



THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF IVANHOE

St Bernadette's Church, West Ivanhoe

Mary Immaculate Church, Ivanhoe

Mother of God Church, East Ivanhoe

No. 9

25 – 26 February 2012

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT: YEAR B

Reflection:



Have you ever noticed that Jesus begins and ends his public ministry in the wilderness? These deserts are the geographical bookends of the greatest story ever told. In today's Gospel we have Jesus in the desert for forty days. Much later, when condemned to death, Jesus is led out of the city and crucified at Golgotha, another dry and desolate location. In both places Jesus is tempted. In Mark we are never told what Satan's temptations in the desert were about. Luke and Matthew fill in those details. On the cross, however, Mark tells us that the crowd tempts Jesus to work a miracle, come down from the cross and save himself. In the first desert Jesus is ministered to by the angels and emerges to proclaim that the kingdom of God is close at hand. In the later desert Jesus is ministered to by his women disciples and is put to death as a consequence for the way he lived out the Kingdom he proclaimed.

It's clear from all the Gospels that the desert and the temptations stayed with Jesus throughout his life. What a comfort this is to us. Many of us do not need to go out and find a physical desert to know its claim on our lives. Temptations do not know geographical limitations. Indeed, the greater the number of options, the more temptations we have to take a destructive path.

When we look at how the desert is used in the Bible, mythology, art, literature and the cinema two competing images emerge. The first is that the desert can be a place of loss and ruin where some great heroes have gone and not returned. In another equally venerable tradition journeys to the desert, while filled with a mixture of pleasure and pain, are abundant with revelation, transformation and recreation. These two descriptions do not have to be contradictory. As we find in Jesus' example, we do not have to give in to the temptation that the desert is only about loss, but we need to find a path there to negotiate a way out of it so that we can emerge recreated, the richer for the experience.

It's important to remember in our own particular deserts that temptation is not sin. To be tempted by something is not the same as doing it. Temptations are the allures that make destructive choices look good. In one sense, the bad news is that we know from the lives of the saints that the closer we get to God, the more temptations increase. The good news is that we can learn how to deal with them. Usually, temptations have a context and a history. They can come when we are feeling most deserted and vulnerable and they normally strike us at the most susceptible points in our character. To deal with them we need to be aware of their pattern, the way they con us into believing that the destructive behaviour is 'not that bad', will be 'just this once', or 'for the last time'. As well, it helps if we are aware of the danger signs in our lives that can weaken our defences. Tiredness, boredom, anger, alcohol and drug use, lack of good communication and a poor self-esteem are common realities that can leave us more exposed than usual.

This Lent, as we venture with Christ into our figurative deserts, let's do anything that helps our self-esteem, deal with our anger, attend to why we might work or drink too much, and ensure that we are less stressed. Contrary to what we might think, these activities could be the most helpful ways we can make sure we emerge from our desert the better for having been there.

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THE WORD

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: When he calls me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

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

V. 1. Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. **R.**

V. 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.**

V. 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.**

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!

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL: God of mercy and compassion: **Hear our prayer**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY:

We remember all in need of prayer at this time including Jamie Bernhardt, Carmel Delaney, Joy Meacham, Sheila Ryan, Bev Horne, Sidney Delaney, Cathy Lengyel and Jill Brophy. We remember all who provide care and support for those in need.

We remember all who have died recently. We remember Julie Adley, Claudio Barsanti, Nick Buttifant, John Duffy and Marisa White whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

St Bernadette's First Friday Devotions - Friday 2nd March:

Mass will be celebrated at **9.15am** and will be followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Devotions will conclude with Benediction at 4.00pm. All welcome to spend time in prayer with the Blessed Sacrament.

Stations of the Cross at St Bernadette's during Lent:

As part of the Lenten journey, there will be Stations of the Cross with Fr Thang at St Bernadette's at 7.00pm on each Friday evening in Lent. All parishioners are invited to attend.

This Week's Readings: 1st Sunday of Lent: Year B

Genesis 9:8-15 Psalm 24:4-9 1 Peter 3:18-22 Mark 1:12-15

Saint and Feast Days:

Mon 27 February: St Gabriel

Wed 29 February: St Hilary

Fri. 2 March: St Chad

Tues 28 February: St Oswald

Thurs 1 March: St David

Sat. 3 March: St Cunegund

Next Week's Readings: 2nd Sunday of Lent: Year B

Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18 Psalm 115:10, 15-19 Romans 8:31-34 Mark 9:2-10

