



# ST. PADRE PIO PARISH GLENMORE PARK

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## SUNDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2026

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday – Friday 8:30am – 3:30pm  
Closed 12:00pm – 12:30pm

### SUNDAY

8:00am & 10:00am Mass

### MONDAY

7:00pm Mass

### TUESDAY TO FRIDAY

9:00am Mass

### WEDNESDAY

7:00pm Mass (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 begins.

3:00am Divine Mercy Chaplet

9:00am Saturday Mass

### SOM YOUTH GROUP

Every Saturday 4:00pm

Ages 5-17 (during school terms)

### 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.

### Message of the Holy Father Leo XIV for Lent 2026, 13.02.2026

#### **Listening and Fasting:**

#### **Lent as a Time of Conversion**

Dear brothers and sisters,

Lent is a time in which the Church, guided by a sense of maternal care, invites us to place the mystery of God back in the center of our lives, in order to find renewal in our faith and keep our hearts from being consumed by the anxieties and distractions of daily life.

Every path towards conversion begins by allowing the word of God to touch our hearts and welcoming it with a docile spirit. There is a relationship between the word, our acceptance of it and the transformation it brings about. For this reason, the Lenten journey is a welcome opportunity to heed the voice of the Lord and renew our commitment to following Christ, accompanying him on the road to Jerusalem, where the mystery of his passion, death and resurrection will be fulfilled.

#### **Listening**

This year, I would first like to consider the importance of making room for the word through *listening*. The willingness to listen is the first way we demonstrate our desire to enter into relationship with someone. In revealing himself to Moses in the burning bush, God himself teaches us that listening is one of his defining characteristics: "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry" (*Ex 3:7*). Hearing the cry of the oppressed is the beginning of a story of liberation in which the Lord calls Moses, sending him to open a path of salvation for his children who have been reduced to slavery.

Our God is one who seeks to involve us. Even today he shares with us what is in his heart. Because of this, listening to the word in the liturgy teaches us to listen to the truth of reality. In the midst of the many voices present in our personal lives and in society, Sacred Scripture helps us to recognize and respond to the cry of those who are anguished and suffering. In order to foster this inner openness to listening, we must allow God to teach us how to listen *as he does*. We must recognize that "the condition of the poor is a cry that, throughout human history, constantly challenges our lives, societies, political and economic systems, and, not least, the Church."<sup>[1]</sup>

#### **Fasting**

If Lent is a time for listening, *fasting* is a concrete way to prepare ourselves to receive the word of God. Abstaining from food is an ancient ascetic practice that is essential on the path of conversion. Precisely

because it involves the body, fasting makes it easier to recognize what we “hunger” for and what we deem necessary for our sustenance. Moreover, it helps us to identify and order our “appetites,” keeping our hunger and thirst for justice alive and freeing us from complacency. Thus, it teaches us to pray and act responsibly towards our neighbor.

With spiritual insight, Saint Augustine helps us to understand the tension between the present moment and the future fulfilment that characterizes this custody of the heart. He observes that: “In the course of earthly life, it is incumbent upon men and women to hunger and thirst for justice, but to be satisfied belongs to the next life. Angels are satisfied with this bread, this food. The human race, on the other hand, hungers for it; we are all drawn to it in our desire. This reaching out in desire expands the soul and increases its capacity.”<sup>[2]</sup> Understood in this way, fasting not only permits us to govern our desire, purifying it and making it freer, but also to expand it, so that it is directed towards God and doing good.

