



St John's Wood/The Gap Parish Bulletin

Vol 6, Issue 07

01 March 2026



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: [Gen 12:1-4](#)

The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.

Second Reading: [2 Tim 1:8-10](#)

God has saved us, and called us to be holy.

Gospel: [Matthew 17:1-9](#)

His face shone like the sun.



[Readings and Commentaries](#)



TWO-MINUTE HOMILY

Second Sunday of Lent

Dcn Paul Jensen



Dcn Paul reflects on divine revelation and when these holy glimpses are granted, we must cherish them, for they are blessed and fleeting gifts. [Watch now.](#)

Deceased

Anniversary

Beatrice & Kevin McMahon, Ron & Joy Hambleton

Sick

Beth Kloza, Lameka Eketi, Peter Maher, Peter Townson, Suzanne Black, Val Bonney, Carmel Foster, Baby Paddy Marquart, Julie Allen, Philomena (Nellie's mum), Trish Crawshaw, Fiona Russell, Luz Stella Lopez, Carmel Herbert, Christy Murphy, Jim Johnson, Robert Minns, Tim chen chen zuo Zu, Mary Thomas, Antonio Ferrante, Carol Black, Moira De Silva, Margaret Sullivan, Ryan Ferguson, Toni Bennett, Deiana Martin, Lorraine Stevens

WCCM (Christian Meditation)

Monday at 9.30am Parish Office.

Will resume early February.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Mater Dei: Monday & Friday 6 - 7pm

This week's Gospel reflection:

THE UNSEEN FACE OF GOD



In the Old Testament, the Hebrew word for God's glory, 'kabod', signifies the glorious manifestation of his presence. When this happens, the normally unseen and imperfectly known God makes himself known to his people in a visible and tangible way.

For example, in Exodus, the 'kabod' of God goes before his people in visible pillars of cloud and fire. This glorious appearance of God's presence and power leads the Israelites out of Egypt and it descends on Mt Sinai to give Moses the Ten Commandments. However, when Moses asks to see God's glory up close, God responds, "No one shall see my face and live."

When God reveals himself in the Old Testament, there was always some kind of separation or distance between his supremely holy presence and his people. Although God goes before his people and dwells with them, no one is permitted to see him face-to-face. To take another Old Testament example, Elijah responds to the passing presence of God on Mt Horeb (in 2 Kings) by covering his face. This separation recognised the gulf that still existed between God and humanity because of sin.

But in this week's gospel, Moses and Elijah appear at the top of a mountain, Mt Tabor, and commune face-to-face with the one true God. Jesus' identity is revealed; he is the 'kabod' of God, the same saving presence of God that spoke from the fiery cloud in Exodus.

However, this revelation of Jesus' divinity will only make sense after his death and resurrection. As much as the transfiguration reveals the truth about who Jesus is, Easter reveals so much more.

On Mt Tabor, Jesus is revealed in his divine glory, clothed in white and shining like the sun. On Golgotha, he is seen in tortured and shamed, stripped of his clothes.

On Mt Tabor, Jesus is surrounded by two of Israel's greatest heroes, representing God's communication and enduring presence with his people; on Golgotha, he is flanked by two criminals, representing the depth of sin and suffering in the human condition. Peter is awestruck and wants to stay on Mt Tabor, while he cowers in fear and doesn't approach Golgotha.

But, at both, the glory of God is unveiled for the whole world, and Jesus is revealed as the one true Son of God. At the transfiguration, a voice from heaven declares that "This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour," at Golgotha, the truth of Jesus' divinity is proclaimed by a Roman centurion, one of his crucifiers.

As St Paul says in this week's Second Reading, we are reconciled to God because "he abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News."

And, just as Moses and Elijah saw in the transfiguration, through Jesus' death and resurrection, we have now seen, in him, the 'kabod' of God face-to-face.

