

**GOSPEL:** Mark 1:40-45

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark

*The leprosy left him and he was cured.*

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him .

The Gospel of the Lord.


**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Baptism:**

This week, we welcome into the Catholic faith:

**Jake Duong**  
**Emma Victoria Burgchard**

May they always know the love of God and feel His guiding hand throughout their life.



**Alcohol & Drug Information Service:** (Confidential) 02 9361 8000  
**CatholicCare:** Ph:13 18 19  
**Healing After Abortion:** 0400 092 555  
**Sara's Place:** For pregnancy support or grieving after abortion visit [www.sarasplace.org.au](http://www.sarasplace.org.au)  
**Spiritual Retreats:** **Benedictine Abbey Jamberoo**-[www.jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats](http://www.jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats) Ph:4236 0533  
**Carmelites Varroville** - [www.carmeliteretreats.com.au](http://www.carmeliteretreats.com.au) Ph: 8795 3400  
**Vincentian Retreat Centre Somersby** - [www.divineretreatcentre.org.au](http://www.divineretreatcentre.org.au) Ph: 4372 1598

**Catechist:** Bev Lamaro 0409 710 703; **Choir:** Line Collet 0410 568 103;  
**Friendship Group:** Bev Lamaro 0409 710 703; **Youth :** Alison De Sousa 0421 660 187;  
**Pastoral Council:** John Sarkis 0400 606 297; **St Vincent de Paul:** John Ashe 9796 1055;  
**Childrens Liturgy:** Marie El-Chaar 9709 3451; **Cemetery Committee:** Maureen Vincent 9790 4217;  
**Sacramental co-ordinator:** Gloria Booby 0413 294 224; **Polish Priests:** 8783 0533;  
**De La Salle Brothers:** 9708 2692; **St. Felix Primary School:** 9796 7875 Frances Bonanno - Principal;  
**LaSalle Catholic College:** 9793 5600 Mr Michael Egan - Principal;  
**Archdiocesan Website:** [www.sydney.catholic.org.au](http://www.sydney.catholic.org.au)

**PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM REQUEST FORM**

**Would you like to become a regular contributor to the Parish?**

If so, please fill in this slip and return it to the Parish Office. Otherwise send an e-mail with your details to Marie at [admin@stfelixparish.org.au](mailto:admin@stfelixparish.org.au)

Name..... Telephone No.: .....

Address:.....

Email : .....

WOULD LIKE ENVELOPES ☐      CONTRIBUTE WITH CREDIT CARD ☐      MAKE CHANGES TO MY DONATION ☐



# St Felix deValois Parish

550 Chapel Road, Bankstown, NSW 2200, Australia

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Marie Caldarerri, Secretary (Tues, Wed, Thurs)  
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**WEEKEND MASS TIMES**

**Saturday:** 6pm (Vigil),  
**Sunday:** 8am,  
10am (Children's Liturgy),  
6pm, 12noon (Polish).

**THIS WEEK'S MASSES**

**Tuesday, Thursday,**  
**Friday & Saturday** - 8.00am.  
**Ash Wednesday** - 8am; 11am;  
& 7.30pm. (9am at LaSalle Gym)  
**Friday** - 10.00am Lunar New Year

**Nursing Home Masses**  
No visits this week.

**Vietnamese Mass**  
7 pm - 1st Thurs of each month.

**DEVOTIONS**

**Benediction:** Saturday 7.00am.  
**Rosary:** Saturday 8.25am.  
**Divine Mercy Prayer:**  
6.30pm - 1st Wed of each month.

**SACRAMENTS**

**Reconciliation:**  
Saturday 4.30 - 5.30 pm  
Or by appointment.

**Marriages:** By arrangement with  
at least 6 months notice.

**Care for the Sick:** Any time.  
Please call the Presbytery.

**Baptisms:** By appointment.  
Preparation classes are held in the  
Presbytery on the 1st Sunday of  
each month after 10AM Mass .



