

4th Sunday of Lent 10th March , 2024

READING

2 Chrom 36:14-16, 19-23
Eph 2:4-10
Jn 3:14-21

NEXT WEEK

Jer31:31-34
Heb 5:7-9
Jn 12:20-30

PSALM

Let my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!

By the rivers of Babylon there we sat and wept,
remembering Zion; on the poplars that grew there
we hung our harps.

For it was there that they asked us, our captors,
for songs, our oppressors, for joy.
'Sing to us,' they said, 'one of Zion's songs.'

O how could we sing the song of the Lord on alien soil?
If I forget you, Jerusalem, let my right hand wither!

O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember
you not, if I prize not Jerusalem above all my joys!

Let my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!

CHRISM MASS

Mass of the Holy Oils (Chrism Mass) on
Wednesday 20th March at 10.30am– No
Morning Mass on this day.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
God loved the world so much, he gave us his
only Son,
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Recent Deaths: Giuseppe Peroni

Anniversaries: Jimmy Cantatore, Elda Cantatore , Anna Camilli, Assunta Gizzi

Sick: Iris Bonello, Carlos

<https://www.melbcatholic.org/bundoora>

Safeguarding of children and vulnerable young people

As required by law, we as the Church and Parishes have a moral, legal and ethical responsibility to care for, and promote the wellbeing of children and young people, and protect them from harm or abuse. Therefore while in church or on parish grounds: **Please ensure you know exactly where your child is if they're not beside you. *Please accompany your child (16 years and younger) if they need to leave the church for any reason (eg: going to toilet or car, etc...)*

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we stand, the WURRUNDJERI People. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently and respectfully upon the land.



Gospel Reflection for the 4th Sunday of Lent - Year B



As we journey through the season of Lent, the readings for the 4th Sunday invite us to reflect deeply on the themes of repentance, redemption, and God’s boundless love and mercy. In the first reading from 2 Chronicles, we are reminded of the consequences of human disobedience and sin. The passage describes how the people of Judah continually turned away from God, provoking His anger and ultimately leading to the destruction of Jerusalem and the exile of the Israelites. Despite their repeated failures, God never abandons His people completely. He sends prophets to warn them and call them back to Himself, offering them opportunities for repentance and reconciliation.

In the second reading from the letter of St Paul to Ephesians, we encounter the profound truth of God’s mercy and grace. Paul reminds us that even though we were once dead in our sins, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ. It is by God's grace that we are saved, not by our own merits or works. This passage underscores the central message of Lent - that salvation comes through faith in Jesus Christ and His sacrificial death on the cross.

The Gospel reading from St. John further amplifies this message of salvation and redemption. Jesus compares Himself to the bronze serpent lifted up by Moses in the desert, which brought healing and salvation to all who looked upon it. Similarly, Jesus, lifted up on the cross, becomes the source of salvation for all who believe in Him. God's love for humanity is so great that He sent His Son into the world not to condemn it, but to save it. Yet, salvation requires a response from us - a turning away from sin and a turning towards the light of Christ.

Dear Friends, as we reflect on these readings, let us examine our own lives in light of God’s mercy and love. **Are there areas where we need to repent and turn back to God? Do we fully grasp the depth of God’s grace and the gift of salvation offered to us through Jesus Christ?** May this Lenten season be a time of renewal and transformation, as we open our hearts to receive God’s abundant mercy and live as children of the light. Amen!

Fr Joe Dong Tran P.P

Rosters: for 16th & 17th March 2024

Mass Time	Reader / Responder	Eucharist / Welcome	Piety	Counters	Readers/ Responders Eucharist / Welcomers, . . .
5.30pm	S. Gooneratne P. Bezzina	L. Robinson B. Joyce N. Nugent	M. Thompson	G & R Mee	Please gather together in the Sacristy about minutes prior to Mass.
8.00am	J. North C. Fitzgerald	A. Dalla– Vecchia V. Dalla– Vecchia C. Love	N. Manalansan	Supervisor	Eucharist Ministers— please remember that you are also welcoming parishioners & visitors & handing out the newsletter.
10.00am	B. Walter C. Manabat	W. Mc Eleney P. Del Popolo R. Sacco	L. Careri	M. Jones	



**VIEW OUR NEWSLETTER EACH WEEK ON OUR WEBSITE:
WWW.MELBCATHOLIC.ORG/S/BUNDOORA.**

ST. DAMIAN’S PARISH 2024 HOLY WEEK PROGRAM

HOLY THURSDAY, 28th MARCH

7:30 PM MASS OF THE LORD’S SUPPER & FOLLOWED BY THE ADORATION.

