

## Second Sunday of Lent

5 March 2023



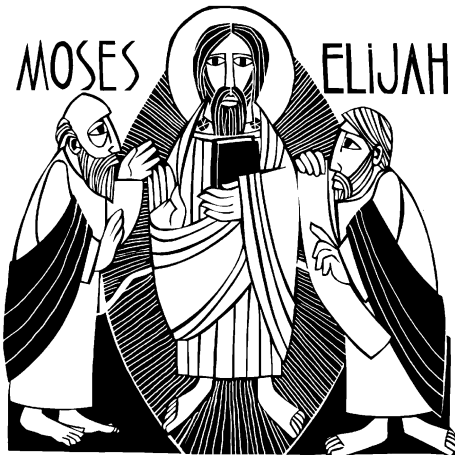
Readings for  
this week:

Genesis 12:1-4  
2 Timothy 1:8-10  
Matthew 17:1-9



Readings for  
next Sunday:

Exodus 17:3-7  
Romans 5:1-2, 5-8  
John 4:5-42



### Liturgical Jottings

#### Lenten Lectionary Cycle A

The second Sunday has the same gospel story in all three cycles, the transfiguration of Jesus, which points to the glory of a life in Christ beyond the cross and death.

Beginning with the third Sunday in Cycle A, the ancient baptismal pericopes from John dominate the liturgies for three weeks. On the third Sunday, the story of Jesus meeting the Samaritan woman is centred on the “living water” which Jesus gives for eternal life. The story of the man born blind and healed by Jesus is the focus of the fourth Sunday, a baptismal story dependent on the early church understanding of baptism as enlightenment. The fifth Sunday uses the gospel of the raising of Lazarus, a reading with a rich historical background of its own and one that holds out to all Christians the ultimate goal of life with Christ after death.

Lizette Larson–Miller from *The New Dictionary of Sacramental Worship*, (Collegeville, TLP 2000)

### Looking at the Readings

The first reading is a turning point in the Book of Genesis. From pre-history about reflections on the origins of the universe, humankind and sin, Chapter 12 turns to the beginning of salvation history with Abraham, his descendents and covenant with God. From sinners accursed (Gen 3:14, 3:17, 4:11, 8:21) to Abraham being blessed by God, and extending the blessing, “All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you.” God’s continues to bless his people in Paul’s second letter to Timothy.

The Transfiguration of Jesus has its own feast day on 6 August, but the gospel account of this event is also read on the Second Sunday of Lent. The ascent of the mountain that the disciples made to be able to witness the glorification of the Lord provides a specific meaning to our Lenten journey. We, too, must journey from Mount Tabor to Mount Calvary. A journey to renew our faith and hope in the Lord in his suffering, death, resurrection and final glory into heaven.

### Quote for the Week

God places us in the world as his fellow workers-agents of transfiguration. We work with God so that injustice is transfigured into justice, so there will be more compassion and caring, that there will be more laughter and joy, that there will be more togetherness in God’s world. *Desmond Tutu*

### Pope Francis’ Lenten Message 2023

The Gospel of the Transfiguration is proclaimed every year on the Second Sunday of Lent. During this liturgical season, the Lord takes us with him to a place apart. While our ordinary commitments compel us to remain in our usual places and our often repetitive and sometimes boring routines, during Lent we are invited to ascend “a high mountain” in the company of Jesus and to live a particular experience of spiritual discipline – *asceticism* – as God’s holy people.


### Prayer for the Day

Remember your compassion, O Lord, and your merciful love, for they are from of old. Let not our enemies exult over us. Redeem us, O God of Israel, from all our distress. (*Introit*)

### On the Lighter Side

This time last year I heard that some young people restricted their use of social media during Lent, this year I overheard: “I giving up spreadsheets for forty days.” His friend replied: “Excel Lent!”



	<b>Those who are recently deceased and those who are grieving</b>	Lee Chant
	<b>For those whose anniversary occurs at this time</b>	Archangelina Carrafa, Pat Niglia
	<b>Our sick and their carers</b>	Vito Prinzi, Lesley Kennedy

DAY, TIME, DATE	COMMENTATOR	READER	GOSPEL PROCESSION	GIFT PRESENTATION	SPECIAL MINISTERS	SCREEN OPERATOR/ORGAN
Sun 10:30 am 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Rob Miller	Kay Gaffy	Doreen Corrigan	Steve & Simone De Lai	Ross Kelly	Mary Gale Trish Warnett
Sat 6:00 pm 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Carol Coulston	Peter Crombie	Joan Webster	Joyce Caiafa & Delphi Hamilton	N/A	Anne Hutchinson Trish Warnett
Sun 10:30 am 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Rob Miller	Ross Kelly	Domolina Phelan	Nita Basile Marg Normington	Connie Serra	Debbie Worm Trish Warnett

## Two Week Mass Timetable Commencing 6<sup>th</sup> March

### Weekday Mass

Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> March	No Mass
Tue 7 <sup>th</sup> March	No Mass
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> March	9:15 am Anointing Mass
Thu 9 <sup>th</sup> March	No Mass
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> March	9:15 am Mass

### Weekend Mass

Sat 11 <sup>th</sup> March	No Mass
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> March	10:30 am Mass

