

St Gregory's Catholic Parish



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1849

47 Lowe Street Queanbeyan

wwwst.gregsqueanbeyan.com

1955

Our parish acknowledges the original custodians, the first peoples of the land where we gather to pray. We welcome any Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples present. We honour their elders past, present and emerging as we walk together continuing the path to reconciliation.

First Sunday of Lent Year A

21 and 22 February 2026

Entrance Antiphon

When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.

First Reading

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 ser-
pent, '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 were opened and they
realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-
leaves together to make themselves loin cloths.

Responsorial Psalm

(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

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. Sin
existed in the world long before the Law was given.
There was no law and so no one could be accused of
the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all
from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike
that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself
considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that
through one man's fall so many died, it is even more
certain that divine grace, coming through the one
man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant
free gift. The results of the gift also outweigh the re-
sults of one man's sin: for after one single fall came
judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after
many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If
it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the
consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain

Mass Times (St.Raphael's)
Sunday 5:30pm (Sat night)
8am and 10am
Weekdays
Tues - Thur 5:30pm
Fri at 12noon
2nd Sat of month 9:30 am at
St. Gregory's Church

Confession Times
Tuesday, Wednesday
and Thursday
6pm
St.Raphael's

Parish Playgroup
Has finished for 2025
A NOTICE WILL BE
POSTED WHEN A NEW
COORDINATOR IS
FOUND

Parish Youth Group
Every 2nd and 4th
Wednesdays
On recess until 2026

REFLECTION

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Jesus was offered three shortcuts for his ministry. Firstly, exceptional powers to satisfy his own needs (bread out of stones). Secondly, when he needed to take risks, angels to keep him safe. Thirdly, when he wanted to change the world, absolute political power. These were the Temptations of Christ, but also for us. If you or I are tempted to sin, we will find the marks of this threefold pattern. We want the whole world to change to satisfy us, or we want to take stupid risks and come out unscathed, or we want to exercise total power over others. How can we try to follow Jesus without the shortcuts of the fantasy world which the Devil may offer? Note that Jesus resisted each temptation with: 'It is written'. The forty days of Lent are a perfect opportunity to read what 'is written' in the Gospels about the episodes and pattern of the life of Jesus Christ. We could pause for a moment to find what is written and to imitate what we find. That is how the Devil is defeated.

mtate@bigpond.com

Vocations Discernment Dinner at Gungahlin

Presbytery: Thursday 19 February 6pm. For men interested in discerning a call to the Priesthood. A hearty meal provided with insightful discussions & prayer. To rsvp please contact Vocations Director Fr Emil emil.milat@cg.org.au 0414 523 036.

PRAVERS AND INTERCESSIONS

Prayers and Intercessions

Priest: As we begin these forty days let us pray for what we need

Reader: That the Church will be faithful through prayer, fasting and almsgiving in this time of preparation for Easter.

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That nations will care for those who face the wilderness of poverty and homelessness.

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who are preparing for baptism may persevere in their desire to enter the waters of rebirth

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who are tempted by evil will, like Christ, choose the path of goodness and not be deceived.

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those gathered here today will follow Christ and serve him alone.

In your mercy:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Priest: Father, sin has scarred our human nature but you offer us the hope of eternal salvation. Hear these prayers and create in us pure hearts that we may turn away from evil and live the Gospel. We ask this through Jesus Christ your Son, who is Lord Priest

All: Amen.

Nursing Home Mass Times

1st Wed 10 am George Forbes House

2nd Wed 10.30 am Heritage Nursing Home

3rd Wed 10.30am Warrigal.

St Vincent de Paul Conference

Meeting 7pm every 2nd Thursday next
On 19 February 2026
St. Raphael's Parish Room
ALL WELCOME

Formation in Faith (RCIA)

Everyone is welcome to join the group:

Sundays 9am Parish Meeting Room at St.Raphael's Presbytery.

