



THE CARMELITE

Parish of Port Melbourne and Middle Park
in the care of the Carmelites since 1882

*We acknowledge the Yaluk-ut Weelam Clan, the traditional owners and custodians of this land. We pay our respects to them.
May we walk gently here.*

3rd Sunday of Lent

20 March 2022

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Politics, Economics, and the Gardener

There was a terrible disaster when a building fell down killing eighteen people. Some said, 'Oh, those killed must have been sinners, they or their parents.' Jesus repudiates that notion: 'No, it wasn't for anything they did.' It was clear to Jesus that they were the victims of poor construction and conditions at Siloam. Look at the builder.

Responsibility needs to be brought home to those who would otherwise hide behind a religious ideology, or the sheer self-interest of evading blame for a situation.

To identify those really responsible may well require major changes to the way society is organised.

Does it all seem too difficult? Jesus helps us with a metaphor:

You are like a fig tree which may not be bearing much fruit just now, but, I am a terrific gardener:

I will water you, dig around you, make sure you are well nourished so that you will bear the fruits I desire.

Our Lord does that by:

watering us with the waters of baptism;
pruning us, especially during Lent;
nourishing us with the bread of life in Holy Communion.

We might pause at various times during Lent to allow Our Lord to garden us so that he may create a heavenly botanical garden, a new Eden, of the whole of humanity.

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

Rev Prof Michael Tate graduated in Law from the University of Tasmania in 1968, and in Theology from Oxford University in 1971. He lectured at the University of Tasmania from 1972-78, being Dean of the Faculty of Law in 1977-78. He was a Senator for Tasmania from 1978-93, being Federal Minister for Justice from 1987-93. He served as Ambassador to The Hague and the Holy See from 1993-96. He then returned to Australia and was ordained in May 2000 and has been a parish priest in the Archdiocese of Hobart since then. He is an Honorary Professor of Law at the University of Tasmania where he lectures in International Humanitarian Law.

Both our Churches are fitted with a hearing induction loop. Please use the 'T' or other appropriate switch on your hearing aid. Please tell us if you experience any difficulty.

OUR PARISH

Churches

St Joseph's
cnr Rouse & Stokes Streets
Port Melbourne

Our Lady of Mount Carmel
cnr Richardson & Wright Streets
Middle Park

Sunday Masses

6.00pm (Sat) Mount Carmel
9.00am Saint Joseph's
10.30am Mount Carmel

Reconciliation

after 9.00am Mass Saturday

Carmelite Parish Office

274 Rouse Street
Port Melbourne Vic 3207

Telephone 03 9681 9600
Facsimile 03 9681 9608

After Hours Emergency
0408 754 283

Email parish@sj-mc.org.au

Parish Website www.sj-mc.org.au

Carmelite Website
www.carmelites.org.au

Office Hours 9am-4pm

(non COVID times)

**Monday, Wednesday, Friday
(CLOSED TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS)**

Parish Priest

Fr Hugh Brown OCarM

Parish Secretary

Anne Ierardo

Pastoral Life Co-ordinator

Finance Officer

Shane Harrison

Facilities Manager

Safeguarding Officer

Frances Correa

Galilee Regional Catholic Primary School

Bank Street
South Melbourne Vic 3205
Telephone 03 9699 2928

THIS WEEK

Monday 21 March

9.00am Mass, St Joseph's

Tuesday 22 March

9.00am Mass, Mt Carmel

Wednesday 23 March

9.00am Mass, St Joseph's

Thursday 24 March

9.00am Mass, Mt Carmel

Friday 25 March

9.00am Mass, St Joseph's

Saturday 26 March

9.00am Mass, Mt Carmel

6.00pm Mass, Mt Carmel

Sunday 27 March - 4th Sunday of Lent

9.00am Mass, St Joseph's

10.30am Mass, Mt Carmel

WE REMEMBER

Those who are sick or ill and in need of prayer: Hein Basten, Tommy Bednar, Paul Caghi - Cao, Nawal Cox, Maureen Dickason, Kelly Edwards, Judy Fairhall, Gigi Falckh, Lyn Falckh, Michelle Falckh, Frances Farrugia, Lyn Faul, Rose Fennell, Gary Finn, Maurice Fitzpatrick, Lyn Fleming, Gerard Friary, Ivy Hermence, Chris Kowalski, Marino Mihocic, Felicity Morgan, Marie O'Connor, Sylvia Poliakova, Rafal Rafalski, Michael Ristevski, Lucie Carmen Rodriguez, Dennis Rohan, Lorraine Rohan, Keith Ryder, Sarah Abdel-Said, Teresa Sheehan, Helen Stanley, Jim Sullivan, Maureen Toohey, Troy Vincent, Julie Wain, Sr Barbara Walsh RSG, Vivienne Williams, Tami Yap.

