

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Thurgoona



"Do whatever He tells you" John 2:5

Address: 20 Hartigan St, Thurgoona 2640 PO Box 110, Lavington 2641

Email: admin@ourparish.au **Web:** www.thurgoonacatholicparish.com

Ph: 02 6088 6222 **Parish Priest:** Fr Anthony Dunne **Acolyte:** Denis Golden

Presbytery Account (First Collection) BSB 066-789 Acc. 100 005 587

Parish Account (Second Collection) BSB 066-789 Acc. 100 003 738

MASS TIMES

Saturday (Vigil) - 6pm

Sunday 9:30am

Monday 8am

Tuesday 10am

Wednesday 8:00am

Thursday 5:30pm

Holy Hour 4:30pm

Friday 8am

Saturday 8am

Anointing of the sick Mass, 10am

2nd Tues of Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec.

Reconciliation

Thurs during Holy Hour 4:45 - 5:15pm

Sat 5:30 to 5:55pm before Vigil

Sun 9 to 9.25am

Or anytime, just ask Fr

Baptism and Marriage By appointment

Working Bee Sat 9.30am to 11am



2nd SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A

5/03/2023

First reading

Genesis 12:1-4

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:

I will curse those who slight you.

All the tribes of the earth

shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 32(33):4-5,18-20,22

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Second reading

2 Timothy 1:8-10

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the

beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured: his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this the disciples fell on their faces overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order, 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

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Prayers of the Faithfull:

For our sick, Tony Abikhair, Marie Fowles, Fr Reece Beltrame, Peter Tydeman, Ray Byrnes, Graeme Murphy, Greg Baker, Gwen Abikhair, and Jackson Davis.

We pray to the Lord. **R.** Lord hear our prayer.

For our recently departed, Lindon Stewart, Ted Williams, Chris Horsfall and those who's anniversaries occur at this time.

We pray to the Lord. **R.** Lord hear our prayer.

Communion Antiphon

Mt 17: 5

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

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ANNIVERSARIES

Jocye Doolan, Betty Park, Mick Carly, Dallas Hanrahan and Bro Chris Greck.

PARISH COUNCIL

Sandy Zeromski (Sec)
Denis Golden

Maria Sparshott (Chair)
Denis Devcich
Mark Mannering

Simon Horsfall (Dep Chair)
Jodie Cunningham
Mary Seidel

PARISH NOTICES

Stations of the Cross:

6.00pm Friday during lent in the Gardens

Lenten Groups:

Tuesdays 6:30PM. Parish Centre with Fr Anthony

Wednesdays 10:30am. Call Pauline Pasco 0419 807 065

Have a Chat:

Ladies are invited to the Newmarket Hotel, Borella Rd on Monday 6/03/2023 for lunch at 12 noon. New ladies most welcome. Parking at the rear of the Hotel.

Catechists:

We are looking for more volunteers for the SRE program (catechists) for Thurgoona Public School. If you can help with this important work of spreading the Gospel please contact Fr Anthony on 02 6088 6222.

Earthquake: Turkey and Syria:

Thousands of people have been killed after a catastrophic earthquake struck southeast Turkey (Türkiye) and Syria followed by more this week. Your donation will help those in desperate need of assistance. For details go to caritas.org.au or aidtochurch.org/syriaearthquake

Catholic Deb Ball 2023:

Year 11 & Yr12 – current & past Students welcome.

Choose either Fri 30/06/23 or Sat 1/7/23.

Send expressions of interest to alburycatholicdeb@gmail.com.

An **Information Night** for debutantes, partners and a parent each will be held at the Sacred Heart Church Hall, North Albury on Wed 8/03/23 at 6pm (will take about 1 hour).



Readers: Sat: 6:00pm Mary Seidel Sun: 9:30am Stefany George

Next week: Sat: 6:00pm Denis Golden Sun: 9:30am Simon Horsfall

Cleaning Roster: Sat 11th March Kristen's and Nathan Szalacs



THE CALL

As in all three cycles for Sundays of the year, the Gospel for this Second Sunday of Lent features the mysterious episode of the Transfiguration. It is not easy, however, to see the principle behind the choice of the remaining two readings: the Call of Abraham and a brief extract from the Second Letter to Timothy. It may be that all have to do in some sense with 'vocation' or 'calling'. The call of Abraham in the First Reading marks the second great development in the Book of Genesis. Following the lapse of the first human pair, the intervening material has been nothing else than a record of ever-increasing sin, violence and dehumanisation, culminating in the great flood. Here creation literally goes into reverse and would have done so irrevocably had it not been for God's preservation and blessing of Noah.

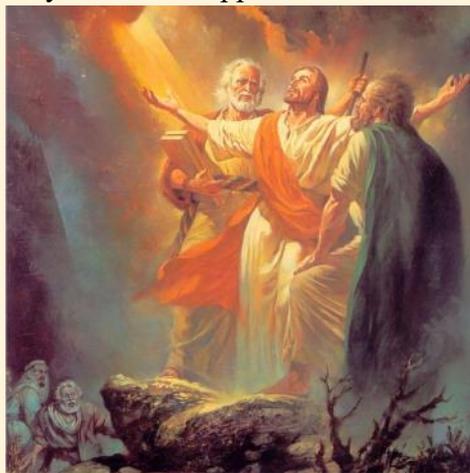
The call of Abraham marks the beginning of a vast divine project to achieve

what the people wanted but could not realise because of the evil inherent in the human heart. Let us note key elements of the call. First, Abraham must 'leave' his father's house, his family and his country, and all the security they provide. From now on his security will rest simply in God's promise to create from him 'a great nation' and 'a great name', one so famous that it will become a byword for blessing among all the peoples of the earth. The blessed existence originally intended by the Creator for human beings and the earth but frustrated by human sin, will come to realisation through what is now beginning with the call of Abraham and his trusting response.

The text here sets a fundamental pattern for Christian life. We are all in some sense inheritors of the 'call' of our ancestor Abraham. Particularly in this season of Lent, we are called to sit lightly to the securities offered by this world, to rest, rather, in a promise and vision of 'blessedness' held out by God. The Second Reading from 2 Timothy goes along with this in its brief summary of Christian life and vocation. We are the people who 'rely on the power of God, who has saved us and called us to be holy not because of anything we ourselves have done but by God's own grace'.

This 'grace,' determined since the beginning of time, has now been realised in the 'appearance' of Christ Jesus. It is probably the word 'appearance' that has led to this text from 2 Timothy being associated with the Gospel of the Transfiguration. Here we have an 'appearance' of Jesus truly unique in the accounts of his earthly life. Shortly before this episode, Jesus has for the first time revealed to the disciples that the Son of Man is destined to suffer and be killed. As represented by Peter, they simply cannot square this suffering destiny with their knowledge of him to be 'the Messiah, the Son of God'. Jesus' glorious transformation and the Father's voice from heaven ('This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him!') communicates with divine authority that these two truths must be held together: Jesus is God's beloved Son and he is, as he has said, going to fulfil his messianic vocation through suffering and death. The disciples want to 'hold' the messianic moment ('Let us build three tents'). But there are no 'shortcuts' to glory.

From now on, precisely as God's beloved Son, Jesus is to tread the path to Jerusalem as the Messiah who came, 'not to be served but to serve and give his life as a ransom for many'. It is with this deepened sense of his vocation and ours, that we are invited to continue with him our Lenten journey to Jerusalem.



Summary: Fr Brendan Byrne SJ. australiancatholics.com.au