

The Living Word

Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year C

First Reading Jos 5:9-12

The people of God went to the promised land and there kept the passover.

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.'

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 33:2-7. R. v.9

(R.) Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. *(R.)*
2. Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free. *(R.)*
3. Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress. *(R.)*

Second Reading 2 Cor 5:17-21

God reconciled us to himself through Christ.

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his

reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 15:18

*Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:
Father, I have sinned against heaven and
against you.*

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Your brother here was dead and has come to life.

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to



be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants.” So he left the place and went back to his father.

‘While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.” But the father said to his servants, “Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found.” And they began to celebrate.

‘Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. “Your brother has come” replied the servant “and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound.” He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, “Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening.”

‘The father said, “My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.”’

Reflection by Greg Sunter

Today’s gospel is perhaps the most famous of the parables that are unique to the Gospel of Luke. Sadly, what is often overlooked is the accusation aimed at Jesus that leads into the telling of this and two other shorter parables (the Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin – Lk 15:4-10). The Pharisees and scribes accuse Jesus of what they regard to be abhorrent behaviour in relation to the purity code that dominated 1st Century life: not only does Jesus welcome sinners, he actually shares meals with them. This would be absolutely scandalous behaviour. Who you ate with was a reflection of who you were. To eat with sinners and the unclean effectively made you a sinner and unclean.

The three parables Jesus tells in response to this accusation are all about the lost being found and great rejoicing over the finding of the lost sheep, lost coin, or lost son. The Gospel of Luke – more so than any of the others – has a very strong focus on the message of Jesus being addressed to and welcomed by the outcasts and marginalised; in other words, the ‘lost’ of his society. Rather than being embarrassed by the accusation that he ate with sinners, Jesus would have worn those words like a badge of honour. It was exactly what his mission and ministry was all about – being one with the poor; the outcast; the sinful; the lost. The three parables, and particularly the parable of the lost son, demonstrate the joy of a loving God when one who was lost returns. The extravagant welcome the prodigal son receives from his father is symbolic of the extravagance of God’s love that will be poured out for any ‘sinner’ who returns to God.

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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

Parish Priest: Fr Linh Pham
Parish Secretary: Mrs Daniella Sutera
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 following Mass each Friday morning, 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://hollytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/sacraments/sacramental-program-1/>

Please send in bulletin notices by 1:00pm on Thursdays
If you would like a deceased loved one(s) prayed for on their anniversary, please contact the parish office on 5258 1673 or queenscliff@cam.org.au by 1:00pm on Thursdays.

PARISHIONERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE THEIR BULLETINS HOME AFTER MASS

Rejoice (Laetare) Sunday Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year C

Recently Deceased: Johann Walz.

Anniversaries 30th March to 5th April: Eileen Murphy and Andrew Gillivan.

Please pray for those who are Sick: Naomi Bianco, Frances Blaine, Jacqueline Blake, Matthew Blake, Mary Blonk, Peter Bourke, Helen Carter, Sam Caruana, Sue Casey, Ian Downing, Robert Drummond & Patti Semler, Nell Fraigneux, Kay Freyne, Ross Gilham, Margaret Gladstone, Mary Gladwin, Martin & Mary Grundy, Justin Hanan, Stephen Hanan, Susan Hardy, Peter Harrington, Jeanette Hodgkinson, Gregory Holien, Robert & Lyne Horner, Melissa Keogh, Hilda Koerntjes, Margaret Lomas, Michelle Mahoney, Belinda Monterosso, Christine Naulty, Helen Pearce, Cecilia Picc, Mavourneen Ray, Geraldine Richards, Betty Rushton, Kevin Teasdale, Deanne Warren and Cathy Williams.

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: 6th April at 9:00am:

(C) Anne Bourke (L) Frank Rice (SM) Carmel Rice, David O'Connor
(W) Michael & Barbara Hardy.

QUEENSCLIFF: 6th April at 11:00am:

(C) Bob Merriman (L) John Hanan (SM) Lisa Piasente (W) Paul Doolan.

COUNTERS: Tuesday 1st April at 10:00am:

Dan Donovan & Des Harris.

** NEWS & EVENTS **

If you need Pastoral care & support, or you are aware of others who may need assistance, please phone our Parish office.

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.

SAFEGUARDING UPDATE FROM PARISH OFFICE

Over the next several weeks, volunteers who need update/renew their Working With Children Check, National Police Check, Safeguarding Essentials Training and/or Parish Code of Conduct, will be notified via email. Please check your Junk Folder. We thank you for volunteering in the parish and we appreciate your cooperation.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Hospitality Sunday

Taking place on **Sunday 6th April** following 9:00am Mass (including children's liturgy) at Ocean Grove and 11:00am Mass at Queenscliff. All welcome!

Interested in becoming a Special Minister for Communion?

All three churches are calling for special ministers. If you are interested in becoming a special minister, please contact the parish office via phone or email. No special requirements needed. Training and support will be provided – we are aiming before Easter. Safeguarding volunteer requirements apply. *We are all called to serve.*

Ladies Social Group

Lunch on Wednesday April 2nd at 12-noon at the Ocean Grove Bowling Club. To book, please phone or text Julie 0411578285. Anyone is welcome to join in.

Beyond the Vows Marriage Retreat

A one-day Catholic marriage retreat designed to help couples navigate life and draw closer together. Saturday 12th April from 9:45am to 5:00pm at St Catherine of Siena Parish, Caroline Springs. Cost is \$50.00 per couple. To register: <https://beyondthevows.site>.

Permanent Diaconate Information Session 3 May 2025

Following the success of the permanent diaconate information sessions in 2024, we will be holding another session for those interested. The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and 60 years, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. It is an ordained ministry of service. Wives most welcome. Saturday 3rd May from 10.00am to 11.30am at Catholic Theological College (278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne). If you are interested, email Deacon Kevin Pattison Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au with your full name and parish; or simply attend on the Saturday morning. All are welcome.

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LITURGY IN OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

Tuesday 1st April – Tuesday of the 4th week of Lent

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

Wednesday 2nd April – Wednesday of the 4th week of Lent

9:15am Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff, followed by Exposition (until 11:00am)

Thursday 3rd April – Thursday of the 4th week of Lent

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

Friday 4th April – Friday of the 4th week of Lent

9:15am Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff, followed by Confession after Mass and Exposition (until 11:00am)

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

3:00pm Stations of the Cross and Benediction at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

Saturday 5th April – Saturday of the 4th week of Lent

10:00am Baptism Preparation at Holy Trinity Parish Hall, Queenscliff

Sunday 6th April – FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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Thought for the Week:

If you want others to be happy,

practice compassion.

If you want to be happy,

practice compassion.

- Dalai Lama.

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EASTER 2025 TIMETABLE

WEDNESDAY 9 APRIL

7:00pm SECOND RITE OF RECONCILIATION - Ocean Grove

HOLY THURSDAY, 17 APRIL

6:00pm MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER - Ocean Grove

GOOD FRIDAY, 18 APRIL

10:00am STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Ocean Grove

3:00pm THE PASSION OF THE LORD - Ocean Grove

HOLY SATURDAY, 19 APRIL

7:00pm EASTER VIGIL - Ocean Grove

EASTER SUNDAY, 20 APRIL

9:00am - BARWON HEADS

9:00am - OCEAN GROVE

11:00am - QUEENSCLIFF



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

Visit: www.oceaneyes.com.au



Phone: 03 5221 7411 | Email: bellarine@npts.com.au

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charlie.sutera76@gmail.com.



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Or by calling: 1800 024 413