Those whose have died recently: Mervyn Huggins, those who have died in the floods in Northern NSW and Queensland, casualties of the Ukrainian/Russian conflict, and all those affected by COVID_ 19 throughout the world.

Those whose anniversaries of death occur about this time: Josie Hall, Joseph Jelincic, and Carmelite, Enda Carney and David De Loughrey.

IN OUR PARISH

March 2022 Parish Men's Dinner

Wednesday 23 March 2022,
6:45 pm, O'Connor-Pilkington Rooms, OLMC.

Speaker: Michael McGirr,
writer, reviewer and educator

"The bucket twist: surprises in the wisdom years"

RSVP: John Molloy - 9699 2031 Cost: \$35

Thanksgiving Envelopes

The next series of Thanksgiving Envelopes is available for collection in the foyer of the church. If you are able to deliver envelopes to people you know, that will help defray the cost of posting out those that are not collected. If you are new to the parish and would



like to join our thanksgiving Program, please call Anne at the Parish office on 9681 9600 or email on parish@sj-mc.org.au.

Flood Appeal - Society of St Vincent de Paul

The floods in Queensland and New South Wales are having a devastating effect on the people living in these regions. For those wishing to support the long-term recovery work to be undertaken by St Vincent de Paul Society in Queensland and NSW, financial donations can be made either directly to either state through: www.vinnies.org.au - Flood Appeal, or by calling QLD (07) 3010 1000 or NSW (02) 9568 0262.



Caritas Australia

Ukraine Emergency Appeal

The People of Ukraine are living through a crisis that will impact the country for years to come. Caritas Australia has launched an appeal that will support Caritas Ukraine and other partners in the region. The appeal will support the provision of clean water, hygiene and food kits to vulnerable families, safe collection centres for families on the move as well as emergency accommodation and support for distressed children and families.

<https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/ukraine/> or contact 1800 024 413.

ARCHDIOCESE

26/27 March

4th Sunday in Lent

6.00pm Mount Carmel (Vigil)

Commentator: Des Collins

Readers: Pat Mount

Eucharistic Ministers: Kathy Mount

Communion to the Sick:

9.00am St Joseph's

Commentator:

Reader:

Eucharistic Ministers:

Counters: Jane Dee & Jim Power

Hospitality: Cathy Garbellini

Communion to the Sick:

Frances Correa

10.30am Mount Carmel

Commentator: Kathleen Kiernan

Readers: Clive Wansbrough

Eucharistic Ministers: John Molnar

Childrens' Liturgy: N/A

Hospitality: Margaret and Peter Blades

THANK YOU

for your generosity last Sunday

St Joseph's

*Carmelite and
Parish Offering* \$786.00

Our Lady of Mt Carmel

*Carmelite and
Parish Offering* \$1,001.00

PROJECT COMPASSION - FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS

Janice - Australia

A Wagilak woman, Janice is a traditional dancer who tells her family's stories through movements handed down over generations. "With many elders gone, we must transfer knowledge, to keep a connection to culture and nurture future leaders," Janice says. "Me and my family, we keep the culture going, we need to keep our culture strong."

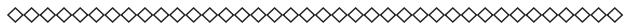


Like many remote communities, Janice's faces a range of challenges – low employment and education, financial hardship, poorer health and lower life expectancy.

With your help, Caritas Australia supports Djilpin Arts Aboriginal Corporation, which operates a centre for traditional and contemporary Aboriginal arts and culture, providing employment and generating income for local communities.

Elders run workshops and share their knowledge with the younger generation, and with visitors. Local guides run bush cultural tours and architect-designed tourist accommodation is available for visitors.

