



St Francis Xavier Parish

6 Church Street (GPO Box 450) Goodna, Qld. 4300

Office Hours: Monday - Wed 9.00am — 4.00pm

Friday 9.00am –4.00pm Closed Thursdays

Website: stfrancisxaviergoodna.org.au

Ph: 3818 0111 Fax 3818 1420 Email: goodna@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Clergy: Fr Roger Burns PP.

Parish Secretary: Mrs Marie Hodges

(Local Safeguarding Children Representative: Marie Hodges)

St Vincent De Paul: For Assistance Please call 3010 1096 - Weekdays only .

Meetings: Fortnightly on Tuesday 7.00pm. Call 0427 663 118

**First
Sunday
of
Lent**

**5th March
2017**

Embracing the suburbs of Goodna, Bellbird Park, Camira, Carole Park, Collingwood Park, Ellen Grove. Gales, Kruger, Redbank, Redbank Plains, Wacol and beyond.

Good News: *Desert Schooling*

Matthew writes that Jesus was led by the Spirit. Where? Out into the wilderness. Why? To be tempted by the devil.

It happened immediately before Jesus embarked on his public ministry. This was the Holy Spirit's idea of a preparatory course. Hardly the sort of course we would devise before a ministry among people! But the Spirit's reasoning was that whoever is in touch with the inner heart of his own being will also be in touch with the inner heart of others.

Today we might call it inculturation. That is how missionaries and business people prepare before a foreign assignment. They know that they must listen before they speak to potential customers. So they learn what they can of the culture of the people before they travel.

Jesus enrolled in the school called wilderness. The teachers there were solitude and emptiness, vastness and space, necessity and frugality. The subject of the course was knowledge of the human heart.

The bareness of the desert quickly sorts out the authentic from the hypocritical. There are no audiences to be impressed with outward show. Nobody to be deceived by the roles we adopt or the games we play. Nobody is to blame.

One must face oneself. And whoever comes to an honest acceptance of his own inner center with its strengths and weaknesses has reached a knowledge of the human condition which will benefit everybody else.

As Evagrius Ponticus, in the fourth century, wrote of the desert fathers: 'The monk is one who separated from everyone and united to everyone.' understanding the ways of one's own heart is the key to the knowledge of All hearts.

In the school of the wilderness Jesus grew in understanding through experience of the human condition.

The first lesson was about bread and hunger; or, on a broader scale, about our appetites and how we respond to them. Bread is the symbol of all that is needed for a healthy life. People live on bread in its many forms: but not on bread alone. The struggle is unending to achieve the balance between attending to the appetites of the body and the call of the spiritual life.

The second lesson comes from the suggestion of a sensational stunt. Right in the centre of religion, the temple area, perform this amazing jump. Sensational religion!

We find that the human mind today is struggling to come to any point of depth because of the distracting attention demanded by all that is superficial and sensational, by the utterly trivial or whatever is passing popular this week. The standards of evaluation prize what is newest or latest, trendiest or most fashionable, the number one best-seller and the Oscar winner. When the mind is preoccupied with such superficialities it is very difficult to reach any depth in one's own inner life.

The third temptation is to settle for a kingdom here and now. To do so one must sell one's soul to Satan, the diabolical power.

Diabolical literally means diverse energies. To acquire the diverse diabolical kingdom one must grow hard-hearted, tough-minded, prepare to trample competitors underfoot.

Forty days of solitude and fasting brought Jesus to a clear perception of the struggles, camouflages and temptations that are part of every human heart. We need not set out for a distant Sahara to find the desert experience. The desert comes to us in any experience that strips away our blinkers or peels off our layers of camouflage. Bereavement, illness or an unexpected handicap will open up the shallowness or depths of our inner strength.

Times of failure and criticism are precious opportunities. Like the exodus experience they are given 'to humble you, to test you and know you inmost heart.' (*Deut 8:2*)

Ageing is nature's own way of weakening the physical potential so as to deepen our discernment between the passing and the eternal.

The desert is a school favoured by the Spirit for the soul's education. 'Learn from this that Yahweh your God was training you as a man trains his child.' (*Deut 8:5*)

Word I heard, but whose source I cannot trace, express the richness of the tested life:

'Where people have lived with inwardness

The air is charged with blessedness and does bless.'

Silvester O'Flynn O.F.M. Cap—'The Good News of Matthew's Year'.

Fr Roger will be away on a Pilgrimage from Thursday through until the end of the month.

Fr Leo Burke will be covering the Weekend Masses.

THE SEASON OF LENT is the most appropriate time for celebrating the **SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**.

