



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.*

Dear sisters and brothers,

Second Sunday of Lent - 25 February 2024

In today's 1st Reading from the Book of Genesis, we hear the confounding and confronting story of Abraham being called on by God to sacrifice his only son, Isaac, who had been gifted to Abraham and Sarah by God in spite of Sarah's advanced age and barrenness. That God would now want Abraham to sacrifice this precious gift God had given him seems incomprehensible and prompts the question "What kind of God is this God who can seemingly be so cruel?"

In trying to make sense of this story, it might be helpful to recall the incident, omitted from today's Reading, in which Isaac, on the way with Abraham to make sacrifice to God, asks "where is the lamb for the burnt offering"? To this query Abraham replies "God will provide". In the end, of course, this is what happens as Isaac is spared through the intervention of an angel and a nearby ram is sacrificed. Perhaps the whole story is a dramatic way of making the point that, no matter how dire the circumstances in which we might find ourselves, God does not abandon us. We are urged to trust in God no matter what. Abraham is a model of this faith and trust to which we are all called.

I think this interpretation is reinforced when we consider today's Gospel story of Jesus' Transfiguration. It occurs in Mark's Gospel shortly after Peter has confessed his faith in Jesus as "the Christ" and then Jesus *began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again*. We know that Peter couldn't accept this, but shortly afterwards Peter is a witness to Jesus' Transfiguration, in which *a cloud came ... and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him'*.

Out of love for us, God does not spare his only Son, as he spared the son of Abraham. However, God does not abandon his Son, who is and remains "his beloved", for, even though he suffered grievously, was rejected and put to death, God raises him from the dead.

As we hear the story of Abraham and Isaac and as we recall the scene of Jesus' Transfiguration and the events leading up to it, we are encouraged to persevere. **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.**

Continued on page 4

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

5.00pm (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

After Hours Phone Number
0419 136 030

Email parish@sj-mc.org.au

Parish Website www.sj-mc.org.au

Carmelite Website

www.carmelites.org.au

Office Hours:

Tuesday - 9am - 4pm

Wednesday - 9am-4pm

Friday - 9am-12pm

(CLOSED MONDAYS & THURSDAYS)

Parish Priest

Fr Paul Cahill, OCarm

Parish Secretary

Cathy Garbellini

Pastoral Assistant

Kelly McEnhill

Business Finance Manager

Mark Zanon

Sacramental Co-Ordinator

Baptism - Vacant

First Reconciliation - Sally Diserio

First Eucharist - Aimee Nguyen

Confirmation - Sally Diserio

Safeguarding Officer

Frances Correa

Maintenance Manager

Dave Fletcher

Galilee Regional Catholic Primary School

Bank Street, South Melbourne 3205

Telephone 03 9699 2928

THIS WEEK

Monday 26 February

9.00am Mass, St Joseph's

Tuesday 27 February

9.00am Mass, Mt Carmel

Wednesday 28 February

9.00am Mass, St Joseph's

Thursday 29 February

9.00am Mass, Mt Carmel

Friday 1 March

9.00am Mass, St Joseph's

10.00am World Day of Prayer Ecumenical Service

Saturday 2 March

9.00am Mass, Mt Carmel - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

5.00pm Mass, Mt Carmel

Sunday 3 March

9.00am Mass, St Joseph's

10.30am Mass, Mt Carmel

WE REMEMBER

Those who are sick or ill and in need of prayer: Victor Acciarito, Patrick Achiam, Deepa Ariff, Lawrence Bassett, Grace Callaghan, Mary Hong Cao, Mary Tam Cao, Shawn Ceasar, Robert Chaminda, Mrs Chan, Josephine Clayton, Paul Cox, Daphnie Cramer, Grace Cumming, Mary Dalli, Michael De Nittis, Maureen Dickason, Leonie Dimes, Bernadette Falckh, Gigi Falk, Lyn Falk, Maria Fatima, Rebecca Fernando, Tony Fernandez, Father Des Fitzgerald CSSR, Jill Foster, John Fuller, Gus Gleason, Amelia Grace, Evelen Greach, Brendan Gurry, Michael Gurry, Maureen Gurry, George Grzyb, Nova Hack, Bernardine Hagan, Christine Hall, Shawn Handricks, Darren Harland, Chin Hsia, Portia Hendrick, Carol Higginson, Jason Ho, Marija Jelinic, Sr Martin Jones, Margaret Lopes, Les Lugowski, Christine Lyell, Maria Teresa Marques, Robert Masquiren, Ian McLachlan, Sharon Beverly Mendes, Marta Menjivar, Alba Middleton, Sam Neill, Maria Loc Nguyen, Dan Quickley, Helen Quickley, Rafal Rafakski, Daphnie Rasika, Shawn Raymond, Dennis Rohan, Jill Ridge, Michael Risteviski, Keith Ryder, Chris Silkok, Ailbe Sheehy, Sash Somerset Beauverie, Dorothea Spencer, Jim Sullivan, Danielle Szeto, Angela Trigar, Julieanne Wharton & Tami Yap.

