



# FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

## Year A — 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020

*The community of the Cathedral of St. Stephen acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which our parish stands.*

*Embracing  
Villa Maria Centre  
and  
St Patrick's  
Fortitude Valley*



**Most Reverend  
Mark Coleridge**  
*Archbishop of Brisbane*

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*Jesus said,  
"Do you believe in the  
Son of Man?"  
"Sir," the man replied  
"tell me who he is so  
that I may believe in  
him." Jesus said, "You  
are looking at him;  
he is speaking to you."*

**Readings for today: 1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41**

*Dear friends,*

As matters of public health continue to be at the forefront of our minds, in recent days, Archbishop Mark Coleridge has announced the following provisions:

- The celebration of Mass on Sundays (including the Saturday vigil) is suspended with immediate effect and until further notice, and all the faithful are dispensed from the Sunday obligation.
- Priests will continue to celebrate Mass (the *Mass for the people*) on Sundays without a congregation, with people able to follow Masses live-streamed from the Cathedral at [archbne.org/bzw](http://archbne.org/bzw) on Sundays (8am and 10am) and weekdays (12:30pm) and "on-demand".
- For the time being, weekday Masses will be celebrated as scheduled, with the current restrictions and precautions to be observed. All weekday Masses will be celebrated in the Cathedral and Reconciliation will be provided as usual.
- The Body of Christ should be administered only in the hand and the chalice will not be offered.

Needless to say, none of these decisions have been made lightly and they have significant foreseen and unforeseen consequences. The timeframe for the lifting of these provisions remains unclear but we need to assume that they will be in place for some months. Increased provisions are certain to be enforced in the weeks ahead as we move into our cooler months.

Also, all regular parish meetings have been suspended into the foreseeable future but the Cathedral office will remain open. All weekday liturgies remain unchanged at this stage. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact the parish office. The Archbishop's letter can be read in full on our website.

We will also have links on our website to resources to help you pray at home during this time.

In these times of trial, let us pray that our faith may hold firm and our commitment to one another strengthened. Even in these times of social distancing, may we be mindful of our need to care for one another, pray for one another and support one another.

*Fr. Anthony*



*Cathedral of  
St. Stephen  
249 Elizabeth St  
Brisbane*



*St. Patrick's  
58 Morgan St  
Fortitude Valley*



*Villa Maria Chapel  
171 St Pauls Tce  
Spring Hill*

**Cathedral Parish Mass Times this week**

**Monday to Friday:** 8.00am; 10.00am; 12.30pm\*; 5.10pm *Numbers will be restricted to 100*  
\* (12.30pm Mass will be live-streamed)  
**Saturday:** 11.30am *Numbers will be restricted to 100*

**Sunday**

**Cathedral of St Stephen**  
**Saturday:** *Suspended until further notice*  
**Sunday:** 8.00am; 10.00am *(live-streamed only)*

**St Patrick's** *Suspended until further notice*  
**Villa Maria** *Restricted to Residents only*

**Reconciliation: Monday to Friday** 10.30-11.30am; 1.00-1.30pm; 4.30-5.00pm  
**Saturday** 10.00-11.00am

**Exposition (St Stephen's Chapel):** Monday – Friday 8.30am – 12.15pm; 1.00pm – 5.00pm  
**Benediction (St Stephen's Chapel):** Monday – Friday 12.15pm

## PLENARY COUNCIL PRAYER

*Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost.  
Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.*

*O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia  
and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council.*

*Give us the grace to see your face in one another  
and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road.*

*Give us the courage to tell our stories  
and to speak boldly of your truth.*

*Give us ears to listen humbly to each other  
and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.*

*Lead your Church into a hope-filled future,  
that we may live the joy of the Gospel.*

*Through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
bread for the journey from age to age.*

*Amen*

*Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.  
St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.*



## ARCHBISHOP EMERITUS JOHN BATHERSBY



Copies of the Mass Booklet and Prayer Cards for the Solemn Funeral Rites for the Most Reverend John Alexius Bathersby are available. If you would like a copy, they are available from the Cathedral Office.

