

WELCOME BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY OF FAITH

Continuation from front page.

So, dear Christian couples, this St Valentine's day, set your sights high! Do not be limited to the reductionist view of marriage that the culture puts forward but lean in to a bigger, grander vision. Tap into the aspirations of your youth and to which God invites us to pursue with diligence and persistence.

Questions for Couples on St Valentine's Day

1. When did I feel most loved by you over the past week? Explain.
2. Am I willing to let God be part of our marriage? To base our marriage on God's values and vision rather than the worlds' values? Why or why not?
3. What am I willing to sacrifice in order to prioritise our marriage becoming more attuned to God's vision and values?

Smart loving.org

In only recent times Pope Francis has asked that the "Baptism of the Holy Spirit" be shared with the entire Catholic world. So, the Archbishop is proposing that this Lenten Program become not so much a "program" but a fresh experience of the Holy Spirit in our lives. **"... we will open our hearts like never before to the release of the Holy Spirit deep within our lives. As people of faith we are all beginners. No one can say that they have advanced so much in their Spiritual life that they cannot open their lives afresh to the Holy Spirit."**

– Archbishop Christopher Prowse, Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

Six sessions, six different presenters and available online but we are inviting you to come and join in with others from the parish. **One groups in our parish:**

Thursday-, 7.30pm - 9.00pm, 18 February to 25 March 2021

Location: Parish meeting room, Lowe St. Sign-up sheet on events table or call Selina Stanford on 0438664110 to join a group.

REGISTER and find out more at <http://walkinthespirit.org.au/>



The Year of St Joseph

A creatively courageous father, example of love

Patris corde highlights "the creative courage" of St. Joseph, which "emerges especially in the way we deal with difficulties." "The carpenter of Nazareth," explains the Pope, was able to turn a problem into a possibility by trusting in divine providence." He had to deal with "the concrete problems" his family faced, problems faced by other families in the world, and especially those of migrants. In this sense, St. Joseph is "the special patron of all those forced to leave their native lands because of war, hatred, persecution and poverty." As the guardian of Jesus and Mary, Joseph cannot "be other than the guardian of the Church," of her motherhood, and of the Body of Christ. "Consequently, every poor, needy, suffering or dying person, every stranger, every prisoner, every infirm person is 'the child' whom Joseph continues to protect." From St Joseph, writes Pope Francis, "we must learn... to love the Church and the poor" (5).

Read more: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-12/pope-francis-proclaims-year-of-st-joseph.html>



Please pray for our sick in the parish: Fr Francis Carroll (former Archbishop of Canberra/ Goulburn) Richard Picker, Tony Sealey, Gary Grady, Teresa Kozinski, Mary Skidmore, Hayden Paterson, Mary Ian McAdam, Vincent Spiteri, Mary Michael (Sr Clare's mother), Jack Sealey, Regina Paredes, John Church, Trishy Mary Rankin, Juliet and Rommel Estabillo, Rosario B Surmiolda, Emmanuel Corpuz, Carmelo Bautista, Elisabeth Smyth, John Warner, Gywen McIntyre, Florence Howell, Anthony McGlynn, Helen Fraser, Norma V Wilcock.

May they rest in peace: Kathleen Wilson, Antonio Pedro, Emily Ruth Thomas (baby), Carmel Yeo, James Leahy, James Cartier, Saverio Barbaro, Ivanka Kozic, John (Tony) Fisher, Eva Kreuscher, Peter Mowlan, Socorro Mendoza (Phillipines), Maree Spillane, Richard De Britt.

Anniversaries : Cheryl Spiteri (3 yr) Katy and George Milller, Steven Miller, Claire Blewitt, Ken Ahern, Rino Genero, Antonio Guglielmin (2 month) Michael & Anna Paternoster



SAINT GREGORY'S FAITH COMMUNITY QUEANBEYAN

St Raphael's Church Lowe Street Queanbeyan
St Gregory's Church Molonglo Street Queanbeyan

St Patrick's Church
MICHELAGO

We acknowledge the original owners and custodians of this land and pay respects to the elders past and present and all deceased members of the Ngunnawal people.



