



# Journey to Easter



Lenten Retreat 2007  
at Our Lady of Dolours  
Catholic Church Chatswood



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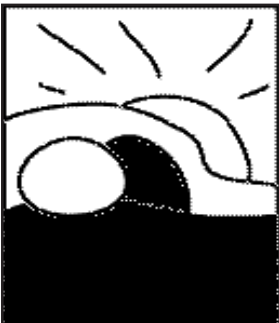
Email: [office@chatswoodparish.org.au](mailto:office@chatswoodparish.org.au)



## Join in our Lenten retreat as a parish.

### *How?*

1. Make a personal Lenten commitment, write it down and place at the foot of the Lenten cross at church.
2. Enter fully into the Sunday Mass each week.
3. Read through this brochure and see what other parish Lenten events you may like to join in.
4. Share a Lenten ritual at home.



## Our Lenten Journey Begins

Tues 20 Feb      Shrove Tuesday

*Enjoy pancakes at home and get ready for Lent.*

### **21 Feb                  Ash Wednesday**

Mass and ashes at the following times:

6.45am; 9.00am; 12.15pm; 7.30pm

### **Friday 23 Feb**

6.00pm              Soup & Bread meal

7.00pm              Movie Night



Six weeks of gentle steps leading to healing, forgiveness and renewal. Each week, enter fully into the Sunday Mass and choose one other Lenten step.

# Lent Week 1

We begin our week with a well celebrated Sunday Eucharist:

**25 Feb**                    **First Sunday of Lent**  
*Mt 4:1-11*  
 ‘Temptation in the desert’

We become aware of our power to make choices, and how those choices impact on our lives personally and as a church.

Rite of Election at St Ives Cathedral 2pm  
 Those preparing to be initiated as Catholics at Easter gather with the Bishop for a special ceremony to mark their final stage of preparation. Catechumens are enrolled in the ‘Book of the Elect’. As a parish we pray for our parishioners who are taking this important step in faith.

*We pause during our week to take another step in our Lenten journey.*

**Wednesday 28 Feb**  
 7.00-7.30pm    Pray with our parish patron saint, Our Lady of Dolours. Meditate on the sorrowful mysteries of the Rosary. Led by Cecilia & Michael O’Connell in the church.

**Friday 2 March**  
 6.00pm        Soup & Bread meal  
 7.00pm        Caritas Speaker: Dr A Shelley

**Share a Lenten ritual at home:**  
 Gather for a very simple meal with family/friends: e.g. rice and one vegetable. Or: bread, cheese and water. Talk about ways to ‘live simply so that others may simply live.’ Pray for a more just society.

# Lent Week 2

We begin our week with a well celebrated Sunday Eucharist:

**4 March**                    **Second Sunday of Lent**  
*Mt 17:1-9*  
 ‘Transfiguration’

We seek the Lord’s presence in our mountain top and valley experiences. Our memories of being loved and affirmed by the body of Christ empower us to face the painful and difficult passages of life.

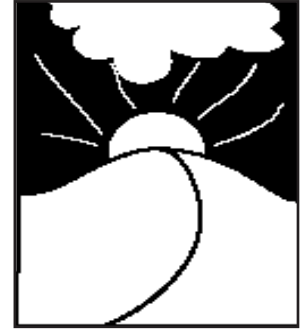
*We pause during our week for another Lenten step:*

**Wednesday 7 March**  
 7.30pm        Talk by author Brendan Whiting on the Shroud of Turin, the burial cloth of Jesus. Meeting Room 1.

**Friday 9 March**  
 6.00pm        Soup & Bread meal  
 7.00pm        Movie Night

**Share a Lenten ritual at home:**  
 Over a meal, name each other’s God-given gifts and say how you see a particular gift at work. Pray together in thanksgiving for all these gifts.

Watch the bulletin each week for further Lenten news.  
 Visit the Parish Lending Library for some spiritual reading.



The social justice team invites you to join in parish activities to raise funds for Project Compassion

**Raffle**  
 (drawn 30 March)

**Hot cross buns**  
 24 & 25 March,  
 31 Mar & 1 April

**“Meal Appeal”**  
 Join us for lunch  
 Sun 18 March at 12.00  
 noon at the Aberdeen  
 Chinese Restaurant  
 Gordon Club  
 (Mandarin Centre).  
 Cost: \$25 pp.



## Lent Week 3

We begin our week with a well celebrated Sunday Eucharist:

**11 March Third Sunday of Lent**  
*Jn 4:5-42*  
'Living waters'

In what ways do we thirst like the Samaritan woman? We will have special prayers of healing at Mass seeking the living waters of Christ.

*We pause during our week to think about our deepest values and beliefs:*

### **Wednesday 14 March**

7.30-8.30pm 'We believe...'

Presentation by Fr John Thornhill SM

A 50 min DVD lecture by an Australian theologian renown for his vast knowledge and deep spirituality. Food for the brain, but not too 'heavy' for a general audience. An illuminating walk through the Creed. That long recitation after the homily each Sunday may never sound the same again! Meeting Room 1.

### **Friday 16 March**

12.15pm Anointing of the Sick in Mass

6.00pm Soup & Bread meal

7.00pm Movie Night

### **Share a Lenten ritual at home:**

Share memories & photos of the baptisms in your family. Light a baptismal candle and pray that you will always drink deeply from the 'living waters' of Christ's love.

Lent needn't be all hard work and push-ups! Try a Friday movie night and be inspired.

