

HOLY TRINITY PARISH QUEENSCLIFF

HOLY TRINITY PARISH INCORPORATING THE MASS CENTRES AND COMMUNITIES OF



**HOLY FAMILY
CHURCH**
101 Hitchcock Avenue
Barwon Heads

**OUR LADY STAR OF THE
SEA CHURCH**
68 John Dory Drive
Ocean Grove

**HOLY TRINITY
CHURCH**
34 Stevens Street
Queenscliff

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR A

Sunday 22nd February 2026

PARISH TEAM

Fr Linh Pham PP
Mrs Daniella Sutera
Parish Secretary
Sr Nola Morrissy RSM
Pastoral Care Coordinator

PARISH OFFICE & PRESBYTERY

34 Stevens Street, Queenscliff 3225
Telephone: (03) 5258 1673
Email: queenscliff@cam.org.au
Website: <https://holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au>

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday from 10:00am to 1:00pm
(closed public holidays)

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm — BARWON HEADS
Sunday: 9:00am — OCEAN GROVE
Sunday: 11:00am — QUEENSCLIFF

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Tuesday: 9:15am — Ocean Grove
Wednesday: 9:15am — Queenscliff
Thursday: 9:15am — Ocean Grove
Friday: 9:15am — Queenscliff
*Please see: Liturgy in our Parish This Week
for others events and activities*

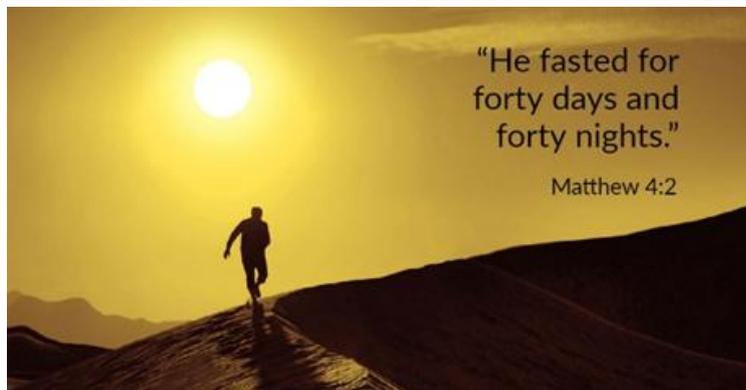
THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

is available prior to each weekend Mass,
and before or after weekday Masses if needed.

PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOLS

St. Aloysius, Queenscliff
Principal: Ms. Miriam Leahy, Tel: 5258 1736

Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove
Principal: Ms. Kerryn Sells, Tel: 5255 4308



“He fasted for
forty days and
forty nights.”

Matthew 4:2

Image Credit: Liturgy Help

As Lent begins, this first Sunday's readings trace the story of temptation, fall, and redemption. During this season, we are invited to open our hearts to God's renewing, life-giving grace and to deepen our relationships with Him and with one another. In his 2026 Lenten Message, Pope Leo XIV reminds us that this sacred season is a grace-filled opportunity to return the mystery of God to the centre of our lives. Amid busy schedules and daily responsibilities, Lent calls us to slow down, refocus our hearts, and rediscover what truly matters.

The Holy Father teaches that every journey of conversion begins by listening to the Word of God: “There is a relationship between the word, our acceptance of it, and the transformation it brings about.” Through prayerful and attentive listening, we renew our commitment to follow Christ more faithfully, accompanying Him along the path of His saving passion, death, and resurrection. For this reason, the Lenten journey becomes an opportunity to heed the voice of the Lord and deepen our commitment to discipleship.

He also reminds us that listening must be accompanied by fasting: “If Lent is a time for listening, fasting is a concrete way to prepare ourselves to receive the word of God.” Fasting calls us to discipline our desires and cultivate a deeper hunger for holiness and justice. The Pope highlights a meaningful form of fasting: refraining from harsh words, rash judgments, and harmful speech. Instead, we are called to practise kindness, patience, and charity in our families, workplaces, communities, and even online.

Finally, the Holy Father emphasises the communal aspect of listening to the word and fasting. As parishes and families, we are invited to listen not only to God's word but also to the cry of the poor and of the earth. In doing so, our communities can become places of welcome, healing, and renewed hope.

Fr Linh

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading

Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7

A reading from the book of Genesis

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. see v.3

(R.) Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

1. Have mercy on me, 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. My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done. **(R.)**
3. 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.)**
4. Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Romans 5:12, 17-19

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned.

