

# THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF MENTONE - PARKDALE

## SAINT PATRICK - SAINT JOHN VIANNEY



Second Sunday of Lent (Year B) : 25 February 2018

### FATHER MICHAEL'S MESSAGE

Theologian Ron Rolheiser writes from personal experience about the manner in which God saves us through the resurrection of his Son. This reflection is a good one to illustrate the bigger context for our Lenten discipline of prayer, almsgiving and fasting. Lent is our annual renewal and the time to turn afresh to God who never tires of drawing us closer to him. The pattern of his drawing close, however, is set in the life of his own incarnate Son. Jesus, in his humanity, is our exemplar, our model in our relationship with God in faith.

Rolheiser's essay recalls Jesus' reply to the people who asked him why disasters befall good people: "It was just about this time that some people arrived and told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose that these Galileans were worse sinners than any others that this should have happened to them? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell, killing them all? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.'" (Lk 13:1-5)

### **The Resurrection as Revealing God as Redeemer, not as Rescuer.**

Before you get serious about Jesus, first consider how good you are going to look on wood!

That's a line from Daniel Berrigan that rightly warns us that faith in Jesus and the resurrection won't save us from humiliation, pain, and death in this life. Faith isn't meant to do that. Jesus doesn't grant special exemptions to

his friends, no more than God granted special exemptions to Jesus. We see this everywhere in the Gospels, though most clearly in Jesus' resurrection. To understand this, it's helpful to compare Jesus' resurrection to what Jesus himself does in raising Lazarus from the dead.

The Lazarus story begs a lot of questions. John, the evangelist, tells us the story: He begins by pointing out that Lazarus and his sisters, Martha and Mary, were very close friends of Jesus. Hence, we are understandably taken aback by Jesus' seeming lack of response to Lazarus' illness and the request to come and heal him. Here's the story:

Lazarus' sisters, Martha and Mary, sent word to Jesus that "the man you love is ill" with the implied request that Jesus should come and heal him. But Jesus' reaction is curious. He doesn't rush off immediately to try to heal his close friend. Instead he remains where he is for two days longer while his friend dies. Then, after Lazarus has died, he sets off to visit him. As he approaches the village where Lazarus has died, he is met by Martha and then, later, by Mary. Each, in turn, asks him the question: "Why?" Why, since you loved this man, did you not come to save him from death? Indeed, Mary's question implies even more: "Why?" Why is it that God invariably seems absent when bad things happen to good people? Why doesn't God rescue his loved ones and save them from pain and death?

Jesus doesn't offer any theoretical apologetics in response. Instead he asks where they have laid the body, lets them take him there, sees the burial site, weeps in sorrow, and then raises his dead friend back to life. So why did he let him die in the first place? The story begs that question: Why? Why didn't Jesus rush down to save Lazarus since he loved him?

The answer to that question teaches a very important lesson about Jesus, God, and faith, namely, that God is not a God who ordinarily rescues us, but is rather a God who redeems us. God doesn't ordinarily intervene to save us from humiliation, pain, and death; rather he redeems humiliation, pain, and death after the fact.

Simply put, Jesus treats Lazarus exactly the same way as God, the Father, treats Jesus: Jesus is deeply and intimately loved by his Father and yet his Father doesn't rescue him from humiliation, pain, and death. In his lowest hour,

when he is humiliated, suffering and dying on the cross, Jesus is jeered by the crowd with the challenge: "If God is your father, let him rescue you!" But there's no rescue. Instead Jesus dies inside the humiliation and pain. God raises him up only after his death.

This is one of the key revelations inside the resurrection: We have a redeeming, not a rescuing, God.

Indeed, the story of the raising of Lazarus in John's Gospel was meant to answer a burning question inside the first generation of Christians: They had known Jesus in the flesh, had been intimate friends with him, had seen him heal people and raise people from the dead, so why was he letting them die? Why wasn't Jesus rescuing them?

It took the early Christians some time to grasp that Jesus doesn't ordinarily give special exemptions to his friends, no more than God gave special exemptions to Jesus. So, like us, they struggled with the fact that someone can have a deep, genuine faith, be deeply loved by God, and still have to suffer humiliation, pain, and death like everyone else. God didn't spare Jesus from suffering and death, and Jesus doesn't spare us from them.

That is one of the key revelations inside of the resurrection and is the one we perhaps most misunderstand. We are forever predicating our faith on, and preaching a rescuing God, a God who promises special exemptions to those of genuine faith: Have a genuine faith in Jesus, and you will be spared from life's humiliations and pains! Have a genuine faith in Jesus, and prosperity will come your way! Believe in the resurrection, and rainbows will surround your life!

