

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.

Appointment of Parish Priest at St Mel's

Effective Saturday the 30th April, 2022

Reverend Fr. Peter Joseph from St Dominics Flemington will be joining the St Mel's community as our Parish Priest.

On **Sunday 24th April after the 10am Mass** we will have a Parish BBQ to farewell

Fr Anthony. (weather permitting).

There is a possibility that Fr Peter Joseph will also be attending. Further details and dates will be advised in the coming weeks.

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.

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/2gekw7yQ8>

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.

6th March, 2022 First 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 Dt 26:4-10*A reading from the book of Deuteronomy*

Moses said to the people: ‘The priest shall take the pannier from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement:

“My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given me.” You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.’

WORD OF THE LORD.**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Ps 90:1-2. 10-15. R. v.15

(R.) Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High and abides in the shade of the Almighty says to the Lord: ‘My refuge, my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!’ **(R.)**

Upon you no evil shall fall, no plague approach where you dwell. For you has he commanded his angels, to keep you in all your ways. **(R.)**

They shall bear you upon their hands lest you strike your foot against a stone. On the lion and the viper you will tread and trample the young lion and the dragon. **(R.)**

His love he set on me, so I will rescue him; protect him for he knows my name. When he calls I shall answer: ‘I am with you.’ I will save him in distress and give him glory. **(R.)**

SECOND READING Rom 10:8-13*A reading from the letter of St Paul to The Romans*

Scripture says: The word, that is the faith we proclaim, is very near to you, it is on your lips and in your heart. If your lips confess that Jesus is Lord and if you believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, then you will be saved. By believing from the heart you are made righteous; by confessing with your lips you are saved. When scripture says: those who believe in him will have no cause for shame, it makes no distinction between Jew and Greek: all belong to the same Lord who is rich enough, however many ask for his help, for everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

WORD OF THE LORD.**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Mt 4:4*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!*

No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!***GOSPEL** Lk 4:1-13*A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke*

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.’ But Jesus replied, ‘Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.’

Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, ‘I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.’ But Jesus answered him, ‘Scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.’ Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. ‘If you are the Son of God’, he said to him ‘throw yourself down from here, for scripture says:

He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again:

They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.’

But Jesus answered him, ‘It has been said:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.’

Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.

GOSPEL OF THE LORD**Gospel Reflection**

by Greg Sunter.

The wilderness, or desert, is used repeatedly throughout the Bible as a place of special encounter with God and preparation for a new direction or a new ministry. The 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness immediately followed his baptism in the Jordan where his status as the beloved of God was confirmed. He is led by the Spirit to go out into the wilderness for a period of fasting, prayer and preparation before entering into his public ministry. In fact, the event that immediately follows this passage is the episode in Nazareth where Jesus reads from the scroll of Isaiah and declares the intent of his ministry. It is presented as if, having spent his time in preparation and overcoming the temptations before him, Jesus strode out of the wilderness and laid out what he had decided.

The episode of the temptations is a clear indicator of the humanity of Jesus – he experienced doubt, uncertainty and fear just as we do. If the gospel intended to emphasise the divinity of Jesus, none of these temptations would have been an issue. We are told that Jesus was indeed tempted, not just pestered by the devil. The opportunities laid before Jesus were actually tempting to him. They challenged his resolve. They made Jesus question the sort of Messiah that he was to be: the all-conquering, powerful Messiah that the people expected; or the servant to the poor who will be tortured and put to death. Jesus is tempted to use his power to make his task easier or to display his authority to others. Had he chosen to do this, surely it would have been easier to get people’s attention – and that was the temptation: to take the easier path or stick to the more subtle, more personal, more difficult path.

Scriptural context – The temptations

The three temptations Jesus faces all focus upon the nature of his mission and ministry. The first temptation is to miraculously feed himself – is his ministry to be about himself or others? The second is to take power and authority over all the world – to fulfil the human expectations of what a Messiah ought to be or fulfil God’s plan of service, rather than domination? The third temptation is about grandstanding – to make a spectacular declaration of his arrival or to minister to the lowly and reveal himself in that way?

Have you thought? – The Devil

The personification of ‘the devil’ is sometimes difficult to contemplate. The one who tempts Jesus in the wilderness is referred to in this passage as ‘the devil’. Devil is the English translation of a Greek word, *diabolos*. As the gospel of Luke was originally written in Greek, we can assume that *diabolos* was the word used. *Diabolos* has several meanings: *the accuser; the slanderer; the one who separates*. It is the purpose of the temptations to ‘separate’ Jesus from God and from his intended approach to his ministry. The temptations we face are often those that ‘separate’ us from what we know to be right.

Living the Gospel – Lent

The 40 days that Jesus spent praying and preparing in the wilderness is reflected in the season of Lent that lasts 40 days from Ash Wednesday until the day before Easter Sunday (not counting Sundays in the season). It has been traditional that during the time of Lent Christian people renew their efforts in prayer, fasting and almsgiving. All three of these practices are actions of preparation. Just as Jesus prepared for his ministry in the wilderness, so too is Lent an opportunity for us to be deliberate about our reflection on what we are called to do in this world.

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: Freda Budwee, 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, Ramez & Rada Constantine, Frank Stanton, Anthony Samuel, Vince Samuel,

Lord Hear Us.