



**CATHOLIC PARISH OF HEALESVILLE, INCORPORATING HEALESVILLE (ST BRIGID'S),
YARRA GLEN (ST ALOYSIUS) & MARYSVILLE (OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS)**

Address: 15 High Street, Healesville, Victoria, 3777
Postal Address: PO Box 73, Healesville, Victoria, 3777
Website: <http://www.stbrigidshealesville.cam.org.au>

Administrator: Fr. Francis Denton
Secretary: Mrs Sharon Jacob 0448 658 418

Pastoral Worker: Mrs. Debbie Edwards 0448 664 731
Email: Healesville@cam.org.au Ph: 5962 4026

6TH March 2022

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT (Year C)

Entrance Procession

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: Deuteronomy 26:4-10

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement:

"My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given me." You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 90:1-2, 10-15

R. Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High and abides in the shade of the Almighty says to the Lord: 'My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!'

R. Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

Upon you no evil shall fall,
no plague approach where you dwell.
For you has he commanded his angels,
to keep you in all your ways.

R. Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

They shall bear you upon their hands
lest you strike your foot against a stone.
On the lion and the viper you will tread
and trample the young lion and the dragon.
R. Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

His love he set on me, so I will rescue him;
protect him for he knows my name.
When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you.'
I will save him in distress and give him glory.
R. Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

Second Reading: Romans 10:8-13

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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: Luke 4:1-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness where he was tempted.
Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.'
Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says:
You must worship the Lord your God,

and serve him alone.'

Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said to him, 'throw yourself down from here, for Scripture says:

He will put his angels in charge of you

to guard you,

and again:

They will hold you up on their hands

in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said:

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

Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him to return at the appointed time.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Communion Antiphon

One does not live by bread alone,

but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,

I believe that You

are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment

receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me

to be separated from You.

Amen.

Latest Guidelines from the Melbourne Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

The key areas of change as of 11:59pm Friday 25th February (and including the changes from last Friday) are:

- Face coverings are not mandatory within Places of Worship or workplaces.
- QR code check-in to Places of Worship and particular workplaces (Parish offices) is no longer required. We understand this to also include when the faithful are using other facilities within the Parish (for example; hospitality to visitors following Mass or the celebration of a Baptism, Children's liturgy etc).
- There will not be any vaccination requirements nor any requirement for organisers to check vaccination status for attendees at Places of Worship for Weddings, Funerals, or general Worship. However, Workers at Places of Worship (staff and volunteers) must still be up-to-date with their vaccinations and have provided evidence of this to their 'employer.'

<https://melbournecatholic.org/covid-19-guidelines>

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Recently Deceased: Fr Kevin Mogg, Rudi Wen Huda, Sr Kathleen McSweeney, Elizabeth Beaton,

Sick: Babies Emmett, Noah Glen Christie, Tedi and Santi; Roman, Blake Smith, Trish Leahy, John Snell, Abby Sharp,

Peter Munro, Megan, Bernie Jansen, Andrew Sharp, John, Glenn, Lyn Francis, Dorothy Barber, Fiona, Annie Preuss, Michelle Ryan, Damian, John, Alison, Heather, Julie Bates, Garry Dettman, Bradley Jordan, Jeanette Henkel, Richard Galbraith, Debbie Huby, Geoff Lucas, Sandra Donkin, Glen, Fred Coullas, Evie Gleeson, Indy Dawes, Rade Krstic, Megan Williams, Michael Wood, Michael, Margo & Stephen Youngberry, Marie Hammond, John Mulholland, Rhiannon Days, Val Savitt, Ron Garland, Jaz Nueber, James Cooney, Robert, Mary & Gerard Bariola, Tilly Van der Zee, Lydia, Joyce Slattery, Annie, Bob Ireland, Val & Michael Christie, Ted & Peter Bowling, Natasha, Mia, James, Mitchell Wilson, Veronica Ireland, Lauren, Brooke, Anthony, Laura Baosde Pinto, Michelle, Judy, Annette Fromholtz, John Wray, Lynn Doensen, Elsa Gianforte, Fiona M, Louise Janse,

FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES ARE IN MARCH

Sr Nell Russell (03.03.16), Ronald Donchi (05.03.83), H. Weda (12.03.03), Rene Chandler

(13.03.96), Helen Srafford, (16.03.08), Frank McDonald (12.03.04), John Doensen (17.03.17),

Ziggy Nadolski (18/3/11), Claudio Latin (20.03.13), Mary Snell (22.03.12),

Antonio Bariola (24.03.99), John Field (23.03.42), Mary Wood (23.03.03),

Eva Jansen (2006), Erica Fries (2005), Mavis McKenzie (2006), Harry van de ven, Susan Sosic (25.03.19)

Gardening around the church and presbytery

If you can help out in any way in keeping our gardens looking neat, please contact the office. Our gardening team needs assistance with big jobs and little, from mowing and whipper snipping to weeding. This need not be a big time commitment, we simply need generous parishioners to be available when they can to join a pool of willing hands to help maintain our large grounds.

Thanks!

Thanksgiving St Brigid's Healesville,

20th January 2022

Thanksgiving: \$658.55

Presbytery: \$266.35

Our Lady of the Snows - Marysville 17th January 2022

Thanksgiving: \$48.00

St Aloysius - Yarra Glen

Thanksgiving: \$40

Easter Mass Times

14th April- 7:30 pm.

Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by Altar of Repose, Individual Prayer and Adoration.

15th April, Good Friday.

3:00 pm Passion of the Lord

16th April, Holy Saturday.

7.30pm Easter Vigil Mass

17th April Easter Sunday Mass

10:30 am St. Patrick's, Lilydale

8:30 am St. Brigid's, Healesville



Stations of the Cross

Good Friday 10.00am at
St Aloysius - Yarra Glen

First Sunday of Lent



Ivan Kramskoi, 'Christ in the Desert' (1872).

"Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus...was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil."

In 2018 The French bishops caused a bit of controversy when they changed the words of the Our Father for use at Mass. The words "Lead us not into temptation", were changed to the French equivalent of "do not let us fall into temptation." The following year, the Italian Bishops conference followed suit. The justification for the change was the concern that the words "lead us not into temptation" might leave one with the impression that God himself was the one who leads us into temptation, as though luring us into a booby-trap: 'Haha! Gotch-ya!' says God, according to this hermeneutic. I recall at the time being perplexed if not a little scandalised. How is it possible for a prayer that Christians of all stripes have been praying for two thousand years to be suddenly 'improved' by an episcopal committee? Does God Almighty require a French bishops conference to 'correct' the theology of the Son of God, a prayer that has been called for two millennia "the pattern of all prayer"? Is the Divinely inspired and inerrant Word of God, wrong on this point? I confess, I remain more than a little sceptical.

Biblical scholars have pointed out that the original Koine Greek of the New Testament is in fact quite accurately translated as "Lead us not into temptation". One such scholar, George Grimbilas, offers a word by word parsing of the text to show that the standard vernacular translation (whether Latin, English, French or Italian) is in fact textually correct. He comments, "No matter how much one tortures the Greek and searches the lexica, there is no evidence for rendering "μή εισενέγκῃς" as "do not let us fall," or even, "do not let us make an error." (George Grimbilas "Lead us not into

Mistranslation" in *The New Criterion*:

<https://newcriterion.com/blogs/dispatch/lead-us-not-into-mistranslation>). The hoopla seems to stem from a discomfort or misunderstanding about the nature of temptation and its relationship to sin. We know God does not want us to sin, ever. Every sin in contrary to the will of God, who always wills what is good for us. But what about temptation? Can any good come of it?

In the Gospel for the First Sunday of Lent we meditate on the temptation of Christ in the desert. The context is enlightening. In all the synoptic Gospels (Matt, Mark and Luke) the temptation of Christ is immediately preceded by the Baptism of Christ. John's baptism was a baptism of repentance for sin, and so John understandably hesitates to baptise the sinless "Lamb of God". Christ insists, and so the heavens part and the Holy Spirit alights on Christ in the form of a dove. No sooner has this theophany taken place, then Luke writes: "Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil." Once it is pointed out it is unmistakable. It is whilst filled with the Holy Spirit, that Jesus is then led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted. Why does Jesus go into the wilderness? For the same reason that Jesus repeatedly escapes into the wilderness – to be alone to pray to his Father. The wilderness is a place of retreat from the world, but it is also a place of preparation, and even a place of trial. Recall, for example, the story of Jacob wrestling the Angel (Genesis 32:22-32), or Moses and the Israelites' forty years in the desert (Exodus).

