ENTERING THE HOLY SEASON OF LENT

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, the solemn 40-day season of preparation for Easter. On this day, Catholics gather to receive ashes on their foreheads in the sign of the cross. As the ashes are placed, we hear the words, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return," or "Repent, and believe in the Gospel." These words remind us of two essential truths: our need for God's mercy and the saving love of Jesus Christ.

The ashes, made from the blessed palms of the previous year's Palm Sunday, symbolise repentance and humility. Throughout Scripture, ashes are a sign of sorrow for sin and a desire for conversion of heart.

Lent lasts for 40 days, recalling the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the desert. During this sacred season, the Church invites us to deepen our relationship with God through three traditional practices: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Prayer draws us closer to the Lord. We are encouraged to spend more time in personal prayer, participate in the Stations of the Cross, and reflect more deeply on Sacred Scripture.

Fasting helps us practice self-discipline and detachment from worldly comforts. On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are required to fast (one full meal and two smaller meals that together do not equal a full meal). Catholics age 14 and older abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent.

Almsgiving expresses our love for others, especially those in need. Through acts of charity, generosity, and service, we share the blessings God has given us.

Lent is not merely a season of giving things up; it is a time of spiritual renewal. By turning away from sin and turning toward Christ, we prepare our hearts to celebrate the joy of the Resurrection at Easter. May this Lenten season be a time of grace, conversion, and hope for our entire parish community.

Holy Family Catholic Parish

INGLEBURN & MINTO

Holy Family Church
136 Oxford Rd, Ingleburn

Holy Trinity Church
57 Guernsey Ave, Minto

Parish Office: 136 Oxford Rd
(PO Box 111) Ingleburn NSW 2565
Website: www.hfi.org.au
Email: ingleburn@dow.org.au
Hours: 8.45am-2.45pm Tues-Thurs
Phone:(02) 9059 4134

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A
15 February 2026

Reflection by Father Henry

In the Gospel for this Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time, Matthew continues the Sermon on the Mount with Jesus' threefold teaching on the way of life in the Kingdom of Heaven. Today's passage forms the first part and focuses on the Law. The second part will address worship and religious practice, including the Lord's Prayer, and the third will speak of trusting God and loving service to our neighbour.

When Matthew refers to "the Law and the Prophets," he means the whole of Scripture. With the coming of the Messiah and the fullness of the Kingdom, nothing in Scripture is discarded. Rather, it is brought to fulfilment. Jesus does not overturn the Law of Moses or release his followers from it. Instead, he calls them to go beyond the Law, to a deeper and more demanding faithfulness that reaches the heart.

The Law condemned murder; Jesus condemns anger. The Law condemned adultery; Jesus condemns even lustful intent. Obedience is no longer measured only by external actions but by the inner dispositions from which those actions flow.

For Matthew's community of Jewish Christians, long faithful to the Law, this teaching helped them understand the difference Jesus and his Kingdom made. They believed that God had always been at work through "the Law and the Prophets." Yet in Jesus, God's will is revealed in its fullness. Scripture and tradition find their completion in him. His life and teaching become the definitive expression of God's will and the true guide for those who seek to live as citizens of the Kingdom.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday during Lent at 7pm in the Church.

PARISH GROUPS & MEETINGS

LEGION OF MARY
6.30pm every Wednesday, Church Meeting Room.

BIBLE READING
9.45am 2nd & 4th Wednesday, Parish Meeting Room.

BIBLE STUDY
7pm 1st & 3rd Friday, Parish Meeting Room.

BIBLE SHARING
7pm 2nd & 4th Friday, Parish Meeting Room.

CHILDRENS LITURGY
Every Sunday during 9am Mass.

