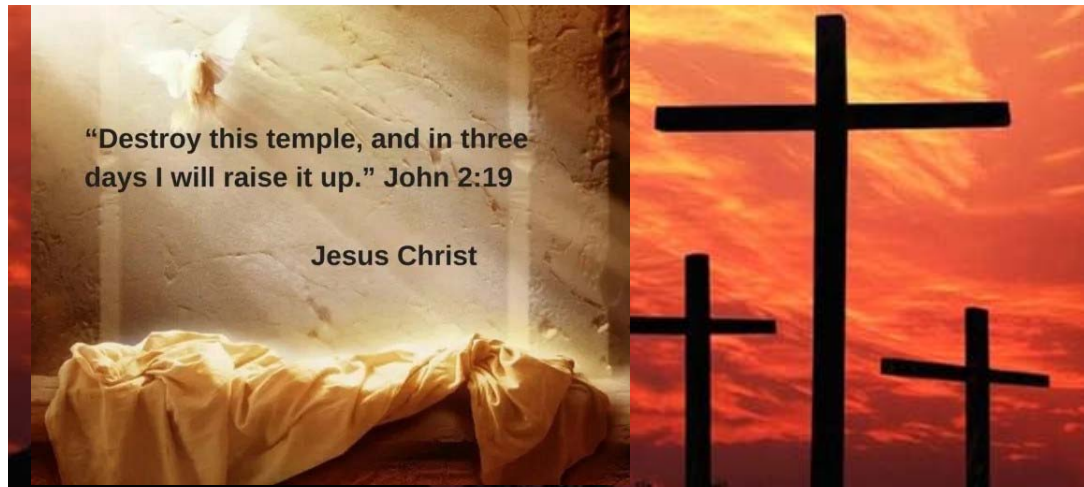
Special Religious Education (SRE) Catechist Coordinator:
 Zenna Azar

Music Ministry: Vivienne Mosely

Youth Ministry: Grace Mokdassi

Childrens Liturgy: Nancy Khalil

Childrens' Choir:
 Natalie Showah, Jicy Kasparian



COVID-19 is still around, please use sanitiser when you enter the church.

ADDITIONAL NOTICES If you are interested in any diocesan events, please collect a copy of the additional bulletin at the back of the church.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Each Friday during Lent at 7.30pm

LENTEN COMPANION 2024 as the beautiful Season of Lent approaches, let us make the most of this precious time to gather in our parishes and communities to reflect on the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus, using the Lenten companion **Repent and Believe**. This free booklet contains Gospel readings for the Sundays of Lent until Easter Sunday, and spiritual reflections on the Gospels. Designed for individual or group prayer, either in-person or online. Please collect your copy from the back of the church or download electronic copy from www.gomakedisciples.org.au.

LENTEN PRAYER GROUP Pauline Tonkli has graciously offered to host a prayer group during the season of Lent. Available times are: Tues 1:30-2:30pm, Wed mornings (TBC) and Sat mornings (TBC). If you would like to join, please contact Pauline on 0406 085 050.

PROJECT COMPASSION Please take home a Project Compassion box or

set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and for all future generations. With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction. Project Compassion 2024 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. 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.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY 3 MARCH
 Children's Liturgy is back for 2024! The next Children's Liturgy will be held this Sunday during the 10am Mass. We encourage all primary school-aged children to attend. Pre-school children who attend must be accompanied by a parent. For more information, please contact Nancy Khalil nancy.gnk@protonmail.com.

HOSPITALITY SUNDAY Hospitality Sunday returns on the first Sunday of every month. Parishioners are invited to

bring a plate to share and remain after 8am and 10am mass to mingle with each other and get to know our fellow parishioners. Hospitality begins this weekend.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CLOTHING BIN The bin has been removed from the grounds due to the dumping of rubbish and other goods. It became too cumbersome for the driver to clean up the area. Please do not leave bags of clothing or other goods where the bin was situated. This is now a parking space. For clothing donations, the nearest Vinnies is located at 114 Waldron Road, Chester Hill.

