



# HOLLAND PARK MT GRAVATT PARISH



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St Joachim's Church  
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Holland Park  
St Agnes' Church  
1227 Logan Road  
Mt Gravatt

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**  
Monday – Friday  
8:30am – 4:00pm

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(Safeguarding purposes only)

**2ND SUNDAY OF LENT**

**YEAR C**

**MARCH 15<sup>TH</sup>/16<sup>TH</sup>, 2025**

## Of Light and Shadow

Today we are made conscious of the polarities within which all of us live, and which Jesus also experienced. There are moments of transcendence in our lives; moments when we are conscious of being drawn into God's mystery, even though these moments may be fleeting. In such moments, we can be taken out of ourselves and our senses can be finely tuned into the awesome love and beauty of God. Like the disciples we want to hold on to these moments, to prolong the experience, to 'build tents' and stay. The reality of our humanity demands that we move from such moments of transcendence back into the dailiness of life. We cannot stay on the mountain of light forever.

Jesus too knew such moments of transcendence and moments when the starkness of his life was very present. On the mountain, like Moses and Elijah, he has an encounter with God, symbolised in the light, the cloud and the voice from heaven. But the reality of his death in Jerusalem is present even in this moment of glory, for the great prophets of Israel speak to Jesus of his *exodus*, which he was to complete in Jerusalem. Jesus' passing over to the Father cannot happen on this mountain, in Galilee but must happen on the hill of Golgotha. Living out the truth of his identity as Son demands that Jesus go down the mountain, leave behind the consoling presence of God and take the road to Jerusalem.

May the journey of Lent lead us into a deeper knowing of the polarities in our lives and may we find the courage to live them in truth.

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## Francis' Focus

Pope Francis draws our attention to Peter, James and John. Understandably weary, they were struggling against sleep and almost missed the Transfiguration entirely!

'The drowsiness of the three disciples appears to be a discordant note', the Pope muses. These three disciples later fall asleep at Gethsemane! 'This sleepiness in such important moments is surprising', the Pope remarks.

In this regard, the apostles can help us think about Lent. 'It is a period', the Pope suggests, 'in which God wants to awaken us from our inner lethargy, from this sleepiness that does not let the Spirit express itself.'

In their sleepiness these apostles make good role models for us. Despite their exhaustion, they remained open to the working of Grace. 'We might think', the Pope says, 'that it was the light of Jesus that reawakened them.'

'Like them, we too are in need of God's light,' the Pope affirms. And that light, he adds, 'makes us see things in a different way: it attracts us, it reawakens us, it reignites our desire and strength to pray, to look within ourselves, and to dedicate time to others.'

We might sometimes feel sleepy, in faith as in work, but we can still be witnesses to the Transfiguration if we are really open to the light of Christ.

© Nick Brodie

The Holland Park Mt Gravatt Catholic Parish acknowledge the Jagera people, the traditional Owners who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

## READINGS 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

### FIRST READING

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldaeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied, 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

'To your descendants I give this land,  
from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.'

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Response:** The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life before whom shall I shrink?

O Lord, hear my voice when I call; have mercy and answer.  
Of you my heart has spoken: 'Seek his face.'

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek, hide not your face.  
Dismiss not your servant in anger; you have been my help.

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.  
Hope in him, hold firm and take heart. Hope in the Lord!

### SECOND READING

Philippians 3:17 - 4:1

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

Luke 9:28-36

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' - He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

## PARISH DIARY

**Monday, March 17<sup>th</sup>**

*Feast of St Patrick*

Mass 8:00am  
St Joachim's

**Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>**

*Feast of St Joseph*

*Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

Mass 6:00pm  
St Agnes'

**Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 9:00am  
St Agnes'

**Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup>**

Mass 9:00am  
St Joachim's

**Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Reconciliation 4:30pm  
St Joachim's

**3rd Sunday of Lent**

**Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Mass (Vigil) 5:00pm  
St Joachim's

**Sunday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Mass 7:30am  
St Joachim's

Mass 9:00am  
St Agnes'

Mass 6:00pm  
St Agnes'



### Quote of St Francis

"During the Holy Year, may the light of Christian hope illumine every man and woman, as a message of God's love addressed to all!" said Pope Francis. "And may the Church bear faithful witness to this message in every part of the world!"



## READINGS – 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

1<sup>ST</sup> READING: Exodus 3:1-8. 13-15

2<sup>ND</sup> READING: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

GOSPEL: Luke 13:1-9

## PARISH NEWS

### WE REJOICE

with the Rogers and Buckley families as they celebrate the baptism of Teddy and Sophie in the parish this weekend.

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD (CLOW)



All children are invited to join us for CLOW at the 9am mass at St Agnes' TODAY. All parents are very welcome! Children under 5 years must be accompanied by an adult.

### A LENTEN GUIDE FOR CHILDREN

This guide is available from the churches this weekend. You will find them on the tables in the middle/back of churches.

