St Ambrose Parish
Woodend
2012

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
26th February 2012

First Reading: Genesis 9:8-15
Responsorial Psalm: Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.
Second Reading: First letter of St Peter 3:18-22
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.

MASS TIMES & SERVICES THIS WEEK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Mass</th>
<th>Exposition of Blessed Sacrament</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mass</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Exposition of Blessed Sacrament</td>
<td>7.00pm</td>
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<td>Mass</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Mass</td>
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<td>9.30am</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>Mass</td>
<td>World Day of Prayer Service</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
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<td>7.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Mass</td>
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<td>6.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Mass</td>
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<td>10.00am</td>
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LENTEN PRAYER
On Wednesday evenings of Lent we shall have Exposition of Blessed Sacrament at 7.00pm and Mass at 7.30pm. This is in addition to the Wednesday morning Mass.

Baptisms
Are arranged by appointment and are held on the first Sunday of the month at 11.00am.

Marriages
(6 months notice)
Arranged by appointment.

Reconciliation
Celebrated at 5.30pm on Saturday or by appointment with the Priest.

Parish Priest
Fr Martin Fleming
47 Urquhart Street
PO Box 397
Woodend 3442.
Ph: 5427 2690
Fax: 5427 3781

Parish Email
woodend@cam.org.au

Parish Secretary
Bernadette Petruccelli
Secretary Hours:
Mon & Fri
9.00am—3.30pm.

School Principal
Robert Macklin

School Website
www.sa.woodend.catholic.edu.au

Hall Caretaker &Bookings
Gillian
0402884450

Northern Deanery
Archdiocese of Melbourne

WELCOME
St Ambrose Parish community warmly welcomes visitors and new parishioners. We invite new parishioners to fill in a card found on the table at the church entrance and place it on the collection plate. A member of the Parish will visit you as soon as possible.
**COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND**

This service is available to sick, elderly and housebound members of our parish community and there are many special ministers of the Eucharist who would deem it an honour to provide this service to such people. If you know of any parishioners who would like someone to call for this purpose contact the office on 5427 2690 and we will make arrangements to assist them.

**WE PRAY FOR…**

Please keep in your prayers all the members of this community who are sick, especially all the sick of the Parish. God bring them peace of mind and a recovery to good health and guide those who care for them. We pray today for all those who have died recently, and for all whose anniversaries are at this time, especially Martin Wills and Gerald Farrell and for all those who have gone before us from this world to the fullness of life with God. May God have mercy on them all and help us to be faithful to their memory.

**CHURCH ROSTERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reader(s)</th>
<th>February 25th</th>
<th>February 26th</th>
<th>March 3rd</th>
<th>March 4th</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elaine Dugdale Walker</td>
<td>Ted Bartels</td>
<td>Angela Grinton</td>
<td>Ruth DeJong &amp; Michael Petruccelli</td>
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<tr>
<th>Special Minister(s)</th>
<th>February 25th</th>
<th>February 26th</th>
<th>March 3rd</th>
<th>March 4th</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Angela Grinton</td>
<td>Patty McKibbin &amp; Eileen French</td>
<td>Any Special Minister Present</td>
<td>Kate Mason &amp; Rhonda Loret</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church Cleaning</th>
<th>February 27th</th>
<th>March 5th</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chris Van Order &amp; Frances Bowen</td>
<td>Michael &amp; Karen O'Loughlan</td>
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<tr>
<th>Church Flowers</th>
<th>March 2nd</th>
<th>March 9th</th>
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<td>Parish Office</td>
<td>Parish Office</td>
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**GOSPEL REFLECTION**

To begin this season of Lent, we are given a hopeful sign, a rainbow that lifts our spirits. This is not a season of doom and gloom, but an opportunity to renew our relationship with God. To ‘repent and believe the Good News’ will free us from our anxieties, and help turn our minds and hearts towards God with faith and trust.

