

## Featurettes

### Ferials and Feasts this week

<b>Sunday</b>	2nd Sunday of Lent
<b>Monday</b>	Monday of the 2nd Week of Lent
<b>Tuesday</b>	Tuesday of the 2nd Week of Lent
<b>Wednesday</b>	Wednesday of the 2nd Week of Lent
<b>Thursday</b>	Thursday of the 2nd Week of Lent
<b>Friday</b>	Friday of the 2nd Week of Lent
<b>Saturday</b>	Saturday of the 2nd Week of Lent

### 24 Hours for the Lord

Pope Francis has asked that Friday 9th and Saturday 10th March be set aside for '24 Hours for the Lord' in churches across the world!!!! The initiative which began some years ago to encourage parishes to keep churches open for Confession and Eucharistic Adoration. The theme for this year's event is 'With You is forgiveness'. **WHEN:** Starting Friday 9th March, 6pm and concluding Saturday 10th March, 6pm. **WHERE:** St Peter's Church, Clayton. Please place your name down on the sign up sheet in the narthex in the allocated hour nominated. **To make this viable, we require minimum of two people per hour to be with the Lord for each hour.** Confession times will be advised. There will be a security guard on duty who will escort people back to their cars if needed. The adoration chapel will be closed during these times.

### Youth



### Parish Youth Meeting

The parish is possibly looking at running a youth ministry program for 10-13 year olds. We are currently seeking energetic and willing young people to form a core team to facilitate the coordination of this program. Should you wish to assist in this vital ministry then please contact Fr Andrew or Fr Thomas at the Parish Office or send an email to the parish. Is anyone concerned about the future of our parish?

### St Patrick's Night

The luck and joy of the Irish comes to St Peter's. We will host a night to celebrate St Patrick, the patron saint of our Archdiocese and fundraiser for the maintenance in our parish. It proves to be an awesome night and guaranteed fun, food and friendship! I am sure Irish eyes will be smiling and toes tapping, maybe even some ripping up of the dance floor. Venue will be the Parish Hall, Night begins at 7:00pm sharp. Tickets are \$30.00 per adult and \$20.00 per child (up to and including Year 4). There will be a raffle drawn towards the end of the evening. Numbers must be capped at 200. To avoid disappointment, get your tickets early! Call parish office or buy them in the narthex after Mass. Book tables of 10 people or we will place you comfortably with friends of good company.

### Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will be held in the Church at 7:00pm every Friday during Lent. This could be an act of prayer for your Lenten discipline.

### Flowers

As the Church refrains from flowers during the solemn season of Lent, all flowers must be placed at the grotto or in front of the statue of St Peter on the Clayton Rd side of the Church.

### Vocation Views

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.

St. Peter's parish is committed to the safety, well being and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults. If you see something that concerns you, say something. Need advice? Call the office of *Professional Standards and Ethics for assistance* on 9926 5677, or call the *Department of Health and Human Services* on 131 278.



**Parish Priest:** Rev. Fr Andrew McCarter | **Assistant Priest:** Rev. Fr Thomas Kuruvila

PARISH	DETAILS	MASS SCHEDULE
<b>Address:</b>	258 Clayton Road, Clayton, 3168	<b>Weekend Mass Times</b>
<b>Phone:</b>	9544 1516	Saturday (Vigil) 6:00pm
<b>Fax:</b>	9544 1089	Sunday 8:00am
<b>Email:</b>	clayton@cam.org.au	9:30am
<b>Website:</b>	www.pol.org.au/clayton	11:15am (Italian)
<b>Parish Secretary:</b>	Lisa Smith	4:30pm (Malayalam)
<b>Domestic Support:</b>	Seda Peters	<b>Weekday Masses</b>
<b>Italian Chaplaincy:</b>	Fr John Gandini	Monday 9:00am
<b>Office Hours:</b>		7:00pm (Malayalam)
<b>Monday</b>	11:00am—5:00pm	Tuesday 9:00am
<b>Tuesday—Friday</b>	9:00am—4:00pm	7:00pm (Italian)
<b>PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL</b>		Wednesday 9:00am
<b>Address:</b>	16 Mary St, Clayton, 3168	7:00pm (Mass & Novena)
<b>Phone:</b>	9544 3032	Thursday 9:00am
<b>Email:</b>	principal@spclayton.catholic.edu.au	Friday 9:00am
<b>Principal:</b>	Mr Jason Geraghty	2:30pm Divine Mercy
<b>Secretary:</b>	Ms Margaret Nahon	Saturday 9:00am
<b>CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOLS</b>		<b>Other Sacraments</b>
<b>Sacred Heart College, Oakleigh:</b>	9568 5488	<b>Reconciliation:</b> Saturday 9:30am (or by appointment)
<b>Mazenod College, Mulgrave:</b>	9560 0911	<b>Marriages and Baptism:</b> By appointment
<b>Salesian College, Chadstone:</b>	9807 2644	<b>Anointing of the Sick:</b> Please call parish office
<b>Killester College, Springvale:</b>	9547 5000	

