



Holy Spirit Catholic Parish

93 Burdekin Ave, Amaroo ACT and 220 Victoria St, Hall ACT
Supporting and supported by Holy Spirit, Good Shepherd,
Mother Teresa Primary Schools and St John Paul II College

25-26 February 2023

1st Sunday of Lent | Year A



Holy Spirit Amaroo

Monday

No Mass
Office closed

Tuesday

9:15am Mass

Wednesday

9:15am Mass
6:00pm Holy Hour

Thursday

9:15am Mass

Friday

7:00am Mass
11:15pm Stations of the Cross
12:00pm Mass
6:00pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday

10:00am Reconciliation
5:00pm Mass

Sunday

8:00am Mass
9:30am Mass
5:00pm Mass

A Single Act of Goodness

(Matthew 4: 1 - 11)

Israel wandered for decades in the desert, not yet having learned how to be a faithful, holy people. They demanded that God "turn stones into bread," or at least to send bread from heaven and water from a rock. Israel demanded continual signs of God's intervention and interest. They even worshipped the golden calf, hoping that it would safeguard them better than Moses and his God.

When Jesus enters the desert, he faces the same Exodus temptations. But where Israel falters, Jesus remains steadfast. What does this single victory over the devil mean, against the sad tribulation of centuries of failure on the part of the rest of us? What can Jesus' victory mean, when I fall to the lure of sin again and again?

The example of Jesus' faithfulness may keep the saints on course during great trials; but a common sinner like me can keep an eye of Jesus' example while still fainting under the spell of self-interest. The real power of Jesus' victory over temptation is that it destroyed the necessary relationship between sin and death. I may fall to sin along the way, but the ultimate victory belongs to God.

Pray

Jesus, as the forty days of Lent continue, we are reminded of the power of evil in our lives. May we have the insight to uncover and renounce any temptation that we face. Amen.

Ponder

Tackle your demons! Address the "golden calf" in your life by resisting its false exercise of power over you. Don't let the false gods make decisions for you, and bend you to its counterfeit purposes! Follow the real leader, Jesus! What strengthens me in moments of temptation?

Kids' Corner

Do you know anyone who gets a little grumpy when they fast or give up something for Lent? It's not easy to give up lollies or snacks or TV. Jesus knows how it feels to go without. He gave up eating and drinking for forty whole days. Then the devil tempted him to make stones turn into bread. Jesus was probably hungry and tired, but he didn't fall for the trick. Jesus wanted to feel everything we feel, even temptation. He showed us that we should never listen to the devil. Jesus said, "Get away, Satan!" Whenever you are tempted, pray to Jesus for help.

Jesus, help me serve God alone. Amen.

- www.gpbs.com.au



St Francis Xavier Hall

Sunday Mass

8:30am
2nd and 4th Sunday of
each month

This Weekend's Readings: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7, Romans 5:12-19, Matthew 4:1-11

Upcoming Events

- * **Wednesdays 6:00pm —Holy Hour and Reconciliation** in the church. Please note there will not be Holy Hour on Wednesday 22 February due to Ash Wednesday Mass. Reconciliation will be available from 6:00pm.
- * **Fridays during lent—11:15am and 6:00pm—Stations of the Cross**
- * **Tuesday 28 February 10:15am—Lenten Reflection Group**
All are welcome to attend this year's Lenten reflection group led by Fr Troy. Please contact theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au if you will be attending so that we can prepare resources.



Prayer

Merciful God,
you call me to follow in
the footsteps of Jesus.
Keep my heart open
to you so that I may be
closer to you.
May I recognize you
in my neighbours
and all I meet and
help me to be your
hands and feet
in the world.
Amen.

From Ashes to Hope
evangelisationbrisbane.org.au

Please keep the following individuals in prayer.....



For those who are sick

Jim Banks
Diego Castaneda
Dorrell Hogan
Rhonda Lipton
Grant
Alan Demascus
Kathy Morris
Juana Iris Gvevara
Sandra Cortez
Priscila Adriano
Elisabeth Faith O'Connell
Caitlin Wigglesworth
Ghlyianne Chelmiah
Kwang Hui Lim
Richard Smart
Owen Sagrado

Recently Deceased

Iven Faes
Hansel Banzon

Anniversaries

Fr Edward Harte OAM
Greg Smith
Silvio Rossi

We include those who are members of our Parish or relatives. Please email contact the parish office or click here to request prayers.