PARISH TEAM
Fr Troy Bobbin PP
Deacon Don Nguyen

OFFICE TEAM
Queanbeyan: Lorraine Lasker
Rita Pelle

ST GREGORY'S SCHOOL
Principal – Mrs Claire Bermingham
6297 2221



PARISH OFFICE HOURS
9am-3.30pm Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
Closed Monday and Wednesday

PARISH CONTACT DETAILS
Address: 47 Lowe St, Queanbeyan
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troy.bobbin@cg.org.au
queanbeyan.sacramental@cg.org.au

Web: www.stgregsqueanbeyan.com
Facebook: St Gregory's Parish Queanbeyan

VISION: Our Parish is a vibrant community inviting everyone to encounter Christ.

MISSION: Our mission is to go and make disciples, to be a servant to each other and to be a people who reach out to those in need.

- We are guided by the LIFE of Jesus,
- Sustained by the LOVE of God,
- And inspired by the LIGHT of the Holy Spirit.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

13 & 14 February 2021

Something worth dying for – Saint Valentine's Day

On February 14 every year, couples around the world celebrate one of the heroes of Catholic history.

As the story goes, Valentine was a Roman priest who married young couples in secret despite the decree of Emperor Claudius II forbidding all weddings. The emperor did this to more readily recruit young, unattached men into his armies. Valentine was discovered, arrested and eventually executed. St Valentine didn't officiate secret weddings simply out of compassion for local, love-struck couples. He did it because Catholic marriage is about a whole lot more than just two people committing to live together and maybe raise a few kids.

Catholic marriage has a purpose beyond the fulfilment of the two spouses.

It is a call to honour God by living in service to each other, helping each other, and our children, to grow closer to God and to our destiny to be with Christ, our eternal bridegroom, for eternity. It is also a Sacrament – a living witness of God's presence in the world. As such, it has a number of characteristics that define it. Encapsulated in the marriage rite, these characteristics include permanency, sexual intimacy, sexual exclusivity, unconditional sharing, openness to children and a willingness to raise any children in the Catholic faith.

That makes it something quite different to the secular understanding of marriage which sees marriage more about the personal happiness of each spouse. In the secular model, marriage doesn't need to be permanent. Nor does it need to involve children let alone raising them Catholic. The popularity of pre-nuptial agreements indicates a choice for limited and conditional sharing rather than unconditional sharing. And sexual infidelity is frequently indulged, often by mutual agreement in so called 'monogamish' or 'open' marriages. It's hard to imagine anyone giving their life to defend such an impoverished concept of marriage as defined by our present secular culture. But St Valentine didn't die for this idea of marriage. He died defending a much grander idea; the idea that the freely-given, total, faithful and fruitful love of a man and woman in marriage could point us to God. The idea that this kind of relationship revealed the inner life of the creator of the universe.

Continued on back page



Sunday 14 Feb 2021

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time B

Entrance Antiphon

Be my protector, O God,
a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

First Reading Lv 13:1-2. 44-46

A reading from the book of Leviticus
As long as he is unclean, he must live alone, outside the camp.
The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, ‘If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man’s skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.
‘The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, “Unclean, unclean”. As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.’

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

C: Happy the man whose offence is forgiven whose sin is remitted. O happy the man to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, in whose spirit is no guile. (R.)

L: But now I have acknowledged my sins; my guilt I did not hide. I said: ‘I will confess my offence to the Lord.’ And you, Lord, have forgiven the guilt of my sin. (R.)

ALL. Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord, exult, you just! O come, ring out your joy, all you upright of heart. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 10:31 – 11:1
A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.
Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone – to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved.
Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
A great prophet has appeared among us;
God has visited his people.
Alleluia!

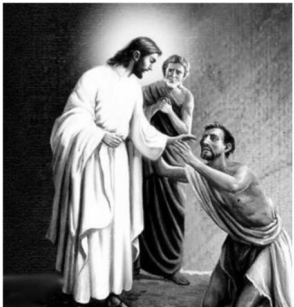
Gospel Mk 1:40-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
The leprosy left him and he was cured.
A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: ‘If you want to’ he said ‘you can cure me.’ Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. ‘Of course I want to!’ he said. ‘Be cured!’ And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, ‘Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.’ The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

Communion Antiphon

They ate and had their fill,
and what they craved the Lord gave them;
they were not disappointed in what they craved.

