

IN THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL WE PRAY FOR:

Our Sick: Rose Bedier, Dianne Hutchinson and those of our community.

Recently Deceased: Giuseppe Reitano (funeral Tuesday 24th Feb at 11.00am) and Rosemary Seneviratne.

Repose of the Souls: Those whose anniversary occur about this time and those whose names are on the memorial wall.

Church Cleaning	Saturday 28th February — Filipino Community
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Safeguarding of children and vulnerable young people.

St Dominic's Community holds the care, safety and wellbeing of children as a fundamental responsibility of the church. This commitment is drawn from, and inherent to, the teaching and mission of Jesus Christ, with love, justice and dignity of each human person at the heart of the Gospel. A cultural of safety within the Church ensures that children can actively and fully participate in the life of the Church and realise their potential in a faith community. **We are committed to upholding the safety and dignity of each child and young person and ensuring that they are able to grow and develop in a caring and supportive environment in our Church.**

Attention Parents and Carers!
If your child goes to the toilet or just outside of the Church, one of the parents must accompany him/her.

St Dominic's Presbytery House Renovation

Please be informed that the Parish did some renovations last year in the Presbytery house with a new laundry, fascia cover in the garage and new water tank which costed **\$37,610.00**

Now we are undertaking the outside renovations like cleaning of entirety roof fixing damages, removing and replacing gutters surrounding, installation of Colourbond fascia covers, removal of asbestos and replacing with cement sheeting, painting, etc with the cost of **\$40,000.00**

Repairs of broken water pipes in the church costing **\$4,150.00**

Thank you to everybody for the continue support to the church, it is very much appreciated, without you we couldn't keep our spiritual mission and maintenance of the church building. God Bless You All!

Next Sunday—Baptism Information Preparation

At 3.00pm in the Church for Parents, Carers & Godparents.

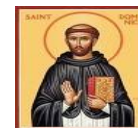
Please call the office for your attendance.

**THANKSGIVING
OFFERING ONLINE TO:
ST DOMINIC'S CHURCH
BSB: 083 347
ACCOUNT NUMBER:
67441 1404**

PLEASE TYPE YOUR THANKSGIVING
ENVELOPE NUMBER WHEN YOU DO
THE TRANSACTION.

The Parish has the facility of
**EFTPOS DEBIT, VISA CARD
and MASTER CARD.** This is a
good option for those who do
not carry cash and would like
to contribute to the church.
**The set up is of: \$5.00;
\$10.00; \$20.00 and \$50.00**

ST DOMINIC'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



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PARISH SECRETARY: Ana Miriam Guardado

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays from 8.00am-2.00pm

ST DOMINIC'S SCHOOL—PRINCIPAL: Katie Broadbent, Phone: 03 9309 4146

PARISH MASS TIMES

Sundays: 6.00pm Vigil Mass (Saturday evening)
9.00am 1st & 3rd Sundays: Vietnamese Mass
9.00am 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays: English Mass
11.00am: English Mass
1.00pm: Spanish Mass

Weekdays: Tuesday to Saturday 9.00am Mass

Morning Prayer of the Church: Tuesday to Saturday at 8.25am

Rosary: Tuesday to Sunday before Mass.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Every Wednesday from 6.00pm to 8.00pm

Benediction: Every Friday following the 9.00am Mass.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Tuesday to Saturday before or after Mass.

Baptism Information/Preparation: Every First Sunday of the month at 3.00pm.

Anointing of the Sick: Every Third Wednesday of the Month at 9.00am Mass.



First Sunday of Lent — Year A

22nd February 2026

First Reading: Genesis 2: 7-9; 3: 1-7

Creation of our first parents, and sin.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 50: 3-6. 12-14.17

R/ Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Second Reading: Romans 5: 12-19

Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.

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: Matthew 4: 1-11

Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.



NEXT SUNDAY READINGS: Genesis 12: 1-4; Timothy 1: 8-10; Matthew 17: 1-9

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

Sin and temptation are the dominant themes of the readings for this first week of Lent. Indeed, they are regular themes in the season of Lent. However, the scripture passages throughout this season allow us the opportunity to think again about these themes and perhaps reconsider some traditional understandings of them.

