



Third Sunday of Lent - Yr C

23rd March, 2025

Parish Priest Fr Vincent Nguyen
66 Aitken Street, Gisborne Vic 3437
Ph: 5428 2591

Parish Secretary Tammie Dalglish
P O Box 467, Gisborne Vic 3437
Ph: 5428 2591

CHILD PROTECTION - is everyone's responsibility

Check the Parish Website for:

Child Safety & Code of Conduct Policy
Parish Privacy Act / Professional Standards

*A parent must accompany any child leaving the church during Mass.***Parish Email** gisborne@cam.org.au**Parish Website** melbcatholic.org/s/gisborne**Secretary Hours** Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am – 5:00pm**CONTINUING PRAYER LIST:**

Please pray for those who are in ill health:

**Eileen S, Corine V, Anthony S,
Fran S, Helen K, Shane R, George T,
Jacqueline D, Sebastian M,
Diane M, Eddie G, Marg P, Zoe F,
Ellen K & Pat P.**

We pray for the recently deceased, especially **Max Dariol**
and for those who have an anniversary at this time,
especially **Malachi Carroll, Margaret Cabassi, Leslie
Brown, Victor & Jane Gauci, Catherine & Salvatore
Galea and Mary Ragland.**

May they rest in peace

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

22/03/25	Saturday 6pm Mass – Gisborne
23/03/25	Normal Sunday Masses
23/03/25	12pm Baptism's – Gisborne
25/03/25	Clergy Regional Meeting
25/03/25	NO Weekday Mass
26/03/25	9:15am – Weekday Mass – Gisborne
26/03/25	7pm Holy Cross PS Reconciliation
27/03/25	NO Weekday Mass
27/03/25	7pm St. Brigid's PS Reconciliation
28/03/25	NO Weekday Mass
29/03/25	Saturday 6pm Mass – Gisborne
30/03/25	Normal Sunday Masses
01/04/25	NO Weekday Mass
02/04/25	NO Weekday Mass
02/04/25	6:30pm – Baptism information evening
03/04/25	NO Weekday Mass
03/04/25	7pm – Liturgy meeting – Parish office
04/04/25	9:15am – Mass & Benediction - Gisborne

BAPTISM PRAYER

We ask our God, the giver of life, to bless you all,

Freddie, Easton, Mateo, Claire, Luca & Maia

who will be baptised this weekend.

We, the Parish Community of St. Brigid's Gisborne,
St. Patrick's Macedon & St. Ambrose Riddell's Creek
welcome and support you.

Amen**REFLECTION by Fr. Michael Tate**

There was a terrible disaster when a building fell down killing eighteen people. Some said, 'Oh, those killed must have been sinners, they or their parents.' Jesus repudiates that notion: 'No, it wasn't for anything they did.' It was clear to Jesus that they were the victims of poor construction and conditions at Siloam. Look at the builder.

Responsibility needs to be brought home to those who would otherwise hide behind a religious ideology, or the sheer self-interest of evading blame for a situation.

To identify those really responsible may well require major changes to the way society is organised.

Does it all seem too difficult? Jesus helps us with a metaphor:

You are like a fig tree which may not be bearing much fruit just now, but, I am a terrific gardener:

I will water you, dig around you, make sure you are well nourished so that you will bear the fruits I desire.

Our Lord does that by:

watering us with the waters of baptism;

pruning us, especially during Lent;

nourishing us with the bread of life in Holy Communion.

We might pause at various times during Lent to allow

Our Lord to garden us so that he may create a heavenly botanical garden, a new Eden, of the whole of humanity.

mtate@bigpond.com**Holy Week Mass Times 2025***All services at St. Brigid's Gisborne unless specified*

Fri 11 April	10am – Healing Mass
Wed 16 April	6:15pm – Tenebrae
Wed 16 April	7pm – Communal Service of Forgiveness
Thur 17 April	7pm – Mass of the Lord's Supper
Fri 18 April	10am – Stations of the Cross
Fri 18 April	PLEASE NOTE NO 9:15am MASS TODAY
Fri 18 April	3:00pm - Passion of the Lord
Sat 19 April	7:00pm - Holy Easter Vigil
Sun 20 April	8:00am – Easter Sunday Mass R/Creek
Sun 20 April	9:30am – Easter Sunday Mass Macedon
Sun 20 April	11am – Easter Sunday Mass Gisborne



