



Sacred Heart Parish

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cabraparish/>

Second Sunday of Lent Year C – 16 March 2025

Parish Priest:

Fr Remy Son-Lam Bui

Assistant Priest:

Fr John Pham

Parish office hours:

Tuesday-Friday
9.00am to 4.30pm

Parish Secretary:

Quyen Le Phan

Accounts:

Mary Pankiw (Fridays)

Weekday Mass Times:

English:

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri:

7.00am

Wed: 6.30pm

Sat: 9.00am

Vietnamese:

Tues & Thurs: 6.30pm

Wed: 7.00am

Weekend Masses

English:

Saturday Vigil: 6.00pm

Sunday: 8.30am; 10.00am;
6.00pm

Polish: Sun: 11.30am

Vietnamese:

Saturday Vigil:

(Chaplain): 7.30pm

Sunday:

7.00am; 7.30pm

(Chaplain): 4.00pm

Exposition:

Saturdays: 8.00am

Reconciliation:

Wed: 6.00pm

Sat: 8.10am - 8.50am

5.30pm - 5.50pm

Convent/Pastoral Care

Sisters of Our Lady

of the Southern Cross

Phone: 9723 3704

Sick Call Contact Number

0451 945 756

S.V.D.P.

Phone: 9823 1222

SHC Primary School

Principal: Julie Straub

Phone: 9724 1560

Baptism & Wedding

By appointment

(6 months in
advance for weddings)

Showing our true colours

It was acclaimed (in 2009) one of the greatest discoveries in the 500-year study of the famous Leonardo da Vinci. Piero Angela, an Italian science journalist, was then studying Leonardo's manuscripts, Codex on The Flights of Birds, written in between 1490 – 1505. He happened to recognize under the lines of bold ink handwriting a faint outline of a nose which struck him as being similar in shape and drawing style to a later self-portrait of the famous artist. Then, the dim sketch was scrutinized in a long process of investigation and digital reconfiguration with the help of art historians, forensic experts and graphic designers. The scientists were finally able to bring to light *"the face of a young - to middle-aged man with long hair, a short beard and pensive gaze"*, first drawn on the manuscript in the 1480s. It was astonishingly similar to the self-portrait Leonardo made when he was an old man in 1512.

The particular disciples, Peter, James and John, are led to an even more astonishing discovery in today's Gospel of the Transfiguration (Lk 9:28-36) - preserved as the earliest story in the traditions of epiphany or divine manifestation, including that of Jesus' Baptism, the Magi, the wedding at Cana. Here in prayer at the mountaintop with Jesus, they are given a rare glimpse into his true identity and glory, usually hidden in the face of a simple carpenter or an itinerant preacher; concealed by the imminent painful journey to the cross. The event on Mount Tabor is not so much a *"transfiguration"* as a revelation of Jesus as the divine beloved Son, the Chosen One, who will bring to fulfilment all of the prophets and the Law represented by Elijah and Moses. This full identification is understandably brought to light only at the end of Jesus' earthly ministry, through his death and resurrection.

The intense (though fleeting) experience of epiphany would be more highlighted in the context of Peter's earlier confession of Jesus (as the Christ); Jesus' prophecy of the Passion and his journey heading toward Jerusalem, the likely threatening destination of true prophets. *"It is wonderful for us to be here..."* exclaimed Peter. But soon Jesus and his disciples have to *"come down the mountain!"* - Those same three disciples are later called to share closely his sufferings. (Mk 14:33) No doubt, such a rare experience of God's loving presence and affirmation sustains and provides Jesus and his disciples with a necessary sense of peace, a new burst of energy and strength to face their coming uncertainty and trial.