### COUNTERS

Maureen's team.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday mornings following the regular 9:00am mass during Lent.

### MEALS ON WHEELS

St Joachim's team - Tuesday, March 18th

### GUIDE FOR CHILDREN

This guide is available from the churches this weekend. You will find them on the tables in the middle/back of churches.

### AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC MAGAZINE

The Autumn edition of the Australian Catholic magazine is available in the churches this weekend.

### POPE'S LENTEN MESSAGE

Click on the link below to read the Pope's Lenten message - <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/lent/documents/20250206-messaggio-quaresima2025.html>

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2025

### SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION INVITATION TO REGISTRATION AND PREPARATION



Registration **NOW OPEN**

The Sacrament of First Holy Communion is open to all children in year four (4) and above who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Preparation for the Sacrament of First Communion begins the end of April.

To secure your place or for more information contact:

Mary at [sacpr.hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:sacpr.hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au)

Registration close Monday 7 April 2025.

## LENT FASTING AND FEASTING

Lent is a time for prayer, fasting and almsgiving. So often our fasting is one-sided: we focus on that which we must give up. This Lent perhaps we might seek a better balance by asking ourselves what we might also 'take up.'

### Fast from.....

Discontent  
Anger  
Self-concern  
Discouragement  
Suspicion  
Guilt  
Negatives  
Illness  
Complaining  
Lethargy  
Worry  
Criticism  
Busyness  
Loneliness  
Restlessness  
Fear  
Evasion  
Greed  
Selfishness  
Prejudice  
Apathy

### ....Feast on

Gratitude  
Reconciliation  
Compassion  
Hope  
Truth  
Mercy  
Positives  
Healing  
Congratulating  
Exercise  
Trust  
Encouragement  
Silence/prayer  
Hospitality  
Peace  
Confidence  
Honesty  
Simplicity  
Generosity  
Sincerity  
Enthusiasm

What will be my fast and feast this week of Lent?

## Lenten Adoration

Friday March 28, 2025

From 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

At St. Joachim's Church,  
Holland Park West

### CONTACT US

Parish office: 07 33492280  
[hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au)

Please bring along a plate  
to share for refreshments

### A Day of Prayer in Lent 2025

A spiritual event hosted by Holland Park Mount Gravatt Catholic  
Parish as an Lenten preparation. All are welcome.

### SHARING THE MERCY of Jesus

9.00am Mass  
10.00am Adoration & Rosary  
11.00am Stations of the Cross  
12.00pm Angelus &  
Intercessory Prayers  
2.00pm Silent Adoration  
3.00pm Mercy Chaplet &  
Spiritual Talk  
3.45pm Benediction of the  
Blessed Sacrament  
4:00pm Refreshments

 **Sisters of  
St. Paul de Chartres Australia**

# Lenten Retreat

Finding HOPE on the way to Calvary

**Saturday 5th April, 2025 09:00am to 03:00pm**

 at St. Paul Convent:  
12 Fedrick St., Boronia Heights, QLD 4124

Open to **ages 15 to 40**  
Free Event with Lunch provided

RSVP via [spc.au.info@gmail.com](mailto:spc.au.info@gmail.com)  
More information at [www.srspcaustralia.org.au](http://www.srspcaustralia.org.au) or scan





**PROJECT  
COMPASSION**

**Second Sunday of Lent**  
15th and 16th of March 2025

**Toefuata'iga** - (*Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah*) a primary school student from Samoa faced severe water shortages at her school. Thanks to Caritas Australia and the generosity of supporters like you, her primary school now has a 10,000 L water tank. Teachers and students now have access to clean drinking water at their school and are able to focus on education.



Photo credit: Caritas Australia

**Please donate today.**

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

Or online at: [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion)

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

#### ST PATRICK'S DAY MASS

The Annual St Patrick's Day Mass, will be celebrated again this year in the Cathedral of St Stephen, Elizabeth Street at 10.00am on 17 March 2025. Fr Gerard McMorrogh will be the celebrant. All are welcome to attend. And, for those who may be unable to do so, the Mass will be live-streamed on this link: - <https://www.youtube.com/@ArchdioceseofBrisbane> You may wish to pass the link on to someone overseas.

And we invite you to join your others for morning tea afterwards in the Hanly Room.



*For however you choose to say goodbye...*

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#### SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & VULNERABLE ADULTS PREVENTION AND PROTECTION POLICY



... for it is to such as thee that the kingdom of God belongs.

The Archdiocese of Brisbane holds that children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm. They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded by all.

This means that everyone in the church must ensure that the fundamental rights of children, young people and vulnerable adults are respected. This will be achieved through the development of respectful relationships and a commitment to safety embracing appropriate boundaries, behaviours and practices, in accordance with the Archdiocesan Code of Ethical Behaviour and adherence to legislative imperatives of the State. This policy applies to Clergy, Religious, Staff, Parishioners, Volunteers, Students on placement and Visitors to our sites.