

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A

FIRST READING – Samuel 16: 1, 6-7,10-13

A reading from the first book of Samuel.

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

■ The word of the Lord

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps. 22.R.v.1

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **R.**

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **R.**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **R.**

SECOND READING – Ephesians 5: 8-14

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.

■ The word of the Lord

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL – John 9: 1-41

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi who sinned, this man or his parents, for him to have been born blind?' 'Neither he nor his parents sinned,' Jesus answered 'he was born blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him.

'As long as the day lasts
I must carry out the work of the one who sent me;
The night will soon be here when no one can work.
As long as I am in the world
I am the light of the world.'

Having said this, he spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' So they said to him, 'Then how do your eyes come to be open?' 'The man called Jesus' he answered 'made a paste, daubed my eyes with it and said to me, "Go and wash at Siloam"; so I went, and when I washed I could see.' They asked, 'Where is he?' 'I don't know' he answered.

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes

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ST. KEVIN'S PARISH HAMPTON PARK

THE FOURTH SUNDAY
OF LENT
(Year A)



21st & 22nd March 2020

PARISH CENTRE
120 Hallam Road,
Hampton Park, Vic. 3976
Tel: 9799 2108
Email: HamptonPark@cam.org.au

OFFICE HOURS
Monday to Friday (9.30am – 4:00pm)

PARISH PRIEST : Rev. Fr. Desmond Moloney
ASSISTANT PRIEST : Rev. Fr. Dong Tran
DEACON : Rev. Dr. Graeme Pender
PARISH SECRETARIES: Mrs. Michelle Rimmelzwaan
Mrs. Indrani Guinan
SCHOOL PRINCIPALS
ST. KEVIN'S : Jason Micallef – 9709 8600
ST. FRANCIS DE SALES : Christine White – 8773 6700

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Vigil Masses:

St. Francis de Sales: 5:30pm

St. Kevin's Church: 7:00pm

Sunday: 9:00am, 11:00am & 7:00pm

Healing Mass is on the 4th Sunday of the Month at 7:00pm

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday : 9:15am

Tuesday : 9:15am

Wednesday : 7:00pm (followed by Novena to
Our Lady of Perpetual Help)

Thursday : 9:15am

Friday : 9:15am

First Fridays : An extra Mass at 7:30pm followed by
devotions to the Sacred Heart.

RECONCILIATION

On Saturday mornings after Mass till 10:30am

BAPTISMS

Celebrated on the first and last Sunday of the month.
Prior to the Baptism, parents are asked to attend a
meeting which is held every first Thursday of the
month at 7:15 pm in the Church and must bring a copy
of their **own baptism certificate**.

WEDDINGS

Please give at least 6 months notification prior to a
wedding at our Church. If an annulment is involved,
we will require at least a year's notice for the
annulment process to take place.

NOTICE TO PARISHIONERS

In light of COVID-19, the Catholic Bishops of Victoria have recently released a new letter. Upon prayerful and considered reflection, there will be an immediate suspension of public liturgies, celebrations of the Mass, until further notice. Therefore, effective from the 19th of March 2020, there will be no public Masses celebrated, until further notice. Please see letter for more information.

What is a spiritual communion and how do I make one?

Catholics have long been encouraged to partake in the practice of making a "spiritual communion" if they are unable to receive the Eucharist for a particular reason (for instance - being homebound). Simply put, it is coming before God in prayer – expressing our deep desire to be united to Him despite the fact that we are unable to be united to Him in receiving Eucharist. This spiritual communion can be made in various ways. One common way of doing so involves spending a dedicated time of prayer and reflection on the Mass readings. The daily Mass readings can be viewed online (<https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Daily-Readings>).

Another popular way is reciting the prayer written by St. Alphonsus Liguori below.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

St Kevin's Friendship Group

It is with much regret, we, the committee of St Kevin's Friendship Group has taken steps to cancel Fellowship planned for Thursday 26th March 2020 (after the 9.15 am Mass) due to the Coronavirus Pandemic. We apologise to all our Members for the inconvenience that this may cause them and look forward to meeting and greeting them in April and hope the crisis has been contained by then.

**ROSTERS FOR NEXT
WEEKEND**

28th & 29th March 2020

**EXTRA ORDINARY
MINISTERS**

5.30pm Saturday

Sherin F, Rozeta A,
Annabelle V, Indira P

7.00pm Saturday

Benita P, Christobelle G,
Helen S, Sunita

9.00am Sunday

Chloe H, Aloysius W,
Noreen B, Selina L

11.00am Sunday

Isabella G, Pam G, Mitchell T
Anita F

7.00pm Sunday

Gerard B, Danielle D, Gilda B

READERS

5.30pm Saturday

Candice V, Marlene M,
Tessy N

7.00pm Saturday

Indra D, Michael V, Judy W

9.00am Sunday

Patricia C, Michael P, Fay D

11.00am Sunday

Kimberley V, Liz S, Mary D

7.00pm Sunday

Lleyton M, Rohan P,
Vanessa I

CHURCH CLEANERS

Team 1 – Vasanthi Cooray,
Ashley Franklin, Cindy
Dubier, Antonio Magasinag

COUNTERS

Team 4 – Yves Lebrasse,
Ben & Jocelyn Rosemond,
Judith D'Silva,
Marius Giosserano



LAST WEEKEND COLLECTIONS

Envelopes : \$2250.20

Unpledged : \$1249.05

Presbytery : \$1955.00

Direct debits are welcome

PROJECT COMPASSION 2020

Thirty-two-year-old Sakun lives in a village in central-east India. She developed polio as a child and has difficulty walking. Until now Sakun, an indigenous Gond woman, has been isolated in her community, unable to earn a livelihood and without knowledge of government schemes that could help her. Sakun lives with her sister in a rural area of Chhattisgarh, India's poorest state. Home to 26 million people, with 10 million living in poverty.



