



3rd Sunday of Lent

15 March 2020

St Patrick's Parish Nhill

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First Reading

A reading from the book of Exodus

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.

Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord. Come in; let us bow and bend low; let us kneel before the God who made us for he is our God and we the people who belong to his pasture, the flock that is led by his hand. O that today you would listen to his voice!

'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.'
If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has

been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man - though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die - but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world;
give me living water, that I may never thirst again.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' - Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied: 'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.' You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied: 'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again; but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.' 'Sir,' said the woman 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come - in fact it is here already - when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshiper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah - that is, Christ - is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.' Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done', so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Mass Times for March

March 22: Mass at 5pm

March 17: Mass at 12 Noon

March 29: Mass at 10am, Kaniva at 11.30

Stations of the Cross: Wednesday in the Church at 4pm.

Blessings and prayers and best wishes for all who celebrate St Patrick's Day. Thank you for our Irish heritage. Congratulations to St Patrick's Nhill. Fr Peter will celebrate Mass in St Patrick's Church at 12noon on Tuesday

ROSTER for MARCH	March 15 Mass	March 22 Mass @ 5pm	March 29 Mass @ 10am
Reader & Prayers	M Millington	C Kennedy	I Dart
Lay Leaders	-----	-----	
Eucharistic Minister	L Grayling	J Gurry	A Munro
Offertory Procession	L Welsch	Volunteer please	S Lawler
Monthly Collector	J Millington	J Millington	J Millington
Counter	J Millington	J Kennedy	A Munro
Cleaning	A Munro	A Munro	A Munro

Child Safety Standards :

We have a Child Safety Policy in this Parish to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children in our care. A Child Safety Code of Conduct has been adopted for all who work with children in this Parish. Ann Munro is our safeguarding officer.

Monthly Collections

Parish: \$65.00

Presbytery: \$20.00

Loose: \$36.60

St Vincent de Paul Lenten Appeal

We can add to our Lent by donating each week the food suggested for the weekends below. In this way we support Vinnies and the Emergency Food Centre. You are asked to contribute the following goods on the named weekends: 7-8 March: Spaghetti/Baked Beans

14-15 March: Tinned Fruit

21-22 March: Pasta/Past Sauce

28-29 March: Tea/Coffee

4-5 April: Tinned Soup or any other food you can afford. Thank you.

NEW REGULATIONS FOR HOLY COMMUNION, HOLY WATER AND SIGN OF PEACE AT MASS

As a result of the increased spread of coronavirus and what we know about its transmission, Dioceses around the world have temporarily altered certain practices in Mass to ensure the health and safety of parishioners. With the wellbeing of all parishioners of our Diocese in mind - the following directives will be effective immediately to all in our Diocese:

*There will be no Communion from the Chalice.

*Communion will be received in the hand and not on the tongue, given that one of the easiest ways to transmit a virus is by saliva.

* At the Sign of Peace, parishioners will exchange peace with a smile or a bow, not with any touch.

*Eucharistic Ministers are to use hand sanitisers before the distribution of Holy Communion, and are not to physically touch anyone in the act of blessing.

*Holy water fonts are to be removed. These directives are from the Australian Government Department of Health, that everyone practises good hygiene to protect against coronavirus infection, including "avoiding close contact with others, eg. touching".

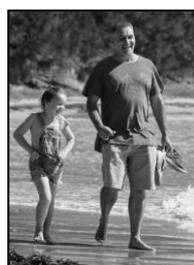
**PROJECT
COMPASSION**
GO FURTHER TOGETHER

Caritas
AUSTRALIA

Third Sunday of Lent

15th March 2020

Father of four, Barry, embodies resilience and strength. Growing up in a tough environment, he had to look inside himself to make the right choices for himself and his family. Barry, and others like him, were able to take part in



a cultural healing program called Red Dust Healing. This program encourages participants to examine their own personal hurt and allows them to heal from within, addressing family and personal relationships and what may be life-long patterns of violence, abuse and neglect. Today, thanks to the Caritas support, he's an inspirational father to his four girls and

a leader in his community.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 and help vulnerable people like Barry, so that they are empowered to assist members of their communities in Australia.

Let's Go Further, Together.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting

www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

DOBCEL Meeting. The PPC, Finance Committee School Advisory Councils and Principals will meet with DOBCEL in Horsham on Wednesday March 25th at 7pm in SMJ Parish Centre. DOBCEL means Diocese of Ballarat Catholic Education Limited, set up by the Bishop, to run our Schools from 2021 in accordance with new Government protocols. All issues will be discussed.