Would it were so! But Jesus never promised us rescue, exemptions, immunity from cancer, or escape from death. He promised rather that, in the end, there will be redemption, vindication, immunity from suffering, and eternal life. But that's in the end; meantime, in the early and intermediate chapters of our lives, there will be the same kinds of humiliation, pain, and death that everyone else suffers.

*The death and resurrection of Jesus  
reveal a redeeming, not a rescuing, God.*

**Presbytery & Office:** 10 Rogers Street, Mentone 3194. Ph: 9583 2103 Fax: 9584 7372

• **Parish Priest:** Rev. Fr. Michael McEntee Ph: 0417 673 857 • **Hon Associate Priest:** Rev. Fr. Ramsay Williams OLSC

• **Pastoral Associate:** Sr Damian SPC Ph: 0410 002 270 • **Convent:** Sisters of St Paul de Chartres 9772 3738

• **Director of Music:** Myfanwy McIndoe Ph: 0484 079 880

• **St Patrick's School:** Ph: 9583 5033 • **St John Vianney's School:** Ph: 9580 5812

# Notices for Parish Bulletin to the Parish Office by 12 noon Thursday

## Recently Deceased

Kevin Mann, Jeanette Devon, Jack Cullen

## Anniversaries

Steven Ward, BA Santamaria, Janine Hall, James Ward

## Prayer for the Sick



Margaret Sullivan, Di McNicholas, Brenda McMahon, Rita Buckner, John Blore, Greta Sprague, Louie Cenina, Joan Nolan, Carmen Lotzniker, Molly Shannon, Hector Burra,

Bonnie Alford, Nanette Woodbridge, Annette Portelli, Sebastian Wolfenden, Fr Terry Naughtin MSC, Ellen Farrugia-Merlo, Patricia Power, Maureen Oswald, Patricia M, Patricia Walker, Madeline Wesson, Jenny Rawlings and those on the continuing prayer list.

(PLEASE LET US KNOW IF A NAME SHOULD BE REMOVED)

## Prayer / Meditation

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Each day the Church is open from 8.30 am to 6.00pm. Please choose a time (1/2 hour) to spend in Adoration. Each Friday the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for adoration following the 9.15am Mass until 4.30pm, when Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament is given.



### Rosary:

1. In St Patrick's Church the Rosary is prayed each day before morning Mass at 8.45am All welcome.
2. The Rosary is also prayed on Thursday after 10:30am OLSC Mass and on Wednesdays evenings, 5pm at Bridie's (9585 5142)

### Divine Mercy Devotions:

Are held in St Patrick's Church each Friday at 3.00pm.

### Special Prayer Groups:

#### Mother's Prayer Group:

Our meetings will recommence in April (1st Tuesday of each month at 10 - 11:45am). Please mark your diaries.

#### 1st Collection:

Presbytery: \$1,774.85

#### 2nd Collection:

Thanksgiving: \$2,830.74

Loose Money: \$685.15

### Pope's Intentions:

February 2018

#### Say "No" to Corruption

That those who have material, political or spiritual power may resist any lure of corruption.

#### Vocation View

If you need an example of a person responding to a vocational call, look at Abraham - called in old age to leave his country, father a child, then asked to sacrifice the child. What faith! Vocation is a risky response to a unique call from God.

#### Pray for Vocations



#### Stations of the Cross

Each Friday 7pm (SP)

## Parish Events

### Project Compassion 2018

This year Project Compassion celebrate *A Just Future for all in conjunction with the Year of Youth. Project Compassion boxes and/or a set of Lenten donation envelopes are available to take home.*

### Choir Scholarships

(\$20 per Term, multiple) available to all students of St Patrick's Primary/St John Vianney's Primary. - weekly rehearsal in the St Patrick's Primary school hall (7.30 - 9.00pm Thursday) with tea and biscuits provided.

- performances Sunday at 11am Mass, Easter and Christmas, within school term dates (excluding Easter and Christmas).

- depending on ability, opportunity to lead the singing at the 6pm Mass on Saturdays (\$60). For further enquiries, please contact Myfanwy McIndoe, Director of Music on 0484 079 880 or the Parish Office on 9583 2103.

### Planned Giving Envelopes

The weekly planned giving envelopes are now available for your collection in the Church Foyer. They are in Surname order. If anyone would like to join our planned giving please contact the parish office.