Already on Ash Wednesday the people of God has heard the solemn invitation, *Turn away from sin and believe the good news*. It is therefore fitting to have several penitential celebrations during Lent, so that all the faithful may have the opportunity to be reconciled with God and their neighbour and so be able to celebrate the paschal mystery in the Easter Triduum with renewed hearts.

The Sacrament of Penance is better celebrated *before* rather than during the Easter Triduum.

Here in the Parish, each Saturday from 5.00pm—5.30pm the Sacrament of Penance is offered in the Church. We will be using the revised rite of the Sacrament and laminated sheets giving the order of the Sacrament of Penance will be available.

In Holy Week on Wednesday 12th April, there will be a Communal Second Rite of the Sacrament of Penance in the Church.

St Patricks Day BBQ/ Fundraiser Saturday 18th March, 7pm start (straight after 6 O'clock Mass).

Entry will be via a prepaid ticket at a cost of \$10 per adult and \$5 per child up until the age of 10. Ticket cost gets you a meal and entertainment will be provided by **Bob McDowd and Kath Hogan**.

A maximum of 80 tickets will be on sale from this Saturday 25th Feb when we will also be selling raffle tickets with 4 prizes to be drawn on the night. BYO drinks with tea and coffee included in the cost of your ticket. Raffle tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

Any money raised will be going towards the cost of new air conditioners for the Parish Centre.

Cleaners for Church We are in desperate need of more cleaners for the Church. Cleaning of the Church is usually done after the daily Mass on a Friday but can be done at your convenience anytime before the weekend Masses. With a team of 2 people it usually takes around an hour. If you think this could be something that you and a friend or partner could do with ease please contact Pam Dodrill on 3288 4594 or Marie in the Parish Office on 3818 0111.

Teams: for Married Spirituality Teams is a lay movement within the Catholic Church that offers couples a chance to discover the Lord's presence in their marriage and to live in Christian fellowship with other couples as a way of giving thanks to God and bearing witness to Him in the world. The goal of the movement is to help couples live their lives with more strength, light and hope.

For more information there are pamphlets on the trolley and on the tables with the Newsletters

Thank you Kath Gurdon would like to thank everyone for all their prayers over the last couple of months. Kath's surgery and recover went extremely well and she is now back to her healthy self.

Memorial Plaques: If you ordered a plaque in the last lot of orders you will be pleased to know that they are now in position on the stones in the Rose garden. Thankyou to Rob McGuire for doing that for us.

Humour As Bill was approaching mid-life, not only was he going bald, but he also had a large pot belly. The last straw came when he asked a woman co-worker out on a date, and she all but laughed at him. Determined to change his life, he joined a gym, started eating right, and got an expensive hair transplant and new clothes. Six months later he asked his female co-worker out, and this time she accepted.

All dressed up for the date, looking better than he ever had. He stood poised to ring the woman's doorbell, when a bolt of lightning struck him and knocked him off his feet. As he lay there dying, he turned his eyes toward the heavens and said, "Why, God, why now? After all I've been through, how could you do this to me?" From up above, there came a voice, "Bill? Is that you? I didn't recognize you."

Spirituality for Life



The voice of the Spirit speaking of gratitude, generosity, responsibility and increase



Each one of you has received a special grace, so, like good stewards responsible for all these varied graces of God, put it out at the service of others.”
(1 Peter 4:10)

March 5th 2017 First Sunday in Lent.

“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 power and riches and put God at the center of our lives. How is God calling you to serve? (Accessed on 24th February 2017 from <http://arcchst.org/stewardship/page/bulletin-inserts>)

St Francis Xavier Primary School Parents’ and Friends’ Association (P&F)

At the Annual General Meeting of the P&F held last Monday night, history was made. There were no nominations for places on the P&F Executive. What this means is that although there are a small number of parents who have agreed to help, there is no one to coordinate their volunteering.

As a consequence. Without an Executive Committee the fund raising will cease, and some activities after school will not be available:

- ◆ No Discos
- ◆ No Mother’s Day Stall
- ◆ No Father’s Day Stall
- ◆ No Fete

Membership of the P&F consists of any parent who’s child is enrolled in the school and friends of the school. With a school role of 520, it would be thought that enough parents would be able to help out. Past parents and grandparents of present pupils are able to serve on the P&F.

During the last year, the P&F have through their efforts managed to help the school in many ways, the most recent being the payment of the invoice for the refurbishment of one third of the school oval at a cost of \$16,704. Financial help such as this is important to the school to maintain the high standards the parents expect.

