

Second Sunday of Lent

1 March 2026



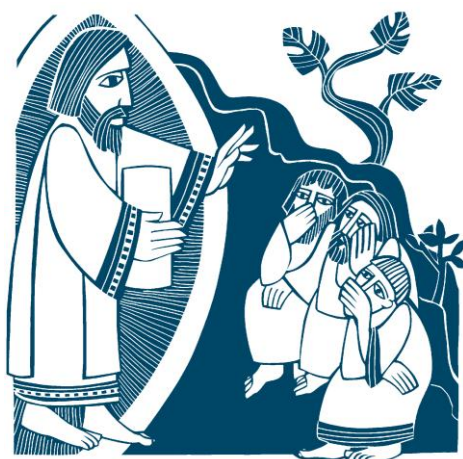
Readings for
this week:

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

Liturgical Calendar

The Catholic Sanctoral Calendar is the part of the Liturgical Calendar that honours saints, assigning specific feast days to different days of the year, complementing the main seasonal cycle (Proper of Time) with the feasts of Our Lord, Mary and saints (Proper of Saints). The Roman Martyrology 2025 lists over 7000 saints and blessed.

Special interest today are four saints on the 29 February: Pope St Hilary, died 29 February 468; St Oswald, Bishop of Worcester died 29 February 992; St Auguste Chapdelaine of Xilixian, China was martyred on 29 February 1856 and Blessed Antonia Florence of Abruzzo, Italy died 29 February 1472. Their feast days, where observed, are celebrated of the 28 February in non-leap years.

Another calendrical oddity: 30 February was observed only three times: 1712 in Sweden to adjust to the new Gregorian Calendar and 1930 & 1931 in Russia, trying out a revolutionary but failed calendar.

Looking at the Readings

From the Ash Wednesday Mass we hear in the readings about fasting, prayer and almsgiving. From the second week of Lent, we enter the core teachings of Lent on sin and forgiveness; prayer and charity; baptism and penance; life, suffering death and resurrection. Yet from the earliest time of celebrating Lent we read the account of the transfiguration of the Lord. The event recorded in the Gospels according to Matthew, Mark and Luke describe how Jesus was "Transfigured". He appeared in heavenly glory on a very earthly landscape to three Apostles: Peter, James and John. Deeper than the event is the mystery. The mystery of Christ's humanity and divinity, his death and resurrection, the disappointments and hopes of his followers. These three apostles were going to experience the horror of his execution but hold in the secret of their hearts this vision of his future glorification. In our living out the Lenten disciplines, liturgy and practices we do so with the vision of Easter.

Jesus gave them the order: "Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead." We cannot experience Easter until we have experience Good Friday, The fourth account of the Transfiguration is given in the second letter of St Peter. He is able to share his experience with his people: "He received honour and glory from God the Father, when a voice came to him from the transcendent glory, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, in whom I am well pleased.' We ourselves heard this voice from heaven, when we were with him on the holy mountain. 2Pet 1:17-18.

Quote for the Week

"Fasting makes sense if it really chips away at our security and, as a consequence, benefits someone else, if it helps us cultivate the style of the good Samaritan, who bent down to his brother in need and took care of him." Pope Francis

Prayer for the Day

God of wisdom, through the law and the prophets and through the person of your Son, Jesus Christ, you show us a way to live.

Give us the strength to conform our will to yours that we may live in a way that serves you in Jesus' name. Amen.

On the Lighter Side



The snake and scorpion pictured here are desert creatures. Our Lord was with the wild beasts in the wilderness (Mark 1:13). These two creatures represent evil (Luke 11:11-12) and sin and death (1 Corinthians 15:56) and have been "strong and ancient symbols of Lent."



 Please email or contact the office to add names to the prayer list	For those who have died and those who are grieving	Raffaele Prinzi (1 month)
	For those whose anniversary occurs at this time	Jack Woodman, Nella Gallo, Arcangelina Carrafa
	Our sick and their carers	Harney McKinnon

ROSTERS FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

Sunday 8th March 10:30am

Commentator: Domelina Phelan
Reader: Anne-Marie Nihill
Gospel Procession: Connie Serra
Gifts: S & S De Lai
Eucharistic Minister: Ross Kelly
Screen Operator: Debbie Worm
Music Operator: Trish Warnett
Money Counters: L & D Worm

Saturday 14th March 6:00pm

Commentator: Carol Coulston
Reader: Denice Bourke
Gospel Procession: Domelina Phelan
Gifts: S Gregg & D Hamilton
Eucharistic Minister: Not required
Screen Operator: Anne Hutchison
Music Operator: Trish Warnett

