

2 Chronicles 36:14-16. 19-23

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.' And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."'

Psalm 136

R./ Let my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!

By the rivers of Babylon
there we sat and wept,
remembering Zion;
on the poplars that grew there
we hung our harps. (R.)

For it was there that they asked us,
our captors, for songs,
our oppressors, for joy.
'Sing to us,' they said,
'one of Zion's songs.' (R.)

O how could we sing
the song of the Lord
on alien soil?
If I forget you, Jerusalem,
let my right hand wither! (R.)

O let my tongue
cleave to my mouth
if I remember you not,
if I prize not Jerusalem
above all my joys! (R.)

Ephesians 2:4-10

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ – it is through grace that you have been saved – and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

John 3:14-21

Jesus said to Nicodemus:
'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son. On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil. And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'

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Ingham Region Catholic Parishes

St Patrick's Ingham—St Peter's Halifax—St Teresa's Abergowrie



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT B—MARCH 11 2018

The Pastor's Pen!

This Monday Night, there will be a Choir Practice for our Easter ceremonies. Those who were at the Vigil last year will remember just how incredible the singing was. Thanks to Monica and the Herbert Valley Voices together with some other members of our community, the bar was well and truly raised. Any members of the community who can hold a note are welcome to practices for the next two Monday evenings.

Thanks to Sr Thao for organising the Youth Festival last Saturday. With almost 50 young people in attendance, from as far away as Proserpine, a good day was had by all. Thanks to Vera Di Bella for organizing the music with students from Gilroy Santa Maria and Abergowrie College. The music at Mass was wonderful. It was nice to see so many young people at a regular Mass.

On a side note, the adult supervisor from Proserpine talked to me later about how good it was for her youth to experience something that they don't see on a regular basis down there. I just laughed and said that our young people don't see this on a regular basis either.

Sr Therese from the Missionaries of God's Love, who are spending three months in our diocese doing youth ministry for this Year of Youth, was particularly complimentary of our broader parish community. She really felt the support of our community for the young people within it.

Ten or so days ago, the Council voted on and approved the covered entryway

outside St Patrick's. There's still a number of steps we need to take until we get to build. But, the ball is well and truly rolling now.

This coming week, we will have a bit of a clergy deficit in the district. Monday Evening, Vitalis and I are attending the farewell for Len Horner who has served as Chancellor of the Diocese for 36 years. Tuesday, Vitalis and I have a Lenten reflection day with the priests of the diocese, followed by the Chrism Mass in the evening. Wednesday morning, Vitalis and I have Priests Council. Wednesday afternoon, I have the College of Consultors meeting. Thursday and Friday, I will be attending, together with four members of the parish, a grief support training program. I am also giving talks in Townsville on a Thursday evening during Lent and have that to add to my mix.

I have also been asked to take on another diocesan role by the Bishop, which will likely consume a little bit of my time going in to the future. Thanks be to God that we have Fr Vitalis here to help with our sacramental and pastoral needs.

Please note that there is no Mass on Tuesday (or after Adoration and Benediction) due to our diocesan commitments.

Please also note the advertised times for pre-Easter confessions that are advertised on page 3.



Fr D.

Sunday Masses 17/18 March

Ingham	Sat 6.00pm Sun 8.30am Sun 7.00pm
Halifax	Sun. 7.00am
Canossa	Sun 10.00am
Abergowrie	Sun 10.00am

Weekdays 12 to 17 March

Mon	7.00am St Patrick's 9.30am Blue Haven
Tues	NO MASS
Wed	5.30pm St Patrick's 7.30pm Bemerside
Thurs	8.40am Abergowrie 5.30pm St Patrick's
Fri	7.00am St Patrick's
Sat	9.00am St Patrick's St Patrick's Day

Devotions

Rosary	Mon 9.30am in St Patrick's
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Tuesday 9am to 1.00pm St Paul's Chapel - No Benediction this week

Confessions

11.00am Saturday
5.00pm Saturday

Parish Contacts

Parish Priest: Fr Damian McGrath Associate Pastor: Fr Vitalis C Oguh
Parish Secretary: Pauline Pennisi Assistant / RE Co-ordinator: Marcella Cantatore
Bookkeeper/Compliance Officer: Beth Ingegneri Pastoral Care: Sr Nina Barra
PO Box 375, Ingham Q 4850 4776 2600 parishoffice@inghamcatholic.com
www.inghamcatholic.com facebook.com/inghamcatholic
Office Hours: 9am to 12pm Monday to Friday, 1pm to 3pm Monday to Thursday

The Church: a hospital for sinners, a training school for saints.

