



PARISH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION, NORTH WODEN

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13-14 March, the Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year B)

WEEKDAY AND WEEKEND MASSES, LITURGY and RECONCILIATION TIMES:

Monday	9.30am Curtin
Tuesday	9.30am Curtin
Wednesday	9.30am Curtin – Liturgy of the Word and Communion
Thursday	5.30pm Curtin
Friday	9.30am Curtin (incl. Anointing of the Sick on First Friday)
Saturday	Reconciliation 5.00-5.30pm Curtin; Mass 6.00pm Curtin
Sunday	9.30am Curtin, 5.30pm Curtin

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

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

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!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, to praise the name of the Lord.

MAY THE DECEASED REST IN PEACE AND RISE IN EASTER GLORY

Recently Deceased: Bryan Kennedy (brother of Fr Bill Kennedy), Nora Brown, Jill O'Connor, Fr Kevin Barry-Cotter, Bette Sullivan, Bishop Bede Heather, former Bishop of Parramatta, Jim McMahon, Kathleen Hogan, Felicity Bearder, John Mason, Jim Daly, Janet Swan, Denis Lenihan, Archbishop Philip Wilson, Katerina Imsivovic, Fr Lino Zamperoni, Dave Barrow, Fr Tim Cahill, Maria Italiano, Maree Spillane, Bishop Geoffrey Robinson, Ellen Thompson, June Barrett, Audry Stilling, and victims of COVID.

Anniversaries of Death: Jack Perry, Desmond Lilley, Patsy Edwards, Sylvia Cronin, George Pugh, Francesco Iacovetta, Kevin Wilson, Chris Perkins, Joanne Binutti, Peter Marlow, Margaret Frawley, Canico Gusmao Belo, John Holtzapffel, Lewis Mesaros, Peter Majer, Domenica D., Oreste Trinca, Friedrich Lueth, Helen Day, Nick Dulay, Jose Infante, Valerie Mills.

MAY THE SICK BE COMFORTED BY OUR PRAYERS

Eleanor Dorman, Frank Boyle, Sheila Langtry, Margaret Jones, Marilyn Pugh, Fred Schinkel, Jeffrey Harris, Peta Doyle, Nick Palethorpe, Mark Williams, Michael Baker, Andrea Miller, Grayham Rundle, Kyra Berger, Ian McDonald, Maureen Daly, Mark Tirrikainen, Fr Laurie Blake, Emma Lowe, Rose Winstanley, Joseph Garside, those afflicted with COVID, Bella Davidson.

REFLECTING THE LIGHT

In the British Museum is a baked clay cylinder found in the ruins of ancient Babylon. On it is inscribed: *"I am Cyrus, king of the world, great king, powerful king, king of Babylon, king of the four quarters of the earth"* Cyrus was king of Persia (559 – 530 BC), ruling out of modern day Iraq over the then largest kingdom in the world, stretching from the Mediterranean to Central Asia. He was admired as the ideal king, inspiring Alexander the Great and Julius Caesar (*'Conversations' Podcast, ABC, 19 Jan 21*). As related in our First Reading, **Cyrus conquered the Babylonians (539 BC) and allowed God's exiled people to return to their homeland.** They were overjoyed at their liberation in which they considered Cyrus to be the instrument of God. **However, the liberation of Cyrus was but a precursor to liberation for all who would look to the one crucified and risen (John 3:16).** In John's Gospel 'the world' refers to all who refuse to believe in Jesus. They have preferred darkness to the light of Jesus because their deeds were evil (Jn 3:19). Indeed, in the face of a naivete regarding the openness of folk to the message of Jesus, Scripture scholar Raymond Brown insisted that *"the world is not exclusively neutral, nor is it patiently awaiting good news. There are many who are actively hostile to Jesus, to Christianity and its message"* (John J Pilch). **And many are searching too. One such was**

the Pharisee Nicodemus. His encounter with Jesus at night and therefore in private is the backdrop for today's Gospel. Nicodemus figuratively moves from night to day when he later insists on Jesus' right to a hearing when his colleagues wanted him arrested after his teaching in the Temple. The movement of Nicodemus to discipleship seems complete at the death of Jesus. *"Nicodemus comes forward publicly with myrrh and aloes to anoint the body. He joins Joseph of Arimathea, a secret disciple of Jesus who feared the Judeans, and both of them see to the burial of Jesus' corpse"* (19:38-42). **I am neither the all-powerful Cyrus nor the circumspect Nicodemus but during Lent I am called to turn, 'to repent', so as to more truly project the light of Christ. As my faith is lived in community, others might be thereby encouraged to begin or to perhaps continue their search for the light. If not you, who? If not now, when?** Fr John