### Weekday Mass

Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> March	No Mass
Tue 14 <sup>th</sup> March	No Mass
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> March	9:15 am Mass
Thu 16 <sup>th</sup> March	No Mass
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> March	9:15 am Mass

### Weekend Mass

Sat 18 <sup>th</sup> March	6:00 pm Mass
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> March	10:30 am Mass

## Sandhurst Mission and Pastoral Council - Expressions of Interest (EOIs) are OPEN:

On Wednesday 15 February Bishop Shane Mackinlay called for EOI's from members of the diocese to join him on the new Sandhurst Mission and Pastoral Council. All relevant information and the EOI form is available on the Sandhurst website:  
<https://sandhurst.catholic.org.au/mission-and-pastoral-life/mission-pastoral-council>  
 The contact at the Chancery is Jill Doncovio (Executive Assistant to Bishop Shane)  
 03 5445 3630 or  
[jill.doncovio@sandhurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:jill.doncovio@sandhurst.catholic.org.au)

## Mission: Change their lives ... and yours.

Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills with those who have less opportunity to develop their talents.

Explore 35 positions by scanning the QR code below. On our website you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand.



Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know: RING: 02 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567. WEB: [www.palms.org.au](http://www.palms.org.au)

## ITALIAN ROSARY

Il Rosario italiano sarà recitato in Chiesa venerdì 10 marzo alle ore 14.00.

The Italian Rosary will be recited in the Church on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 2.00pm.

All are welcome

## Acknowledgement to Country

We turn our hearts and minds to the people of the Yorta Yorta nation, who have occupied this country for thousands of year. We pay respect to their elders past, present and emerging, and commit to walking alongside Aboriginal Australians in truth and justice

## Themes for the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent Year A

<https://young-catholics.com>

The readings for the 2nd Sunday of Lent focus on our personal encounter with God. The first reading tells of how Abraham encountered God and trusted in the call he heard. The psalm is "Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.", which echoes the theme of trust heard in the first reading. The second reading reminds us that God is always present in our lives, giving us strength. And in the gospel recounts the story of the Transfiguration, when Peter, James, and John encountered Jesus in all of his glory.

Some possible themes for this weekend are

- The call to holiness
- God keeps His promises
- Trust in God
- Coming down the mountain

## More Thoughts for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent Year A

In the first reading, Abram is called by God to leave his home and kin and go to an unknown land. In an act of great trust, he obeys. He does not know what lies ahead, but he walks in faith. We must also walk in faith, especially during our Lenten journey. His faith is a result of his encounter with God.

In the transfiguration, Peter, James and John also encounter God. They experience the divine presence in the transformed Jesus Christ. The change in his face, which "shown like the sun" and his clothes which became "white as light" are a reference back to Moses appearance after receiving the Ten Commandments.

The transfiguration also foreshadows the resurrection of Jesus. In his appearance to Mary of Magdala at the tomb, he also had bright white clothes. And clearly something was significantly different about his appearance, for Mary did not recognize him.

## Reflection Questions for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent Year A

- Do I recognize Jesus when I encounter him?
- Am I open to being transformed?
- Can I think of a significant event where I encountered the divine presence?

## Sandhurst World Youth Day Pilgrimage for Young Adults:

Join the Sandhurst Young Adults Pilgrimage to Lisbon, Portugal for the 2023 World Youth Day celebrations!!! A group of 18–35-year-olds (post school age) from our Diocese will be journeying together for 2 weeks as we join young people from around the world to celebrate our faith. The pilgrimage will include attending the WYD Vigil and final Mass with the Pope, a day trip to Fatima, and a post-WYD retreat in Avila, Spain. We're really excited about the pilgrimage and hope you are too! Expressions of Interest close March 10th. To help young adults get to WYD, the Diocese are offering financial sponsorships to help cover part of the cost of the pilgrimage.

For more information head to [sandhurstwyd.com](http://sandhurstwyd.com) or get in touch with the pilgrimage coordinator, Ruth Lawlor ([ruth.lawlor@sandhurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:ruth.lawlor@sandhurst.catholic.org.au)), for more information.

Who: Young Adults from Sandhurst, ages 18-35 (post-school age)  
When: 29th July – 11th August 2023

## Chaplain for the Sandhurst World Youth Day Pilgrimage

I am happy to advise that I have appointed Fr Jackson Saunders as Chaplain for the Sandhurst World Youth Day Pilgrimage to Lima, Portugal, later this year. A number of Sandhurst priests submitted expressions of interest for this appointment, which were considered by the Diocesan World Youth Day Working Party.

I am confident that Fr Jackson will make a valuable contribution to the diocese's World Youth Day Pilgrimage Leadership Team and to the young adults undertaking the pilgrimage itself.

I am grateful to all those who indicated their interest in this appointment, which reflects the wide support across the diocese for accompanying and supporting young people on their journey of faith.

I ask that you continue to encourage young people who might be considering joining this pilgrimage experience to make contact with Ruth Lawlor, the Pilgrimage Coordinator, for further information: [ruth.lawlor@sandhurst.catholic.org.au](mailto:ruth.lawlor@sandhurst.catholic.org.au)

Yours sincerely,  
+Bishop Shane Mackinlay