



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

In ancient Greece actors wore masks which concealed the face. One may say they were 'two-faced'. They were called 'Hypocrites', and we derive our word and the idea of 'hypocrite' from that. As did Jesus.

He could always see through the veneer which people (such as you and I) present to the outside world, and his gaze would (and still can) penetrate through to the heart – the core of the personality.

For us, judging the heart of someone is fraught with risk. As Jesus humorously put it, how readily we see the smallest splinter of sawdust in someone else's eye, and in super-critical mode fail to see the plank of wood which impairs and distorts *our* vision. We should not rush to judgment.

The fact is that only the gaze of God can really penetrate to the heart of someone. We know that the gaze of Jesus, Who is God, is always a loving gaze visualising a heart open to salvation. (Mk 10:17-22)

This is one of the reasons why recent Popes have opposed capital punishment. Time must be given for the heart of the convicted criminal to respond to that loving gaze. And it leaves the Final Judgment, even of the murderer, to God.

Listen to the dying moments of Our Lord. His loving gaze penetrated beyond the masks and actions of his tormentors and focused on their hearts. Then he cried out this plea: 'Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.'

We are all conscious of the times we have fallen short of the practice and teaching of our Master despite our praying: 'Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.'

We could pause for a moment to pray that The Teacher's loving gaze fall upon us to make us whole-hearted disciples willing 'to be formed by divine teaching'.

mtate@bigpond.com

The Living Word

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C

27 February 2022

First Reading Sir 27:4-7

Do not praise someone before they have spoken.

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind,
so too the defects of a man appear in his talk.

The kiln tests the work of the potter,
the test of a man is in his conversation.
The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit,
similarly a man's words betray what he feels.

Do not praise a man before he has spoken,
since this is the test of men.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 91:2-3. 13-16. R. See v.2

(R.) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord to make music to your name, O Most High,
to proclaim your love in the morning and your truth in the watches of the night. (R.)
2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree and grow like a Lebanon cedar. (R.)
3. Planted in the house of the Lord they will flourish in the courts of our God,
still bearing fruit when they are old, still full of sap, still green,
to proclaim that the Lord is just.
In him, my rock, there is no wrong. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Cor 15:54-58

Victory has been given to us through Jesus Christ.

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

Gospel Acclamation Phil 2:15-16

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 6:39-45

A person speaks from what is in his heart.

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the

The psalm responses are from the English Translation of the Lectionary for the Mass ©1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy Inc.(ICEL). All rights reserved. The psalm texts, from **The Psalms, A New Translation**, ©1963 by The Grail, England and used by permission of the publishers. The scriptural quotations are taken from the **Jerusalem Bible**, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.

© 2017 Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd
All use must be in accordance with your user licensing agreement.



HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC PARISH, North Ryde

191 Cox's Road, North Ryde NSW 2113

Under the care of the Congregation of St. Michael the Archangel
(Michaelite Fathers)



Tel: 9888 2569 Fax: 9888 5076 E-mail: parish@holyspiritnorthryde.org.au
(27February2022) Web: www.holyspiritnorthryde.org.au

Michaelite Community: Fr Stan Kluk CSMA PP Fr Anthony Casamento CSMA

SUNDAY MASS: Saturday 5:00pm, Sunday 8:30am, 10:00am & 5:00pm.
Spanish Speaking Mass 12:30pm; Filipino Mass monthly 4th Sunday at 12:15pm

WEEKDAY MASS: Monday Communion Service 8:30am, Tuesday 7pm,
Wednesday - Saturday 8:30am **Public Holidays 8:30am**

Reconciliation: Saturday after morning Mass or by appointment.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: 9:00am to 3:00pm Mon - Fri

ST VINCENT DE PAUL REGIONAL HELP CENTRE: 9809 2757

1st Lent C: Deuteronomy 26:4-10; Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13.

Fr Stan writes ...

