

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON*Isaiah 66:10-11*

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
 Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
 exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

FIRST READING*1 Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10-13**A reading from the first book of Samuel*

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM*Ps 22 R. v.1*

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
 there is nothing I shall want.
 Fresh and green are the pastures
 where he gives me repose.
 Near restful waters he leads me,
 to revive my drooping spirit. (R.)
2. He guides me along the right path;
 he is true to his name.
 If I should walk in the valley of darkness
 no evil would I fear.
 You are there with your crook and your staff;
 with these you give me comfort. (R.)
3. You have prepared a banquet for me
 In the sight of my foes.
 My head you have anointed with oil;
 my cup is overflowing. (R.)
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
 all the days of my life.
 In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
 for ever and ever. (R.)

SECOND READING*Ephesians 5:8-14*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians
 You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep,
 rise from the dead,
 and Christ will shine on you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION*John 8:12*

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
 I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
 whoever follows me will have the light of life.
 Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL (shorter version) John 9:1. 6-9. 13-17. 34-38*A reading from the holy Gospel according to John*

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father
almighty; from there he will come to judge the living
and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy Catholic Church,
The communion of saints.
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And life everlasting. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

John 4:13-14

For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord,
the water I shall give will become in him
a spring welling up to eternal life.

PLEASE PRAY FOR ...

THE SICK IN OUR PARISH

*God of gentleness and love,
We entrust to your care all those in need
of any form of healing, and ask you to
guide and sustain all who offer them
healing and hope.*

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



-  Kate Franklyn
-  Sophie Hogan
-  George Buschmann

RECENTLY DECEASED

-  Bill Lannen (Bernadette Matthias' dad) (03/03)

If you have anyone to add to our prayer list, please notify
the parish office by Thursday 10.00am by ringing 8420 6789
or email: parish@ignatius.org.au.

FEAST DAYS IN MARCH

-  17 St Patrick
-  18 St Cyril of Jerusalem
-  19 St Joseph

COLLECTION WEEK – 7 th /8 th March	
ST. IGNATIUS CHURCH & St JAMES CHURCH	
Thanksgiving Envelopes – \$2387.00	
Loose Collection – \$331.00	

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST			
ST IGNATIUS CHURCH			
DATE	5.00PM VIGIL MASS	DATE	9.30AM SUNDAY MASS
14/03	Giovanna Scollo	15/03	Raquel Gonzales
21/03	Haydn Walters	22/03	Kaye Hogan
28/03	Therese Keogh	29/03	Mary Ebolo

MINISTERS OF THE WORD			
ST IGNATIUS CHURCH			
DATE	5.00PM VIGIL MASS	DATE	9.30AM SUNDAY MASS
14/03	Marlon D'Souza	15/03	Mary Ebolo
21/03	Ancita D'Cunha	22/03	Deborah Browne
28/03	Peter Keogh	29/03	Adelia Vong

MINISTERS OF THE WORD	
ST JAMES CHURCH	
DATE	11.00AM MASS
15/03	Barbara Shea
22/03	Margaret Gibson
29/03	Louisa Luu

ST IGNATIUS CHURCH

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH AND VIETNAMESE

7.00PM WEDNESDAY 24 MARCH





REFLECTION BY DIANNE BERGANT CSG

Humans see and judge by appearances, but God looks into the heart, and there finds the real person. God's standards are not superficial, as are so many of the standards of the world. It is not age, beauty or physical strength that is important; it is not social position or religious role that is preferred. God chooses whom God chooses. God saw in David, the insignificant shepherd, the potential for being the chief shepherd of his people. The man who was born blind became the one through whom others would see the mighty works of God. Yet, neither young David nor the man in the gospel made the initial step; each simply responded with openness to God's choice of him.

By what criteria do we judge others? Do we consider some people too insignificant for greatness? Are we overly concerned with status? Do we categorise people according to the disease or physical limitation that they must endure? Do we sometimes blame them for their disability? Do our eyes perceive life in accord with the standards of a materialistic, body-orientated, pleasure-seeking society? Or do we look into the other's heart, as God does?

As with the other scrutiny Sundays, catechumens and long-standing members alike are exhorted to make a choice. Jesus is the one who gives sight to blind eyes and religious insight to those open to receive it. However, there is a price to pay. Will it be the standards of the world, or the power of God in Jesus Christ?



Fourth Sunday of Lent 14 – 15 March 2026

Life was hard for **Manaini** and her children living in rural Fiji. With the support from Caritas Australia's partner, FRIEND, she learnt food processing and gardening skills, improving nutrition and creating new income opportunities to support her children's education.



Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*

HOLY LAND CRAFTS



Holy Land Crafts

Olivewood carvings come from **Bethlehem, the Holy Land**, handcrafted by Christian families from the branches of ancient olive trees of Jerusalem.

Christian families in the Holy Land need your support now more than ever. By purchasing these items, you help sustain their livelihood and preserve a sacred tradition.



Support Christian families in the Holy Land
Thank you for your kind support.

Liana and Jeries Altawil will be with us next Saturday and Sunday speaking at our Parish Masses about the hard times facing families in the Holy Land. In the light of this, Jeries and Liana have taken the initiative to support these families by selling their olive wood handicraft religious artifacts.



POPE FRANCIS' PEACE PRAYER

Lord God of peace, hear our prayer!

We have tried so many times and over so many years to resolve our conflicts by our own powers and by the force of our arms. How many moments of hostility and darkness have we experienced; how much blood has been shed; how many lives have been shattered; how many hopes have been buried... But our efforts have been in vain.

Now, Lord, come to our aid! Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and our hearts, and give us the courage to say: "Never again war!"; "With war everything is lost". Instill in our hearts the courage to take concrete steps to achieve peace.

Lord, God of Abraham, God of the Prophets, God of Love, you created us and you call us to live as brothers and sisters. Give us the strength daily to be instruments of peace; enable us to see everyone who crosses our path as our brother or sister. Make us sensitive to the plea of our citizens who entreat us to turn our weapons of war into implements of peace, our trepidation into confident trust, and our quarreling into forgiveness.

Keep alive within us the flame of hope, so that with patience and perseverance we may opt for dialogue and reconciliation. In this way may peace triumph at last, and may the words "division", "hatred" and "war" be banished from the heart of every man and woman. Lord, defuse the violence of our tongues and our hands. Renew our hearts and minds, so that the word which always brings us together will be "brother", and our way of life will always be that of: Shalom, Peace, Salaam!

Amen.