The Ashes of Lent

We begin the season of Lent with ashes on our foreheads. What is symbolised by this smudging? Perhaps the heart understands better than the head because more people go to church on Ash Wednesday than on any other day of the year, including Christmas. The queues to receive the ashes in many churches are endless. Why? Why are the ashes so popular?

Their popularity, I suspect, comes from the fact that, as a symbol, they are blunt, primal, archetypal, and speak the language of the soul. Something inside each of us knows exactly why we take the ashes: “Dust thou art and into dust thou shalt return!” No doctor of metaphysics need explain this. Ashes are dust and dust is soil, humus; humanity and humility come from there. It is no accident that ashes have always been a major symbol within all religions. To put on ashes, to sit in ashes, is to say publicly and to yourself that you are reflective, in a penitential mode, that this is not “ordinary time” for you, that you are not in a season of celebration, that you are grieving some of the things you have done and lost, that some important work is going on silently inside you, and that you are, metaphorically and really, in the cinders of a dead fire, waiting for a fuller day in your life.

All of this has deep roots. There is something innate to the human soul that knows that, every so often, one must make a journey of descent, be smudged, lose one’s lustre, and wait while the ashes do their work. All ancient traditions, be they religious or purely mythical, abound with stories of having to sit in the ashes. We all know, for example, the story of Cinderella. This is a centuries-old, wisdom-tale that speaks about the value of ashes. The name, Cinderella, itself already says most of it. Literally it means: “the young girl who sits in the cinders, the ashes.” Moreover, as the tale makes plain, before the glass slipper is placed on her foot, before the beautiful gown, ball, dance, and marriage, there must first be a period of sitting in the cinders, of being smudged, of being humbled, and of waiting while a proper joy and consummation are being prepared. In the story of Cinderella there is a theology of Lent.
Native American traditions too have always had an important place for ashes. In some Aboriginal communities there was the concept that occasionally someone would have to spend time in the ashes. Nobody knew why a specific person was called at a particular moment to sit in the ashes, but everyone knew that this was natural thing, that ashes do an important work in the soul, and that sooner or later that person would return his or her regular life and be better for having spent time in the ashes. To offer one such example: Certain native communities used to live in what they called long-houses. A long-house was the communal building; in effect, the house for the whole community. A long-house was long, rectangular, with large sloping sides, and with the centre of the roof open so that this could function as a natural chimney. Fires were kept burning, both for cooking and for warmth, all along the centre of the long-house. People gathered there, near the fires, to cook, eat, and socialise, but they slept away from the fires, under the roofs that sloped down either side of the open centre. Now, every so often, someone, a man or a woman, for reasons they didn’t have to explain, would cease adhering to the normal routine. Instead he or she would become silent, sit just off the fire in the ashes, eat very sparingly, not socialise, not go outside, not wash, not go to bed with the others, but simply sit in the cinders, like Cinderella. Today we would probably diagnose this as clinical depression and rush that person off for professional help. They, for their part, didn’t panic. They saw this as perfectly normal, something everyone was called upon to do at one time or another. They simply let the person sit there, in the ashes, until one day he or she got up, washed the ashes off, and began again to live a regular life. The belief was that the ashes, that period of silent sitting, had done some important, unseen work inside of the person. You sat in the ashes for healing.

The church taps into this deep well of wisdom when it puts ashes on our foreheads at the beginning of Lent. Lent is a season for each of us to sit in the ashes, to spend our time, like Cinderella, working and sitting among the cinders of the fire – grieving what we’ve done wrong, renouncing the dance, refraining from the banquet, refusing to do business as usual, waiting while some silent growth takes place within us, and simply being still so that the ashes can do their work in us.

