



# THE SAVING WORD

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT / A

22 FEBRUARY 2026

## FIRST READING

Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7

A reading from the book of Genesis

*Creation of our first parents, and sin.*

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death."' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

✠ **The word of the Lord.**

## RESP PSALM

Ps 50:3-6, 12-14, 17. R. v. 3

**R. Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. / In your compassion blot out my offence. / O wash me more and more from my guilt / and cleanse me from my sin. **R.**

2. My offences truly I know them; / my sin is always before me. / Against you, you alone



have I sinned; / what is evil in your sight I have done. **R.**

3. A pure heart create for me, O God, / put a steadfast spirit within me. / Do not cast me away from your presence, / nor deprive me of your holy spirit. **R.**

4. Give me again the joy of your help; / with a spirit of fervour sustain me. / O Lord, open my lips / and my mouth shall declare your praise. **R.**

## SECOND READING

Rom 5:12, 17-19.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*Where sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.*

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned.

If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

✠ **The word of the Lord.**

*Longer form 5:12-19*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 4:4

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!

## GOSPEL

Mt 4:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.*

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says:

Man does not live on bread alone  
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God' he said 'throw yourself down; for scripture says:

He will put you in his angels' charge,  
and they will support you on their hands  
in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says:

You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these,' he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God,  
and serve him alone.'

Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

✦ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

## A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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# Breaking Open the Word

## SELF-CENTRED SEDUCTIONS

As is traditional on the First Sunday of Lent, the Gospel passage is about Jesus' temptation, an appropriate theme as we begin our own journey in Lent and begin to explore our own seductive temptations. We are all prone to these, and Matthew presents us with a Jesus similarly tested: an egoism exclusive of others especially God, the attraction to power and the seduction of wealth. These temptations are crafted in Old Testament terminology and imagery, particularly present in the Book of Deuteronomy, and ones that Israel experienced in the wilderness.

In today's story, Satan enters the scene, originally a member of the heavenly court (see Job) but, by the time of Matthew, God's adversary who tests the intention and fidelity of those who belong to God. Jesus is his target in three temptations. The first is about food and the temptation to break covenantal fidelity to God due to hunger. The second seeks to question Jesus' conviction of God's care of him. From the parapet of the temple, Jesus is told to throw himself from it, and test God's protection of him. In the third, with a vision of all the earth's kingdoms and seduction of wealth, Jesus is tempted to change his allegiance from God to Satan.

Matthew's point is quite clear writing to a Jewish audience most familiar with Israel's desert failures: Jesus is an authentic Jew who belongs to the Israelite people, knows and experiences their temptations, but resists the seduction of egoism, power and wealth in fidelity to God and his covenantal relationship. In this first week of Lent, today's Gospel invites us to reflect on those self-centred seductions that may compromise our true relationship to God.

**Fr Michael Trainor**

we warmly welcome you too the

# Parish of Kalgoorlie-Boulder

(Boulder, Coolgardie, Kalgoorlie, Kambalda, Norseman)

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Fr. Thai Vu 0423 511 227 - [thai.vu@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:thai.vu@perthcatholic.org.au)

## SUNDAY Mass Times

Kalgoorlie (St Mary)	6:30pm (Sat), 10am (Sun)
Boulder (All Hallows)	8am (Sun), 5:30pm (Sun)
Coolgardie (St Mary)	4pm (Sat)
Kambalda (St John Vianney)	9am (Sun)
Norseman (St Joseph)	12:30pm (Sun)

## Notices

### PARISH FINANCE

**First Collection** - Fr. Thai Vu BSB: 086 136

Ac/N: 743 713 570, please reference your name.

**Second Collection:** Kalgoorlie Boulder Parish

BSB: 036 125 - Ac/N: 790 100, reference your name.

**Christian Outreach Bank A/c**

BSB: 036 554 A/c No 564153619

### WELCOME TO THE PARISH OF KALGOORLIE-BOULDER

If you are returning to Church, or if you have just relocated to our Parish, we warmly welcome you and encourage you to introduce yourself to Fr after mass or at Morning Tea over a cuppa and a bite to eat. We are delighted to welcome you into our faith community here in the Goldfields.

### PRAYERS FOR THE SICK/HOUSEBOUND/HOSPITALISED

Simon D'Monte, Chad Miller, Nina Andinach, Rodney Braham, Noel Hicks, Ron Coombes, Lynette Hogan, David and Pam Lavender, Janet Bartle, Gerhardt Novak, Lyn Stewart, Gianne, Lolita, Teresa Quilanita Tores, Steve Lutua and Mad Ted (please let us know of anyone who may be sick and in need of prayers).

### BIRTHDAYS

Andrew Fanetti 17/2 (please let us know of any birthdays coming up).

### DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

Leigh Tagell 18/2 Malcolm Angus 18/2, David Bowdidge 18/2/ Bronte Stewart 20/2 and Ivy Eaton 20/2

### BAPTISM THIS WEEKEND

Jack Saville 21/2 at All Hallows' Church, Boulder

*"To bear my cross is my joy, my delight. The way of the cross is the path of love".*

St Therese of Lisieux

*"The success of your morning meditation will largely depend on what you have eaten the night before."*

St Alphonus Ligouri

### NEW PARISH EVENTS COMMITTEE

Please take the time to read the enclosed letter to all parishioners from Fr. Thai regarding the new Parish Events Committee.

