

1st March 2026

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR A

## Dear friends,

Greetings and hoping the first week of Lent has been good for you. The final Scripture session with Sr Michele was really valued the other night. AND this coming Tuesday at 7pm (St George Preca Centre) Sr Michele is generously coming back for a one-off night about Lent. Do yourself a favour and come if you'd like some faith inspiration for your Lenten Season!

This week I want to share with you the overview letter which outlines a new base of youth activity for high school aged students. On your behalf, I extend a sincere parish thanks to the young adult leaders of our parish who have reviewed the outcomes of the previous youth activity and helped advise this new structure. I also extend your thanks to the kind group of parents who have volunteered to assist with the catering needs for these monthly events. Many of those parent names were offered in recent days so we'll organise them into a rotating team for coming gatherings and in the meantime use a 'takeaway' catering option for this first Sunday night. Please kindly keep this youth activity and all the ongoing organising that it requires in your prayers. Here's the letter for your interest:

## 1st Sunday of the month Youth Gatherings - High School Aged Youth

### What and Why

From the first Sunday evening of March 2026, OLQP parish is holding youth gatherings for high school aged youth, continuing out of the evening Mass, from 7pm through to 8.30pm. The gatherings aim to add to young people's enjoyable and safe belonging with others in the community, combining social and recreational activities. There are also brief inclusions of relevant life/faith formation and resources. Further youth gatherings/activities activity can be arranged for other times but the monthly 1st Sunday gatherings March to December\*\* are envisaged as a baseline (\*not September / \*April 2026 is on 2nd Sunday due to Easter).

### Food and Safety

Food/refreshments will be organised by a rotating group of parent volunteers with a small donation asked from participants. Supervision and facilitation is by reps from a team of parish adults, young adult leaders and priests, each with up-to-date safeguarding approvals and legal 'working with children' compliance. The contactable parish number for urgencies during youth gathering times is 0447 509 207.

### Signing in and Departing

When a young person attends the youth gathering, an adult signs him/her in & leaves contact details (for older ones this can be by remote message or agreed 'group of dates' signing). At sign-in, that adult notes if there is another arrangement for the young person's return home at 8.30pm.



Photo by OLQP Youth

## Core Actions and Values

Participants and their parents agree to the three prerequisites below for attendance. If someone chooses otherwise, leaders (with parish priest's support) inform the participant and parent of a period of non-admittance

1. OLQP youth gatherings aim to ensure a great environment of friendship in which every young person knows he/she is safe, welcome and respected. An active choice to contribute to such an environment is a foundational value for anyone who wishes to participate.
2. In the interests of equal openness and participation for all, participants agree to avoid 'exclusive only' friendship gestures during the youth gatherings. If any participant is in the company of one who is a special friend – or with a closer group – he/she is to actively avoid any sign of lesser welcome to another.
3. Social, recreational and faith/life elements – plus food - are arranged by leaders, parents and priests for the gatherings. Participants agree to show maturity and respectful appreciation towards each effort/activity – and an enthusiasm to assist with tasks that help and that build excellent spirit.

## So here we go!

*High School Aged Youth (and Parents/Guardians) who can embrace the above details - and the Core Actions and Values - are very welcome to be part of OLQP Youth Gatherings. They can proceed to fill in the details and signature page and then look forward to being part of an excellent network of belonging and enjoyment.*