No Executive would possibly mean the cancellation of the School fete in August, which is one of the main fund raising efforts.

There will be two meetings in the school to inform people about the work of the P&F and the responsibilities of the P&F Executive. The dates are:

Tuesday 14th March between 3.00 and 4.00pm

Thursday 16th March 6.30pm.

If you are at all interested and could help the school, please come along to the meeting and commit yourself to a little time each month and by doing so ensure that the pupils of St Francis Xavier Primary School continue to enjoy activities, and through the fund raising the school benefits.

If you would like to more about the School or the P&F, then turn to the Web Page:

www.Stfrancisxavier.qld.edu.au

The main page has a short video which with the help of a drone presents an overview of the school and its surrounds, well worth viewing.

PARISH NOTICES

Dates for your Diary



Sun 5th Mar. First Sunday of Lent
 Mon 6th Mar. Divine Mercy prayer Group 6.00pm
 In English.
 Wed 8th Mar. Rosary Devotion
 Sun 12th Mar. Second Sunday of Lent

Collections For Last Week

First	☺	↑	
Second	☺	↑	
	☺	↑	= Income up on last week.
	☹	↓	= Income down
	☺	☐	= Income steady.

Welcome to our Community! Have you moved into our parish lately? We would love to hear from you. Please give the Parish Office a call on 3818 0111. If you call at the information point after Mass, a member of the Parish Council will give you a welcome and information pack. We hope that you will enjoy your time in the parish and join in our activities.



For the Sick and housebound. If you know of anyone who is sick or housebound and would like a visit from a priest or to receive Holy Communion, please let the parish office know and a visit can be arranged.

5th Mar. First Sunday of Lent.

Gen 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Rom 5:12-19; Mt 4:1-11

Psalm: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

12th Mar. Second Sunday of Lent.

Gen 12:1-4; 2 Tim 1:8-10; Mt 17:1-9



Services times this week:

Saturday Vigil Mass 6.00pm
 Sunday 7.30am Mass
 9.00am Mass

Weekdays

Monday	No Mass
Tuesday	9.00am Mass
Wednesday	9.00am Mass
Thursday	9.00am Mass
Friday	No Mass
Saturday	6.00pm Vigil Mass
Sunday	7.30am & 9.00am

Reconciliation Sat 5.00 – 5.30pm

Cleaning: 10.03.17 Mitch & Pam

If you would like to help out on this roster, please contact Pam Dodrill on 3288 4594. (Roster approximately once every eight weeks) The current Roster is available from the Sacristy. If you cannot honour your commitment please let Pam know.

We Pray for the Sick:

Audrey Congreve, Colin Jackson, Sr Helen Stanley, Breda O'Sullivan, Ellen Parker, Rose Logan, Edna May Tourney, Keith Auld, Kathy McMonagle, Kevin Ward, Matthew Berwick, John Ward, Allan Peterson, Kathleen Doherty. Rachel Scriben, Stan Brown, Carmon Z, Nancy McCarrick, Kath McGrath, Maria Vink, Claire Curry, Phil O'Dwyer, William Ryan, Hudson McHardy, Hini Habchi, Jamie Teal, Jaiden Madasferi, Macey Ingham, Nada Payne, Carmel Vig, Sr Carmel, Wendy Marshall, Eileen Monaghan, Marge & Tom Robin, Lillian Morrison, Kath Gurdon, Lin Marrinan, Michael Quickfall, Hans & Ursula Rennett, Peter Hodgkinson. (Some names have been removed from this list, so please contact us if you need these names back on. If you know someone who can come off the sick list please contact us)

Anniversaries: 5-11 Mar.

Owen Smith, Denis Kerwick, James Brydges, Maria Lupeamanu, Wolstan Blundell, Patrick Farrell, Joy Auld, Brian Watson, William Smith, Alf Hull, Bernadette Flanagan, Mary Collins, Jim Medlin, Eileen Murphy, Michael Jack, Sot Sibounheuang.

LOOP SYSTEM



The church Sound System at St Francis Xavier's is fitted with a Loop System. If you wear a hearing-aid set the control to the "T" setting to obtain a clear sound.

A gift in your Will can provide support for the many ministries of your Parish and ensure a legacy of faith for future generations. A gift in your will is a wonderful way to express your Catholic faith. After you have provided for your loved ones, please consider a lasting memory to your parish. Booklets available from Parish Office.



Newsletters by Email.

If you would like this newsletter sent to you by email each week, simply send an email to good-na@bne.catholic.net.au title it 'newsletter' and the next week you should receive the email.