Kính thưa Cộng Đoàn!  
Mong một Tết Âm Lịch năm nay vào thứ sáu ngày 16/02/2018  
Giáo xứ St. Felix chúng ta sẽ có Thánh Lễ Tân Niên  
lúc 10 giờ sáng để cầu bình an cho Năm Mới.  
Xin kính mời Cộng Đoàn cùng đến  
hiệp dâng Thánh Lễ tạ ơn Thiên Chúa  
và phó dâng năm mới  
này cho Ngài.  
Sau Thánh Lễ sẽ có tiệc nhẹ  
phía trước nhà thờ.  
Chúng ta cùng gặp gỡ,  
chia sẻ và chúc tết nhau.

**Lunar New Year Mass**

On Friday 16th February there will be a Mass at 10.00am to celebrate the beginning of the Lunar New Year. Refreshments will follow after Mass.

**Responsorial Psalm**  
**R.** I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation .

**Gospel Acclamation**  
**Alleluia! Alleluia!**  
A great prophet has appeared among us;  
God has visited his people.  
**Alleluia!**

**Comm Antiphon:** They ate and had their fill,  
and what they craved the Lord gave them;  
they were not disappointed in what they craved.

**This weeks readings** - Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46;  
1Corinthians 10:31 - 11:1; Gospel - Mark 1:40-45.

**Next Weekend:** 1st Sunday of Lent - Year B. **Readings:**  
Genesis 9:8-15; 1Peter 3:18-22; Gospel - Mark 1:12-15.

## 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Yr B - 11th February 2018

### Ash Wednesday

This Wednesday will be the commencement of Lent. Ash Wednesday Masses will be at 8.00am, 11.00am & 7.30pm. At 9.00am Mass will be celebrated in La Salle Gym.

*Please bring in your old Palms to the Presbytery this week so we can burn them to make the ashes.*



### Cemetery Committee Meeting

The Cemetery Committee Meeting is on this Tuesday 13th February in the presbytery commencing at 10.00am.

### Catechist Sunday

This Sunday at the 10.00am Mass we will be commissioning our Catechists for the start of the new school year. Being a Catechist is a very fulfilling ministry and only takes one hour a week to spread the good news to our children in the State Schools. Please consider taking up this very important ministry as more people are needed to lighten the load. Please see one of the Catechists after the 10am Mass today or call Bev Lamaro on 0409 710 703.

### Mass Intentions:

**Recently Deceased:** Andrew De Sousa; Sione Pousini; Vaoliko Pesamino.

**Anniversary:** Bernard Danh; Eugenie Thien Tai Tran; Joseph Antoun; Phero Ha Van Thien; Dora Galletta; Maria Dinh Thi Kim Man; Joseph Condello; Joseph Van Duc Tran.

**Deceased:** Lucien Descombes; Giuse; Phaolo M.D Tran; Fahme Abdul Ahad.

**Sick:** Jason Timbs & Bart Hennely, Dau (Xuan); Gerard Go; Fatima; Catherine & Lourdes Raspanti; Tim Logue; baby Alan Dien Quan Nguyen; Monina Rodriguez Pineda; Tenshi Asriel Magdaleno Arcenas; Jovie Casuso; Reyes & Adelle Lim, Madelyn Nicole, Rose Nuner; Maria Carta; Carmel Mascara; George Malouf; Dinh Thi An.

