

The Living Word

First Sunday of Lent, Year C

9 March 2025

First Reading Dt 26:4-10

The confession of faith of the elect.

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement:

"My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given me." You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 90:1-2. 10-15. R. v.15

(R.) Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

1. He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High and abides in the shade of the Almighty says to the Lord: 'My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!' (R.)
2. Upon you no evil shall fall, no plague approach where you dwell. For you has he commanded his angels, to keep you in all your ways. (R.)
3. They shall bear you upon their hands lest you strike your foot against a stone. On the lion and the viper you will tread and trample the young lion and the dragon. (R.)

4. His love he set on me, so I will rescue him; protect him for he knows my name. When he calls I shall answer: 'I am with you.' I will save him in distress and give him glory. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 10:8-13

The confession of faith of the believers in Christ.

Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 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 Lk 4:1-13

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness where he was tempted.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.'



8/9 MARCH 2025

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

SEND US MAIL:

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Parish Priest

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ST COLUMBA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL:

Principal: Mr. Allen McMahon
Phone: 6436 9500
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Email: www.stcolumbassp.com.au

THIS WEEK'S OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 7am to 1pm
Isabella will be on leave for this week;
however, all emails/texts will still be
answered.

WEEKLY TIMETABLE

Saturday

11:30 am	Reconciliation
6:00 pm	Vigil Mass

Sunday

7:30am	Mass
9:30 am	Mass

Monday, Tuesday

10:00am	Mass
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Wednesday, Thursday

5:00pm	Mass
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Friday

10:00am	Mass
5:30pm	Stations of the Cross

MASS INTENTION REQUESTS:

If you would like a Mass intention or
Prayer for the Sick to be listed in the
bulletin and/or Prayer of the Faithful,
please email or call Isabella.

BAPTISM: Celebrated on Sunday's at 11am
Enquires to: admin.south.perth@perthcatholic.org.au

COLUMBA CARE: Convenor Shaun Maton admin.south.perth@perthcatholic.org.au

COLUMBARIUM: Enquiries to: admin.south.perth@perthcatholic.org.au

MARRIAGE: Celebrated at 1pm and 3:30pm on Saturdays. Other days by arrangement:
Enquires to: admin.south.perth@perthcatholic.org.au

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN: FIRST HOLY COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION, PRE-CONFIRMATION, & FIRST RECONCILIATION: Contact Catechist Helen by phone/text on 0401 329 479

St Columba's parish acknowledges the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation, the Traditional Owners who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation

MASS INTENTIONS:

6pm Vigil: For Sue Catling, now in palliative care.

7:30am: Parishioner's intentions.

9:30am: For Jacqueline Ann Galante, recently deceased.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Stations of the Cross will be held on each Friday at 5:30pm throughout Lent.

SACRAMENTAL ENROLMENT MASS:

Please note, the Vigil Mass on Saturday the 15th of March will include the Sacramental Pledge read out by the students who will be enrolling to complete their Sacraments both with the school and through our Sacramental Preparation courses. Please note the Church may be fuller than usual. The mass will not be livestreamed.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN - Confirmation, First Holy Communion & First Reconciliation:

Children who attend Catholic Schools/Colleges that do not have a Church attached. External candidates receive sacramental preparation classes at their school but need to enrol at their Parish to receive the Sacrament.

Parents, please contact our Catechist Coordinator Helen directly by phone/text on 0401 329 479 to discuss enrolling your child to receive the Sacraments.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN - Preparatory Classes for Confirmation, Pre-Confirmation, First Holy Communion & First Reconciliation:

PREP CLASSES STARTING SOON IN THE PARISH CENTRE!
Parents, please contact our Catechist Coordinator Helen directly by phone/text on 0401 329 479 to discuss enrolling your child to receive the Sacraments.

DONATING TO OUR PARISH: Whilst we prefer contributions by direct credit, we invite you to use the EFTPOS machines as you enter the church, or the cash collection boxes at either entrance.

1 st Collection – For the Priest	2 nd Collection – For the Parish Expenses
Bank: NAB BSB: 086 006 ACC: 72646 1615	Bank: NAB BSB: 086 006 ACC: 45853 7299



First Sunday of Lent 8th and 9th of March 2025

Project Compassion 2025 shares three stories from around the world. We'll meet **Toefuata'iga** - (*Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah*) from Samoa, **Lam** from Vietnam and **Irene** from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Each of this year's stories reflects diverse challenges, yet they are united by the shared determination to overcome adversity and create better futures for themselves and their communities.



Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

LENTEN COURSE ON THE OLD TESTAMENT:

We will only be holding this course on Wednesday. The Sunday course has now been cancelled.

The first session will be held on Wednesday 12th of March at 7pm. If you would still like to sign up, please email Isabella.

GOSPEL - Continued from the front page

Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says: 'You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God', he said to him 'throw yourself down from here, for scripture says:

'He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again: They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

SCRIPTURE COMMENTARY

By Dianne Bergant CSA

The first reading contains one of the most important creedal statements found in the Pentateuch (cf. Deut 6:20-24 and Josh 24:2b-13). It enumerates the saving events that shaped Israel's faith: an admission of its humble beginnings; a report of its oppression in Egypt; a testimony to its deliverance by God; an acknowledgment of God's gift of the land to them. This brief account covers three very distinct periods in the history of the people: the age of the ancestors; the time of the deliverance from bondage; the period of the entrance into the land.

The verses from Psalm 91 are a kind of cultic liturgy: the worshipper is addressed (vv. 1-2); there is a message of assurance (vv. 10-13); the psalm concludes with an oracle of salvation (vv. 14-16). Four divine titles describe God. 'Most High', the name ascribed to the deity worshipped in Jerusalem even before David conquered that ancient city (cf. Gen 14:18-22), describes God as creator of heaven and earth. 'Almighty' is a name associated with the early ancestors (cf. Gen 17:1; 28:3; 35:11; 43:14; 48:3).

'Lord' or YHWH, the personal name of the God of Israel, is linked with the covenant made through Moses. Though each title has a slightly different meaning, together they sketch a picture of a victorious creator who entered into covenant with human beings.

In the **Second Reading**, Paul speaks of three important themes: the importance of faith as the basis of salvation; the Christological interpretation of Scripture; the universal character of salvation through Christ. The essence of Paul's preaching is twofold: the centrality of Christ in the drama of salvation; and the need to accept the gospel in order to open oneself to Christ's saving power. Paul alludes to two prophetic passages. Isaiah speaks of a firm cornerstone that God lays in Zion (Isa 28:16). Paul claims that Jesus is that cornerstone. Joel described some of the terrors that will accompany the Day of the Lord (Joel 3:5, Hebrew). Paul identifies Jesus as this Lord.

The **Gospel account** of Jesus' temptations in the wilderness connects Jesus with ancient Israel. The wilderness had been the place of Israel's testing (cf. Deut 8:2). This account shows that unlike that ancient people, Jesus did not fail his test. The length of Jesus' fasting also has ancient Israelite significance. The two men who represented Israel's law and prophets, Moses and Elijah respectively, fasted for forty days and forty nights. Moses fasted as he wrote the ten commandments on tablets of stone (cf. Exod 34:28). Elijah fasted as he walked to Horeb (cf. 1 Kgs 19:8). The temptations themselves occurred in three different places: the wilderness, on a high mountain; on the parapet of the temple in Jerusalem. In each instance, Jesus is challenged to prove that he is the Son of God. Jesus never directly addresses the question of his divine sonship, but he always shows himself to be faithful as Israel was not.

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