© liturgy help



WEEKEND MASSES IN THE PARISH

St Raphael’s Queanbeyan
Saturday 5.30pm
Sunday 9am
Sunday 5.30pm mass

Michelago 6pm
2nd Saturday of month only

WEEKDAY MASSES IN THE PARISH
St Raphael’s Queanbeyan
Mondayno mass
Tuesday5.30 pm
Wednesday12 noon
Thursday.....7 am
Friday..... 12 noon

George Forbes House TBC
1st Wednesday...10.00am
Warrigal (Kawaree) TBC
2nd Wednesday.....11.00am
Qbyn Nursing Home TBC
4th Wednesday 11.00am

Exposition & Adoration
St Raphael’s
Fridays.....11:00-11:55am

Reconciliation
St Raphael’s—by appointment

Baptisms
St Raphael’s Church only
3rd & 4th Sundays .10:30am

Baptism Presentations
TBC

Marriages By appointment

Cancer Support Group
1st Wednesday.....12.30pm
Ph: 0419694796 Louise for inquiries.

Gluten Free Consecrated Hosts are available at all masses at St Raphael’s. Please notify the priest of your requirements before Mass.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Little Sparks children’s liturgy
each weekend during the 9am Sunday Mass
Resumes this Sunday 14 February 2021

Monday Friendship Group
A social gathering for men and women.
Lowe St Meeting Room. 10-12noon.

Wednesday Prayer Group
Has resumed 1.30 pm—3pm Parish meeting room

Saturday evening 5.30 pm mass will be live streamed via our parish facebook page.

Please join us for conversation, friendship & refreshments after Saturday vigil mass, from 6.30-7.00 . This will be an ongoing event.

ASH WEDNESDAY is next Wednesday 17th February

Masses are: Middy Mass and 6pm - St Raphael’s

Liturgy of the word - School 9.30 & 10.15am at St Raphael’s
Everyone is welcome

IMPORTANT NOTICE -
In regards to parking in the school playground/ church car park, due to school concerns about cars being parked in the school playground area. Unfortunately for the Wednesday & Friday Middy masses cars are prohibited in the school area. All cars are to be parked elsewhere. This does not apply to the Tuesday 5.30pm and Thursday 7am Masses. Parking for funeral services will still be allowed. We apologise for the inconvenience but we have to adhere to the code of shared areas with the school.

LOVE THY NEIGHBOUR. It is great that you are back with us, however, I know there are still many of our parishioners who have not rejoined us for mass. If you know someone who used to come to mass but have not returned and they live near you, please take a weekend pack to them, by either leaving it at their door or even knocking at their door and saying hi. Packs are available at the events table in the middle of the church.

Sacrament of First Reconciliation—Year 3 students. Parents are reminded to register their child for this sacrament.

Forms are due in before the 19 February.

Visit <https://www.stgregsqueanbeyan.com/first-reconciliation>

To download the forms.

Date for your Diary
Next Women’s Breakfast will be Saturday 6th March. Venue to be confirmed soon.

Keeping connected:

The parish would like to keep in contact with parishioners via email. If you have not previously provided your details to the parish office could you please email them to queanbeyan@cg.org.au and provide us with your Name, Mobile number, Email address or fill in the small slip on provided on the events table. Thank you.

MEN ALIVE WEEKEND

27th—28th March 2021
Collins Wing, St Benedicts Parish Narrabundah ACT Please register before the 12 March 2021. Forms are available at the events table.

People who have previously ordered Holy water fonts these are now available at the gift shop.

We are in the preparation stages of producing a St Gregory’s Parish history (coffee table book). We are looking for someone who has qualifications/ experience in designing, editing, text, photography. Is this something that you can help us with or if you know of someone who is willing to donate their time to get this going. Also very importantly we need help from our parishioners, we would like to hear of any stories, information, photos of our wonderful parish of St Gregory’s. If you need any further information please speak with Fr Troy.