## Second Sunday of Lent—Year B

25th February 2018

*God's Gift To Us: His Son - Abraham was prepared to give God his only son, Isaac, in sacrifice. God would do no less. 'This is my Son, the Beloved,' he says to us. 'Listen to him.'*

**FIRST READING:** Genesis 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18.  
**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.  
**SECOND READING:** Romans 8:31-34  
**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  
*From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard:  
 this is my beloved Son, hear him.  
 Glory and praise to you,  
 Lord Jesus Christ!*  
**GOSPEL:** Mark 9:2-10

**NEXT WEEK'S READING:**  
**Third Sunday of Lent—Year B**

**FIRST READING:** Exodus 20:1-17  
**SECOND READING:** 1 Corinthians 1:22-25  
**GOSPEL:** John 2:13-25

## Understanding Grace More Deeply

Rev. Fr Ron Rolheiser OMI

The mark of genuine contrition is not a sense of guilt, but a sense of sorrow, of regret for having taken a wrong turn; just as the mark of living in grace is not a sense of our own worth but a sense of being accepted and loved despite our unworthiness. We are spiritually healthy when our lives are marked by honest confession and honest praise.

Jean-Luc Marion highlights this in a commentary on St. Augustine’s famous *Confessions*. He sees Augustine’s confession as a work of a true moral conscience because it is both *a confession of praise and a confession of sin*. Gil Bailie suggests that this comment underlines an important criterion by which to judge whether or not we are living in grace: “If the confession of praise is not accompanied by the confession of sin it an empty and pompous gesture. If the confession of sins is not accompanied by a confession of praise, it is equally vacuous and barren, the stuff of trashy magazines and tabloid newspapers, a self-preening parody of repentance.”

Gil is right, but doing both confessions at one and the same time is not an easy task. We generally find ourselves falling into either a confession of praise where there is no real confession of our own sin; or into the “self-preening parody of repentance” of a still self-absorbed convert, where our confession rings hollow because it shows itself more as a badge of sophistication than as genuine sorrow for having strayed.

In neither case is there a true sense of grace. Piet Fransen, whose masterful book on grace served as a textbook in seminaries and theology schools for a generation, submits that neither the self-confident believer (who still secretly envies the pleasures of the amoral that he’s missing out on) nor the wayward person who converts but still feels grateful for his fling, has yet understood grace. We understand grace only when we grasp existentially what’s inside the Father’s words to his older son in the parable of the prodigal son: *My son, you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.*

The older brother would not be bitter if he understood that everything his father owns is *already* his, just as he would not be envious of the pleasures his wayward brother tasted if he understood that, in real life, his brother had been dead. But it takes a deeper grasp of what grace is to intuit that, namely, to grasp that life inside God’s house dwarfs all other pleasures. The same is true for the convert who has given up his wayward life but still secretly rejoices in the experience and sophistication it brought him and nurses a condescending pity for the less-experienced. He too has not yet really understood grace.

