

**PARISH MASS TIMES**  
**Monday:** No Mass  
**Tuesday:** 5.00 pm Mass  
**Wed - Friday:** 9.00 am Mass  
**Sat :** 5.00pm  
**Sunday:** 9.00am Mass

**Reconciliation**  
**Tues:** 4 - 4.45pm  
**Sat:** 3.30 - 4.30pm

**Adoration & Benediction**  
**Tue:** 4-5pm

**Stations of the Cross**  
**Fridays** 5pm followed by Soup Supper finishing 27th March

**MASSES IN AGED CARE**  
**The Glen** Second Wednesday  
 10.30am  
**The Manor** Third Wednesday  
 2pm  
**Maranatha** Fourth Wednesday  
 2pm

**PARISH ROSTERS**

<p><b>21/22 FEBRUARY</b></p> <p><b>Cleaning</b>          23-27 Favetta, O'Neill, Nugent</p> <p><b>5.00PM MASS</b>          Welcomer B Oerder:          Commentator: S Ebejer          Reader: P Nolan          Eucharistic Ministers          K Lovering          Computer Screen          J O'Sullivan</p> <p><b>9.00 AM MASS:</b>          Welcomer M Britt          Commentator P Fleming          Reader A Skinner          Eucharistic Ministers          D Herring, A Scicluna          Computer Screen .T Priest</p> <p><b>MORNING TEA:</b>          Indian Community</p> <p><b>COUNTERS:</b>          B Basevi/C Meade</p>	<p><b>28 FEBRUARY/1 MARCH</b></p> <p><b>Cleaning</b>          2-6 March D &amp; L May</p> <p><b>5.00PM MASS</b>          Welcomer K Conway          Commentator: M Weatherall          Reader: B Maynard          Eucharistic Ministers          J Wain          Computer Screen          M O'Neill</p> <p><b>9.00 AM MASS:</b>          Welcomer Volunteer          Commentator C Lowe          Reader: M Lowe          Eucharistic Ministers          L &amp; N Page          Computer Screen T Jones</p> <p><b>MORNING TEA:</b>          Filipino Community</p> <p><b>COUNTERS:</b>          D &amp; L May</p>
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**Caritas AUSTRALIA | PROJECT COMPASSION**

**First Sunday of Lent**  
 21-22 February 2026

Project Compassion 2026 shares four stories from around the world. We'll meet Sisilia from Tanzania, Monoranjon from Bangladesh, Manaini from Fiji and Ahmad from Gaza.

Each of this year's stories highlights unique challenges, yet they are united by the determination to rise above adversity and to build brighter, more hopeful futures for themselves, their families and their communities.

**UNITE AGAINST POVERTY**  
 this Lent



**Please donate today.**  
 You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.  
**Or online at:** [www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate](http://www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate)


**Or by calling:** 1800 024 413

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**  
*Year 3 Students and any older children who have not yet received it.*

**Information Evening:** 24th February (5.30pm)

**Sessions:** 4, 11, 18, 25 March (5-6pm).  
**Venue:** Parish Meeting Room

**II Rite of Reconciliation**  
 (before Easter): **26th March 5pm**



**CHRISTIAN MEDITATION**  
*Contemplative prayer that offers depth, stillness and personal transformation*

Fr Laurence is a Benedictine monk and the Director and Spiritual Leader of the World Community for Christian Meditation. He will be leading a session at St Christopher's Cathedral in Mauka, however it will be live streamed

**When:** Wednesday 11 March  
**Time:** 4pm - 5.30pm  
**Where:** St Christopher's Cathedral, Manuka  
**Livestream:** <https://www.youtube.com/live/lCvIEU59XA0>

**BAPTISMS IN THE PARISH**

This week-end we welcome Lorenzo Greco into our faith community through the waters of baptism.

*May God's love and blessing be upon them on this baptism day and always.*

**FUNERALS IN THE PARISH**

Bettye Joy Ison

**At:** St Bernard's Church  
 11am  
 Tuesday 24th February

Enter Lent with Prayer and Reflection

**LENTEN SCHEDULE**

**Ash Wednesday - 18 February**  
 9:15am - School Mass  
 6:00pm - Parish Mass

**Stations of the Cross**  
 Friday - 5:00pm  
 Followed by Soup Dinner at 6:00pm  
 (Hosted by the Croatian Community)

**Parish Lenten Programme**  
 Wednesdays - 9:30-11:00am

**Ash Monday - 16 February**  
 (Indian Community Mass)  
 6:00pm - Mass (Syro-Malabar Rite)

**PARISH LENTEN PROGRAM 2026**  
**Beginning Ash Wednesday**

Sessions will be held Wednesdays 9.30-11am after 9am Mass. February 25th, March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th.