Yours sincerely,

**Fr Paul Roberts – Parish Priest – on behalf of the coordinating leaders and priests**

# Faith B4U...

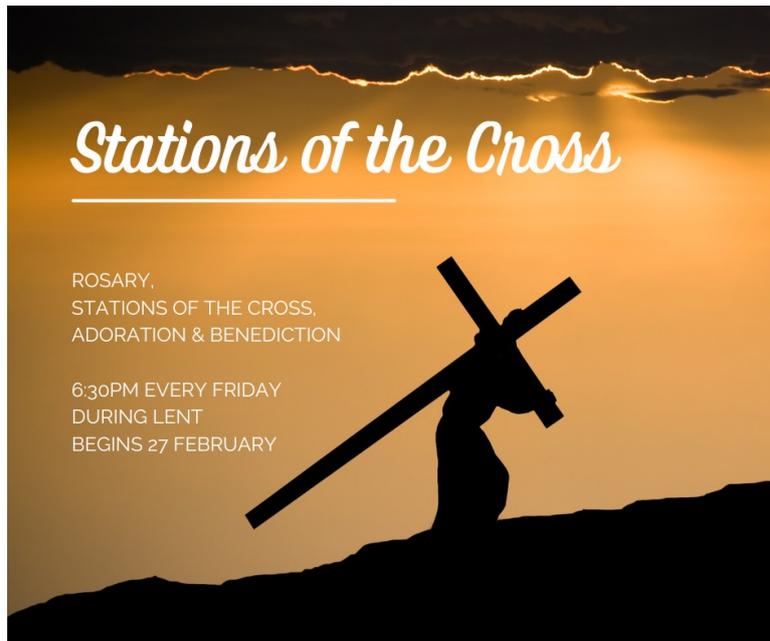
## Ministers at the Altar, Acolytes, Eucharistic Ministers, Communion to the Sick - Formation Afternoon

A time to gather to pray together and talk about our processes around this ministry.

All communion ministers are asked to please attend.

Details: **2-4pm, Saturday 7 March, St George Preca Centre**

RSVP: Email [lisa.bright@olqp.org.au](mailto:lisa.bright@olqp.org.au)



## Preparation for First Sacraments in 2026

**Reconciliation & First Eucharist** - Children in year 4 and above are invited to prepare for Reconciliation & First Eucharist.

**Enrolments are now open at [www.olqp.org.au](http://www.olqp.org.au)**

**Confirmation** - Enrolments will *open July 2026* for Children in year 6 or above.

## Let us pray...

**FOR OUR SICK, that they will be nourished with hope & recognise the loving presence of God in their lives.**

Chantel Adrien, Elie Aboumelhem, Mary Anjoul, Rita Attard, Amara Bewert, Ellen Boissett, Frank Borg, Haryono Budiono, Ann Bugaya, Karl Croning, Mario Curmi, Kathleen Davies, Nerida Fabri, Gabrielle Farfus, Delina Galea, Dorothy Gatt, Kay Jaunais, Margaret Jones, Rachel Karbic, Tulla Kavich, Patrick Kelly, Tyler Kenedy, Peter Kennedy, Maxine Kroebel, Michelle Makin, Joyce Mifsud, Elsie Moran, Joseph Moses, Alex Noble, Bob Nowfel, Benjie Santiago, Michael Scanlon, Connie Shembri, Carmel Thompson, Cathy Vella, Eddie Vella, Joe Vella, Sue Watters, Gerard Watts, Grace Widjaya, Maureen Zarb, Joseph Zerafa, Muna Zora

**FOR DEATH ANNIVERSARIES, that they now know the fullness of life & delight in God - may they pray for our active purpose in God's Mission.**

Jean Allerton, Judith Camilleri, Veronica D'Souza, Guiseppe Russo, Venera Russo, Rose Sammut

**FOR OUR RECENTLY DECEASED, may our Lord embrace them with unimaginable joy & bless those who grieve with the power of hope.**

Maria Colantonio - 3 Mar @ 12pm, Lillian Vujica

## Lenten Reflection Groups

Spend time with others reflecting on scripture this Lent with the theme of 'The Space Between'.

Each week we will reflect on the Gospel for the following Sunday.

**Wednesday 10am - 11am, 4,11,18 & 25 March in the St George Preca Centre.**

Reflection guides available for purchase at the Parish Office - \$5. All Welcome.

## FaithLIFE Lenten Scripture Night by Dr Michele Connolly RSJ

Are you looking to read the Bible during Lent but don't know where to start? Consider the FREE Diocesan Lenten Scripture Night guided by Scripture scholar Dr Michele Connolly RSJ on **Tuesday 3 March from 7pm-9pm in the St George Preca Centre.**

RSVP via [www.parracatholic.org/events/lenten-scripture-night](http://www.parracatholic.org/events/lenten-scripture-night) OR email [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org)

## Altar Server Training

**Calling all young people who are interested in serving God and their community!**

If you are interested in becoming an Altar Server at OLQP, you are invited to come along to the Church on Sunday **15th March from 9.45am to 10.15am.**

Young People who have made their First Communion are invited to consider being Altar Servers. We will get to know each other and go through procedures for serving at Mass.

