

GOSPEL

Lk 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.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

FIDELITY TESTED

Today we begin our journey through Lent, the liturgical season leading to the holiest week of the Church's year and Easter. We begin with Luke's story of Jesus' temptation initiated by the Holy Spirit. Jesus is in the wilderness, the place of solitude, the place of 'no place'. Jesus is here for forty days, alone with God.

The scene is reminiscent of Israel's 40-year wilderness sojourn in which its own covenant fidelity to God is tested. The parallel between Israel and Jesus is unmistakable. Moreso, given the three encounters with Satan that Jesus has. Each is found in Deuteronomy in which Israel fails in its covenantal loyalty and trust in God. By contrast, Jesus is not seduced by food, power or status. He remains loyal to God despite Satan's best efforts to seduce, tempt and manipulate Scripture to woo him into reconfiguring his loyalty away from God.

Satan was originally a member of the heavenly court (as, for example, in the Book of Job) whose principal task was to test the loyalty of God's people. Later, under the influence of Near Eastern myths and traditions about winged beings separate from and warring against the gods, Gospel writers have Satan take on a more sinister mission—to tempt people away from God. Jesus is Satan's focus here and, though he leaves the scene completely disempowered by Jesus' commitment to God, will return at the time of Jesus' passion and death. Lent becomes our time to be with Jesus, to enter our Lenten wilderness, to identify what seduces and draws us away from God.

Fr Michael Trainor

THE SAVING WORD

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT / C

9 MARCH 2025

FIRST READING

Deut 26: 4-10

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

The confession of faith of the elect.

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.'

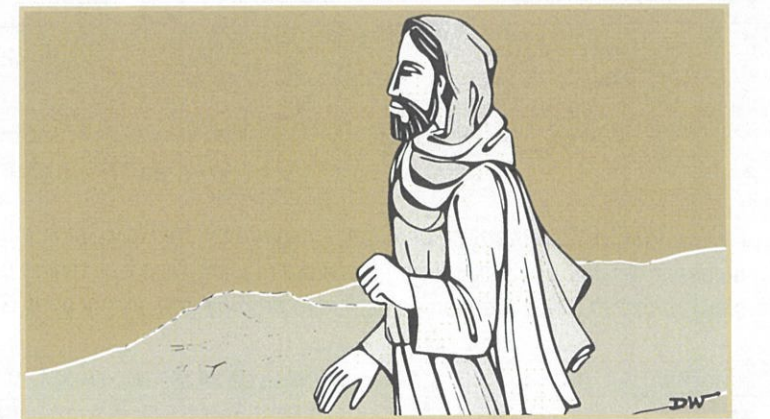
■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 90: 1-2, 10-15. R. v. 15

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

1. 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.**
2. 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.**
3. 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.**



4. 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.**

SECOND READING

Rom 10: 8-13

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The confession of faith of the believers in Christ.

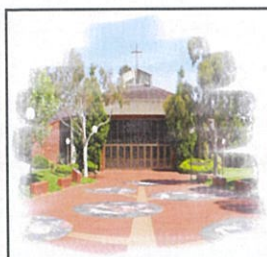
Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by 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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

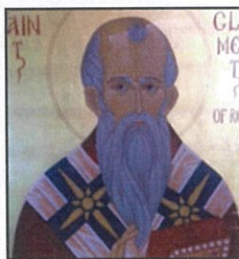
Mt 4: 4

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!



St Clement of Rome Church

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<https://www.facebook.com/stclementsparishbulleen>
Office Hours: Mon (closed) Tue–Thur 9am–5pm Fri 9am–4pm



Parish Priest : Very Rev Mark Reynolds EV (Episcopal Vicar for Catholic Schools)
 Mark.Reynolds@cam.org.au

Italian Chaplain: Fr Vito Pegolo (0419 736 890), **School Principal:** Mr Michael Watt (9850 1216)
Parish Secretary: Bernadine De Silva, **Parish/School Sacramental Coordinator:** Marilyn Robert
St Vincent de Paul Helpline (1800 305 330)

Parish Vision Statement : Guided and inspired by the Holy Spirit, the Parish of St Clement of Rome seeks to be a community of authentic disciples of Jesus, living the Word of God. As a welcoming community, through humble service, we acknowledge our stewardship of God's creation and strive to promote the dignity of all God's people.

JUBILEE 2025—PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Welcome to St Clement of Rome as we celebrate the First Sunday of Lent.
 Today's theme is : Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness where he was tempted.



Each year, we are invited to journey with Jesus through the desert. This journey calls us to a conversion of heart. These 40 days lead us to resist temptation and bring us to celebrate our resurrection into new life. Through prayer and fasting, our conscience opens us to give alms as we help others along the way.

Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent—We invite you to deepen your Lenten journey by participating in the Stations of the Cross every Friday at 8.40am. We look forward to seeing you as we unite in prayer during this sacred season.



