

Saint Michael's War Memorial Catholic Church

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Admin: Rev. Fr. Phan Nguyen

Secretary: Grace Guerrero (Thurs, Fri)

Parish Support: Myrna Sarmiento

Bookkeeper: Patricia Low



*"Come to worship
Go to proclaim"*

School: St Michael's Catholic Primary School | Web: www.stmdaceyville.catholic.edu.au

Tel: 02 9344 8512 | Principal: Geoffrey Carey



11th February, 2024

6th Ordinary Sunday—Year B

14th Feb—ASH WEDNESDAY 9.15am (School Mass) & 7pm

14th Feb—Reconciliation 6pm—6.45pm

Stations of the Cross (Fridays During Lent) - 6pm

FIRST READING:

As long as he is unclean, he must live alone, outside the camp.

Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**I turn to you, Lord, in times of trouble, and you
fill me with the joy of salvation.**

Ps 31:1-2, 5,11. R. v. 5

SECOND READING:

Be imitators of me, as I am in Christ.

Corinthians 10:31-11:1

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia

A great prophet has appeared among us;

God has visited his people.

Alleluia.

Lk 7:16

GOSPEL:

The Leprosy left him and he was cured.

Mark 1:40-45

St. Michael's Parish Notice

Sick: Vince Buchan, Sylvia Newman, David Low, Jimmy Chandra, Yustinus Adrianto
Mass Intentions Sun 8am **Yustinus Adrianto**, †Dominic & †Tony La Macchia
Sun 10am †Emasi Hivapeaulu
Tues 7.30am **Friends and relatives living and deceased of M Thomson**

We acknowledge the Gweagal People, the traditional Custodians of this land.

Collection w/e 4/2/24

1st Collection: \$582.35 2nd Collection: \$331.00, Planned Giving \$294.80

Thank You for your generous support.

Project Compassion 2024

Money boxes will be available in the foyer to take home, fill up and to return after Easter. Project Compassion raises funds which help provide opportunities to people in vulnerable communities in Australia & overseas. Using a holistic approach, training & employment are provided which concentrates on social, economic & spiritual development.

Origin of Ash Wednesday

The practice of putting ashes on one's forehead has been known from ancient times. In the Nordic Pagan Religion placing ashes above one's brow was believed to ensure the protection of the Norse god, *Odin*. This practice spread to Europe during the Vikings conquests. This laying on of ashes was done on Wednesday, the day named for Odin, Odin's Day. The liturgical use of ashes originated in the Old Testament times. Ashes symbolized mourning, mortality, and penance. The priest would bless the dying person with holy water, saying, "Remember that thou art dust and to dust thou shalt return. In the early Christian church, there were only 36 days of fasting (excluding Sundays). In the 7th century, 4 days were added before the first Sunday in Lent in order to establish 40 fasting days, an imitation of Jesus Christ's fast in the desert.

Lenten Observance

1. Abstinence from meat, and fasting, *must be observed on **Ash Wednesday and Good Friday***. All who have completed their eighteenth year and have not yet begun their sixtieth year are bound to fast. All who have completed their fourteenth year are bound to abstain.

2. On all other Fridays of the year including the Fridays of Lent, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following:

(a) prayer - for example, Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying the rosary.

(b) self-denial - for example, not eating meat; not eating sweets or dessert; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor of one's own country; limiting use of social media, smart phones or television.

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is to be done between **Ash Wednesday, 14th February, 2024, and Trinity Sunday (26th May, 2024).**

The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Safeguarding Office

Child sexual abuse is a crime. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Or contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial integrity office at (02) 9390-5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org

*Please observe silence in God's house.
Please turn your mobile off or put it on silent.*



Lunar New Year - GONG XI FA CAI

“Gong xi fa cai” (恭喜发财) in Mandarin Chinese means
“congratulations on the fortune.”

“Chúc mừng năm mới” in Vietnamese means Happy New Year.

The *Lunar New Year* will begin on 10 February in 2024. This marks the start of the Year of the Wood Dragon. Lunar New Year is a fifteen-day celebration marked by many traditions.

