

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.  
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

**GOSPEL**

**John 3:14-21**

*God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him.*

Jesus said to Nicodemus:  
‘The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God’s only Son. On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil. And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.’

The Gospel of the Lord

**BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING**

Loyola Press

The fourth Sunday of Lent is sometimes called *Laetare* Sunday. *Laetare* is a Latin word that means “rejoice.” Traditionally, Sundays are named after the first word of the liturgy’s opening antiphon. On this Sunday, the antiphon is taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 66:10-11). Even as we observe our Lenten sacrifices, we rejoice in anticipation of the joy that will be ours at Easter.

Today’s Gospel reading is taken from John’s Gospel. It consists of two parts. The first part is the final sentence of Jesus’ reply to Nicodemus, the Pharisee who approached Jesus at night. Nicodemus acknowledged Jesus as someone who had come from God and seemed to want to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus greeted Nicodemus with the observation that one must be born from above to see the Kingdom of God. The dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus that followed was about the meaning of this phrase. Nicodemus misunderstood Jesus at every point, but there was no animosity in the questions he posed to Jesus.

In the part of the conversation with Nicodemus in today’s Gospel, Jesus referred to an incident reported in the Old Testament. When the Israelites grumbled against the Lord during their sojourn in the desert, God sent venomous serpents to punish them for their complaints. The Israelites repented and asked Moses to pray for them. The Lord heard Moses’ prayer and instructed him to make a bronze serpent and mount it on a pole. All who had been bitten by a serpent and then looked upon the bronze serpent were cured. By recalling this story, Jesus alludes to the salvation that would be accomplished through his death and Resurrection.

The second part of today’s Gospel is a theological reflection on Jesus’ words to Nicodemus. The Gospel of John is known for this kind of reflection offered within the narrative. The words of the Evangelist are in continuity with the words of the prologue to John’s Gospel. In these reflections, John elaborates on a number of themes that are found in his Gospel: light and darkness, belief and unbelief, good and evil, salvation and condemnation.

In John’s reflection, we find an observation about human sinfulness. Jesus is the light that has come into the world, but people preferred the darkness. We wish to keep our sins hidden, even from God. Jesus has come into the world to reveal our sins so that they may be forgiven. This is the Good News; it is the reason for our rejoicing in this season of Lent and throughout our lives.

**VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL AND HAMPERS-THANKYOU!**

The Hectorville-Tranmere Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society gratefully thanks parishioners, the St Joseph’s Tranmere and Hectorville Schools, Rostrevor College, Drakes Supermarket and the City of Campbelltown for their very generous contributions of cash, groceries, vouchers, toys and gifts for the 2023 Appeal. Tranmere parishioners contributed \$3644 towards over \$8000 total received. With this, the conference distributed 55 Christmas hampers to 89 adults and 64 children and toys to the value of \$1920. The Conference is extremely grateful for all of your generosity. Again, THANKYOU!



# Parish Bulletin

**4th Sunday of Lent, Year B**

**9/10 March 2024**

*God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him.*



‘GOD LOVED THE WORLD SO MUCH.’ During the season of Lent we humbly acknowledge the ways in which we have failed to respond to our Christian vocation. We do this before a God who is infinitely rich in mercy and grace, who sent the Son into the world not to condemn it but to be its saviour. Acknowledging our failings and accepting healing and forgiveness from Christ prepares us to celebrate the feast of Easter with great joy.

**PRAYER BEFORE HOLY MASS**

Heavenly father, we are about to offer this wonderful memorial of the passion and death of your Son. Bless our Priest as he stands in the person of Christ and makes present for us the great sacrifice of Calvary.

Bless our Ministers here present today-our ministers of the Eucharist, our readers, our Altar Servers, our musicians and ushers. When we reflect on the magnificence of these Sacred Ministries, we are somewhat overawed at our calling. But also we are overjoyed that You have asked us to stand at Your altar and serve You.

Help us to be reverent and to be faithful to our responsibilities. May this Eucharist that we are about to offer be a bond of unity and a sacrament of love for our people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING**

**2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23**

*The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of his people.*

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, ‘Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.’

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: ‘Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, “The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up.”’

The word of the Lord

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 136**

**Response: Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!**

1. By the rivers of Babylon there we sat and wept, remembering Zion: on the poplars that grew there we hung our harps. **R**
2. For it was there that they asked us, our captors, for songs, our oppressors, for joy. ‘Sing to us,’ tjeu said, ‘one of Zion’s songs.’ **R**
3. O how could we sing the song of the Lord on alien soil? If I forget you, Jerusalem, let my right hand wither! **R**
4. O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not, if I prize not Jerusalem above all my joys!. **R**

**SECOND READING Ephesians 2:4-10**

*When we were dead through sins, he brought us to life.*

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ – it is through grace that you have been saved – and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus. This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God’s work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

The word of the Lord

**DISCERNMENT GROUP**

“Follow me”

A time of prayer, reflection and discussion for young men discerning a call to the priesthood.