Those who have died recently: Michael Gurry, Sotero San Pedro Jnr.

Those whose anniversaries of death occur about this time: Anita Heyma & Carmelites Paul Knüppel & James O'Sullivan.

IN OUR PARISH



Welcome to our Family

This Sunday, we welcome:

Lucas Anthony Seychell

as he receives the

Sacrament of Baptism at
Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

Please keep Lucas, his parents,
godparents & family in your prayers.

New QR code for Thanksgiving



Thanksgiving offerings can now be made using the new QR code. Enter the amount, your name, email address & optionally any comment.

Food Cupboard

The food cupboard is running low and we are seeking donations of the following items:

- Small jars of coffee
- Small packets of black tea
- Packets of 2 minute noodles
- Small jars of vegemite
- Small jars of honey
- Tinned ham
- Tinned frankfurts
- Small boxes of orange juice
- Sweet / chocolate biscuits
- Dry biscuits
- **Lite** Long Life Milk
- Weetbix, breakfast cereals, sackets of oats.

Please help if you can.

2/3 March 2024

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

5.00pm Mount Carmel (Vigil)

Commentator: Pat Mount

Reader: Des Collins

Offertory: Kevin Wilks

Communion: Kathy Mount

Music: Kelly McEnhill

9.00am St Joseph's

Commentator: Rob Lever

Reader: Brian Harrison

Offertory: Frances Correa

Communion: Cathy Garbellini

Counters: Brian Rochford & Jane Dee

Music: Frances Correa

10.30am Mount Carmel

Commentator: Sally Diserio

Reader: Kathleen Kiernan

Offertory: Jackie & John Tidey

Communion: Denis Churkovich

Music: Organist / Cantor

Hospitality: Peter Thomas

Communion to the Sick:

Denis Passalenti: 3 Mar - 9 Mar

THANK YOU

for your generosity last weekend

Parish Stewardship Offerings

Envelopes	\$ 260.00
Credit Card	\$ 425.00
Direct Credit	\$ 830.00
Loose Plate	\$ 1,047.65
Tap & Go	\$ 310.00
Total	\$ 2,872.65

BSB: 083-347

Account No: 58 216 8515

Name: Port Melb / Middle Park Parish

Parish Website: www.sj-mc.org.au

using **DONATE** button on

Homepage.

and grow in our faith and trust in God. Just as God proved faithful to Abraham and to Jesus for their faith and trust in him despite their terrible trials in life, so God will be faithful to us, his beloved sons and daughters, and we too will rise to glory in the risen Jesus.

.....

Sacramental Coordinator request.

We are still looking for someone who might assist with the preparation of parents presenting a child for **Baptism**. If you think you could assist in this regard, please let me know. Catch me after Mass to discuss or contact the Parish Office (Cathy@sj-mc.org.au or 9681 9600). Thanks for your consideration.

Parish Leadership & Exploration Group

We met last Tuesday night and, facilitated by two of our number, Ann Rochford and Sr Mary Brady, we reflected on Pope Francis' call for us to be a "synodal" Church. We acknowledged the challenge of what this might mean, in concrete terms, for our parish. We committed ourselves to ongoing reflection on how we might encourage and facilitate this development. Please keep us in your prayers.

World Day of Prayer

The World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical Christian laywomen's initiative. It is run under the motto "Informed Prayer and Prayerful Action," and is celebrated annually in over 170 countries on the first Friday in March. Our parish has participated in it for many years, along with other local Churches.

World Day of Prayer calls us to bear with each other in love, despite all difficulties and oppression. The service for 2024 was written by a group of ecumenical Christian Palestinian women in response to the passage from Ephesians 4:1-7. They reflected collectively on this theme from the context of their suffering as Palestinian Christian women. They hope to inspire other women around the world to bear with one another in love during troubled times.

It is important to note that the "Palestine" theme for this year's prayer is non-political. It was determined and the service was composed before the breakout of the terrible war of the last few months and with no inkling that it was imminent. It is important, too, that we do pray for all those afflicted by this war (and all wars), be they Palestinians or Israelis or Jews abroad who are suffering from a terrible outbreak of anti-semitism.

Please join us at St Joseph's this coming Friday morning, 1 March, at 10am for this important Prayer Service.

Blessings.



REFLECTION

From Temptation to Transfiguration 2

This Sunday's Gospel of the Transfiguration completes the 'little parable' formed by the Gospels of the first two Sundays of Lent.

