The image features a crown of thorns in the upper left corner, resting on a light-colored, textured surface that resembles sand or ash. In the lower center, a cross is formed by a pile of dark, granular ash. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape of sand dunes under a pale sky. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent horizontal band across the middle of the image.

Ash Wednesday
St Mark's Parish

LENT

Pray + Fast + Give



Entrance Antiphon

Wis 11:24,25,27

(All) You are merciful to all, O Lord, and despise nothing that you have made. You overlook people's sins, to bring them to repentance, and you spare them, for you are the Lord our God.

First Reading

Joel 2.12 - 18

A reading from the book of Joel

Rend your hearts and not your clothing.

"Even now," says the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing.

"Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing."

Who knows whether the Lord will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him: a grain offering and a drink offering to be presented to the Lord, your God?

Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; gather the people. Sanctify the congregation; assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy. Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep. Let them say, "Spare your people, O Lord, and do not make your heritage a mockery, a byword among the nations. Why should it be said among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'" Then the Lord became jealous for his land, and had pity on his people.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 51.1-2, 3-4a, 10-11, 12+15 (R.1a+4a)

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

1. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. **(R.)**
2. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight. **(R.)**
3. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. **(R.)**
4. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. **(R.)**

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5.20 - 6.2

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

Be reconciled to God, for now is the acceptable time.

We are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

For our sake God made Christ to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Christ we might become the righteousness of God.

As we work together with him, we urge you also, not to accept the grace of God in vain.

For the Lord says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation!

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Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 95.7-8

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
If today you hear God's voice, harden not your hearts.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel

Matthew 6.1-6, 16-18

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Your Father, who sees all that is done in secret, will reward you.

Jesus said to the disciples,

"Beware of practising your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven. "So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.

But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward.

But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you."



LENTEN CONVERSATIONS "SPIRIT & TRUTH"

An invitation to join a reflection group for devotional readings, prayer and meditation.

Begin your Lenten journey to be reconciled with God.

MORNING LENTEN CONVERSATION

Thursday 10:00am following 9:30am Mass

Led by Maria or Sr Antonia join us for morning tea and reflection in this penitential season.

MIDDAY LENTEN CONVERSATION

Saturday 12:30pm following 12:00pm Mass

Led by Michelle join us for a simple lunch and reflection as we focus on His mercy and grace to accomplish in us what we cannot change in ourselves.

FAMILY LENTEN CONVERSATION

Sunday 10:00am following 9:00am Mass

Led by Alexander or Julian bring your family, pram and children to gather and focus on the theme of how Christ establishes us as family; He was with us in our past, among us in our present and the One who leads us on.

EVENING CANDLELIGHT ADORATION

Every Friday during Lent at St Mark's Church from 7.00pm

Join us for Candlelight Adoration Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Prayer, Silence Reflection, Benediction with the Sacrament of Penance available.

LENT

Pray + Fast + Give



Prayers of the Faithful

Leader: In this acceptable time, the day of our salvation. Let us turn to God in prayer for all in need.

Reader: Let us pray that the Church proclaim God's love and mercy to the world. *(pause)*.

Lord hear us:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: Let us pray that in this time of Lent we will turn away from sin and ask for God's forgiveness. *(pause)*.

Lord hear us:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: Let us pray that our Lenten disciplines renew us to be better disciples of Christ. *(pause)*.

Lord hear us:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: Let us pray that the sick will join their suffering to the cross of Christ including all St Mark's Parish community members unwell at this time. *(pause)*.

Lord hear us:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: Let us pray that our beloved dead will rejoice at the heavenly banquet. *(pause)*.

Lord hear us:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: God our Father, we ask you to hear the prayers we bring to you. Help us to acknowledge your loving mercy and to serve you with grateful hearts.

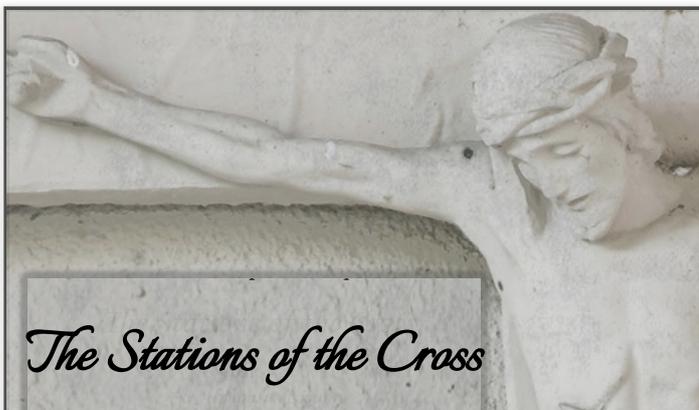
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Ps 1:2-3

(All) He who ponders the law of the Lord day and night will yield fruit in due season.



The Stations of the Cross

FRIDAY'S DURING LENT Following 8:00am Mass

This Lenten devotion offers witness to Jesus' Passion and Death, at each station we use our senses and our imagination to reflect prayerfully upon Jesus' suffering, Death, and Resurrection, and to experience the visual images to reflect on Christ's love for us.