Rosary

Tues—Thurs 5pm
Rosary 10.30am and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
11am on Fridays
Meditation
Tuesdays at 7pm
St. Raphael's

PARISH & ARCHDIOCESAN INFORMATION

Let us pray for the sick in our Parish Christian Borja, Connie Griffin, Hugo Villa, Fred Spiteri, Lucy Aloe, Felicia Lyons, Robert (Ned) Vodovic, Mirella Wakim, Thomas, Juliet & Rommel Estabillo, Rosario Surmeida, Katie Casey, Antonio Borja, Dennis Pountney, Andy McCosker, Patelisio Langi, Phil Hastings, Cheryl Smith, Mary Miller, Dick Grimes, Ulima Faatamala, Gwyne McIntyre, Patrick McCormack, Patricia Mooney, Catherine Cullen, Eva Sutton, John Church, Rae Blyton, Oliver Pacione, Irene Cameron

Recently Deceased: Linda Meacham, Eric Knapp, Angelina Payne, Don Blundell

Anniversaries: Romulo Zamora, Edwin Anzaldo, Cesira Erami, Decima, Lina and Tiziano Ossato, Rudy Parra & Andes mountaineers

Holy Matrimony: Madelyn Holst and Jack Gibson

Baptism: Sonny Lucio Phelan, Marli Patsy Sipeki, Ziggy Mark Sipeki, Charlie John Szigeti

St. Gregory's Parish Sacramental Program 2026.

Enrol and pay via the Qkr!app—each sacrament \$50.

Reconciliation (8-9 years or older) closing date 23 Feb 2026

Reconciliation Preparation

Held after 5.30pm Mass in St. Raphael's Church

Wednesday 25 February (Parent/carer information and 1st class for children)

Wednesday 4 March (2nd class for children)

Wednesday 11 March (3rd class for children)

Wednesday 18 March (4th class for children and rehearsal)

Sacrament Celebration Wednesday 25 March 2026 following Mass at 5:30 pm St Raphael's Church (all children)

Preparation dates for 1st Eucharist and Confirmation will be posted later in 2026.

2026 Parish Assembly St. Gregory's Queanbeyan

Saturday 9 May 2026

The purpose of this parish assembly is to take the 2024 Archdiocesan Assembly into local contexts, with all parishes across the Archdiocese being asked to run a parish assembly by Pentecost 2026. The parish assembly invites voices from our diverse community to come together and discern where the Holy Spirit is leading our parish.

A **Parish Assembly** is a gathering designed to help a parish grow in a culture of synodality —one of walking together through deep listening and communal discernment.

It is guided by the Holy Spirit and uses a process called the "**Conversation in the Spirit**" to identify where the Holy Spirit is leading the community through identifying convergences and divergences.

A desired outcome of our Assembly is a renewed sense of engagement and hope for the parish as it realises a vision for evangelisation and invites more to join in the life and mission of the Church.

Upcoming Events and Information

Charity Collection totalled \$149.15 this week for the Sleep Bus. Thank you very much.

Lenten books are here. Suggested donation is \$5. Buy from the Shop, there are about 5 left.

Michelago Mass on Saturday 28 February 2026 at 5.30pm.

Cursillo for Men and Women at St Clements Retreat Centre, Galong Fri 17 to Sun 19 April 2026

Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 11am during Lent at St. Raphael's,

Caritas Australia Appeal runs throughout Lent.

Father Kevin Flynn Anniversary Mass Thursday 26 Feb at 5.30pm St. Raphael's.

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

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

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.

Communion Antiphon

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth
of God.

**First Anniversary Mass for Father Kevin Flynn
RIP
Thursday 26 February 2026
Time 5.30pm
St. Raphael's Church.**

Parish Safeguarding Commitment

Our Parish is committed to safeguarding and upholding the dignity and rights of all our children and vulnerable people. We seek to empower children, their families and carers, and vulnerable people, to have a say, to be listened to, and to be protected. This approach is at the center of all our thinking and action. For more information visit the Canberra Archdiocesan website at <https://cgcatholic.org.au/professional-standards>. Communicating Concerns: Parishioners are encouraged to raise any concerns they may have by emailing the Parish Office. Alternately, Parishioners may raise any specific safeguarding issues by emailing the Parish Office marking the email to the attention of the Parish Safeguarding Volunteers. Parishioners are also welcome to contact Maria Hicks, Manager for the Archdiocese Institute for Professional Standards and Safeguarding (IPPS) by emailing ipss@cg.org.au or phone 02 6239 9806

Parish Finance Council (PFC):

Anne Alexander (Chair), Paul Lindwall, Matthew Mason-Cox, Chris Anthony

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)

Janine Deakin (Chair), Bec Giampaolo, Gretchen Bell, Sybil Busby, Glenda Chapman, Jaynel Estrella, Ralph Frank, Nisha & Manoj Jose, Nick Pelle, Sheryl & Benjie Reyes, Selina Stanford.

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