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# St. Paul's Catholic Parish

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EMAIL: [MOSSVALE@DOW.ORG.AU](mailto:MOSSVALE@DOW.ORG.AU)  
 WEBSITE: [WWW.STPAULSMOSSVALE.ORG.AU](http://WWW.STPAULSMOSSVALE.ORG.AU)  
 PARISH PRIEST: FR MAREK DUTKIEWICZ, PP

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**PARISH WEBSITE**

Website [www.stpaulsmossvale.org.au](http://www.stpaulsmossvale.org.au)  
 The Parish Facebook "St Paul's Catholic Parish, Moss Vale". We continue to ask parishioners to contact the office via email [mossvale@dow.org.au](mailto:mossvale@dow.org.au) where possible.

**PARISH OFFICE**

To make an appointment please call 4868 1931.  
 If you need to speak to Father urgently, please call the office and select option 4.

Office Hours: MON, WED, THURS, FRI 10:00am-1:30pm.  
 The office will be closed on Tuesday.

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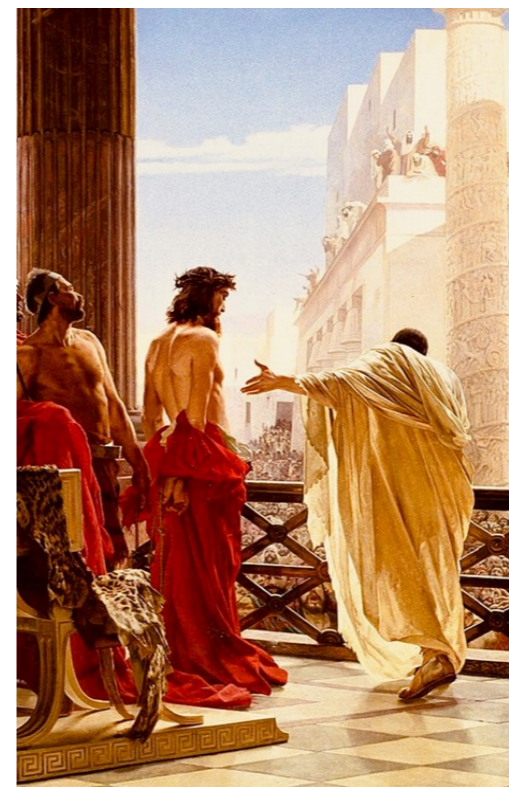
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## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



Today is the Sunday known as 'laetare', that is, of joy. That is why, in the Responsorial Psalm, we repeated those words full of sweetness: 'The remembrance of you, Lord, is our joy'. God loves us! It is the simplest proposition imaginable: a subject, an object, a verb; yet it contains the most far reaching thought that man can conceive: God and man and, between them, love! God's love is a unique, indivisible reality, as is God himself.

However, it has revealed itself to us concretely in a succession of gestures and interventions that is called 'salvation history'. We can therefore reconstruct the 'unfolding' of God's love for us.

God sent his only-begotten Son into the world" (1 Jn 4:9). In Jesus, God's love has been adapted to our human condition that needs to see, to hear, to touch, to dialogue. We finally know "how" God loves! Jesus' love for mankind is strong, tender, constant, even to the supreme test of life. Because "no one has greater love than he who lays down his life for the beloved".

The love of God, which was manifested in Christ Jesus, remains among men and enlivens the Church through the Holy Spirit.

**His Eminence Raniero Cardinal Cantalamessa**

**WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:** Mon, Wed, Fri 8am & Thurs 9.30am including School Mass (During School Term Only)

**St. Paul's Int. College (Sat) 8am**

**Confessions:** 1st Friday of each month following morning Mass. After Saturday 8.00 am Mass at St Paul's International College or by appointment.