Sunday 15th March 10:30am

Commentator: Theresa Cook
Reader: Rob Miller
Gospel Procession: Steve De Lai
Gifts: A Basile & L Mercuri
Eucharistic Minister: A Ciavarella
Screen Operator: Debbie Worm
Music Operator: Trish Warnett
Money Counters: L & D Worm

Saturday Mass times for 1st & 3rd Sunday of the Month

6:00pm (Oct – Mar) 5:00pm (Apr-Sep)

Two Week Mass Timetable Week Commencing 4th March

Weekday Liturgy & Mass

Wednesday 4th March 9:15am (Liturgy)
Friday 6th March 9:15am (Fr Uday)

Weekend Mass

Sunday 8th March 10:30am (Fr Uday)

Weekday Masses

Wednesday 11th March 9:15am
Friday 13th March 9:15am

Weekend Mass

Saturday 14th March 6:00pm
Sunday 15th March 10:30am

Monthly events

Anointing Mass every 1st Wednesday Mass at 9:15am

Italian Rosary every 2nd Friday at 2pm in the Church

Reconciliation every 1st Saturday of the month (30 minutes before Mass)

Saturday evening Masses: 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month
4th Sunday of the month: Shared lunch in St Mary's Hall

Ladies Cuppa & Chat

1st Wednesday of each month at 2pm in St Mary's Hall. All welcome.



The next one will be Wednesday 4th March.

Thank you to Fr Michael Grace for celebrating Mass on Sundays whilst Fr Uday has been away. We will miss you jokes and stories.

Each Friday during Lent there will be the Stations of the Cross following Mass at 9:15am.

BAPTISM PREPARATION INFORMATION SESSION:

Wednesday 4th March at 7:00pm in the Church.

GLUTEN FREE HOSTS: Please see the Trish or Fr Uday. For further queries contact the parish office.

NAMES ON PRAYER LIST: Please contact the office or by email to add names on the prayer list.



Donation QR Code



Plate Collection and Envelopes

Thank you so much for your generosity and support of the parish.

May God bless you always.



Last week: \$ 602.00

Shared Parish Lunch is today following 10:30am Mass.

And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light.

Matthew 17:2

**Project Compassion Theme
for 2026**

Unite Against Poverty

Please use this QR Code to donate
through the Tatura Parish



Next Wednesday, 4 March, every donation
Tatura Catholic Parish raises online for Caritas
Australia's Project Compassion will be **MATCHED**
by a generous supporter, up to a cap of \$50,000
– doubling our donations and their impact!
Please donate on Wednesday if you can.

TATURA WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2026

The theme for this year is
"I will Give You Rest: Come." Matt 11:28-30 is
prepared by WDP Nigeria.

This year the Prayer Service will be held at
Olive and Vine (Uniting Church) in Hogan Street
Tatura on Friday 6th March at 2pm.

All welcome and encouraged to come along
and support this prayerful event.

Any families with children in Year 3-6 not
attending Sacred Heart School are invited to
contact Tony McDonald at the school if they
would like to participate in the
2026 Sacramental program
(Reconciliation, Confirmation & First
Eucharist).

Email: tmcdonald@shtatura.catholic.edu.au

Walking Toward the Light

The 2nd Sunday of Lent Year A shows us how God calls people to trust Him. In each reading, we see someone stepping forward with faith. Abram leaves his home. The disciples follow Jesus up the mountain. Paul tells Timothy to keep going even when life is hard.

These readings help us see that Lent is a time to listen and follow. God may lead us in ways we do not expect. We are not meant to stay in one place. Just like Abram and the disciples, we are called to move forward with hope.

On the 2nd Sunday of Lent Year A, we also hear about Jesus shining with light. This moment on the mountain gives the disciples a glimpse of what is to come. It reminds us that even in hard times, God's light is near.

This Sunday gives us a reason to keep going. Even when the way is hard or uncertain, we walk in faith. God is leading us somewhere good.'

The readings remind us that God leads, strengthens, and blesses those who follow Him.

*We pray for all people who lack access to safe and reliable water, that they will be
able to receive this basic necessity of life as a result of generous support for the
Project Compassion campaign.*

Lord, help us to walk in faith, even when we do not see the way ahead. Teach us to listen to Jesus and follow where He leads. Give us strength in difficult times and remind us of the hope that lies ahead. May this Lenten journey bring us closer to You. Amen.