The Friday Soup & Movie Nights are organised by the Social Justice Team. Parish meeting rooms. Gold coin donation. Check the bulletin for movie titles.

## Lent Week 4

We begin our week with a well celebrated Sunday Eucharist:

**18 March Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
*Jn 9:1-41*  
'Healing of the blind man'

Where are we blind like the man born blind? We will have special prayers of healing at Mass seeking the light and vision of Christ.

*We pause during our week to pray and be still:*

### **Wednesday 21 March**

7.00-7.30pm Divine mercy chaplet & devotions.

### **Friday 23 March**

6.00pm Soup & Bread meal

7.00pm Movie Night

### **Share a Lenten ritual at home:**

Pray together a time-honoured prayer from our Catholic tradition. e.g. the rosary.

*Lenten Groups, small gatherings of parishioners to reflect on the Sunday Gospels, are an enriching way to prepare for Easter. Booklets are available from Monica Cotter Ph xxx xxx.*



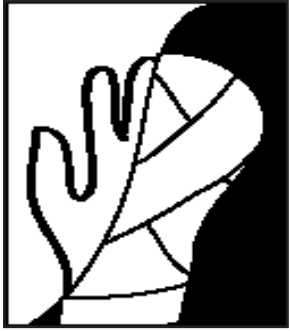
Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting and abstinence.

Every Friday is a day of penance which we observe by any of the following:

- \* Prayer
- \* Self-denial
- \* Helping others.

Refer to noticeboards for further information about fasting, abstinence and Lenten penance.

Note: During Lent we will be reflecting on the Gospels from Year A of the liturgical calendar.



Allow for some ‘quiet time’ as Easter approaches. A few precious minutes or hours to just ‘be’ with God.

## Lent Week 5

We begin our week with Sunday Eucharist:

**25 March Fifth Sunday of Lent**

*Jn 11:1-45*

‘Lazarus, come out!’

Where am I entombed and in bondage like Lazarus? We will have special prayers of healing at Mass seeking the life and freedom Christ offers.

*We pause in our week to forgive and seek forgiveness:*

**Wednesday 28 March**

7.00pm Reconciliation (2nd Rite)

Please note the starting time: 7.00 (not 7.30)pm.

**Thursday 29 March**

12.45pm Reconciliation (2nd Rite)

**Friday 30 March**

6.00pm Soup & Bread meal & Raffle draw

7.00pm Movie OR Guest Speaker on

Indigenous reconciliation programs in Australia.

Check parish bulletin for updates.

**Saturday 31 March**

RCIA Retreat Day.

**Share a Lenten ritual at home:**

Gather photos of a loved one who has died and pass them around over a meal. Share memories.

Pray for this person, and for you too, especially if you have regrets or painful memories. Prayerfully release the deceased into the loving hands of Jesus.

## Holy Week

We begin our week with a well celebrated Sunday Eucharist:

**1 April Passion/Palm Sunday**

*Mt 26:14 - 27:66*

‘The way of the cross’

What does it mean for me to walk the way of the cross?

**Tuesday 3 April**

7.30pm Diocesan Chrism Mass  
St Ives Cathedral

At this Mass the sacred oils used in our sacramental rites during the year are blessed by the Bishop.

**5 April Holy Thursday**

8.00pm Mass of the Lord’s Supper

**6 April Good Friday**

10.00am Stations of the Cross  
(Dramatized by our youth)

10.30am Reconciliation - First Rite  
3.00pm The Passion of our Lord

**7 April Holy Saturday**

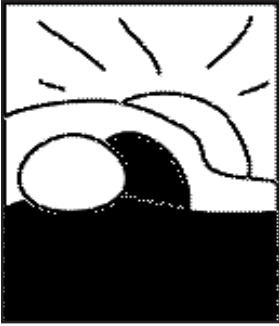
Church open for quiet prayer until midday.

**Easter** See Mass timetable overleaf.



*‘Watch & pray...’*

Did you know that many people find Our Lady of Dolours Church to be an oasis of prayer and peace during the week. Our church is open every day from about 7am till late evening. What better time than Lent to call in for some moments of prayer, a quiet place to sit and reflect.



Alleluia,  
Christ is  
risen! As a  
parish family  
we welcome  
with joy all  
those being  
baptised or  
received as  
Catholics  
this Easter.  
May we all  
taste the  
freedom of  
the Lord's  
resurrection  
this Easter.

# Easter timetable '07

*We enter the greatest celebration of the Christian calendar:*

**7 April**

**Easter Vigil 8.00pm**

**8 April**

**Easter Sunday Masses**

7.30am; 9am (Family Mass)

10.30am; 5.30pm (Youth Mass)

Adult baptisms will take place at the Easter Vigil and at the 9am Mass. Infant baptisms will be celebrated at some of the Masses.

## **Mass Times in Lent**

**Weekdays:** Mon to Fri 9am & 12.15pm (plus 6.45am on Wednesdays); Saturday 9am.

**Vigil Mass:** (Sat) 5.30pm

**Sundays:** 7.30; 9am; 10.30am; 5.30pm

Note: **Family Mass:** 9am every Sunday.

**Youth Mass:** 5.30pm every Sunday.

## **Reconciliation Times in Lent**

### **First Rite:**

Monday to Friday after the 12.15pm Mass

Saturdays 9.30-10.30am

During Holy Week: Mon to Wed 9.30am & 12.45pm

Good Friday 10.30am

**Second Rite:** Wed 28 March 7.00pm;

Thurs 29 March 12.45pm.

**Venues:** The church and the parish meeting rooms are the venues for this Lenten Journey.