Rosters & Events



Ministers for next weekend's Masses

4th Sunday of Lent – Year C

29th 30th March, 2025

6:00pm Mass St. Brigid's
Reader: J. Farrugia
Eucharist: L. Wilson

8:00am Mass St. Ambrose's
Welcomer: J. White
Reader: M. Henry

Flowers:
No flowers
during Lent
Greenery only
please



9:30am Mass St. Patrick's
Reader: B. O'Callaghan
Eucharist: J. O'Callaghan

11:00am Mass St. Brigid's
Reader: T. Armstrong
Eucharist: K. Page

Sacrament of Reconciliation for parish children

Our Sacrament Co-ordinators along with the RE Co-ordinators from Holy Cross & St. Brigid's have been preparing our Yr 3 students to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Term 1. Please pray for these children as they move forward in their Faith Journey and prepare to receive this Sacrament in the coming weeks.

Days of Fast & Abstinence Good Friday

'PARISH, PRIESTS AND PIONEERS, A HISTORY OF ST. BRIGID'S PARISH, GISBORNE'

The cost for the book is \$10 (A5 - small) or \$20 (A4 - large). Books can be purchased directly from the Parish Office or at weekend Masses.

THANKSGIVING BY DIRECT DEBIT

If you would like to contribute to the Thanksgiving Program, you may do so by direct debit to the acct below:
St. Brigid's Church Account NAB
BSB: 083 347
Acct: 6742 95773
Please use your surname and TG number as the reference.

PRIEST & PRESBYTERY BY DIRECT DEBIT

If you would like to contribute to the Priest & Presbytery expenses, you may do so by direct debit to the acct below:
St. Brigid's Presbytery Account NAB
BSB: 083 347
Acct: 6672 72303
Please use your surname as the reference.

THE ANNUAL MELBOURNE PASSION PLAY

The Annual Melbourne Passion Play takes place on Palm Sunday (April 13th, 2025) and Good Friday (April 18th, 2025).

This play follows the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ as part of the community's Holy Week celebrations.

For 25 years, this free of charge play has drawn a large audience from all walks of life, and for the first time will be brought to the West of Melbourne, at Catholic Regional College Sydenham.

*We will again have members of St. Patrick's Choir performing in this event.
Please support this event that brings to life the gospel message.*

PROJECT COMPASSION LENTEN PRAYER

God of our journey, we are all pilgrims of hope brought together by your love and your wish that we may all be one.

We pray that in this Year of Jubilee when we are called to greater justice and care for our common home that we may *Unite Against Poverty*.

May we work in unity for the freedom of the oppressed and the renewal of creation. May our compassionate minds and generous hearts help bring about a world where all can live in peace.

May our Lenten pilgrimage of fasting, almsgiving and prayer bring us closer to your loving heart.

We ask this in the name of Jesus. **Amen**

2024 CARITAS PROJECT COMPASSION

Envelopes and mite boxes are now available in church for the Special Collection throughout Lent for Project Compassion.

Please give what you can.

Parish Healing Mass - Friday April 11th - 10am

There will be no 9:15am Mass on this day.

An open invitation is extended to all parishioners, family members and friends to attend the service.

KARATE CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Thursday evenings 6pm - 1st TWO lessons
free then \$7 per class
No term commitment required;
pay as you come.
Enquiries: Kathryn Aprile—0404 340 892

WEEKLY SOCIAL CARDS NIGHT

St. Brigid's Hall – Tuesday 7:30pm start -
Entry \$10 per player
Light supper served on completion of play
EVERYONE WELCOME

OPEN HOUSE

Meet after 11am Sunday Mass at the
Kaffeine Bar for a coffee and chat.
Everyone Welcome!

SCRIPTURE STUDIES

Thursday – 10am
For all enquiries please contact
Bernie 0414 890 377

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Should you have a loved one gravely ill and in need of anointing or the services of a priest, please call the Parish
Landline on 5428 2591.