SEASON OF LENT options for Lenten renewal are offered:

(1) 'WALK IN THE SPIRIT', Archdiocesan online Lenten renewal experience, commenced **18 February through to 25 March, 7.30- 9pm.** Info at <https://cgatholic.org.au/walk-in-the-spirit/>; **(2) 'Lent',** copies of the (mauve) pamphlet are available in the foyer. **(3)** Friday post-9.30am Mass there is a cuppa and **Lenten reflection** in the Parish Centre led by Sr Angela Jordan RSM. **(4) Intro to Christian Meditation** St Peter Chanel's Yarralumla meeting room, 7.15pm for 5 successive Tuesdays, commenced 23 Feb. to 23 March Enquiries Rod or Susan: 0401 731 918 (wccmaustralia.org.au).

LENTEN REGIONAL 2ND RITE OF RECONCILIATION for parishioners of Weston Creek, South Woden and North Woden Parishes will be celebrated at 7.00pm, Tues 23 March, St Jude's, Holder.

FEASTS THIS WEEK: On Wednesday, 17 March we celebrate the Feast of St Patrick. In deference to the ongoing intercession of St Patrick sought by so many, especially in the establishment of the Australian Church which this year celebrates 200 years of Catholic Schools, Mass will be celebrated at 9.30am in place of the usual Lit of the Word and Holy Communion. **On Friday, 19 March we will celebrate the Feast of St Joseph in this the Year of St Joseph.** I encourage you to pick up a Prayer for St Joseph (with Litany on the reverse) from the foyer.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS BOOKLETS available in the foyer for use at any time during Lent. Please return the booklet to where you picked it up from after use.

PALM SUNDAY 'WELCOME REFUGEES' PROTEST GATHERING, 1pm, Sun 28 March, Garema Place. The plight of asylum seekers and refugees is complex. As individuals, communities and nations we can surely do better to assist those who long for what we so value, a place to call 'home'.

GUEST SPEAKER: Melissa Hitchman, former Ambassador to the Holy See will be the Parish Pastoral's Council's first guest speaker for 2021. You are most welcome to attend this Thursday's 6.30pm for 7pm, 18 March, presentation by Melissa in the Parish Centre. Supper will be served.

YOUTH GROUP: 'Belong, Believe and Become' 4pm-5.20pm, Sunday 21 March, in the Parish Centre, for students in years 4, 5 and 6. Facilitated by Maddie and Grace, our Parish Youth Ministers.

"NEGLECT OR AGEING WITH DIGNITY": 7.30pm, 23 March, Christians for an Ethical Society forum will be held at the Chapel, Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture. More information and registration through [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com).

PARISH MEDITATION GROUP meet weekly. Details Vikki McDonough, mulvaney@netspeed.com.au or 0437 876 487.
Prayer Circle Support: Cathy Harris, 6281 2574.

Readings for next Sunday: Jer 31:31-34; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33.

LITURGICAL ROSTERS NEXT WEEK: 20-21 March, the Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year B)			
<i>3rd Sunday of the Month</i>	Curtin Sat. 6pm	Curtin Sun. 9.30 am	Curtin Sun. 5.30 pm
Acolyte	Anthony De Salis	Stafferd Fernandez	Darryl Kite
Servers			Ava and Ella Morris
Reader	Emma Fairfax	Marie Docherty	Anne Maher
Commentator	Emma Fairfax	Claire Frazer	
Welcomer	Kim Hofmeier	Lesley Kettle	
Communion to Sick	St Andrew's: John Eyers	Fred Ward: Emma Fairfax	Homes: Jenny Ryan
Collectors	J David	Volunteer required	G Nash
Collection Counters	22 Mar. Michael Higgins		
Wednesday Liturgy	17 Mar. Leader of Prayer: Sr Jordan, Sr Fitzpatrick	Eucharistic Minister: Christine McLaughlin	

