



**The Parish of St Matthew's North Fawkner**  
 Archdiocese of Melbourne, 95 William Street, North Fawkner, 3060  
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Parish Priest: Fr. Florentino (Boy) Y Galdo: 9359 2369

School Principal: Bob Brown: 9359 5423

Deputy Principal: Rachael Spooner: 9359 5423

### March 19 – 4th Sunday of Lent (Year A)



Presenting the miracle of Jesus' giving of sight to a man born blind, today's Gospel teaches us the necessity of being willing to have our eyes opened by Faith, and warns us that those who assume they see the truth are often blind, while those who acknowledge their blindness are given clear vision. In this episode, the most unlikely person, namely the beggar born blind, receives the light of Faith in Jesus, while the religion-oriented, law-educated Pharisees remain spiritually blind. To live as a Christian is to see and to grow continually, gaining clearer vision about God, about ourselves and about others. Our Lenten prayers and sacrifices should help to heal our spiritual blindness so that we can look at others, see them as children of God, and love them as our own brothers and sisters, saved by the death and

Resurrection of Jesus.  
*(frtonyshomilies)*

#### IV Domenica di Quaresima — Laetare (ANNO A)

La "luce" è uno dei simboli originali delle Sacre Scritture. Essa annuncia la salvezza di Dio. Non è senza motivo che la luce è stata la prima ad essere creata per mettere un termine alle tenebre del caos (Gen 1,3-5). Ecco la professione di fede dell'autore dei Salmi: "Il Signore è mia luce e mia salvezza, di chi avrò paura?" (Sal 28,1). E il profeta dice: "Alzati, Gerusalemme, rivestiti di luce, perché viene la tua luce, la gloria del Signore brilla sopra di te" (Is 60,1). Non bisogna quindi stupirsi se il Vangelo di san Giovanni riferisce a Gesù il simbolo della luce. Già il suo prologo dice della Parola divina, del Logos: "In lui era la vita, e la vita era la luce degli uomini; la luce splende nelle tenebre, ma le tenebre non l'hanno accolta" (Gv 1,4-5). La luce è ciò che rischiara l'oscurità, ciò che libera dalla paura che ispirano le tenebre, ciò che dà un orientamento e permette di riconoscere la meta e la via. Senza luce, non c'è vita.

Il racconto della guarigione del cieco è una "storia di segni" caratteristica di san Giovanni. Essa mette in evidenza che Gesù è "la luce del mondo" (v. 5, cf. 8, 12), che egli è la rivelazione in persona e la salvezza di Dio - offerte a tutti. *(LaChiesa)*

#### Joke of the week

Lifetime prescription

An elderly man returned from the hospital looking worried.

'What's the matter?' asked the wife.

'The consultant said I have to take one of these tablets every day for the rest of my life,' the husband replied.

'That's not too bad,' said the wife, trying to cheer him up.

'It is,' said the husband. 'He only gave me seven!'

*(The Book of senior jokes)*

**The sick in our parish:** Teresa & Con Lamonaca, Nola, John Markis, Miriam Markis, Elda Taranto, Panfilo Ambrosini, Carmela Renda, Krys Herrmann and Family, Bob Brown, Angela Barto, Diana Nash, Patrick Brennan, Sonia Taranto, Evelyn McDonough, Laurence, Amelia Testa, Floriano Pivetta, Bruna Zando, Rita Paladino, Joe and Monica Zahra, Cathy Taviane, Emma and Tony Mallozzi, Nina Garoffolo, Giovanna Gamberale, Josie, Mark, Mary Theuma, Lori, Catarina Calvi.

**Recently deceased:** Vita Kotic, Joso Peric, Lucia Giangrave, Dario Della Valle, Saydeh Souaid, Teresa Facciolo, Lucia Giangrave, Maria De Sensi, Beatrice Torchia (Italy)

**Anniversaries:** Benito Butera, Vincenzo and Giuseppina Leone, Famiglia Titone, Maria Camboni, Arthur Frances Jones, Eufrosina Galdo

*We especially pray for all the deceased St. Matthews parishioners, those whose names are on the Church pews & the Resurrection Chapel.*

*O Lord, who art ever merciful and bounteous with Thy gifts, look down upon the suffering souls in purgatory. Remember not their offenses and negligences, but be mindful of Thy loving mercy, which is from all eternity. Cleanse them of their sins and fulfil their ardent desires that they may be made worthy to behold Thee face to face in Thy glory.*

#### Mass times

##### Weekday:

Tuesday-Friday: 9.30 am

Wednesday: Novena mass: 6.00 pm

Friday (during Lent):

**Stations of the Cross/Mass: 6.00 pm**

##### Weekend:

Saturday Vigil mass 5.30 pm

Sunday 9.00 am ; Sunday 10.30 (Italian mass)

Reconciliation: Saturday: 5.00 pm. Bookings are essential. Contact the Parish Office

#### Mass times

##### St. Marks, Fawkner (Leo Street, Fawkner)

##### Weekday:

Monday-Saturday: 9.00 am

##### Weekend:

Saturday: 6.00 pm ; Sunday: 10.00 am ; 6.00 pm

Hope Café: Thursday: 5.30 pm (free dinner for the needy)

Reconciliation: Saturday: 9.30 am and 5.30 pm or phone Fr. Colin (9359 3111)

#### Rosters for weekend masses (Mar 25/26)

**Lectors:** Saturday 5.30 pm: J. Manovella ; Sunday 9.00 am: M. Raymond ; 10.30 am: R. Odoardi

**Bus driver:** B. Tajhano

#### Sacramental preparation

Any students from government schools in Grade 3 and up wishing to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion or Confirmation in 2023, please contact Anna Proud on 0402741258.

#### Project Compassion

Please take home a Project Compassion box or set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and For All Future Generations.

With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction. Project Compassion 2023 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come.

**As St Pope John Paul II said, "The future starts today, not tomorrow."**

**St. Matthew's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.**

The electronic version of the Parish bulletin is available on the Parish website @ <http://stmatthewsparish.org.au/>