

## REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate Spittle and Mud

Our Lord, by the power of his word alone, could have healed the dis-ease of this man, blind since birth. Yet, he made a paste with spittle and put it over the eyes of the blind man. Just as God would have moistened the dust of the earth to shape the first human being, for the blind man, it was as though he had been created anew. God rarely works by telepathy but has a preferred way of working through the elements of creation, especially in the Sacraments. So, with the Anointing of the Sick, pressing olive oil onto the forehead and hands of the sick or dying symbolises the Holy Spirit entering the very pores of the sick person, relieving that person of undue anxiety and giving strength for the next stage of life.

This sacrament is a formal ritual of healing by the Church. But there are a million informal ways, such as putting one's arm around someone who is lonely or unwell, which are sacramental to the world. We could pause for a moment that we might go into the world like the man healed by Jesus, eyes wide open to see where we might exercise the healing power of the Lord of the Gospel.

Liturgy Help

### Please pray for our sick:

Joe Abela  
Antonio Borja  
Delfina Borja  
Florence Bowell  
Leigh Anne Burkett  
Angelo Cecchellero  
John Church  
Iole Cicolini  
Elaine Clift  
Emmanuel Corpuz  
Juliet and Rommel Estabillo  
Rima Faatamala  
Helen Fraser  
Cora Fulcher  
David Goldsmith  
Corazon Guemo  
Gary Grady  
Antonietta Laria  
Sophy Lawless  
Baby Atlas Lozev  
Marcos  
Anthony McGlynn  
Gywen McIntyre  
Patricia McMahan  
Anna Nguyen  
Loretta & Geoff Percival  
Regina Paredes  
Trishy Mary Rankin  
Nathan Reynolds  
Ben Sealey  
Rosario B Surmiolda  
Ljubica Vricic  
Eve Ward  
Olesia (Jacyson) Warren

### May they rest in peace:

Anne McTernan (Michelago)  
Michael Freebody  
Gaetano Nesci  
Nikkita Drazevich  
Philip Thwaytes (England)  
Ziggy Ciora  
Nancy Thwaytes  
Francis Dudley Skeers  
Giuseppina Strangio (Italy)  
Antonietta Pelle (Italy)  
Charles West

### Anniversary of Death:

Christopher Johnstone  
Bev Raby  
Giuseppe Larobina  
Maria Sergi  
Alexis Agius

### Baptisms:

Jax Dal Molin  
Charlie Hartas  
George McCreanor  
Rory Connelly

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

**Saturday**  
9am Mass  
5.30pm Vigil Mass

**Sunday**  
9.00am Mass  
Sunday 5.00pm Mass

**Monday**  
5.30pm Mass

**Tuesday**  
5.30pm Mass

**Wednesday**  
12noon Mass & 5.30pm

**Thursday**  
5.30pm Mass

**Friday**  
12noon Mass  
11.00am-11.55am Exposition  
and Adoration  
5.30pm Mass

**See notice for Friday services during Lent**

**Baptisms**  
St Raphael's Church  
Sundays 10.30am

**Marriages**  
by appointment

**Confession**  
see page 2 of bulletin

**Michelago**  
2nd Saturday of the month 5.30pm

### Parish Finance Committee

Elenore Karpfen Chair  
Selina Stanford  
Scott Corr  
Anne Alexander  
Father Tony Percy

## St Gregory's Parish Catholic Community

Parish Team: Fr Tony Percy PP

Fr Joshua Scott AP

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Facebook: St Gregory's Parish Queanbeyan



Office Team: Lorraine Lasker & Rita Pelle

Parish Office is open Tues, Thurs & Friday

9am-3.30pm (New office times and days from Monday 27th March, See inside bulletin for details)

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A

18 & 19 March 2023

### Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.  
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;  
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

### First Reading 1Sam 16:1,6-7,10-13

A reading from the first book of Samuel

*In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.*

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

### Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

L. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. (R.)

C. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name. If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. (R.)

L. You have prepared a banquet for me In the sight of my foes. My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. (R.)

C. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. (R.)

### Second Reading Eph 5:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

*Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you*

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said: Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

### Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!  
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;  
whoever follows me will have the light of life.  
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

### Gospel Jn 9:1-41

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.*

### Communion Antiphon

The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.

Liturgy Help



### Readings for 5th Sunday of Lent

Ezek 37:12-14

Rom 8:8-11 Jn 11:1-45

**Dear Parishioners,**

As promised, today you have in your hands the financial results from 2022 (Jan-Dec) and the 2023 Budget. A more detailed budget is available if you wish. Simply email me and I will provide it to you.

