



"Happy the pure in heart:
they shall see God."

St Mark's Parish

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

29 January 2023



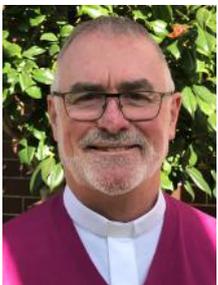
Matthew 5:8

A CALL TO ACTION!

Jesus proclaims his manifesto that is in some ways opposite to what the world thinks is important. Influences today thrive on popularity and the number of followers they have, whereas Jesus offers us a different take on living and what is really important. Many things are passing in this life and are of little value to eternal life.

Jesus has the perspective of eternity and what is important to God. Jesus raises up the poor and marginalized, the seemingly insignificant and lowly in the world's eyes and says their way is important for salvation and eternal life. Our world seems to discard people who are struggling and finding things and life difficult. The world exalts the successful, confident and even boastful and marginalises or criticises the lowly and unsuccessful.

Those of the Kingdom of God have a different set of priorities and is countercultural and challenging. The Book of Zephaniah, a short prophetic book of the Old Testament describes a people humbled and learning obedience to God in a difficult place and time. In the Holy Land the place where the Beatitudes were taught is a place of pilgrimage today with chapels dedicated to each of the teachings.



We are called to value every person and to treat all with dignity and respect. Our world is sometimes at odds with the values and teaching of Jesus, and it is in this world that we need to speak up for the least because everyone is valued and appreciated by God.

Yours, in the Lord Jesus,
Fr Michael McLean, Parish Priest

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR CONSECRATED LIFE

2nd February 2023

The celebration of the World Day for Consecrated Life, which will be observed for the first time on 2 February, is intended to help the entire Church to esteem ever more greatly the witness of those persons who have chosen to follow Christ by means of the practice of the evangelical counsels and, at the same time, is intended to be a suitable occasion for consecrated persons to renew their commitment and rekindle the fervour which should inspire their offering of themselves to the Lord.

The mission of the consecrated life in the present and in the future of the Church, now at the threshold of the third millennium, concerns not merely those who have received this special charism, but the entire Christian community. In the post-synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Vita Consecrata* issued last year, I wrote: "In effect, the consecrated life is at the very heart of the Church as a decisive element for her mission, since it 'manifests the inner nature of the Christian calling' and the striving of the whole Church as Bride towards union with her one Spouse" (VC 3). Thus, I would like to renew the invitation to consecrated persons to look to the future with confidence, relying on the fidelity of God and the power of his grace, who is always able to accomplish new wonders: "You have not only a glorious history to remember and to recount, but also a great history still to be accomplished! Look to the future, where the Spirit is sending you in order to do even greater things" (VC 110).

[Link to read full document](#)

© excerpt 1997 from John Paul II

message of the Holy Father John Paul II for the World Day of Consecrated Life

[Link to read](#) Pope Francis 2023 Homily for the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord and the 26th World Day for Consecrated Life.

[Salesians celebrate 100 years in Australia.](#) The Salesians of Don Bosco are this year marking 100 years of Salesian presence and ministry in Australia with celebrations planned throughout the year. Due to unforeseeable circumstances and difficulties they encountered, some Salesians returned to Europe disappointed, while others moved to Melbourne to minister to Italian immigrants.

They also helped in the education of poor and abandoned young people in Victoria. These few determined Salesians moved forward in hope, trusting entirely in God's will, for their new mission in Melbourne. © Cath News



Lent

SMALL GROUPS
your spirituality

St Mark's Parish is bringing together its Lenten Program for 2023. If you wish to be involved, speak with Fr Michael or contact the Parish Office.
Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 22nd February 2023.

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Entrance Antiphon

Ps 105:47

(All) Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.

The Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

First Reading

Zephaniah 2.3: 3. 12-13

A reading from the book of the prophet Zephaniah.

I will leave in the midst of you a people humble and lowly.

Seek the Lord, all you humble of the land, who do his commands; seek righteousness, seek humility; perhaps you may be hidden on the day of the Lord's wrath.

For I will leave in the midst of you a people humble and lowly.

They shall seek refuge in the name of the Lord — the remnant of Israel; they shall do no wrong and utter no lies, nor shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouths. Then they will pasture and lie down, and no one shall make them afraid.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 146. 6c-7, 8-9a, 9b-10, (R. Mt 5.3)

(R.) Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith forever, who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free. **(R.)**
2. The Lord opens the eyes of the blind and lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous and watches over the strangers. **(R.)**
3. The Lord upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin. The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. **(R.)**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1.26 - 31

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

God chose what is weak in the world.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God.

