

The Living Word

Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year B

17 March 2024

First Reading Jer 31:31-34

The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel and I will forgive their iniquity.

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive - it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest - it is the Lord who speaks - since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 50:3-4. 12-15. R. v.12

(R.) Create a clean heart in me, O God.

1. Have mercy on my, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt.
and cleanse me from my sin. (R.)
2. A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (R.)

3. Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you. (R.)

Second Reading Heb 5:7-9

He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation.

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 12:26

*Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord;
and where I am, my servant will also be.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!*

Gospel Jn 12:20-33

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus.

Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come
for the Son of Man to be glorified.
I tell you most solemnly,



unless a wheat grain falls on the ground
and dies,
it remains only a single grain;
but if it dies,
it yields a rich harvest.

Anyone who loves his life loses it;
anyone who hates his life in this world
will keep it for the eternal life.
If a man serves me, he must follow me,
wherever I am, my servant will be there too.
If anyone serves me, my Father will honour
him.

Now my soul is troubled.
What shall I say:
Father, save me from this hour?
But it was for this very reason that I have
come to this hour.
Father, glorify your name!

A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it,
and I will glorify it again.'

People standing by, who heard this, said it
was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an
angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It
was not for my sake that this voice came, but
for yours.'

'Now sentence is being passed on this
world;
now the prince of this world is to be
overthrown.

And when I am lifted up from the earth,
I shall draw all men to myself.'

By these words he indicated the kind of death
he would die.

Reflection by Greg Sunter

This week's first reading from Jeremiah is a very powerful image and a foreshadowing of the message and ministry of Jesus. In the Jeremiah reading, the Lord announces that (yet again) a new covenant will be made between the people and their God. This time, however, the covenant will not be a collection of rules written in stone as was the case with the covenant of the Ten Commandments after the people had been led out of slavery in Egypt. The people have demonstrated that they are not able to uphold that covenant. This time, God declares that the covenant will be 'planted deep within them' and 'written on their hearts'. This is a wonderful image: I will write my covenant on your heart! It is the message that Jesus tried to convey over and over again – the Law of God is not to be found in a multitude of rules and regulations but it is a Law of the heart, calling for compassion and love.

This message is no better demonstrated than in this week's gospel passage. Jesus declares that, 'unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.' He is speaking of course about his own life, but he is speaking also to those around him and those of us who read the words today. Unless we are prepared to let go of our ego, our status, our 'reputation', for the sake of others and respond to them from the heart then we can never experience the breadth and depth of what it means to belong to a community. When we are prepared to let go of our hang-ups and reservations to make a difference in the lives of others then the 'harvest' that will be gathered from those actions will be great indeed!

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HOLY TRINITY

CATHOLIC PARISH

Incorporating the Mass centres and communities of

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

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 Sutura

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 (closed 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://www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/sacraments/sacramental-program-2/>

Please send in bulletin notices by 1pm on Thursdays

PARISHIONERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE THEIR BULLETINS HOME AFTER MASS

Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year B

Recently Deceased: Patrick Magennis.

Anniversaries 17th March to 23rd March: Laura Pettig, Estelle Simpson, Midge Reid, Vincent Ross, Elisabeth MacDonnell, Lucy MacDonald and Jean Smurthwaite.

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, Brendan Merriman, Belinda Monterosso, Christine Naulty, Frank Nelson, Helen Pearce, Cecilia Picc, Mavourneen Ray, Margaret Renwick (Snr), Geraldine Richards, Betty Rushton, 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: 24th March at 9:00am:

(C) Brenda Bissinella (L) Frank Rice (SM) Jo Ballard, Carmel Rice
(W) Marg Lucas, Margaret Donovan.

QUEENSCLIFF: 24th March at 11:00am:

(C) Jenny Carland (L) John Hanan (SM) Lisa Piasente (W) Welcomer required

COUNTERS: Tuesday 19th March at 10:00am:

Michael and Barbara Hardy.

