

DAMASCUS PARISH BULLETIN

1st March 2026
2nd Sunday of Lent

A vibrant community, journeying with Jesus

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

Damascus Parish acknowledges the Wadawurrung people as the traditional custodians of this land, and we pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

WEEKLY MASS TIMES

St Christopher's Church

Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass

Tuesday 9.30am Mass

St Therese Church

Sunday 9am Mass

Sunday 5pm Mass

Wednesday 9am Rosary

Wednesday 9.30am Mass

Friday 9am Rosary

9.30am Mass

followed by prayers of adoration

Nazareth Church

Sunday 11am Mass

Thursday 9.30am

CONFESSION

St Christophers Church

Saturday 5.30pm–6pm

Nazareth Church

Sunday 10.30am–11am

St Therese Church

Sunday 4.30 pm–5pm

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 LEO

For children with incurable diseases

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.



Dear Parishioners,

Most of you probably don't follow professional golf too closely, but you might have had it appear on your radar a couple of weeks back when Adelaide (which seems to want to become the new sporting capital of Australia) hosted a LIV Golf tournament at The Grange Golf Club. It was a huge event with over 115,000 spectators in attendance, a record for Australian golf.

LIV Golf was created in 2021, championed by Greg Norman, as a rival to the more well established and well-known US PGA Tour. Some liken it to Kerry Packer starting World Series Cricket in the late 70s, when he stuck it to the Australian Cricket Board and began his own competition, luring the best players in the world with big money and colour uniforms. Likewise, with the backing of Saudi oil money, LIV golf poached the likes of Dustin Johnson and Bryson DeChambeau from the PGA Tour on huge contracts. They also signed up a few misfits and colourful characters of the professional golfing world.

The event in Adelaide was one for the ages. Anthony Kim came from 5 shots back on the final day, shooting a 9 under 63 to take the win. It was a great victory, but the story behind it is far greater.

It was only a couple of years ago that Anthony Kim was in a rehab clinic for alcohol and drug addiction. His condition was so bad that he had to take a concoction of pills and get assistance from a nurse just so he could stand up straight. Before entering rehab, Kim said he contemplated taking his own life every day for 20 years. This was a man who had three victories on the PGA Tour before the age of 25. Then injury, addiction and depression took its hold. His return to professional golf was unbelievable and heroic in itself; his victory makes it genuinely one of the best sporting comeback stories ever.

Like most who manage to succeed in recovery, turning to God played a huge part. In finding God Anthony managed to find love. It enabled him to love himself and his family. From there he found purpose and meaning. From there he got sober put in the hard work to get himself back to winning, both in golf and in life.

That's pretty much the season of Lent in a nutshell.

God bless,

Fr Joel.

PARISH NEWS

Special Collection at St Therese Church in January

During January, Maureen Ryan and Michael Kearney from the Parish Finance Committee conducted a special collection and raffles at St Therese Church to raise funds for the resurfacing of the Church car park. It was well supported by parishioners and especially visitors to the Church in the holiday season. The amount raised was \$6,127 which is an excellent result. Now the Finance Committee is investigating the most effective cost efficient way to resurface the car park. I would like to thank Maureen and Michael for their enthusiastic work on the project. Paul Daffey



World Day of Prayer

World Day of Prayer is an annual international Christian observance when people around the world unite in prayer and action. Each year, the service focuses on a different country; in 2026, the focus country is Nigeria. A special collection will be taken up to support the women of Nigeria. This year's local service will be held at **Torquay Uniting Church**, 27 Anderson Street, Torquay, on **Friday 6th March 2026 at 1.00 pm**. All are warmly invited to attend.

During this time of Lent, we are reminded to fast, pray and do good works. Fasting, prayer and good works are important to all our faith traditions. And this year is very unusual in that Ramadan and Lent began on the same day. Pope Francis was a great believer in interfaith dialogue and in the Synthesis Report of the Synod it is written, "The church teaches the need for and encourages the practice of interreligious dialogue as part of building communion among all peoples. In a world of violence and fragmentation, a witness is ever more urgent to the unity of humanity, its common origin and common destiny, in a coordinated and reciprocal solidarity towards social justice, peace, reconciliation and care for our common home. The Church is aware that the Spirit can speak through women and men of every religion, belief and culture."

Part-Time Bookkeeper / Finance Officer - Nazareth Parish

Nazareth Parish is seeking a part-time Bookkeeper/Finance Officer (10-12 hours per week) to manage day-to-day parish finances, including accounts, invoicing and reporting. Experience with Xero and Excel is essential, along with strong attention to detail and a commitment to supporting the Parish community. A Working with Children Check and Police Check are required. To apply, please send your resume and cover letter to Tracy at grovedale@cam.org.au or contact the parish office on 9412 8444 for more information.

Second Sunday of Lent
28 Feb - 1 Mar 2026



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

Sisilia is a 13-year-old girl living in remote Tanzania, who had to walk long distances to collect water every day. Thanks to Project Compassion, Sisilia's school and village now have safe clean water close by and she can spend more time studying so she can fulfil her dream of one day becoming a pilot.

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent*.



**UNITE
AGAINST
POVERTY**
this Lent

First Reading:

Genesis 12:1-4

Responsorial

Psalm:

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Second Reading:

2 Timothy 1:8-10

Gospel Acclamation:

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard; this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9



Daily Readings

PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY

Recent deaths:

Anniversaries who are at this time:

PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO ARE 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 Presbytery

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.

Bulletin Notices

Please submit them by Thursday mornings.

Sign up to receive the weekly bulletin via email by visiting our website tagparish.com.au