



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!*

Gospel Mk 1:12-15

He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

The Rainbow is God's signature to a treaty with humankind. On God's part, material forces will never be sent to annihilate human beings as a punishment for wrongdoing. On our part, as humans made in the likeness of God, we are to image God's rainbow relationship to nature.

This is the Divine Treaty basis of our responsibility for the environment. We undertake not to engage in practices or support policies which could severely damage the fragile ecology which supports life on our planet. The deforestation of the slopes of the Himalayas, leading to floods which kill thousands, is a catastrophic example.

And, gazing at the rainbow, we can pray for our planet, for the human beings and all other creatures who inhabit it, and quite often for ourselves at a deep personal level. For we know that, just as after a storm and dark clouds, light penetrates the misty sky and the beautiful bow of colour appears, the same phenomenon can occur in our own lives.

We could take a moment to pray that the rainbow will appear, perhaps for ourselves, perhaps for others we know who are going through a stormy time.

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WELCOME TO ST BRIDGET'S CATHOLIC COMMUNITY GREYTHORN

St Bridget's Greythorn is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

First Sunday of Lent, Year B

21 February 2021

First Reading Gn 9:8-15

I will recall the covenant between myself and you...the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24:4-9. R. see v.10

**(R.) Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth
to those who keep your covenant.**

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach
me:
for you are God my saviour. (R.)

2. Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of
old.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness,
O Lord. (R.)
3. The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right
path;
he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Pt 3:18-22

The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

ST BRIDGETS CATHOLIC PARISH GREYTHORN
 48 Sweyn Street, Balwyn North 3104

Parish Priest: Fr John Salvano Assistant Priest: Fr Lenin Thenamirtham (Contact the Parish Office of St Anne and St Bede on 9401 6355 for pastoral assistance) Priest in Residence: Fr Kevin Lenehan Parish School: Principal: Robyn Thomson Contact : 9857 6394	Parish Secretary: Mario Landini St Bridget Parish Office: Phone: 9857 6395 Office Hours: Wednesday & Friday 9-3. Email: greythorn@cam.org.au Web: www.stbridgetsgreythorn.org.au Parish Hall Hire: Enquiries – 9857 6395	Child Safety Co-ordinator: Anne Credlin Contact 9848 5389 Sacramental Program: Contact the Parish Office 9401 6355 Refugee Action Group: Chair: Robert Stewart Contact via Parish Office St Vincent De Paul Society President: Anne Hartley Help Line 1800 305 330
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NOTE: Baptisms and Weddings by appointment only. Contact the Parish Office for details.

Mass and Prayer times at our affiliated Churches:

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
St Bridget		9.00am Meditation 9.30am			5.00pm	10.00am 5.30pm
St Bede	9.15am		9.15am		9.00am 6.00pm	9.00am 11.00am
St Anne		9.30am		9.30am	5.00pm	10.30am
St Joachim						8.30am

Please arrive at least 15 minutes before Mass so you have time to register or be assisted.

Door marshals are required to monitor numbers and assist parishioners who may be having registration problems. If you can assist, please make yourself available when at Mass.

Rosters for February 27 & 28:

	Saturday @ 5.00pm	Sunday @ 10.00am	Sunday @ 5.30pm
Lectors	G Lawson	Sr P Watson	G Khoo
Minister of Holy Communion	L Sanders	M Buxton	T Tjitji

Note: For the time being only one Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion is required at Mass.

The Parish Sacramental Program 2021 will be held in conjunction with our affiliated churches of St Ann and St Bede. Details of the program will soon be announced for children not attending the parish schools. Enrolments for the introductory Catechetical program and Reconciliation Catechetical classes will open soon. Enrolments for First Eucharist and Confirmation will open later on in the year. Please continue to check the weekly bulletin for more updates or contact the parish office (9401 6355) for more information.

Covid-19 Vaccine: A letter from Archbishop Comensoli to parishioners is attached, drawing our attention to our moral responsibility and at the same time respecting individual decisions.

We Remember in our prayers Mary Breheny, Leo Cash, Terry Considine, Stan Parfrey and Tony Ricciuti whose anniversaries occur at this time: may they rejoice forever with our Risen Lord. We pray for the sick and housebound; may they come to know the healing power of God's love.



Ash Wednesday: The blessing and distribution of ashes will be held at all Masses at St Bridget's this weekend. Parishioners attending Mass may receive the ashes under current Covid safe guidelines.

Focus Groups: Due to lockdown a rescheduled date will be advised shortly.