**Saturday March 16 at 10am in the Sacristy of the Cathedral of St Francis Xavier, Wakefield St.**

For further enquiries contact Fr Dean Marin, Director of Vocations on 82108122 or at [vocations@adelaide.catholic.org.au](mailto:vocations@adelaide.catholic.org.au)

“Leaving the boat and their father, they followed him” Matthew 4.22

**WORKING BEE**

**In preparation for Easter a working bee will be held on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March to tidy the gardens and surrounds. Start time 9am. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.**



**WELCOME**

**Ailish Rose BRADY  
Zoe Mae BRADY**

To God’s family through Baptism on 10 March 2024

Our prayers and blessings to you and your family



St Joseph's Catholic Church  
484 Magill Rd, Kensington Gardens  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5068

Parish Priest  
Fr Roy John Elavumkal SMM  
parishpriest@stjosephsparish  
tranmere.org.au

Parish Secretary  
Pat Kwok – Tue to Fri

Planned Giving Coordinator  
Helen Mysak  
Mon 9:30am-12:30pm

WHS Officer  
Angela Girolamo – Thursday

Sacristan  
Sundays: Terence Yeow  
& Roger Worth

Parish Office Hours  
Mon to Fri 9:30am – 12:30pm  
Ph: (08) 8431 6932  
info@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au

**Mass Times**  
Sunday 9:30 am  
Saturday Vigil Mass 6:30 pm  
Tuesday to Friday 9:15 am

**Confessions**  
Saturday 6:00 pm

**Rosary**  
Tues to Fri 8:45am

**Adoration of the Eucharist**  
Friday before Mass 8:30am

**Novena to St. Joseph**  
Wednesday after Mass

St. Joseph's Primary School  
Principal - Adrian Grbin  
Ph: 8431 2834

Knights of the Southern Cross  
Michael Boyle Ph: 8337 3270

Parish Pastoral Council  
Chair – Alan Tyson  
Parish Finance Council  
Chair -Edward Konieczny

Child Safe Contact Person  
Anne Dudzinski Ph: 0418 847 804

Vinnies Assistance Hotline  
1300 729 202 - 9:00am to 4:30pm

**Rosters—16/17 Mar 2024**  
5th Sunday of Lent

Time	Commentator/Readers
6.30pm Vigil	Josh Page Michelle Page Fil Ciancio
9:30am	Sandy Mazzarolo Grace Yeow Maureen Fernando
Children's Liturgy	Nickie Palumbo Jessie Yesudas P
Count team	Peggy Buckler Gareth West Doreen Ryan Wendy Rahaley
Altar and Flowers	Dolores Arboit Christina Wong Sarita Ingham and volunteers
All those who have volunteered please arrive at least 15 minutes before the start time and report to the commentator for that Mass	

SUNDAY COLLECTION SUMMARY	2/3 Mar 2024
Planned Giving	\$536.00
Open Plate	\$357.00
<b>PARISH TOTAL</b>	<b>\$893.00</b>

This week's contribution to the Diocesan Presbytery Fund : \$541.00

 **Caritas AUSTRALIA**  
Fourth Sunday of Lent  
9 & 10 March

As the eldest child in a low-income farming family in rural Malawi, Memory faced many barriers to her education. But, with the support of Caritas Australia, she enrolled in a technical school and became the first female carpenter in her village.

**Please donate to Project Compassion.**

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow *for all future generations.*

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.




**Please remember in your prayers**  
We pray for those listed and all the deceased relatives and friends of our Parishioners.

For the Repose of the Soul:  
  
Death Anniversary:  
  
*Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; present them to God the Most High.*

**Sick:**  
We pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish and our relatives and friends who are unwell.

If you know of sick or elderly parishioners who are house-bound or in care and would appreciate a visit, please phone and leave a message with the parish office.

**Pope Francis @pontifex**  
 We are invited during Lent to stop for a moment. We should pause in prayer, in order to welcome the Word of God, and to pause like the Good Samaritan in the presence of a wounded brother or sister. Love of God and love of neighbour are a single love.



**PARISH NOTICES**

**Easter Preparation**

The Liturgy Committee is happy to have some volunteers to assist in the sacristy for Easter preparation on Friday 22nd March 2024 morning after the Stations of the Cross. Please come and join with us.

**Volunteers for Holy Week / Easter Masses**

If you are available and wish to participate in a specific role, kindly fill up the roster sheet at the entrance of the church. Your support is appreciated.

