

FIRST READING *Genesis 9:8-15*

I will recall the covenant between myself and you...the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth, to those who keep your covenant.

SALMO RESPONSORIALE

Le vie del Signore sono amore e fedelta'.

SECOND READING *Peter 3:18-22*

The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**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!**

CANTO AL VANGELO

**Lode a te, o Cristo, re di eterna gloria!**

Non di solo pane vivra' l'uomo, ma di ogni parola che esce dalla bocca di Dio.

**Lode a te, o Cristo, re di eterna gloria!**

GOSPEL *Mark 1:12-15*

He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.

THANKS TO THOSE WHO GAVE LAST WEEK

1 <sup>st</sup> Collection	- Thanksgiving Offering.....	\$787.00
	- Loose Money.....	\$300.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection	- Presbytery/Priests.....	\$281.00

LECTORS - THIS WEEK 01/03/09

6.00pm (SAT) – E Saliba  
 9.00am (SUN) – C Agostinelli & T Forte  
 10.30am (SUN) – J & J Kearney

SPECIAL MINISTERS

D Herbert  
 D Biasibetti, R DeZan & G Barbaro  
 J Frangiosa, A Mancuso & G Silvio

LECTORS - NEXT WEEK 08/03/09

6.00pm (SAT) – MALTESE MASS (Selected)  
 9.00am (SUN) – L Cavedon & R Fato  
 10.30am (SUN) - A DeCata & S Miano

SPECIAL MINISTERS

MALTESE MASS (Selected)  
 P Leggiero, A Sonza & M Piscioneri  
 J Tanti, A Filippone & L DeMarco

CHURCH CLEANERS

07/03/09 T Caruso, R Guerino & A Costanzo

MONEY COUNTERS

02/03/09 R & E Cornelious, R & G Silvio & J Galea  
 09/03/09 J & J Kearney, E & K Bartlett & C McMahon

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING

RECENTLY DECEASED

John CARABOTT (d. Malta), Vincenzo DE THOMASIS, Emma TEDESCHI

ANNIVERSARIES

Gina DI DONATO, Antonio, Lunella & Ines CALIGIURI, Pasquale, Angela & Mario LUNA  
 Maria DE MARTE, Condello & Maria FORTUNATA, Ernesto MERCURI, Maria-Rosa SPOSARO  
 Emanuele, Giovanni, Francesco & Teresa BUTERA, Saverio NICOLAZZO, Luigi ARTICO,  
 Marianna & Giuseppe GALATI, Stella ACQUARO, Domenico BRUNI, Maria PEZZANO  
 Michele INZITARI, Domenico CARBONE, Geatana & Anthony PACE, Joseph & Mary ELLUL

# ST JOSEPH THE WORKER

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SUNDAY MASS TIMES:

Sat 6.00pm - English  
 Sun. 9.00am - Italian  
 Sun. 10.30am - English

Fr Emmanuel Bonello—Parish Priest  
 Sr Doreen Bentley-Pastoral Associate  
 Mr Peter Chowne -School Principal  
 Mrs Liz Pistoni – Parish Secretary

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

Mon. 9.10am Comm. Service  
 Tue. 10.00am Italian  
 Wed. 9.10am - English  
 Thur. 9.10am - English  
 Fri. 9.10am - English  
 Sat. 8.30am - English

Maltese Mass

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the Month 6.00pm

Baptisms – Sunday 12.00pm

Marriages - By Appointment



Reconciliation: Sat. 10.30am

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent, Year B

1 March 2009

## Jesus goes before us

The Israelites wandered for forty years in the desert. With groaning stomachs and a litany of useless complaints, they moved from place to place, confounded and confused, with no purpose or direction. As time passed, this aimless wandering plunged them deeper into loneliness, isolation and despair. Hunger and thirst were constant companions. Their worship, prayer and relationship with God suffered.

They felt abandoned, but God had not and would not abandon them. But, time after time, they forged their own plans and went their own way. Wandering had become a way of life for them. It took the initiative of God to shake them out of their stupor.

Similar to the Israelites of old, we too can get caught up in a life of wandering. But our deserts are not those of nature, but of our own making. Trapped in a society of consumerism and individualism and seduced by a maze of passing fads, there is a deep and yearning loneliness that pervades the very fabric of our society. A hunger to belong and a searching to connect with others is a deep longing within so many today. Many are working hours which are far too long. The inner life of families is suffering. We are driven by instant pleasure, power and possessions which tear at our spirits. There is the sense that we are lost in the desert and don't even realise it. Yet God is in the desert. This was the hard lesson learned by the Israelites. Their conversion was not of their own doing, but rather of God's who hung in with them and carried them along. God's desire for them to be the chosen people and God's refusal to give up on them finally penetrated their minds and hearts. God's covenant with them transformed them from being a mob of wanderers into a strongly connected and deeply faith-filled people. They learned to trust and have no fear that God would lead them to the land which had been promised. God will also lead us through our desert wanderings. In fact God has prepared the way in Jesus, which the Gospel presents today. After Jesus' baptism by John, Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit where he remained for forty days and was confronted by temptation. But Jesus encountered and faced the wilderness and survived. Lent invites us, in the midst of our wanderings, our deserts, and the things that have a grip on us, to reflect on what is really important. Lent calls us to strip away the comforts and distractions of life so we can more easily realise the fragility and preciousness of life. Lent calls us to appreciate what is essential to our lives and to live more simply in closer union with God. Throughout life, we will experience temptation and the wanderings in today's deserts. Yet, we will be strengthened, as Jesus was, for what lies ahead. Wherever and however we journey, Jesus prepares our way. With him before us, there is no need to be afraid.