(Please return your Project Compassion Boxes & Envelopes)

GOOD FRIDAY, 29th MARCH

10:00 AM ECUMENICAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS & FOLLOWED WITH THE MORNING TEA IN THE DUNLOP ROOM.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S PASSION

3:00 PM AT ST. DAMIAN’S CHURCH.

HOLY SATURDAY, 30th MARCH

6:30 PM EASTER VIGIL (**NO MASS** at 5:30pm)
(Blessing of Fire and Paschal Candle ceremony in front of the Church)



EASTER SUNDAY, 31st MARCH

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM MASSES

@. STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Each Friday straight after 9:15am Mass - 15th, 22nd March.

@. LENTEN RECONCILIATION:

1st & 2nd Rites on FRIDAY 15 MARCH at 7:00PM

@. PARISH WORKING BEES

In order to prepare for HOLY WEEK & EASTER, our working bees will be held on **Saturday, 23rd March at 8. 30 -11:30am**. Many thanks for your aids.

@. HEALING MASS

Thursday 5th April: Healing Mass – 9.15am, followed by the morning tea.

PARISH GROUNDS MAINTENANCE



Dear Parishioners,
I hope this message finds you well. As we strive to be good stewards of our parish resources, I am reaching out to you today with a special request for assistance.

In an effort to save on the cost of parish maintenance, I am seeking one or two volunteers who would be willing to help with LAWN MOWING around the church and parish house. The commitment would be minimal, likely once a month, and your contribution would make a significant difference in maintaining the beauty of our parish grounds.

If you have the time and willingness to lend a hand in this important task, I kindly ask you to consider volunteering. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated by myself and the entire parish community. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to me directly or contact the parish office for more information or to express your interest in volunteering. Thank you in advance for your consideration and willingness to support our parish in this way.

With gratitude,

Fr. Joe Dong Tran

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sun 17th Mar: 10.00am : 3rd Scrutiny for our Catechumen

RCIA TEAM

"The RCIA team would like to introduce our Catechumen, Patty , who is preparing for her Baptism, Confirmation & First Eucharist and our Candidates Adam, Fale, Amanda and David who are preparing for the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. Please welcome and pray for them during this very exciting and special time. Thank you."

SUPPORT NEEDED: CHURCH SOUND SYSTEM UPGRADE

Dear St. Damian Parishioners,
I trust this message finds each of you in good health and high spirits. I write to you today regarding an important matter concerning the functionality of our church's sound system. Many of you may have observed that our current sound system is not performing up to the standards we desire for our worship experience. Therefore, I am reaching out to you to kindly request your support in resetting the system for improved performance.

After consulting with several sound system experts, it has been determined that the following upgrades are necessary:

- 2 large Bose Speakers F1-812 at \$3,598
- 2 Brackets for the Bose Speakers at \$678
- 2 small JBL EON710 Speakers at \$1,580
- 2 Brackets for the JBL EON710 Speakers at \$458

These enhancements will significantly enhance the sound quality within our church, with one small speaker designated for the choir area and the other for the sanctuary.

The total cost for this project amounts to \$6,314. I am grateful to share that there will be no additional labour costs, as friends of mine have generously volunteered to assist with the installation.

If you can contribute towards this special project, I kindly ask you to contact either Dianne, our Parish Secretary, or myself, Fr. Joe Dong. Your support, whether through financial contribution or spreading the word about this initiative, is deeply appreciated and will be instrumental in achieving our goal of enhancing our parish community's worship experience.

Thank you for your ongoing support of St. Damian's Parish. May God continue to bless you and your loved ones abundantly. Warm regards,

Fr. Joe Dong Tran P.P