That God allows us to undergo trials and tests is quite apparent both from scripture and lived experience. The trial can take the form of a temptation, not that God wills the temptation, but rather that he *permits* it so as to strengthen our character. Consider the story of Job, the just man. Satan wants to make Job fall by tempting him to curse God by a litany of horrific afflictions. In the Biblical narrative Satan actually bargains with God and appears to act with God's consent (ie. his *permissive* will) – "Very well" the Lord said to Satan, 'all he has is in your power.'" (Job 1:12). Making a distinction between the active will and the permissive will of God might sound like scholastic gobbledygook, but in fact it's very helpful to be able to understand how God allows any evil to exist, even though God could never actively will evil. In the story of Job there is a subtle but important distinction between what Satan does as the agent of temptation, and what God permits Satan to do. It is Satan (not God) who tempts Job, but God *does* permit it. Why? Because through this trial Job's love for God is proven, purified and perfected from all worldly attachments: property, possessions, family and even his own bodily health. Throughout the trial Job never curses God; in return God restores Job's fortunes twofold (Job 42:10).

In short, God never actively wills that we should be tempted, and therefore would never lead us into temptation. But by his permissive will God tolerates the possibility of temptation because it can be an opportunity for spiritual growth. Origen, one of the Fathers of the Church, writes: "[since] God does not want to impose the good, but wants free beings. . . . There is a certain usefulness to temptation. No one but God knows what our soul has received from him, not even we ourselves. But temptation reveals it in order to teach us to know ourselves, and in this way we discover our evil inclinations and are

obliged to give thanks for the goods that temptation has revealed to us." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2847).

Jesus is tempted not because his will needed to be purified from sin but in fact for our sake. The humiliation Christ endured by experiencing temptation was part of his self-emptying (cf. Phil 2:7) both as a matter of solidarity with the fallen human race that must contend daily with temptation, and for our instruction, that we might learn from Christ how to withstand temptation: through prayer, fasting and self-denial. St Paul writes, "No testing has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your strength, but with the temptation will also provide the way of escape, so that you may be able to endure it." (1Cor 10). Christ is tempted but never sins. We too will face temptations but by God's grace we can use the gift of free will to reinforce our desire to choose Christ. May this season of Lent strengthen our resolve to follow Christ more faithfully and reject anything opposed to his holy will.

Yours in Christ
Fr Francis Denton

From Debbie's Desk

Over the next 6 weeks or so of Lent, a time of reflection and rejuvenation, we will be encouraged to encounter God in a deeper way. Sounds good so far! The Church helps us along the way through its liturgy. For instance, the ashes placed on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday remind us that during Lent we need to slow down, to ponder, to change. The ashes are the burned remains of the blessed palms we waved on Palm Sunday last year when we came to Mass. Despite lockdown and other weird interventions, on Palm Sunday, or Passion Sunday as it is now called, we still managed to remember Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey, hailed as a king, people waving palm branches in celebration of the one that they hoped would rise up and save them from physical oppression. Jesus is indeed our king, but his road to glory was not to include an earthly throne. How quickly the people dropped those palms when they could see no glory in Jesus' outward appearance. We burn the palms we held on Palm Sunday to remind ourselves of how quickly we too drop our bundles when it comes to trusting God and following his ways. During Lent we have time to simplify, to give God time, to listen. We rise from ash to new green growth. We renew.

Towards the end of Lent, in particular, we relive the story of Jesus' betrayal, trial, humiliation, torture and death. We find him just as vulnerable and helpless as we found him at Christmas time, just a few short weeks ago. Then, we encountered Jesus as a cute, helpless little baby, adored by all who were inspired to visit the stable where he was born. Our saviour does not look like a saviour, either at Christmas time, or on Good Friday. Human as we are human, Jesus struggled through his vulnerability, just as we do every day. He 'gets it', because he has lived it. Just like Jesus, our human condition leaves us vulnerable and in need. Yet, through the wonder of the Resurrection of Jesus, who is fully human like us, yet also fully divine as God's Son, we find our salvation. We find the hope of new life that goes on forever. We find God in all his glory, who understands us and loves us eternally, infinitely, perfectly.

