

Third Sunday of Lent

Year C

Sunday, 23rd March 2025

Entrance Antiphon Cf Psalm 24:15-16

My eyes are always on the Lord,
for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.

First Reading Exodus 3:1-8. 13-15

A reading from the book of Exodus

This is what you must say to the children of Israel: I Am has sent me to you.

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.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm Ps 102:1-4. 6-8. 11. R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings. (R.)
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)
3. The Lord does deeds of justice,
gives judgement for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses
and his deeds to Israel's sons. (R.)

4. The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

All this that happened to the people of Moses in the desert was written for our benefit.

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.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 4:17

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Repent, says the Lord;

the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel Luke 13:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.

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."'

The Gospel of the Lord

St. Joseph's, Wonthaggi & Our Lady Star of the Sea, Inverloch

St Joseph's, Wonthaggi
27-29 Dowling Street
WONTHAGGI VIC 3995

St Joseph's School Principal:
Joanne Coldebella
56 721 052

Parish Priest: Fr Darren Howie 56 722 923
Parish Secretary: Ann Hemming
Parish Safeguard Officer: Kaye Carew
PO Box 70 Wonthaggi 3995
Telephone: 03 56 721 111
Email: wonthaggi@cdsale.org.au
Hours: Wednesday & Friday 8.30am –4.30pm
After Hours Emergency Phone
03 56 722 923

Our Lady Star of the Sea, Inverloch
Scarborough Street
INVERLOCH VIC 3996

Mary MacKillop College Principal:
John Freeman
56 624 255

WEEKEND MASSES

Wonthaggi

Saturday 6.30pm
Sunday 10.30am

Inverloch

Sunday 9.00am

Weekday Mass or Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion Times

Inverloch

Tuesday	Mass	11.00am
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Wonthaggi

Wednesday	Mass	9.30am
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Friday	Mass followed by The Stations of the Cross	9.30am
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PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Dennis Osbaldeston

Anniversaries: Fr Joseph Tran

For the deceased clergy of the Diocese of sale.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. "May they rest in peace."

We pray for the sick, lonely and those suffering from illness and pain. May God's merciful love shine on them.

PARISH ROSTERS

WONTHAGGI:

29th Mar

30th Mar

Welcomer:	A Tschiderer	P Morrissey
Reader:	A Tschiderer	P Morrissey
Sacristan:	K Carew	C Gow
Special Minister:	D Gardner	M O'Callaghan
Offertory:	K Daly	C Canter
	T Roos	C Ribet

INVERLOCH:

30th Mar

Reader:	M Reddie
Special Minister:	N Van Grunsven

OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

St Joseph's Parish:

Presbytery (1st Collection)	\$1,194.35
Planned Giving envelope (2nd Collection):	\$ 816.00
<i>(planned giving pledge per week \$1,968)</i>	
Loose cash (2nd offering)	\$489.60

Thank you for your contributions, they are greatly appreciated.

RECONCILIATION TIMES

Wonthaggi: Before 6.30pm Mass on Saturday and upon request

Inverloch: Sun before 9.00am mass

We are a child safe parish. Any children, young persons and adults at risk have a right to feel safe and be safe. If you are concerned about any form of abuse, or believe that someone is at significant risk, you should immediately raise your concerns with the Parish Child Safety Officer. The officer can be contacted through the Parish Office. 03 56 721 111

Newcomers or Update Details

Welcome and thanks for worshipping with us at St Joseph's Wonthaggi and Our Lady Star of the Sea Inverloch.

If you are new to the Parish or have changed your details or need Thanksgiving Envelopes, please complete your details and drop the form on a Collection plate or drop off to the Parish Office.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

New Parishioner Change of Address or Phone #

Thanksgiving: Envelopes or Electronically

The Jubilee Prayer



Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both humanity
and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen



Third Sunday of Lent
22nd and 23rd of March 2025

Lam is 27 years old from a small village in rural Vietnam who faced significant challenges due to his short stature. Through the I-SHINE program Lam completed a six-month course developing his graphic design skills. He now runs a successful freelance graphic design business from home, serving clients worldwide and earning a steady income.



Photo credit: Caritas Australia

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 024 413 413.