Joseph Doyle © Majellan Media 2026

Welcome to our Marist Boarders who are joining us this weekend at Mater Dei 10am Mass. Please make them feel welcome and share morning tea and a chat with them.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

Please be advised that Stations of the Cross will be held on Friday nights during Lent at Mater Dei Church commencing at 7.30pm - 8.15pm. This will follow Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament commencing at 6pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

Day/Date	Liturgy	Mass Times	Venue
Monday 02/03/2026	Second Week of Lent	9am	Mater Dei
Wednesday 04/03/2026	Second Week of Lent	9am	SPC
Thursday 05/03/2026	Second Week of Lent	9am	SPC
Friday 06/03/2026	Second Week of Lent	9am	Mater Dei
Saturday 07/03/2026	Second Week of Lent	5.30pm	Mater Dei
Sunday 08/03/2026	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT	8am 10am 5pm	SPC Mater Dei SPC

HAPPENINGS IN THE PARISH THIS WEEK

Last Sunday night was our February **Youth-Led Mass**. It was a beautiful liturgy, with people of all ages commenting on how good the readers were and expressing how much they appreciated the music, calling it "**spiritually uplifting**". A massive thank you to all of the young people who contributed to the Mass and to all who joined us. Everyone is invited to the **next YLM on Sunday 29 March** (Palm Sunday), which will be **followed by a Youth Night** in the hall for all high schoolers. Save the date!

Following the YLM, the Parish came together for **Potluck Dinner** in the hall. With such a large and varied spread of meals, everyone had a lovely evening, deepening friendship and connections with others in our Parish community. Thanks to all who joined us for Potluck, especially to everyone who contributed a meal and who helped with running the night. The **next Potluck will be on Sunday 26 April**.

Finally, on Monday night our Parish **Young Adults Group launched!** We kicked off with pizza and then began reflecting on the previous day's Gospel. The reflections and sharing's from everyone who came were deeply beautiful and we cannot wait to continue our Lenten journey together! Please note that we'll now start and end 30 mins later: **every Monday night at SPC from 6:30-8pm**. All young adults (finished high school and older) are very welcome! Text Lauren on 0487 635 721 for more info.

We warmly welcome back our **Ever Young Group** as they gather again for friendship, laughter and community. It is always a joy to see so many familiar faces and new ones, coming together in such a vibrant and life-giving way.

All parishioners and friends are most welcome— come along for a cuppa, a chat, and the wonderful company that makes our parish family so special.

If you would like to know more about the group please contact the parish office.



BIBLE STUDIES GROUP

Thank you to all those who turned up to the Bible sessions. I am please to announce the next session will be on **Thursday 26th March** from 6-7pm in the Parish Hall. Please bring a bible with you.

Father Anthony

ST JOHN'S WOOD / THE GAP PARISH

Office Hours

Mon, Wed, Fri:- 8:30am - 3:30pm
Tue, Thurs: - 8:30am - 12:30pm

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CHURCHES

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St. Peter Chanel

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SCHOOLS

[Mater Dei Primary School](#)

T: 3514 4100

[St Peter Chanel Primary School](#)

T: 3300 1202



HOME ROSARY

This week's rosary will be said at the home of Anton & Ann on Monday 2nd March. Contact the parish office for further details.

Please check out our [Parish Webpage](#) and [Facebook Page](#) for regular updates.





**Can you help with
FLOWER ARRANGMENTS
at SPC church?**



Our flower ladies are seeking volunteers to help with flower arranging for our weekend Masses and special celebrations throughout the year.

If you enjoy working with flowers-or would simply like to learn-we would love to welcome you to our small, friendly team. No formal experience is necessary, just a willing heart and a love for helping beautify our church.

This is a lovely way to serve the parish community and contribute to the prayerful atmosphere of our liturgies.

If you are interested, please contact Kay Sullivan (0423 186 840 – text or call or email kaysullivan41@hotmail.com).

Thank you for helping us keep our church welcoming and beautiful.



**CHILDREN'S LITURGY LEADERS
HELP NEEDED**

Children's Liturgy is offered at the 10am Mass on the first Sunday of each month. We need to hear from another 1-2 more people who can volunteer as either as a session leader or assistant to ensure it is possible to continue.

All volunteers need to complete the parish safeguarding requirements prior to commencing. Support is available to learn how it all works, including shadowing an existing session leader. Easy to follow materials are provided through the Archdiocese for each Sunday.

Please contact the parish office,
or Donna Lynn at donna.lynn@live.com.au
if you are interested in finding out more.