**COST = Free..** Program supplied.  
 Facilitated by Marie Weatherall,  
 Carolyn Evenden, Helen Nestlebeck,  
 Deidre Herring, John McKay and Mary O'Neill.

*All are welcome.*



**Parking Reminder**

We kindly ask everyone to refrain from parking in the driveway in front of the church. This area must remain clear at all times for emergency access and the safe flow of traffic.

Designated accessible parking spaces are reserved for individuals with a valid permit who rely on them. Please respect these spaces and keep them available for those who need them.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in helping us maintain a safe, welcoming, and accessible environment for all.

God was talking to one of his angels and said, "Do you know what I have just done? I've created a 24-hour period of light and dark on Earth? Isn't that good?" 😊

The angel says, "Yes, but what will you do now?"

God says, "I think I'll call it a day."

**WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH**

A/C Name: St Bernard's Operating  
 BSB: 062 786  
 A/C No: 000 12939

Ref: Family Name

**Prayers for the Sick**  
*Jesus, Divine Healer, we entrust all the sick into your loving hands*

Declan Holmes, Joy & John Dillon, Jan Simpson, Nan Reidy, Natalie Matthews, Jordan Ambler, John Hyland, Ken Evenden, Travis Roth, Piper Roth, Maya Roth, Kristy Crosby, Jeanette Clarke, Brendan Blyton, Wendy & Pat Roberts, Mark O'Neill, Karen Nixon, Kevin Totterell, Dawn Robinson, Maria de Rocco, Myrna Glenn, Norma Dean, Ann Marie McLoughlin, Christine Norman, Anne Gatehouse, Tony Vogel, Sr Marie McAlister, Peter O'Neill.

**Recently Deceased**

*We have loved them in life; let us not forget them in death. May they live forever in God's love.*

Bettye Ison, Fr Frank Fuchs, Chris Bowditch, Shirley Carroll, Pavla Pinkawa, William Gallagher, Teresa Lewis, Bob & Suzanne Hughes, Bishop Pat Power, Diana Ebbelaar, Sr Maria Goretti, Maria Mendes, Gregy Elchico, Bob & Judy Spruce, Rod & Letitia Baz, Wido Melis, Zora Domitrovic, Margaret Priest, Linda Vogel, Ivan Backo, Jean McSmith, David Wick, Margaret Silversides, Joseph Quigley, Patricia Totterdell, Joanne Rogers, Josephine Beckhaus.

**Anniversaries:** are listed in the Memorial Book at the Church and names can be added to it if dates are provided.

**Pope's Monthly Prayer Intentions**

**February**

**For children with Incurable Diseases**

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

**BATEMANS BAY & MORUYA DISTRICT FUNERALS**

Caring for Eurobodalla shire families for over 50 years  
 Batemans Bay 44728886  
 Moruya 4474 3555  
 Narooma 4476 3888

**INDUSTRIAL REPLACEMENTS**  
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Ray and Anne Brown

**COASTAL CONCRETE & QUARRY**  
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**Kate & Tara your vets**  
 at Surf Beach  
**EUROCOAST Veterinary Centre**  
 4471 3400

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**  
**Frist Sunday of Lent**  
**Year A**

**First Reading**

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

A reading from the book of Genesis

*Creation of our first parents, and sin.*

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death."' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

The Word of the Lord  
**R. Thanks be to God**

**Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. see v.3

**(R.)** Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.

In your compassion blot out my offence.

