

## **A SPIRITUAL CLIMB TO THE TOP**

Mountains play an important role in the bible; often presented as sites of transcendent spiritual experiences and encounters with God. Abraham shows his willingness to sacrifice Isaac and then encounters God on a mountain (Gen 22:1-14). God appears to Moses and speaks from the burning bush on "Horeb, the mountain of God" (Ex 3:1-2); and he encounters Elijah on the same site (1 Kings 19:8-18). Most impressive of all is the experience of the Israelites at Mount Sinai (Ex 19), in which Moses ascends in a cloud to meet God.

A similar story emerges from the Christian Scriptures, where Jesus often retreats to mountains to be alone (Jn 6:15), to pray (Mt 14:23; Lk 6:12) and to teach his listeners (Mt 5:1; Mk 3:13). It was on a mountain that Jesus refuted Satan's temptation (Mt 4:8; Lk 4:5). And in today's gospel, Jesus ascends a mountain, is transfigured and meets Moses and Elijah (Lk 9:28-36).

In Luke's gospel, the story of the Transfiguration of Jesus signals the start of Jesus' final journey from Galilee to his Passion in Jerusalem (Lk 9:51-19:44). At the end of the journey, Jesus climbs the Mount of Olives and makes preparation for his triumphal entry into Jerusalem and his final clash with the authorities on the Temple mount. What is interesting about this travel narrative in Luke is that it takes place in the "in between" times, wedged between Jesus' ministry on the "holy mountains" of Galilee and Jerusalem. Down on the plains and in the valleys, Jesus and his disciples are in unfamiliar territory. They are separated from their synagogues in the Galilean hillsides and still distant from their national shrine on Mount Zion. Along the way to Jerusalem, Jesus' disciples are confronted by Samaritans and people who live on the margins of Jewish society, lepers, disabled beggars, tax collectors and Gentiles. Jesus welcomes, teaches and heals all whom they encounter as they pass by.

Writing for his community, Luke distinguishes between mountain-top experiences where they may encounter the divine in prayer and worship (Lk 9:28), and the lived experience of faith amidst the diversity and vagaries of their wider human society.

The spiritual writer, Eugene Peterson, sees these passages in Luke as analogous to the life of the Christian "between Sundays." "Samaria," Petersen writes "is the country between Galilee and Jerusalem in which we spend most of our time." It is a place where we need to talk a language that we wouldn't use in church; but which, nevertheless, must be informed and inspired by our retreat to the mountain on Sundays. This line of thought reminds us of Vatican II where the Sunday Eucharist is described as the source and summit of the Christian life. This Lent, let us take time to reflect more deeply on our mountain top encounters with Jesus in the Eucharist; reflecting on how these experiences can continue to breathe new life into our encounters with the people who share our everyday lives in the "in between" times.

Ian J Elmer

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## **MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP PARISH**

**Parish Office:** 575 9296  
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**Parish Administrator:** Karla Nobre Milosevic  
**Pastoral Worker:** Maureen Keenan (Home)5754354  
**Redemptorist Website:** www.cssr.org.au

## **SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT** **Saturday 12 & Sunday 13 March 2022**

### **MARCH MASS TIMES**

**There is NO Saturday 5.30pm Vigil Mass at St Ignatius Parish for the month of March**

We hosted the Vigil Mass in February at St Ignatius Parish and now we will be hosting the Vigil Mass at MPH Parish in March.

**Saturdays** 5.30pm Vigil Mass at MPH Parish

**Sundays** 9.30am Mass at St Ignatius  
10am Mass at MPH Parish

**Mondays & Tuesdays** 8.30am Mass at St Ignatius

**Wednesdays** 7pm Mass at St Ignatius  
(Undisclosed - NO PASS NEEDED)

**Thursdays & Fridays** 9am Mass at MPH Parish

**Eucharistic Adoration at MPH Parish every Thursday following Mass with Benediction at 6.45pm**

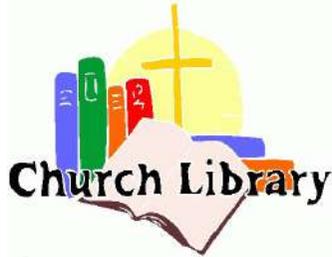
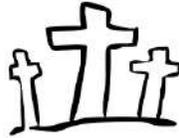


**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

**Every Friday of Lent there will be**

**Stations of the Cross**

**at 7pm**



**PARISH LIBRARY**

Betty Mortimer has kindly donated her book collection to the Parish. These books are now displayed on the shelves in the foyer. Please feel free to borrow and writing the name of the book and a contact number in the provided exercise book.

**Thank you, Betty for your generosity.**

May we also take the opportunity of thanking you for taking responsibility of the Adoration Roster over the last ten years.

**Lenten Appeal 2022  
Special Collection**

Money collected throughout Lent to be disbursed by the National Caritas Office for development funding, educational projects and emergency aid.

You can either use the weekly Donation Envelopes or use a Single Donation Envelope. You may either return your donation envelopes during the Parish offertory collection or send them to Caritas directly.

Donations received by Caritas in these envelopes by 31 March 2022 will be sent a receipt for 2021/2022 tax year. Donations received by Caritas after April 1st will be sent receipts for 2022/2023 tax year.

**Envelopes are on the table in the foyer.**



**We remember in prayer our parishioners whose anniversaries occur during March:** Fr Edward Cosgrove CSsR, Anthony Henrys, Lillian Beattie, Stanley McGrath, Mary Bell, Marion Ward, Margaret Fisher, Mary Robertshaw, Eunice Ironside, John Lanigan, Erica Dowd, Elizabeth Watson, Mary Vella

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

Yes, we are still gratefully receiving donations of food and essential goods, to support local families in Glendowie, Glen Innes and Pt England.

The baskets for donations are in the Church foyer area near the Mass books.

Foodstuffs need to be durable, as it can take a few days for them to reach the recipients.

**Examples:** tinned food, rice, cereals, biscuits, tea, coffee, milo and other foods that do not require refrigeration and will not spoil rapidly.

We welcome other items such as detergents, toilet paper, nappies, laundry powders and cleaning goods.

If you prefer to make cash donations these may be placed in any of our 3 collection boxes which are located in the Church and foyer.



**Next Week: 3rd Sunday of Lent 19 & 20 March 2022**

1. Exodus 3:1-8,13-15
2. Corinthians 10:1-6,10-12
3. Gospel Luke 13:1-9

<b>ROSTER</b>		<b>5.30pm</b>	<b>10.00am</b>
<b>Vaccine Verifier</b>		Michelle Yates	Steve D'Souza
<b>Greeters</b>		Anne Gordon Paul Liu	Angela Shields Pina Tevaga
<b>Musicians</b>			
<b>PowerPoint</b>		Louise Morton	Samoan Community
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>			
<b>Prayers of the Faithful</b>	Heather Manickum		
<b>Ministers of Communion</b>		Heather Hart	Karen Rassie
<b>Readers</b>		Frances Lynch Dennis Lynch	Mathew Bland
<b>Cleaners</b>	Malia Sili & Willie Lavaka		<b>Altar Linen</b> - Heather Hart
<b>Grace Joel</b>	10.30am		