HAPPENINGS ACROSS THE PARISH

Tuesday 28 Feb	9.15am	Mass & MOG School – Junior School	Mother of God Church
Tuesday 28 Feb	6.30pm	Family Workshop for Reconciliation	Mother of God School
Wednesday 29 Feb	9.15am	Mass & MI School Grades 5/6L & 5/6T	Mary Immaculate Church
Wednesday 29 Feb	8.00pm	Pastoral Leadership Team Meeting	Parish Office
Friday 2 March		World Day of Prayer	Mary Immaculate Church
Friday 2 March	9.15am	Mass & St B School Grade 1/2N	St Bernadette's Church
Friday 2 March	9.15 & 4pm	First Friday Devotions	St Bernadette's Church
Friday 2 March	7.00pm	Stations of the Cross in Lent	St Bernadette's Church
Saturday 3 March	10.00am	Reconciliation	Mother of God Church
Monday 5 March	7.30pm	Baptism Preparation Session	
Tuesday 6 - Sunday 11 March		<i>Korean Holy Spirit Seminar</i>	St Bernadette's Church & Comm. Centre
Tuesday 6 March	9.15am	Mass & MOG School – Senior School	Mother of God Church
Tuesday 6 March	7.30pm	MOG School Parents Representative Council	Mother of God School
Tuesday 6 March	8.00pm	Richard McKinney Lenten Lecture	E. Ivanhoe Uniting Church
Wednesday 7 March	9.15am	Mass & MI School Grades 3/4M & 3/4R	Mary Immaculate Church
Wednesday 7 March	12 – 3pm	Outreach Social Afternoon	Cunningham Centre
Friday 9 March	7.00pm	Stations of the Cross in Lent	St Bernadette's Church
Saturday 10 March	10.00am	Reconciliation	Mary Immaculate Church

Thank you:

We sincerely thank Fr Tom Doyle who will celebrate 9.15am Mass at Mother of God on Tuesday 28 February whilst I am attending Prison Ministry. We are grateful to priests who support our parish in a variety of ways, as well as giving generously in both time and spirit. - **Fr Thang**

World Day of Prayer:

This year, we, in the Ivanhoe area, will gather for the World Day of Prayer at Mary Immaculate Church on Friday, 2nd March at 10am. The prayer has been prepared by the Christian people of Malaysia, with the realistic and challenging theme - and universal prayer: "Let justice prevail".

Please join with fellow residents of Ivanhoe who worship in other Christian communities. Please note: This day is no longer the Women's World Day of Prayer. Everyone most welcome.

From Archbishop Hart:

- ❖ Monsignor Greg Bennett has been appointed as Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia.
- ❖ Very Reverend Terry Curtin has been appointed as Episcopal Vicar of the Eastern Region.
- ❖ Bishop Tim Costelloe SDB has been appointed as Archbishop of Perth. Since his ordination in 1986 Bishop Costelloe has served in Melbourne and Perth, taught in our Theological College, been Rector and Formator for Salesian students, Parish Priest of Clifton Hill and Collingwood, as well as Auxiliary Bishop for the Northern Region and Episcopal Vicar for Tertiary Education in the Archdiocese.
- ❖ Very Reverend Martin Ashe has been appointed as Episcopal Vicar for the Northern Region.

From Fr Paul Gurry:

Fr Paul Gurry celebrates his 70th Birthday on Saturday 3rd March and to share his joy, he invites friends to attend a Thanksgiving Eucharist on Sunday 4th March, at 10.30am at St. Peter's Church, 844 Centre Rd. East Bentleigh. Refreshments will be available afterwards.

Fr Gerald O'Collins: Thursday 15 March 8.00pm Mother of God Church, 56 Wilfred Rd, Ivanhoe E.

On Thursday 15th March Fr Gerald O'Collins, renowned theologian and author (author and co-author of sixty books) will share his years of study, writing and lecturing to help us answer the fundamental questions:

Did Jesus rise from the Dead? Why does the Resurrection matter?

Gerry's recent book '*Believing in the Resurrection*' (Paulist Press) will be available in March

We are fortunate that Fr Gerry has agreed to help us explore and answer these questions. Fliers are available in each church to put on fridge doors, and pass on to friends and family. - Liturgy Group



Outreach Bus Trip to Lake Wendouree and Ballarat Gardens:

Bookings are now open for a bus excursion to the Ballarat Botanical gardens on March 21. We will depart at 9am from MI, stop for Morning Tea in Bacchus Marsh, enjoy a 2 course lunch in a hotel and visit the acclaimed WW2 POW Memorial as well as the beautiful gardens and Lake Wendouree all for \$42pp. Anticipated return is 5pm. Invite your friends as we need to find 45 people or the cost will rise. Bookings will close after the long

Lenten Richard McKinney Ecumenical Lectures 2012:

Presenter: Rev Professor Howard Wallace Theme: Arthur Boyd and the Bible.

Prof. Howard Wallace, Uniting minister and past lecturer at United Faculty of Theology and Melbourne College of Divinity has had a long interest in art and is pursuing an interest in the way that art relates to the biblical text. In these lectures he will pursue this question in relation to the work of Arthur Boyd.

All lectures begin at 8pm. Fellowship and supper after each presentation at 9.10pm. Donation: Gold coin.

- Tues 6 March: '*Eden*' E. Ivanhoe Uniting Church, cnr Maltravers & Lower Heidelberg Roads, Ivanhoe E.
- Tuesday 13 March: '*Exodus*' St George's Anglican Church, 46 Warncliffe Rd, Ivanhoe East
- Tuesday 20 March: '*The Golden Calf*' Mother of God Church, 56 Wilfred Road, Ivanhoe East

Keeping in touch with children who are baptised into our faith community:

One way this is done, in the Archdiocese and beyond, is by a programme called Godstart, CatholicCare.

