

The Living Word

Second Sunday of Lent, Year B

25 February 2024

First Reading Gn 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18

The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham,' he called.' Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of your enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 115:10. 15-19. R. 114:9

(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

1. I trusted, even when I said:
'I am sorely afflicted.'
O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful. (R.)
2. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:
I will call on the Lord's name. (R.)
3. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil
before all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:31-34

God did not spare his own Son.

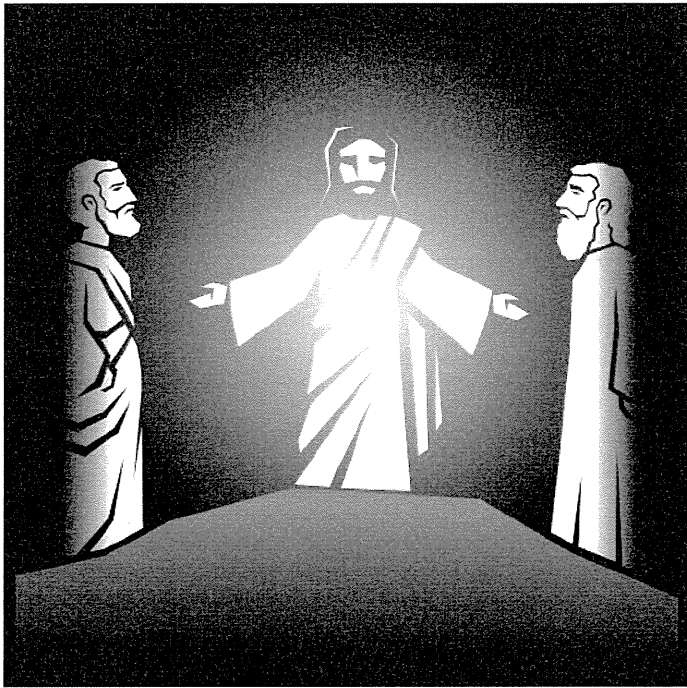
With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 17:5

*Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard:*

this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!



Gospel Mk 9:2-10

This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

Reflection by Greg Sunter

Like so many other important events in the Bible, the events of this week's gospel occur on a high mountaintop. Mountaintops were places of special and dramatic encounter with God and the disciples' experience of the transfiguration is clearly no exception! In this instance, the disciples suddenly see Jesus' power fully revealed but they fail to fully understand what is going on. One might think how much more obvious could God be about trying to reveal Jesus' identity to the disciples, but still they don't really catch on. Peter thinks he has caught on to the message. When the great prophets Elijah and Moses appear beside Jesus, Peter understands Jesus to be part of the line of prophets in the Hebrew tradition. He believes he has had a great insight and is so impressed that he wants to remain on the mountaintop – setting up tents in honour of Jesus, Elijah and Moses. In essence, Peter has still only partially understood who Jesus is. He thinks he is the Messiah, but a Messiah in the same mould as the prophets of old, a prophet of the old tradition. He has not understood that Jesus is breaking that mould and creating a new vision, a new tradition – one that is endorsed by the voice of God on the mountaintop.

Rather than allowing the disciples to set up tents and remain in the 'high' of this experience, Jesus immediately leads the boys back down the mountain. This is perhaps the greatest message of this passage: that life is not lived on the mountaintop but back down in the valley. Although the mountaintop experience may have provided some new insight and new energy, it is back down in the valley that the world waits; that the real work needs to be done; that the sick and the poor are crying out for God's love and mercy.

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HOLY TRINITY

CATHOLIC PARISH

Incorporating the Mass centres and communities of

Holy Family 101 Hitchcock Av Barwon Heads	Our Lady Star of the Sea 68 John Dory Drive Ocean Grove	Holy Trinity 34 Stevens St Queenscliff
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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
Safeguarding & Admin Support: Ms Jennie Ryan
Parish Mission Ambassador: Ms Josephine Barnes
Pastoral Care Coordinator: Sr Nola Morrissy RSM

For all parish ministries, including Holy Communion to the Sick, RCIA, Baptism & Sacramental Program, Men Alive, Faith Development & Spirituality Group, St Vincent de Paul local Conference, Trinity Aid for Refugees, etc., please visit:

www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au

PARISH OFFICE & PRESBYTERY

34 Stevens Street, Queenscliff 3225

Telephone: (03) 5258 1673

Email: queenscliff@cam.org.au

OFFICE HOURS

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

PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOLS

St. Aloysius, Queenscliff
Principal: Ms. Miriam Leahy, 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
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, and before or after weekday Masses if needed.

