

Nazareth Parish Bulletin

A vibrant community, journeying with Jesus.

Parish office: 9412 8444
grovedale@cam.org.au
www.tagparish.com.au



Nazareth Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Nazareth Parish acknowledges the Wadawurrung people who are the traditional custodians of this land and we pay respect to the Elders past and present and emerging.

Saturday 6pm

St Christopher's Church, Anglesea

Sunday 9am

St Therese Church, Torquay

Sunday 11am

Nazareth Church, Grovedale

Sunday 5pm

St Therese Church, Torquay

Tuesday 9.30am

St Christopher's Church, Anglesea

Rosary Wednesday 9am

St Therese Church, Torquay

Wednesday 9.30am

St Therese Church, Torquay

Thursday 9.30am

Nazareth Church, Grovedale

HOME VISITS

If there are any parishioners who are sick or housebound and would like to receive communion or a home visit please make contact with the parish office: 9412 8444

POPE'S MONTHLY INTENTIONS

For families in crisis

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.



Dear parishioners,

I hope your Lent has got off to a solid start. It's a time of year that I hate to love. After blissfully meandering through the fields of summer, you turn a corner, look up, and there is Ash Wednesday looming in the near distance. The year gains its momentum and before you know it's on you. I never quite feel ready for it, but it's not like you can push the date back!

I recall sitting down to a dinner a few years back and a priest friend - when he realised it was Lent and had to be content with a glass of water with his meal - blurted out, "Lent is so uncivilised!"

The demands of life and its stresses are a constant for most of us, so to have that small moment in the day when you relax and enjoy a mild indulgence is a nice reminder that it's not all that bad. Not being able to look forward to that glass of wine, piece of chocolate or Netflix show simply make the day seem longer. It is rather primitive and impoverished, but then again, that's the point! In doing so, we follow in the footsteps of Jesus. "For you know...our Lord Jesus Christ, though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that through His poverty you might become rich." (2 Cor 8:9) Sharing in a small way in the poverty and suffering of Christ, we can build up spiritual treasures for ourselves and others with God.

Penance is one powerful source of grace, but the sacraments and prayer are even greater. For this reason, I'm going to be providing more opportunities for this grace to be received in our parish by means of the holy mass and the sacrament of penance. Starting next week (Tuesday March the 11th) the additional mass times will be:

Tuesday 9:30am at St Christopher's Anglesea

Friday 9:30am at St Therese Catholic Church, Torquay

Opportunities for the sacrament of confession will now be available at the following times:

Saturday 10-11am at Nazareth Catholic Church, Grovedale

Saturday 5:30pm at St Christopher's, Anglesea

Sunday 4:30pm at St Therese Catholic Church, Torquay

Of course, you can tap me in the shoulder or arrange to have the sacrament of reconciliation any time, but this provides you with regular opportunities to simply turn up. I do hope that these gifts that Christ has bestowed upon His Church will be made good use of, during this holy season of Lent and beyond!

In Christ,
Fr Joel.

Unpacking Catholic Social Teaching – Week 7 - Principle 6: Economic Justice

Another Gospel from Luke this Sunday (Luke 4:1-13) describes Jesus' temptation in the wilderness, where He is tested by the devil through three temptations: turning stones into bread (economic self-sufficiency), worshipping Satan for power (political dominance), and testing God's protection (spiritual pride). Jesus resists each temptation, relying on Scripture and affirming His mission of trust in God rather than worldly power and wealth.

Catholic Social Teaching (CST) Principle 6, Economic Justice, emphasises the fair distribution of resources, the dignity of work, and the responsibility to ensure that economic systems serve the common good rather than exploit the poor.

In the first temptation, Satan urges Jesus to turn stones into bread, symbolising an economy focused solely on material gain. Jesus refuses, showing that economic justice should prioritise human dignity over mere profit.

The second temptation offers Jesus worldly kingdoms in exchange for worshipping Satan. Economic justice warns against systems that prioritise wealth and power over fairness and the well-being of all people.

The final temptation challenges Jesus to test God's provision. Economic justice calls for ethical economic structures that do not manipulate or test God's care for the vulnerable but instead work toward equity and the common good.

Overall, Luke's Gospel and Catholic Social Teaching of Economic Justice both challenge economic systems based on selfishness and exploitation, instead promoting fairness, human dignity, and trust in God's provision. The economy must serve people, not the other way around. All workers have a right to productive work, to decent and fair wages and to safe working conditions. They also have a fundamental right to organise and join unions. People have a right to economic initiative and private property, but these rights have limits. No one is allowed to amass excessive wealth when others lack the necessities of life.