First Sunday of Lent
 8th and 9th of March 2025

Project Compassion 2025 shares three stories from around the world. We'll meet **Toefuata'iga** - (Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah) from Samoa, **Lam** from Vietnam and **Irene** from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Each of this year's stories reflects diverse challenges, yet they are united by the shared determination to overcome adversity and create better futures for themselves and their communities.



Please donate today.
 You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.
 Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion
 Or by calling: 1800 024 413

MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION & OTHER SACRAMENTS

Mass Times: Sat 5:30pm (*Vigil*), Sun - 9am & 11am (*Italian*)
 Tues 9:15am (*Italian*), Wed-Sat 9:15am (unless informed)

Reconciliation: Sat 9.45am (and on request). **Marian Devotions & Eucharistic Adoration :** Sat 8.40am
Baptisms: Welcoming (3rd weekend) & Baptism (4th weekend) every month. **Weddings:** By Appointment

PARISH DIARY

Mon 10th Mar @ 9.15am—no Mass
 Tue 11th Mar @ 9.15am—Italian Mass
 Wed 12th Mar @ 9.15am—no Mass
 Thurs 13th Mar @ 9.15am—Mass
 Fri 14th Mar @ 8.40am—Stations of the Cross
 Fri 14th Mar @ 9.15am—Mass followed by Reconciliation Penitential Service (Gr 3)
 Sat 8th Mar @ 9.15am—Mass & Reconciliation

Recent Deaths & Death Anniversaries

We pray for those who have died recently,
Mario Tabone and for the repose of the souls of **Marge Rosevear, Mario Di Berardino** and all those, whose anniversaries occur at about this time.
 Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
 May they rest in peace. Amen.

ASRE—Sacrament of Reconciliation 2025

While we work on the class dates for the Sacraments of First Eucharist & Confirmation, Please see below class dates for the Sacrament of Reconciliation being held in the parish office.



DATE	TIME	EVENT
Saturday 15 th Mar	9.00 -10.00am	ASRE Reconciliation 4
Saturday 22 nd Mar	9.00 -10.00am	ASRE Reconciliation 5
Saturday 29 th Mar	9.00 -10.00am 9.45am	ASRE Reconciliation 6 Sacrament of Reconciliation

Important notice for all Parish Ministry Volunteers

For Parishioners who wish to become volunteers or continue as volunteers, it is necessary that all Safeguarding Requirements are current. The necessary requirements include :

1. A valid Working with Children Check
2. A signed Code of Conduct
3. Completion of the safeguarding training module

Over the coming weeks, to help our volunteers, the Parish will be contacting people who currently do not meet all the requirements. We understand that meeting the requirements may seem daunting but we are keen to help, so that you are able to continue the very valuable work that you do for our Parish.

The Safeguarding Requirements for Parish volunteers have been determined by the Archdiocese of Melbourne in response to Victorian Government Legislation, Australian Government Legislation and critical incidents. To ensure that our Parishes continue to be safe spaces for children, young people and vulnerable adults, the Archdiocese of Melbourne and its Parishes will this year, be audited, by *Australian Catholic Safeguarding Limited*.

Thank you for your co-operation in ensuring the safety and well-being of all in our parish community.

New Ways of Giving

To Support our Church with ease, we've introduced a new EFTPOS terminal. This is an easy and secure way to donate, but please note that it is not an alternative to your regular stewardship envelopes.



You can also donate by scanning this QR code with your phone camera.
 Thank you for your generosity!

LITURGY ROSTER SAT 5.30PM SUN 9.00AM

		SAT 5.30PM	SUN 9.00AM
8/9 Mar	Sacristan	John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
1 Lent	Commentator	Jacinta De La Cruz	Jan McQueen
	Reader	Rene De La Cruz	Maria Papalia
	Special Ministers	Enza Wilcocks	Fulvia Gerasolimo
		Warwick Wright	Pina La Mattina
		John Bruce	Ricardo La Mattina
15/16 Mar	Sacristan	John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
2 Lent	Commentator	Rene De La Cruz	Maria Papalia
	Reader	Paul Sammut	Yamna Taouk
	Special Ministers	Zina Scalzo	Agnes Lu
		May Teh	Gloria Ng
		Martin Teh	Shirley Pyndiah

ROSTER—ITALIAN MASS 11AM

DATE	LETTORI	OFFERTORIO	MINISTRI DELL' EUCHARISTIA
16/03	T CARAFA A VALLESE	FAM E CASTRIOTTA	L CIAMPA G BAGLIERI

Congratulations & welcome
 to God's family
 at St Clement's Parish
Martina & Marabelle Mustica
 baptised at 11am
 this Sunday



BE UPLIFTED IN YOUR LENTEN JOURNEY
 BY THE BEAUTIFUL VOICES OF THE

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A MEDITATION ON THE CROSS
 THE WAY INTO HOPE

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**We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people, the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand.
 We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently on this land.**