



The Voice

25 February 2018

Second Sunday of Lent, Year B

Psalter Week 2

LENT

OF YOUR CHARITY PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF

- **Recently deceased:**
Mrs. Doherty, Margaret Droulers, Gerald Edwards, Brian George.
- **Anniversaries:**
Fr. Lawrence (Vince) Pedemont, Fr. Donald (Don) Leivesley, Mark Reginald Church, Mary Meyer, Sr. Theresa Mary, O.C.D.
- **Remembrances:**
Mary and George Hilliard, Hilliard Brothers, Kevin Mills, Mills Family, Bernie Hanna, Leslie Denning, Valerie Price, Sara Selim, Joan Fitzgerald.
- **And the sick:**
Val Simpson, Janet Dean, Helen Tilkins, Laura Krauss, Patricia Dwyer, Nellie Brown, Donna Vella, Oscar James Morreti, Donna Briemer, Joy Ball, Betty Fraser, Luis Emilio Garrido, Audrey Kirkman, Malin Tugaga, Beryl Reynolds, Rene Glaze, Pamela Power, Mary Scarf, Teresita and Jorge Villansati, Louis Aloisio, Olive Brittliff, Kevin Houghton, Fr Jack Robson, Darcy Green, Frank McLenaghan, Leon de Pradines, Margaret Davin, Helen Taylor.

At the end of *The Laws of Our Fathers*, Scott Turow has one of his characters, Seth Weissman, preach at a memorial service. The text for that service is today's first reading and his words capture the challenge before us.

'I always return to the story of Abraham and Isaac ...the founder of the Western faiths ...He was a visionary, a prophet ...But despite this, Abraham's God decided to test him. He asked Abraham to make a sacrifice of his and Sarah's only child, Isaac, their miracle, who was born to them when Sarah was ninety years old and Abraham was one hundred. And ...Abraham complied.' 'He did not ask what was wrong with a God who would demand such a thing, or question whether He was worth worshipping. He did not, so far as the Bible tells us, even beg for Isaac's life, as he had done for the people of Sodom. Abraham simply walked his child up Mount Moriah. I imagine he even made the boy carry the wood for the fire ...' ' ...I have regarded for some years now the story of Abraham and Isaac a strange story, a grim tale of how a father would sacrifice his son to his own faith ...What kind of a starting point is this for ...all the Western faiths? ... Why do we re-tell this story? Is it to remind us that every parent since has been better?'

' ...One of the thousand morals of the story of Abraham and Isaac is that ...it is also a tale of survival and of mercy. In the end Abraham heard his God instruct him not to set his hand against his son ...Isaac survived ...He became a parent, blind to Jacob's defects, but one who, pointedly, attempted no sacri-

fices of his own ...' 'So let us think of Isaac ...the first son of the Western faiths - and think about the story that is told again and again. We hear it first as children, and repeat it throughout our lives. We tell it by way of apology. And warning. We tell it with some measure of hope. We tell it because we have all been the child, we have all been Isaac, and we know the part of the story that is never mentioned. For the Bible does not record Isaac's responses. We do not know if he, like Jesus, asked, "Father, why have you forsaken me?" We do not know if he begged the way most of us would, for his life. We know only this: that he obeyed ...That because he knew nothing else, he did as his father required. We know he allowed himself to be bound in rope. We know that he let his father lay him on the altar of pyramided firewood which together they had raised to God. We know he watched his father on the mountaintop raise the gleaming knife above his breastbone. We know ...he was a child, the son of a man with a Big Idea, who in his longing and confusion, even in his final instant, could only look to his father with that eternal if foundering hope for love.'

May this story and our Eucharist give us hope that no matter what altar of sacrifice we feel sometimes laid upon, God does not abandon us in our need, and never wants us to sacrifice ourselves, or anyone else. Lent is about mercy and survival because true obedience to God, even in its demands for a hard love, ALWAYS leads to life.