St Paul's Moss Vale	St Brigid's Bundanoon	St Peter's Burrawang	Shrine of Our Lady of Mercy Penrose Park
Saturday Vigil - 6.30pm	1st, 3rd, 5th Saturday Vigil -5pm	2nd, 4th Saturday Vigil -5pm	Sunday - 8am, 9.30am, 11am, Weekday 11am
Sunday - 10am	2nd, 4th Sunday -8am	1st, 3rd, 5th Sunday - 8am	

St Francis Xavier, Berrima      St Patrick's, Sutton Forest

PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING THOSE WHO SUPPORT OUR PARISH

PLEASE TAKE YOUR BULLETIN HOME

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** Cf Isaiah 66:10-11

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

**FIRST READING** 2 Chronicles 36:14-16. 19-23**A reading from the second book of Chronicles**

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."' **The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Ps 136. R. v.6**(R.) Let my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!**

1. By the rivers of Babylon there we sat and wept, remembering Zion; on the poplars that grew there we hung our harps. **(R.)**
2. 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.)**
3. O how could we sing the song of the Lord on alien soil? If I forget you, Jerusalem, let my right hand wither! **(R.)**
4. O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not, if I prize not Jerusalem above all my joys! **(R.)**

**SECOND READING** Ephesians 2:4-10**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians**

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. **The Word of the Lord.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** John 3:16

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!

**GOSPEL** John 3:14-21**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him. 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.' **The Gospel of the Lord.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** Cf Psalm 121: 3-4

Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, to praise the name of the Lord.

The liturgical vestment is violet.

**SOLEMNITY OF ST PATRICK**

Mass for the Feast of St Patrick will be celebrated at  
**St Patrick's Church Sutton Forrest at 6pm on Monday 18th March 2024**

**SOLEMNITY OF ST JOSEPH**

Husband of Mary, foster Father of Jesus.

The Holy Mass will be celebrated on 19 March at St Paul's International College at 7am.

**HOLY WEEK ROSTER SHEETS**

Sheets are in the foyer of the Moss Vale church. Please consider volunteering to sign up to participate in the Easter Triduum.

**FIRST RECONCILIATION CLASSES****CLASS TIMETABLE:**

Sunday 10 March, 17 March and 24 March at 8.30am.  
Followed by Mass at 10am. **Attendance of Mass is compulsory.**

**OR**

Monday 11 March, 18 March and 25 March at 4pm.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT**

Friday at 6pm—St Paul's and St Peters Church  
Friday at 5pm - St Brigid's Church

**DONATIONS FOR FLOWERS FOR EASTER**

I would like to thank our Parishioners for the recent donations that have been made towards flowers for Easter. In the church there is box where donations can be made if you are able to support us. Thank you and may God Bless Fr Marek.

**PPC - MOTHER'S DAY RAFFLE**

The PPC would like to run a raffle each year for Mother's Day and Father's Day to boost parish funds.

We have one prize donated for the Mother's Day Raffle. We would be very grateful if, parishioners who were able to, could donate new goods suitable for use as prizes.

Suggestions are toiletries, heated throws, knee rugs, special treats for hampers etc - anything that you feel would make a nice treat for a mum. The only stipulation is that goods must be new.

Donations can be left at the parish office until the end of March. Thank you.



St Paul's is now accepting enrolment applications for Kindergarten 2025. Applications can be submitted online via the school website <https://spmvdow.catholic.edu.au/enrol/>



All welcome

**INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL**

Friday 15 March 2024

4.00 pm - 7.30 pm

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**IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL PARISHIONERS**

In November 2023, each family in the parish was given a set of 3 books produced by the Diocese of Wollongong – **"Come and See, Go and Make"**. These books, an outline of Bishop Brian's vision for parishes, were accompanied by a letter from the bishop. The Bishop has now asked each parish to respond to these documents. This response is to be returned to the diocese by the end of March.

You are asked to take home a 4<sup>th</sup> booklet – **"Come and See, Go and Make. Worksheet Activities"**

To help with the process of reflection on the documents and formulating a response, a committee of parishioners, chaired by Steve Press have come together to discuss the parishes vision. It is not an onerous task, but the parish needs to reflect the views of everyone.

**You are invited to the last meeting which will be held in the parish meeting room at 5 pm Wednesday 20 March – 5pm**

**Cannot attend a meeting?** You can still help by filling out any of the relevant activities in the booklet you receive today and dropping it in to the parish office. That way your suggestions, thoughts, hopes and dreams can still be considered by the committee for inclusion in the submission by St Paul's Parish to the Diocese by the end of March. **Your workbook can be dropped off to the parish office.** This is an important time for the parish and vital that our views are recorded. Thank you to all for your participation.

**PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY 9 & 10 March**

As the eldest child in a low-income farming family in rural Malawi, **Memory** faced many barriers to her education. But, with the support of Caritas Australia, she enrolled in a technical school and became the first female carpenter in her village.

**Please donate to Project Compassion.** Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.