

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Mt 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**

Mk 9: 2-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*This is my Son, the beloved; listen to him.*

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Rabbi', he said '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 to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him'. Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

**A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**

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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT / B

28 FEBRUARY 2021

**LIVING IN FAITHFULNESS AND HOPE**

There are few moments in the scriptures as dramatic as when Abraham has steeled himself to seize the knife that will take the life of his son Isaac. In that moment on the mount Abraham revealed once again his true quality and the depth of his trust in the word of God. Years later, on a mountain God will reveal the glory and grandeur of the greatest gift of all, the presence of Jesus among us, the living word. As Abraham listened to the voice of the Lord God, so too the disciples of all ages are called to listen to the words of Jesus, the beloved Son. His words promise us a life that awaits us beyond death, and his presence will enable the disciples to move on with him to the cross. On a mountain a son's life was saved. Centuries later on a rocky outcrop, scorned and ridiculed, God will give what he did not take from Abraham so that all of us might be saved.

In many ways Paul reflects on what has been gained for us all by that sacrifice on Calvary. Like Abraham, God does not withhold even what is most precious. The glory and promise of the Transfiguration have their fulfilment in Jesus' victory over death, a victory which now enables us to live our lives in faithfulness and hope. Paul is concerned to share the certainty of his belief that, with Jesus pleading our cause, there is no need for fear.

**Christopher Monaghan CP**

**FIRST READING**

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

A reading from the book of Genesis

*The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.*

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son', God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood. Then he stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son.

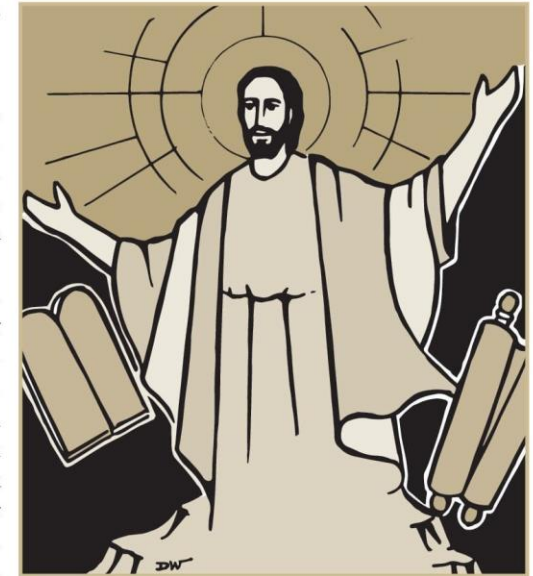
The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

■ The word of the Lord.

**RESPONSORIAL PS** Ps 115: 10, 15-19. R. 114: 9

**R. I will walk in the presence of the Lord / in the land of the living.**

I. I trusted, even when I said: / 'I am sorely afflicted.' / O precious in the eyes of the Lord / is the death of his faithful. **R.**



2. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; / you have loosened my bonds. / A thanksgiving sacrifice I make: / I will call on the Lord's name. **R.**

3. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil / before all his people, / in the courts of the house of the Lord, / in your midst, O Jerusalem. **R.**

**SECOND READING**

Rom 8: 31-34

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*God did not spare his own Son.*

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

■ The word of the Lord.

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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/EastwoodCatholic](http://www.facebook.com/EastwoodCatholic)

Parish Office Hours: Mon-Fri: 10:00am-3:00pm

# Catholic Parish of St Kevin Eastwood



Vigil Mass: Saturday at 5:30pm

NEW Sunday Mass Times beginning 20<sup>th</sup> Sep 2020:

8am, 9:30am, 11:30am (Chinese) and 6pm

Weekday Masses: Mon – Thurs. 7:30am, Fri 5:00pm

Eucharistic Adoration: Fri 4:00pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat 5:00-5:20pm

Cenacle Marian Movement of Laity: Thu 7pm

Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Rosary & Novena: Tue 7-7:30pm

## Second Sunday of Lent – 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021



**Our Deceased:** John, Velia & Sylvia Paoloni, Rina & Mario Rovere, Livia Bosi, John Davidson, Matthew Warrnor, Patrick O'Connor, Geoff & Patricia Clarke, Young Hwan Ho, Yong Min Ho, Young Seok Seo, Soo Woog Jinx, Maria Hur, Felix Beins, Cecile Beins, Jan Brayan, Mary Duck, Aces Regan, Arch Stewart, John Casey, Roy & Bessie Landon and O' Connor, Pigott, Stewart and Casey families

**Our Sick:** Agnes, Heru Ie, Robert Lauw, Tenille Moujalli, June Phelan, Anne McIntyre, Adhy Guna S., Daisy Gouw, Nur Gouw, Mercy Candido

### UPCOMING FEAST DAYS:

Australia (Autumn) Ember Day, Special Day of Prayer and Penance, 5<sup>th</sup> March

