

Reflection

In Pope Francis' 2024 Lenten Message: *Through the Desert God leads us to Freedom*, the Pope shares a beautiful message worthy of our time and reflection. Below are some excerpts:

'Lent is the season of grace. If our celebration of Lent is to be concrete, the first step is to desire to *open our eyes to reality*.

Let us welcome Lent as the great season in which God reminds us: "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery" (Ex 20:2). Lent is *a season of conversion, a time of freedom*.

We can become attached to money, to certain projects, ideas or goals, to our position, to a tradition, even to certain individuals. Instead of making us move forward, they paralyze us. Instead of encounter, they create conflict.

It is time to act, and in Lent, *to act also means to pause*. To pause in prayer, in order to receive the word of God, to pause like the Samaritan *in the presence of a wounded brother or sister*. Love of God and love of neighbour are one love.

Prayer, almsgiving and fasting are not three unrelated acts, but a single movement of openness and self-emptying, in which we cast out the idols that weigh us down, the attachments that imprison us. Slow



Photo by Jessica Delp on Unsplash

down, then, and pause! In the presence of God, we become brothers and sisters, more sensitive to one another: in place of threats and enemies, we discover companions and fellow travellers. This is God's dream.

Lent is also a time of decisions, decisions capable of altering the daily lives of individuals and entire neighbourhoods, such as the way we acquire goods, care for creation, and strive to include those who go unseen or are looked down upon. I invite every Christian to rethink their lifestyles, to examine their presence in society and the contribution they make to its betterment'.

Life and Faith Team

This Lent at OLQP

Pope Francis has invited every Christian community this Lent *'to offer its members moments set aside to rethink their lifestyles, to examine their presence in society and the contribution they make to its betterment'*. In this spirit, OLQP is offering:

- **Friday Night Stations, Rosary, Adoration, Benediction:** 7pm - Come for all or part (more details in this bulletin)
- **Lent around your Table:** A new Lent Card will be available for everyone every week – containing simple, relevant reflection questions and the next Sunday Gospel to share with a partner, family, friend or by yourself
- **Lenten Enrichment Group (Tuesday):** Come to all or a few - either DAY (10-11am Youth Room) OR NIGHT (7-8pm St George Precinct) Guide booklet available for \$5 at the group - All welcome
- **Mini Retreat Evening (Save the Date):** Tues 19 March - St George Precinct. 6:30pm pizza and eats – 7pm to 8.15pm – Four reflections to connect our lives to the key events of Holy Week
- **Reconciliation – Communal:** Mon 18 March 7pm - Celebrate the Church's 2nd Rite Sacrament of Reconciliation – God's grace ready for Easter

Here's to an enriching Lent for all - Replies or more info - Parish Office 96318135 or email anne.hines@olqp.org.au

Faith B4U...

Young Altar Servers - Training for new and current servers on Wednesday, 13 March @ 7 pm-8 pm

Join OLQP Altar Servers and be actively involved in the Church community whilst getting to know others like yourself.

Roles & Responsibilities:

- ◆ Setting up for Mass, e.g., the Altar
- ◆ Carrying cross/candles
- ◆ Holding books, missals and folders
- ◆ Leading the Offertory procession
- ◆ Ringing bells
- ◆ Carrying incense

Join a rotating roster or select a mass time.

If you are interested, please confirm your attendance by filling in the forms on your way out and dropping them off at the Parish Office (ph. 02 9631 8135) or emailing them to parishoffice@olqp.org.au.

If you are unable to drop off the forms, call or email the office to confirm your attendance and bring the form on the night.

SRE 2024

Are you looking for a new challenge for the new year.

Now is the time to share your faith with the young people in our local Primary schools. We currently need a teacher for Thursday afternoon. If you are able to assist, or would like further information, please contact Patricia Shaw 9631 8135.

Sydney Catholic Singles Meetup Group

All Ages Welcome. Please join the group by searching "Sydney Catholic Singles" on Meetup.com

The parish has no information on this group other than what is available on its website. Please have a look at Sydney Catholic Singles Meetup Group on meetup.com.

Let us pray...

FOR OUR SICK, that they will be nourished with hope & recognise the loving presence of God in their lives.

Mary Anjoul, George Attard, Rita Attard, Amara Bewert, Ellen Boissett, Frank Borg, Haryono Budiono, Ann Bugaya, Karl Croning, Mario Curmi, Maria Golkowski, Margaret John, Margaret Jones, Rachel Karbic, Tulla Kavich, Tyler Kenedy, Peter Kennedy, Maxine Kroebel, Michelle Makin, Joyce Mifsud, Elsie Moran, Joseph Moses, Alex Noble, Brendon Onorato, Delma Ryan, Benjie Santiago, Carmel Thompson, Connie Tudman, Eddie Vella, Grace Widjaya, Jasper Wilhite, Maureen Zarb

FOR DEATH ANNIVERSARIES, they now know the fullness of life & delight in God - may they pray for our active purpose in God's Mission.

