



Welcome to the Catholic Parishes of Lithgow and Portland

We acknowledge the Wiradjuri and Gamilaraay peoples, the Traditional Custodians of the Land and pay respect to the Elders both past and present.



Fourth Sunday of Lent - Year A

22 March 2020

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: 1 Sm 16: 1, 6-7, 10-13

Samuel anoints David King.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 22 R. v 1

**R. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. (R.)
2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your
staff; with these you give me comfort. (R.)
3. You have prepared a banquet for me
In the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. (R.)
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow
me all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. (R.)

Second Reading: Eph 5: 8-14

Live in the light.

Gospel Acclamation: Jn 8: 12

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel: Jn.9: 1-41 OR Jn 9: 1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

On the Sabbath Jesus cures a man who was blind
from birth.

Next Week

Fifth Sunday of Lent Year A

1st: Ez 37: 12-14 **RP:** 129 R.v. 7 **2nd:** Rom. 8: 8-11

GA: Jn 11: 25, 26 **Gospel:** Jn 11: 1-45

18th March 2020

Letter from Bishop Michael

Dear Friends in Christ,

Slowing the spread of Covid19 has required an unprecedented response from our public health authorities. We need to trust their expert judgment and cooperate together with their advice and directives. As Christians, we pray especially for the elderly and vulnerable and for healthcare workers and all who are on the front line in this emergency. I am just back from Vietnam, so have gone into self isolation at Matthew Quinn House for two weeks. Although I arrived home before the legal requirement came into effect, I have thought it prudent to observe the spirit of the public health directive.

As you know, our usual life has already been disrupted, including the routines of worshipping God together. I want to update you on the latest precautions we have had to take:

1. The latest directive from the public health authorities is that indoor gatherings of more than 100 persons are prohibited. This means that attendance at each Sunday Mass must be limited to that number, unless the Mass is celebrated outdoors. In small communities this will not be a problem, but each larger parish is making its own plans to deal with the situation there. People should check with their parish website or office to find out how they will be affected.

At this time, it would be advisable for elderly parishioners to celebrate Mass on weekdays, rather than on Sunday.

It is also possible to pray and follow Mass online at <https://www.youtube.com/user/cathnews>

2. Special announcements regarding the celebration of Holy Week and Easter will be made according to the developing situation.
3. Attendance at funerals will need to be limited to close family and friends.
4. The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will continue to be administered individually to those who need it, but Anointing Masses are suspended until further notice.

Check with your parish priest about arrangements for the other Sacraments during this time.

May I close with a prayer of St Patrick, the patron of our Diocese:

Lord, I praise and proclaim your name in all places, not only when things go well but also in times of stress. Whether I receive good or ill, I return thanks equally to God, who taught me always to trust him unreservedly.

Our Lady of the Central West, St Patrick and St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, **pray for us.**

Yours in Christ,
+Michael McKenna
Bishop of Bathurst

LITHGOW PARISH

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Lithgow 2790

St Patrick's Church, Mort St, Lithgow

Parish Priest: Fr Garry McKeown
pp.lithgow@cdob.org.au

P/A Sr Anne Houston rsj

Parish Secretary : Sandra Ray
Thurs and Fri (8.30-4.00)
office.lithgow@cdob.org.au

Admin Assistant: Judi Knight
Tues (8.30-2.30) Wed (8.30-4.30)
accounts.lithgow@cdob.org.au

Pastoral Council President:

Robert Atcheson
sppclithgow@gmail.com

Finance Committee President:

Tim Le Fevre

Schools:

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Tel: 6351 3719 Fax: 6353 1731
stpatlithgow@bth.catholic.edu.au
www.stpatlithgow.catholic.edu.au
La Salle Academy - Yrs 7-12
Tel: 6354 5100 Fax: 6353 1552
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PORTLAND PARISH

Convent/PA: Sr Therese Patterson rsj
Tel: 6355 5236 Fax: 6355 4277
Mail: PO Box 70 Portland 2847

Churches:

St Vincent's Portland
Sacred Heart Wallerawang
St Matthew's Rydal
St Mary's Kirkconnell
St Brendan's Cullen Bullen
St Jude's Capertee

Pastoral Council President:

Charlie O'Mahony

School:

St Joseph's School - Yrs K-6
Tel: 6355 5111
stjosephportland@bth.catholic.edu.au
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BATHURST DIOCESE

Web: www.bathurst.catholic.org.au
Email: reception@bathurst.catholic.org.au



~ SAVE THE DATE ~

Plenary Council - Listening & Discernment

Session - Bathurst (for Bathurst, Lithgow, Portland, Blayney, Oberon, Cowra, Canowindra, Eugowra) on 13 June 2020. Details to follow.

