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Office hours: 9am-4pm Mon-Thu 9am-3pm on Friday



Third Sunday in Lent 3 March 2024

First reading: Exodus 20:1-17 The Law was given through Moses. Responsorial Psalm: Lord, you have the words of everlasting life. Second Reading: 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. Gospel Acclamation: 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 believed in him might have eternal life. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel: John 2:13-25 Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.

How many hosts do we need for the mass?

When we get ready for the mass, we ask this question to make sure there's enough bread for everyone to eat as part of the religious ceremony.

Today, on the Third Sunday of Lent, let's think about what Pope Francis intention for the month of March. His focus, on the modern day martyrs strikes a chord with the struggles faced by Christians who steadfastly maintain their faith amidst challenges and hardships. He's talking about people who are like heroes because they keep believing in Jesus even when it's hard.

Pope Francis wants us to pray for these heroes. He wants us to stand together with them. He tells stories about people who have stayed strong in their faith, even when they were in danger.

Today's reading from John 2:13-25 tells us about Jesus being upset and cleaning up a temple. It's like how these heroes stand up against bad things with their strong faith. Their bravery gives us hope.

We also have heroes among us, like Gabrielle Saide. She helps prepare for our church services as a sacristan. She makes sure we have enough bread and wine for communion. She takes care of many details in the sacristy making sure our worshipper receives communion.

Gabrielle's duties as the caretaker go beyond getting things ready for Mass. She is responsible for figuring out how many communion hosts and cups are needed for each service making sure everything is set for the Eucharist celebration. Her commitment to doing things and her strong dedication to her responsibilities enhance our worship services allowing our community to connect with God in a meaningful way.

Gabrielle's dedication shows us how to love and help others, just like Jesus did. When we appreciate people like Gabrielle, we're not just thanking them. We're also following their example of love and kindness.

As we continue through Lent, let's remember to pray for those who are brave in their faith and support those who face difficulties because of what they believe. May their courage inspire us to live with faith, kindness, and caring.

We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently: Norbert Gruelich, Hazel Padget, Anthony El Shaeba.

We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Patricia Shine, Daniel Gainey, Sylvia Pedersen, Catherine Rogers, Peter Saide, Fr Dominic Burke [1947], Fr Hector Thomas Sheeran [2017].

✤ For all those who are ill in our community, especially: Rita Irwin, Alyshia Morris, William Garrahy, Gabrielle Saide, Bev Smith, Louise O'Connor, Sheryl Grunke, Noel Roshan Francis, Kate Gibbs, Therese Odri, Kath Smith, Freddy Nield, Ray Frelek, Bob O'Sullivan, Blake Cusato, Greg Coddington, Stanley Poon, Jamal Abraham, Judy Moloney, Perlita Torrecampo, Teresita Pamulaklakin, Madeline Gray, Braxton Rayner.

Please find the Complete Easter Service Times on the GOLD sheets on the tables.

Faith Foundations: Throughout Lent, there is an opportunity to export foundations of faith in an informal study group after the 9am Sunday Mass at St Pat's. Tea and coffee available. Resource book *At Home With God's People* available for purchase or for loan during the sessions. A great opportunity to set aside a moment during Lent to deepen and broaden aspects of faith from prayer through scripture and the sacraments. (Contact <u>life@stpats.org.au</u> for details.)

The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver invite you to celebrate the 65th Anniversary of Religious Consecration of Sr Miriam Lorenz S.S.P.C. A Jubilee Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Ken Howell and Fr Michael O'Brien at 11.30am Saturday March 16 2024, at St Patrick's Cathedral. Please join us afterwards at our convent: 71 Margaret Street, for light refreshments and also to meet Mother Selin, our Mother General. For catering purposes, please RSVP by Friday March 8. Telephone 4632 1818.

Parish Council membership. Thank you to all those who showed an interest in being part of the St Patrick's Parish Council. With our Parish Stragetic Plan and Vision in place we hope to move forward with many initiatives driven by our desire to BELIEVE, BELONG AND BECOME into the future. We welcome our Parish Council members – Rex Miguel, Angela Travers, Anna Rees, Clinton Shearer, Hughie Boyce, Mark Betts, Pamela Hanrick, Sandra O'Kelly, Patrick Eldridge and Frs Nathan, Brian and myself. We look forward to listening and responding to the needs of the parish community. Should you have anything to talk about, please approach one of the councilors or the priests. God's blessings, Fr. Michael.

EASTER ROSTERS – If you are available for any ministry over Easter, please fill in the details required on the sheet located on the Neil St Entrance table. Thank you. As you would be aware we need extra helpers for the multitude of services over Easter. Please consider volunteering!



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