Fr Ron Rolheiser, OMI ©

In the Heart of Jesus,
Fr Krish Mathavan MSC
NOTICES

PRAYERFUL CENTRING
Church as a community is central to who we are, so it is a good thing to get re-connected to each other at church. Church is also a praying community, so it is a spiritually helpful practice to prepare for the beginning of Mass in a way that focuses and centres us for the sacrament we are about to enter into. Thus, we have introduced a brief period of reflection before the Mass begins. We will begin by bells ringing, followed by a minute or two of silence before the bells will sound again and the welcome and entrance procession. Many people do this now, but they are surrounded by much conversation. This will allow us to become centred and to also be mindful of others who are praying. Whenever we are in the body of the church, let us be mindful to maintain this reverent quietness, not suppressing all conversation but keeping it to a very low volume, so others can pray.

PROJECT COMPASSION
Lent commenced on Wednesday, 26th February, Project Compassion Boxes and Envelopes are available in the Church Foyer.

ARE YOU NEW TO OUR PARISH?
We welcome you to St Therese of Lisieux Moonah Lutana Parish! To help you become involved in our parish life and any of the various ministries of the parish, please complete a registration form located in the Church foyer and return to the Parish Office or place it on the collection plate at any Mass. We will then be in touch.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is held each Friday after the 12 noon Mass until 4:00pm in Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Chapel in the Parish Centre.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL POOR BOX
In the foyer of the Church is located the St Vincent de Paul poor box. All monies added to the poor box go directly to those who need assistance within the St Therese’s Conference area.

COMMUNITY ROOM LIBRARY
The Community Room library is available for borrowing (and returning) of books. All books have been stamped and a coloured dot. If you would like to borrow a book please record into the borrowing book with your name and phone number and when returning place a line through your entry. We unfortunately don’t require any more books for the library at this point in time. Thank You.

ST THERESE’S CRAFT GROUP
The Craft Group has recommenced for 2020. They normally meet each fortnight on a Monday afternoon from 1:00pm - 3:00pm in the Community Room at St Therese’s Church. A donation and a shared afternoon tea is held, so bring a plate to share. All are welcome to come along. Dates for 2020 are: 2nd, 16th and 30th March, 6th and 20th April, 4th and 18th May, 1st, 15th and 29th June, 13th and 27th July, 10th and 24 August, 7th and 21st September, 5th and 19th October, 2nd and 16th November.

PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN THE CHURCH
PPC wishes to keep you informed of organisations representing Catholic Women in the Church. The Office for Participation of Women in the Church has a monthly newsletter for which you can register. Details can be found at https://www.opw.catholic.org.au/newsletter/from-the-office. This is in addition to “Catholic Women Speak”, who are seeking to bring Catholic women’s voices into dialogue with others in the Catholic Church. Their details are at: www.catholicwomenspeak.com.
As we begin our Lenten journey this year, we also commence the immediate preparations for a wonderful moment of grace for our Archdiocese – the Tasmanian stage of the 2020 Australian Pilgrimage of the Relics of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux and her parents, Saints Louis & Zelie Martin. The relics will arrive in Devonport on Thursday, 16th April and visit Our Lady of Lourdes Church, then travel on to Launceston visiting the Carmelite Monastery, before continuing on to St Mary’s Cathedral, Hobart. The following day Friday, 17th April our Parish of St Thérèse of Lisieux will host the relics. We invite you to join us in preparing spiritually for this encounter with three wonderful Saints, who reached holiness in the context of marriage and family life, and who inspire and encourage us to seek intimacy with God in our daily lives. The timetable below allows for opportunity for us to spend time in pray and celebrating the Eucharist.

With our patron saint and her saintly parents.

Arrive approx. 8:30am.

Processional entrance of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux and Saints Louis and Zelie Martin at 9:00am Polish Mass;
10:00am Divine Mercy Chaplet;
10:20am Veneration St Thérèse of Lisieux;
10:20am Visit of Saints Louis and Zelie Martin to the Chapel of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Saints Louis and Zelie Martin Parish Centre;
10:35am Veneration of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux and Saints Louis and Zelie Martin;
12:00noon Mass of Saint Thérèse of Lisieux and Saints Louis & Zelie Martin;
1:30pm Departure of Saint Thérèse and Saints Louis and Zelie Martin for Travel on the Spirit of Tasmania.

