



ST. PADRE PIO PARISH GLENMORE PARK

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SUNDAY 02 MARCH 2025	EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	YEAR C
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PARISH OFFICE HOURS
 Tuesday – Friday 8:30am – 3:30pm
 Closed 12:00pm – 12:30pm

SUNDAY
 8:00am Mass & 10:00am Mass

MONDAY
 7:00pm Mass

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
 9:00am Mass

WEDNESDAY
 7:00pm Mass (every First
 Wednesday includes Novena to
 Our Lady of Perpetual Help)

SATURDAY
 9:00am Mass
 Novena to St. Padre Pio & Blessing
 with his Relic
 9:30am Sacrament of Penance
 5:30pm Saturday Vigil Mass

RECONCILIATION (Confession)
Tuesday – Friday
 Before & after Mass (*depending on
 priests' availability*).

BAPTISMS
 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Sundays. Minimum
 booking time: two months in
 advance.

**FIRST FRIDAY MASS & ALL-NIGHT
 ADORATION**
 7:00pm Mass, Adoration starts
 3:00am Divine Mercy Chaplet
 9:00am Saturday Mass

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP
 Every Wednesday, 7pm Mass,
 then YA meeting for 18-35yrs.

FRIDAY PLAYGROUP
 Contact the Parish Office.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS
 Please contact the Parish Office.

ASH WEDNESDAY AND LENT

What is Lent and why is it celebrated?
 Lent is the liturgical season of "preparation for the celebration of Easter. For the Lenten liturgy disposes both catechumens and the faithful to celebrate the paschal mystery: catechumens, through the several stages of Christian initiation; the faithful, through reminders of their own baptism and through penitential practices" (*General Instruction of the Roman Calendar*). In 2025, Lent begins on March 5 (Ash Wednesday) and ends on April 17 (Holy Thursday), as the Mass of the Lord's Supper begins. Easter Sunday is April 20.

What are the 40 days of Lent?
 What began as a shorter time of preparing catechumens for baptism at the Easter Vigil, expanded over the centuries to 40 days of penitence, excluding Sundays. Lent began on Ash Wednesday and ended when the Easter Vigil began. Today the Season of Lent is a little less than 40 days, the Church having designated the three days from the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday to the Vespers (Evening Prayer) of Easter Sunday as a Sacred Triduum (3 days), celebrating the Lord's Passion, Death, and Resurrection.

While the development of the Lenten days was various throughout the Church, it may have been suggested by Christ laying in death for 40 hours, or by his 40 days of prayer and fasting in the desert (a number itself reminiscent of Israel's 40 years in the desert for disbelieving God). Regarding the connection to Christ's own life, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* reminds us, "For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sinning" [Heb 4:15]. By the solemn forty days of Lent the Church unites herself each year to the mystery of Jesus in the desert. (CCC 540)

Why are Sundays not counted in Lent?
 Each Sunday of the year is like a *little Easter*, filled with the joy of the Resurrection. In the same way, every Friday of the year is penitential

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because it reminds us of Good Friday.

What is traditionally given up for Lent?

Since Lent is a time of penitence it is usual to offer a *sacrifice* to the Lord, both to appeal for the grace of personal conversion, and to strengthen our will to be able to cooperate with that grace. The two go together, since without God we can do nothing (John 15:5).

The best sacrifice we can make is to give up sinning. The liturgies of the first days of Lent make this point of the *vanity* of prayer and penitence without moral conversion. For the Catholic, daily examinations of conscience, more frequent Confession, as well as more frequent Mass and Holy Communion are especially good ways to prepare for Easter. It would also be good to read Sacred Scripture, pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Holy Rosary, daily if possible, meditating on the texts or prayers.

It is also usual to make some material sacrifice, one that calls for will-power and self-denial, whether television or social media, foods or treats we particularly like, recreations and other pleasures that we crave in excess, and which keep us from prayer and good works. The extra time can then be spent to pray and to serve, whether to volunteer at one's parish, or a local charity, such as a ministry to the poor or a crisis pregnancy clinic.

