

# The Living Word

**Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year B**

**14 March 2021**

## **First Reading 2 Chr 36:14-16. 19-23**

*The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of his people.*

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke: through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its Sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep Sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."'

## **Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 136. R. v.6**

*(R.) Let my tongue be silenced,  
if ever I forget you!*

1. By the rivers of Babylon  
there we sat and wept,  
remembering Zion;

on the poplars that grew there  
we hung our harps. (R.)

2. For it was there that they asked us,  
our captors, for songs,  
our oppressors, for joy.  
'Sing to us,' they said,  
'one of Zion's songs.' (R.)
3. O how could we sing  
the song of the Lord  
on alien soil?  
If I forget you, Jerusalem,  
let my right hand wither! (R.)
4. O let my tongue  
cleave to my mouth  
if I remember you not,  
if I prize not Jerusalem  
above all my joys! (R.)

## **Second Reading Eph 2:4-10**

*When we were dead through sins, he brought us to life.*

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ - it is through grace that you have been saved - and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

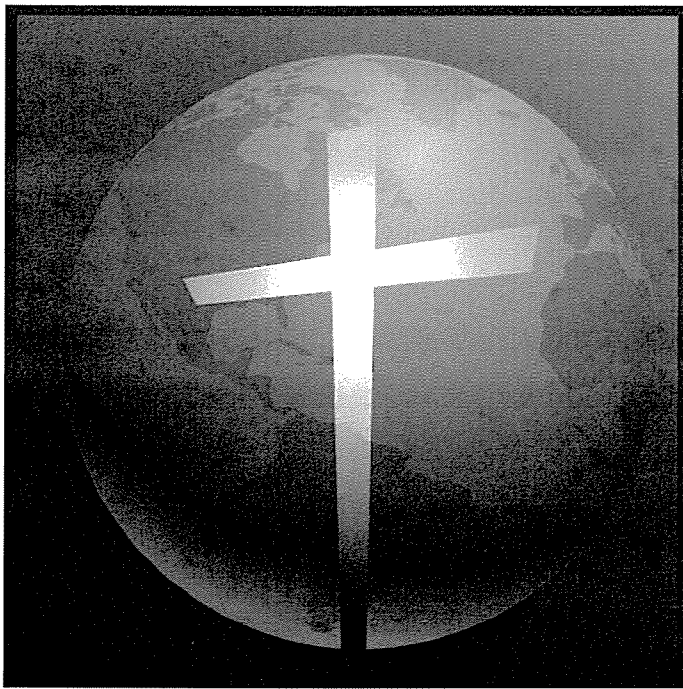
This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

## **Gospel Acclamation Jn 3:16**

*Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  
God loved the world so much, he gave us  
his only Son,*

*that all who believe in him might have  
eternal life.*

*Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!*



## Gospel Jn 3:14-21

*God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him.*

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost

but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved.

No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already,

because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son.

On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light

because their deeds were evil.

And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it,

for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth

comes out into the light,

so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'

## Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Each reading provides us with an example of divine mercy. God's use of Cyrus to deliver the Israelites, even though he was not a believer, shows that every circumstance and any person can demonstrate the scope of God's love. In fact, it is often the situation or the individual that we least expect that has been chosen to manifest God's mercy to us. This same mercy is seen as God brings us to life with Christ even when we were dead in sin.

Mercy means that strict justice is set aside in favour of compassion. Dispossessed people are raised out of defeat and given another chance. Sinners condemned to severe punishment are raised out of despair and offered a reprieve. The whole world is raised up out of darkness when God's own Son is sent into that world as saviour rather than as judge. God's mercy raises us out of loss and hopelessness, out of darkness and sin, so that we might enjoy the blessings of life.

We too have been raised up so that we might live in truth and might become the visible sign of God's mercy in the world. We have been made a new people, free from the restraints of the past. Joined with Christ we become God's handiwork, creations that bear the seal of the great creator. We are the very sacrament of God's mercy. The forgiveness that we have experienced and the new life within us shine forth as witness to the mercy of God.

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# HOLY TRINITY

## CATHOLIC PARISH

Incorporating the Mass centres and communities of

Holy Trinity      Our Lady Star of the Sea      Holy Family  
34 Stevens St      68 John Dory Drive      101 Hitchcock Ave  
Queenscliff      Ocean Grove      Barwon Heads

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather, the Wathaurong people. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently and respectfully in the land.

We are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.

### PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Fr Darien J Sticklen  
Parish Secretary: Mrs Daniella Sutera

Parish Office & Presbytery  
34 Stevens Street, Queenscliff 3225

Telephone: (03) 5258 1673

Email: [queenscliff@cam.org.au](mailto:queenscliff@cam.org.au)

### PARISH WEBSITE

[www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au](http://www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au)

### Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday  
10:00am to 1:00pm  
*excluding public holidays*

### PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOLS

St. Aloysius, Queenscliff  
Principal: Ms. Fiona Dawson, Tel: 5258 1736  
Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove  
Principal: Ms. Kerry Sells, Tel: 5255 4308

### WEEKEND MASS TIMES

BARWON HEADS:      Saturday Vigil 6:00pm  
                                 Sunday 9:30am, Mass for  
                                 St Mary's Syro-Malabar  
                                 Community (Malayalam  
                                 language)  
OCEAN GROVE:      Sunday 9:00am  
QUEENSCLIFF:      Sunday 11:00am

### WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

**Please see below:** Liturgy in our Parish this week

**THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**  
is available prior to each weekend Mass

### **BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS**

Please visit our website or contact Parish office

**Please send in bulletin notices by Thursday**

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B

### **Anniversaries 14- March to 20- March:**

John Hannebery, Theo Verheyen, Geraldine Williams, Laura Pettie, and Brian McBride

### **Please pray for those who are Sick:**

Peg Benham, Mary Blonk, Ellen Bourke, Ron & Helen Carter, Patricia Clarke, Pat Cousin, Jack Davin, Ian Downing, Margaret Dyer, Isabel Fitzgerald, Nell Fraigneux, George Frances, Kay Freyne, Ross Gilham, Kate Greenwood, Martin & Mary Grundy, Peter Harrington, Jeannette & Laurance Hodgkinson, Kerin Hoye, Robert Hurley, Gary Kingsbury, Jack Loughnan, Cas Lukauskas, Belinda Monterosso, Robyn Nagle, Christine Naulty, Beverley O'Meara, Maureen O'Neill, Helen Pearce, Mavourneen Ray, Daniel & Geraldine Richards, Bill & Betty Rushton, Kevin Shannon, Mac & Mary Sullivan, Cooper Thorley, Eraldo (Aldo) Trentini, Deanne Warren, Peter Williams.

### COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

**Please remember, in the state of Victoria, that fitted masks must be worn inside, on public transport and outside where you cannot physically distance.**

For updated medical advice and news, please visit:

<https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert>

For Diocese and Parish advice, please visit:

<https://www.cam.org.au/Guidance-for-Parishes-COVID-19>

### **\*\* NEWS & EVENTS \*\***

Holy Week and Easter schedule is now available.  
Please see the attached flyer or visit our website.  
COVIDsafe guidelines apply.

**If you require Pastoral care & support, or you are aware of others who may need assistance, please phone our Parish office. Mobile number for emergencies is on the recorded message.**

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### **RADIO BROADCASTS of SUNDAY MASS:**

- Sunday 7:00am on Light FM 89.9
- Sunday 10:00am on The Pulse 94.7 FM

### **TELEVISED SUNDAY MASS:**

- Channel 10 / 10HD: *Mass for You at Home*, every Sunday at 6:00am.
- C31 (Channel 44 on digital TVs): *St Patrick's Cathedral Mass*, every Sunday at 11:00am.
- Foxtel Aurora channel 173: *Mass*, every Sunday at 6:00am.

### **ONLINE MASSES AND RESOURCES:**

- <http://bit.ly/MassOnDemand>
- <https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>

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**Project Compassion 2021 is underway:** resources are available at each Church.

**Are you able to assist the counting team?** Counting will be taking place on Tuesdays. If you are able to assist, please contact Daniella at the parish office via phone or email.

**\* UPDATE: NEW PARISH OFFICE OPERATING HOURS \***

As of Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021, the parish office hours are:  
**Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays**  
from 10am to 1pm.  
The office will be closed on Mondays.

**TAR Grocery Collection:** Trinity Aid for Refugees have a collection tub located at each of our 3 churches. Please do what you can for the many refugees in Geelong who remain in desperate need of help. A list of requested items is available. Contact Shirley for more information: 0409 424 243 or [shirleyhurley@iinet.net.au](mailto:shirleyhurley@iinet.net.au).

**Repairs & Maintenance at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove:** work is underway to repair and reinforce the structure of the large wall beside the entry gates.



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**LITURGY IN OUR PARISH THIS WEEK**

*Please note: our weekday Masses have recommenced:*

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March – Tuesday of the 4<sup>th</sup> week of Lent**  
9:15am Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March – ST PATRICK (Solemnity)**  
9:15am Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March – Thursday of the 4<sup>th</sup> week of Lent**  
9:15am Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March – ST JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (Solemnity)**  
9:15am Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Saturday of the 4<sup>th</sup> week of Lent**

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March – FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

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*Thought for the Week:*

**Be Happy! Inspiration comes when our heart is light and free.**

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**FLETCHERS**

LOCAL EXPERTS

74 HESSE STREET, QUEENSCLIFF | 5258 2833  
3/80 THE TERRACE, OCEAN GROVE | 5255 1721  
[bellarine@fletchers.net.au](mailto:bellarine@fletchers.net.au)

[fletchers.net.au](http://fletchers.net.au)

IT'S A FLETCHERS THING



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Visit: [www.oceaneyes.com.au](http://www.oceaneyes.com.au)



**St Vincent de Paul Society**  
*good works*

**Vinnies No Interest Loan Scheme ("NILS")**

Geelong Vinnies NILS provides people on pensions & low incomes with loans up to \$1500 for essentials such as whitegoods, TVs, computers, medical & dental services, car repairs, etc... with absolutely no interest or fees! For further information, contact Vinnies NILS Tel 5229 8829 or email [enquiries.nils@vinniesnils.org.au](mailto:enquiries.nils@vinniesnils.org.au).



Nelson Property  
Transfer Services  
Geelong & Bellarine

Looking to buy, sell  
or transfer property?

Contact Frank Nelson

0413 017 053  
[bellarine@npts.com.au](mailto:bellarine@npts.com.au)



**OCEANSIDE CARPENTRY AND  
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE**

ALL ASPECTS OF CARPENTRY

**DANIEL CAREY**

LICENSED & INSURED

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