Life is hard in this region, and even harder for the state's indigenous people. Sakun belongs to the Gond tribal community which is amongst India's officially designated Scheduled Castes and Tribes. Historically disadvantaged, they suffer higher poverty rates than other parts of India. In 2018, Sakun joined a Caritas Australia-funded program which is implemented by Caritas India and its local partner, Samarthan. Through their strategic guidance and support, Sakun learned new skills and gained important mobility. Sakun now earns her own income and makes a small profit which goes towards her family's basic needs. She is more resilient, more confident and more independent. With your help, Caritas Australia can help uplift vulnerable communities and support the right of indigenous peoples around the world. A brighter future for women, men and their families can start today. Let's Go Further, Together.

A Prayer to St Joseph, the Great Protector

St Joseph,



You were receptive to God working in your life.

Help us by your prayers at this time of trial.

*You kept Jesus and Mary under your watchful care:
may your prayers assist our local Church to respond to those
in need.*

*You taught the Christ Child your trade and prayers:
help us to follow his example of love.*

*You were part of God's plan for all humanity:
assist us to be vigilant and responsible this day.*

You spent your life in service:

*may we be mindful of others, particularly the elderly and vulnerable, caring for
them in these difficult days.*

*You trusted in the clear primacy of God over all history and every situation: help us
to grow in faith and pray to the Father, Thy will be done. Amen.*

St. Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne

Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne is available daily. The 1 pm Mass is streamed live daily (Mon-Fri) and is then available as a recording on-demand until one hour prior to the next Mass. Sunday Mass is available with the 11 am Mass live streamed and it is also available as a recording on-demand.

<https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass>

Pope Francis' daily Mass

Pope Francis' daily Masses are now available online through the Vatican's website and YouTube channel. They are expected to continue to be available throughout the upcoming weeks. <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope-francis/mass-casa-santa-marta.pagelist.html>

Mass for You at Home

Mass for You at Home is broadcast on Eleven and Network Ten on Sundays and Aurora Channel on Foxtel every day. <http://www.mfyah.com/video.html> or <https://10play.com.au/mass-for-you-at-home>

THIS SUNDAY WE PRAY

In Thanksgiving:

Josselyne Rosemond
Rozeta Ambrose
Natalia Ramanan
Elena Saldanha
Cyril & Mary Saldanha

For the sick:

Jean White (3)

For those who have died recently:

Marjorie Balsing
Kathleen Turnbull

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

S. F. George
Francis Genevieve
Cyril Rozario
Florin Mary Vegas
Augusto Boavida
Oscar Araujo
Joseph Rogers
Oscar Western
Zita Rogers
Hyacinth Western
Maria D'Costa
Pamela Gonsalvez

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

Privacy legislation requires the **written permission of an authorized person** before any name can be printed. Any list of the sick in the parish bulletin will undergo renewal according to a four week cycle. After four weeks a person's name on the sick list will be removed. However, once again, on the basis of written permission of an authorized person the name can be re-added to the list.

Let's reflect...

"Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance but the Lord looks into the heart." (1Samuel 16:7)

How often do we invest our time, talent, and treasure in creating an appearance that does not matter at all to God? We strive to impress with our clothing, home, career, possessions, car, and other marks of distinction. But none of these illusions of greatness will impress God. Instead, He will look into our hearts to see how much we loved Him, how much we loved others and how we showed that love by the way we used our time, talent, and treasure here on earth.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL VACANCY - Call for Expressions of Interest:

One of the positions on the PPC is that of Minute Secretary. Jackie, who has fulfilled this role for the last 2 years, has stepped down from the role and so we have a vacancy. The role of the Minute Secretary is to take the minutes at the monthly meeting, type and distribute them to the Council members after review by the Chairperson. Towards the end of each month, the Minute Secretary assists with the preparation of the Agenda and calls for Cluster/Community Rep reports before distributing them to the members in the week prior to the monthly meeting. If you or someone you know has the skill and would like to do this role, please contact Fr Des or Denise Lyons - Chairperson, PPC (0420 200 266).

Denise Lyons

(Gospel continued)

and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

However, the Jews would not believe that the man had been blind and had gained his sight, without first sending for his parents and asking them, 'Is this man really your son who you say was born blind? If so how is it that he is now able to see?' His parents answered, 'We know he is our son and we know he was born blind, but we don't know how it is that he can see now, or who opened his eyes. He is old enough: let him speak for himself.' His parents spoke like this out of fear of the Jews, who had already agreed to expel from the synagogue anyone who should acknowledge Jesus as the Christ. This was why his parents said, 'He is old enough; ask him.'

So the Jews again sent for the man and said to him, 'Give glory to God! For our part, we know that this man is a sinner.' The man answered, 'I don't know if he is a sinner; I only know that I was blind and now I can see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He replied, 'I have told you once and you wouldn't listen. Why do you want to hear it all again? Do you want to become his disciples too?' At this they hurled abuse at him: 'You can be his disciple,' they said 'we are disciples of Moses: we know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this man, we don't know where he comes from.' The man replied, 'Now here is an astonishing thing! He has opened my eyes and you don't know where he comes from! We know that God doesn't listen to sinners, but God does listen to men who are devout and do his will. Ever since the world began it is unheard of for anyone to open the eyes of a man who was born blind; if this man were not from God, he couldn't do a thing'. 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

Jesus said:

'It is for judgement that I have come into this world, so that those without sight may see and those with sight turn blind.'

Hearing this, some Pharisees who were present said to him, 'We are not blind, surely?' Jesus replied:

'Blind? If you were, you would not be guilty,

But since you say, "We see",

Your guilt remains.

■ The Gospel of the Lord