God is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

© The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers. The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved.

Gospel Acclamation

See Matthew 5.12

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad;
Your reward will be great in heaven.
Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 5.1 - 12a

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the Prophets who were before you."



Pontifical Requiem Mass for the late George Cardinal Pell AC Thursday 2 February 2023

The Funeral Mass for the late
Archbishop will be held on
Thursday 2 February at 11:00am
at
St Mary's Cathedral.

Members of the public are invited to attend.

The funeral will be [live-streamed](#).

If you're unable to attend the Funeral Mass, there will also be other opportunities to pay your respects to the late Archbishop, George Cardinal Pell at St Mary's Cathedral:

Wednesday 1 February 2023

9:30am Reception of the Body and Commencement of Lying in State.

1:10pm A Mass for the Dead.

5:30pm Evening Prayer and Vigil.

8:00pm A Mass for the Dead

Thursday 2 February 2023

6:45am Mass for the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord
11:00am Pontifical Requiem Mass
(Cathedral Doors open from 9:30am)

ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS - 12:00pm Saturday 4 Feb A communal ceremony of the Anointing of the Sick at St Mark's Drummoyne.

When a Catholic is very sick, the Church anoints the person with oil in a special ritual of healing called Anointing of the Sick. This rite is one way in which the Church continues the healing ministry of Jesus. The healing offered by this anointing is forgiveness of sins, hope and inner peace, sometimes physical healing, and an assurance of God's steadfast care, even in death.



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from
the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life
everlasting. Amen

Prayers of the Faithful

Leader: Jesus gave us the beatitudes, so let us keep in
mind those who need the blessings of God as we gather
together to pray for our Church and the world.

Reader: Let us pray for a blessing upon the Leaders of the
Church. May they become blessed through their care of the
poor and have the courage to suffer in Christ's name.

(pause).

Lord hear us:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for the missionaries who have dedicated
their lives to saving the poor as they seek to spread the
message of Christ's love and forgiveness. *(pause).*

Lord hear us:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for those who are suffering through illness. May
this community be a blessing to them in the way that they
are offered care and support. *(pause).*

Lord hear us:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: Let us pray for teachers and students returning to
school, may they learn the ways of God and become faithful
disciples of Christ. *(pause).*

Lord hear us:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: Let us pray for those in our local community may
they continue to place their hope in God, trusting in his
unfailing goodness and have the courage to take the narrow
road. *(pause).*

Lord hear us:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: Let us pray for those who are grieving for loved
ones, lost to them through death or separation, may they be
comforted by those who care. *(pause).*

Lord hear us:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

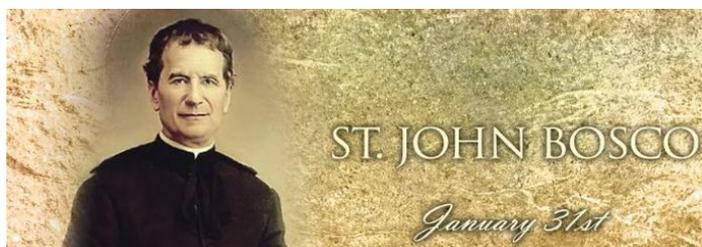
Leader: Heavenly Father, you sent Jesus to be our teacher
and our saviour. Hear these prayers and form us as the
community of the beatitudes. We ask this through Christ our
Lord.

All: Amen.

Communion Antiphon

Mt 5:3-4

(All) Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the
Kingdom of Heaven. Blessed are the meek, for they shall
possess the land.



Pray for Students & Teachers

As teachers and students return to school
we offer this blessing to them all:

Lord God,
your Spirit of wisdom fills the earth
and teachers us your ways.
Look upon these students.
Let them enjoy learning and take
delight in new discoveries.
Help them to persevere in their studies and
give them the desire to learn all things well.
Look upon these teachers.
Let them strive to share their knowledge with gentle
patience and endeavour always to bring the
truth to eager minds.
Grant that students and teachers alike
may follow Jesus Christ,
The way, the truth, and the life,
for ever and ever Amen.

Thursday 2nd February FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD - CANDLEMASS Mass at 9:30am

*When the days were completed for
their purification according to the law
of Moses, Mary and Joseph took Jesus
up to Jerusalem to present him to the
Lord, just as it is written in the law of
the Lord, "Every male that opens the
womb shall be consecrated to the
Lord," and to offer the sacrifice of "a
pair of turtledoves or two young
pigeons," in accordance with the
dictate in the law of the Lord.*

~ Luke 2:22-24 ~



Today's feast is celebrated in our Church forty days after
Christmas, marking the day that Mary and Joseph would have
brought Jesus into the Temple. Though Mary was pure and free
from sin from the moment of her conception, and though the
Son of God did not need to be redeemed, Mary and Joseph
fulfilled these ritual obligations.