Jesus' parables in this week's Gospel are a reminder of the importance of continued learning, prayer and reflection, and humility in our discipleship. We shine God's light in the world when we are "lit from within" with God's grace, willing to examine our own conscience and recognise our own need for transformation through Jesus. As we get caught up in life's "busyness", we may sometimes be challenged to find time and energy to care for ourselves and attend to our own spiritual growth. Yet doing so can improve our family relationships and help us live more deeply, our faith. Discipleship asks us to produce good deeds. But to produce them requires the integrity and purity of heart found in the teacher. When people see our good deeds, they will know that this is because we have a faith filled heart.

This coming Wednesday (2nd March) we celebrate **Ash Wednesday**, and so the start of the Season of Lent. During Lent, we prepare ourselves to celebrate the high point of our Christian life, Easter. Each year, the readings for Ash Wednesday are the same. They call us to a change of heart and teach us about the traditional Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. I invite you to join us for Mass on this day where the Ashes will be distributed.
Our Mass times are: 7am, 8:30am and 7pm

Lent begins this week on Ash Wednesday 2nd March. Let us use this blessed time to reflect on the state of our spiritual life and prepare well for Easter.

Ash Wednesday is a day of abstinence and fasting with an opportunity to attend Mass. We invite you to join in our prayer. It is a tradition that on Fridays in Lent we reflect on Jesus' Passion by following the Stations of the Cross, we gather in our church at 7pm for this devotion. And, of course, during this time we also remember the less fortunate than ourselves by supporting Project Compassion. Good Friday is also a day of abstinence and fasting.

LENT BEGINS ASH WEDNESDAY 2ND MARCH

Ash Wednesday (Fast and abstinence) Mass Times: 7am, 8:30am & 7pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament during weekdays in Lent will take place after daily Mass, Tuesday to Saturday for half an hour beginning **Thursday 3rd March.**

Stations of the Cross during Lent, each Friday at 7pm in the church



We welcome into our Christian community through the
Sacrament of Baptism
Noah Tan D'Souza & Isabelle Olivia Gartner
and congratulate their families.



HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL - NORTH RYDE OPEN DAYS

Monday 7 March 2022 & Wednesday 9 March 2022
5:30pm - 7:00pm

School tours followed by the principal's address.

Phone: (02) 9878 2848

or email: info@hsnryde.catholic.edu.au to book your place.



HOLY CROSS COLLEGE RYDE

Open Day, Sunday 6th March 2022 10am-1pm

Principal's Address at 11:30am

www.hccryde.syd.catholic.edu.au

PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF: John Thomas D'Silva, Dudley Tay Heng Teck, Robert Tesoriero, Ross Egan, Marianna Cincotta recently deceased.

Also, Vincenzo & Caterina Cincotta, the Escalante & Venal families, Frank & Edgar Falzon, Carmela, Angelo, Paul Scicluna, Ignazio (Jim) Torrasi, Charlie & Melina Bietola, Dr Raphael Panetta, Rosina & Michele Panetta, Rosa & Raffaele Fazzolari, Mary & Sam Bietola, Frank Ientile, Maria Ientile, John, Annarita, Antonio Ientile, Natale Papandrea, Papandrea, Ientile, Cessario families, Angelo Fazzolari & Fazzolari family, Fortunato & Rosa Galluzzo & Galluzzo family, Rosina, Giuseppe, Salvatore & Bruno Panetta, Luigi, Rosina, Pasquale & Santa Genova, Mario & Dirce Gualdi, Antonino & Tindara Caravello, Alberto Tanzini, Angelina & Antonino Rando, Giuseppe & Maria Caterina Pupo, Baby Cove Rose Pupo, Emmanuela Delia, Joseph Lin, Rose Wang, Maria Sun, Maria Chen, Maria Lin, Rose Wang, Joseph Lin, Holy Souls in Purgatory and the deceased members of the Carabetta, Mule', Marcellino, Biviano families.

Do you need help finding help in the Ryde area?

A community care worker has joined Holy Spirit Parish, North Ryde and St Charles Borromeo, Ryde for help and referrals to services concerned with relationships, parenting, ageing, disability, addiction and mental health.



Call to make an appointment

131819

CatholicCare.org

connect@catholiccare.org

8am - 6pm Monday - Friday