### menALIVE Parish BBQ

All men of the Mentone / Parkdale Parish are invited to attend a BBQ. **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April 18 at 7:30am to 9:30am** St Patrick's Community Centre (former Convent), Mitchell St, Mentone **Cost: \$10.00. Registrations: c/- Cuppa & Chat each Sunday.**

3 / 4 March 2018

## Parish of Mentone-Parkdale Rosters

### Readers:

6:00 pm - J Dillon (SP)  
9:00 am - K Swadling, P Edkins (SJV)  
11:00 am - V Mathers (SP)  
5:00 pm - F DeSumma (SP)

### Procession of Gifts

6:00 pm - P Brennan, L Harkness (SP)  
9:00 am - Sells Family (SJV)  
11:00 am - D Zuccala, J Vernon (SP)

### Extraordinary Ministers:

6:00 pm - T Dillon, R Razga (SP)  
9:00 am - V Mathers (SJV)  
11:00 am - SM Scalzo, A Iorianni (SP)  
5:00 pm - H Collins (SP)

### Extraordinary Minister to the Sick A Berghella (SJV)

### Counters: Team 6

G Giulieri, E Robinson, R Mulavin,  
R Fairhall, C Bergin

### Sacristans:

#### St Patrick's - Group 4:

C Price, S Rodrigo  
F & J O'Donoghue (SJV)

### Pilgrim Statues:

#### This Week:

Ady Family, 250 Nepean Hwy (SP)

#### Next Week:

Bergin Family, 9 Eulinga Ave (SP)

#### This Week:

O'Donoghue Family, 129 Warren Rd (SJV)

#### Next Week:

J Green, 17 Clare St (SJV)

### Adoration Roster:

Week 4 - St John Vianney



## Travelling Chalice

Travelling Chalice Roster will resume shortly.

# Parish and Diocesan News

## Parish Events

### Patrician Club

Next luncheon will be on **Wednesday 21st March**.

The venue is still to be finalised and a notice will be added to the Parish Noticeboard in both Churches.

All members, parishioners and friends warmly invited.

### Cards

Will you join me in keeping the playing cards day going? We can meet in the Community Centre (ie The Convent behind the Parish Office). Let me know if you are interested My telephone number is 9558 3646 and, if I happen to be out, there is an answering machine. *Tony Busuttill*

### Piety Stall

The *Columban Art Calendar*, available in our Piety Stall now, is an iconic Catholic *Calendar*, well-known for its traditional religious paintings and liturgical information 2018 marks the 96th edition.

**Normal open time is Sunday 10.30am to 12.30pm**

### Cuppa & Chat

Don't rush away after the 11:00am Mass at St Patrick's instead join us for a cuppa and chat. It gives us an opportunity to enjoy the hospitality of the parish and a chance to meet fellow parishioners.



### Daily Mass Readers

Parishioners are invited to join the list of Lectors who currently engage in this Ministry. There are those who have their choice of day allocated and attempts will be made to maintain such choices. It is a privilege to *proclaim* the Word (not to simply read it) and participation is encouraged. Saturday morning's are also included in the proposed "roster". A list is available on the notice board at St Patrick's for names of those wishing to participate in the Ministry of Lector during the week and on Saturday mornings

In 2001, the Commonwealth and Victorian Governments introduced legislation that deals with the manner in which public and private sector organisations may record, use, store and disclose information, including health information, collected from individuals. This parish is committed to upholding and implementing the Privacy Principles set out in legislation. A copy of the *Parish Policy* is available by contacting the Parish Office.

### Lenten Reflection

*Surrender Lenten reflections*, published by the Diocese of Wollongong provides an excellent reflection programme for Lent. Fr Michael is running the program each **Tuesday evenings in Lent, at 7.30 pm in 'the convent'**.

Please contact to Parish Office if you would like to attend.

## Other Events

### The Art of the Icon

**Thursdays 10am-12.30pm, 8 March to 8 November**

**St Paschal College Franciscan Friary, 90 Albion Road, Box Hill**

Learn to paint icons in the traditional prayerful way. Led by Br Ignatius Hickson OFM, 'The art of the icon' will teach you how to prepare an icon as an act of prayer and contemplation, using traditional methods. The cost includes all materials required (except paint and brushes). The group will also learn about the meaning and functions of icons in the life of the Church. Br Ignatius donates his time to pass on what he has learned. Numbers are limited. To apply to join the course, please send your name, contact details and a paragraph about why you would like to be a prayerful participant in 'The art of the icon'.