Like Jesus and the disciples, we are oftentimes challenged to face both the uplifting moments and the dark periods; the future glory and the pain of the cross. Lent is the time for an attempt to reconcile the two. And to do so effectively, we need to tune our ears to the same voice of God and to the reality he also assures us all through Jesus Christ: *"you are my beloved son / daughter!"* Lent is accordingly the special time for us to scratch the surface of our life, usually marked with pretensions and frustrations, uncertainties and struggles, failures and sins. It is the opportunity to reclaim our true identity as *"beloved children of God"*; to show forth our true colours and many subdued divine qualities in us: gentleness, goodness, compassion, self-control, courage, hope and generosity... Ultimately, it is a necessary spiritual exercise in anticipation of the gift of *"Promised Land"* where our Risen Lord *"will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body."* (cf. First & Second Reading, Gen 15:5 -12.17-18 & Phil 3:17- 4:1)

"Strengthen our faith that we may see beyond the horizon.

And when the valley closes us in, help us to remember the view from the hilltop.

(Flor MacCarthy)

Fr. Remy Son-Lam Bui

Pope's March prayer intention



FOR FAMILIES IN CRISIS

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences. *Pope Francis*

LENT & R.C.I.A

Following the Rite of Election held on the first Sunday of Lent, our 16 catechumens are now called "*the Elect*". They are moving on to this special period of *Purification and Enlightenment*. Throughout Lent, special rituals / prayers are offered at the Sunday Eucharist for the Elect and candidates. They are called "*Scrutinies*", held on the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sunday – **The first one will be on next Sunday, at 8.30am Mass (23 Mar)**. These rituals are meant to strengthen the Elect in grace and virtue; purify them from all past evil and from any bonds which hinder them from experiencing the love of God. Throughout this period, the Elect and candidates are invited to join the whole Church in a deeper practice of searching their own conscience, doing penance and works of charity. This is a more intense spiritual preparation for their celebration of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.

Please prayerfully journey along the Elect and candidates in our parish and the whole Archdiocese (total 349 converts (280 Elects and 69 baptised candidates for 2025 Easter)

Saints of the week

Monday 17 March

St. Patrick, Bishop, Apostle of Ireland.

One of the most venerated saints in the world, St. Patrick, patron of Ireland, was reduced to slavery when he was a boy, but thanks to prayer, he had a genuine conversion of the heart that led him to be a holy missionary. The Church remembers him on **March 17**.

Wednesday 19 March

St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Patron of the Universal Church

Jesus certainly loved St Joseph as a son loves his father. Which is why we celebrate St Joseph as Protector of Families and Patron Saint of Workers. That is also why St Joseph has two feast days: March 19th, as the Spouse of Mary, and May 1st, under the title of Joseph the Worker.

Way of the Cross

Parents, parishioners and friends are warmly invited to pray the Way of the Cross.

Date: Wednesday 26 March

Time: 10.00am for a 10.30am Start

Venue: St Joseph's Conference Center

Address: 30 Tyson Rd Bringelly.

For more details and register please see the notice boards and flyers (at the church doors).



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

Second Sunday of Lent

15th and 16th of March 2025

Toefuata'iga - (*Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah*) a primary school student from Samoa faced severe water shortages at her school. Thanks to Caritas Australia and the generosity of supporters like you, her primary school now has a 10,000 L water tank. Teachers and students now have access to clean drinking water at their school and are able to focus on education.



Photo credit: Caritas Australia

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 Penance

Lent lasts from Ash Wednesday (05/03) to the Mass of the Lord's Supper exclusive (18/04). On Good Friday and, if possible, also on Holy Saturday until the Easter Vigil, the Easter fast is observed.

On all other Fridays of the year the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following:

A. PRAYER – for example, Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying the Rosary.

B. SELF-DENIAL – for example, not eating meat; not eating sweets or dessert; giving up

entertainment spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor of one's own country.

C. HELPING OTHERS – for example, special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or overburdened.

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is to be done between Ash Wednesday and Trinity Sunday unless for a good reason it is done at another time during the year. All the faithful are obliged to confess their grave sins at least once a year.