Virginia Attard, Alex Chan

FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED, may our Lord embrace them with unimaginable joy & bless those who grieve with the power of hope. Funeral dates listed below when known. Funeral notices are displayed on the notice board in the church foyer. Every attempt is made to stay current, but it is best not to make that your only or final source of personal information.

Colm O'Hagan 27 Feb @ 1pm | Pauline Attard 28 Feb @ 10.30am | John Hook | Carmela Ieronimo

Details - OLQP Friday nights of Lent

We will be alternating two specially prepared versions of the Stations of the Cross. Each Friday needs three people to present from a script. They can be people of any age – from three different families each time (or singles or from different couples), who have experience of public reading/speaking. Anyone keen is very welcome to **contact** parishioner **Lucita** who will kindly coordinate – lqrtutoring@gmail.com – Those presenting each Friday will meet with their co-presenters at 6.30pm and become familiar with the script.

- **All parishioners and any people you invite are welcome to all or part of any of these evenings which start at 7pm.** So, come only to Stations - or only later - or to all - as you are able. Expected finish time each week is around 8.15pm.
- **Structure each time:** Stations at 7pm / Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament around 7.30pm / 10 minutes silence / Rosary / 10 mins silence / Benediction and reservation of the Blessed Sacrament

Volunteers needed for 2024

Children's Liturgy- Once a month with a small team to share the Gospel with our young children during either the 8:30am or 10:30am Mass. School Terms only.

For details call Parish Office on:

P: **9631 8135** / E: parishoffice@olqp.org.au

Biblical Studies at St Finbar's

The Passion of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark.

Where: St Finbar's Parish Hall, 52 Levy St, Glenbrook

Who: Fr Joseph Lam, PhD STD PD

RSVP: secretary@stfinbars.org.au

When: March 12th & 19th at 7.30pm

Our sponsors...

Please understand that whilst OLQP Parish allows advertising, it cannot take responsibility if the service provided does not meet expectations.



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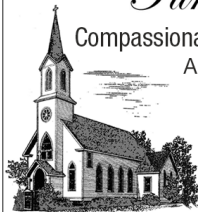
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Our Mission: To grow as a community in the likeness of Christ.

Help play an active role in keep our vulnerable safe

Every volunteer **must** complete their Safeguarding modules every 2 years. This is a mandatory requirement by the Government.

Visit <https://learning.safeguarding.org.au> to sign up and log into your modules.

Options:

1. **Are you yet to complete the modules? Please complete Modules 1,2 & 3.**
2. **Has it been 2 years since completion? Please complete modules 4 & 5**

After completion, please email your certificates to: christine.v@olqp.org.au. If you have any questions about the Safeguarding Training, please email **Maria Kervin**, Community Engagement and Education Officer at: maria.kervin@parracatholic.org or contact the parish office on 9631 8135 / christine.v@olqp.org.au.

Thank you for working together to keep our community safer.



ASPIRE TO GREAT HEIGHTS

OPEN NIGHT 5TH MARCH 2024

GUIDED TOURS BETWEEN 4-7PM

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World Day of Prayer

This will be held at Our Lady Queen of Peace, Church at 10:30am on Friday 1st March. Following Mass, morning tea will be available in the St George Precinct Centre. All welcome.

This Weeks Readings

1st Reading

Genesis

22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18

2nd Reading

Romans

8:31-34

Gospel

Mark

9:2-10

Next Weeks Readings

1st Reading

Exodus

20:1-17

2nd Reading

1 Corinthians

1:22-25

Gospel

John

2:13-25

Mass Times

Monday - 9:15am

Tuesday - 9:15am

Wednesday - 6:30am | 9:15am

Thursday - 9:15am

Friday - 6:30am | 9:15am

Saturday - Vigil 5:00pm (live streamed)

Sunday - 7:00am | 8:30am | 10:30am | 6:00pm

Memorial Mass - Last Tuesday night of each month (except December) at 7:00pm

Mass for Peace with anointing of the sick - First Saturday of each month (except January) at 10:30am

Reconciliation:

Saturday - 4:00pm - 4.45pm

Please join us via Facebook or Website, olqp.org.au, every Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:00pm

Rosary in the church: Weekdays at 8:30am & Friday nights at 7:30pm

ZOOM option available Friday night for those who cannot travel to the church for rosary.

Meeting ID: 896 7944 2594 | Passcode: rosary

P: 9631 8135 | E: parishoffice@olqp.org.au

Emergency Contact Only 0447 509 207

Join us on...

Parish Office hours: 9am - 1pm, 2pm - 4pm Monday to Friday

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