Today's first reading and gospel give us two different takes on the notion of temptation. In the passage from Genesis, humanity is tempted to ignore the will of God and, when they succumb, they lose their innocence and become embarrassed by their nakedness. The temptation they are offered is to believe themselves above and beyond the will of God; to believe that they can judge as well as God; and to rise to an equal level of power and authority with God. Their action breaks the trusting, loving relationship between themselves and God. In the Gospel, Jesus too is confronted with similar temptations. Ultimately, the temptation that faces Jesus relates to his purpose and ministry – will he trust to God's vision of the suffering servant who will bring about a change of heart in the people, or will he be the sort of Messiah that the people hoped for: a triumphant, glorious victor over all who stood in his way. He is tempted to break his self-imposed fasting, to test God's promise of nurture and security, and to seek glory and personal power. Whilst Adam and Eve surrender to temptation, Jesus holds fast to God's vision.

The second reading from Paul ties the Genesis and Gospel readings together and injects the notion of sin into the equation. However, Paul makes it perfectly clear that the sin of Adam, though carrying great ramifications, pales in comparison to the extraordinary abundance of God's love that is expressed through Jesus Christ.

Scriptural context – Trusting God

The testing and temptation of Jesus echoes the plight of the people of Israel as they wandered in the desert for forty years. They relied on God to provide them with food and protection and ultimately lead them into the land that was promised to them. They had to trust that God would deliver these things in God's own time and way. Jesus is tempted to ignore God's time and ways by seizing for himself food, protection and ownership of the land. The temptations of Jesus and the people of Israel are all about trusting God.

Historical Context – Sin

The Greek word translated as 'sin' in the New Testament literally means 'miss the mark'. Its origin may lie in archery where the object was always to hit the mark; to miss the mark was to not achieve at one's best. Jesus set about trying to redefine the Jewish notion of sin from being a transgression against God that deserves punishment to the more compassionate idea that sin is a wandering off course that can be rectified – a missing of the mark. When he encountered someone who was missing the mark, Jesus called them back into right relationship.

Have you thought? – An invitation

Lent is a season of invitation. It is an invitation to step into the desert with Jesus; to confront our own purpose and ministry and to renew our trust in God's vision for the world and for us individually. Seen in this light, Lent is so much more than fasting from meat and giving up ice cream for a few weeks. The whole idea of fasting and sacrifice is an attempt to simplify our lives. Through simplifying our life and removing some of the daily distractions, we can share in the desert experience of Jesus and then truly celebrate the hope reborn in the Easter season.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS EVERY FRIDAY AT 7.00PM

This is how it all begins, sentenced like a common criminal, accused of crimes he has not committed. Yet, our Savior humbly accepts the criminality of all of humanity placed on His shoulders as our Passover lamb. It shakes me to think that just a few days previous, people from all walks of life were praising His name as Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey. Now here they are, rejecting His name, casting blame on Him, and sentencing Him to die.

Lent is always a time for reflection. Reflecting on ourselves, reflecting on our relationship with God, thinking of ways we have been strong in faith, and ways that we have fallen in faith



During Lent Fr Octavian will be visiting the sick of the community, please give him the name and address of those who need to be visited by the priest.

Sacramental Program 2026

Classes for the Sacrament of Confirmation for those children who attend government schools are on Wednesdays & Thursdays from 7.00pm to 8.00pm every week.

Parents are encouraged to bring their children to attend Sunday Mass.

Sacraments are happening early this year.

The Sacrament of Confirmation: Saturday 16 May 2026 at 6.00pm

The Sacrament for First Holy Communion: Sunday 26th July 2026

Please contact the parish office for more information.

Thanksgiving Envelopes: If you would like to contribute to the Church through the Thanksgiving Envelope please contact the parish office or send an email with your name, address phone number and we will prepare the set of envelopes for the year.



Project Compassion 2026 shares four stories from around the world. We'll meet Sisilia from Tanzania, Monoranjon from Bangladesh, Manaini from Fiji and Ahmad from Gaza.

Each of this year's stories highlights unique challenges, yet they are united by the determination to rise above adversity and to build brighter, more hopeful futures for themselves, their families and their communities.

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate

Or by calling: 1800 024 413



UNITE  AGAINST POVERTY
this Lent

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*