

Second Sunday of Lent

12th March 2017

Entrance Antiphon: Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

First Reading from the book of Genesis 12: 1-4

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Second Reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy 1: 8-10

Gospel Acclamation: Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard; this is my beloved Son, her him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL: According to Matthew 17: 1-9

Communion Antiphon: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

LENTEN PENANCE

DAYS OF PENANCE

Abstinence from meat, and fasting, are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. All who have completed their eighteenth year and have not yet begun their sixtieth year are bound to fast. All who have completed their fourteenth year are bound to abstain.

On all other Fridays of the year including the Fridays of Lent, 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 to 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.

LENT LASTS FROM ASH WEDNESDAY (1/3/17) TO THE MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER EXCLUSIVE (13/4/2017) ON GOOD FRIDAY, AND IF POSSIBLE, ALSO ON HOLY SATURDAY UNTIL THE EASTER VIGIL
PASCHAL PRECEPT

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is to be done between Ash Wednesday (1/3), and Trinity Sunday, (11/6) 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.

St Christopher's Parish Holsworthy

We are a community striving for growth, unity, equality, love and commitment

Administrator:	Rev. Andrew James
Assistant Priest:	Rev Thomas Alukka Varghese
Permanent Deacon:	Rev. Mr. Al Salu
Secretary:	Mrs. Anne Bennell
Parish Office Hours	Mon 10.00am—3.00pm Tues & Thurs 9.00am—3.00pm
Address:	205 Heathcote Rd Holsworthy 2173
All correspondence to:	<u>PO Box 389, Moorebank 1875</u>
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St Christopher's Catholic School—*Through faith and love we serve*

Principal:	Mr. Tony Boyd
School Tel:	(02) 9825 3251
School Mail:	195 Heathcote Rd Holsworthy 2173

Second Sunday of Lent— Year A

12th March 2017

In all three versions of this Transfiguration event that appear in the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, the context in which the event occurs is identical. That's a little unusual with these three gospel writers who like to put their own spin on events and often play with the chronology or settings of events. However, in this case, all three writers report the Transfiguration event as taking place immediately after a particular sequence of events. Jesus has asked the disciples who they think he is and Peter has made his confession of faith by declaring that Jesus is the Messiah. This declaration is followed by Jesus teaching about the demands of discipleship and then the account of the Transfiguration. Furthermore, all three versions are directly followed by an account of a man who brings his possessed son to Jesus for healing after the disciples have tried and failed to cast out the demon.

When all three of the synoptic gospels use the same story with little variation and all three retain the same context around the event then there are some pretty clear signals that this was a commonly accepted sequence of events and their sequence holds significance. The core message of this sequence of stories is about the faith of the disciples. Whilst Peter declares Jesus to be the Messiah, he and the others don't really yet know what this means. In the Transfiguration, they are given the clearest possible indication of Jesus' identity and yet they're confused and scared by what they witness. The following failure by the disciples to cast out a demon shows that they still haven't understood fully who and what Jesus is.

During this Lenten season, like the disciples, we are called to consider who Jesus is and what role he plays in our lives.

Fr. Greg Sunter



Parish Collections

5/3/2017 **First:** \$1,182.70 **Second:** \$1,811.85



St Christopher's Parish news:

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be held in the Church on Friday evening's at 7pm during Lent.

SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION enrolments for this Sacrament can be downloaded from the parish website www.stchristophers.org.au For parents who may not have a printer there are a few forms in the church foyer.

200 Club (cash raffle) The Fundraising Committee is organising to run a 200 Club. How it works is that there are 200 tickets sold at \$20 each. Each week for four weeks, 5 tickets are drawn and the winners each receive \$20 (money back). Tickets go back into the barrel for the draw each week so you could effectively win more than once. At the end of the 4 weeks there is a draw for \$1,000. The series of draws won't run until all tickets are sold.



The Fundraising Committee will be selling tickets after each of the Masses this weekend. All funds raised go towards the upkeep of the church.

ARCHDIOCESE NEWS:

CATHOLICCARE. For Gladys, volunteering with CatholicCare brings her immense satisfaction whilst bringing joy to the ageing clients she visits weekly. CatholicCare services assist people to live and thrive at every age. We provide disability services, counselling and support for children, young people and families and deliver ageing services in the home. To find out more call **13 18 19**, email connect@catholiccare.org or visit www.catholiccare.org.



St Patrick's Day Mass 2017

Bishop Terry Brady invites parishioners to attend the Annual St Patrick's Day Mass to be held at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney next Friday 17 March at 10:30am.

DISCERNMENT RETREAT FOR MEN 2017 - 24 TO 26 March 2017. Take a glimpse into life and formation into the priesthood; the weekend includes talks, time for personal prayer, sacraments, spiritual guidance, Q & A with seminarians and discussions. This retreat is designed to help men discern their vocations. Where: **Seminary of the Good Shepherd, 50-58 Abbotsford Rd, Homebush.** Cost: **\$99.** Registration is essential. Registration/Enquiries: vocationcentre@sydneycatholic.org. Have some questions or simply want to inquire? Call us on **(02) 9307 8424** or Email vocations@sydneycatholic.org.

Mass Intentions

Saturday 11th March 5.30pm.....Josefa Sanchez (RIP)
Sunday 12th March 8.00amKath Smith (RIP)
Sunday 12th March 9.30am.....Parish Intentions
Monday 13th March 9.15am.....Joseph Condello (RIP)
Tuesday 14th March 9.15am.....Patricia Hartin (RIP)
Wednesday 15th March 9.15am.....Souls in Purgatory
Thursday 16th March 9.15amFor the Sick
Friday 17th March 9.15amAustralian troops serving overseas
Saturday 18th March**Reconciliation : 4:30 PM // Vigil Mass :5:30PM**

Syro-Malabar Liturgies:

Wednesday Mass at 7.00pm
Thursday Mass at 7.00pm followed by Adoration (in English)
Friday Mass at 7.00pm **except on the First Friday of the Month**
Saturday Mass at 9.30am
Every Sunday Mass at 11.30am **on the Third Sunday of the Month** this will be conducted in the School Hall.

The Samoan Community celebrates a **Sunday Mass** in the Church on the **Third Sunday of the Month at 11.30am.**

Subject: Ladies Weekend Gathering 17-19 March, 2017

This special weekend retreat for women has been running for over 40 years. The invitation is extended to women from all parishes to join in a weekend of prayerful, relaxed time out. This is an opportunity to refresh yourself, both spiritually and physically, as you embrace the company, experiences and love of other women in a prayerful environment.

WHEN 17-19 March, 2017.

WHERE Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, St Andrews Rd Varroville.

COST \$230 Worker/Single occupancy

\$207 Non worker/Pensioner/ Seniors Card holder

For more details please contact Ann-Marie Green on 0416 051 206 or amtg4@hotmail.com

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We Pray For The Sick :

Recently deceased: Kath Smith

Anniversaries: Josefa Sanchez, Patricia Hartin, Joseph Condello