"This is a safe place, a place we come with family and get away from problems. We, here in the art centre, work as a family," Janice says. Janice believes that Djilpin Arts' work is essential to create opportunities for young people to stay on-country, to share intergenerational knowledge between elders and the younger generation – to promote healing, and to keep culture alive.



Your donation will support programs around the world that provide vulnerable people with the skills and opportunities they need. Project Compassion money boxes and envelopes are available for collection from the Church foyer.

The money boxes are an excellent way to introduce your children to Project Compassion.

REFLECTION ON THIS WEEK'S READINGS

The resource I use to help couples prepare for marriage has questions for them to think about and discuss in between sessions. One of the questions at the end of one of the chapters is, 'What effect would adultery have on your marriage?'

In one sense this hypothetical question is absurd. Dealing with the consequences of any sin requires time and place, context and contrition. It is even tougher to imagine the effect of any destructive behaviour in one's marriage even before the marriage has begun. Still, it never ceases to amaze me how this question usually leads the couple to have a very fruitful and frank discussion, not about adultery, but about their values, family history, commitment, fidelity and growing old together.

Sometimes, however, I cringe when the prospective bride or groom seems to give the green light to their future spouse by saying, 'Well I guess if he or she went looking elsewhere it would be my fault' or 'I love him or her so much that I know we could go on regardless'. Others say very clearly that it would alter the trust and respect of the relationship, but they hope they could look at the circumstances and rebuild the relationship.

The most mature couples do not wipe over the seriousness of the sinful action, but want to hold on to compassion, forgiveness and a commitment that it will not happen again.

Couples like these have clearly understood the power of today's readings. The third Sunday of Lent is all about second chances. In Exodus we have a bush that is alight but does not burn and in Luke we have a fig tree that does not bear fruit, is earmarked for the chop and saved by the gardener. In both cases where we would expect to find destruction we find new opportunities for growth, nurturance and flowering.

Over the centuries the goodness of God that always gives us another chance has not been proclaimed as vigorously as it should have been. We have focused on God's justice as though it was a once and for all, shape up or ship out sort of message. These ideas can be deduced from today's second reading where Paul seems to argue that God killed the chosen people for their complaining and infidelity.

Paul was a tough man and for him Christian commitment was no picnic. He was aware of how people were suffering and dying for the Gospel, so he was at pains to teach the people of Corinth that the commitment demanded from the Gospel could entail everything they had. His reading of why the Israelites died in the desert, however, needs to be read against the second chances of the other readings, especially the Gospel.

We believe in Lent that we enter a holy time in our year and visit a holy place in ourselves where the fire of God's love should burn brightly within us. We are offered these weeks to re-examine our values, family history, commitment, fidelity and growth so as to chart how best we can grow old with God. To do this sometimes requires facing up to our sinful

behaviour and making choices to change our lives. We can only do this when we trust that the fire of God's love is not about destruction, but compassion, forgiveness and a second chance.

May this Eucharist be nurturance for the foundations of our lives and a moment to take stock and to assess with honesty the fruitfulness of how, as a sign of Christ's light within us, we live out our faith in our marriage, at home, at work and in the world.

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LENTEN PRAYER - 3RD SUNDAY

Blazing in a bush
Burning in a fiery pillar
Moses met you
COME GOD AND MEET US NOW

Walking through a city
Listening to a story
Disciples met you
COME GOD AND MEET US NOW

Fire round their heads
Holiness in their lives
Believers met you
COME GOD AND MEET US NOW

Holy God
Rich in mercy
BLESS US WITH LOVE

Healing God
Firm in forgiveness
BLESS US WITH GRACE

Disturbing God
Strong in Justice
BLESS US WITH HOPE AND JOY

***Eggs and Ashes,
Compilation © Ruth Burgess & Chris Polhill
Wild Goose Publications, published 2004***

OUR LITURGY

PROCESSIONAL HYMN - GATHER US TOGETHER

Refrain: **Lord, Jesus Christ, gather us together.
 Make us one bread, one body in your love.**

Gather your people, who long to be one,
One with you, O Lord, in truth and love. **Refrain**

Into your hands, Lord, we place all our cares,
Trusting in your name, which never fails. **Refrain**

Within your temple your praises we sing.
Glorious is your name o'er all the earth. **Refrain**

PENITENTIAL RITE

Celebrant: My brothers and sisters in the Lord:
 In this holy season of Lent
 we confess our weaknesses and our failures in love.