Blessing and Distribution of Ashes:

O God, who are moved by acts of humility and respond with forgiveness to works of penance, lend your merciful ear to our prayers and in your kindness pour out the grace of your † blessing on your servants who are marked with these ashes, that, as they follow the Lenten observances, they may be worthy to come with minds made pure to celebrate the Paschal Mystery of your Son.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Antiphon:

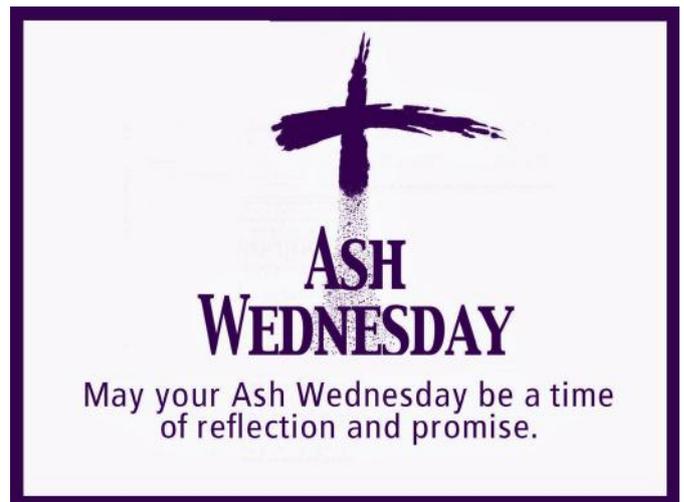
Cf. Jl 2:17; Est 4:17

Let the priests, the ministries of the Lord, stand between the porch and the altar and weep and cry out: Spare, O Lord, spare your people; do not close the mouths of those who sing your praise, O Lord.

(R.) Turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel. *or*

(R.) Remember you are dust and to dust you will return.

- 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. **(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: That you may be justified when you give sentence and be without reproach when you judge. O see, in guilt I was born, a sinner was I conceived. **(R.)**
- 4: Indeed you love truth in the heart; then in the secret of my heart teach me wisdom. O purify me, then I shall be clean; O was me, I shall be whiter than snow. **(R.)**



St. Mark's Parish.

United in Baptism, Nourished by the Eucharist,
Guided by the Holy Spirit,
We Form a Vibrant and Caring Community,
Living and Proclaiming the Gospel,
Reaching Out to Those in Need,
Journeying Together,
Growing in Faith.



St Mark's Drummoyne Masses



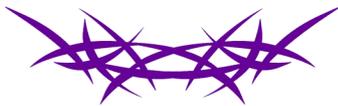
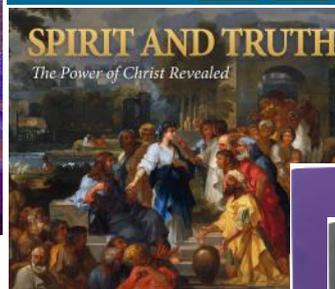
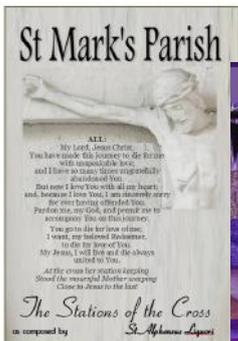
Monday & Friday 8:00am
Tuesday & Thursday 9:30am
Wednesday 7:30am



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.

Lent ~ Prepare: Fast: Give: Pray:



Lenten Observances at St Mark's

Take home...

Project Compassion - collect your envelope or box
Lenten bulletin - the Pillars of Lent
Fasting - Prayer - Almsgiving
Little Black (adult) or Purple (children) Book
a donation is appreciated for Little books.

Join us....

At Mass weekdays or Sundays
Join a St Mark's Lenten Conversation Group
(come for a couple or all sessions)
Candlelight Adoration
Pray the Stations of The Cross.
Receive the Sacrament of Penance
(Confession | Reconciliation)
Saturday 11:00am

Ways to Walk Through Lent with your family & friends in Christ

Lent is an ideal season to travel through in a group with your friends and family because when we partner in **Praying, Fasting, and Almsgiving**, we keep each other on track, bear each other's burdens, and deepen our faith and friendships. **Lent** is a great time to reach out to family and friends in Christ and invite them to accompany you through Lent.

Learn and practice a new devotion together.

Make a pilgrimage to our Church.

Participate in Stations of the Cross each Friday.

Host a recipe exchange of meatless recipes.

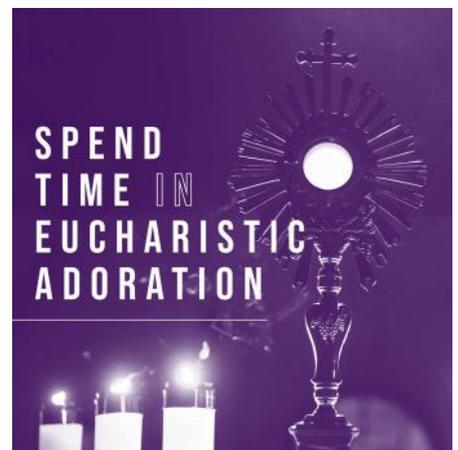
Make a decision with your family and friends to give something up together.

Instead of a night out, meet for a Sunday Mass.

Feed the hungry.

Take up a collection.

If your friends or family Pray, Fasts, and give Alms together this Lent, you may find that your group wants to continue doing some of this Lenten work throughout the year.



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: Mrs 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.