**COLLECTIONS**

- **Presbytery Collection (1st collection)**
  
  (This collection covers running costs of Presbytery and Priest’s stipend.) $495

- **Church (envelopes) collection**
  
  (This collection covers the Church capital costs, and on going maintenance.)

**ARCHDIOCESE MASS TIMES**

If you need to know the Mass times at another Parish in our Archdiocese you can now access them via the internet. All parishes are listed at: [www.cam.org.au/](http://www.cam.org.au/)

**MONDAY AT THE MANOR**

There will be no Monday at the Manor lunch this week.

**VOCATION VIEW**

Lent: the Springtime of the soul. A time to make a new covenant with God, develop new signs of our relationship with our Creator. Go into your own desert and discover your calling.
ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP QUOTES
These quotes explore the spirituality and personality of St Mary of the Cross Mackillop. She had much wisdom and insight and her words will help us to live the Gospel in TODAY’S world.

*Help one another, bear with one another as God bears with each of us.* 7/12/1899

Mary MacKillop’s Daily Quotes

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2012
Preparations are starting now for this years sacramental program. If you know anyone wishing to join our Reconciliation, Eucharistic or Confirmation groups this year then they need to contact us A.S.A.P at the parish or school office.

PROJECT COMPASSION
Your support for Project Compassion gives expression to the Gospel imperative to pursue justice and help those suffering from poverty and disadvantage. In this week’s Project Compassion story we meet Flabiana, whose family lost everything in the 1999 conflict following Timor Leste’s independence. Flabiana joined Caritas Australia’s Integrated Rural Community Development trainings, learning techniques for fast-growing crops, processing food and traditional medicines and breeding animals.

Thanks to your solidarity with the poor, thousands of conflict-affected families like Flabiana’s in Timor Leste are working towards a more just, peaceful world.

ST MARY’S ANGLICAN CHURCH GUILD
St Mary’s Anglican Church Guild will be holding a “Sewing Together the Squares” for the Salvation Army’s Blankets for the Homeless Project on Wednesday 21st March, from 11.30am to 2.30pm.
The theme this year is ‘Let justice prevail’ prepared by the WDP Committee of Malaysia. Guest speaker will be retired Bishop Most Rev Hilton Deakin AM DD PhD

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND
We all do things to enhance our lives; Fitness programs and diets to improve our health; Professional Development programs to improve our job skills. We offer you an opportunity for married couples to give a wonderful gift to your children by enhancing your marriage through a Marriage Encounter weekend. Good marriages need some attention occasionally. Please join us in 2012. take a look at our website on www.wwme.org.au Our weekends in 2012 are : 20-22 April, 15-17 June, 10-12 August and 12-14 October.

BREAKFAST BRIEFING
Protecting Victoria’s Vulnerable Children Tuesday 6th March, 7.15am – 8.45am
Catholic Social Services Victoria (CSSV) invites members and friends to hear keynote speaker Bill Scales AO, Member of the Protecting Victoria’s Vulnerable Children Inquiry at the Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert St, East Melbourne.
Entry: $20, payable at door.

POSITIONS VACANT
Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced people for the positions of:
- Cook—St Mary’s Seminary Mulgrave
- Administration Officer—Property Services
- Parish Secretary—Caulfield South Parish

REFLECTION
How do you approach the thirst of Jesus? Only one secret—the closer you come to Jesus, the better you will know His thirst. Jesus thirsts even now, in your heart and in the poor—He knows your weakness, He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you.’ *Mother Teresa*
First Reading  Gn 9:8-15
A reading from the book of Genesis
I will recall the covenant between myself and you...the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

God spoke to Noah and his sons, ‘See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.’

God said, ‘Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds, and the light which is in the clouds shall be the sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth, and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.’

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm
Ps 24:4-9. R. see v.10
(R.) Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth
Ps 24:4-9. R. see v.10

1. Lord, make me know your ways.
   Lord, teach me your words.
   Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
   for you are God my saviour. (R.)

2. Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old.
   In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord. (R.)

3. The Lord is good and upright.
   He shows the path to those who stray,
   he guides the humble in the right path;
   he teaches his way to the poor. (R.)

