

EASTER MASS TIMES

Stations of The Cross

Every Friday during Lent commencing

Friday 4th March, 2022

6.30pm Rosary

7pm Mass

Stations of The Cross after Mass.

Palm Sunday:

10th April, 2022

5pm Vigil Mass (Saturday)

8.30am and 10am Sunday

Holy Thursday:

14th April, 2022

No 9am Mass

7pm Mass of The Lord's Supper

Quiet prayer and adoration until 9.45pm

The Church will remain open until 10pm

Good Friday:

15th April, 2022

10am Stations of The Cross

3pm Celebration of The Passion of The Lord

Holy Saturday:

16th April, 2022

No 9am Mass

6pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday The Resurrection of The Lord

17th April, 2022

8.30am and 10am Mass

Monday 18th April and Tuesday 19th April

No Mass

Reconciliation During Lent

Tuesdays 10am - 11am

Fridays 10am - 11am

Wednesdays 6pm - 6.45pm

Saturdays 4pm - 4.30pm

Support Your Parish Online

May I take this opportunity to thank those who have been supporting our Parish during the extensive lockdown. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

You can choose to make a donation online at our parish website at: www.stmelscampsie.org.au and click on the **Support Us** icon and follow the prompts.



OPEN DAYS

Wednesday 23 March 2022

3.30pm-5.30pm

Saturday 26 March 2022

10.00am-12noon

stmelscampsie.catholic.edu.au

Support Caritas Ukraine Appeal

Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Ukraine during this devastating time. As millions of people are likely to be displaced due to Russia's invasion, your support is more important than ever for the people of Ukraine.

You can donate to the Caritas Ukraine Appeal at: <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/ukraine-appeal/> Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

Our Parish will also support his appeal next weekend by having a leaving collection.

Day of the Unborn Child,

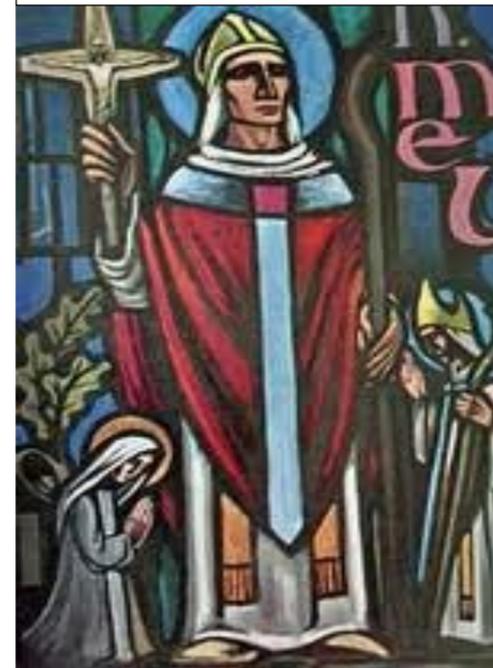
Sunday 27 March

Remembering the lives of unborn children lost to the grave injustice of abortion. Held to coincide with the Feast of the Annunciation, marking the day of Our Lord's conception in the womb of His Blessed Mother. Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP will celebrate at a Mass at St Mary's Cathedral at 10.30am. A rosary procession will follow which will make its way past the NSW Parliament House. It will conclude with Benediction at 1:30pm. For more event details: <https://fb.me/e/2gek7yQ8>

A message from the Archdiocese

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at: (02) 9390 5810 or email: safeguarding-enquiries@sydneycatholic.org You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

13th March, 2022 Second Sunday of Lent Year C



St Mel's Parish

Est 1915

Feast Day: 6th February

7 Evaline Street Campsie NSW 2194

Ph. 9787 1582

Email: stmelscampsie@bigpond.com

Website: www.stmelscampsie.org.au

Parish Priest: Fr. Anthony Mifsud

Parish Secretary: Diane Daher

Parish Office Opening hours: 9.30am-3pm on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Monday & Wednesday office is closed.

St Mel's Catholic Primary School:

9789 3800

PARISH MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil: 5pm

Sunday: 8.30am, 10am

Weekdays: 9am Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, (8.30am Rosary)

Wednesday: 7pm followed by adoration.

SACRAMENTS:

Reconciliation: 4pm to 4.30pm Saturday.

Baptisms: By arrangement, please call Parish Office or download an application from the Parish website at: www.stmelscampsie.org.au

Weddings: By arrangement with six months notice

Care for the Sick: Please call the presbytery.

DEVOTIONS:

Rosary: Every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday after the 9am Mass.

Adoration: After Wednesday 7pm Mass.

First Friday Adoration: Mass at 9am, followed by Adoration and Rosary.

