

SUNDAY MASS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

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

FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9,10-12.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 34.

RESPONSE:

Taste and see that the Lord is good!

1. I will bless the Lord at all times, praise of him is always in my mouth. In the Lord my soul shall make its boast; the humble shall hear and be glad. **R**
2. Glorify the Lord with me; together let us praise his name. I sought the Lord, and he answered me; from all my terrors he set me free. **R**
3. Look towards him and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed. This lowly one called; the Lord heard, and rescued him from all his distress. **R**

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Glory and praise to you, O Christ. I will arise and go to my father and I will say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3,11-32.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

You must rejoice, my son, for your brother was dead and has come to life, he was lost and is found.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Live the Word

Mon 31 Mar Liturgy of the Day

Isaiah 65:17-21; Psalm 30; John 4:43-54

Even though the external practices of Lent may have changed over the years, we need to understand that Lenten penances are not ends in themselves, but a means to a personal transformation.

Tue 1 Apr Liturgy of the Day

Ezekiel 47:1-9,12; Psalm 46; John 5:1-16

Do you think that the man in today's Gospel went back to his old ways? Of course, the reminder is that we are capable of doing the same – giving excuses and being reluctant to change deeply. We have been warned.

Wed 2 Apr (St Francis of Paola, H)

Isaiah 49:8-15; Psalm 145; John 5:17-30

"See to it that you refrain from harsh words. But if you do speak them, do not be ashamed to apply the remedy from the same lips that inflicted the wounds." – St Francis of Paola

Thu 3 Apr Liturgy of the Day

Exodus 32:7-14; Psalm 106; John 5:31-47

Jesus makes it very clear in today's Gospel, that if we want eternal life we must come to him, be one with him. He is the Way, the Truth, the Life. Search the Scriptures every day, and meet Jesus there.

Fri 4 Apr (St Isidore, BD)

Wisdom 2:1,12-22; Psalm 34; John 7:1-2,10,25-30

"If a person wants to be always in God's company, they must pray regularly and read regularly. When we pray, we talk to God; when we read, God talks to us." – St Isidore

Sat 5 Apr (St Vincent Ferrer, Pr)

Jeremiah 11:18-20; Psalm 7; John 7:40-53

Silence will teach you: "A vain question deserves nothing but silence. So learn to be silent for a time; you will edify your brethren and silence will teach you to speak when the hour is come." – St Vincent Ferrer

Sun 6 Apr 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; John 8:1-11

"As we age, we begin to take into account what really matters in life: family, relationships, love, commitment, service to others ... It changes who you are to lead with love...." – Barbara Holmes

KEY: **SOLEMNITY**; **FEAST**; **Memorial**; (Optional Memorial)
H=Hermit; B=Bishop; D=Doctor; Pr=Priest

Catholic Link

LENTEN JOURNEY

4th Sunday of Lent • Year C
Divine Office: Week IV • 30 March 2025

Free and Faithful

Many's the time I've heard a parent say of adolescent children: "You try to give them freedom and responsibility, but they don't know what to do with it."

Responsibility in freedom is an acquired virtue. It is learned through trial and error. Pope Francis speaks of God "shaping" us for freedom:

When our God reveals himself, his message is always one of freedom: "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery" (Ex 20:2). These are the first words of the Decalogue given to Moses on Mount Sinai. Those who heard them were quite familiar with the exodus of which God spoke: the experience of their bondage

still weighed heavily upon them. In the desert, they received the "Ten Words" as a thoroughfare to freedom. [They are] the strength of the love by which God shapes his people. The call to freedom is a demanding one. (*Through the Desert to Freedom*, Lenten message 2024)

Freedom is the context in which God enters into a covenant with the people of Israel. Having chosen them in a covenant made with Abraham, and having rescued them from slavery through the leadership of Moses, when they arrive at Sinai God is ready to reveal a new covenant: that He would be their God, and they would be His people shaped by His love. A covenant is before anything else a relationship of love. Only through relationship does the Decalogue – the

"Ten Words" – make sense. Technically they are not commandments, they are God's words expressing his love for and expectations of his people. That is why Jesus could sum them up as love of God and love of neighbour.