We will require the assistance for the procession and moving of the relics. If you are able to assist please let Deacon Michael know and he will develop a roster for the visit. 

Deacon MSC Michael Hangan—Diocesan Director Catholic Mission

Prayer in preparation for the Visit:

O God, who gave to Saints Louis and Zelie Martin the grace to lead a life of holiness as Christian spouses and parents, and who called their daughter, St Thérèse of the Child Jesus, to seek holiness in the consecrated life hidden in Carmel,grant that, through their intercession and example, we may be able to love and serve you faithfully, living worthily our own vocation.

May this Pilgrimage of Grace be a blessed time for us to experience your love as we seek to do your will wherever you have called us to be.

Through Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Jesus does not look so much at the greatness of our actions, or even at their difficulty, as at the love with which we do them.  St Thérèse

The good Lord does not do things by halves; He always gives what we need. Let us then carry on bravely.  St Zelie Martin

Everything I see is splendid, but it’s always an earthly beauty, and our heart is satisfied with nothing as long as we’re not seeing the infinite beauty that is God.  St Louis Martin

FORMED HAS BEEN UPDATED!
 FORMED HAS BEEN UPDATED!
 FORMED HAS BEEN UPDATED!

(please use Chrome browser)

Because of its phenomenal growth, www.formed.org has moved to a new technology platform. Now over 4,000 titles of award-winning Catholic content, children’s programming, audio talks, e-books and more, are available on almost any internet-connected device (PC’s, tablets, smart phones and smart TV’s etc.) The new platform was produced after consultation and feedback from the users (now over 900,000) across 5,000 parish communities. The new platform has improved performance and an enhanced search tool. It allows offline playback and you no longer have to remember a password because access is now simply through your email address. For existing subscribers just Visit www.formed.org then click ’Sign In’ and enter your email address. You will be sent an email and when you click on the link in the email you’re in! No more passwords!
You can stay signed in even when you close your browser or your device is off. When you go back to www.formed.org just click on 'sign in' and you can start watching again. As long as you don't sign out, the content will remain available to you. If you do sign out, then to get back in just go to www.formed.org again and click 'sign in' and an email will be sent to you and click – you're back in. For parishioners wanting to join our FORMED group account the process has become even easier than it was. Go to formed.org and click 'Sign Up', on the next page select "I Belong to a Parish or Organisation", find our parish by name, "St Therese of Lisieux 24 Hopkins St Moonah TAS", enter your email address and you will be sent an email - and you're in! Diving into the beauty of the Faith has never been easier: at home, on the go, or from any internet connected device. Discover thousands of books, audio talks, movies, documentaries, and studies... there is something for every member of the family to help them grow closer to Christ and His Church.

If any parishioner has a personal 'FORMED' account, you might consider cancelling it, using the parish one and donating what you save towards the parish account. If you have any issue please see Deacon Michael on 0438 243 533.

CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE CALL FOR NEW MEMBERS AND PRAYER
The Catholic Women's League is seeking members and wishes for everyone to pray for new members. Grant, I ask you Lord, a blessing on the works performed by the members of the Catholic Women's League. I pray that by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and the intercession of Mary, Help of Christians, more women will become participating members of the Catholic Women's League. We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

LEGION OF MARY
All Active, Auxiliary members, interested Parishioners, are invited to the Legion of Mary Annual Acies Ceremony and Holy Mass, to be held Saturday, 21st March 2020 at 2:00pm, St. John's Church, Bowden Street, Glenorchy. A plate to share for afternoon tea would be appreciated. If transport is required contact Margaret Lello 0407 047 205 or. Helen Emery 0408 394 347.

ST PATRICK’S PILGRIMAGE
The annual “St Patrick's Pilgrimage” from Richmond to Colebrook will be held on the weekend of 14-15 March 2020! The pilgrimage is open at all young people from 14-35yo and celebrates the feast of our Archdiocese’s patron saint (St Patrick). It is a great opportunity for personal growth where you will likely be challenged both physically and spiritually. Two days of journeying through the natural beauty of Tassie with times for prayer, Mass, song, fellowship, reflection, camping and plenty more. For more information and to register, head to eventbrite.com.au and search for “St Patrick's Pilgrimage.”