St. Catherine of Genoa said, "Lenten fasts make me feel better, stronger, and more active than ever." Lent should help us to be more active, in Charity — in love of God, and our neighbor. That is the best preparation for the celebration of the greatest act of Love in history.

"Lent is a season of intense prayer, fasting, and concern for those in need. It offers all Christians an opportunity to prepare for Easter by serious discernment about their lives, with particular attention to the word of God which enlightens the daily journey of all who believe."

- St. John Paul II



Is Lent in the Bible?

While Lent is not mentioned, per se, Jesus' 40 days of preparation in the Judean desert for His public ministry gives the Church a strong biblical basis for her Lenten practices. Our Lord fasted and prayed during those weeks, as well as faced, and overcame, the temptations of the Evil One. We are called during Lent to imitate His resolve.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards. Members of the Eastern Catholic Churches are to observe the particular law of their own *sui iuris* Church.

Picture from: clipart-library.com/lenten-prayer-cliparts.html

The above excerpt is from: missions.ewtn.com/seasonsandfeastdays/lent/

Short Lent Prayers

Here are some easy prayers you can say to feel connected to God during Lent this year:

- "God, may Your light guide my day, and your spirit bring me peace. Amen."
- "God, may my sacrifice of today of (*state your Lenten sacrifice*) remind me of my dependence on You for all the blessings I enjoy. Amen."
- "Heavenly Father, I'm truly sorry for the moments today where I missed the mark. I ask for your forgiveness and the strength to better follow Your call tomorrow. Amen."
- "God, I lift up (*name of the person you'd like to pray for*) today. I ask that you bless them abundantly today and throughout Lent. Amen."
- "Oh Jesus, I surrender myself to you, take care of everything. Amen."

The above excerpt is from: hallow.com/blog/lent-prayers/

A black rectangular advertisement for Bastion Detailing Services. At the top is a logo with a stylized building icon and the text "BASTION DETAILING SERVICES". Below the logo, in white text, are the services: "HAND WASH · CAR DETAIL · INTERIOR DETAIL · WHEEL TREATMENT · CLAY BAR". Underneath that is "CALL OR SMS" and a large white number "0411 282 608".

A white rectangular advertisement for Nepean Valley Funerals. At the top is a logo with a tree icon and the text "NEPEAN VALLEY FUNERALS". Below the logo is the tagline "Traditional Care with Dignity & Respect". To the right, it says "Tel: 4722 8222" and "Local family owned and operated." Below that is a circular photo of two men in suits. To the right of the photo is "24hrs / 7 days". At the bottom, it says "Shop 4, 2-6 Castlereagh St, Penrith". At the very bottom is a logo for "Catholic Cemeteries & Crematoria" with the tagline "Care, Compassion, Choice".

ST. PADRE PIO PARISH INFORMATION

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES

When: This Wednesday, 05 March

Mass Times: 9am (Bethany School attending) & 7pm.
Lent starts on Ash Wednesday, a day of fasting and abstinence. Lent is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and helping others. Contributing towards Project Compassion is one way of living out the spirit of Lent. Project Compassion boxes & envelopes are available on the Welcome Table.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS, FIRST FRIDAY MASS & ALL-NIGHT ADORATION

When: This Friday 07 March

7pm: Stations of the Cross, Holy Mass followed by the All-night Adoration of the

Blessed Sacrament

3am: The Divine Mercy Chaplet

9am: Mass & Novena to St. Padre Pio.

Come and spend time with Our Lord.

The sign-up sheet is on the Welcome Table.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

When: every Friday in Lent, starting from this Friday.

Time: 7:00pm. *There is a sign-up sheet on the Welcome Table for families who would like to lead.*

ALTAR SERVERS TRAINING

Children in Yr 4 & upwards are invited to become altar servers. There will be training available on these two dates:

Thursday 27 March after 9am Mass and

Saturday 29 March after 9am Mass.

For more info, please contact the parish office.