However, in order to practice fasting in accordance with its evangelical character and avoid the temptation that leads to pride, it must be lived in faith and humility. It must be grounded in communion with the Lord, because “those who are unable to nourish themselves with the word of God do not fast properly.”<sup>[3]</sup> As a visible sign of our inner commitment to turn away from sin and evil with the help of grace, fasting must also include other forms of self-denial aimed at helping us to acquire a more sober lifestyle, since “austerity alone makes the Christian life strong and authentic.”<sup>[4]</sup>

In this regard, I would like to invite you to a very practical and frequently unappreciated form of abstinence: that of refraining from words that offend and hurt our neighbor. Let us begin by disarming our language, avoiding harsh words and rash judgement, refraining from slander and speaking ill of those who are not present and cannot defend themselves. Instead, let us strive to measure our words and cultivate kindness and respect in our families, among our friends, at work, on social media, in political

debates, in the media and in Christian communities. In this way, words of hatred will give way to words of hope and peace.

### **Together**

Finally, Lent emphasizes the communal aspect of listening to the word and fasting. The Bible itself underlines this dimension in multiple ways. For example, the Book of Nehemiah recounts how the people gathered to listen to the public reading of the Law, preparing to profess their faith and worship through fasting, so as to renew the covenant with God (cf. 9:1-3).

Likewise, our parishes, families, ecclesial groups and religious communities are called to undertake a shared journey during Lent, in which listening to the word of God, as well as to the cry of the poor and of the earth, becomes part of our community life, and fasting a foundation for sincere repentance. In this context, conversion refers not only to one’s conscience, but also to the quality of our relationships and dialogue.

*For the whole message, please go to:*

<https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2026/02/13/260213d.html>

### **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/](http://hallow.com/blog/lent-prayers/)*

## **ST PADRE PIO PARISH ROSTER FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH 28 FEB / 01 MARCH**


| <b>MASS TIME</b>                 | <b>5:30PM VIGIL MASS</b>                  | <b>8:00AM MASS</b>                 | <b>10:00AM MASS</b>                  |
|----------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>COORDINATOR</b>               | Trudi Almeida                             | Trish Warda                        | Regina Rossetto                      |
| <b>ACOLYTE<br/>SENIOR SERVER</b> | Billy Layug<br>Dit Almer                  | Khalid Younan<br>Gilbert Grech     | Chris Hersey<br>Manny Medel          |
| <b>READER</b>                    | 1. Trudi Almeida<br>2. Maz Lirio          | 1. Trish Warda<br>2. Denise Robens | 1. Zon Lupisan<br>2. Regina Rossetto |
| <b>MUSIC</b>                     | Mitchell’s Group                          |                                    | Children’s Choir                     |
| <b>HOSPITALITY</b>               |   |                                    | Zon Lupisan & Deb Vella              |
| <b>CLEANER</b>                   | Mel Gaudoin, Meghan Warda, Dominic Dimech |                                    |                                      |


## ST PADRE PIO PARISH INFORMATION

### TAKE AWAY BIBLE STUDY WITH FR. JOHNSON

Looking to grow deeper in God's Word during the week? Join us each Thursday evening for an engaging and practical Bible Study — filled with faith, discussion, and real-life application you can "take away" with you.

 Every Thursday

 7:00pm-7.45pm (*Sydney, Australia time*)

 In person: St. Padre Pio Parish, 34 William Howell Dr, Glenmore Park

 Online (Zoom):

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88240197264?pwd=MC39Q52hu32bkPXe2Z4TjXW0MhaTes.1>

Meeting ID: 88240197264

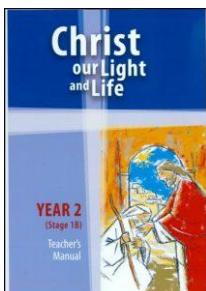
Password: 2xg17M

Come along, bring a friend, your Bible, and an open heart. All are welcome!

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS & MASS

**When:** Fridays during Lent

**Time:** 7:00pm. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the Welcome Table if you would like to lead the Stations of the Cross.



### DONATE A SCRIPTURE WORKBOOK

The scripture workbook is an excellent resource used by our parish SRE teachers when teaching the children in our local government schools. The annual cost to the parish is approx \$2000.

