



St Mark's Parish Newsletter

**Third Sunday of Lent, Year C.
7th March, 2010.**

Repent or Perish.

People reported to Jesus the horrible slaughter of Galileans by Pilate and the collapse of a tower on innocent people. Jesus told them...

Unless you repent you will all perish. v5

This answer states the importance of repentance because repentance generates life. Those who refuse to repent experience disaster and doom. Repentance is required to enrich life for oneself and to benefit others.

A person who refuses to repent is like the fig tree that does not produce any fruit. In order for the tree to fruit and provide a good harvest it must be pruned, fertilized and treated with pesticide.

A person who allows bad habits to take root in their lives causes harm to themselves and their misconduct can harm other innocent people. To become a useful person in society a person should name their bad habits, and then reform them one by one.



Experienced farmers know that a tree once it is pruned, fertilized and treated with pesticide will produce good fruit. A person needs to control his/her behaviour with the help of God's grace and a determination of will to become a useful person for both society and for the Church.

Jesus tells the parable of the fig tree to demonstrate God's mercy towards those who are willing to repent and come back to God. This certainly will happen when one cooperates with the opportunities provided by God's grace. Non cooperation means that bad consequences are unavoidable.

Fr Tuong.



"Your light must shine before all so that they may see goodness in your acts."

Matthew 5:16

Lenten Stewardship Online



Many Catholics are searching for ways to make their Lenten journey more meaningful. Some people resolve to give up certain foods or pleasures in their lives, and they contribute to charitable organisations that help the poor such as "Project Compassion". Fasting and almsgiving are important parts of the Lenten journey.

As we seek to deepen our relationship with God during Lent, our stewardship of time must also include prayer. Are you looking for something different this Lent? Consider these websites that offer daily reflections on Lenten themes:

- www.staygreat.com/default.aspx (a good site for Youth).
- www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Lent/
- www.jesuit.ie/prayer/
- www.wau.org
- www.apostleshipofprayer.org/reflectionsMonthly.html



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

Please take home a Project Compassion money box and/

or a set of envelopes and give generously this Lent. Your donations allow Caritas Australia to work with communities to reduce poverty and hunger around the world.

Easter Rosters—

Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday.

Would all Ministers of the Word and Ministers of Communion contact the parish office with their availability for the Holy Week Liturgies. Thankyou!

The Children's Choir have commenced rehearsals on Sunday mornings at 8.30 am. All children are invited to join the group. This year we are hoping to have lots of children involved and have two groups—a young children's group and a high school group. The Children's Choir will be singing at the Palm Sunday 7.30am Mass..

Beginning Theology! If you would like to begin this faith enriching course of study, please contact the parish office **this week**. The Deanery is meeting all study costs!

Going to Pray2010?

“Pray2010 is an opportunity to draw closer to God not only during the conference but through the seeds of wisdom that will be shared by many about staying in relationship with God on a daily basis. This is exciting!”

Shayne Bennett,
Moderator of
the Emmanuel
Covenant
Community



Register online at
www.pray2010.org.au



Sacramental Program 2010.



The parish is now taking enrolments for children in Years 4 and above who do **not** attend St Mark's Primary School to be prepared to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion. Classes will commence on the 2nd May. Enrolment forms are on the church entrance table or can be downloaded from:

www.stmarksinala.net.au

Please submit your enrolment form, with a copy of your child's Baptismal certificate, to the parish office by:

Sunday 25th April.

Enquiries: 3372 5658.



* **St Patricks Irish Festival**—Sunday 14th March at Willawong, see notice-board for more details.

Daily Mass this week:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
No Mass	6pm Vietnamese	8am English	6 pm Vietnamese	8am English	No Morning Mass.

Please remember in your prayers—

Those who are ill: Roy Tatten

Recently Deceased: Francis McAuley

Anniversaries: Leon Idzikowski, Ted Kalinin, Joseph Dam, Kevin Hooper, William Aird, Ana Tenisio, James Tan, Maria Kim, Maria Nam, John Minh, Jan Idzikowski, Maria Ne.

Parish Directory.

Parish Priest:

Fr. Vudinh Tuong

Pastoral Coordinator:

Kathie Ober

Youth Group Coordinator

Tam Hoang

PHONE NUMBERS

Presbytery and Parish Office: 3372 5658

Fax: 3372 5863

School 3372 3408

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon to Fri 9.00 am to 3.00 pm

Contact: Joy Spratt

ADDRESSES

Presbytery: 96 Lilac St Inala

Parish Office: 96 Lilac St Inala

Postal: PO Box 352, Inala 4077

Email: stmarks@bne.catholic.net.au

Youth Group: youthofstmarks@gmail.com

Web: www.stmarksinala.net.au

MASS TIMES - Next WEEK END

Vigil Mass (Saturday):

English 6.00 pm

Vietnamese 7.15 pm

Sunday:

Vietnamese 7.30 am

English 9.30 am

Reconciliation (English and Vietnamese) for the coming week:

By appointment—20 minutes after the morning weekday Mass or 20 minutes before the evening Mass. Saturdays 5.30 to 5.50 pm.

Baptismal Enrolment Session:

after the 9.30 am Mass TODAY on 7th March

Parish Roster for Weekend 13th/14th March.

Saturday 6.00 pm—

Reader: Barbara Venckus

Announcer: Elena Franklin

Communion Ministers: Marie Robinson

Pat Stringer

Susan Mollee

All Singers

Sunday 9.30 am

Reader: Joy Spratt

Announcer: Glenys McKenna

Communion Ministers: Dita Gagawanan

Anna Teni

Vacancy.

Samoan Choir

Church Cleaning:

Week Commencing 8th March:

Maria Nguyen Thi Ut, Matta Hoang, Maria Phuong Nguyen.

Week Commencing 15th March:

Mrs Duyen, Mrs Tuyen, Mrs Nguyet.

Counting:

7th March:

F & J Kilmister & M Powell.

14th March:

Melanie Van Staveren & Delia Niedermayr

Readings for Next Week's Mass:

Joshua 5:9-12; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Readings & Rosters available from website.

Planned Giving—

First Collection \$ 1388.30

Second Collection \$ 3289.95

Project Compassion \$ 527.60 to date.

PIETY STALL HOURS

Sat 6.45 pm to 7.15 pm

Sun 8.45 am to 9.30 am