St Brigid's Parish Weekly Giving

Collections last week: Presbytery \$526
Thanksgiving \$1065

Thank you for your ongoing support through the Thanksgiving Program.

Introduction: In this week of Lent we hear again the image of the Covenant God made with Abraham when it is the context of God's revelation to Moses. For us baptised Christians this Eucharist makes present the new and eternal covenant in Christ Jesus.

1st Reading: Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15

The Lord reveals his name to Moses and assures him that he is the God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, in fact of all the Chosen People.

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

We hear how Paul gives his converts a reminder of the events affecting Moses and the Chosen People. They are written for us as a lesson, which is why we are urged to listen to them now.

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

We hear Jesus' parable of the fig tree when Jesus comments on some local current events and turns the opportunity into a reminder that we should all repent of our sins and bear the fruits he asks.

Prayer of Intercession: We are standing on holy ground in the presence of the Lord God, as we gather in his name; let us unite in worship and listen to the Word of God, and celebrate this Eucharist.

1. For the whole Church: that Lent may be a time of genuine repentance and a turning back to God.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

2. That those who break open the Word may learn to interpret the signs of the times even in local events, disasters or question marks, and lead people to see God's presence in all things.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

3. For all who bear the heavy cross of suffering in mind or body: that they may know that they are deeply loved by God and that their sufferings are a sharing in the sufferings of the Lord himself.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

4. For our community, that we will support each other in selflessness and humility so that we can be true disciples of Christ during this Lenten season.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

5. We pray for ourselves and the special needs of all in our parish community. We pray for those who are sick – especially and those on our parish prayer list – the frail, and for all who care for them. For the faithful departed: for those who have died recently, especially **Max Dariol** and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially **Malachi Carroll, Margaret Cabassi, Leslie Brown, Victor & Jane Gauci, Catherine & Salvatore Galea and Mary Ragland**. May they rejoice in the light and fullness of God's presence.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Eternal God, we thank you for the reassurance of your presence to remain faithful to the Covenant with your people. Accept the prayers and offerings of this community as the expression of our faith in You and your Son, Christ the Lord. Amen.

Next week's readings: Joshua 9:5-12; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Introduction:

Please join in the parish Prayer.

ST. BRIGID'S GISBORNE PARISH PRAYER

God our Father, we thank you for all the blessings we enjoy in our parish family of St. Brigid's Gisborne.

Many have laboured to build our parish. May we all work together and hand in hand stand together.

May our parish be filled with holiness and prayer, faith and love.

May all who come here find a welcoming home, comfort in their needs and strength for their journey.

St. Brigid, St. Patrick, St. Ambrose and St. Colmcille watch over us always we pray, that with faith we grow and learn.

We make our prayer in Jesus name.

Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, (*all bow*)

born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; "he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen

The Living Word

Third Sunday of Lent, Year C

23 March 2025

First Reading

Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15

A reading from the book of Exodus.

This is what you must say to the children of Israel: I Am has sent me to you.

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said, 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am' he answered. 'Come no nearer' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father,' he said 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God. And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow.' Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 102:1-4. 6-8. 11. R. v.8

(R.) *The Lord is kind and merciful.*

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. (R.)
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)
3. The Lord does deeds of justice,
gives judgement for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses
and his deeds to Israel's sons. (R.)
4. The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him. (R.)

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians.

All this that happened to the people of Moses in the desert was written for our benefit.

I want to remind you how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert.

These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer.

All this happened to them as a warning and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 4:17

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Repent, says the Lord;

the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

Luke 13:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.' He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down."'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Light in the Desert

A LENTEN RESOURCE

Third Sunday in Lent, Year C

Revised New Jerusalem Bible © 2019 by Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd

So he came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there and Jesus, tired by the journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon, when a Samaritan woman came to draw water. Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had done into the town to buy food. The Samaritan said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?'—for Jews do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied to her: 'If you knew what God is offering and who it is saying to you, "Give me a drink," you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water ... Whoever drinks of this water will be thirsty again; but anyone who drinks of the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will become an inner spring of water, welling up to eternal life.'