Richard Leonard SJ

Psalm Response

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I will | walk in the pre - sence of the | Lord; in the | land of the | li - ving.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Around the Parish

The Light is On for you:

All churches in the Diocese will be open during Lent for quiet time and prayer with the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Friday evenings, 7pm-8pm. March 2, 9, 16, 23. There will also be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in our church on these nights.

Stations of the Cross will be followed every Friday 6.15pm before "The Light Is On for You" and every Wednesday 4pm.

Stational Masses: Most Rev Peter A Comensoli is calling for the people of Broken Bay to join him in making the pilgrimage of Lenten Stational Masses in Broken Bay. Locations & dates for Masses in the Diocese are listed on the next page of this newsletter or on flyers in the gathering area.

Baptisms: We welcome into our Faith community and pray for Lucas Blyth and Hendrix Monsalve who were baptised last Sunday.

First Communion 2018:

Presentation of Candidates preparing for Holy Communion at all Masses this weekend. Please keep them in your prayers.

Live, Pray, Love Project:

"Healing in the Family" by Sr Margaret Scully RSC. Leo Mahon Room, Sunday 18th March 10.30 - 12:30pm.

Bus Trip: Lower Hunter Valley Wed. 28th February, leaving 8.45am. Cost \$20. Call Susie 0403 417 639

World Day of Prayer. This years service will be held at St. David's Presbyterian Church, 118 Blackwall Rd, Woy Woy. To be held on Friday 2nd March, 10 am. Refreshments will be served afterwards. The Service has been written by the women of Suriname, a small country in the North of South America. Everyone is welcome.

Volunteer Church Cleaning

Roster 2/3/18: Mabel Torres, Mary McCumstie, Linda Potes-tas, Warren Sparrow.

Lectio Divina & Bible Study

Group: Monday 26 February, 2.30pm-4pm, Leo Mahon Room.

Project Compassion: Your donation to Project Compassion gives expression to the Gospel imperative to pursue justice and help those vulnerable to extreme poverty and injustice. Project Compassion envelopes available in the gathering area.

Anointing of the Sick will be administered during the 4pm Mass on Friday 2nd March.

Coles Sports for Schools: please support our school by collecting vouchers and placing them in the box provided in the gathering area.

St Joseph's Spirituality Centre & Museum visit: St Agatha's Parish at Pennant Hills invites our parishioners to join them on 8 March. Cost \$45 for morning tea, lunch, museum entry & bus. Leaving from our church at 9.30am. Flyer on the noticeboard. Contact Anne Bailey 9484 1427.

The Just Word

20 February:

World Day of Social Justice:

In 2007 the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 20 February as World Day of Social Justice, inviting Member of States to devote the day to promote national activities in accordance with the objectives and goals of social development. Observance of World Day of Social Justice should support efforts of the international in poverty eradication, the promotion of full employment and decent work, gender equity and access to social well-being and justice for all.

More information:

<http://www.un.org/en/events/socialjusticeday>

From 'Ten Steps to Developing a Sustainable, Inclusive Economy'. Become informed about 'Economic Exclusion'

Since 1992, overall national wealth increased by 40 per cent...Australians now have the world's second-highest average net wealth per person. The problem for those who believe in a just society is that the benefits of more recent growth have been spread so unevenly. The top 20 percent of households

received far greater increases in income than the poorest 20 per cent.

Social Justice 2017-2018, pp.4-5

Jesus calls us to build a just society. This includes working together to eradicate poverty and ensure all benefit from a society's common wealth. Get the facts about economic exclusion. While many live in a comparative comfort, three million Australians (including over 730,000 children) live in poverty.

From the Diocese and beyond

World Youth Day 2018 on

Palm Sunday! Every year since 1983, the Pope has called local bishops to gather with their own young people on Palm Sunday to Celebrate World Youth Day and 2018 is no exception. Bishop Peter invites the young and wise of the Diocese to join him to celebrate World Youth Day 2018 at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, 23 Yardley Ave, Waitara, 6pm Mass on Sunday 25 March. Young people are encouraged to join us for some

food and fun from 4:30pm.