Music Ministry: Please don't forget that we are still looking for people to be involved in Music Ministry in our Parish, if you have gifts and a passion for this ministry we would like to hear from you. We are looking for musicians, singers and people to operate the powerpoint during mass. The register is still at the back of the church for you to put down your information to be involved in this Ministry in 2020.

Aid to the Church in Need currently have Easter Cards available for purchase. First pack is \$23 for 12 cards, extra packets \$15 each. Proceeds go toward ACN projects that support the Church where she is unable to support herself. Order: 1800 101 201 or online at www.aidtochurch.org

St Patrick's Coin Club

WANTED: 5c & 10c COINS, USED STAMPS, OLD COINS & ROSARY BEADS

Drop the coins into the Mission Buckets at each door and help St Patrick's Catholic Coin Club turn a bucket of your silver into a pot of gold.



Many thanks for your continuing generosity!

ROSARY GROUP LITHGOW

Tuesday, 7pm

Come pray together at the home of

Elizabeth Creighton

A booklet of the prayers is available. All very welcome!

Enquiries: Presbytery 6351 3092



CW THE Catholic Weekly

Catholic news from Australia and the world

Only \$2.00

- Out of dark, faith shines
- Pray to Our Lady of Lourdes
- Spiritual Communion
- Movie Review - I am Patrick

Catholic Women's League

March meeting to be held at 3.00 pm
Tuesday 24 March 2020 at Fatima Hall

~ ST VINCENT'S PARISH CORNER ~

- ◆ The 'Grace' Lenten Program is continuing each Friday at 9.30 am in the Parish Centre. All welcome.
- ◆ Parish Pastoral Council Meeting - 4.00 pm Friday 27 March 2020 at Convent.
- ◆ Easter Festival Saturday 11 April 2020 has been **cancelled**.
- ◆ Seniors morning teas at Mary O'Leary Centre **cancelled** until further notice.

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT
REGARDING
Current Cancellations and Postponements
of Parish Events**

Due to the increasing restrictions on non-essential gatherings that are being initiated to protect the community from the spread of COVID-19, please note the following cancellations and postponements:

■ **Catholic Women's League one day conference with meeting and luncheon on Sunday 22 March 2020 is cancelled.**

■ **Catholic Ball - postponed until later in the year. New date TBA once restrictions are lifted.**

■ **Sacrament of Confirmation - postponed to a later date. New date TBA once restrictions are lifted. Parents are encouraged to continue to prepare with their children for when they receive the Sacrament later in the year. If parents have any issues regarding resources, please contact the Presbytery by calling: **02 6351 3092** or emailing office.lithgow@cdob.org.au**

■ **Safe Church Awareness Training which was scheduled to be held at Fatima Hall on Friday 3 April 2020 is cancelled.**

■ **Combined Church Service scheduled for 6.00 pm on Sunday 29 March 2020 at the Christian Life Centre has been cancelled.**

Every endeavour will be made to keep you as informed as possible.

The Lord is my Shepherd;



there is nothing I shall want

Temporary Changes to Liturgical Celebrations in Light of COVID-19

Following advice from Bishop Michael McKenna and the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, it has been decided to immediately implement the following temporary changes in all Churches in the Parishes as a response to the current threat of coronavirus (COVID-19):

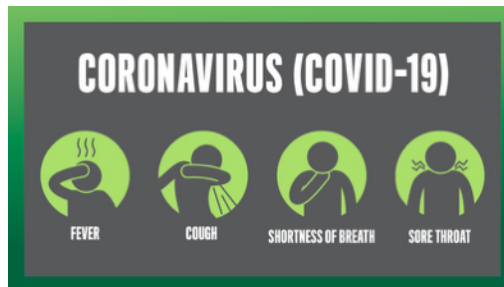
- Holy Water will be temporarily removed from stoups at the doors of the churches to reduce the possibility of transmission of the virus.
- Alcohol-based hand-sanitiser will be available for use at various places in the churches.
- When exchanging the Sign of Peace, individuals should avoid shaking hands but say "Peace be with you" and offer a smile, wave, nod or bow.
- All Ministers of Holy Communion should take particular care to wash their hands before and after distributing.
- The distribution of Holy Communion from the Chalice will be ceased until further notice. Please be reminded that Christ is fully present under either species.
- The coronavirus is easily spread through saliva. In celebrations of the Ordinary Form of the Latin Rite, the Body of Christ will only be administered in the hand because of the high risk of transmission if people continue to receive on their tongue. Ministers should seek to avoid contact with the communicant's hands.
- Individuals should consider their own health, including any potential to infect others with a contagious disease, being attending a public liturgical celebration.

