



Gospel Jn 2:13-25

Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

The Ten Commandments are badly named. Rather, they are the Ten Responses which should characterise a liberated people, freed from slavery by 'the Lord, your God'.

By the time Jesus came on the scene, the Temple in Jerusalem was no longer a fit dwelling place for a God who desires to free people from oppression and exploitation. To the contrary, Jesus saw the Temple ideology as placing undue burdens and shackles on people.

His anger at this erupted in dramatic street theatre. His overturning of the tables of the money-changers signalled the overturning of the Temple system.

What Our Lord revealed to uncomprehending authorities was that His body was the true sanctuary. The body of Jesus of Nazareth is the dwelling place of God, the habitation of the Lord God who liberates people. In short, God's sanctuary is not a place, but a person.

We could take a moment to pray, using the Ten Responses to review and guide our reflection and practice as we move towards Easter. This will help us to celebrate the enigmatic saying: 'Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it again.'

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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.

Third Sunday of Lent, Year B

7 March 2021

First Reading Ex 20:1-17

(or shorter form Ex 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17)

The Law was given through Moses.

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

'You shall have no gods except me.

'You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or on earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God and I punish the father's fault in the sons, the grandsons, and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath for the Lord your God. You shall do no work on that day, neither you nor your son nor your daughter nor your servants, men or women, not your animals nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the sabbath day and made it sacred.

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.

'You shall not kill.

'You shall not commit adultery.

'You shall not steal.

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

'You shall not covet your neighbour's house.

You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 18:8-11. R. Jn 6:68

(R.) Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple. (R.)
2. The precepts of the Lord are right, they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear, it gives light to the eyes. (R.)
3. The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth all of them just. (R.)
4. They are more to be desired than gold, than the purest of gold
and sweeter are they than honey, than honey from the comb. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 1:22-25

We are preaching a crucified Christ, a scandal to many, but to those who have been called, the wisdom of God.

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 3:16

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,

that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

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

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

Mass times at our affiliated Churches for this week:

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
St Bridget		9.00am			5.00pm	10.00am 5.30pm
St Bede	9.15am		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 March 13 & 14

	Saturday @ 5.00pm	Sunday @ 10.00am	Sunday @ 5.30pm
Lectors	Volunteer	R Canale	J Truong
Minister of Holy Communion	V Borg	B Potter	A Mariampillai
Note: For the time being only one Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion is required at Mass.			

Good Friday Passion Play: This year, the Pathway of the Passion is being led by Rhema Church Balwyn North congregation with the cooperation and support of the other churches. The usual Doncaster Road route will be followed beginning with a gathering for coffee, tea and hot cross buns at Rhema Church at 10.30 am. The march will start at 11 am with stops at North Balwyn Baptist Church, St Bede's Catholic Church and finishing at the Balwyn North Village carpark where we will be joined by Balwyn Wesleyan Methodist Church members. The Churches of North Balwyn are being asked to provide actors, musicians especially brass players and volunteers to hand out programs and help generally. If you can help in any way or would like to participate please contact Leslie Zhou : lesliezhou1127@gmail.com

We Remember in our prayers Francesco Gallo and Dulcie Williams whose anniversary occurs at this time: may they rejoice forever with our Risen Lord. We also pray for the sick and housebound; may they come to know the healing power of God's love.

Mass of Healing and Anointing:

St Bede's on Thursday 11 March at 11.00am
St Bridget's on Friday 26 March at 8.30am

PROJECT COMPASSION 2021
Theme for 2021 is "BE MORE"



In our Week 3 story we meet Oliva from Tanzania where she lives with her farmer husband and two young sons. Oliva, 22, was embarrassed that she could not read, write or count. She tried to run a small kiosk, but her lack of maths meant that her business was losing money. She went to Caritas Australia literacy and numeracy classes, and set up a home classroom (for free) to help her neighbours. Now her classes, business and family are thriving, and still wants to help and be more active in her community.

Virtual immersion presentations by Bernard Holland via Zoom are scheduled each week covering one of the featured stories. The web site is below and click on the date/time link on the schedule.

<https://raisely-mages.imgix.net/project-compassion-2021/uploads/pc-irtual-immersion-schedule-parishes-pdf-1752cd.pdf>



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

*"start by doing what is necessary;
than do what is possible;
and suddenly you are doing the impossible"*

Saint Francis of Assisi

LENT 2021 – Lenten Small Groups: Lenten Groups have commenced across our affiliated Churches. You can still join a Lenten Group, please contact Susi Hii on 0410981080 or susiehii.hc@gmail.com for further details.

Meditation Group continues on Wednesday morning at 9.30am, and the combined **Scripture Reflection Group and Lenten Group** meet on Sunday morning 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

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

CATECHETICS PROGRAMME FOR CHILDREN NOT ATTENDING ONE OF THE AFFILIATED PARISHES' SCHOOLS of ST BRIDGET, ST BEDE OR ST ANNE.

Introductory Catechesis: This programme is for Grade 3 children or above who intend to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation later this year, and First Communion in 2022, at any of the four affiliated churches. This introductory catechesis needs to be completed before beginning the sacramental programme. The programme will run for the Saturdays of 1, 8, 15 and 22 May, at 5.00pm and then participating in 6.00pm Mass at St Bede's.

Confirmation Programme: Students in Grade 6 or above who are not in any of the affiliated parish primary schools can now enrol for the Confirmation programme. Catechesis will take place on Mondays at 4pm beginning on 12 July. There will also be a full day retreat with the affiliated parish primary schools on a date to be finalised. Confirmation will be celebrated at St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday 15 August at 2.00pm for candidates from the affiliated parishes.

Enrolment forms are now available from the parish offices at St Bede's or St Bridget's, and must be returned to either Parish Office by 26 March 2021. Forms are also available on St Bridget's web page under the Sacraments tab: www.stbridgetsgreythorn.org.au