As you can see, it is a balanced budget. I have gone through the expenses line by line with Deb Foote, who heads up *Parish Support* in the Archdiocese, and Elenore Karpfen (Chair of the *Parish Finance Committee (PFC)*).

We simply had to make room in the budget for a realistic maintenance figure. This has meant a reduction of office hours and has meant pain for our two wonderful secretaries Lorraine and Rita.

You will notice that there is little planned expenditure for our mission and outreach. Once a *Parish Pastoral Council (PPC)* is established, we will be able to prioritise matters.

Please pray and ask for wisdom as to whom you might like to nominate for the PPC. You can email me with your nominations by Wednesday 29 March 2023.

Thanks to every one of you who support this wonderful parish of ours. Our local area is expanding by the day, and so there is much to be done to reach out to those who are coming to live here.

Whether you give with cash, credit card, direct debit or tap your contribution helps maintain what has been bequeathed to us, and helps us go out to others as the Lord commanded us (*Matthew 28*).

Feedback is very important and welcome to either Father Joshua or myself and the PFC members listed on the bulletin.

Father Tony

Income	Actual 2022	Budget 2023
Direct giving	139,951	150,600
Donations and bequests	7,961	5,800
Functions and ceremonies	26,966	16,200
Hire or rent of facilities	15,404	8,250
Sale of religious items	2,619	3,000
Interest	5,260	10,000
Education recoupment	12,225	6,000
<b>Gross Income</b>	<b>210,386</b>	<b>199,850</b>
Expense		
Administration costs	34,449	19,350
Motor vehicle costs	10,369	19,200
Education resources	8,347	5,960
Salaries and wages	100,138	76,604
Insurances	29,805	32,400
Donations or quotas	6,697	6,680
Property expenses	2,864	3,038
Repairs and maintenance	9,961	26,618
Capital expenses	6,569	-
Presbytery expenses	11,691	10,000
<b>Gross Expense</b>	<b>220,890</b>	<b>199,850</b>
<b>Net Result</b>	<b>(10,504)</b>	<b>-</b>

### Fridays in Lent

Stations of the Cross – 10.30am  
 Adoration – 11.00am  
 Mass – 12.00pm  
 Mass - 5.30pm  
 Stations of the Cross – 6.00pm

### CONFESSION TIMES DURING LENT

Monday	6pm
Thursday	
Friday	
Saturday	9.30am-10am

**ST GREGORY'S COIN CLUB** - The balance we collected for 2022 was **\$6149**

**Many thanks for your continuing generosity!**

**The receptacle for the coins is now near the offertory table.**

**We are collecting for Respite for Queanbeyan for February and March.**

- ◆ **Parish office hours** - as from the Monday 27th March, the parish office will be open on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday from 9am - 1pm.
- ◆ **Working Bee** - Saturday 25th March 10am - 1pm at Lowe street. Please bring heavy duty gardening tools. ie: hedging tools, blower vacs etc. Vote early and come along, many hands make light work. Morning tea will be provided.
- ◆ **Pilgrimage to Inner Peace** - Christian meditation is a great way to grow your personal relationship with Jesus during Lent. You are very welcome to join us at the foot of the cross in St Raphael's church each Tuesday at 7pm. Contact Tony Carey 0455 231 057 for details or just come along.
- ◆ **Holy Water** - Please feel free to take some Holy water from the tank near the baptismal font. Please bring your own container.
- ◆ **SVDP** - Vinnie's has a 10 cent recycling bin in the presbytery garage (for bottles and cans). Any donations will be greatly appreciated. Donations of Cordial, Juice, Noodle, washing liquid, fabric softener, dishwashing liquid & toilet paper are still greatly appreciated. These can be left in the alcove in the church.
- ◆ **Caritas** - Project compassion boxes and envelopes are available in the church. *Caritas Australia 2023 Project Compassion Appeal is available in your Parish Qkr! App under ACG Special Appeals.*
- ◆ **CHRISM MASS** – Join the Archbishop and the Clergy of the Archdiocese on Monday 3 April at 5.00pm in St Christopher's Cathedral, Forrest for this most important Holy Week ceremony. It is this Mass that the Holy Oils used in the various Sacramental Rites of the Church are blessed and consecrated. Everyone is most welcome.

### EASTER TRIDUUM SERVICE TIMES

**Holy Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30pm**

***Mass of the Lord's Supper***

**Adoration until 9.00pm**

**Good Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> April at 11am**

***Stations of the Cross***

**Good Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> April at 3pm**

***The Lord's Passion***

**Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> April at 6.00pm**

***Easter Vigil***

**Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> April at 8am, 10am & 5pm**

***The Lord's Resurrection!***