Sunday 02 March:

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr C

Tuesday 04 March: St. Casimir

Wednesday 05 March: ASH WEDNESDAY (*Fast & Abstinence*)

Friday 07 March: Sts. Perpetua & Felicity & Autumn Ember Day (*Special Day of Prayer & Penance*)

Saturday 08 March: St. John of God

NEXT SUNDAY:

First Sunday of Lent Year C

Deuteronomy 26:4-10, Ps 90:1-2. 10-15. R. v.15,

Romans 10:8-13, Luke 4:1-13

ROSARY PRAYER GROUP

Date: Tuesday 04 March

Place: Teresa Brombal

Date: Tuesday 11 March

Place: Josephine Caruana

PROJECT COMPASSION 2025

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. By taking home a donation box, you will be answering the Gospels' call to care for our global family, bringing compassion and opportunity to those most in need.

BETHANY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN DAYS - THIS WEEK!

Tuesday 4 March, Thursday 6 March & Friday 7 March
Time: 9am-10am. Register on the website or call 4723 3700. Enrolment packs are also available at the school office. Kindergarten Applications due on Friday 28 March for first round offers in April.

MASSES OFFERED FOR THESE INTENTIONS:

Deceased: Francis Farrugia, Vincent Bartolo, Avelino Bhundoo, Antonio Guterrez, Anna Fiorentino, Joseph & Stella Aaron, Ken, Mercy & Holy Souls in Purgatory. **Prayers for the Sick:** April Cataroja, Susan, Molly Poulouse, Kyla Aggar, Richard Daher, Eric Norman Santos, Jimmy Zacharias, Alona Alcaraz, Adrienne Auld, Trent Moore, Ernesto Modelo, Joselito Canaria, Lynn Navarro, Kim Baluyot, Jasmine Arada, Maricris Palencia, Yvonne Videla, Alejandra Modelo, Emily & Danilo Rosales, Georgina Rastegorac, Maryrose Vella, Catherine Vella, Vincent De Giovanni. **Please contact the Parish office to offer a Mass intention.**

ST PADRE PIO PARISH ROSTERS WEEK TWO - SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH 08/09 MARCH

MASS TIME	5:30PM	8:00AM	10:00AM
COORDINATOR	Cristina Cignarella	Trish Warda	Valeni Rodrigues
ACOLYTE SENIOR SERVER	Billy Layug Lya Layug Kylie Sultana	Khalid Younan Gilbert Grech Brady Fisher	Chris Hersey Aiman Jajo
READER	1. Maz Lirio 2. Georgia Fraser	1. Marilou Pugoy 2. help needed	1. Deepa Cijo 2. Cijo Mathew
MUSIC	Amen Choir		Manny, Bruce & Co
HOSPITALITY		Mal Weber	Deepa Cijo & Cijo Mathew
BAPTISM			Chris Hersey
CLEANING TEAM	Johan, Augustina Nwaorgu, Zon Lupisan, Bebs Perez, Ancy Presty, Dari Boni		

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C

First Reading Sirach 27:4-7

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Do not praise someone before they have spoken.

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind,
so too the defects of a man appear in his talk.

The kiln tests the work of the potter,
the test of a man is in his conversation.

The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the
quality of its fruit,

similarly a man's words betray what he feels.

Do not praise a man before he has spoken,
since this is the test of men.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 91:2-3. 13-16. R. See v.2

Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord
to make music to your name, O Most High,
to proclaim your love in the morning
and your truth in the watches of the night. **(R.)**

2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree
and grow like a Lebanon cedar. **(R.)**

3. Planted in the house of the Lord
they will flourish in the courts of our God,
still bearing fruit when they are old,
still full of sap, still green,
to proclaim that the Lord is just.

In him, my rock, there is no wrong. **(R.)**

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:54-58

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

Victory has been given to us through Jesus Christ.

When this perishable nature has put on
imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put
on immortality, then the words of scripture will come
true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where
is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the
sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the
Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit
defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always,
knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in
vain.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Philipians 2:15-16

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.

Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 6:39-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

A person speaks from what is in his heart.

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind
man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit?

The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully
trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why
do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and
never notice the plank in your own? How can you say
to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter
that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in
your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own
eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take
out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor
again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For
every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not
pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from
brambles. A good man draws what is good from the
store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what
is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words
flow out of what fills his heart.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.