CHILD SAFE PARISH

We are a Child Safe Parish, we have a zero tolerance for child abuse and aim to provide a safe, supportive and welcoming environment to all visiting children, young persons and vulnerable adults. If you are concerned for any form of abuse that is immediate you should call 000; a significant risk or harm, whether or not you have formed this belief on reasonable grounds, you should immediately raise your concerns with our Parish Child safety officer Debbie Turvey on 0407 804 317.

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 years. We pay respect to their elders past, present and emerging, and commit to walking alongside First Nation Australians in truth, justice and reconciliation.

Sacred Heart Parish, Tatura

PO Box 110 Tatura VIC 3616

Phone: 0436 112 232

Email: tatura@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

Website:

<http://www.sacredheartparishtatura.com.au>

Facebook: Sacred Heart Catholic Parish Tatura

DIOCESE NEWS – 1/3/2026



Discover Catholic Podcasts and events happening across Australia – retreats, pilgrimages, workshops and more.

Visit www.CathEvents.org.au to find opportunities to grow in faith and community. Event organisers can also list their events for free, helping more people connect and participate.

Link for 2026 Lent Reflections on the Diocese Website:

<https://www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au/item/3010-lent-reflection-resources-2026>

The February statement, launched last week, is titled ***The Cost of our Living: Economic and Social Justice for the Common Good.***

Read the Statement at <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/2026/01/29/the-cost-of-our-living-economic-and-social-justice-for-the-common-good/>

The latest Along the Track can be found on our website under the heading of **Sharings / Along the Track**



Diocese Website: <https://www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au>

Diocese Facebook Page: Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst

Donation QR Code

**Project Compassion Theme
for 2026**

Unite Against Poverty

Please use this QR Code to donate
through the Tatura Parish



 **PROJECT
COMPASSION**
Second Sunday of Lent
28 February – 1 March 2026

Sisilia is a 13-year-old girl living in remote Tanzania, who had to walk long distances to collect water every day. Thanks to Project Compassion, Sisilia's school and village now have safe clean water close by and she can spend more time studying so she can fulfil her dream of one day becoming a pilot.



Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we ***Unite Against Poverty this Lent.***

**GET OUR SEAL OF APPROVAL
THIS EASTER AND BEYOND!**



Treat yourself with responsibly sourced chocolate this Easter, supporting brands committed to eliminating slavery from their supply chain.

Learn the truth

A significant portion of chocolate available in Australia is produced using cocoa beans harvested by child labourers, many of whom endure enslavement and exploitative working conditions.

Indulge responsibly, select ethically sourced chocolate, and support companies working towards eliminating slavery from their supply chain this Easter.

Here is how:

1. Join the one billion people who read the Be Slavery Free Chocolate Scorecard (<https://www.chocolatescorecard.com/>) last year to discover their chocolate's true origins and evaluate their favourite brands' ethical practices.
2. Seek out the Fairtrade and Rainforest Alliance certifications on chocolate packaging.

Note these certification seals mean the certified ingredient was produced using methods that support social, economic, and environmental sustainability.



SCAN ME



**Take action and
make a difference today!**

SECOND SUNDAY of LENT – 1 March

SISILIA from TANZANIA

Sisilia, aged 13, lives with her mother and siblings in a remote village in northern Tanzania. Life has been difficult since her father passed away when she was a baby.

“My mother does small farming and sometimes sells vegetables to get money. She supports the family on her own. We don’t have a regular income because my father passed away many years ago. Life is hard, but we try our best,” Sisilia said.

She had to walk up to 30 minutes, three times a day, to fetch water from a dirty canal. The water was unsafe, causing frequent illness, and the long walks left Sisilia exhausted, fearful of wild animals and struggling to focus on her studies.

“I get very tired. Carrying heavy water containers every day after walking long distances is not easy. I was also getting piercing back pains. Sometimes I get home late and tired, and it’s hard to focus on my homework or revise for exams.” she said.

Lack of clean water is a major issue in Tanzania, where nearly 40% of people don’t have access to basic drinking water services and 75% don’t have access to basic sanitation services. (World Bank 2022).

With support from the A+ Successor Project, her school and village now have clean water taps. This means it takes Sisilia just two minutes to collect water from her house, reducing the risks she faced and giving her more time for learning. Access to safe water has also improved health, hygiene and nutrition for her school community. Teachers and students can drink clean water, maintain hygiene, and grow food in the school garden.



Sisilia demonstrates how to wash her hands properly with soap. Photo: Caritas Australia.



Sisilia walked long distances to collect unclean water from a canal. Photo: Caritas Australia.

Sisilia has also joined a SWASH Club, where she learned about hygiene, sanitation, nutrition and child rights. She now confidently shares this knowledge with peers, parents and community members, even performing songs and demonstrations to promote good practices. This leadership has empowered her to advocate for children’s education and wellbeing in her community.