O wash me more and more from my guilt

and cleanse me from my sin.  
**(R.)**

2. My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned; what is evil in your sight I have done. **(R.)**

3. A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **(R.)**

4. Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise. **(R.)**

**Second Reading**

Romans 5:12, 17-19

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.*

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

The Word of the Lord  
**R. Thanks be to God**

**Gospel Acclamation**

Matthew 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**

Matthew 4:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.*

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says:

Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says:

He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

The Gospel of the Lord  
**R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

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**ST BERNARD'S PARISH**  
**BATEMANS BAY**  
**2 David Avenue, Batehaven NSW 2536**

Welcome to our church

P .O. Box 3220, Batehaven, 2536.  
 Tel: 4472 4153  
 E: batemansbay@cg.org.au  
 Website: www.cg.org.au/batemansbay  
 Office Hours: 10am to 2pm  
 Wednesday-Friday

**Priest:** Fr. Joshy Kurien  
 E: joshy.kurien@cg.org.au, 0412 358 222  
**Secretary:** Roslynn Trompp  
**Finance Admin:** Anne Jackson JP  
**PC Co-ord:** Marie Weatherall  
**Asst. PC Co-ord:** Carolyn Evenden

**St. Bernard's Primary School, Batehaven**  
**Principal:** Karen Hadley  
**R.E.C:** Rebecca Keough  
**Carroll College, Broulee**  
**Principal:** Andrew Kenneally  
**R.E.C:** Anna Smart

**First Sunday of Lent Year A**



**Choir Practice**  
 Every Monday  
 1.00pm - 2.30 pm  
 Easter Preparation

**Cenacle Prayer 9.30 am**  
 Fridays after Mass

**"Enjoy the Good News"**  
 Wednesdays after mass  
 CMR

**Stations of the Cross**  
 Fridays 5pm finishing 27th March - Followed by Soup Supper at 6pm

**Tuesday 24th February**  
 Sacrament of Reconciliation  
 Enrolment and Information  
 Evening  
 Church 5.30 pm

**Wrap with Love**  
 Wednesday 25 February.  
 1pm-3pm CMR  
 Tuesday 10th March  
 10 am BB Library  
 Wednesday 25 March  
 1pm-3pm CMR

**RCIA Thursdays 5.30pm**

**COFFEE CLUB**  
 Thursdays after 9am Mass  
 Venue: Corrigan's Cove

**Craft Group**  
 Thursdays  
 10am CMR

**LET'S LOOK AT SINNING**

No, not an invitation, rather a think about today's readings. Yes, Lent has begun, a 40 day stretch very familiar to us Catholics.

In my earliest days it meant no lollies, and the local fish shop did extra well. Later I viewed Lent as a kind of pre-season training regime where self-discipline prepared you for sport, a bit like my footballer friend who would stop smoking every winter, or Lent as akin to the annual car service.

The Genesis reading today gives an account of temptation and sin. 'Original Sin' - I'll leave to the theologians. Let's just look at the story of the sneaky snake (world's first scammer?). Firstly, approaching Eve alone, he proposes a doubt: "Did God REALLY say...?". After she responds, the serpent/Satan **lies** about God's intention regarding the tree and it's fruit. *No mention of apples!* Led by the attractiveness of the fruit and the thought of what it could do for her (equal to God, whoo-hoo!) she took and ate it. The man of course has to have a bit of the action and eats some offered by Eve.

Although not in today's reading, Genesis goes on to describe Adam and Eve hiding from God, and then blaming: Adam blames Eve, and she blames the serpent. The picture of temptation and sin painted here reflects the spiritual and psychological reality of our human nature; where I find myself not tuned to God, thinking of advantages to me, not appreciating all that is given, (Adam and Eve already had Eden, the metaphor for happiness and completeness), and then hiding and lessening my guilt by blaming others ("Oh everyone's doing it"). Sin as failing to appreciate the givingness of God.

In the gospel Satan tries his approach with Jesus, alone, led into the desert by the Spirit after his baptism. "Something to eat?" he is asking (like with Eve). Jesus responds with Scripture: we do not live by bread alone. (*Deut 8:3*). Satan then tries Scripture, suggesting the Father may not be fully trustworthy; Jesus responds categorically with more Scripture (*Deut 6:16*). Perhaps in frustration now Satan deals out the big lie, presenting all the world's kingdoms which he offers in return for worshipping him. Jesus trumps with "*The Lord your God you shall worship. Him only you shall serve.*" He knows the Father and their loving relationship.

Lent is calling us to focus, not on our penance(s), but on God.

It is a time to build up that RELATIONSHIP, begun with our baptism, perhaps fractured at times. Pope Leo in his recent message said "*Lent invites us to put God back in the centre of our lives.*" In speaking of fasting he suggests abstaining from words that wound or offend. Whatever our Lenten actions, do they connect us more closely, lovingly, gratefully to our God?

*John Mackay*

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land, the Walbunja people of the Yuin Nation.  
 We pay our respects to their elders, past, present and emerging.