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

Visit our website for all information or contact Parish office
www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/sacraments/

COLUMBARIUM

Please visit www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/about-us/parish-columbarium/

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN ATTENDING NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Please visit our website for all information:
<https://holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/sacraments/sacramental-program-2/>

Please send in bulletin notices by 1pm on Thursdays

Second Sunday of Lent, Year B

Recently Deceased: Stephen Merriman.

Anniversaries 25th February to 2nd March: John Sherlock, Gabrielle Millar, Ronald Forbes, Trish Woolley, Andree Thom, Alma Gist, Francis Patrick McMahon, Peter Gardiner, Terrance Gray and Jessie Naylor.

Please pray for those who are Sick: Elly Anwyl, Naomi Bianco, Mary Blonk, Peter Bourke, Ron & Helen Carter, Sam Caruana, Jack Davin, Pat Dickeson, Michael Dowling, Ian Downing, Robert Drummond & Patti Semler, Gloria Forbes, Nell Fraigneux, Kay Freyne, Ross Gilham, Margaret Gladstone, Martin & Mary Grundy, Justin Hanan, Stephen Hanan, Susan Hardy, Peter Harrington, Jeannette Hodgkinson, Gregory Holien, Robert & Lyne Horner, Robert Hurley, Melissa Keogh, Gary Kingsbury, Hilda Koerntjes, Margaret Lomas, Toni Lukauskas, Patrick Magennis, Brendan Merriman, Belinda Monterosso, Christine Naulty, Frank Nelson, Helen Pearce, Cecilia Piec, Mavourneen Ray, Margaret Renwick (Snr), Geraldine Richards, Betty Rushton, Jeannett Stevens, Mary Sullivan, Pam Sullivan, Kevin Teasdale, Deanne Warren, Cathy Williams, Michelle Williams, Peter Williams and Shirley Woodruff.

ROSTERS

If you are unable to meet your commitment on your day, please arrange a substitute. Thank you!

COMMENTATOR (C), LECTOR (L), SPECIAL MINISTER (SM), WELCOMERS (W), PROJECTIONIST (P)

OCEAN GROVE: 3rd March at 9:00am:

(C) Janine Fitzpatrick (L) Lachlan Fitzpatrick (SM) Sandra Duggan, Judy Considine (W) Michael & Barbara Hardy.

QUEENSCLIFF: 3rd March at 11:00am:

(C) Tony Frizza (L) Adrian Redfern (SM) Eva Millie (W) Trish Frizza.

COUNTERS: Tuesday 27th February at 10:00am:

Remo & Naomi Bianco.

** NEWS & EVENTS **

If you need 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.

For all Safeguarding updates, please visit the parish website:

www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/safeguarding/parish-child-safe/

We appreciate your understanding and support as we work together to comply with our legal requirements. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

BULLETINS: parishioners are strongly encouraged to take their bulletins home after Mass each weekend. If you miss out on a bulletin, please let a Welcomer know. The bulletin is also available on our website and is emailed each Friday.

Updated Church ministry rosters are available and have been emailed to volunteers. Limited printed copies will be available at Ocean Grove from Sunday. If you have any questions or if you are interested in joining Church ministry, please contact the roster coordinator.

- Ocean Grove: Monica Meagher (meaghermonica@gmail.com)
- Queenscliff: Von Philp (vonniephilp@gmail.com)

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2024 (Palestine) – Friday 1st March:

- Ocean Grove: 10:30am at Church of Christ (17 Tareeda Way, Ocean Grove)
- Queenscliff/Point Lonsdale: 10:00am at St James Anglican Church (1 Albert Street, Point Lonsdale)
- Barwon Heads: 2:00pm at Uniting Church (71 Hitchcock Avenue, Barwon Heads)

Hospitality Sunday: will take place on **Sunday 3rd March** following 9:00am Mass (including children's liturgy) at Ocean Grove and 11:00am Mass at Queenscliff. ALL WELCOME!

Trinity Aid for Refugees (TAR): thanks all parishioners who generously donated groceries and cash throughout January and February. Although our current appeal now comes to an end, if you wish to continue support you can donate directly to Wesley Church Welcome Place: BSB 633 000, Account 160 305 066. Website: www.queenscliffar.org.