### PARISH NEWS:

- **We will have Stations of the Cross every Friday right after the 5pm Mass during Lent.**
- **Anointing of the Sick after all Masses next weekend.**
- **Please take home a Project Compassion box or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season. Visit: [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion)**
- **Lenten Groups have been organised.** We thank those who joined and offered to host a group this year. Email: [alison@stkevinseastwood.org.au](mailto:alison@stkevinseastwood.org.au) if you wish to join.
- **The Men's Prayer Group is taking part in the Heartbeat Lenten Program.** Wednesdays during Lent starting at 6:30pm, in the Holy Family Chapel. ☎ Lou Youssef 0400 303 733.
- **CAN YOU SING? Come join us.** With easing of restrictions on performers singing indoors, the Choristers would like to have extra voices (young & old!) at the 9.30am Mass (1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays). ☎ Suzanne on 9874 2809 or just come across & talk to the choir.
- **Latrine Project at Pere Achte School Uganda is underway.** See photos on noticeboard. Thanks to all who contributed & bought 'Cuppa Time Reflections' to fund this project!
- **World Day of Prayer 2021:** All denominations are invited to gather & pray. The service will be at Eastwood Baptist Church, 3 First Ave. Eastwood on Fri, 5<sup>th</sup> Mar at 10am.
- **Congregational singing remains suspended in our parish** as we gather at maximum capacity using the **2sq meter rule**. Face mask is not mandatory but encouraged. We recommend using the NSW Government issued QR code to register on entry, otherwise sign-in manually. Attendance at all Masses are on a first come, first served basis. Observe physical distancing & use disinfectant wipes to clean your seat as you leave.

### OTHER NEWS:

- **Lent Studies at Eastwood Uniting Church:** As is customary each Lent, Eastwood Uniting & St Kevin's join in offering people the opportunity to attend each other's Lent studies. Eastwood Uniting Church will conduct Lent studies via online ZOOM meetings at 7.30pm Thu & 10am Fri, starting Mar 4 & 5. To join, Email: [christopherdonaldcooper@gmail.com](mailto:christopherdonaldcooper@gmail.com)

- **Loreto Normanhurst Virtual Open Day:** The Open Day Microsite will bring families the rich offerings of the school through feature presentations, a 360° walkthrough of the Primary, Secondary & Boarding Schools, live Q&A session and more! Prospective families are asked to register at: [www.loretonh.nsw.edu.au](http://www.loretonh.nsw.edu.au). The microsite will be live from 11am-3pm Sat, 6<sup>th</sup> March. The microsite link will be emailed to families prior to Open Day.

### AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE:

- **Lenten Day Retreat for Women:** We invite you to a series of reflection days for women, commencing with a Lenten retreat. **Speaker: Fr. Daniele Russo | Location: St Michael's, Meadowbank | Time: 8am-1:30pm | Cost: FREE** (A small donation of \$10 will assist catering) RSVP by Fri 5<sup>th</sup> March. Info E: [vocations@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:vocations@sydneycatholic.org) or ☎ 9307 8424.

### FR MARTIN MAUNSELL'S REFLECTION:

#### GOOD RELIGION & GOOD PSYCHOLOGY!

At the moment I am reading a wonderful book that is called *Travels in Sacred Spaces* the author is Bishop Geoffrey Robinson (1937-2021). The bishop makes the point in his writings that God is able to be the author of 2 books, the first is the bible and the other is the book of life in the world that we are living in. Logically if both books are based on truth then there is no possibility that they would contradict each other. If there are apparent contradictions, then perhaps the reader's interpretation of each book needs to be investigated!

Good psychology makes the point that if people do not have a good and a healthy sense of genuine self-love then it is a definite barrier for them being able to effectively love someone else. Some of the great saints of the Church such as *Saints Benedict of Nursia (480-547)*, *Catherine of Siena (1347-1380)* and *Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556)* in many of their classic spiritual writings shared profound insights into the human condition. For example, they made the point that true love towards others needs to be self-giving and if it is then it is a constant work in progress. Jesus of Nazareth makes the point; *"that I have come to give life and give it to the full."* (John Ch.10 verse 10). The Son of God here is not just talking about religious life but all dimensions of a healthy human life!

### NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER – 7<sup>th</sup> Mar 2021

(AV Projectionist 9:30am Mass – D Muljadi)

Ministry	Vigil	8:00am	9:30am	6:00pm
Senior Servers	S Tesara	S Coorey	B Rigney	A Ho
Junior Servers	O Brown I Brown		L McCudden T Hanna	R Khalil J Mercurio
Readers	R: S Fernando C: N Brown	R: M Hill C: K Patterson	R: M James C: D Li	R: S Khalil C: A Khalil
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	G Brown R Elliott	D Macedo R Harvey	C Rigney A Wahbe	E Lobo J Gibson

**NB: Liturgical rosters will be updated soon.** Contact the parish office for any changes.