



Our Lady of the Southern Cross Parish

Catholic Diocese of Bunbury

Dunsborough, WA



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First Reading

Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7

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.

Responsorial Psalm

R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence. O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. **R.**

My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned; what is evil in your sight I have done. **R.**

A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **R.**

Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise. **R.**

Second Reading

Romans 5:12-19

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.

Gospel Acclamation

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

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.

Communion Antiphon

I will recount all your wonders, I will rejoice in you and be glad, and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

Pope's Intention for February 2026: FOR CHILDREN WITH INCURABLE DISEASES
Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families
receive the necessary medical care and support,
never losing strength and hope.



REFLECTION

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

- We also pray for some members of our parish, and our families who are sick - we pray for their speedy recovery.

... so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. (1 Corinthians 2:5)

St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians gives a series of snapshots of this vibrant, growing, and challenging church. He praises their strengths and addresses their struggles, and in today's second reading, he reminds them that their foundation rests, not on any human wisdom, but on the power of God. For Paul, this wasn't some vague kind of power; it was the power of the crucified and risen Jesus.

When Paul came to Corinth, he preached and reasoned with Jews and Gentiles alike to bring them to the Lord. He surely encouraged them to search the Scriptures for themselves as well. But the heart of his preaching and the bedrock of his faith was Christ's death and resurrection. The revelation of the risen Lord had opened Paul's eyes and transformed his life. So, he wanted the Corinthians' faith to be rooted in God and his power to change their lives. He wanted their faith to be deep, dynamic, and life-changing.

Paul never tired of reminding the Corinthians that the wisdom and power of God were their foundation. He would say the same to us because he knows how easy it can be to rely only on our own strength and wisdom. We need to look to Jesus, risen and victorious, and place our trust in him.

So, let's expand our thinking today and step out, trusting in our mighty God. Let's turn to him first when we're concerned about our loved ones. Let's pray boldly for God to work in their lives. And if it takes time to see an answer, let's keep praying! God's power can change hearts far beyond what we can do on our own. Our best preaching or persuading, or even the witness of our lives, can't compare with what the power of God can do. To begin, we need only to trust and pray—and watch to see what he will do.

"Lord, I trust in your power and love!"

- from *The Word Among Us*



PRAYER INTENTIONS

Special Intentions:

- For the intentions of our EMHC, acolytes, commentators, lectors, musicians, mass servers, sacristans, greeter, and collectors;
- For the intentions of our PPC members, Parish Finance Committee members, bookkeeper, and bankers;
- For the intentions of our church and ground cleaners, morning tea manpower and food donors;
- For the intentions of God's Farm & Bove Farm; and for all the residents of Cape Care Dunsborough;
- For the intentions of our RCIA candidates and our RCIA Team;

We Pray for the Repose of Souls (Death Anniversaries):

21/02 - William Shannon

24/02 - Jose Fontes

26/02 - John Clayton Gales

27/02 - Julie Coot

28/02 - Lawrence Roach



ADULT CATECHISM

Message of the Holy Father (13 Feb 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

... 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."

Fasting

... 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 neighbour. 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.

LITURGICAL ROSTERS

FEBRUARY	Acolyte	EMHC	Greeter	Commentator	Reader	Altar Servers	Music
21 st Feb Sat	Steve Carmody		Judy Malcolm	Amie Meyer	Jenny Huembs	Xanthe Smart Lily Taylor	Fr. Archie
22 nd Feb Sun	Ronnel Casas	MA McMullen Fran Lamotte	Joan Embry	Carmen McFaul	Loellen Clark	Isabelle Casas	Richard Clark
28 th Feb Sat	Steve Carmody	Loellen Clark	Judy Malcolm	Jude Kelly	Kath Rooney	TBA	Richard Clark
1 st March Sun	Ronnel Casas	MA McMullen Robyne de Garis	Robyne de Garis	Carmen McFaul	Miriam Vizcayno	Andy Hoang Ivy Hoang	Richard Clark