We are encouraged to prepare ourselves for this miracle throughout the Lenten season, and great Lenten preparation can simply comprise consciously opening our hearts to conversation with God. When we were baptised, we encountered God in a unique, wonderful, personal meeting. Like any other friendship, regular contact is the key to nurturing our closeness to God. Our awareness of his love for us hopefully intensifies as we grow as a person, and our love for him deepens. Our knowledge and love of God should steadily strengthen throughout our entire lifetime, a constant quest to find 'home', God's very heart. God loves us, and is always with us, faithful and constant, but we often fail to recognise his dependable presence. Lent is our opportunity to work on our relationship with God as a conscious mission, strengthening our friendship with him through presence and conversation, growing towards him in awareness and in relationship. Self-denial is also a constructive project during Lent. I control my own passions, and think outwardly to God

and towards others, instead of inwardly towards myself. I think of God's love instead of choosing my own wants. One of the greatest gifts I can offer God costs nothing in financial terms, but initially may challenge me greatly, a true act of self-denial. Gifting God our time in order to enhance our relationship with him can be a massive challenge when we get down to it. To turn the phone, computer, tablet or tv off can be torture in today's world. Any time consciously offered to God each day during Lent is an investment that is priceless. How could I go about giving God that small gift? Simply, uncomplicatedly, I could set aside a few minutes to be quiet with him. Conversation is a two way process. I may do some of the talking initially, in prayer, but then I need to listen for my friend's response to me. I need to stop, completely, with as few distractions as possible. This is where self-control comes in. I need to listen. I need to shut the door on the world for those few minutes. I may hear birds, or a lawn mower, or the fridge at first, but when I offer God even a couple of minutes of my time, I may also become aware of surprises I may not expect. God speaks to us in all sorts of ways, perhaps in prayer, perhaps through other people, or events, or ways I cannot anticipate. I need to be brave enough to be open to the unexpected. When I am truly open to God, anything can happen, and sometimes this possibility is enough to freak us out! My gift to God this Lent could be my time, my friendship, and my willingness to be brave enough to let him speak to me in whatever way he chooses. Am I that daring?

Fr Kevin Mogg

Funeral of Fr. Kevin Mogg will be at 12:00 pm on Monday 7th March Holy Spirit Church to be presided by Archbishop Peter Comensoli and homily by Fr. Joe Caddy. The service will be livestreamed c/o Tobin Brothers funeral website.

Meeting for "Lookout for the safety of children"

Please join us Monday 28th February 1-3pm at St Brigid's Hall. All very welcome. Cuppa and afternoon tea provided.

Care Group Meeting

Friday 4th March 1-3pm at St Brigid's Hall.
All Welcome

Rosters

If you would like to join the reading roster for Sunday Mass, could spare an hour a month to help clean the church, or could donate a little time to help out with the gardening, please ring the office. We would also like to hear if you would like to become part of our visitation team. Our rosters are severely depleted as our older volunteers are retiring and we encourage you to consider whether you could be one who is now meant to jump in to help out in whatever way you can.

Child Safeguarding

Check out the new tab for Safeguarding on our Parish website. It currently displays our Parish Commitment Statement, our Parish Safeguarding Policy, and our Parish Code of Conduct. Further info will be added in the weeks to come.

A reminder that you can chat to members of our Safeguarding team at any time: **Rod Hysted, Cath O'Halloran, John Barrett, Debbie, Sharon and Fr Francis.**



Tuesday 8th March is international Women's Day. Celebrate all the women in your life!



Anatercia 12, was struggling to cope with adult responsibilities after her father died. Then she participated in Caritas Australia-supported training and gained access to psychosocial supports. Now, her quality of life has improved and she can focus on school.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 to help young people succeed in the future and bring stability to vulnerable youth like Anatercia.

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 lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.