Second Reading  1 Pt 3:18-22
A reading from the first letter of St Peter
The water of the flood is a type of the baptism which saves you now.

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people ‘by water’, and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God’s right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation  Mt 4:4
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!

Gospel  Mk 1:12-15
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.
He was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him.

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. ‘The time has come,’ he said ‘and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Reflection
by Greg Sunter

The First Reading, from Genesis, and the Gospel this week need to be looked at together. In the Genesis reading, God has just wiped clean the earth and is ready to re-establish the relationship with humanity through Noah and his family. In the short gospel passage, Jesus enters the wilderness as a time of preparation and renewal, ready to embark on his mission of re-establishing the relationship between God and humanity. In both readings there is a sense of a fresh start – a clean slate – for humankind. It is a clear indication of God’s commitment to humanity, even when we have totally distanced ourselves from God and forgotten about keeping up our part of the relationship, God is willing to make a clean start of it all again. Both readings offer a reminder of God’s constant desire for us to be in right relationship with God and with the world. The presence of Jesus in the world was as clear a signal as the rainbow in the sky that God was willing to give us another go – give us a chance to again see God with new eyes and new understanding.

In the gospel passage, we have a picture of Jesus preparing himself for his public ministry. He takes himself out into the wilderness, away from all that he has known until this time, to reflect on his life so far and this next vital stage that he is about to enter. In the wilderness, Jesus is tempted. He has to face his own doubts and demons before he sets off on the road of his public ministry. When he leaves the desert wilderness and enters back into Galilee he immediately begins to preach and, in the first words accredited to him in this gospel, Jesus announces that the kingdom of God is at hand and it’s time to repent and believe. It’s a call to open your eyes and get with the program!
Ss Perpetua and Felicity were martyrs of Roman Carthage, c 204. Perpetua, a young married woman with a newly born son, was arrested for refusing to offer sacrifice to the Emperor. Also arrested was a slave-girl called Felicity, who was advanced in pregnancy and gave birth to a girl while in prison. Perpetua and Felicity and several men were all found guilty of treason and were taken to the arena to be killed by wild beasts. According to tradition, Perpetua and Felicity showed great bravery and faith and survived their encounter with a mad heifer, but at the request of the jeering crowd were eventually put to the sword.

**Wordsearch**

Try to find these words:

- angels
- animals
- believe
- day
- desert
- forty
- Galilee
- good
- John
- kingdom
- news
- wild

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T A M I D Q W T Y O G S Q Q D R W
O P R N F A Z H S I Z L Q O J I U
X K E O C I Q K Q K C G Z D D S T
H W F B V T L V K C Z F M L D L G
S H S C N Z V P M L H U I O V A B
P R T V C E N X O Y L W Z R D M B
F V L T H K V E P M D Q W K K I T
Y S E U H P S E J O H N R M F N W
A S K H W P S M I U V Y M J I A M
D R A N B E H K Y L T Q K Q O O U
Q T X D K O A J P R E A S Y D D B
C E L E H J Y L O P N B V G O V V
E E L I L A G F K G W W N O P U E
G J T G X O M Q E Z X I G J B W A
S K P G Q G I L Z O K D E S E R T
T K L G R G S A C O H M Q K A S U
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**Resist the Temptation**

Place ticks ✔ next to what you think are the right things to do. Place crosses ✗ next to the things you would be tempted to do.

**You see money lying on the ground at school**

- What do you do?
  - You pick it up and take it to a teacher.
  - You use it to buy icecreams and chocolate for all your friends.
  - You leave it where it is.

**You forget to do your homework**

- What do you do?
  - You tell the teacher that you left it on the bus.
  - You pretend to feel sick so that you can get out of class.
  - You tell the teacher that you forgot to do your homework.

**You break your mum’s favourite vase when playing basketball in the hallway**

- What do you do?
  - You tell your mum that the cat knocked it over.
  - You tell her that you knocked it over with your basketball.
  - You glue it back together and hope that no-one notices.