Parish/Diocese News

Before and after Mass please be respectful of the presence of Our Lord Jesus in the tabernacle and of your fellow parishioners who wish to reflect and pray in silence.

Liturgy Group Meeting will be held on Tuesday 25th March at 4.15pm

Lenten Prayer Group will be held at Wonthaggi Church on Mondays at 1.15pm. All Welcome

Our Lady Star of the Sea—Inverloch

Cuppa after Mass will be held after mass on the First Sunday of the Month

St Joseph's Wonthaggi

Cuppa after Mass will be held on the first Saturday and Sunday of the Month

Prayer for the return of the non-practising Catholics.

O Good Shepherd, you never cease to seek out the lost, to call home the stray, to comfort the frightened, and to bind up the wounded.

I ask you to bring the non-practising Catholics back to the practice of the Faith, and to remove all obstacles that prevent them from receiving your abundant mercy, which flows sacramentally through the heart of your holy Church.

Through the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God, their Guardian Angels, their Patron Saints and the ever-prayerful St. Monica, may you pardon their sins and unshackle them from whatever hinders their freedom to come Home.

For you, O Good Shepherd, have loved us to the end and offered yourself to the Father for the salvation of all.

Amen



CHRISM MASS

Join Bishop Greg Bennet and the
Clergy of our Diocese
at St Mary's Cathedral, Sale
on Tuesday, 15th April 2025
at 11.00 am.



YOU ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS CELEBRATION

Fr Darren's Homily from Second Sunday of Lent

In the first reading we heard how God made a promise to Abraham that his descendants would be numerous, that promise was fulfilled. Abraham didn't know how that would be fulfilled he had to trust in God. Abraham is our father in faith, that means he shows us the importance of trusting in God.

There are number of analogies we can use to show how faith works, how it helps us. Think of a maze, if you are in a maze made up of hedges all you can see either side of you is the green hedge. If you were dropped blindfolded into the middle of the maze you wouldn't know which way to go. To find your way would be a matter of trial and error, hoping all the time you can remember the false turns you had made. If someone is looking from above they can see the way out. God sees the big picture. Faith tells us that following the commandments of Jesus is the way to live our lives. In a way sin, not following God's teachings is like somebody trying to shortcut which makes the trip longer, or even worse takes them a long a dangerous path in which there is either no way out, or it is very difficult to get out.

Have you ever met someone who has no sense of direction, who actually ignores instructions which they have been given because a road looks good to them? Trust me they exist. Faith tells us that times we need to ignore our feelings.

Believe it or not pilots are trained to ignore their feelings about what is up and down when they are flowing through clouds or at night. A good pilot knows what to do if their feelings tell them when they are surrounded by clouds or are in pitch darkness to point the plane downwards and their instruments tell them that they are flying straight and level. They know that they have to trust their instruments, and not their feelings. John F Kennedy Jnr trusted his feelings and crashed into the ocean.

Our feelings can overwhelm us and confuse at times say for example when we are angry, or we are really attracted to something or someone. That is where our Faith can save us from taking the wrong path. Ironically people have been given bad directions by their GPS, been taken by narrow and rough mountain roads instead of taken along the freeway.

God wants to lead us by the best path possible for us. Faith not only tells us that God will show us the way, it also reassures us that if we pray and make use of the means God gives us that we will be able to travel the path God wants us to take.

This Sunday we celebrate the Transfiguration of Jesus. This was to prepare his disciples for the shock of the Cross, this was to encourage them to have confidence and hope.

We need to have the same amount of confidence in God as Captain Eric Moody the Pilot of a British Airways Boeing 747 had in his Rolls Royce Engines. The engines ingested huge amounts of volcan ash in what has gone down in aviation history as the Jakarta incident

"Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. This is your captain speaking. We have a small problem. All four engines have stopped. We are all doing our damndest to get them going again. I trust you are not in too much distress."

Eventually, after quarter of an hour without any power, the engines were brought back to life. Ash had clogged the engines, which only restarted when enough of the molten ash solidified and broke off.

"We glided from 37,000ft to 12,000ft before we got [the engines] going again," recalls Capt. Moody.

Later he is reported as saying he had the greatest of confidence, after all the engines were Rolls Royce engines.