Our school community recently gathered in prayer for our Opening School Mass, a joyful celebration that marked the beginning of another faith-filled year at St Peter Chanel. It was wonderful to see so many families and parishioners join us, and we extend our sincere thanks to everyone who attended and helped make the Mass such a special occasion.

A highlight of the celebration was the commissioning of our Year 4/5 Student Council members. We thank these students for their willingness to serve our school community and lead with responsibility, respect and care throughout the year.

Our youngest learners are also settling beautifully into school life. Our Prep students have been enthusiastically learning the actions to our school prayer, taking great pride in praying together as part of the SPC community.



We look forward to continuing to celebrate our faith together and warmly invite parishioners to join us at upcoming SPC Masses:

- **Sunday 22 March – 8:00am** | SPC Family Mass
- **Thursday 19 March – 9:00am** | Year 1 attending Parish Mass

Thursday 26 March – 9:00am | Prep and Year 4/5 attending Parish Mass

We hope to see you at an upcoming St Peter Chanel Mass as we continue to strengthen the connection between parish, school and home.

Hayley APRE



We warmly invite families to join us for our rescheduled Family Mass on Sunday 1st March at 10:00am. This is a beautiful opportunity for our school and parish communities to gather in prayer and celebration. We look forward to worshipping together and welcoming families as we continue to grow in faith as one community.

This year marks a **special milestone for our school as Mater Dei celebrates 75 years** of faith, learning and community. It has been a joy to see how our children have wholeheartedly embraced our 2026 theme, **Igniting Hearts of Caritas**. Over the last few weeks, students have spent time exploring what this theme truly means - living out the **Golden Rule**, treating one another with love, compassion and respect, and looking for ways to care for others in their everyday actions.

We look forward to sharing a range of special 75th anniversary celebrations throughout the year and invite our community to watch out for these moments as we celebrate this significant milestone together.

Friday 6th March Year 3 attending Mass

Friday 13th March Year 4 attending Mass

Leah APRE

A vocation view: Second Sunday of Lent - Year A

The Lord called Abraham to go forth to a new land and begin a new nation. There is no telling what we can become by responding to the Lord's invitation to us.

Scan the QR code to find out more,
or call 1300 133 544 www.vocationbrisbane.com



Follow us on socials



Second Sunday of Lent
28 February – 1 March 2026

Sisilia is a 13-year-old girl living in remote Tanzania, who had to walk long distances to collect water every day. Thanks to Project Compassion, Sisilia's school and village now have safe clean water close by and she can spend more time studying so she can fulfil her dream of one day becoming a pilot.



Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*



21 MARCH 2026
SANTA TERESA SPIRITUALITY CENTRE
9AM – 3PM

Join Fr Paul Chandler for
POWERHOUSE OF PRAYER

Scan to register before 13/3/26

LEARN AND PRACTICE THE ART OF PRAYER

Archdiocesan MINISTRIES



Archbishop Shane Mackinlay invites you to the annual
CHRISM MASS
Thursday 26th March 2026
7:00pm
Cathedral of St Stephen
249 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane
A celebration for the entire Archdiocese
All Welcome
The undercover carpark will be available from 6:00pm



RECO RALLY
FRIDAY, 27 MARCH 2026 6 - 8:30PM
LOURDES HILL RECONCILIATION COLLEGE
SPEAKER, GAMES, PRAISE AND WORSHIP
CATHOLIC Collective
Find out more at catholiccollective.org.au/reco-rally

Are you ready to begin the journey towards the **International Eucharistic Congress (Eucharist28)** to be held in **Sydney in 2028?**

The Archdiocese of Brisbane is joining a **nationwide launch** of the Year of Prayer in the lead-up to Eucharist28 by hosting a Holy Hour after the 12noon Mass at the Cathedral of St Stephen's **this Sunday, 1st March 2026.**

Details:

- When:** Sunday, 1st March 2026
- Time:** 1pm - 2pm
- Where:** Cathedral of St Stephen (249 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane)



"Our parish would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Turrbal and Jagera people, and pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge their continued connection to the land, water and community".



- ◆ The Editor retains the right to edit any items that are submitted to the Bulletin.
- ◆ The cut off for the Parish Bulletin is Wednesday 3pm. If you have any queries please contact the Parish Office.
- ◆ Some items in the bulletin are sourced from Majellan Media.

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