God of everlasting goodness,
We have turned away from you
and from each other,
and sought our peace elsewhere.

All: **But you have not turned away from us,
 for you are full of kindness and compassion,
 slow to anger and rich in mercy.**

Celebrant: You, God of eternal love,
 call us back to you,
 fasting, weeping, mourning;
 with hearts broken in sincerity
 that we might know true forgiveness
 and learn to love again.

All: **May we learn to trust your love for us.**

Celebrant: Come, Holy Spirit,
 tempt us to goodness with God's love

FIRST READING

Exodus 3:1-8. 13-15

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said, 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am' he answered. 'Come no nearer' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father,' he said 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God.

And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow.'

Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 103: THE LORD IS KIND IS MERCIFUL

Psalm 103:

**Response: *The Lord is kind and merciful.
Merciful is the Lord.***

Bless the Lord O my soul
And all my being bless his Holy Name
Bless the Lord O my soul
Forget not all his benefits.

Response

The Lord pardons all your iniquities
And heals all your ills
He redeems all my life from destruction
And crowns you with compassion and kindness.

Response

The Lord secures justice
And the rights of the oppress
He has made all his ways to Moses
And his deeds to the children of Israel.

Response

Merciful and gracious is the Lod
Slow to anger and abounding in kindness
For as the heavens are high above the earth,
So surpassing His kindness in love.

Response

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

I want to remind you how our fathers were all guided by a cloud above them and how they all passed through the sea. They were all baptised into Moses in this cloud and in this sea; all ate the same spiritual food and all drank the same spiritual drink, since they all drank from the spiritual rock that followed them as they went, and that rock was Christ. In spite of this, most of them failed to please God and their corpses littered the desert.

These things all happened as warnings for us, not to have the wicked lusts for forbidden things that they had. You must never complain: some of them did, and they were killed by the Destroyer.

All this happened to them as a warning and it was written down to be a lesson for us who are living at the end of the age. The man who thinks he is safe must be careful that he does not fall.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Refrain: ***Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ.***

GOSPEL

Luke 13:1-9

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.'



He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?"' "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down.'"

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.

OFFERTORY HYMN - CENTRE OF MY LIFE

Refrain: **O Lord, you are the centre of my life:
I will always praise you,
I will always serve you,
I will always keep you in my sight.**

Keep me safe, O God, I take refuge in you.
I say to the Lord, "You are my God.
My happiness lies in you alone.
My happiness lies in you alone.

Refrain

I will bless the Lord, who gives me counsel,
who even at night directs my heart.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm.

Refrain

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand,
at your right hand happiness forever

Refrain

Cel: The Lord be with you. **All: And with your Spirit.**

Cel: Lift up your hearts. **All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Cel: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. **All: It is right and just.**

The Celebrant prays the preface at the end of which all say:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord

Hosanna in the highest.

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world. Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world. Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world. Grant us peace.

Cel: Behold the Lamb of God.

Behold him who takes away the sins of the World.

Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**All: Lord I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

Refrain: ***Here I am, standing right beside you,
Here I am; do not be afraid.
Here I am, waiting like a lover.
I am here; here I am***

Do not fear when the tempter calls you.
Do not fear even though you fall.
Do not fear, I have conquered evil.
Do not fear, never be afraid.

Refrain

I am here in the midst of every trial.
I am here in the face of despair.
I am here when pardoning your brother.
Here I am, I am here.

Refrain

Refrain: ***In these days of Lenten journey
we have seen and we have heard
the call to sow justice
in the lives of those we serve.***

We reach out to those who are homeless,
To those who live without warmth
In the coolness of evening,
We'll shelter their dreams,
We will clothe them in mercy and peace.

Refrain

We call on the spirit of Justice
And pray for righteousness' sake.
We will sing for all the oppressed,
We will loosen the bonds of distress.

Refrain

**THE PARISH OF PORT MELBOURNE AND MIDDLE PARK
IS COMMITTED TO THE SAFETY, WELLBEING AND DIGNITY OF ALL CHILDREN,
YOUNG PEOPLE AND VULNERABLE ADULTS.**