SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – 1st March 2015, Year B

As we come to worship, we remember the Wathaurong People, the original custodians of this land.

FIRST READING:
Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18
God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, “Abraham!” “Here I am!” he replied. Then God said: “Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you.” When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the LORD’s messenger called to him from heaven, “Abraham, Abraham!” “Here I am!” he answered. “Do not lay your hand on the boy,” said the messenger. “Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son.” As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son. Again the LORD’s messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said: “I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore; your descendants shall take possession of the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing - all this because you obeyed my command.”

THE WORD OF THE LORD.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:
Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19
Response: I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

I believed, even when I said, “I am greatly afflicted.” Precious in the eyes of the LORD is the death of his faithful ones.

O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your handmaid; you have loosed my bonds. To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving, and I will call upon the name of the LORD.

My vows to the LORD I will pay in the presence of all his people, In the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

Response: I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

Second Reading: Romans 8:31b-34
Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God’s chosen ones? It is God who acquits us, who will condemn? Christ Jesus it is who died—or, rather, was raised—who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

THE WORD OF THE LORD.

Gospel Acclamation
Glory and praise to you, O Lord. From the shining cloud the Father’s voice is heard: “This is my beloved Son, listen to him.” Glory and praise to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 9:2-10
Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them. As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant. THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD.
**GOSPEL REFLECTION: Mountains**

Jesus often went into the hills to pray. He preached his most famous sermon from a hilltop. He was transfigured on Mount Tabor, died on Mount Calvary and ascended to heaven from Mount Olivet. It seems that he loved hills and mountains. Why was this? Was it because he grew up among the hills of Galilee? Or was it because heights enlarge our vision and cause our spirit to soar? Lift us up, strong Son of God, that we may see further. Strengthen our faith that we may see beyond the horizon. And when the valley closes us in, help us to remember the view from the hilltop.  

Flor McCarthy SDB

**PRAYER AT HOME**: A variation from the Collect from today’s Mass offers a suitable prayer for this week – *O God, you have commanded us to listen to your beloved Son, Be please, we pray, to nourish us inwardly by your word.*

**A VOCATION VIEW**: If you need an example of a person responding to a vocational call, look at Abraham - called in old age to leave his country, father a child, then asked to sacrifice the child. What faith! Vocation is a risky response to a unique call from God.

**RECENT DEATH**: Grant eternal peace, O Lord to: Natale Cosoleto, Carmelo Muscolino, Monsignor Brian Walsh

**ONE MONTH DEATH**: Teresa Ioppolo

**ANNIVERSARIES**: Josephine Mary Lentini (family attending 6pm Mass), Llyod Ediriwickrema, Carmen Bartolo, Robert Pierce, Frank Pierce, Francesco ‘Frank’ Pagnoccolo, Olivo Piovesan

**REMINDER**: Parishioners please note that names for Recently Deceased, Anniversaries etc. to be included in the Sunday Bulletin must be at the Parish Office no later than Wednesday afternoon and please address envelopes to the Admin Staff (not to the priests). *The names of the sick will be deleted periodically from the bulletin. If you have a name you want included, please contact the Parish Office.*

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**: Andrew Roberts, Paula Miller, Pauline Jones, Nola Lind, Rocky Xuerub, Waltraud Wanger, Br. Helmut Knab CMM, Alvira Berton, Rosaleen McKenna, Fr. Geoff King S.J., Helen (H) Kelly, Adelina Vella (Fr. Frank’s sister), Lynne Worsley

**COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND ELDERLY**: We try to be aware of all who through illness or disability are unable to attend Mass regularly. We can only do this when it is made known to us. If you know of anyone who would benefit from Communion being brought to them, please contact the Parish Office on 9741 4144.

**LITURGY THIS WEEK**:

**Daily**: 8.30am – 9am Adoration (not Mondays) and Prayer

**Mon**: 9.00am Communion Service

**Tues**: 9.00am Mass

**Wed**: 9.00am Mass

**Thurs**: 9.00am Mass

St. Andrew’s Students attending

**Fri**: 9.00am Mass followed by Stations of the Cross
7.00pm Rosary followed by Stations of the Cross
8.00pm Mass & 10.00pm Benediction

**Sat**: 8.15am Adoration 8:30am Rosary
9.00am Healing Mass
9.30am Confession
5.00pm Confession

**LENTEN DEVOTIONS EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT**:

8.30am - Adoration and Lenten Prayers (Divine Office)
9.00am - Lenten Mass followed by Stations of the Cross in English and Italian
7.00pm - Stations of the Cross
7.30pm - Lenten Mass

**PARISH COMMUNITY MASSES – 10AM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parish Community</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bethany Community</td>
<td>Sun, 8th Mar 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bethany Primary School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corpus Christi Community</td>
<td>Sun, 15th Mar 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corpus Christi PS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tamil Mass</td>
<td>Sun, 15th Mar 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Andrew’s Church</td>
<td>2pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Little River</td>
<td>Sun, 22nd Mar 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Michael’s Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Sudanese Mass</td>
<td>Sun, 22nd Mar 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Penola Hub</td>
<td>2pm</td>
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*All parishioners and school families are welcome to attend.*

**St Andrew’s Primary School requires a Cleaner** for 3 hours per week (Wed 1.5 hours, 3.30 - 5.00 & Fri 1.5 hours, 3.30 - 5.00) with availability to be on call to cover vacant shifts on a casual basis. Please contact the school office with written expressions of interest – 110 Greaves St Nth., Werribee.

**STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM**

**First Collection** - for the needs of our Presbytery and infirm Priests.

**Second Collection** - for the financial support of our Parish and Parish Schools.

**Note**: Stewardship and Census Cards are available from the Church Brochure Racks or Parish Office.

“God loves a cheerful giver”
**RITE OF COMMISSIONING OF TEACHERS OF OUR FIVE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS**

Commissioning will take place during the following masses this weekend:

- Saturday, 28th February 2015 at 5pm at St. John the Apostle Primary School in Tarneit
- Saturday, 28th February 2015 at 6pm Vigil Mass at St. Andrew’s Church
- Sunday, 1st March 2015 at 11am and 5pm Masses at St. Andrew’s Church

Please keep our Teachers and Catechists in your daily Lenten Prayers.

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**LENTEN PROGRAM 2015**

This year St. Andrew’s Parish is offering ‘Rich In Mercy, Reflections for Lent’ to prepare us to celebrate the Risen Lord. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to attend one of the following 6-week sessions, so that books can be ordered and to let us know which session you will be attending. Books will be $7.00 each.

- Monday, 16th February 2015: Our Lady of the Southern Cross Primary School, 2.00pm
- Tuesday, 17th February 2015: El Shaddai Prayer Group, Penola Hub, 7.30pm
- Wednesday, 18th February 2015: Bethany Primary School, 1.45pm
- Wednesday, 4th March 2015: Italian Prayer Group, 10.30am (Penola Hub)
- Thursday, 19th February 2015: Penola Hub, 1.30pm

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**LENTEN PARISH GATHERING**

Rev. Fr. Elio Capra returns to reflect with us about:

*The Season of Lent (What is it?)

*The Paschal Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil)*

**WHEN:** Wednesday, 11th March 2015  
**WHERE:** Penola Community Hub  
**TIME:** 7pm (for 7.30pm Start)

Please RSVP by 6 March by calling the office 9741 4144

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**CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE**

The regional seminary for Victoria and Tasmania.

*Please pray for the new seminarians in their first year:*

Joseph Aung, Thomas Christie, Hoang Dinh, Dominic Franssen, Toan Ho, Andrew Kwiatkowski, Jaycee Napoles, Joseph Nguyen, Huy Nguyen, Samuel Pearson, Thua Huynh, Hieu Truong

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**RINNOVAMENTO NELLO SPIRITO SANTO ITALIANO**  – Ricorda che il nostro incontro di preghiera continua Mercoledì 4 Marzo nella Penola Hub, 33 Mortimer St., Werribee, sempre alle ore 10am fino le 12pm tema per l’incontro seconda settimana del programma QUARESIMALE siete tutti invitati e benvenuti.

**MARIA PELLEGRINA** si trova a casa di F. Stroscio tel 9749 1609 e la prossima settimana sarà a casa di A. Vincenzino tel 9741 1124 tutti benvenuti grazie.

**EL SHADDAI CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** continues on Tuesday, 3rd March 2015 at 7.30pm in the Penola Hub, 33 Mortimer St., Werribee. All welcome. For all enquiries or a lift, please call Frances on Ph. 9741 2105. *Please see flyer on notice boards.*

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**MINISTRY ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND OF 7th / 8th MARCH 2015**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Readers</th>
<th>Music</th>
<th>Counters</th>
<th>Church Cleaning</th>
<th>Altar Cloths</th>
<th>Our Lady’s Statue</th>
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<tr>
<td>6.00pm</td>
<td>Deb McIntroy</td>
<td>Volunteer</td>
<td>This Week:</td>
<td>Cleaning</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Sun: 1 Mar</td>
<td>Mon: 2 Mar</td>
<td>Sun: 1 Mar</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.00am</td>
<td>Darren Giese</td>
<td>Volunteer</td>
<td>Sun: 8 Mar</td>
<td>Mon: 6 Mar</td>
<td>Sun: 8 Mar</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.30am</td>
<td>Sashi Jeyarajah</td>
<td>Volunteer</td>
<td>Sun: 8 Mar</td>
<td>Fri: 6 Mar</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.00am</td>
<td>Vic Valencia</td>
<td>Sudanese Group</td>
<td>Sun: 8 Mar</td>
<td>Mon: 2 Mar</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.00pm</td>
<td>Belinda Sullivan</td>
<td>Volunteer</td>
<td>Sun: 8 Mar</td>
<td>Vacuuming</td>
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**SCHOOL ENROLMENTS FOR 2016**: Our Catholic Primary Schools and Secondary Colleges in the Parishes of St. Andrew’s, St. Peter’s & St. James’ are zoned. Please look closely at each school website to determine which school you are zoned to. If you do not have internet access, please ring the school or college. Please remember that each Parish works hard to provide high quality Catholic Education and affordable fees. *School enrolment at our 5 Catholic Parish Primary Schools opens on 2nd March 2015 and closes on 27th March 2015.* I encourage all school families to continue their support of our Parish of St. Andrew’s. Stewardship Cards are available in the Church or from the Parish Office.
BAPTISM PREPARATION FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN – RCIC Are you looking to have your primary school aged child/children baptised in the Catholic faith? There will be an enrolment meeting on Thursday, 16th April 2015 at 7pm in the Penola Community Hub, 33 Mortimer Street, Werribee. As well as enrolling children, we will explain the program which will run over six Sunday mornings, beginning Sunday, 19th April 2015 to 4th June 2015. These sessions will run from 9.45am to 10.45am, followed by attendance at 11am Mass. The children will participate in the Children’s Liturgy of the Word during the Mass as part of their Christian learning experience. At least one parent is asked to attend each Sunday with their children. If you have any queries, please leave your name and phone number at St. Andrew’s Parish Office (Ph. 9741 4144 or werribee@cam.org.au). Norma Marot, RCIC Coordinator