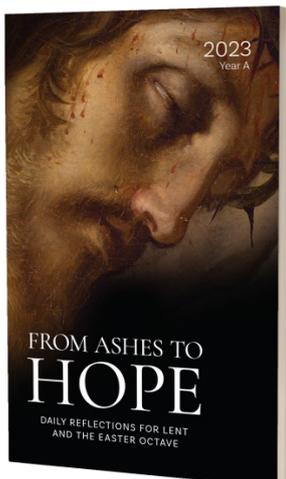
Youth Group for Term 1:

- ◆ 5 March (Youth Mass at 9:30am)
- ◆ 19 March
- ◆ 2 April



Come along to the parish centre on Sundays from 6:00pm—7:30pm. Gold coin donation for snacks. Any questions - email me—Matt or Frances at: youth@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Lenten Reflection Book—On sale now in our Piety stall \$8 per copy!



- Daily reflections for Lent, Holy Week and to the Second Sunday of Easter
- For each day there is a double page spread with: the date; a Scripture verse; a short reflection; and a short prayer

From Ashes to Hope will nourish and nurture prayer each day during Lent and into the first week of Easter. The daily reflections will invite the reader to contemplate a verse from the Scripture reading of the day. This reflection will be followed by a quote from Pope Francis and a simple prayer.

The daily reflections will only require a few minutes for a person to read, reflect and pray. This Lenten practice will lead the reader into a deeper reflection on their daily life. As they 'look to Jesus' – in their families, workplaces and the community – they will walk as 'missionary disciples' on the path to Easter, and beyond.

WEEKLY REFLECTIONS

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



Nelson Mandela said that education was the most powerful weapon we can use to change the world. There are plenty of people who would agree with him, one of them is Oprah Winfrey. She said that education was the way to move mountains, build bridges and to change the world. Today's readings certainly suggest the value of learning.

The story from the Book of Genesis comes from pre-history. It has often been misunderstood to suggest that sin entered the world through one woman, yet this is not true. On the contrary, the readings tell us that the world is good. When humans try to overstretch their boundaries, trouble follows and the experience of beauty and harmony is threatened. We need to choose our teachers. Are we going to listen to God or the serpent?

In our modern world, the serpent takes many forms. There are many threats to the harmony of the human race and the beauty of our natural environment. Likewise, today's story of the temptations in the wilderness from Matthew's Gospel shows us that some lessons are difficult. Jesus actually teaches the devil, telling the evil one that God is in charge. Jesus has to decide which voices he will follow, and has to learn that some ideas may not be as good as they sound. All the kingdoms of the world, Jesus learns, are no substitute for an honest and life-giving relationship with God.

Each week during Lent, Caritas Australia asks us to think about a special story. The story focuses on someone who has benefitted from your generosity through Project Compassion. This week, we hear about 16-year-old Laxmi who lives in a remote part of Nepal. Your help has enabled her to overcome family hardship to pursue her education. She was tempted to give up on school, but Project Compassion enabled her to follow a more positive direction and to realise what she could achieve for her community by becoming an engineer. The evil spirit will always get us to focus on what we don't have. The spirit of light will show us what is truly possible.

Written by Michael McGirr



Laxmi, 16, lives in in Jajarkot, a remote district in Nepal where almost half of the population live below the poverty line. Tragedy struck when Laxmi was 10 years old and her father passed away. Her father worked hard to pay for his children's education and after losing him Laxmi was at risk of falling further into extreme poverty.

With the support of our partner Caritas Nepal, Laxmi joined a child's club at her school where she was encouraged to resume her education. Through the child's club, Laxmi developed the skills and confidence to become a leader, advocating for clean water taps at her school.

Laxmi is now excelling in her studies and working towards her dream of becoming a civil engineer. She continues to be involved in the child's club, serving as an advisor and mentoring the next generation of young leaders at her old school.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.



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.



Call to Connect – Seeking New Members

The Online Call to Connect (CTC) group that meets at 8:00pm every third Thursday has openings for new members. Come join now!

Call to Connect is a women's ministry that offers prayer, hospitality and sharing of faith through its hospitality, prayer and sharing group structure.

Our aim is to strengthen the relationship between women and facilitate a deepening walk with God.

Currently there are four, face to face groups meeting in the Parish and two Online groups.

If you would like further information or would like to talk to someone about CTC, please contact Maureen Hilton at maureenhilton@gmail.com or 0431 123 465. Looking forward to hearing from you.



Testimonial

The CTC group gives women of all different backgrounds a time to share the power of prayer to change our lives and the world. It is a small time of peace and communion that spreads across our lives.

CTC group member



ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF MY WEEK IS TO JOIN OUR CTC ZOOM MEETING. OUR PRAYER MEETINGS ARE A CHANCE TO PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER. MY FAITH IS DEEPENED AND NOURISHED BY OUR COLLECTIVE EXPERIENCES, STORIES AND HEARTFELT CONCERN FOR ONE ANOTHER. BC

TESTIMONIAL

Friday 24 February marks **one year since the Russian** invasion of Ukraine. We fervently pray for a just and long-lasting peace. The following prayer for Ukraine is from the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development.