"The rich man is not one who is in possession of much, but one who gives much."
—St. John Chrysostom

Parish Notices and Events

Parish Council Meeting

St Teresa's Parish, Abergowrie will hold their first meeting of 2018 at the home of Tom & Eva Duffy this Sunday 11 March following the 10.00am Mass.

St Patrick's Easter Choir Practice

Choir practice will be held at 7.00pm on Monday 12 and 19 March in St Patrick's Church. All welcome.

Women's Group Happenings

The next function of the Women's Group is the St Patrick's Day Morning Tea on Saturday 17 March. There will be a Mass at 9.00am followed by Morning Tea @ 10am, (doors will open from 9.30am). Tickets are on sale at the Parish Office until Wednesday 14 March. Cost is \$15.00 per ticket. If you are able to help out on the day or do some baking, please contact Jeanette Cockburn on 0447720740.

Relay for Life 2018

St Patrick's Angel's will have a team participating in this year's 8 hour event which is being held Saturday May 26 between 2 - 10pm. Theme this year is "All Things Egyptian".

Registrations received between Saturday March 03 and Friday May 18, 2018 is \$30.00 per person. Registrations received during the week of the Relay and on the day is \$40 per person. If you are interested in joining our team or donating in support of it, please visit Ingham 2018 Relay for Life and follow the prompts. For further inquiries phone Giovanna Melvin 47763574. **LET'S FIGHT CANCER TOGETHER!**

Youth Ministry News

"Pay it forward" for **Grade 7 to 9 students**, will start on Friday, 16th March at Menegon Centre (for this month only otherwise at Mercy Hall). It will be held every third Friday of the month, from 6-8 pm with a light supper included. For further information please contact Sr Thao thaofdcc9@hotmail.com.au

Sr Thao would like to say "a big thank" to Fr. Damian and Fr. Vitalis for your support and prayers that made the festival "Paving the Way" on 3rd March in our parish so successful. I also would like to say "thanks to the Knights of the Southern Cross who organised the BBQ after the youth Mass and also to all those who helped to organise and donated sweets for the day and those who promoted the event and all the parishioners who, one way or another, had contributed to the event. May God bless your generosity and I can assure you that your support and prayers nourish the growth of young people in the Church.

Diocesan Notices and Events

Chrism Mass

All are invited to the Chrism Mass on 13th March 2018 from 7pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral. This is one of the most important occasions when we gather as a Diocese to express our communion with God and each other, and our utter dependence on the grace of Christ and the action of the Holy Spirit to do whatever God is asking of us.

Be a Good Egg This Easter....

Pope Francis said that "every person ought to have the awareness that purchasing is always a moral – and not simply an economic – act."

Are you buying and eating, or giving away Easter chocolate this year? It is estimated that up to 30 million people are trapped in slavery globally. The United Nations estimates that one in every three victims of human trafficking is a child.

Much of the chocolate we consume in Australia is made with cocoa beans picked by children, many of whom have been enslaved. These children don't even know what the cocoa beans are used for and they won't ever get to taste chocolate.

LENT

Devotions for Lent

Rosary:

9.30am each Monday in St Patrick's Church

Stations of the Cross:

5.30pm each Friday in St Patrick's Church

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

9am to noon each Tuesday in St Paul's Chapel

4pm to 5.30pm each Tuesday in St Patrick's Church

Holy Hour:

7.30pm to 8.30pm each Wednesday of Lent, beginning 21 February, in St Patrick's Church

Upcoming Events

- Chrism Mass Townsville 13/3, 7.00pm
- St Patrick's Day Morning Tea 17/3, 10.00am
- Catholic Debutante Ball 28/4
- Lourdes Fete 12/5
- Feast St Anthony Bemerside 10/6



Evangeline is strengthening Aboriginal culture while making a living and creating opportunities for her community. Featured in Project Compassion 2016, Evangeline went from seeking employment to being a Senior Artsworker and an inspirational leader for youth. Her work at the non-profit Djilpin Arts Aboriginal Corporation has supported the organisation's growth and it is now a major employer for young people in the remote Northern Territory community.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2018 and help provide employment and training for First Australians, allowing them to remain on country and keep their culture alive, essential for a just future.

A Just Future starts with your support!



PROJECT COMPASSION

FOR A JUST FUTURE

The symbolism in today's readings remind us of the richness of God's mercy and grace.