RSVP: youth@dbb.org.au

Enrolments now open at St.

Edward's College for Year 7. 2019: As in previous years, the College will be holding an Open Day on Saturday, 10th March, to allow families to experience the College.

St. Joseph's East Gosford Class

of 1978: The St. Joseph's Class of 1978 are having their 40th reunion on 13th October 2018. Further information can be found

on a Face Book Page "St. Joseph's Class of 1978 Reunion" or email Katie Nebauer (nee Hall) at Kathie@bkreveg.com.au for more information.

Chanel College 60th Anniversary

Reunion for students of the Marist Fathers era (1958-1970). For details send your email address to chanel.geelong@gmail.com or your postal details to P.O. Box 3069, Geelong West. 3218.



“Healing in the Family” by Sister Margaret Scully RSC

The Live Pray Love project ministry extends a warm invitation to you and invites you to come along and hear a talk by Sr Margaret Scully on “Healing in the Family”.

*“When a person seeks healing because of a particular need - be it physical, spiritual, mental or emotional - one tends to focus on **that** particular need. Healing, however, has to do with the **whole person**, not just one area. To be cured of something does not mean one is healed. The question is, “What is the **root cause** of the problem?” And with help, learn how to deal with it, not only for the ‘now’, but also for the ‘future’. Because Jesus **is the Healer**, he is the one who sets us free”*

Sr Margaret Scully.

Venue: Leo Mahon Room, inside the church

Date: Sunday 18 March 2018

Time: 10.30 – 12:30pm

10.30am -11.30am What do I understand “*Healing*” “*Inner Healing*” to mean?.....What within me, within my life, needs to be **healed**?

(short 15 min break – tea/coffee provided)

11.45am – 12.30pm “*Ancestral Healing*” or “*The Healing of the Family Tree*”.....What does this mean for me in the ‘now’?

General Prayer for Healing

Please contact Gladys Leger 0421 312 362 if you have any questions

One of the beautiful faith traditions is the **Stational Mass** – a special opportunity that offers a way to greater prayer with the universal Church during particular seasons throughout the year.

All parishioners are invited to gather and pray as one body on this graced journey to Easter. Please join us at one or all of the following Masses celebrated at 7.30pm by Bishop Peter:

27 February	Mary Immaculate Church, Manly
6 March	St Agatha’s Church, Pennant Hills
13 March	Our Lady of the Rosary Church, The Entrance
22 March	St Philip Neri Church, Northbridge

Walk the Lenten Journey on your Mobile Phone!

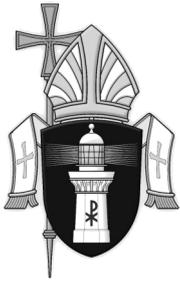
The Xt3 Lent Calendar App 2018 is available for download on Apple and Android devices (search for Xt3 Lent) and can be viewed from the website:

www.xt3.com/lent

The Lent calendar will run from Ash Wednesday to Divine Mercy Sunday. Each day will unlock a new video, meditation or podcast, to help you prayerfully journey through Lent. The theme for the Xt3 Lent Calendar 2018 is

“Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.”

Catholic Parish of Woy Woy Peninsula



Woy Woy, Woy Woy South, Umina, Umina Beach, Ettalong, Ettalong Beach, Koolewong, Blackwall, Booker Bay, St Hubert's Island, Empire Bay, Horsfield Bay, Pearl Beach, Patonga, Woy Woy Bay, Daley's Point, Phegan's Bay and Wondabyne.

St John the Baptist Church,

Cnr Blackwall and Victoria Roads, Woy Woy

Parish Office Ethel Cox Parish Centre
P.O. Box 264 100 Blackwall Road.
54 Victoria Road
WOYWOY N.S.W. 2256

Phone: (02) 4341 1073
Fax: (02) 4341 0214
Email: parish@woywoycatholic.org.au
Website: www.woywoycatholic.org.au
Out of hours **medical emergency**
0438 631 327.