<i>Mass Schedule</i>		
Monday 23 rd Feb	2:00 PM	NO MASS Group Meditation
Tuesday 24 th Feb	9:00 AM	Mass of the Day
Wednesday 25 th Feb	9:00 AM 9:30 AM 10:00 AM	Rosary Mass of the Day Group Reflection
Thursday 26 th Feb	9:00 AM	Mass of the Day
Friday 27 th Feb	9:00 AM 5:00 PM	Mass of the Day Lenten Reflection/Stations of the Cross
Saturday 28 th Feb	9:00 AM 5:00 PM 6:00 PM	Liturgy of the Word Confession Vigil Mass (35th Anniv)
Sunday 1 st March	8:30 AM	Mass of the Day 2nd Sunday of Lent

LITURGIES & DEVOTIONS

Rosary: You are invited to come and join in praying the Holy Rosary every Wednesday at 9 AM, just before the 9:30 AM Mass.

First Friday Devotion: We expose the Blessed Sacrament right after the 9 AM Mass; Adoration continues until 12 noon. We end this devotion with the Benediction.

Healing Mass: Mass on the First Tuesday of the month is a Healing Mass. You may receive the anointing oil at Mass.

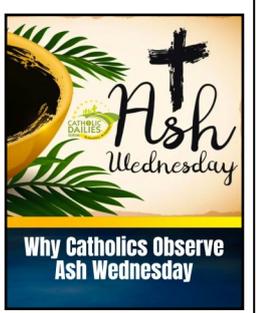
Group Meditation: Every Monday at 2 PM.

Group Prayer Session: Every Wednesday after the 9:30 AM Mass.

Second Friday of each Month: Catholic Men's Prayer Fellowship at 9:30 AM.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: One hour of Adoration immediately after the 9 am Mass on 3rd & 4th Fridays.

WE MIGHT AS WELL KNOW: Catholics observe Ash Wednesday because it is the Church's appointed beginning of repentance. It is not a festival. It is not a celebration. It is a spiritual reset. Ash Wednesday exists to call people back to God. The ashes are a visible sermon. They preach without words; You are dust. Your life is fragile. Your time is limited. Your soul is eternal. The Church marks the body to awaken the conscience. It begins Lent by teaching a deep truth; Before transformation comes repentance. Before resurrection comes death to self. Before healing comes humility. Ash Wednesday is observed because human beings forget God. We forget eternity. We forget judgment. We forget mercy. We forget repentance. We forget conversion. So, the Church interrupts normal life with ashes. It says, Stop. Remember. Return. Repent. Begin again. Ash Wednesday is the Church's way of saying; Your soul matters more than your comfort. Your eternity matters more than your pleasure. Your salvation matters more than your pride. It is not about shame. It is about truth. Not about fear. But awakening. Not about punishment. But mercy. Ash Wednesday is observed because the soul must be shaken before it can be healed. Because no one rises who has not first knelt. And no one enters Easter without first passing through ashes.



OUR LADY OF THE SOUTHERN CROSS PARISH
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Wadandi people of the Noongar nation as the traditional custodians of the land on which we live and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

OUR PARISH VISION: To be a thriving Catholic community, engaging and welcoming.
OUR PARISH MISSION: Journeying together with God; growing in FAITH, HOPE and LOVE, through fellowship, outreach and service.

- Parish Pastoral Council:** Angela Corrigan (Chair), Martin Bain, Steve Carmody (Secretary), Carmen McFaul, Joan Smurthwaite, Fran Lamotte, Amie Meyer, Angela Hegney, Father Archie.
- Safeguarding Officer:** Angela Corrigan **Sacristans:** Robyne de Garis, Mary Cooper, Rebecca Channing, Diane Richards
- Parish Finance Committee:** Tony Smurthwaite (Chair); Jack Robinson; Jim Triglone; Father Archie **Parish Bookkeeper:** Kathleen Lim
- Parish Priest:** Fr. Roberto Archie R. Carampatan