** 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.

Project Compassion: please continue to donate to Project Compassion. 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. **A good time to bring your offerings is the Mass on Holy Thursday.**

Marilyn Brown will lead choir practice for Holy Week this Sunday, 17th March, at 4:00pm at Holy Trinity Church.

St Patrick's Day Sausage Sizzle at Holy Trinity: celebrate St Patrick's Day this Sunday, 17th March, with a sausage sizzle at Queenscliff following Mass. **\$10.00 per person** includes sausage, salad and dessert to support the Hospitality Team. All welcome.

Parish Ladies Social Group will meet on **Wednesday 20th March** at 10:00am at Ocean Grove Church for morning tea. The ladies will then prepare the Easter Vigil Candles. These candles will be lit from the Paschal Candle on Easter Saturday. On Easter Vigil night, Parishioners holding the candles will process into the Church praying for Christ to be our Light.

Trinity Aid for Refugees encourages you to join a **local Walk for Refugees Saturday March 23, 10am start** from the Marine Discovery Centre car park to the Springs Foreshore (return walk approx 4Km). Concluding with a short gathering to reflect and an opportunity to write letters to local politicians. More info: queenscliffar.org.

Together we pray for the children receiving the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.

PALMS: parishioners are encouraged to bring their own palms or olive branches from home, to be blessed on Palm Sunday.

Trinity Aid for Refugees (TAR): if you wish to continue support you can donate directly to Wesley Church Welcome Place: BSB 633 000, Account 160 305 066. Website: www.queenscliffra.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.

Taizé Pray | Peace Gathering: people in the Bellarine Peninsula and beyond are invited to gather to pray and worship at Santa Casa (33 Flinders Street, Queenscliff) on **Saturday 23rd March 2024 at 2:30pm** followed by afternoon tea at 3:30pm. Please RSVP to Sr Lizzie Finnerty RSM on 0418 194 261 or santacasa@ismapng.org.au for catering and seating purposes. All welcome.

EASTER CONCERT – Music at the Basilica invites you to our Easter Concert at 5pm on **Sunday 24 March at the Basilica of St Mary of the Angels, Geelong.** This year the Windfire Choir, orchestra and soloists will present the **Requiem** by Gabriel Fauré, Requiem for solo cello by Australian Composer, Peter Sculthorpe and the Australian premier of **Septem Verba** for violin and organ by Fredrick Frahm Tickets from www.trybooking.com/CODRN.

“Save with CDF Community Fund – it’s in everyone’s best interest”: By opening an account, not only will you receive a competitive financial return, your savings will also help build parishes, classrooms, hospital wings, aged care homes and social service facilities. With competitive interest rates available across a range of accounts, including 5.55% p.a.* on a 12-month Term Investment, it’s a way to save while doing good. To find out more, visit: www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund/offer or email Anton Pan-Cassin apancassin@melbcdcf.org.au or Bernard Docherty bdocherty@melbcdcf.org.au. *Interest rates subject to change. View current rates on the CDF website.

The practice of covering crosses and images throughout the church from this Sunday may be observed. Crosses remain covered until the end of the celebration of the Lord’s Passion on Good Friday, but images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil. In our parish, we will cover crosses and images from Palm Sunday at the beginning of Holy Week.

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LITURGY IN OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

Monday 18th March – St Patrick (Solemnity)

Tuesday 19th March – St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity)

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

Wednesday 20th March – Wednesday of the 5th week of Lent

9:15am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

10:00am Chrism Mass at St Patrick’s Cathedral

11:30am Reconciliation Service for St Aloysius Year 3 students at St Aloysius School

Thursday 21st March – Thursday of the 5th week of Lent

9:15am Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove with Star of the Sea Year 5 students attending

Friday 22nd March – Friday of the 5th week of Lent

9:15am Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

Saturday 23rd March – Saturday of the 5th week of Lent

Sunday 24th March – PALM SUNDAY of the PASSION of the LORD
Holy Week

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Thought for the Week:

*If you carry joy in your heart,
you can heal any moment.*

- Carlos Santana.

+ + +



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

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Vinnies No Interest Loan Scheme (“NILS”)

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in *safe*
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