Competition and free markets are useful elements of economic systems. However, markets must be kept within limits, because there are many needs and goods that cannot be satisfied by the market system. It is the task of the state and of all society to intervene and ensure that these needs are met.

Further References

The marketplace, by itself, cannot resolve every problem, however much we are asked to believe this dogma of neoliberal faith. [...] There is little appreciation of the fact that the alleged 'spillover' does not resolve the inequality that



gives rise to new forms of violence threatening the fabric of society. [...] What is needed is a model of social, political and economic participation that can include popular movements and invigorate local, national and international governing structures with that torrent of moral energy that springs from including the excluded in the building of a common destiny, while also ensuring that these experiences of solidarity which grow up from below, from the subsoil of the planet — can come together, be more coordinated, keep on meeting one another. [...] They help make possible an integral human development that goes beyond the idea of social policies being a policy for the poor, but never with the poor and never of the poor, much less part of a project that reunites peoples. (Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti, 168, 169)

What can I do that ensures we have a system that works for everyone and not just the few with wealth and power? ~

Parish Leadership Team

Anglesea Combined Churches Service

30th March 2025 @ 9.00am

On behalf of the Anglesea Association of Christian Churches, the Anglican Church of the Transfiguration is hosting the Catholic, Baptist and Uniting congregations at their Sunday service on 30th March at 9.00am. Please come along and share our common faith and belief. We look forward to seeing you at the Anglican church in Camp Road opposite the Anglesea Hotel.

THANK YOU

Thank you so much for your generous donations.

Already, we have given St Vincent de Paul's \$300 in

vouchers and 2 bags of toiletries. 14 bags of clothing have been taken to Vinnies and we have 2 bags of non perishable food to take to Torquay Food Aid.

This is an amazing response in such a short time.

Please continue to give.

Toiletries are very much needed. and the vouchers are great. Please make sure the clothes are clean and good quality, and the food is not out of date.

LENT IS A TIME TO GIVE. THANK YOU.



Why Lent?

In the early Church Lent originated as a time of repentance for those preparing for baptism. Having experienced the call to conversion, those seeking initiation into the Christian community resolved to turn away from sin and embrace a gospel life. They were baptized at the Easter Vigil.

Today, the six week period of Lent is a time of repentance and renewal for the whole Church. It is a time when we prayerfully take stock of our lives, turn away from all lifestyle habits that contradict the Gospel and renew our commitment to Christ and each other.



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

First Sunday of Lent 8th and 9th of March 2025

Project Compassion 2025 shares three stories from around the world. We'll meet **Toefuata'iga** - (*Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah*) from Samoa, **Lam** from Vietnam and **Irene** from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Each of this year's stories reflects diverse challenges, yet they are united by the shared determination to overcome adversity and create better futures for themselves and their communities.



Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Temptations

After his baptism Jesus was driven by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness where the devil put him to the test. Jesus was offered three shortcuts to his living in harmony with the will of his Heavenly Father.

First, when *he* was hungry there would be bread out of stones.

Second, when he wanted to change the world he could have absolute political power.

Third, when he needed to take risks, angels would keep him safe.

Our baptism does not insulate us from the same threefold pattern of temptation. Do you find yourself saying:

I want the whole world to change to satisfy me, *or*

I want to exercise power over others, *or*

I want to take stupid risks and come out unharmed, *or* all three!

What must we do when such temptations assail us?

Realise that such temptations are much less powerful than they seem – the last gasp of the vanquished devil. Imitate Jesus in going to the Scriptures, preferably the Gospels, in order to have the words to hurl back at the devil as you are tested.

We could pause to make a Lenten resolution to read a Gospel, and to do so confident of our Baptismal identity as beloved daughters and sons of God.

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First Reading: Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Responsorial Psalm:

Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

Second Reading:

Romans 10:8-13

Gospel Acclamation:

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: Luke 4:1-13

Click the link to be directed to the readings

DAILY READINGS

PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Recent deaths: *Gerard Fracis Pinnuck (Marie Emmitt's brother)*

Anniversaries who are at this time: *Bernard Keane, Keira Healy*

PRAYING FOR THE SICK IN OUR COMMUNITY

Our thoughts are with those who are unwell at this time.

Please submit a consent form to have a loved one prayed for.



Parish Priest

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Parish Presbytery

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For any urgent pastoral need outside of office hours please call the presbytery on 03 9412 8443

Office Hours

Our hours are:- **Tuesday - Friday, 9am - 3pm.**

Outside of these hours, please leave a message and one of the staff will contact you when they are next in the office.

Office is Closed on Public Holidays

Bulletin Notices

Please submit them by Thursday mornings.

Email: grovedale@cam.org.au

Postal: 43a Surfcoast Highway, Torquay Vic 3228