These Gospels tell us what Lent is about and what Christian life is about: a constant journey from temptation and doubt to transfiguration and faith.

Transfiguration means to be 'shot-through' with the presence of God. Being transfigured is about allowing the presence of God to completely transform us. It is a revolution of mind and heart driven by God's Spirit and enabled by our open heartedness. Our life as Christians is about being transfigured by the Spirit of God so that God is seen in, and experienced through, us. That is what Peter, James and John saw in the transfigured Jesus.

The journey to transfiguration requires faith and perseverance. The story of Abraham in the first reading is a story of great faith and trust. Abraham faced the loss of his dearly loved son, the source of all his hope for the future. He trusted and his son was spared. That was a clear sign to Abraham that God is about bringing life, not death, to his people.

It takes faith and perseverance to dare to allow ourselves to be driven by the passion, hope and vision of God rather than our own desires and wants. Listening to the living word of the 'Beloved Son' forms in us the heart of God.

David Hofman, O.Carm. Celebrating at Home, Carmelite Communications, Melbourne



Port Melbourne/Middle Park Parish

Lent and Easter Timetable 2024

Feast of St Joseph Mass *incorporating* Lenten Reconciliation Service - Tuesday 19 March

9.00am: Mass at St Joseph's

Lenten Reconciliation Service - Wednesday 20 March

7.00pm: Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Palm/Passion Sunday - 23/24 March

5:00pm: Vigil Mass at Mount Carmel

9:00am: Mass at St Joseph's

10:30am: Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Holy Thursday - 28 March

There will be NO morning mass

7:00pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper at St Joseph's

Good Friday - 29 March

There will be NO morning mass

3:00pm: Friday of the Passion of the Lord – Both Churches

Holy Saturday - 30 March

There will be NO morning mass

8:00pm: Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel- *note time change*

Easter Sunday - 31 March

9:00am: Mass at St Joseph's

10:30am: Mass at Our Lady of Mount Carmel



Port Melbourne/Middle Park Parish

Sacramental Program for 2024

First Reconciliation

Enrolments close: Monday, 20 May 2024

Family Preparation Night: Wednesday, 29 May 2024 at 7pm at O'Connor-Pilkington Room, Our Lady of Mt Carmel, Cnr Wright & Richardson Sts, Middle Park.

Commitment Mass & Rehearsal: Sunday 30 June 2024 at 10:30am at Our Lady of Mt Carmel.

Sacrament: Wednesday 3 July 2024 at 7pm at Our Lady of Mt Carmel.

Confirmation

Enrolments close: Monday, 1 July 2024

Family Preparation Night: Thursday 11 July 2024 at 7pm at O'Connor-Pilkington Room, Our Lady of Mt Carmel, Cnr Wright & Richardson Sts, Middle Park.

Rehearsal: Thursday 8 August (evening time TBC) at Our Lady of Mt Carmel.

Sacrament: Sunday 11 August, at 2pm at Our Lady of Mt Carmel.

First Eucharist

Enrolments close: Monday 5 August, 2024

Family Preparation Night: Wednesday 14 August at 7pm at O'Connor-Pilkington Room, Our Lady of Mt Carmel, Cnr Wright & Richardson Sts, Middle Park.

Welcome Mass & Practice: Sunday 8 September at 10:30am at Our Lady of Mt Carmel.

Sacrament: Sunday 15 September at 10:30am at Our Lady of Mt Carmel.

Enrolment forms are available on the Home Page of the parish website: www.sj-mc.org.au

OUR LITURGY

10:30am Mass Only (Choir):

PLEASE NOTE, THE HYMNS FOR THE 10:30AM MASS WILL BE ON A SEPARATE SHEET AND THE MUSICAL PARTS OF THE MASS WILL BE AS PER THE NEWSLETTER.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: ASHES

VERSES 1 & 3

Tom Conry

1. We rise a-gain from ash-es, from the good we've failed to
2. We of-fer you our fail-ures, we ___ of-fer you at-
3. Then rise a-gain from ash-es, let ___ heal-ing come to
4. † Thanks be to the Fa-ther, who ___ made us like him-

1. do. We rise a-gain from ash-es, to cre-ate our-selves a-
2. tempts, the gifts not ful-ly giv-en, the ___ dreams not ful-ly
3. pain, though spring has turned to win-ter, and ___ sun-shine turned to
4. self. † Thanks be to his Son, ___ who saved us by his

1. new. If ___ all our world is ash-es, then ___ must our lives be
2. dreamt. Give our stum-bl-ings di-rec-tion, give our vi-sions wid-er
3. rain. The ___ rain we'll use for grow-ing, and cre-ate the world a-
4. death. † Thanks be to the Spir-it who cre-ates the world a-

1. true, an ___ of-fer-ing of ash-es, an of-fer-ing to you.
2. view, an ___ of-fer-ing of ash-es, an of-fer-ing to you.
3. new from an of-fer-ing of ash-es, an of-fer-ing to you.
4. new from an of-fer-ing of ash-es, an of-fer-ing to you.

