



— OUR LADY —
QUEEN OF PEACE

The Peaceful Voice

22nd February 2026
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR A

Listening – Fasting - Together

Pope Leo XIV urges us to listen more closely to God and others — and to “disarm” their language by fasting from words that wound.

As we begin our Lenten journey, we sign ourselves with ashes to remind us that we are made of ashes and to ashes we return. This liturgical season offers us the opportunity to place the mystery of God back at the centre of our lives and to know who and what we are.

Pope Leo’s message this Lent is about Listening and Fasting: Lent as a Time of Conversion.

He invites us to place the mystery of God back in the centre of our lives in order to find renewal in our faith and keep our hearts from being consumed by the anxiety and distraction of daily life.

So let us consider the importance of making room for the word through listening, which is the way to enter into a relationship with someone.

He emphasises the words: *Listening – Fasting - Together*



Photo by Christine V.

Let us ask God, this Lent for the strength that comes from the type of fasting that extends our use of language, so that hurtful words may diminish and give way to a greater space for the voice of others, which then will help us to strive to make better communities.

We can make this visible by practicing it in our families, our school/work places and in our parish communities.

For further reading: check for Pope Leo’s message for Lent 2026.

Have a blessed journey into Lent!
United for mission

Sr Anne



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

This Lent, our parish community is called to Unite Against Poverty with Caritas Australia’s Project Compassion. Each year, Project Compassion invites us to encounter stories of courage and hope from people around the world who are striving for a brighter future.

In 2026, Project Compassion shares four stories of resilience and strength.

We’ll meet Sisilia, a young student from Tanzania, whose education was being disrupted by long daily walks to collect water for her family. Monoranjon from Bangladesh, where communities are heavily impacted by natural disasters and climate change. Manaini from Fiji, who struggled with poverty and food insecurity. And Ahmad, a Caritas Jerusalem worker from Gaza who was displaced many times due to ongoing conflict.

YOUTH NIGHTS ARE BACK!

First Sunday of every month after 6pm Mass

Seeking parent volunteers to assist with food for this and future Youth Nights

PARENTS NEEDED!

HOSPITALITY AREA
MARCH 1ST | 7-8:30 PM



PARENT VOLUNTEERS (or others) to assist with organisation of food for monthly youth nights. It won’t require costs, just some time together with other parents. With enough volunteers, it would only be every second or third month. Please leave your name and number with the parish office, one of the priests or on the volunteer sheet at doors.

Faith B4U...

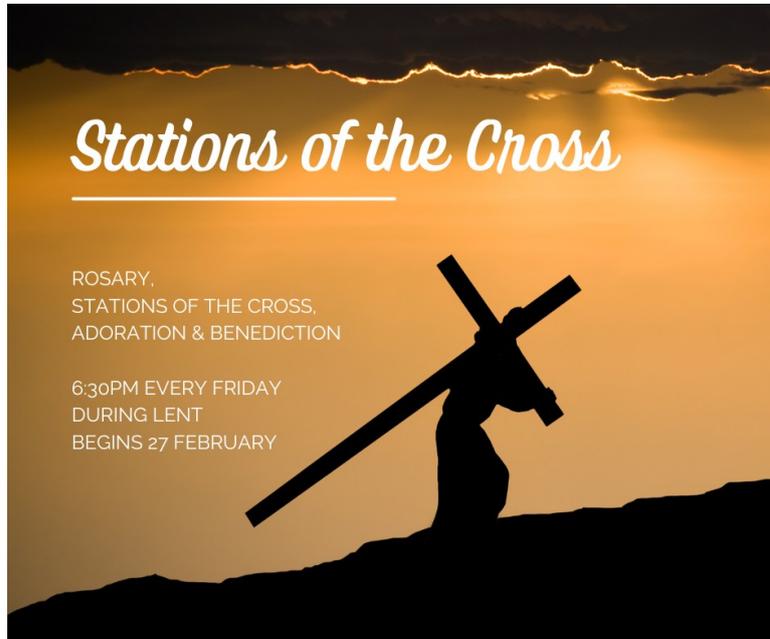
FaithLIFE Scripture Short Course

How to engage with the Bible during turbulent times? Join Sr Michele Connolly as she explores how Scripture calls us to exercise our prophetic voice; and to live as witnesses of faith & hope in our everyday life!

Time: **7pm - 9pm on Tuesday 24 Feb**

Location: **St George Preca Centre**

RSVP: <https://tr.ee/29pDdC6lC>



Rite of Election

The Rite of Election will be held in the Cathedral this weekend, the First Sunday of Lent, 22nd of February 2026. In the Rite of Election, the Church states its intention to Baptise the Catechumens at Easter. Bishop Vincent, on behalf of the wider Church will preside this ceremony. From OLQP we have 8 Catechumens who will participate in this ceremony.

Let us hold these names in our prayers this weekend.

Amara, Amy, Jake, Jian, Jessica, Julie, Maya and Purnima.

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.

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

Nadel Mercedes Gatela

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, 25 February, 4,11,18 & 25 March in the St George Preca Centre.

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

World Day of Prayer 2026

Focus on Nigeria

Date: **6th March at 10am**

Location: Baptist Church, Cnr Newman St & Memorial Ave, Merrylands

What is World Day of Prayer? It is a worldwide ecumenical movement of women of many faith traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year on the first Friday in March. Throughout the entire day, we collectively pray all over the world, beginning with the first sunrise and ending at the last sunset. Our prayers follow the sun's path around the globe. WDP's motto is "Informed prayer leads to prayerful action."

visit: <https://www.worlddayofprayeraustralia.org/>

Pope Leo Says...

I share the desire of my beloved predecessor (Pope Francis) that all Christians come to appreciate the close connection between Christ's love and his summons to care for the poor. I too consider it essential to insist on this path to holiness, for "in this call to recognize him in the poor and the suffering, we see revealed the very heart of Christ, his deepest feelings and choices, which every saint seeks to imitate" (Dilexi Te 3).

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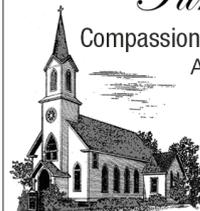
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Our Mission: To grow as a community in the likeness of Christ.

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

Afternoon

An opportunity to gather to pray together and talk about our processes around this ministry.

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

RSVP: Email lisa.bright@olqp.org.au

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OPEN NIGHT - 3RD MARCH
4-7PM

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 1 - Cooking oil (750 ml or 1L)

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.

Christ's Catholic Community

Come and join us in understanding the Gospels more deeply. Fridays at 10am in the Youth room.

Contact: **Mary Testa 0403 302 283**

This Sunday's Readings

1st Reading

Genesis

2:7-9, 3:1-7

2nd Reading

Romans

5:12-19

Gospel

Matthew

4:1-11

Next Sunday's Readings

1st Reading

Genesis

12:1-4

2nd Reading

2 Timothy

1:8-10

Gospel

Matthew

17:1-9

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, 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

P: 9631 8135 | E: parishoffice@olqp.org.au

Emergency Contact Only 0447 509 207

Join us on...

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

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