- The faithful who are too unwell to attend Sunday Mass - whether due to coronavirus or some other condition - or are at particular risk of contracting the COVID-19 virus should spend time in prayer.

Parishioners may be reassured that, should they contract COVID-19 and become seriously ill, our pastoral team will continue to ensure they receive the sacraments and other appropriate pastoral care.

These recommendations are believed to be proportionate to the current understanding of the coronavirus and the risks outlined by health authorities. They are consistent with the Catholic Church's prerogative to protect those who are most vulnerable and are subject to change without notice.

For further information, please contact the Presbytery on 6351 3092.



Protect yourself and others from getting sick Wash your hands



- after coughing or sneezing
- when caring for the sick
- before, during and after you prepare food
- before eating
- after toilet use
- when hands are visibly dirty
- after handling animals or animal waste



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**
GO FURTHER TOGETHER

 **Caritas**
AUSTRALIA

Fourth Sunday of Lent -22 March 2020

As an unmarried woman with a disability, Sakun was isolated and unable to earn a living until Caritas Australia helped her set up a thriving kiosk. Now involved in village decision-making, Sakun's income is growing, along with her confidence.

We pray for our sisters and brothers around the world who are living with disability; that together we can work to ensure the God given dignity of all is upheld, removing obstacles and overcoming the structures that exist preventing equality in our communities.

Let's Go Further, Together.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or by phoning 1800 024 413

NOTICE OF TEMPORARY CLOSURE

SHALOM HOUSE OF PRAYER

In respect of the Coronavirus Pandemic and after careful consideration within the Shalom Community, and in consultation with Bishop Michael, the decision has been made to temporarily close Shalom House of Prayer until further notice. If you have any enquiries please do not hesitate to contact Shalom on

Phone: 6367 3058 or email shalomcarcoar@gmail.com

~ DAY BY DAY CALENDAR ~

MONDAY - 23/3 Weekday, 4th Week of Lent

9.00am	Parish Morning Prayer, Portland PC
10.00am	Gorrie Ban, Fatima Hall
4.30pm	Lenten Program, St Patrick's Lithgow

TUESDAY 24/3

10.30am	Funeral - Nancy Bannon - St Vincent's Portland
12.30pm	Mass , St Patrick's Lithgow
3.00pm	Meeting Fatima Hall - Catholic Women's League
7.00 pm	Home Rosary - Elizabeth Creighton

WEDNESDAY 25/3 The Annunciation of the Lord

8.45am	Meditation, Portland PC
9.30am	Mass , St Vincent's Portland

THURSDAY 26/3

9.00am	Parish Morning Prayer, Portland PC
9.30am	Mass , St Patrick's Lithgow

FRIDAY 27/3

9.00am	Parish Morning Prayer, Portland PC
9.30am	Lenten Program, Portland PC
9.30am	Mass , St Patrick's Lithgow
2.00pm	Funeral - William Lamond at Leura
4.00pm	Parish Pastoral Council meeting-Convent Portland

SATURDAY 28/3

9.20am	Rosary Group, Sacred Heart Wallerawang
10.00am	Mass , Sacred Heart Wallerawang
6.00pm	Vigil Mass , St Patrick's Lithgow

SUNDAY 29/3 - 5th Sunday of Lent - Year A

8:00am	Mass , St Vincent's Portland
10.00am	Mass , St Patrick's Lithgow

RECONCILIATION

Lithgow: Saturdays 5.00 - 5.45pm

Wallerawang: Saturdays 9.45am

Portland: Sundays 7.45am

Chaplaincy Presence at CSU Bathurst

Are you, or someone you know, commencing or returning to the Bathurst Campus of Charles Sturt University in the coming weeks and would like to connect with other young Catholics?

