



Sacred Heart Parish (Canonically Erected 1868) Roman Catholic Diocese of Armidale

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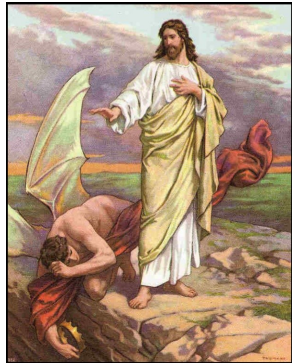
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PPC Chair: Mr Matthew Rennie

Holy Trinity School Ph 6722 4066

Principal: Mrs Jillian Rainger

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A - 22 FEBRUARY 2026



“It is necessary that temptations should happen; for who shall be crowned but he that shall lawfully have fought, and how shall a man fight if there be none to attack him?” - St Bernard

Entrance Antiphon: When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

First Reading Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7

A reading from the book of Genesis

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then He breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there He put the man He had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, ‘Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?’ The woman answered the serpent, ‘We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, “You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death”.’ Then the serpent said to the woman, ‘No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.’ The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 50:3-6, 12-14, 17

R: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in Your kindness. In Your compassion blot out my offence. O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin. **R.**

2. My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me. Against You, You alone, have I sinned; what is evil in Your sight I have done. **R.**

3. A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, nor deprive me of Your holy spirit. **R.**

4. Give me again the joy of Your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me. O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare Your praise. **R.**

Second Reading Romans 5:12, 17-19 (Longer form 5:12-19)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man’s fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man’s fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man’s obedience many will be made righteous.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 4:4

Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. **Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**

Gospel Matthew 4:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which He was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to Him, ‘If You are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.’ But He replied, ‘Scripture says: *Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.*’ The devil then took Him to the holy city and made Him stand on the parapet of the Temple. ‘If You are the Son of God,’ he said, ‘throw Yourself down; for scripture says: *He will put you in his angels’ charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.*’ Jesus said to him, ‘Scripture also says: *You must not put the Lord your God to the test.*’ Next, taking Him to a very high mountain, the devil showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. ‘I will give You all these’, he said, ‘if you fall at my feet and worship me.’ Then Jesus replied, ‘Be off, Satan! For scripture says: *You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.*’ Then the devil left Him, and angels appeared and looked after Him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon: One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Mon, 23 Feb & Fri, 27 Feb - 8am to 1pm
Tues, 24 Feb - 8am to 12pm

We pray for: Repose of all those whose death anniversary occurs at this time especially Anthony Aboud; Repose of all souls in Purgatory.

the sick: Jennifer Wheeler, Christina O'Brien, Chris Perceval, Julie Daley, Christopher Pay, Lara Bentley, Elizabeth Albany, Fr David Crabb, Rebecca Lane, Brian Barker, and all the sick members of our parish.

Mon: No Mass — Church open 8am to 1pm
Tues: 8.30am Rosary, 9.00am Holy Mass
Wed: 6.30am—Holy Mass
Thurs: 10.00am Holy Mass at McLean, 11.30am Rosary, 12
Noon Holy Mass, 12.30pm Holy Hour
Fri: 8.30am Rosary, 9.00am Holy Mass, 4.30pm Holy
Hour, 5.30pm Stations of the Cross
Sat: 3.30pm Holy Mass — Tingha
5.30pm Rosary, 6pm Holy Mass
Sun: 8.30am Rosary, 9am Holy Mass

Detailed Weekday Liturgy Schedule (including Confession times): This can be found on the noticeboards in the church and on the parish website.

Calling all the young and the young at heart to serve the Lord as **ALTAR SERVERS**. The first Meeting will be held on Sunday 1st of March, after the 9am Mass.

All parishioners are invited to attend the St Patrick's Concert that will be held **after the 5pm Mass on Saturday 21 March**. Please bring your best singing voice and a plate of delicacies to share! Anyone interested in performing a musical number, telling a joke, or any other item, is asked to contact Shayne O'Brien.

First Week of Lent commences on Pg 159