"Candlemass" is also a traditional name given to today's feast
because as early as the fifth century, the custom of celebrating
this feast with lighted candles developed. The lit candles
symbolized Simeon's prophecy that Jesus would be "a light for
revelation to the Gentiles." Lastly, this Feast has been referred
to as the "Feast of the Holy Encounter" because God, in the
Person of Jesus, encountered Simeon and Anna in the Temple.



In our thoughts and prayers

In your love and concern, please pray for all the sick and vulnerable members of our St Mark's community:

Rocchina Ciampa, Brian and Anne Johnson, Heather Burbidge, Roslyn Chew, Pat Kenna, Joanna McGill, Giuseppina Pinto, Nancy Rice, Maureen Hanvey, Nora Bateman, Milly Di Blasio, Mary Conway, Rocco Zoccali, Lina Giannandrea, Wendy Madden and Patricia Ryan.

Remembering those who have gone before us.

Eddie Conaghan, Michael Conaghan, James Conaghan, Lily Conaghan, Frank Hanvey, Dr James Stackpool, George Andreou, Charlie Camilleri, Antonio Ziino, Maurangelo and Leonarda Altomare,

Recently Deceased. Norma Cornford, Brian Harnett,

Fr John De Luca, Pasquale Sestito, Anesto Sawei, Giuseppe Bavaro, Monica Rincon de Florez, Giuseppe Bavaro, His Eminence George Cardinal Pell, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

We Remember Fr John De Luca, who passed recently.

Fr John served as administrator of Drummoyne Parish in 1995 prior to becoming Parish Priest of Maroubra Bay/Beach before retiring to lesser duties. Fr John co-ordinated the Order of Service for St Mark's Christmas celebration leading the "Schola Nova Choir" in December. Fr John's funeral will be held on Tuesday 31 January 2:30pm. Parishioners are welcome to watch the funeral service on live stream <https://vimeo.com/event/2812786/7b58ed8885>

CATECHISTS SUNDAY 2023 5th February

"Being a Catechist is the most spiritually fulfilling thing I have ever done!" ~ Rose

Catechists who are willing to help in our public schools teach children about God and His love for all.

Jesus always picked those willing to follow his way by "making the willing able".

At Mass our St Mark's Catechists will take their Rite of Commitment and Sending Forth.

St Mark's Drummoyne Masses

Monday & Friday 8:00am
Tuesday & Thursday 9:30am
Wednesday 7:30am



Saturday 12 noon
Saturday Reconciliation 11:30am - 11:55am
Saturday Vigil 5:30pm
Sunday 9:00am & 6:00pm

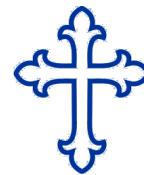
Scan the QR code to donate to support the Ministry and Mission of our Parish.



WELCOME VISITORS TO ST MARK'S CHURCH
May the New Year bring you blessings for a prosperous life.

Baptism

We welcome into our faith community this Sunday through the Sacrament of Baptism at St. Mark's Theodore David Train & Celine Theresa Catherine and we congratulate their parents. God bless you.



St Mark's Catholic Parish

33 Tranmere Street, Drummoyne NSW 2047
Tel: (02) 9181 1795

Email: admin@stmarksdrummoyne.org.au
Parish Website: www.stmarksdrummoyne.org.au



St Mark's Church Hearing Loop installed

Parish Bulletin: we ask that you take home your bulletin, do not put it back for others or leave it on the pew for others to pick up.

Parish Priest: Fr Michael McLean PP
Priest in Residence: Fr Denis Minns OP
Pastoral Associate: Sr Antonia Nedu ISR
Chair Parish Pastoral Council: Ms Celine Cheng
School Principal: Ms Melissa Lentini

Masks are recommended, thank you for social distancing, please respect the sacredness of our church and remember to turn off your phone during the Mass.

St Mark's Parish, Drummoyne acknowledges the Wangal people, one of 29 tribes of the Eora nation and the traditional custodians of the land on which we stand. We pay our respects to them and for their care of the land. May we walk gently and respectfully upon the land.



A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney: Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with a crime are the police. If you, or anyone you know have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. **Website:** Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding and Child Protection