Every Friday During Lent: 6.30pm Rosary, 7pm Mass followed by Stations of The Cross

SAINTS AND FEAST DAYS THIS MONTH

Sunday 6th March: First Sunday of Lent

Sunday 13th March: Second Sunday of Lent

Thursday 17th March: St Patrick (Bishop)

Saturday 19th March: St Joseph, Spouse of The Blessed Virgin Mary

Sunday 20th March: Third Sunday of Lent

Friday 25th March: The Annunciation Of The Lord (Solemnity)

Sunday 27th March: Fourth Sunday of Lent

FIRST READING Gen 15:5-12, 17-18**A reading from the book of Genesis**

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, ‘Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants’ he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

‘I am the Lord’ he said to him ‘who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to make you heir to this land.’ ‘My Lord, the Lord’ Abram replied, ‘how am I to know that I shall inherit it?’ He said to him, ‘Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.’ He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

‘To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.’

WORD OF THE LORD.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 26:1, 7-9, 13-14, R. v.1

(R.) The Lord is my light and salvation

The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life before whom shall I shrink? **(R.)**

O Lord, hear my voice when I call; have mercy and answer.

Of you my heart has spoken: ‘Seek his face.’ **(R.)**

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek, hide not your face.

Dismiss not your servant in anger; you have been my help. **(R.)**

I am sure I shall see the Lord’s goodness in the land of the living.

Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.

Hope in the Lord! **(R.)**

SECOND READING Phil 3:17 – 4:1**A reading from the letter of St Paul to The****Philippians**

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

WORD OF THE LORD.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Mt 4:4**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**

From the shining cloud the Father’s voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**GOSPEL** Lk 9:28-36**A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke**

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, ‘Master, 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 he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, ‘This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.’ And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

GOSPEL OF THE LORD

Catechist Sunday

This weekend our Parish celebrates Catechist Sunday,. This is the Sunday we acknowledge over 1900 Catechists who generously give their time to teach the Catholic faith to over 27,000 primary and high school students in the 320 public schools situated in the Archdiocese of Sydney. We recognize their response to their baptismal call to evangelize, the voluntary nature of their generosity, and their love for the children in a work which is often unseen and unrecognized yet crucial and rewarding- as one Catechist has said, **“Being a Catechist is one of the most spiritually fulfilling things I have ever done”**.

Our St Mel’s Catechists support Catholic students in 3 local public schools. These students have a 40 minute lesson 1 day a week and sadly this may be the only opportunity they have to learn about our faith. Are you able to do something of eternal significance and be a Catechist or even a helper? Our Parish is always seeking additional Catechists to help in this rewarding role. We invite you to join this special mission and encourage you to talk to our dedicated Catechist at one of our masses this weekend and or contact the Parish Office. Thank you.

Gospel Reflection

by Greg Sunter

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 half asleep and we’re told Peter doesn’t know what he’s saying when he starts talking about building tents. The following failure by the disciples to cast out a demon shows that they still haven’t understood fully who and what Jesus is. What a great reading for the season of Lent!

Scriptural context – Gospel Parallels

The account of the Transfiguration appears in all three synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke). The word, synoptic, means ‘seen together’ and these three gospels can be seen together because they have so much material in common. It is now accepted that the gospel of Mark was the first written as so much of it appears in the other two, while the gospels of Matthew and Luke both seem to have also drawn on another source of Jesus material (known as the ‘Q’ source). Despite the parallels, each writer uses the same story to convey the particular message of that gospel.

Living the Gospel – ‘Listen to Him!’

God’s voice from the cloud claims Jesus as his Son, the Chosen One and then goes on to instruct those present – and we, the readers – to ‘Listen to him!’ For the disciples, this was a message not to get carried away with their own ideas about the Messiah but to listen to what Jesus was saying about the suffering he must endure and to what he was saying about true discipleship. Jesus tells us that to be a follower of his involves sacrifice, hardship and often unpopularity. It is this message we must listen to as much as the promise of salvation.

We remember in our Masses

Lord, we commend to your loving care all the sick of our parish.

We also pray for all the Souls of the faithful departed: Dorothy Stanton, Freda Budwee, Jennifer Blair, Genevieve Zoghbi Zeaiter, Luigi Zampino, Emanuel & Carmen Spiteri, Lennox Lolesio, Leodegario Enting Chan, Francesco Viterale, Georges Azzi, Tony Laban, Yvonne Hallo, Semaan Gorges, Francesco Viterale, Tony & Victor Karam, Joseph & Halema Moussa, Jhottos & Rosemont Moses, Therese Badaoui, James Lahood, Sayed Saad, **We pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Teofisto and Maura Mandanas, Victor Samuel, Francis Samia, Antonio Ramos, Vitorina Santos, Alex Henriquez, Maria Odete Da Silva, Hend El-Daher, Anthony Samuel, Vince Samuel, **Lord Hear Us.**