Welcome to God's Family

This weekend, we welcome and pray for our babies and their families as they receive the sacrament of baptism:

Sarah Jacinda Ngo, Kayla Minh Pham, Nicolas Mai, Dexter Phat Vuong, Arrietty Nghi Vuong



Station of the Cross during Lent

Please join us next Friday evening for Station of the Cross at **6.00pm followed by Holy Hour from 6.30pm - 7.15pm**. Likewise, the session in Vietnamese will follow from **7.30pm**.

Mass Intentions

Recently Deceased: Phero Nathan Huy Nguyen, Benedict Thuan Bui, Benedita Josephine Brown, Vincent Duong Van Luon (VN)

R.I.P. & Anniversaries: Fr Patrick McAuliffe, Ronald Robinson, Ivan Puskas, Phero Le Van Thuy, Phero Nguyen Van Khanh, Phero Le Van Lai, Martha Theresa Nguyen Tran Phuong Thao, Phero, Giuse, Giaonkim, Catarina, Gioan Nguyen Van Nhan, all souls, Anna Tran Thi Xuyen, Maria (10), Joseph (9), Peter (3), John (2), Dominic (1), Anthony (3), Francis Borgia (1), Lucia (2), Cecilia (1), Teresa (1), Martino (2), Vincent (2), James (1), Francis Xavier (1), Alphonsus (1) Maria Madalena (2), Anna (3), Joakim (1), souls of ancestors, grandparents & family members (8), for all souls (8), Joseph Bui, Pereira, Fransisco Pinheiro, Ivan Puskas, Peter Huynh Thien Nhon, John Dao Phi Hung, John Pham Hung, Joseph Ta Hung Dung, Loi To Muoi, Theresa Tran Thi Mieu, Rosina Vartuli, Joseph Nguyen Ngoc Bich, Anna Duong Thi Roi, Joseph Le Van Mach, Martha Therese Tran Phuong Thao Nguyen, Peter Tran Thang Long, Peter Bich Vu, Peter Nguyen Quang Be, Rosa Nguyen Thi Phung

Other Intentions: Thanksgiving to God, Mary and St Joseph (10), personal intention (3) for the sick (2), for the conversion of hearts (3), peace and wellbeing for family & friends (6), for safe travel (), for healing & recovery (4), for stable work (2)

Second Sunday of Lent Year C

First Reading: Genesis 15:5-12. 17-18

A reading from the book of Genesis

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified. 'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied, 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 26:1. 7-9. 13-14. R. v.1

(R.) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Second Reading: Philippians 3:17 – 4:1

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Philippians

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 17:5

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!

Gospel: Luke 9:28-36

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' – He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

Chúa Nhật II Mùa Chay - Năm C

Bài đọc 1: St 15, 5-12, 17-18

Trích sách Sáng Thế.

Trong những ngày ấy, Thiên Chúa dẫn Abram ra ngoài và nói với ông: "Người hãy ngược mắt lên trời, và nếu có thể được, hãy đếm các ngôi sao". Rồi Chúa nói tiếp: "Miêu duệ của người sẽ đông đảo như thế". Abram tin vào Thiên Chúa, và vì đó ông được công chính.

Và Chúa lại nói: "Ta là Chúa, Đấng dẫn dắt người ra khỏi thành Ur của dân Caldê, để ban cho người xứ này làm gia nghiệp". Abram thưa rằng: "Lạy Chúa là Thiên Chúa, làm sao con có thể biết con sẽ được xứ đó làm gia nghiệp?" Chúa đáp: "Người hãy bắt một con bò cái ba tuổi, một con dê cái ba tuổi, một con cừu đực ba tuổi, một con chim gáy mái và một con bồ câu non". Abram bắt tất cả những con vật ấy, chặt ra làm đôi, đặt phân nửa này đối diện với phân nửa kia; nhưng ông không chặt đôi các con chim. Các mãnh cầm lao xuống trên những con vật vừa bị giết, song ông Abram đuổi chúng đi. Lúc mặt trời lặn, Abram ngủ mê; một cơn sợ hãi khủng khiếp và u tối bao trùm lấy ông.