Cost: \$140 for materials

Applications: [stpascchals@franciscans.org.au](mailto:stpascchals@franciscans.org.au)

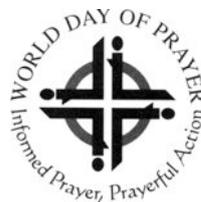
or PO Box 79, Box Hill, VIC 3128

Details: Fr Joe McKay ofm on 9896 4400

### World Day of Prayer 2018

Please mark your diaries and join with the Anglican community of St Augustine's Anglican Church, 90-92 Como Parade West, Mentone on **March 2nd at**

**10.30am** for the 2018 World Day of Prayer. The theme this year is "All God's Creation is Very Good!"



### Catholic Walking Club Welcomes New Members

The Catholic Walking Club is a bushwalking club founded in 1951 which has for its objectives the encouragement of bushwalking and allied activities in a Catholic atmosphere and the fostering of a greater love of the outdoors. The club is seeking

new members to enjoy its active program of day, weekend and extended bushwalking, ski touring and cycling trips. Membership is open to all age groups, 16 years and over.

### Details and enquiries:

Peter on 9889 2751 or [pswilson@bigpond.net.au](mailto:pswilson@bigpond.net.au) or Margaret at 9439 8205

### Website:

[www.catholicwalkingclubvic.org.au](http://www.catholicwalkingclubvic.org.au)



## A Just Future Starts with Community



### Rattanak from Cambodia

Rattanak graduated from his education program in 2010, returning the following year to train as a barber. The DDP then helped him to set up his shop in his parent's house in the village.

Having emerged from his isolated world at home, Rattanak is now running a successful business, supporting himself and his wife, and now a baby.

*We are very proud of him. It can show to other people in other countries that deaf people with a disability can do anything."*

- DDP Co-Director, Sokly

# The Liturgy for Second Sunday of Lent (Year B) : 25 Feb 2018

## Mass Response

Psalm Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

Gospel Acclamation: **Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**  
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:  
This is my beloved Son, hear him.  
**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

Memorial Acclamation: We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection, until you come again.

Legend: "CWBII" Catholic Worship Book II

### 6:00 pm Vigil Mass (Saturday) - St Patrick's

Entrance Hymn: CWBII 467  
Mass Setting: Mass of Our Lady Help of Christians – Connolly  
Offertory: CWBII 514  
Communion: CWBII 540  
Recessional: CWBII 621

### 9:00am (Sunday) - St John Vianney's

Entrance: CWBII 568  
Mass Setting: Mass of Our Lady Help of Christians – Connolly  
Offertory: CWBII 467  
Communion: CWBII 540  
Recessional: CWBII 621

### 11.00am Choral Mass (Sunday) - St Patrick's

Entrance: CWBII 467  
Mass Setting: Mass of Our Lady Help of Christians – Connolly  
Offertory: *Christus, der uns selig macht—J.S. Bach*  
Communion: CWBII 292—*Choir to sing verses*  
Recessional: CWBII 624

### 5:00 pm (Sunday) - St Patrick's

Entrance: CWBII 467  
Mass Setting: Mass of Our Lady Help of Christians – Connolly  
Offertory: CWBII 295  
Communion: CWBII 540  
Recessional: CWBII 621

### Readings Next Week:

Third Sunday of Lent (Year B)

Exodus: 20:1-17  
I Corinthians: 1:22-25  
John: 2:13-25

### MASSES THIS WEEK

(SP) St Patrick's Church; (SJV) St John Vianney's Church

#### WEEK DAY MORNING MASSES

**Monday, 26th No Mass**

#### **Tuesday, 27th**

9:15 am (SP) Tuesday of 2nd Week of Lent  
(St Patrick's School Mass)  
12:00 Noon (SJV) School Mass  
2:00 pm (SP) Funeral: Kevin Mann

#### **Wednesday, 28th**

9:15 am (SP) Wednesday of 2nd Week of Lent  
10:30 am (SJV) Mass  
12:00 Noon (SJV) Funeral Jack Cullen

#### **Thursday, 29th**

9:15 am (SP) Thursday of 2nd Week of Lent  
10:30 am (SP) **Ordinariate Mass**

#### **Friday, 30th**

9:15 am (SP) Friday of 2nd Week of Lent  
5:15 pm (SJV) Mass  
7:00 pm (SP) **Stations of the Cross**

#### **Saturday, 31st**

9:15 am (SP) Saturday of 2nd Week of Lent

#### WEEKEND MASSES

(Vigil) Saturday: 6:00pm (SP)  
Sunday: 9:00am (SJV)  
Sunday: 9:30am (Ordinariate Mass) (SP)  
Sunday: 11.00am (Choral Mass) (SP)  
Sunday: 5pm (SP)

#### RECONCILIATION

After the 9:15am Mass on Wednesday & Saturday mornings (SP) and 5:15 pm Saturday (SP)

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT  
THIS FRIDAY: BENEDICTION 4:30PM (SP)**