*(Please advise the office when the names of the sick can be removed)*

### Weekly Rosters

**Altar Society: 18/2/18 Group 3:** Youth Group, Samoan Divine Mercy Group, Tram Vu *(Florist)*

**St Vincent de Paul:**   **18/2/18**     John Ashe                   **25/2/18**     Andrew Nguyen

**Church Cleaners: 16/2/18:** Vinh Nguyen                                   **Children's Liturgy:** 18th Feb - Maree

**Weekend Choirs: 18/2 Saturday 6pm** - St Anne's Choir

**Sunday 8am** - Singing Servants of God.   **10 am** - Samoan Divine Mercy Group.   **6pm** - Youth Choir.

### Readers & Ministers

|             | Sat 6pm          | 11 FEBRUARY | 8am               | 10am               | 6pm                |
|-------------|------------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| C           | Gabrielle Nguyen |             | Maxwell Asuzu     | Helen Vujevic      | Elias Eltarraf     |
| R           | Gloria Booby     |             | Kiara Asuzu       | Jessica Vujevic    | Charbel Eltarraf   |
| A           | Joseph Bui (A)   |             | An Dang (A)       | Thong Tran (A)     | Thanh Vu (A)       |
| M           | Emmanuel Icard   |             | Mesake Mar        | Rosa House         | Paul Ngoc          |
| M           | Cindy Hoang      |             | Chris Kreltszheim | Tu Nguyen          | Phu Nguyen         |
| 18 FEBRUARY |                  |             |                   |                    |                    |
| C           | Patrick Abourizk |             | Joseph Dang       | Emanuela Viner     | Kathleen Mezentsef |
| R           | Kalisiana Mar    |             | Imelda Dela Cruz  | Mary O'Hea         | Lucia Mezentsef    |
| A           | Tuyen Tran (A)   |             | An Dang (A)       | Anthony Joseph (A) | Thanh Vu (A)       |
| M           | Emmanuel Icard   |             | Thao Nguyen       | Ala Pesamino       | Amelia Mezentsef   |
| M           | Gloria Booby     |             | Robyn Molloy      | Joe Luongo         | Loreto Eduardo     |

Reflection

*"Of course I want to! Be cured!"*

This miracle is about one person, but it has universal application. When Jesus cleansed the leper and took on his condition, we have the sign of what happened to humanity when the Son of God came into the human world. In the beautifully poetic creation story, God creates humans in God's image and likeness. In the incarnation, God in Christ comes among humans in our image and likeness. In today's Gospel we have a further expansion on this idea. Jesus takes on the isolated condition of the former leper who is restored to fuller humanity.

On the cross, full role reversal takes place. Jesus pays the penalty for all sin: he exchanges places with us by dying for us. We become more fully human by Jesus' death because he has destroyed what makes us less human. Here's the question this story poses for us: if the totally innocent Jesus took on the entire burden of our sin in his outreach to us, can we ever excuse failing to reach out to a brother or sister who is dehumanised by exclusion, persecution, marginalisation? The answer, of course, is that we can't. Who are the equivalent of lepers in our community? How might we reach out to them?

*The Living Word*

### Origin of Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday has a non-Christian origin and was accepted into the beliefs of the Catholic Church at the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD. The council also settled upon the 40-day fast period as the standard length to celebrate Lent. During this time period Constantine's goal was to combine pagans and Christians into a peaceable unit within the Roman kingdom.

Even after the Council of Nicaea the beginning start date of Lent was still questioned. In 601 Pope Gregory moved the beginning of Lent from the fourth Sunday of the year to Ash Wednesday, 46 days before Easter. This changed allowed for 40 days of fasting with six Sundays counted as feast days, for a total of 46 days for Lent. Pope Gregory also instituted the tradition of marking parishioners forehead's with ashes in the shape of a cross.

### Is Ash Wednesday Mentioned in the Bible?

Ash Wednesday is not specifically mentioned in the Bible, however, from Biblical times, sprinkling oneself with ashes has been a mark of sorrow for sin. Several times the Bible mentions people repenting in dust and ashes; for example: Mordecai (Esther 4:1), Job (Job 42:6), the inhabitants of Nineveh (Jonah 3:5-6), and Daniel (Daniel 9:3-4). Repentance in dust and ashes often was accompanied with fasting during Bible times.

The type of fast Jesus himself endorsed was the following, found in Matthew 6:16-18, "Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly." Additionally, Isaiah 58:5-7 says, "Is it a fast that I have chosen, a day for a man to afflict his soul? Is it to bow down his head like a bulrush, and to spread out sackcloth and ashes? Would you call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the Lord? "Is this not the fast that I have chosen: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; when you see the naked, that you cover him, and not hide yourself from your own flesh?"

Jesus is calling His followers to avoid making a show when fasting, but rather to help those in need. He is calling Christians to think externally in avenues of service, instead of only thinking internally toward themselves. The point of that matter is this; Jesus is interested in the condition of the heart and not merely external appearances or show. As you think about your life, repentance, and fasting where is your heart? Are you others focused or self focused? Do you desire to have true repentance and fasting as mentioned in Psalms 51 (especially verses 10-13, 17), or are your actions merely based on outward tradition?