Despite many hardships, Sisilia remains determined to succeed. Her favourite subjects are Science, English and Maths, and she dreams of becoming a pilot.

With the support of Caritas Australia, local communities are finding ways to respond to challenges with resilience and courage. Your generosity makes it possible to stand with them on this journey.

REFLECTION for SECOND SUNDAY of LENT

Genesis 12:1-4 | Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22. R. v.22 | 2Timothy 1:8-10 | Matthew 17:1-9

We all need a vision. Long ago, the Book of Proverbs told us that 'where there is no vision, the people perish.' When we look at the world around us, with so many wars, so much violence, such widespread hardship and numerous groups of people putting up walls against each other, we might wonder where the real leaders are to be found. On the world stage, Pope Leo XIV often seems like a lone voice for peace, justice and sanity. He points a direction based on his deep encounter with God.

Perhaps we find vision in the less well-known stories of ordinary people, some of whom we may know. This week, Project Compassion shares with us the story of young Sisilia who lives in a remote part of northern Tanzania. Her father died when she was young, and her family has faced enormous difficulty. 'Life is hard,' she says as an understatement. Your help has enabled her village to gain access to a reliable supply of safe water. What has this got to do with education? The time that Sisilia spent walking three times a day for water was having a major impact on her schooling. She now has a vision for life, one she shares with her community.

In today's readings, we hear about vision. In the book of Genesis, Abram leaves his country, his family and his father's house. He may not know quite what will happen, but he puts his faith in a call that will lead to life and abundance. He does not have a map, but he does have a vision.

We hear in the Gospel that Jesus took his closest friends to the top of a high mountain. His face shone like the sun and became 'as white as the light.' A voice from heaven said, 'this is my beloved son; listen to him.' Peter said how wonderful it was to be there, and he wanted to build a tent so they could stay. But vision is always on the move and Jesus knew that he and his friends had a hard road ahead. The transfiguration may have only lasted a few minutes, but it was clear that Jesus' friends never forgot it. Every year, we hear this story near the start of Lent because we, too, need to be inspired.

During Lent, we are also called to transfigure the world, to make a difference by uniting against poverty.



Register your parish for
online fundraising at

<https://projectcompassion.org.au/parish>

and then download
your unique QR code
to replace this box.



projectcompassion.org.au

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

His face shone like the sun.

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.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

GOD'S BELOVED

On the Second Sunday of Lent the focus is on Jesus' transfiguration. This speaks into the experience in Matthew's audience of suffering and even death. With Jerusalem and Jesus' imminent suffering looming, he takes Peter, James and John on to a 'high' mountain, the place of divine encounter. The reference to 'high' celebrates the mountains' divine closeness. Here, alone, they are in the presence of God who comforts Jesus before what will shortly unfold in the Sacred City.

Two Old Testament figures appear, Moses (the traditional author of the Torah—the first five books of the Bible) and Elijah (the first recognised prophet of the Old Testament). Their appearance confirms that what is about to take place for Jesus will reveal God's protective presence. That presence is confirmed by the 'cloud [that] covered them with shadow' and the heavenly voice that attests that Jesus will always be God's Beloved and delightful One. The disciples' response to this experience is palpable. They are overcome with 'fear' – a deep sense of reverential awe in what they have just witnessed and experienced with Jesus, even though Peter earlier wanted to capture it by building three tents.

The scene is not a literal 'twitter-feed' of what actually or historically happened to Jesus. It is a story of theology and religious meaning for disciples aligned with Jesus who know the experience of suffering and death in their own day. At those times, we, too, must go up on to our 'high' mountain, accompanied by faithful friends, and allow God's presence and word to accompany us. We, too, need to hear that we are God's Beloved and delightful Ones.

Fr Michael Trainor



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT / A

1 MARCH 2026

FIRST READING

Gen 12:1-4

A reading from the book of Genesis

The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.

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.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 32:4-5, 18-20, 22. R. v. 22

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

1. The word of the Lord is faithful / and
all his works to be trusted. / The Lord loves
justice and right / and fills the earth with his
love. **R.**

2. The Lord looks on those who revere him, /
on those who hope in his love, / to rescue
their souls from death, / to keep them alive in
famine. **R.**

3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord. / The Lord
is our help and our shield. / May your love be
upon us, O Lord, / as we place all our hope in
you. **R.**

SECOND READING

2 Tim 1:8-10

A reading from the second letter of St Paul
to Timothy

God has saved us, and called us to be holy.

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.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 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!