...

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah, the one called Christ, is coming; and when he comes he will declare everything.' Jesus said, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.' (John 4: 4-10, 13-14, 25-26).

Did you know?

Points of interest and Catholic lore

'The desire for God is written in the human heart, because man is created by God and for God; and God never ceases to draw man to himself. Only in God will he find the truth and happiness he never stops searching for: "The dignity of man rests above all on the fact that he is called to communion with God ..."' (CCC §27; cf. *Gaudium et spes* §19).



Stained glass window from St Philip's Episcopal Cathedral in Atlanta.
Photo by Fr Lawrence Lew OP.

Exploring the faith

Gaudium et spes, Vatican II's Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, may be one of the Council's most widely quoted, but little read, documents. While it is very long, it is rich with theological and spiritual insight, offering a witness to the Church's authentic pastoral instincts.

But first, what does the word 'pastoral' mean? The term comes from the word *pastor*, meaning *shepherd*. From its earliest years, the Church used the term *pastor* for its leaders because they were shepherds called to model their lives after Christ the Good Shepherd. To be pastoral in this sense is to, like a shepherd, lead the flock to good pasture. It is to lead them to real nourishment, just as Christ guided the Samaritan woman to 'living water'. This is, in a basic sense, what *Gaudium et spes* is doing.

In its opening sections, it does so, perhaps surprisingly, by reminding us of the fallenness of the human person and defending the doctrine of Original Sin—a doctrine that is, as GK Chesterton observed, 'as practical as potatoes.' But it also guides us to Christ, who not only reveals who God is but who we are. Christ reveals the ultimate dignity and purpose of human life. He is the one who, as the Samaritan woman says, 'will declare everything,' who offers the living water our hearts truly desire.

Reading from *Gaudium et spes*

3. Though mankind is stricken with wonder at its own discoveries and its power, it often raises anxious questions about the current trend of the world, about the place and role of man in the universe, about the meaning of its individual and collective strivings, and about the ultimate destiny of reality and of humanity ... The council brings to mankind light kindled from the Gospel, and puts at its disposal those saving resources which the Church herself, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, receives from her Founder. For the human person deserves to be preserved; human society deserves to be renewed. Hence the focal point of our total presentation will be man himself, whole and entire, body and soul, heart and conscience, mind and will ...

10. The truth is that the imbalances under which the modern world labours are linked with that more basic imbalance which is rooted in the heart of man. For in man himself many elements wrestle with one another. Thus, on the one hand, as a creature he experiences his limitations in a multitude of ways; on the other he feels himself to be boundless in his desires and summoned to a higher life. Pulled by manifold attractions he is constantly forced to choose among them and renounce some. Indeed, as a weak and sinful being, he often does what he would not, and fails to do what he would (Rom 7:15-20). Hence he suffers from internal divisions, and from these flow so many and such great discords in society ... The Church firmly believes that Christ, who died and was raised up for all, can through His Spirit offer man the light and the strength to measure up to his supreme destiny. Nor has any other name under the heaven been given to man by which it is fitting for him to be saved. She likewise holds that in her most benign Lord and Master can be found the key, the focal point and the goal of man, as well as of all human history. The Church also maintains that beneath all changes there are many realities which do not change and which have their ultimate foundation in Christ, Who is the same yesterday and today, yes and forever ...

22. The truth is that only in the mystery of the incarnate Word does the mystery of

man take on light. For Adam, the first man, was a figure of Him Who was to come, namely Christ the Lord. Christ, the final Adam, by the revelation of the mystery of the Father and His love, fully reveals man to man himself and makes his supreme calling clear. It is not surprising, then, that in Him all the aforementioned truths find their root and attain their crown.

Questions

- » Without God, the human heart is imbalanced and incomplete. Have you ever experienced this in your own life? Have you ever experienced a deep sense of restlessness and dissatisfaction? How?
- » What stands out to you most from these passages in *Gaudium et spes*? Why?
- » How might this understanding of the heart's desire for God inform our Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving?

Notes