PROJECT COMPASSION 2021
Theme for 2021 is "BE MORE"

Lent is a time of fasting and abstinence. It is a time when we are called to refocus our lives and prepare for the Joy of Easter. As Catholics we are called to practice some form of penance during Lent, which can be:

- Prayer – attending weekday Mass or some form of private, on-line or family prayer.
- Self-Denial – giving up some something of importance to us or Project Compassion
- Helping Others – providing support to someone in need, visit/phone call to the sick, elderly, lonely or overburdened.



Project Compassion boxes and envelopes are available in the narthex. Collect yours today and return them at Easter.

World Day Of Prayer 2021 service will be held on Friday, 5 March at 10:30am at Holy Trinity, Kew – Cnr. High St and Pakington St. The host country this year is Vanuatu and the theme is "Build a Strong Foundation". For more information, please contact Elizabeth Cook on 9817 6717.

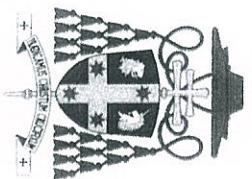
New Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist are needed at all four of our churches. Volunteers are asked to commit for two years. Please contact the parish office by **22 February 2021** for further information or to register your attendance. Contact details - greythorn@cam.org.au.

Training For New and Continuing Extraordinary Ministers Of The Eucharist: A training session for all new and current Extraordinary Ministers at our four churches will take place on **Tuesday 23 February, at 7.30pm, at St Bede's Church.**

A reminder that you will need to provide a valid Working With Children Check to the office before beginning to exercise this ministry. If you have any difficulty in applying, please contact the parish office.

Meditation Group continues on Wednesday morning at 9.30am, and the combined **Scripture Reflection Group and Lenten Group** led by Susie meet on Sunday mornings at 11.15am. Both groups are via Zoom. Please contact Susie Hii for further information or connection details on: 0410981080 or susiehii.hc@gmail.com

LENT 2021 – Lenten Small Groups: Lenten Groups have commenced across our affiliated Churches. The groups are a wonderful preparation for the Joy of Easter and also provide opportunities to share different perspectives and ideas with each other. The Comfort Lenten Program 2021 from Wollongong contains short daily reflections as well as longer Sunday Scripture readings and reflections, prayers and questions for Lenten Group Gatherings. You can still join a Lenten Group please register your interest on the clip board provided in the narthex. Books cost \$9 each, if you have ordered one please see Father in the sacristy to collect it.



We proclaim a crucified Christ

16 FEB 21

Tuesday 16 February, 2021

*To the Laity, Religious and Clergy
of the Archdiocese of Melbourne*

Vaccine Program

Dear Friends,

It is welcome news that the first batches of the Pfizer vaccine have arrived in Australia.

Soon the most vulnerable people in our country – our frontline workers and those at greatest risk – will receive their first dose against the COVID-19 virus.

I will be grateful to receive a vaccination when my turn in the staged roll-out comes around.

None of the vaccines are a cure for COVID-19, but indications are that they provide a significant measure of protection from the worst effects of the virus, for the time being.

For the common good, it is appropriate that our governments work together to roll out a nation-wide process of vaccination for all residents.

Likewise, for the common good, everyone should respect the decisions of individuals who, for medical, safety or moral reasons, are not ready to receive a vaccination immediately.

At this early stage in measuring the longer-term effectiveness and safety of each of the COVID-19 vaccines, calls for a 'No jab, no service' policy would be unjust.

The Catholic Bishops have already endorsed efforts to offer a vaccination as soon as possible to all who can safely receive one.

<https://mediablog.catholic.org.au/a-letter-to-the-faithful-regarding-development-of-a-covid-19-vaccine/#more-8597>

However, the Government has indicated that there is likely to be little, if any, choice as to which vaccine will be available to individuals in the shorter term.

This means that you can receive any one of the three vaccines to be made available, without moral complicity in the processes of its development. On balance, it is a good thing to do.

For anyone with health and safety concerns, please speak with your family doctor.

For anyone with ethical questions, please read the statement issued by the Vatican or speak with your Pastor.

https://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20201221_nota-vaccini-anticovid_en.html

I encourage the Australian government to do all it can to make a vaccine choice available to all residents in Australia as soon as possible, and offer the same care to our poorer neighbouring countries.

Please continue to pray for those impacted by this pandemic, and to work in whatever way you can to support your neighbour in need. The God of mercy and compassion is present to us all, through the tender heads, hearts and hands we offer to one another.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter A Comensoli', with a small cross symbol to the left of the first name.

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
Archbishop of Melbourne