Loving God, We pray for the people of Ukraine, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them.

We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices.

We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis, we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need.

May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice become a reality for the people of Ukraine and for all the world. Amen.



Vocations Dinner at Archbishop's house:

Thursday 2nd March at 6pm. An informal evening comprising of a talk on the priesthood, Eucharistic Adoration, and a hearty meal. All those seeking to discern a vocation to the priesthood/religious life are welcome. Please contact one of our three vocations directors: (rsvp required) Fr Emil Milat emil.milat@cg.org.au 6248 5472, Fr Joshua Scott joshua.scott@cg.org.au, Fr Eden Langlands eden.langlands@cg.org.au.

Vinnies Pantry Donations

Thank you so much for responding generously to our pantry call-out. We still need more supplies so please keep them coming.

When it comes to donating to stock our pantry, please note that **SIZE MATTERS...** Our Vinnies team have put together a list to help us donate what will help the grocery recipients best:



- ◆ 500g Dolmino Pasta Sauce
- ◆ 1kg Rice
- ◆ 1kg Weetbix
- ◆ 750g Cornflakes
- ◆ 250g Rolled Oats
- ◆ 200g Instant Coffee
- ◆ 50 bags Black Tea
- ◆ Sugar
- ◆ 420g Baked Beans
- ◆ 420g Spaghetti
- ◆ 425g Soup
- ◆ 420g Peas
- ◆ 420g Peas and Carrots
- ◆ 420g Corn Kernels



- ◆ 420g tomatoes
- ◆ 420g Legumes
- ◆ 420g Creamed Corn
- ◆ 420g Beetroot
- ◆ 425g Tuna
- ◆ 410g Tinned Fruit
- ◆ Hard Taco Shells
- ◆ Bottle of Pancake Mix
- ◆ Muesli Bars
- ◆ Instant Noodles
- ◆ 1 litre Long Life milk
- ◆ Jam and spreads
- ◆ Sweet and Savoury Biscuits



We want to ensure vulnerable families receive food that is nutritious and easy to access in a difficult situation. Therefore when purchasing pantry items please try to avoid the following:

- Junk food
- Items with packaging, which can be broken in transit
- Items that need can openers or special equipment (pop-top cans—whether for veggies, meat or fruit—are a plus)

Thank You!!

STATIONS — OF THE — CROSS

**Fridays at
11:15am and 6pm
During Lent starting
24 February 2023**



Holy Spirit Catholic Parish, Gungahlin



We would like to say a big thank you to **George** for spending many hours on Thursday getting the church ready for lent by putting up the new Stations of the Cross images. These look great!

We would also like to thank **Frank** for working so hard during those hot couple of days to get all our overgrown and unruly yukkass out and planting new ones. We are so very blessed to have these two wonderful parishioners who donate their time and talent so generously for the benefit of our parish. Thank you George and Frank!



WE NEED YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Online Mass Contribution (First and Second Collections combined)

We encourage you to continue to support our parish by making contributions to our First and Second Collections online. Follow the steps below to make a secure online donation.

1. Click on <https://www.holyspiritgungahlin.org.au/donations-payments/secure-online-payments/>
2. Select Biller Code 1002872 – Mass Contribution
3. Enter your payment details.

Parish Bank Account Details

BSB: 062 786 Acc Number: 00010701 Acc Name: Holy Spirit Parish



CONNECT WITH US

Parish Priest: Fr Troy Bobbin

Assistant Priest: Fr Eden Langlands

Parish Office and Presbytery

93 Burdekin Ave, Amaroo Ph: 6242 9622

Website: www.holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Parish Assistant: Theivani Evers

E: theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

P: 0472 921 518

Parish Secretary: Magda Baraniecki

E: office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Office Support: Anne Smart

E: officesupport@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Finance Officer/ Planned Giving: Tony Rose

E: gungahlin.finance@cg.org.au

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC): Steve Seesink

E: stephen.seesink@gmail.com

Parish Groups

Craft Group | Beth Forshaw
Mondays 1:00pm Parish Office

St Vincent de Paul | Drazen Roginic President
P: 0401 669 301
E: Drazen.Roginic@vinnies.org.au

Call to Connect | Anne Smart
M: 0415 175 802

Holy Spirit Prayer Group | Kathy Torcasio 0401 920 028
Wednesdays at 7:30pm in the church

Social Justice Group | Peter Petersen
E: socialjustice.hsp@gmail.com

Legion of Mary | Grace Magbutay
E: office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Youth Ministry |
E: youth@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Young Adult Ministry | Frances Dinn
E: frances_1406@hotmail.com

Care Group | Sonja Vocisano
P: 0438 699 591

Community Garden Group | Parish Office
E: theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Download our parish app: **Pocket Parish** from **App Store** or **Google Play**.