Khi mặt trời đã lặn rồi, bóng tối mịt mù phủ xuống, có một chiếc lò bốc khói và một khối lửa băng qua giữa những phần con vật bị chia đôi. Trong ngày đó, Chúa đã thiết lập giao ước với Abram mà nói rằng: "Ta ban xứ này cho miêu duệ người, từ sông Ai-cập cho đến sông Eu-phrát".

Đáp Ca: Tv 26, 1. 7-8a. 8b-9abc. 13-14

Đáp: Chúa là sự sáng và là Đấng Cứu Độ tôi. (c. 1a)

Bài đọc II: Pl 3, 17 - 4, 1

Trích thư thứ nhất của Thánh Phaolô Tông đồ gửi tín hữu Philíppe.

Anh em thân mến, anh em hãy bắt chước tôi, và hãy để mắt nhìn coi những người ăn ở theo như mẫu mực anh em thấy nơi chúng tôi. Bởi chung như tôi đã thường nói với anh em, và giờ đây tôi đau lòng ứa lệ mà nói lại, có nhiều người sống thù nghịch với thập giá Đức Kitô. Chung cuộc đời họ là hư vọng, chúa tể của họ là cái bụng, và họ đặt vinh danh của họ trong những điều ô nhục; họ chỉ ưa chuộng những cái trên cõi đời này.

Phần chúng ta, quê hương chúng ta ở trên trời, nơi đó chúng ta mong đợi Đấng Cứu Chuộc là Đức Giêsu Kitô, Chúa chúng ta. Người sẽ biến đổi thân xác hèn hạ của chúng ta nên giống như thân xác hiển vinh của Người, nhờ quyền lực mà Người vẫn có, để bắt muôn vật suy phục Người.

Bởi thế, anh em thân mến và yêu quý, anh em là niềm hoan lạc và triều thiên của tôi; anh em thân mến, hãy vững vàng trong Chúa.

Câu Xướng Trước Phúc Âm: Mt 17, 5

Từ trong đám mây sáng chói có tiếng Chúa Cha phán rằng: "Đây là Con Ta yêu dấu, các ngươi hãy nghe lời Người".

Phúc Âm: Lc 9, 28b-36

Tin Mừng Chúa Giêsu Kitô theo Thánh Thánh Luca.

Khi ấy, Chúa Giêsu đưa Phêrô, Giacôbê và Gioan lên núi cầu nguyện. Và đang khi cầu nguyện, diện mạo Người biến đổi khác thường và áo Người trở nên trắng tinh sáng láng. Bỗng có hai vị đàm đạo với Người, đó là Môsê và Êlia, hiện đến uy nghi, và nói về sự chết của Người sẽ thực hiện tại Giêrusalem. Phêrô và hai bạn ông đang ngủ mê, chợt tỉnh dậy, thấy vinh quang của Chúa và hai vị đang đứng với Người. Lúc hai vị từ biệt Chúa, Phêrô thưa cùng Chúa Giêsu rằng: "Lạy Thầy, chúng con được ở đây thì tốt lắm; chúng con xin làm ba lều, một cho Thầy, một cho Môsê, và một cho Êlia". Khi nói thế, Phêrô không rõ mình nói gì. Lúc ông còn đang nói, thì một đám mây bao phủ các Ngài và thấy các Ngài biến vào trong đám mây, các môn đệ đều kinh hoàng. Bấy giờ từ đám mây có tiếng phán rằng: "Đây là Con Ta yêu dấu, các ngươi hãy nghe lời Người". Và khi tiếng đang phán ra, thì chỉ thấy còn mình Chúa Giêsu. Suốt thời gian đó, các môn đệ giữ kín không nói với ai những điều mình đã chứng kiến.