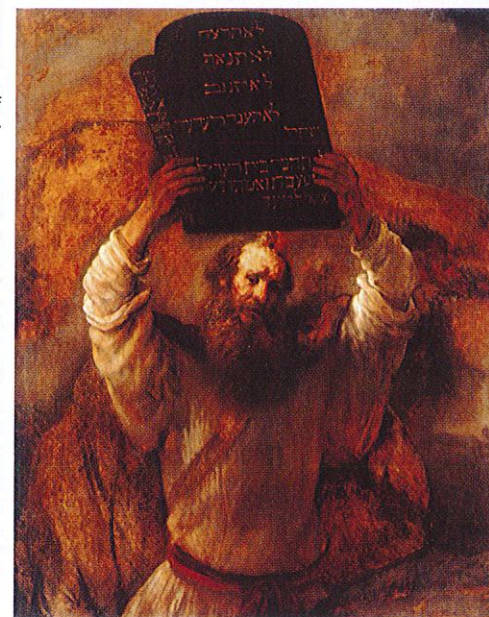
But let's stay with Moses in Exodus 19:3-6.

Then Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain and said, 'This is what you are to say to the house of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: 'You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession ... a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.'

In this important passage we see two things: who God is to his people, and who the people are to God.

God reveals himself in intimate terms. He carries his people "on eagles' wings", he "brings them to himself", and he calls them his "treasured possession". His people, for their part, must remember what God did for them in Egypt, obey and keep covenant with God, and live by their divine dignity as a "kingdom of priests and a holy nation."

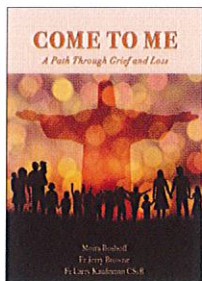
This is our dignity too, and then some. We are the people of a new and eternal covenant in the blood of Christ, pilgrims of hope along the Way that he himself is. "For freedom Christ has set us free", says Galatians 5:1. We remain free by remaining faithful to his word of love.



Moses and the Ten Commandments (1659) by Rembrandt

The title of this book is well chosen: Come To Me. Taken from Jesus' words, "Come to me all who labour and are burdened...", this book echoes the intimate and encouraging invitation of Jesus to go to him with our burdens.

Moirá Boshoff, from her years of experience in care ministry, helps us to name our pains, and Father Jerry Browne's reflections bring us closer to the Jesus who stretches out his hand of invitation. The book also involves readers in the process of reflection by bringing their own experience to bear on the various issues presented.



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Parish Priest: Fr David Evans
 Parish Secretary: Judy Joseph
 Bookkeeper: Tanya Charles
 Office Hours: Mon to Fri 08h00 to 16h00
 Website: www.stpatricksbenoni.co.za



Phone: 060 327 2998
 office@stpatricksbenoni.co.za
 bookkeeper@stpatricksbenoni.co.za
 106 Woburn Avenue, Benoni

Weekday masses are as usual	
Tuesday 1 April	09h30 Mass
Thursday 3 April	17h00 Confessions / 17h30 Mass
Friday 4 April	08h00 Mass / 17h00 Holy Hour / 17h30 Mass / 18h00 Stations of the Cross
First Friday	the Cross
Saturday 5 April	08h00 Mass / 08h30 Confessions

We pray for Jose Giao, Donald Kichenbrand and Tony Farinha who have died: may they rest in peace and rise in glory to live in joy in the kingdom forever.

A second collection for the **Bishops' Lenten Appeal** will be taken during Lent. This is for the needy so we ask you to give generously.

Saint Vincent de Paul will be taking their monthly collection, after all masses this coming weekend.

We need volunteers to help make palm crosses for Palm Sunday 13 April. This will take place on Tuesday 8 April from 10h30 to 12h30 at St Patrick's Hall. Do come along and help; make it part of your Lenten discipline.

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
 May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos
 In the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth,
 When, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
 a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.
 To you Our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

Holy Week and Easter			
Sunday 13 April	Palm Sunday	Mass as usual	
		10h00 Mass with Procession	
Tuesday 15 April		09h30	Mass
Thursday 17 April	Holy Thursday	17h30	The Lord's Supper
Friday 18 April	Good Friday	10h00	Stations of the Cross
		15h00	The Lord's Passion
Saturday 19 April	Easter - The Resurrection of the Lord	17h00	Easter Vigil
Sunday 20 April		07h30	Easter Mass
		10h00	Easter Mass
		No evening Mass	
For all of the above, you may park in the school grounds.			

Confessions in Holy Week	
Saturday 12 April	08h30
Tuesday 15 April	10h00
Good Friday 18 April (Park in the School grounds)	10h00 Stations of the Cross followed by confessions
	15h00 The Lord's Passion followed by confessions
Saturday 19 April	No Confessions

There will be an Easter craft market in aid of parish funds on the weekend of Palm Sunday. On Saturday 12 April it will be before and after the 17h00 Mass, and on Sunday 13 April it will be between the two morning Masses.