### THE WEEK AHEAD

#### FEBRUARY/MARCH

Mon 23 Week 1 of Lent 9.30am SX Chapel

Tue 24 Week 1 of Lent - 5.30pm

Wed 25 Week 1 of Lent- 7.00am

Thu 26 Week 1 of Lent - 7.00am

Fri 27 Week 1 of Lent - 7.00am

Sat 28 Week 1 of Lent- 9.30am recon at 11.00am

Sun 1 **SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

#### SAVE THE DATES

28 Feb 10.00am Menzies Community Mass

### THE MOST REVEREND BISHOP DONALD SPROXTON

This weekend we are delighted and blessed to have The Most Reverend Bishop Donald Sproxton from the Perth Catholic Archdiocese visiting our Parish.

### CARITAS 2026

This Lent, like we did in 2025, there is a single Project Compassion donation envelope – rather than the six weekly envelopes used in previous years. This change was made to reduce waste and support our shared commitment to caring for our common home. You can still give weekly by taking several envelopes at once or simply make your offering when you're ready. Thank you for Uniting Against Poverty with us this Lent. Your generosity and support this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need

### FIRST AID SUPPLIES APPEAL FOR THE NEEDY

We have commenced an Appeal for our parishioners to donate unused medical supplies. Can we ask that you check through your First Aid Kits at home or in the car, to see if you have any surplus items to donate such as bandages, gauze, antiseptic wipes, gloves, masks and other basic medical essentials so that you make a meaningful difference? These items will be collected and distributed to needy people in our neighbouring country of Papua New Guinea, helping provide care where access to medical supplies is extremely limited. Donations can be delivered to the Parish office or please phone Nancy MacKenzie – 04! 681 010 to arrange for her pick up of your donations. Your support of this initiative is most appreciated.

## CATHOLIC Q & A

### FAST BEFORE COMMUNION

*What exactly is the present rule for the fast before Communion? Are the rules the same for the entire world?*

At the end of the third session of the Second Vatican Council in 1964, Pope Paul considerably simplified the Eucharistic fast. According to this 1964 decree, persons should fast from food and liquids, including alcoholic liquids, for one hour before receiving communion (not one hour before the Mass at which they receive).

Water does not break the fast and may be taken anytime. The same goes for medicine.

The reason for this regulation is simply to aid in preparing oneself spiritually and mentally for participating in the offering of Eucharist at Mass, and for receiving it in Communion. Basically, this regulation applies to the whole church, though there are some variations in different parts of the world.

Because of their special needs, the discipline is considerably relaxed for the aged, as well as their caregivers.

The Code of Canon Law says simply that the sick and aging and those who care for them can receive the Eucharist even if they have consumed something during the preceding hour (CCL 919). Obviously, the intention is that the sick should be given every possible opportunity to be given holy Communion.

### CONGRATULTIONS TO JPC ALUMINI

Congratulations to the following past students of John Paul College Kalgoorlie, Horatio Ovgiagele, Jake Harrison, Candra Maung and James Gent who all recently graduated from Curtin University with Medicine and Surgery Degrees. Congratulations also to Sophie Barton who graduated from John Paul College last year and has recently relocated to Perth to commence her Medical Degree at Curtin University.

### PARKING

It is so wonderful to see so many new parishioners young and old attending our weekend Masses. Our congregation is growing in numbers every week.

Please be mindful when parking and leaving the carparks at St Mary's Church Kalgoorlie and at All Hallows' Church in Boulder of young children, especially if you drive a four wheel drive vehicle. Please also only park in designated parking spots in these carparks and only park in the ACROD parking spaces, if you have the appropriate permit on display. We want to ensure that everyone is safe and want to prevent any accidents or injuries from happening to all our parishioners, both young and old.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY LOURDES



Last Sunday our beloved parishioner, Lourdes celebrated her birthday in our Parish Centre at Morning Tea after the 8.00am Mass at All Hallows' in Boulder. Here Lourdes with our Boulder parishioners.

### MONDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 2026 MASS

As **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** is a public holiday (Labour Day) Mass will be held at 9.30am at St Mary's Church, Kalgoorlie.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

During the Lenten season Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday evening at 6.30pm at **St Mary's Church Kalgoorlie** and 6.30pm at **St John Vianney Church, Kambalda**.

### POSITION VACANT

St Mary's Primary School have a vacant part time position for a Maintenance Person who is reliable, practical and hands-on to keep their school grounds, clean, safe and welcoming. To apply for this position, please send a brief note about your experience and availability addressed to the Principal, Mrs Jenny Gorman, to [admin@stmkaig.wa.edu.au](mailto:admin@stmkaig.wa.edu.au).

### COME EXPERIENCE GOD'S MERCY

Don't wait to experience the healing power of God's forgiveness. Confession is a beautiful opportunity to start anew in his Grace. It is available every **Saturday 11.00am at St Mary's Church, Kalgoorlie**.



### PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS

The Catholic Archdiocese of Perth is committed to the safety and security of all children, the elderly, and any other vulnerable people in our Parish. If you have any safety concerns, you can discuss it with the Parish Safeguarding Officer(s)

**Carmel O'Neil:** 0437 902 812 and

**Carmel Salmon:** 0428 240 086