LITURGY OF LAMENT IN BURNIE
On Saturday, 21st March 2020 at 11:00 am at the Rhododendron Garden, 55 Breffny Road, Romaine, a liturgy of Lament will be held. This liturgy will acknowledge the historical sexual abuse, which took place at Marist College, Burnie between 1957 until the 1970s. You may or may not be aware that a significant number of students were abused over a period of many years. A committee was appointed to work towards formulating a Ritual of Lament, to acknowledge this abuse. During the ritual, it is anticipated that Archbishop Julian Porteous, Fr Tony Corcoran SM (Provincial Leader of the Marist Fathers in Australia) and Gregg Sharman (Acting Principal at Marist Regional College, Burnie) will each offer a public formal apology for the sexual abuse that took place at Marist College. There will also be the blessing of a bronze plaque
WEEKLY COLLECTION

Envelopes: $ 2,115.00
Loose: $ 360.80
TOTAL: $ 2,475.80

Week’s Pledged Collections: $ 2,538.00

Difference - $ 62.20

Thank You!

Stewardship

“It is written: The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve.” (Matthew 4:10)

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to turn away from worldly power and riches and put God at the centre of our lives. Lent is our time to prune ourselves of earthly things. Ask God how He is calling you to serve.

Towards Healing Helpline on 1800 356 613 or the Sexual Assault Service on 03 6231 1811 (Day) or 1800 697 877 (24/7) or 03 6334 2740 (Day), or contact Tasmanian Police Service on 131 444

INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR SENIORS

Polish Welfare Office invites you to a series of five presentations as part of the project Dobre Zdrowie = Wellness (Good Health = Wellness). The sessions will be conducted by Sr. Elżbieta Czernicka.

TOPICS:
1. What is wellness and reablement and what is behind these mysterious words?
2. My current situation, what can I do to make my everyday life easier?
3. Realising and setting goals. What I want to achieve and how to achieve it?
4. How to use services effectively to be supported by them and not become dependent on them?
5. How to use technology for my well-being and for recovery fitness?

WHERE?
St. Therese’s Church, 24 Hopkins Street, Moonah (Community Room).

COST: FREE ADMISSION

SESSIONS DATES & TIMES:
The first round of presentations in Polish:
Thursday, 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th March, and 2nd April. Time: 1:30pm - 3:30 pm.

Second round of presentations in Polish:
Thursday, 16th, 23rd, 30th April, 7th, and 14th May. Time: 1:30pm - 3:30 pm.

Presentations in English:
Monday 23rd & 30th March (two presentations per session) and Monday, 6th April (one presentation). Time: 7:00pm - 9:00pm.

Refreshments will be provided after each session. For more information about the presentations, please contact Sr. Elżbieta at the Polish Welfare Office ph. 6228 6258

This project is funded by the Australian Government. ALL WELCOME!

LET US PRAY FOR
The Sick
Thanh Huynh, Shirley Lehner, Olga Woods,

STEWARDSHIP

If you have been affected by any abuse please contact the Towards Healing Helpline on 1800 356 613 or the Sexual Assault Service on 03 6231 1811 (Day) or 1800 697 877 (24/7) or 03 6334 2740 (Day). A cuppa and light refreshments will be offered after the ritual at the Rhododendron Gardens. Further information will be made available during late February and early March. The website link giving further information about this event is https://mrc.tas.edu.au/mdos/.

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LET US PRAY FOR
The Sick
Thanh Huynh, Shirley Lehner, Olga Woods,
Susan Wilson, Lise Levaque, Mary Hughes, Drina Paradzik, Jay Jennings, Tony Dalton, Elsa Bazan, Bev Murray, Kayden Edwards, Lorna Brazendale, Leo Manning, Jan Grubb, Alicia Stroud, Aileen Jones, Garry Hay, Paddi McDonald, Peter van Loggerenberg, Joe Higgins, Gracie Manson.