We make use of the specially designed cards to greet the children on their birthdays until they turn 5 years and are starting school. Over the years, a number of people have hand-delivered the prepared cards, often giving an opportunity to renew acquaintance with the family. But people move, and age, and help is needed!! For each of the three areas of our parish, there would be around five per month. I really believe that this is a good thing to do and would love to talk to you about it. - Merle 9497 1691; email merlegilbo@hotmail.net.au

An important Ivanhoe event recorded in Kairos:

Thanks to John Costa for sending an account, in word and picture of the installation of Fr. Thang (26.11.11) to Kairos. It appears in the 5-18 February issue of which there are still some copies in our churches.

Sacraments 2012:

2012 Sacramental Brochures are available in each church for enrolment in Parish sacramental programs – Confirmation, Reconciliation or First Eucharist 2012. Enrolments are only accepted from families who live within the parish which includes Ivanhoe, Ivanhoe East, Ivanhoe West and Eaglemont.

Please note: Only children who do not attend Parish schools or who have transferred out of Catholic Primary schools need to enrol in the Parish Program. *Previous enrolment at one of the three Ivanhoe Parish schools whilst living outside the parish does not guarantee enrolment in the sacramental program.*

It is recommended that preparation for sacraments takes place in the parish in which the catechist lives.

Enrolment forms available from Parish Office 9499 1515 and website: www.ivanhoecatholics.com

NB. Closing date Friday 16 March 2012 - It is not always possible to accept late enrolments.

St Vincent de Paul Soup Van needs volunteers:

Many Yarra Deanery parishioners have helped out on the St Vincent de Paul Soup Van in Collingwood over the last 12 years. We need a few new recruits to work on the van in the evenings from about 6.30 to about 10pm. There are weekly and fortnightly roster positions available. We would also welcome a few more people to do bread pick-ups at about 6pm from Box Hill or Ivanhoe. Many tertiary students find that working on the van fits in well with their social justice outlook. Quite a few have stayed with us for 5 years or more. Minimum age for volunteers is 18, but lots of retirees also get involved. More information: Leo 9850 7097

Volunteers Needed for Children's Reading Club in West Heidelberg:

The St Vincent de Paul Society provides an after school Reading Club, based at the St Pius X School, Heidelberg West. It runs from 3:30pm till 4:30pm each Tuesday of the school term. We are looking for volunteers to support the children with their reading. We are looking for men and women who enjoy reading and spending time with children who can give a couple of hours a week. For further information and interest, please contact Reading Club Coordinator: Rachel Roffey 0407 200 441 or rachel.roffey@optusnet.com.au.

Parish of Ivanhoe Playgroup:

The Playgroup offers a welcoming and supportive environment where parents and children can play, learn and have fun together. **Ages:** The Playgroup suits children aged between 0- 4 years **Venue:** Mary Immaculate Church Hall, 4 Waverley Ave. Ivanhoe

Wednesday 9 - 11am Enrolments available to join this group & Thursday 9 - 11am (*Enrolments unavailable during Term 1, 2012*). Further details: Please contact Liz Shearer: 0411 345 664 or liz.shearer1@gmail.com

N.I.C.K. Foundation Players Annual Production - 2012's Show "A Wizard in Aus":

The N.I.C.K. Foundation Players warmly invite you to attend their 2012 production, "A Wizard in Aus", their third since the foundation's inception in 2009. The show "A Wizard in Aus" has been written by the cast, follows a young character named Max as he ventures around Australia where he meets some colourful characters. Please come and support the N.I.C.K. Foundation to support youth in developing belief and hope in their future. **Dates:** Friday 2nd March -7:30pm and Saturday 3rd March - 2:00pm & 7:30pm **Venue:** University of Melbourne, Union House Theatre **Tickets:** Adults:\$27, Children: \$12, Concession: \$18 & Family (2 Adults & 2xChildren): \$65. www.trybooking.com/BBMY; website: www.nickfoundation.org.au

ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND 3 – 4 March 2012

ST. BERNADETTE'S:

Saturday 6.30pm

Lector

Sister Frances

Special Ministers

A. Pellizzari, Sister Carmel

MARY IMMACULATE:

Sunday 9.00am

Leader

P. Callahan

Reader

M. / E. Ballao

Mass Coordinators

E. Ballao

Counters

T. McKinley, E. Ballao

MOTHER OF GOD:

Sunday 10.30am

Sacristan

M. Hoban

Lector

I. Chiera

Special Ministers

C. Bellio, R. Katerelos, I. Chiera

Altar Society: A. Moloney

Choir Coordinator: P. Verrocchi

First Collection – Thanksgiving:

Envelopes: \$1,659.00

Loose cash: \$515.65

Total: \$2,174.65

Second Collection – Presbytery:

\$ 870.55

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