If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says:

Man does not live on bread alone
but on every word that comes from the mouth of
God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says:

He will put you in his angels' charge,
and they will support you on their hands
in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God,
and serve him alone.'

Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

PRAYERS OF INTENTION

Recently Deceased: Lynne Oaten and Rita Muscat.

Anniversaries 22nd February to 28th February:

Ronald Forbes, Anne & Tom Talbot and Peter Wools.

Please pray for those who are Sick:

Naomi Bianco, Frances Blaine, 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, Mary Grundy, Justin Hanan, Stephen Hanan, Peter Harrington, Jeanette Hodgkinson, Gregory Holien, Robert & Lyne Horner, Melissa Keogh, Hilda Koerntjes, Margaret Leahy, Margaret Lomas, Lorraine Maher, Michelle Mahoney, Belinda Monterosso, Caryn Murphy, Helen Pearce, Ray Quinlan, Mavourneen Ray, Geraldine Richards, Betty Rushton, Salvatore & Santa Sutura, Kevin Teasdale, Richard Vaughan, Deanne Warren and Cathy Williams.

ROSTERS

OCEAN GROVE: Sunday 1st March at 9:00am:

(C) Anthony Dowling

(L) Luci Quinn

(SM) Marg Lucas, Fiorentina Romeo

(W) Michael Kirkman, Dawn Dalton

QUEENSCLIFF: Sunday 1st March at 11:00am:

(C) Adrian Redfern

(L) Shirley Hurley

(SM) Terry Philp

(W) Rosemary Vaughan

COUNTERS: Tuesday 24th February at 11:00am:

Sam & Maria Sammut.

LITURGY IN OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

Tuesday 24th February

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

4:00pm Sacramental Program Class at Ocean Grove

Wednesday 25th February

9:15am Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

4:00pm Sacramental Program Class at Ocean Grove

Thursday 26th February

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

Friday 27th February

9:15am Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

Saturday 28th February

5:00pm Vigil Mass at Holy Family, Barwon Heads

Sunday 1st March

9:00am Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

11:00am Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

PROJECT COMPASSION 2026

Project Compassion 2026 donation boxes and envelopes are available at each church. Online donations can be made via the website: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate or by calling: 1800 024 413.

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

RCIA AND SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

This Sunday, 22 February, at 3:00pm, our Catechumens, Candidates, and RCIA team will join the Archdiocesan gathering at St Patrick's Cathedral for the Rite of Election. This celebration marks an important milestone in their journey toward receiving the Easter Sacraments of Initiation. Let us celebrate with them in spirit and keep them in our prayers, supporting them as they grow in faith and prepare to enter more fully into the life of our Church family.

This week, 53 children in our parish also begin the Sacramental Program. Let us keep these children, their families, and our catechists in our prayers. May the Sacraments be a beautiful opportunity for our children and their families to discover God's presence in their lives and to grow in courage and conviction as they live out their faith in the midst of everyday life.

TRINITY SINGERS PRACTICE

Practices commence this Sunday, 22nd February, at 4pm in preparation for the Holy Thursday liturgies (2nd April at Queenscliff). All Trinity Singers welcome.
- Von Philp

HOSPITALITY SUNDAY

Taking place next Sunday, 1st March, following 9:00am Mass (including children's liturgy) at Ocean Grove and 11:00am Mass at Queenscliff. All welcome.

EASTER LITURGY MEETING

A reminder for representatives from the 3 mass centres for a liturgy meeting on Wednesday 4 March at 10:15am in the foyer of Ocean Grove church. To finalise preparations for Holy Week and Easter ceremonies.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2026—FRIDAY 6 MARCH

- **Barwon Heads:** 2:00pm, hosted by Holy Family Church
- **Ocean Grove:** 10:30am, hosted by Our Lady Star of the Sea Church
- **Queenscliff:** 10:00am, hosted by Uniting Church

The Service of Prayer, Song and Fellowship is prepared by Women of Nigeria with the Theme 'I will give you rest: Come'. All most welcome.

As support is needed to finalise details for the service at Ocean Grove, a meeting will be held on Tuesday 24th February at 10.00am at Ocean Grove Church. Contact: Gerry 0417 126 995.