## 40 DAYS FOR LIFE – HOW TO JOIN THE PRAYER VIGIL

Ready to end abortion through prayer? If you can spare an hour or more through Lent, please join us in our 40 day, 24 hour prayer vigil. For more information, email [40daysbrisbane@gmail.com](mailto:40daysbrisbane@gmail.com)

## CORONAVIRUS (COVID19) CANCELLATIONS (see below)

- **MUSLIM-CHRISTIAN DIALOGUE IN DIFFICULT TIMES**  
Due to the current health situation, the free public lecture by Fr Daniel Madigan SJ on **Muslim-Christian Dialogue in Difficult Times** on Thursday 26th March has been cancelled.
- **CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL PROGRAM**  
The Prayer Meeting usually held in St Stephen's Chapel, on the First Wednesday of each month has been CANCELLED until further notice due to the Coronavirus.
- **CHILDREN'S SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM**  
Children's Sacramental Program scheduled to begin after Easter has been postponed. Dates are already scheduled for later in the year and depending on the outcome of the measures being put in place, the Children's Sacramental Program will be held August/September. Many thanks for your continued patience and understanding as we come to terms with these unprecedented times.
- **LENTEN DISCUSSION GROUPS**  
Sunday after the 12 noon Mass and Thursday morning.
- **FISH AND CHIP FRY-DAY**

## WHAT IS NOT CANCELLED

- **Weekday Masses** will still be celebrated in the Cathedral, with restrictions to 100 people. We ask, if you do attend weekday Mass, to keep a distance of 1.5m between yourselves.
- The **12:30pm week day Mass** will be live streamed.
- During the week, St Stephen's Chapel will be used for **Adoration**.
- **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in St Stephen's Chapel** at the conclusion of the 8am Mass.
- **Benediction** will be celebrated in the chapel at 12:15pm after which people will be invited to process to the Cathedral for Mass.
- After the conclusion of the 12:30pm Mass, **the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed in St Stephen's Chapel until 5pm**.
- **Sacrament of Reconciliation** will still be available during the week.
- Some prayers are provided here, for the faithful to pray before the Blessed Sacrament.

## CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) - LATEST NEWS

The Archdiocese of Brisbane provides the latest updates and advice from the Queensland Government on the Coronavirus. Visit the Archdiocese website at <https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/>

### LENTEN PRAYER

*Fast from judging others;  
feast on the Christ indwelling in them.  
Fast from emphasis on differences;  
feast on the unity of all life.  
Fast from apparent darkness; feast on the reality of light.  
Fast from words that pollute; feast on phrases that purify.  
Fast from discontent; feast on gratitude.  
Fast from anger; feast on patience.  
Fast from pessimism; feast on optimism.  
Fast from worry; feast on trust.  
Fast from complaining; feast on appreciation.  
Fast from negatives; feast on affirmatives.  
Fast from unrelenting pressures;  
feast on unceasing prayer.  
Fast from hostility; feast on nonviolence.  
Fast from bitterness; feast on forgiveness.  
Fast from self-concern; feast on compassion for others.  
Fast from personal anxiety; feast on eternal truth.  
Fast from discouragement; feast on hope.  
Fast from facts that depress; feast on truths that uplift.  
Fast from lethargy; feast on enthusiasm.  
Fast from suspicion; feast on truth.  
Fast from thoughts that weaken;  
feast on promises that inspire.  
Fast from idle gossip; feast on purposeful silence.  
Gentle God, during this season of fasting and feasting,  
gift us with your presence,  
so we can be a gift to others in carrying out your work.  
Amen.*

## Prayers Before the Blessed Sacrament

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

We hunger for the Bread of Life. Lord, be our nourishment: I am the living bread, that came down from heaven, says the Lord. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever, and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world.

**Let us pray.**

O God, who have accomplished the work of human redemption through the Paschal Mystery of your Only Begotten Son, graciously grant that we, who confidently proclaim, under sacramental signs, the Death and Resurrection of Christ, may experience continued increase of your saving grace.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**1 Kings 19:4-8** A reading from the first book of the Kings

*In the strength of that food, Elijah walked to the mountain of God.*

Elijah went into the wilderness, a day's journey, and sitting under a furze bush wished he were dead. 'Lord,' he said 'I have had enough. Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down and went to sleep. But an angel touched him and said, 'Get up and eat.' He looked round, and there at his head was a scone baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. But the angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, 'Get up and eat, or the journey will be too long for you.' So he got up and ate and drank, and strengthened by that food he walked for forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God. **The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

**Ps 115:12-13, 15-18** *R. I will take the cup of salvation, and call on the name of the Lord.*

How can I repay the Lord for his goodness to me? The cup of salvation I will raise; I will call on the Lord's name. R.

