

Bellerive - Lindisfarne Catholic Parish

2 Alma St, Bellerive

PO Box 987, Rosny Park, 7018

Phone: 6245 0501

Fr Richard Ross PP

Email: bellerive@aohtas.org.au

Website: www.cdtas.org.au/bellerive

Fb/Instagram: @belleriveparish

Fr Fidelis Udousoro

Dear Parish Family,

Pope Francis gave a pre-Lenten homily this week, the main message of which was reported on CathNews and bears repeating here:

Compassion is what the Lord wants in us, the Pope said, adding: "Mercy I want, not sacrifice." Francis said that a heart without compassion is an idolatrous heart. A self-sufficient heart goes ahead sustained by its own selfishness, becoming strong only with ideologies.

Speaking about the four ideological groups of Jesus' time – the Pharisees, the Sadducees, the Essenes and the Zealots – the Pope said they had hardened their hearts to carry out a project that was not God's, as there was no place for compassion.

However, against this hard-heartedness, the Pope said, there is a "medicine", and it is memory. This is why, the Pope said, in today's Gospel and in many other Scripture passages, there echoes the need for the salvific power of memory, a "grace" to be asked for because it "keeps the heart open and faithful".

"When the heart hardens," the Pope said, "one forgets" the grace of salvation and of gratuitousness. The Pope said that the greatest message of salvation is that God has had compassion on us. And the Gospel often repeats that Jesus had compassion on seeing a person or a painful situation. "Jesus is the compassion of the Father," the Pope said. "Jesus is the slap to every hardness of heart."

As we prepare for Lent, let us search our hearts for that hardness of heart which judges and categorises others instead of allowing compassion to arise in our hearts, resulting from our awareness of our own need for conversion and God's free gift of love.

See you at the Community Picnic!!

Fr Richard

Next week's Readings: Gen 2:7-9,3:1-7; Rom 5:12-19; Mt 4:1-11

FRIDAYS DURING LENT Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm Corpus Christi

CHOIR PRACTICE for Easter begins on Wednesday 4th March 7:00pm at Corpus Christi. You are all welcome to join.

COMMUNITY PICNIC at Wentworth Park commencing at 12:00pm. We hope all can be there for a fantastic gathering and celebration of our community. Lots of fun and activities for all age groups. Bring family and friends.

LENTEN BOOKLETS are available at all Masses this weekend. \$10 cash and carry. Please cross your name off the list when you collect your book. There are a few extra copies if anyone didn't order.

USED STAMPS To all who have left stamps in the Columban Boxes at each church, a big thank you. I will be doing an extra delivery this year. The Columban Fathers will be really praying for you all. God bless you. Joan Shackcloth.

LECTIO DIVINA You are invited to join us for Lectio Divina, recommencing Thursday 27th February 9:30 - 10:30 am (**note - new time**)

When: 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month -(February –November).

Where: Sacred Heart Chapel, Josephite Mission & History Centre 67 Clare St

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION Parent information evening is THIS TUESDAY 25th February, 7pm in Corpus Christi Church. Please spread the word.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD Any adults interested in assisting with the running of a Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 10:30 Mass at Corpus Christi each Sunday, please put your name and contact details on a note for the Parish Office provided at the door of the church.

WEEKEND MASSES

Sat	6:00pm	Incarnation
Sun	8:30am	John Paul II
	10:30am	Corpus Christi
	6:00pm	Corpus Christi
Reconciliation	Sat 5:30—5:45	Incarnation

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday	10:45am	Freemasons
	12:00pm	Incarnation
Ash Wednesday	12:00pm	Corpus Christi
	7:00pm	Corpus Christi
Thursday	10:00am	JPII
Friday	9:30am	Corpus Christi