**Anniversaries**


**Recently Deceased**

**Parish Office and Presbytery**

24 Hopkins Street, Moonah
PO Box 819, Moonah 7009

**Phone:** 03 9412 8471  
**Email:** moonahlutana@aohtas.org.au  
**Facebook:** StTherese OfLisieux  
**Office Hours:**  
Monday, Tuesday & Friday  
9:30am - 4:30pm,  
**Parish Priest:** Fr Krish Mathavan MSC  
**Phone:** 03 9412 8472  
**Email:** pastormoonahlutana@aohtas.org.au  
**Deacon:** Deacon MSC Michael Hangan  
**Phone:** 03 9412 8429  
**Mobile:** 0407 785 721  
**Email:** michael.hangan@aohtas.org.au  
**Polish Chaplain:** Fr Jozef Migacz SChr  
**Phone:** 03 9412 8429  
**Mobile:** 0407 785 721  
**Email:** polishchaplainmoonah@aohtas.org.au  

**ST THERESE’S SCHOOL**

24 Hopkins Street, Moonah  
**Phone:** 03 6272 1403  
**Principal:** Mrs Fran Bearman  
**Email:** sttherese@catholic.tas.edu.au

**Reconciliation:**

Saturday 11:00am-11:30am

**Baptisms and Marriages:**

By appointment

**Archdiocesan Website:**

[www.hobart.catholic.org.au](http://www.hobart.catholic.org.au)

**Safe Communities:**

[https://hobart.catholic.org.au/content/safe-communities](https://hobart.catholic.org.au/content/safe-communities)

**Towards Healing Helpline:**

**Phone:** 1800 356 613

**Sexual Assault Service:**

**Phone:** 03 6231 1811 (Day) (Hobart) or 1800 697 877 (24/7)  
03 6334 2740 (Day) (Launceston)

**Plenary Council:**

**READINGS**

29th February/1st March, 2020

1st Sunday of Lent - Year A

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** (Cf. Psalm 90:15-16)
When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

**FIRST READING:** (Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7)
Creation of our first parents, and sin.

**PSALM:** (Psalm 50:3-6, 12-14, 17)
Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

**SECOND READING:** (Romans 5:12-19)
When sin increased, there grace abounded all the more.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** (Matthew 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:** (Matthew 4:1-11)
Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.

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**READINGS/ROSTERS**

8th/9th March, 2020

2nd Sunday of Lent - Year A

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** (Cf. Psalm 26:8-9)
Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

**FIRST READING:** (Genesis 12:1-4)
The call of Abraham, the father of God’s people.

**PSALM:** (Psalm 32:4-5, 18-20, 22)
Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

**SECOND READING:** (2 Timothy 1:8-10)
God has saved us, and called us to be holy.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** (Matthew 17:5)
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father’s voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.

**GOSPEL:** (Matthew 17:1-9)
His face shone like the sun.

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**MASS TIMES**

**Monday 2nd to Sunday 9th March 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Polish</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>9:15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>No Mass</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>11.30am Stations 9:00am of the Cross</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
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**Saturday 6:30pm**

**Readers**
Debbie Large, Anne Thuringer

**Ministers**
Margaret Henderson, Ed Sianski

**Projector**
Alec Avellana

**Sunday 9:00am**

**Readers**
Melissa Philp, Marty Ogle

**Ministers**
Phyllis Nicoll, Simone McManus, Gerard Synott

**Sick**
Krish Mathavan

**Projector**
Maureen Pangrazzi

**Sunday 4:30pm**

**Readers**
Bill Jacob, Colleen Rakowski

**Ministers**
Marj Smith, Fadi Elbarbar

**Projector**
Daniel Duharte

**Altar**
Victoria Maty, Kieran Aherne & Monica Sianski

**Cleaning**
Victoria Maty, Kieran Aherne & Monica Sianski

**Counters**
Goldie McGuinness & Kerrie Morrisby