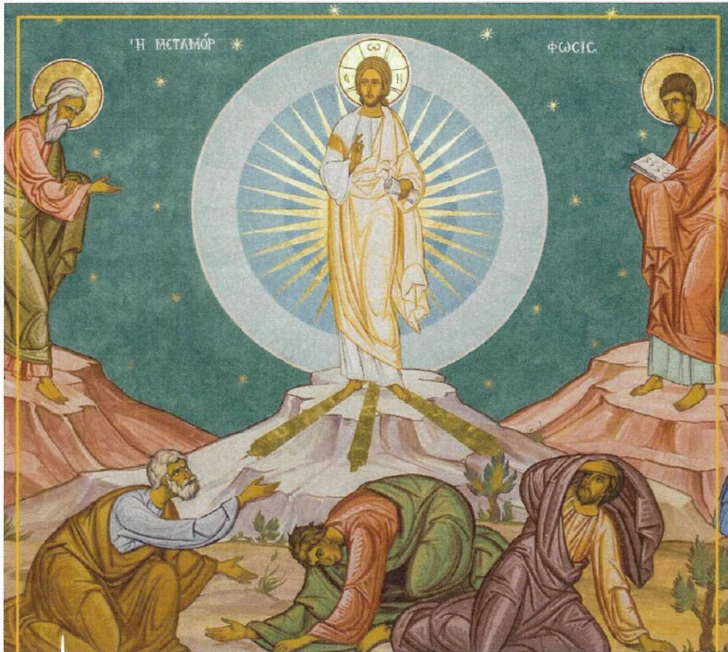
Each Church in our Parish has a **TAP & GO** terminal. These have helped increase financial support for our Parish. Easy to use – please avail yourself of this way to support us. Thank you.

'ASHES TO EASTER': A LENTEN CONCERT-REFLECTION: Peter Kearney is an Australian Catholic songwriter, singer and guitarist whose hymns and songs include 'Fill My House', 'The Beatitudes' and 'Where Is Your Song, my Lord?'. His 'Ashes to Easter' concert weaves songs and stories and reflections on Lenten themes and looks ahead to Holy Week and Easter. Mainly for adults though upper-primary and older students could also enjoy. Locations:

Saturday 24th February, 11.00am at St Thomas Church (27 Peninsula Drive, DRYSDALE). Gold coin donation. Bookings not required.

Tuesday 27th February, 7.00pm at Holy Family Church (147 Separation Street, BELL PARK). Free admission. Bookings not required.

Faith and Light Geelong: A Christian community for people with disabilities, their families and friends who meet together to share faith and friendship and celebrate. You are invited to our next gathering on **Saturday 9th March** from 2:00-4:30pm. Venue at St Mary's Parish Offices (1st floor, 150 Yarra Street). Entry by lift. Share your Lenten journey with the Gospel, Prayer, & Activities and includes shared afternoon tea. Enquiries to Tricia O'Keeffe (0414 672 267) or Kevin Mark (kevin@stmarysgeelong.com.au).



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LITURGY IN OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

Monday 26th February – Monday of the 2nd week of Lent

Tuesday 27th February – Tuesday of the 2nd week of Lent
9:15am Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

Wednesday 28th February – Wednesday of the 2nd week of Lent

9:15am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff
11:00am Mass with anointing at Arcare, Point Lonsdale

Thursday 29th February – Thursday of the 2nd week of Lent

9:15am Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

Friday 1st March – Friday of the 2nd week of Lent

Autumn Ember Day
World Day of Prayer

9:15am Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

Saturday 2nd March – Saturday of the 2nd week of Lent

Sunday 3rd March – THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

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Thought for the Week:
The secret to a rich life is to have more beginnings than endings.

- Dave Weinbaum.


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Ocean Eyes
OPTOMETRISTS

Anthony & Letitia Dowling
with the friendly team you know and trust.


2 Park Lane, Ocean Grove VIC 3226
Phone: 5255 5655
Email: info@oceaneyes.com.au
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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.



NPTS Nelson Property Transfer Services
Geelong & Bellarine

Looking to buy, sell or transfer property?

Contact Frank Nelson
0413 017 053
bellarine@npts.com.au



You're in safe hands

CHARLIE'S MAINTENANCE CO

General maintenance, gardening, cleaning and tiling. Servicing the Bellarine and Geelong areas. Contact Charlie on 0413 609 170 or email charlie.sutera76@gmail.com.