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF STUDENTS – RCIS Fr. Benneth will be conducting workshops for Secondary Students wishing to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist and/or Confirmation in 2015 at St. Andrew’s Parish. Workshops will commence during the month of April. Please contact the Parish Office on Ph. 9741 4144 or werribee@cam.org.au for more information and to leave your details. Thank you.

CALLING ALL YOUNG ADULTS 18 – 35 YEARS OF AGE Fr. Benneth would like to invite you to be part of a vibrant Parish Youth Team. Please call Fr. Benneth on 9741 4144 or email werribee@cam.org.au

YOUNG STUDENTS FOR ALTAR SERVERS Fr. Shymon wishes to invite you to join our Parish Altar Servers Group. You must have at least received your first Holy Communion to be able to become an Altar Server. Please contact Fr. Shymon on 9741 4144 or email werribee@cam.org.au

BECAUSE NOBODY SHOULD BE SAD AT CHRISTMAS – THANK YOU FROM ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY to everyone who supported our work over the Christmas period, including our volunteers and those who bought our Christmas cards, calendars and piety goods. We received $1,370.00 in Christmas donations, also generous donations of food, gifts and toys from our Parish Schools. A big thank you also to the parishioners of St. Andrew’s for their dedication to help those less fortunate than them. Because of this generosity, we were able to make Christmas a little brighter for the 151 families we visited in December, providing food vouchers and food hampers, including toys for 170 children and gifts for 52 teenagers. We value your contributions and look forward to your continued support in 2015. Thank you to all.

WESTERN SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB – Our Western Spirituality in the Pub 2015 year has the theme of Getting to Know our Neighbours. We are very fortunate to have Sherene Hassan, a very highly respected member of the Victorian Moslem community as our speaker on 10th March 2015 at the Italia Club, Furlong Road, St Albans (next door to Sunshine Hospital). Topic: Presentation on/Conversation about Islam. Session starts at 7.30 p.m. You are encouraged to support the Club that supports Western SIP by dining there beforehand from 6.00 p.m. Please see flyer on notice boards.

CATHOLIC SINGLES – Young Catholic Singles of Melbourne 21-35, please join us for a movie under the stars “Skyfall” on Thursday, 5th March 2015 at 7pm at Point Park at Yarra’s Edge (Docklands). Please bring a plate to share. Hope to see you there! Contact: Angela http://www.meetup.com/Young-Catholic-Singles-of-Melbourne yscmevents@gmail.com

Dear Fr. Frank,
Greetings and best wishes from El Obeid (Sudan).
Here we are alright though the war continues in most parts of our diocese; Nuba Mountains, Abyei area and Dar Fur. Pray for us.
May I take this opportunity to wish you and your parochial community a fruitful Lenten time leading us to a joyful Easter.
Regards
+Michael DIDI Adjum MANGORIA
Bishop of El Obeid

WELCOME BEFORE BAPTISM
Dear Parents, as you prepare for your child’s Baptism, the people of St. Andrew’s rejoice that you have chosen to baptise your child, and we pray that in the coming years you and your family will continue to know and grow in the love of God that is everlasting.

This week Project Compassion focuses on Niger, where life is very tough. Many live in extreme poverty, often unable to afford or access food and water. In Niger, more than half the children under five years old have experienced malnutrition. A Nutrition Centre in Niger (supported by Caritas Australia) admits over 500 malnourished children every week. When Fati (2 and a half) became malnourished, her mother Mariama took her to the Centre to receive the food, nutritional supplements and medical care that she needed to recover. Mariama too was able to regain her strength and learn new income producing skills. Please donate to Project Compassion 2015 and help save the lives of people living on the brink of survival in Niger, giving them access to nutritional support and essential food for life.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.