ST MARY QUEEN OF HEAVEN'S ANNIVERSARIES

Did you know that In November 1973 Cardinal Freeman appointed Father John O'Keefe as the first resident Parish Priest. Did you know that the present church was blessed and opened by Archbishop Clancy on 27 May 1984. We are so blessed to be a part of this beautiful community and it is fitting that we celebrate these milestones. We are planning to celebrate both anniversaries together on Sunday 16 June 2024. Parishioners are invited to share their memories – if you have a captivating memory or photograph please write about the memory and forward it and/or photos to parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com We are also looking for a small group of parishioners to coordinate the celebration. If you can offer your time and energy to this project, please speak to Father Peter or email parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com

ALTAR SERVER ROSTER The new altar servers will begin serving at Weekend Mass from Saturday, 9th March 2024. The new roster will be shared with all parents via email.

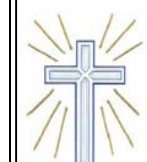
BIBLE STUDY The next session will be Wednesday 6

Date/Mass	Greeters	Commentator	Proclaimers	Extraordinary Ministers	Acolytes	Altar Servers	Altar Servers
March 2/3 - 3rd Sunday in Lent, Year B							
5.00 pm Sat	Lorraine Impala	Elaine Nehme	Tony Re	Barbara Kains Zenna Azar	Laurie Simpson	Gabriel Azar	Anthony Torbay
8.00 am Sun		Goetz Family	Jenny Freeburn	Veronica Denning Karen Worley	Mike Anderson	Lucas Ross Harry Ross	Nicholas Coorey Gabriel Serratore
10.00 am Sun		Cramp Family	Alex Driessen	Maurice Gili Gill Cramp		James Ghanem	William Amicucci
March 9/10 - 4th Sunday in Lent, Year B							
5.00 pm Sat	Chris Lockart	Pauline Tonkli	Mary Gibbons	Annette Simpson Pauline Tonkli	Laurie Simpson	Gabriel Azar Charlie Delfino	Anthony Torbay Zoe Azar
8.00 am Sun		Jenny Freeburn	Danuta Maka	Getz Family Jenny Freeburn	Bernie Freeburn	Nicholas Coorey Gabriel Serratore	Daniela Lukunic Elizabeth Tobaji
10.00 am Sun		Alex Driessen	Cramp Family	Alex Driessen Maurice Gili	Andrew Driessen	James Ghanem Isabella Maamari	William Amicucci Marcus Kasparian



Please Remember In Your Prayers Our Sick

Judith Van Baardwyk, Cornelius Van Baardwyk, Diane Small, Jayden Turk, Joseph Akkary, Paul Tonkli, Daniel Clarke, Warren Clarke, Azelia Donati, Eileen Ellery, Paul Evans, Kerry Gibbons, Christine Hughes, Sue James, Daniel Matesic, Phillip Nehme, Robert Sanders, John Smallwood, Tony Strambio



Let us Pray For All Those Who Have Died

Lise Goetz, Max Graham, Hillary + Rita + their sons, Nabill + Bahia + Elias + Eilie Maroun, Norma Younane, Raemanos + Wadia Nehme, Youssef + Martha + Chalitta + Issetteye Tannous, Marina Safer, Halina Donarska, Ennio Fattore, Elizabeth Gieseman, Ryan Lynch, The Pientka fml., Kathleen Gibson, Claudia & Nora Tabares, Giuseppina, Bombara, Bernard & Ivy Hurworth, Jennifer Falvy, David Anthony Sanders, Attilio Colussi

Rest In Peace

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.
 May they rest in peace. Amen.*

March 2024. If you have any questions or for more information, please contact Grace on 0450 757 377.

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL PLAYGROUP

Thursday mornings during the school term, from 8:45am-10:15am, in the School Hall. Meet at 8.45am at the front of the church near Our Lady's statue. Enquiries: Natalie Goetz natalie.goetz@syd.catholic.edu.au or the school office.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2024 KEY DATES

RECONCILIATION: (for children in Year 3 & above)

Wednesday, 3rd April 2024

Thursday, 4th April 2024

Friday, 5th April 2024

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: (for children Year 3 & up)

Saturday, 14th September 2024 (3 Blue & surrounding)

Saturday, 21st September 2024 (3 White & surrounding)

CONFIRMATION: (for children in Year 6 & above)

Saturday, 1st June 2024

SAFEGUARDING OUR PARISH - Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding Office at 02 9390 5810 or Email: safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

Our parish has a folder with Safeguarding information in the church for parishioners to view. Check out the latest safeguarding newsletter. A link to the Archdiocese's Child Safeguarding Policy is available from the homepage of our parish website and on display in the folder. Enquiries: Veronica via email: parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com
Check out the latest Safeguarding newsletter-in the folder