**Lent Season**

**Stations of the Cross for this Friday 15th March After Morning Mass & At Night 7:00pm**  
Stay tuned for the schedules of coming Fridays.

**Catholic Women's League Easter Raffle 16/17 March**

CWL will run a raffle at both Masses on weekend of 16/17 March. Proceeds will go to St Vincent de Paul. \$1 per ticket. We look forward to your support

**ARCHDIOCESE EVENTS**

**Free Online Course on Synodality from Boston College: Toward a Constitutively Synodal Church, March 2-15 2024**

All videos will be facilitated virtually in March 2024 and will be offered at no cost to participants worldwide. Lectures which are pre-recorded and available in multi-lingual can be watched at any time throughout the month of March. More information and registration is available at <https://bit.ly/3S79GKc>

**Easter Good Friday at The Monastery – Volunteers Needed**

If you would like to offer your time on Good Friday to lead small groups in prayer around the Sacred Garden or assist with parking on our oval, please contact our office on 8338 8700 or E: [officeadmin@themonastery.net.au](mailto:officeadmin@themonastery.net.au)

**Sunday Night Choir – April 7 at 7:15 pm**

We welcome anyone who is passionate about music and loves to sing with others. There will be songs in four-part harmony so an ability to read music notation is beneficial. Rehearsals are on the first Sunday of every month, starting at 7.15pm in the St Francis Xavier Cathedral Hall (free car parking available). Contact Lauren Bierer [lbierer@adelaide.catholic.org.au](mailto:lbierer@adelaide.catholic.org.au) or 8210 8107 for more info or see [HERE](#).

**HOLY WEEK 2024**

**Palm Sunday**  
24th March 9:30am

**Thursday 28th March**  
7:30pm Mass of the Last Supper  
Private adoration until 10:00pm

**Friday 29th March**  
11:00am Stations of the Cross  
3:00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

**Saturday 30th March**

6:30pm Easter Vigil  
**Sunday 31st March**  
9:30am Mass of the Resurrection

**Confessions**

**Tuesday 26th March**

8:30am & 9:45am

**Wednesday 27th March**

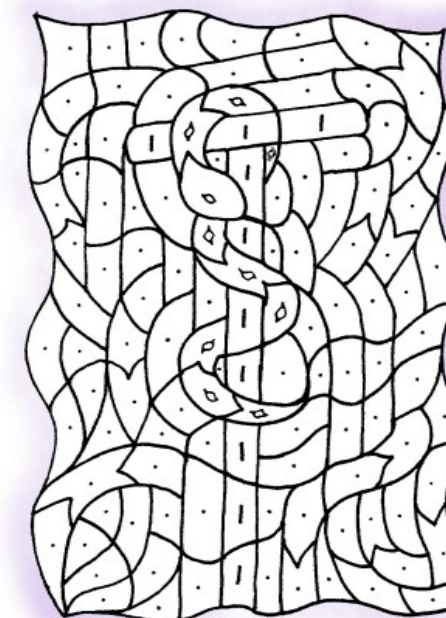
8:30am & 9:45am

**HOLY WEEK**



**The Kids' Bulletin**

Fourth Sunday of Lent  
March 10th, 2024

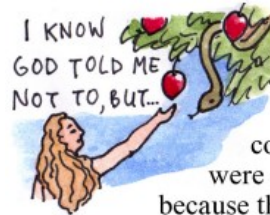


Jesus died on the cross so that our sins could be forgiven and we could go to Heaven. When God's people in the desert were bitten by snakes, Moses held up something he made from bronze that the people could look at and live. What was it? Use the colour code to find out!

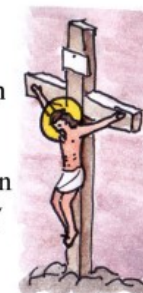
• blue | brown ◊ green

**For God so Loved the World**

I KNOW GOD TOLD ME NOT TO, BUT... When God made the world He wanted the people to be His friends and always live in happiness. But instead of choosing to love God completely, the people sinned. They were cut off from the happiness of God because they chose to love themselves more than they loved God.



But God still loved the people so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to save the people from their sins. Now we just need to choose to believe in Jesus, and to love Him. As today's Gospel reading says, "...so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him may have eternal life."



How can we turn to Jesus so that we can be saved from our sins?

Here are a few things that can help you a lot:

**1. When you wake up in the morning, tell Jesus that you are offering everything that happens today to Him.**

**2. Every day look at a crucifix (a cross with Jesus on it.) Think about how much Jesus loves us. How much do we love Him back?**



**3. Each night before you go to sleep, think about your day. Did you show your love for God today? If you did something bad, be sorry and think about how can you do better tomorrow.**

Answers to sort-out-the-picture puzzle: top- 6, 3, middle- 4, 1, bottom- 2, 5.