In his book, *The Idea of the Holy*, now considered a classic, Rudolf Otto submits that in the presence of the holy we will always have a double reaction: fear and attraction. Like Peter at the Transfiguration, we will want to build a tent and stay there forever; but, like him too before the miraculous catch of fish, we will also want to say: “Depart from me for I am a sinful man.” In the presence of the holy, we want to burst forth in praise even as we want to confess our sins.

That insight can help us to understand grace. Piet Fransen begins his signature book on grace, *The New Life of Grace*, by asking us to imagine this scene: Picture a man who lives his life in mindless hedonism. He simply drinks in the sensual pleasures of this world without a thought for God, responsibility, or morality. Then, after a long life of illicit pleasure, he has a genuine deathbed conversion, sincerely confesses his sins, receives the sacraments of the church, and dies in that happy state. If our spontaneous reaction to this story is: “Well, the lucky fellow! He had fling and still made it in the end!” we have not yet understood grace but instead are still embittered moralizers standing like the older brother in need of a further conversation with our God.

And the same holds true too for the convert who still feels that what he’s experienced in his waywardness, his fling, is a deeper joy than the one known by those who have not strayed. In this case, he’s come back to his father’s house not because he senses a deeper joy there but because he deems his return an unwanted duty, less exciting, less interesting, and less joy-filled than a sinful life, but a necessary moral exit strategy. He too has yet to understand grace.

Only when we understand what the father of the prodigal son means when he says to the older brother: *Everything I have is yours*”, will we offer both a confession of praise and a confession of sin.

## We remember in our prayers

**Recently deceased:** Lil McGrath, Loreto Calma

**Anniversaries:** Liberata D’Ambrosio, Hilda De Silva, Gerlie Goonewardene, Sam Patrino

**Sick & their carers:** Armando Ravelo, Robert Holdsworth, Warren Beaton, Nick Cincotta , Ricardo Dayonot and Margaret Iringan

## Parish Notices

**RCIA** - “For those moved to be the hands, feet and mouth of Christ, to increase their faith and experience”. You are needed! Please contact the Parish Office to be part of the RCIA team.

**Lauds or Morning Prayer of the Church** will be celebrated each weekday during Lent. This will begin 15 minutes before the morning Mass at 8:45am.

**Emailing Bulletin** - Please contact the Parish office via email if you wish the bulletin to be emailed to you. This helps the environment as well as in cutting down printing costs.

**Surrender** is a weekly program based on the Sunday Scripture readings during Lent (Year B). Two groups will run in the Parish Office on Thursday mornings beginning on Thursday, 15th February at 11:00am and Thursday evenings, beginning 15th February at 7:00pm during the weeks of Lent. Please contact the parish office to register for this program.

**Ministers availability for the Easter Triduum** - Please place your name down on the roster in the Narthex to should you be available for the ceremonies for the Triduum.

**New Roster** - We are in the process of compiling the new roster for April, May and June. Please notify the parish office if you are unavailable otherwise we shall assume you will be.



The last painting Raphael did was *The Transfiguration*. Commissioned by Cardinal Giulio de Medici, the later Pope Clement VII (1523–1534) and conceived as an altarpiece for the Narbonne Cathedral in France, Raphael worked on it until his death in 1520. It is now in the Pinacoteca Vaticana in Vatican City.

## ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEK | 4 March—Sunday Year B

	6:00pm	8:00am	9:30am
<b>Reader</b>	1 Tina Murrian	Bernie Fitzsimmons	Ted Smith
	2		
<b>Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion</b>	1 Maria Pavia	Peter Fitzsimmons	Leanne Smith
	2 Doreen Hickey	Tracey Baynosa	Elvira Coutinho
	3 Volunteer	Volunteer	Charlene Perez
<b>Hospitality</b>	Mary & Charlie Grech		
<b>Monash Medical Centre</b>	Lester & Mildred De Souza, Luan Viegas		
<b>Counters</b>	(Team 5) Angela Yeo, Des & Paula Perkins, Ted & Leanne Smith		
<b>Church Cleaners</b>	(Team 3) Betty Holdsworth, Val Manuelpiliai, Lucy Araujo - 2nd March		
<b>Linen</b>	Angela Bruno		