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil before all his people. O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful. R.

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; you have loosened my bonds. A thanksgiving sacrifice I make: I will call on the Lord's name. R.

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26** A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

*Each time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are proclaiming the death of the Lord Jesus.*

This is what I received from the Lord, and in turn passed on to you: that on the same night that he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread, and thanked God for it and broke it, and he said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this as a memorial of me.' In the same way he took the cup after supper, and said, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this as a memorial of me.' Until the Lord comes, therefore, every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are proclaiming his death.

**The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

**Luke 9:11-17** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*All the people ate and were satisfied.*

Jesus made the crowds welcome and talked to them about the kingdom of God; and he cured those who were in need of healing. It was late afternoon when the Twelve came to him and said, 'Send the people away, and they can go to the villages and farms round about to find lodging and food; for we are in a lonely place here.' He replied, 'Give them something to eat yourselves.' But they said, 'We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless we are to go ourselves and buy food for all these people.' For there were about five thousand men. But he said to his disciples, 'Get them to sit down in parties of about fifty.' They did so and made them all sit down. Then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven, and said the blessing over them; then he broke them and handed them to his disciples to distribute among the crowd. They all ate as much as they wanted, and when the scraps remaining were collected they filled twelve baskets.

**The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**LET US PRAY FOR THE NEEDS OF THE WORLD**

For the Church; that in this time of famine, we may grow evermore hungry for the Bread of Life. **Lord, Hear Us.**

For our world; that our fears may not overwhelm us and that the well-being of the whole human family may be protected. **Lord, Hear Us.**

For our diocese; that communities may become the Bread of Life by supporting one another and caring for the most vulnerable and in need. **Lord, Hear Us.**

For those who work in government, healthcare and public service; that by working together, the safety of all and the common good of society may be the fruits of their labours and the reward of their work. **Lord, Hear Us.**

For the isolated, elderly and frail; that in these times of uncertainty, they may be strengthened by the prayers of the church. **Lord, of Life, Hear Us.**

**Almighty and all-merciful God,** lover of the human race, healer of all our wounds,

in whom there is no shadow of death, save us in this time of crisis;

grant wisdom and courage to our leaders; watch over all medical people

as they tend the sick and work for a cure; stir in us a sense of solidarity beyond all isolation;

if our doors are closed, let our hearts be open.

By the power of your love destroy the virus of fear, that hope may never die and the light of Easter, the triumph of life, may shine upon us and the whole world.

Through Jesus Christ, the Lord risen from the dead, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

*Holy Mary, health of the sick, pray for us.*

*St Joseph, guardian of us all, pray for us.*

**Lord God,** Strength of the weary, medicine of the weak,

Be near to us as we call on you. May our nourishment during this time and renew us daily in your love.

May God bless us, keep us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

# Celebrate the faith with your community, from home



We're taking a number of actions to help protect the community and curb the spread of COVID-19. While weekend Masses have been suspended, there are plenty of other ways you can celebrate your faith and connect with the Catholic community.

## Watch Mass online

Join us online for Mass broadcast live from St Stephen's Cathedral 12.30pm weekdays, 8am and 10am Sunday at [www.archbne.org/bzw](http://www.archbne.org/bzw). You can also watch an earlier Mass recorded on the same website.

## Read the latest news from The Catholic Leader

The online edition of The Catholic Leader newspaper will be extended to all parishioners for free during this time. Keep faith with the Leader at [www.catholicleader.com.au](http://www.catholicleader.com.au).

## Get the latest social media updates

Like us on Facebook at [facebook.com/archbne](https://facebook.com/archbne) and follow us on Instagram @archbne

## Receive inspiration in your inbox

Sign up to receive regular emails, including two-minute homilies, daily readings and updates from the Archdiocese by visiting [archbne.org/dwlk](http://archbne.org/dwlk)

## Keep in touch with your parish

Your parish is here to support you. You can find full parish contact details at [archbne.org/qbw](http://archbne.org/qbw)

## Support your parish

Our faith will sustain us through challenging times. Please keep helping your parish community by continuing your weekly offering via direct debit. Call the Archdiocesan Development Fund at 07 3324 3777 to find out how.



**ARCHDIOCESE  
OF BRISBANE**

For more information on how to stay healthy and help stop the spread of COVID-19:  
Go to [www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au) or call the national hotline on 1800 020 080.