"He must increase, I must decrease"

Administrator: Fr. Timothy Raj. M.S.F.S.

Assistant Priest: Fr. Philip Thottam. M.S.F.S.

Office Staff: Helen Cameron, Raelene Spithill.

Office Hours:

9.30 a.m.—4.00 p.m., Monday to Friday

Deadline for The Voice:

Midday Wednesday.

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Vigil Saturday 5pm; Sunday 7.30am, 9.15am, 6pm.

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday-Friday 7.45am (Monday & Tuesday with Lauds);

Saturday and Public Holidays 9am; First Friday 4pm (with Anointing of the Sick).

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Friday after morning Mass; First Friday 3.30pm; Saturday 11.30am & 4.30pm; Sunday 7.00am.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

1st & 3rd Sundays, 11am; (5th Sunday during 9.15am Mass by arrangement only). Godparents are examples of faith to the child. They must be confirmed and practising Catholics, at least sixteen years old. If there is at least one godparent, a non-Catholic may act as a Christian witness. Parents and godparents must attend a pre-baptismal instruction, held on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 9.30am.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every Saturday after 9am Mass until 10am; every Monday until 9am (Public Holidays 10.15am). Every Thursday 7.30pm-8.30pm for the needs of the Parish.

MINISTRY OF INTERCESSION . Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Every Thursday night, 7.30pm-8.30 pm.

PARISH CHOIR - Practice Wednesday nights in the church, 7pm. Enquiries: 4341 3367.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL,

21a Dulkara Rd South Woy Woy 2256. p 024341 0884 www.sjbwoywoy.org.au

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST YOUTH GROUP Held once a fortnight during school terms for high school students (Years 7-12), in the Leo Mahon Room. . For more information, contact Matthew French on 0411 792 587.

CATECHISTS conduct special religious education classes at the four Primary State Schools in our Parish. Experience isn't necessary—but Volunteers are always needed—to teach and help. Details: Susie 0411 566 622 without any obligation.

CATHOLIC CARE Counselling and Family Relationships 4356 2600.

MARY MAC'S PLACE Volunteers provide nutritious, freshly cooked meals and information and referrals to appropriate community services. Open Monday to Friday, 11am-1pm, at the Ethel Cox Parish Centre. For more information, please contact Christine on 4341 0584.

ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY on the Peninsula assist and give a hand up to people in need. We have two Conferences with volunteers sharing the visiting or office work. We always welcome new Volunteers to our Conference. Please ring Peter 0425 358 376 or Joan 0422 272 339.

CASH HOUSIE every Saturday night at Peninsula Community Centre,

Cnr Ocean Beach Rd & McMasters Rd, Woy Woy.

Games start at 7.30pm and finish 10.20pm, cash prizes.

Ticket sales from 6pm. Proceeds benefit Parish. Enquiries Rob: 0427 990 818.

Diocesan Pastoral Care Course

Volunteer Catholic Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion visit hospitals throughout the Diocese of Broken Bay providing comfort and care to Catholic patients. **NSW Health** requires that 40 hours of training is completed to perform this important role. The *Diocesan Pastoral Care Course* is open to those who already volunteer in a hospital context, or in local health and aged care facilities, and also to those who might be deciding if they are suited to this ministry.

Please note that this course is a requirement for Public hospitals.

This **FREE** course, created particularly for a Catholic pastoral community and endorsed by the Civil Chaplaincies Advisory Committee NSW, will provide you with the minimum training required by NSW Health.

The course will be offered on the five consecutive Wednesdays in March 7, 14, 21, 28 and April 4, between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm. It will be held at St. John the Baptist Church, Woy Woy (54 Victoria Road, Woy Woy).

Morning tea and lunch will be provided.

Please speak to your Parish Priest for more information about the course and how to apply, or contact Peter Brown, Coordinator Hospital Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care, CatholicCare Diocese of Broken Bay on 0418 616 602.