To assist in covering the cost to the parish we will be holding a leaving collection after all Masses next week, 28 February & 01 March. The books are \$5 each but we would appreciate any amount you would like to donate. (cash & Eftpos)

**Please write 'SRE BOOKS' on the EFTPOS receipt.**

*Thank you in advance for your kind donation!*

**PARISH INCOME & EXPENSES** sheets for November, December & January can be found on the Parish Noticeboards.

### SUNDAY 22 FEBRUARY

**First Sunday of Lent Year A**

**Monday 23:** St Polycarp

**Friday 27:** St Gregory of Narek

### NEXT SUNDAY

**Second Sunday of Lent Year A**

Genesis 12:1-4, Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22. R. v.22, 2 Timothy 1:8-10, Matthew 17:1-9

### ROSARY PRAYER GROUP

**Date:** Tuesday 24 February: Lya & Billy Layug

**Date:** Tuesday 03 March: Lya & Billy Layug

### ADORATION DURING LENT-MONDAYS

During Lent, after 7pm Mass on Mondays, there will be a moment of Adoration, praying for the success of the Adoration Chapel and Wall.

### PARISH LENTEN RETREAT: 07 MARCH

The Lenten retreat is to help us enter more deeply in the mysteries of Lent and the Passion of Our Lord.

**Where:** At the Church, starting with 9am Mass till 12.45pm. Tea and coffee provided.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS & FIRST FRIDAY ALL-NIGHT ADORATION

**Date:** Friday, 06 March

**7:00pm** Stations of the Cross, followed by Holy Mass and the All-Night Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

**3:00am:** The Divine Mercy Chaplet,

**9:00am:** Adoration will finish on Saturday with Mass & Novena to St. Padre Pio. We encourage all parishioners including families, to add your names to the sign-up sheets on the Welcome table at the back of the Church. Come and be blessed by God who wants to pour so many graces on us!



### YOUTH GROUP AND YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

**Youth group:** for 5-17years (split in 4 groups).

Held during school terms in the School hall at 4pm.

**Young Adults:** 18years up, held every Wednesday after 7pm Mass.

**PRAYERS FOR THE SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM** Please keep the children enrolled in the Sacramental Program in your prayers as they prepare to meet Jesus in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation

**MASSES OFFERED FOR THESE INTENTIONS:** Nguyen Thi Hoa, Thomas Thomas, Mathew M.D. Madapattu, Roland Peters, Vincent Bartolo, Gael McCaffery. **For the Sick:** Liam O'Shea, Teresa Brombal, Jose Joaquin De Sousa, Vida Smith, Beulah Frankson and Roger Ayo, Louis Bonnici, Lillian Astorri, Pauline Azzopardi, Elise Girdlestone, Daniel Varlow, Pamela Severino, Illuminada Shackleton, Kim Baluyot, Chris Shihada, Maria Joseph, Andrea Lopez, Christian Casulla, Xara Kaye, April Cataroja, Susan, Molly Poulouse, Kyla Aggar, Eric Norman Santos, Jimmy Zacharias, Alona Alcaraz, Trent Moore, Joselito Canaria, Lynn Navarro, Kim Baluyot, Jasmine Arada, Maricris Palencia, Yvonne Videla, Alejandra Modelo, Emily & Danilo Rosales, Georgina Rastegorac, Maryrose Vella, Catherine Vella. **Please contact the office to offer a Mass.**

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A

**FIRST READING** Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

**A reading from the book of Genesis**

*Creation of our first parents, and sin.*

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

**The word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Ps 50:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. see v.3

**(R.) Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

**SECOND READING** Romans 5:12-19

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans**

*Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.*

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

The results of the gift also outweigh the results of one man's sin: for after one single fall came judgement with a verdict of condemnation, now after many falls comes grace with its verdict of acquittal. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

**The word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Matthew 4:4

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

No one lives on bread alone,

but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

**GOSPEL** Matthew 4:1-11

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

*Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.*

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says:

Man does not live on bread alone

but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says:

He will put you in his angels' charge,

and they will support you on their hands

in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



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