BLOKES COFFEE AND TOAST – MEN'S GROUP

We are excited to announce that Blokes Coffee and Toast will gather on the first Saturday of each month. Our first meeting will be on 7 March, from 8:00–9:30 am, in the parish presbytery in Queenscliff. All are warmly invited to join us for fellowship, coffee, toast, and conversation.

COMMUNION MINISTERS TO THE HOUSEBOUND AND NURSING HOMES – MORNING TEA

Over the past year, I have observed a growing need to support parishioners who are struggling to attend Sunday liturgy or who have moved into nursing homes. Pastoral care is especially important, in particular, the regular bringing of Holy Communion to people in their homes or in nursing homes. If you would like to become a minister and visit nursing homes or bring Communion to people at home, please speak with Fr Linh after Mass. Fr Linh would also love to catch up with all Communion Ministers, if you are available, for a morning tea on **Wednesday 25 February at 10:30 am** in the **Parish Hall in Queenscliff**.

PARISH / LOCAL NEWS & EVENTS

LENT & REFLECTION GROUP 2026

There are three Lenten Reflection Groups, meeting weekly:

- **Ocean Grove:** Tuesday at 7.30pm
- **Barwon Heads:** Tuesday at 10.30am
- **Queenscliff:** Thursday at 4.00pm

If you are interested in joining a reflection group, please contact either Sandra or Kerin:

Sandra Gould: sandra@salmandra.com | 0418 537 941,
or Kerin Fox: foxeskb@gmail.com | 0407 519 585.

FAITH AND LIGHT FRIENDS, GEELONG

Geelong Christian Community sharing for those with disability, their families and friends. You are invited to our next gathering: Tuesday 24th February at St Mary's Parish, Geelong (Hibernian Hall). All welcome from 1:30pm to 4:30pm for sharing about the Feast of Light and Lent, friendship, faith, music and afternoon tea. RSVP to Tricia O'Keeffe 0414 672 267 by 23rd February. Thank you.

REFLECTION BY DIANNE BERGANT CSA

REFLECTION

The readings for the First Sunday of Lent act as a kind of overture to the entire season. They enable us to engage in a double confession: a confession of sin and the repentance which follows; and a confession of praise for the mercy of God which is shown us in spite of our sin. The very first reading reminds us of our fragility. We are made of the dust of the ground, the very stuff that represents death and decay. We were reminded of this when ashes were used to sign us on Ash Wednesday. At the beginning of Lent we are invited to acknowledge honestly and realistically our fundamental human weakness. Despite our weaknesses, the situation within which we find ourselves is not hopeless. Somewhere deep within ourselves we know that we are not helpless prisoners of our limitations. God has not deserted us to our guilt. The form that God's compassion takes is outlined in the reading from Romans. It is in the death and resurrection of Jesus that we see the extent of this divine compassion. Its scope is first measured by the yardstick of human sinfulness, and then it outstrips those dimensions. God's gracious gift far exceeds the effects of human transgression. The gospel reading moves us from both the anthropological and the theological considerations to the crowning Christological reflections. As we look to Jesus, we see humanity at its best, tempted but not overcome. There will certainly always be human limitations, human weaknesses that will open the door to temptation. But Jesus shows us that we are not thereby doomed. Jesus is a model for our own journey to new life.

© Dianne Bergant CSA

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

We don't receive wisdom; we must discover it for ourselves after a journey that no one can take for us or spare us.

- Emily Dickinson

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

Visit our website for all information:

www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/sacraments/

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN ATTENDING NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Visit our website for all information:

www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/sacraments/sacramental-program-1/

COLUMBARIUM

Visit our website for all information:

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

THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

The RCIA journey is an opportunity to learn about the Catholic faith, ask questions, and grow in relationship with God within a supportive parish community. If you or someone you know is searching for deeper meaning in life, or is interested in becoming Catholic, you are warmly encouraged contact the parish office via 5258 673 or queenscliff@cam.org.au.



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

CHARLIE'S MAINTENANCE CO

General maintenance, handyman, gardening, and cleaning. Servicing the Bellarine and Geelong areas.

Contact Charlie on 0413 609 170

or email charlie.sutera76@gmail.com.

BULLETIN NOTICES

If a loved one has recently died or if you would like a deceased loved one prayed for as their anniversary is occurring, please contact the parish office on 5258 1673 or queenscliff@cam.org.au by 1:00pm on Thursdays to have your loved one(s) remembered in the weekly