In 2020, CSU Bathurst will have a Chaplaincy presence.

If you would like to connect, please email on CSUcatholics@bathurst.catholic.org.au

Web: The bulletin is available to view each week on our Diocesan webpage: <http://www.bathurst.catholic.org.au/?i=220&lithgow>. Scroll down to the very bottom of page! If you would like to be added to our email mailing list, please email office.lithgow@cdob.org.au

Facebook: St Patrick's, Lithgow - www.facebook.com/stpatschurchlithgow/ and St Vincent's Portland - <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100012576190337>.

LITHGOW PARISH	Sat Vigil Mass - 28 March	Sun Morning - 29 March
Altar Servers	B. And E. Livingstone, R.J. Lord	Abby & Alexis Reid, L. Aarts, J. Roso
Reader	Richard Long, Ronny Chan	Robert Atcheson, Jackie Tse
Community Leader	Yvonne Thomas	Liz Creighton
Ministers of the Eucharist	Sr. Anne, L. Soper, C. Campbell, C. Milroy	L. Stack, T. Fitzpatrick, B. Fitzpatrick, M Shepherd
Preparation of Gifts	Helma Cox, Sr Anne	M. Drury, C. Nott
Cleaners	Volunteers required	
Counters	L. Hanby, A. Lemcke, M. Brown	
Flowers	A. Ma	

PORTLAND PARISH	Wallerawang - 28 March	Portland - 29 March
Welcomer	B. Della Bosca	C. Elverson
Commentator	A. Menchin	S. Taylor
Reader	C. O'Mahony	P. Neale, L. Nicholson
Preparation of Gifts	J. Applin, Maureen	S. Christian, J. Bellamy
Ministers of the Eucharist	H. Dowsett, C. O'Mahony	G. Lennon, P. Dowling
Cleaning/Flowers/Sacristy	Anne Hayman & Potts family	Sue Kearns

Gorrie Ban 2020

"Caring for the aged and lonely"

Upcoming Events:

- 23 March: Entertainment by Pat Connell
- 30 March: Passive Exercise - Margot McGuinness
- 6 April: Easter hat parade

Please ring if you are coming for the first time or if you are unable to attend to help with catering.

FATIMA HALL, GREAT WESTERN HIGHWAY, LITHGOW (every Monday except Public Holidays), Telephone: 6352 1466 (Monday's only), PO Box 292, Lithgow 2790

We Remember in our Prayers and Masses

Recently Deceased: Ros Rayner, Ray Burgess, William Lamond, Nancy Bannon

Anniversaries: Esme McDiarmid, Mary Potts, Patrick Guerin,

Requests for Remembrance: Judy Dowd, Luzyminda B. Manzanilla, Peter James Murray, Augurio Manzanilla, Bernardo Marce, Poppy Starr, Wilma Pound, Kevin Cummins, Brian Franklin, John Crane, Agnes & Jack Rogers, Mildred, Clyde & Frank Baker, Don Compagnoni, Allen & Molly Egan, Tom & Madaline Fitzpatrick, Jabour families, Egan & Collins families, Kathleen Fowler, Howard Burton & Martyn families, Holy Souls in Purgatory, Mavis Inzitari, Inzitari & Fittler families, Cec Kelly, Austen family, Butta family, Davis & McIntyre families.

Relatives, friends and parishioners who have asked for our prayers: Mass of Thanksgiving (2), John Revalde, Tania Pyne, Special Intention, Effie Boyd, Noeline Straney, Leonie Johnston, Jade North, Janet Milroy, Bill Luchetti, Sue Carter, Elijah Deveigne, Helen Butler, Pauline Campbell, Caroline Hill, Noeline Nicholson, Beth Bradley, Caroline Wright, Louise Kerr, Jackie Smith, Therese Walsh, Irene Yates, Donna Willis, Sheila Hemmy, Bernadette Seckold, Fr Tim Cahill, Michelle Buckens, Eileen Corker, Ellen Sharpe, Residents of Three Tree Lodge, Coinda, Tanderra, Tabulam Cottage and local aged care facilities.



The privacy of all people including sick persons and bereaved families is respected by the Parish. While we are happy to receive and offer a Mass for any intention, appropriate written consent from the person/parties to which the intention is directed (except for the deceased, of course) must be obtained in order for that intention to be published in the Weekly Bulletin, otherwise it will be noted as a "Special Intention".