The first reading recalls the struggles of the people of God to remain faithful to God and to remember God's promises to them through the prophets. The role of the prophet in biblical times was to preserve in the people the reality that they were precious in God's eyes and that God was always present with them.

In the Gospel today we see Jesus speaking with Nicodemus. The same Nicodemus we are told a few verses earlier, who came to Jesus by night [John 3:10-12]. In the scriptures night is often associated with secrecy and darkness. In contrast, later in John's Gospel, Jesus tells us he is the "light of the world."

As the Church continuously revisits the long history of God's relationship with God's people, Caritas Australia takes this opportunity to revisit and explore the impact of its relationships. We first heard about Evangeline, a young First Australian woman a couple of years ago.

Rosters

Counters This Week:

S Di Bartolo F Di Bartolo A La Rosa M Garutti R Romano

Counters Next Week:

M Duffy J Busuttin A Duffy D Benedetto T Pallanza

Children's Liturgy: Saturday 17 March 6.00pm

Julie Nowak Josephine Di Bartolo Nadine Jorgensen

Altar Servers 17/18 March :

Sat 6.00pm: Kate Butcher & Jack Butcher

Sun 8.30am: Ruby McPherson & Jessica McFayden

Sun 7.00pm: Trista Kopeshke & Abby-Melvin Naughton

Organists 17/18 March:

Sat 6.00pm: Pam Harris/Paul Cavallaro/Video

Sun 8.30am: Monica Vitale/video

Sun 7.00pm: Lynette Di Bella/Video

Commentators 17/18 March:

Sat 6.00pm: Michael Pisano

Sun 8.30am: Lidia Marbelli

Sun 7.00pm: Emma Panzenbock

Readers 17/18 March:

Halifax: Robyn Neitz & Lorraine Castles

Canossa: C/1 Rita Melara 2/3 Isabella Melara

Sat 6.00pm: 1 Rita Martin 2 Linda Pisano 3 Michael Pisano

Sun 8.30am: 1 Diane Giliberto 2 June Leonardi

3 Lidia Marbelli

Sun 7.00pm: 1 Paula Martin 2 Flavia Menegon

3 Emma Panzenbock

Abergowrie: Grace Mberu & Fred Agote

Special Ministers 17/18 March:

Halifax: Robyn Neitz & Betty Mahony

Canossa: Matthew Ingegneri & Felicity Smallwood

Sat 6.00pm: Annette Biasi Angie Comas Mikaela Comas

Sun 8.30am: Madeliene D'Urso Tony Giliberto Mario Marbelli

Sun 7.00pm: Elvie Giandomenico Christine Timms

Janine Van Blerk

Abergowrie: Pat Celotto

Thank You!

She lives in the remote community of Beswick in the Northern Territory. Evangeline's work is, of itself, life-giving for her and her community. She helps to preserve and bring into the light her own precious gifts and talents and the art and culture of her people. We are blessed by their willingness to share their gifts with the broader Australian community. In doing this, like St Paul reminds us, we are "God's work of art".

Just as Evangeline is shining a light on her culture and lore for future generations, we can ask ourselves: how are we living in Christ's light?



Easter Confessions

Abergowrie— Sunday 18 March after 10.00am Mass

Halifax— Sunday 18 March after 7.00am Mass

Ingham— Tuesday 27 March 12.30pm & 7.00pm

Wednesday 28 March 12.20pm & 7.00pm



RECONCILIATION



Please keep in your prayers:
Andrew Barra, Terry Fenoglio,
Angie Morris, Paul Hobbs,
William Bosworth, Janine Mahony,
Bernie Viklund, John Simmonds,
Bill Peters, Conchi Mendiola

May the Lord's healing hand rest upon them

Requiescant in pace

Please Pray For: Giovanni Mogentale (died this week), Joe Sorbello (died last week), Janice Day, Tony Vardanega, Antonio Spampinato, Salvatore Caruso. Rosa Casella, Carmela Di Giacomo, Enzo Mancuso, Tina Lagorio, Giuseppe Lamari, Faust Giacobone, Rosina Patane, Dan Sheahan (annivs at this time), Brian Woods, Alfio Di Giacomo, Santo & Giuseppina Contarino, Vittorio & Maria Cantoni, Alfa Silvini, Deceased members Sartoresi & Vella families, Carlo & Maria Magoni, Elliott Francis Mathiesen, John Brezzo, Elliott Fanti, Rick Benedetto, Nella Benedetto, Sam Di Bella, Giovanni & Filippo Casella, John Boyes, Iris Monzeglio, Molly Sheahan, Bill Barnes.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

Let perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace. Amen.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