### LENTEN REFLECTION PROGRAM

Parishioners are invited to a Lenten reflection discussion group in the Parish House with Fr Manny every Wednesday evening at 7.00pm, and every Wednesday mornings with Sr Doreen at 10.00am. This is a great opportunity for parishioners to reflect on the Sunday readings during Lent and seek to come to a deeper understanding of how the Word of God can touch our lives. It is done in a friendly and informal way which promotes common faith sharing. Resources used are from the booklet "You've got mail", produced by the Archdiocese of Melbourne, with reflections on the Letters of St Paul.

**PLEASE NOTE** that the **EVENING LENTEN REFLECTION** for this week coming will be held on **TUESDAY 3 March** at 7.30pm. The following weeks will continue on Wednesdays.

### ITALIAN LADIES

Durante il tempo di Quaresima avremo, come negli anni passati, tutti i Martedì in cappella un tempo di riflessione e preghiera per la preparazione alla Santa Pasqua. Vi aspettiamo numerose Martedì 3 Marzo alle ore 9.00am per seguire il programma preparato dall' Arcidiocesi di Melbourne.

Seguita dalla S. Messa alle 10.00am. Arrivederci!

### EASTER DAWN

This year's Easter celebration on 12 April 2009, will be an **EASTER DAWN** starting at **5.30am**

This means that on **HOLY SATURDAY** evening 11 April 2009

**There will be NO MASS celebrated.**

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be conducted every Friday evening during Lent at 7.00pm in the Church. It will be in both English and Italian. All parishioners are warmly invited to come together for this important time of prayer.

### VIA CRUCIS

Via Crucis in Italiano e Inglese tutti i Venerdì della Quaresima, alle ore 7.00pm, in chiesa.

### BAPTISM PREPARATION

The Baptism Preparation Meeting will be held on Monday 2 March at 7.30pm in the church.

### MEMORIAL MASS

Friday 6 March 7.30pm – Felice Taranto (1 mth)

### RITE OF ELECTION

The rite of Election is when the Archbishop meets people (adults) who are to be baptised or received into the Catholic Church at Easter. This will take place this weekend on Sunday 1 March 2009 in St Patrick's Cathedral at 2.30pm. Julie Littler is one of our parishioners who is a candidate to be received into the Catholic Church. Julie will be presented to the Archbishop on Sunday. Anyone is welcome to attend at this ceremony.

### MALTESE MASS

A reminder that the Maltese Mass will be celebrated next Saturday 7 March 2009 at 6.00pm.

### HEART FELT THANK YOU TO ALL

Thank you to all parishioners for their generous contributions towards the Bushfires Appeal.

All donations have been sent directly to the Archbishop's Charitable Fund Appeal.

Grazie a tutti i parrocchiani per il loro generoso contributo verso l' Appello per le vittime del fuoco.

La somma è già stata mandata diretto al fondo di carità dell' Arcidiocesi per questo scopo.



## PROJECT COMPASSION

Project Compassion promotes peace by pursuing justice. Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of envelopes and give generously this Lent. Your donations allow Caritas Australia, the Catholic Agency for international Aid and Development, to work with communities to reduce poverty and hunger around the world.



### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent

Teopista lives with her family in Kyampisi, Uganda.

Despite working hard before joining the Caritas Australia-supported Sustainable Agriculture Project, her family ate one meal a day and went without food when they had no money and nothing to cook. Teopista couldn't afford school fees and her children often suffered preventable diseases due to poor nutrition and hygiene.

Caritas Australia's partner Caritas Lugazi is supporting 900 subsistence farmer families including Teopista's, with practical Training to improve household food security and increase their income.

Through on-farm trainings Teopista has learnt to improve her farm yields organically, to harvest rainwater and about basic nutrition and hygiene.

Teopista's family can now eat three meals a day and better plan for scarcity periods. With money for school fees, her children are now able to attend local schools.

**Your donation to Caritas Australia's Project Compassion allows subsistence farmer families to gain practical skills to increase their household food security and offers hope for a healthier future.**

### RETREAT DAY PRAYING IN THE MANNER OF ST PAUL

A reflection on the insights we can gain from the letters of St Paul with regard to prayer and an opportunity to experience Lectio Divina using selected Pauline texts.

This day is open to everyone but may be of particular interest to people involved in the RCIA process (catechumens, sponsors, team members) as well as individuals who wish to deepen their understanding of Lectio Divina and the writings of St Pauls.

### **Presenter: Fr David Hofman OCARM**

David Hofman is a Carmelite priest. He is pastor for the Port Melbourne/Middle Park Parish.

**Date:** Saturday 14 March 2009

**Venue:** Carmelite Centre, 214 Richardson Street, Middle Park  
(in the O'Connor-Pilkington Rooms beside the church)

**Cost:** \$5 per person (payable at the door) **Time:** \$10am – 4pm, **BYO:** Lunch (tea & coffee provided)

**Contact:** Annemarie at Archbishop's Office for Evangelisation

P O Box 146, East Melbourne Vic 8002

Ph: 9412 3325 F: 9412 3330

E: [office@evangelisation.org](mailto:office@evangelisation.org)

Pre-registration is essential, Deadline: 6 March 2009