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FIRST READING

Genesis 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18

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 bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham 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 your enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 116 – I WILL WALK BEFORE THE LORD IN THE LAND OF THE LIVING.

**Response: I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living.
I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living.**

I believed, even when I said,
“I am greatly afflicted”;
Precious in the eyes of the LORD
is the death of his faithful ones.

Response

O LORD, I am your servant,
I am your servant, the son of your handmaid.
You have loosed my bonds,
To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving.
I will call upon the name of the Lord.

Response

My vows to the Lord I will take,
In the presence of all His people.
In the courts of the house of the Lord,
In your midst O Jerusalem.

Response

SECOND READING

Romans 8:31-34

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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mass of Christ the Savior
Dan Schutte



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GOSPEL

Mark 9:2-10

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 from 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.




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 - HOSEA (COME BACK TO ME)


Gregory Norbet

VERSES




1. Come back to me with all your heart. Don't let
 1. Trees do bend, though straight and tall; So must
 2. The wil-der-ness will lead you to your
 2. In-teg-ri-ty and jus-tice with ten-der-
 3. You shall sleep se-cure with peace, faith-ful-

REFRAIN



1. fear keep us a-part
 1. we to oth-ers call
 2. heart where I will speak. Long have I wait-ed for your
 2. ness you shall know
 3. ness will be your joy



com-ing home to me and liv-ing deep-ly our new life.

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.**

HOLY

Mass of Christ the Savior
 Dan Schutte



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord God of hosts. Heav-en and
 earth are full, are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na! Ho -
 san - na! Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is
 he who comes, who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

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MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION



When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup,
 we pro-claim your Death, O Lord, un-til you come a -
 gain, un-til you come a - gain,

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 Music: Mass of Saint Ann, Ed Bonino, © 2011, World Library Publications, a division of GIA Publications, Inc.

LAMB OF GOD

Mass of Christ the Savior
Dan Schutte

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the
world, have mer-cy on us. world, grant us peace.

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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.**

COMMUNION HYMN - OPEN MY EYES

Jesse Manibusan

1. O - pen my eyes, Lord. Help me to see your face.
2. O - pen my ears, Lord. Help me to hear your voice.
3. O - pen my heart, Lord. Help me to love like you.
4. I live with-in you. Deep in your heart, O Love.

1. O - pen my eyes, Lord. Help me to see. _____
2. O - pen my ears, Lord. Help me to hear. _____
3. O - pen my heart, Lord. Help me to love. _____
4. I live with-in you. Rest now in me. _____

RECESSIONAL HYMN: BLEST BE THE LORD

**Refrain: Blest be the Lord, blest be the Lord
The God of mercy, the God who saves
I shall not fear, the dark of night
Nor the arrow that flies by day.**

He will release me from the nets of sinful men
He will protect me from their wicked hands
Beneath the shadow of His wings I will rejoice
To find a dwelling place secure. **Refrain**

I need not shrink before the terrors of the night
Nor stand alone before the light of day
No harm shall come to me, no arrow strike me down
No evil settle in my soul. **Refrain**

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NOTICEBOARD

TRANSPORTS of DELIGHT

Australian Chamber Choir, directed by Douglas Lawrence

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Sunday 3 March at 3PM**



As the ACC prepares for their eighth European concert tour, this program takes you on a virtual tour of cities where the singers have performed: Visit Henry Purcell in London, Anton Bruckner in Vienna, Allegri and Palestrina in Rome, César Franck and Olivier Messiaen in Paris, Beethoven in Bonn, Felix and Fanny Mendelssohn in Berlin, Brenton Broadstock in Melbourne and JS Bach in Leipzig.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel parishioners get a 10% discount off Regular ticket prices when booking online with the discount code OLOMC. Book at www.auschoir.org

World Day of Prayer 2024

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

International Day of Prayer for Palestine and Peace,
especially in the Middle East
The World Day of Prayer Ecumenical Service will be held on
Friday 1 March 2024 at 10.00am
at St Joseph's Catholic Church,
cnr Rouse & Stokes Streets, Port Melbourne.
You are warmly invited to attend.



PROJECT COMPASSION



Second Sunday of Lent
24 & 25 February



After the birth of her children, 22-year-old **Ronita** was at risk of having to leave school permanently. But, with the support of Caritas Australia's partners in the Philippines, she resumed her studies and secured a job at a call centre to support her family.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

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