Please RSVP to the Parish Office on: P: **9631 8135** or email: [parishoffice@olqp.org.au](mailto:parishoffice@olqp.org.au) and leave parents name, child's name and contact number.

## Attention Liturgical Ministers

Rosters have been emailed along with the Easter Triduum availability form. If you did not receive an email, please check your junk or Spam folder. Printed copies are also available in the Sacristy. Thank you.

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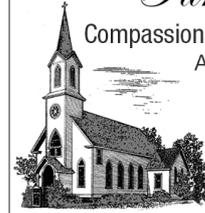
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**PROJECT  
COMPASSION**

## Sisilia from Tanzania

This week through Project Compassion, we learn about Sisilia from Tanzania. 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 dreams of one day becoming a pilot. 'The water we get now is very clean and safe,' Sisilia said.

Watch Sisilia's story here: <https://vimeo.com/1128088709>

Support Project Compassion today: [www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate](http://www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate)  
#projectcompassion or **collect a donation box or envelope located at all doors.**



Photo Caritas Australia

## Extra Reconciliation Times

- Regular parishioners, kindly try to avoid Reconciliation on Good Friday.
- Multiple and varied times are offered.

**Every Saturday** 4pm to 4.45pm

PLUS

**March 18, Wednesday** - 5pm to 6pm (with Adoration)

**March 21, Saturday** - after Vigil Mass to 6.30pm

**March 25, Wednesday** - 7pm to 8pm (with Adoration)

**March 28, Saturday** - 11am to 12pm (with Adoration)

**March 28, Saturday** - early start 3pm to 4.45pm

**March 31, Tuesday** - 5pm to 6pm (with Adoration)

**Good Friday** - after Stations of the Cross until 12pm  
*(parishioners kindly try to avoid this time)*

## This Sunday's Readings

### 1st Reading

Genesis

12:1-4

### 2nd Reading

2 Timothy

1:8-10

### Gospel

Matthew

17:1-9

## Next Sunday's Readings

### 1st Reading

Exodus

17:3-7

### 2nd Reading

Romans

5:1-2, 5-8

### Gospel

John

4:5-42

## Mass Times

Monday - 9:15am

Tuesday - 9:15am

Wednesday - 6:30am | 9:15am

Thursday - 9:15am

Friday - 6:30am | 9:15am

Saturday - Vigil 5:00pm (live streamed)

Sunday - 7:00am | 8:30am | 10:30am | 6:00pm

**Memorial Mass** - Last Tuesday night of each month (except December) at 7:00pm

**Mass for Peace with anointing of the sick** - First Saturday of each month (except January) at 10:30am

### **Reconciliation:**

Saturday - 4:00pm - 4.45pm

Please join us via Facebook or Website, [olqp.org.au](http://olqp.org.au), every Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:00pm

**Rosary in the church:** Weekdays at 8:30am & Friday nights at **6:30pm** *(Please note: NEW TIME)*

ZOOM option available Friday night for those who cannot travel to the church for rosary.

Meeting ID: 896 7944 2594 | Passcode: rosary

## Children's Liturgy Volunteers needed

**Children's Liturgy** - Once a month with a small team to share the Gospel with our young children during either the 8:30am or 10:30am Mass. School Terms only.

For details contact the Parish Office on: P: **9631 8135** or email: [parishoffice@olqp.org.au](mailto:parishoffice@olqp.org.au)

## JRS Food Support During Lent

The JRS Foodbank feeds and provides necessities for families who would otherwise have nowhere else to go.

Each week of Lent, JRS will be collecting a different item. Please place items in the JRS basket found in the front entrance of the church or in the Parish Office.

**Week 2** - Dishwashing liquid

**Week 3** - Canned tuna (unflavored in oil)

**Week 4** - Laundry detergent

**Week 5** - Dried red lentils (375g or 1kg)

**Week 6** - Long life milk (1L, full cream)

JRS Australia is also in URGENT need of Gift Vouchers. Gift vouchers allow the people that JRS Australia serves to make dignified and practical choices about their own needs such as fresh fruit & vegetables, basic necessities, and essential medications.

P: 9631 8135 | E: [parishoffice@olqp.org.au](mailto:parishoffice@olqp.org.au)

*Emergency Contact Only 0447 509 207*

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Parish Office hours: 9am - 1pm, 2pm - 4pm Monday to Friday

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