History of Shrove Tuesday 13th February

The name comes from the old word ‘shriving’, which means to listen to someone’s sins and forgive them. In the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia and Canada, Shrove Tuesday has another name... *Pancake Day!* Traditionally during Lent, Christians would give up rich, tasty foods such as butter, eggs, sugar and fat, Shrove Tuesday was the last chance to eat them. Christians would go to church on Shrove Tuesday to confess their sins and clean their soul. In other words, they would be ‘shriven’. Shrove Tuesday is the day before Ash Wednesday (the start of the Lenten season). Pancake races are a Shrove Tuesday tradition. In this activity, people race each other whilst tossing a pancake in a pan. Today, pancake races are often organised to raise money for charity and help those in need. The history of pancakes on Shrove Tuesday originated way back in 1445, in the town of Olney in Buckinghamshire, England. A woman was so busy making pancakes that she lost track of time. When she heard the church bells ringing for the Shrove Tuesday mass, she ran as fast as she could to make it, and arrived still carrying her pancake in the pan! Pancakes have become such a popular Shrove Tuesday tradition that on this day, a whopping 52 million eggs are used in the UK alone! In other countries, Shrove Tuesday has different names. In France and some other parts of the world, the festival is called ‘Mardi Gras’, from the French phrase meaning ‘Fat Tuesday’. Lots of cities around the world celebrate Mardi Gras with street parties featuring live bands, colourful parades, and elaborate fancy-dress costumes! Some of the world’s largest and most famous Mardi Gras celebrations take place in New Orleans in the USA, Rio de Janeiro in Brazil.

Feast of St Valentine – 14th February

St. Valentine, was a Roman priest who was martyred during the reign of Emperor Claudius II. The Emperor made a law that soldiers could not marry with the theory that this made them better in war. St Valentine secretly married couples, so husbands would not have to go to war. He also aided Christians being persecuted by Emperor Claudius II. After his arrest, he prayed and cured the blindness of the daughter of the judge who sentenced him to jail. The Judge broke all the idols around his house, fasted for three days and became baptized, along with his family and entire 44 member household. The now faithful judge then freed all of his Christian inmates, including St Valentine. St Valentine refused to renounce Christianity, and was willing to accept his fate. He was beaten, stoned and then decapitated. On the day of his execution, he left the Judge’s daughter a note signed, "Your Valentine." He was executed on 14th February. This is why St Valentine became the Patron Saint of love and Bees. Honey is representative of love as well as bees, which are obviously symbols of pollination (or procreation). The aphrodisiac properties of honey are thought to lie in the regulation of hormones, something the ancients knew intuitively. They would give newlyweds a bottle of mead, which is an alcohol originally brewed from honey. This is why we have the term, “honeymoon,” for those who’ve been just married. Relics of St. Valentine can be found all over the world. A flower-crowned skull of St. Valentine can be found in the Basilica of Santa Maria in Cosmedin, Rome. Fr. John Spratt received a gift from Pope Gregory XVI in 1836 containing a "small vessel tinged" with St. Valentine's blood. This gift now stands placed in Whitefriar Street Church in Dublin, Ireland.

May your Valentine’s Day be filled with abundant blessings.

Mass Times: **Saturday Vigil:** 5:00pm
 Sunday: 8:00am, 10:00am
Weekday: **Monday:**
 Tuesday: 7:30am
 Wednesday: 7:00pm
 Thursday: 7:30am
 Friday: 9:15am

Reconciliation

Wednesday: 6:15pm – 6:45pm
Saturday: 4:15pm – 4:45pm



Contact The Presbytery

Parish Office Hours: Thurs & Fri 9:00am to 2:30pm

Holy Hour: Wednesday, 6:00pm

Baptisms & Weddings: by appointment.

Baptisms: Sundays after the 10am Mass

Volunteers Roster:

This weekend - 11th February, 2024 6th Ordinary Sunday

<u>Vigil:</u> (A) Hartanto, A Yap	(R) G Metternicht, Br Robert	(M) Thomas W
<u>8am:</u> (A) Mark S, Andy H	(R) A Burke, G Guerrera	(M) Patricia L
<u>10am:</u> (A) N Jenner	(R) K Wong, Volunteer	(M) M Sarmiento

Piety Stall: (Vigil) F Wu (Sun, 8am) I Koeswanto (Sun, 10am) L Jenner

Next weekend - 18th February, 2024 1st Sun Lent

<u>Vigil:</u> (A) Hartanto, A Yap	(R) F Hogan, M Vassallo	(M) Thomas W
<u>8am:</u> (A) Mark S, Andy H	(R) G Guerrera, Justine	(M) Patricia L
<u>10am:</u> (A) N Jenner	(R) D Sarmiento, Jordan	(M) M Sarmiento

Piety Stall: (Vigil) C Lan Kam (Sun, 8am) I Koeswanto (Sun, 10am) L Jenner

Parishioners wishing to apply for any of the Ministries, please contact the Parish Office.
 Thank you!