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS
Information night for parents and social gathering for young people aged 12-28
Saturday 28 February at 6.30pm

SERVICE TIMES

Holy Family	Mass	Wed - Fri	9am
		Tue	7pm
		First Friday of each month	6.30pm
		Sat	5pm Vigil
		Sun	9am and 5pm
	Adoration	Tues	7.30pm
	Benediction	First Friday of each month	9.30am
	Reconciliation	Tue Sat	6.30pm - 7pm 9am - 10am
Holy Trinity	*Rosary*	Mon	7pm
	Reconciliation	Wed	5.45pm - 6pm
	Mass	Wed	6pm
		Sun	8am

What's On In Our Parish

February

14 & 15 Project Compassion Sunday
Social Gathering Weekend after all Masses
18 Ash Wednesday (Holy Family 9am/11.35am (Parish School Mass)/7pm, Holy Trinity 6pm)
22 Older Children Baptism Preparation Session, 3.30pm Parish Meeting Rooms
26 Lenten Program, 7pm Parish Meeting Rooms
28 HF Youth + Y.A. Meet & Greet Night, 6.30pm Parish Meeting Rooms

March

1 Older Children Baptism Preparation Session, 3.30pm Parish Meeting Rooms
2 Sacrament of First Reconciliation Preparation Session 1, 6.30pm Parish Meeting Rooms
5 Lenten Program, 7pm Parish Meeting Rooms
8 Older Children Baptism Preparation Session, 3.30pm Parish Meeting Rooms
9 Sacrament of First Reconciliation Preparation Session 2, 6.30pm Parish Meeting Rooms
12 Lenten Program, 7pm Parish Meeting Rooms
16 Sacrament of First Reconciliation Preparation Session 3, 6.30pm Parish Meeting Rooms
17 St Patrick's Feast Day (Holy Family 9am/11.35am (Grade Mass - Yr 5 & Yr 1)/7pm)
19 St Joseph Feast Day (Holy Family 9am/11.35am (Grade Mass - Yr 2 & Yr 4)/6pm
Lenten Program, 7pm Parish Meeting Rooms

Liturgical Dates

February

14 Sts Cyril, *Monk* and Methodius, *Bishop*
18 Ash Wednesday
23 St Polycarp, *Bishop and Martyr*

March

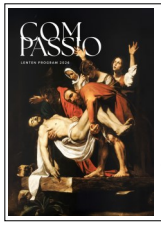
17 St Patrick, *Bishop*
19 St Joseph, *Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
25 Annunciation of the Lord
29 Palm Sunday

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday 18 February - **Ash Wednesday**
Mass at 9am, 11.35am (School Mass) and 7pm, Holy Family Ingleburn
Mass at 6pm, Holy Trinity Minto

Thursday 26 February
Lenten Program with Charbel Raish
7pm Parish Meeting Room

Monday 30 March - **Sacrament of Reconciliation**
5pm Liturgy (for enrolled candidates only)



2026 Diocesan Lenten Program Book - "Compassio"

AVAILABLE NOW

Copies of the 2026 Diocesan Lenten Book, "Compassio" are available for purchase from the table in the Church foyer for $4.50.

Caritas AUSTRALIA | PROJECT COMPASSION

Project Compassion Sunday
14–15 of February 2026

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion.

Your generosity this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.

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.*

We pray ...

For world leaders and policy makers to work to foster peace and justice in all nations. For those feeling overwhelmed and challenged in mind, body, soul and spirit. For those who have nobody to pray for them. For all the forgotten Souls and Holy Souls in Purgatory.

For the sick and homebound: *May the saving power of the risen Lord bring healing, comfort and peace to their bodies and send strength to their carers. Amen.* For our sick relatives, friends and parishioners and all who have nobody to pray for them; Maria Elizabeth Tuason, Emerlida Castillo, Rebecca Velasco, Susitina Unasa, Josephine Flores Ferrer.

For our recently dearly departed: *Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.*
Walter Glynn, Flora Manuel-Castro, Benita Cervantes, Juanita Emnas.

For those whose death anniversaries occur at this time: *Having returned to the Father, may they rest in peace. Amen.* For those who have nobody to pray for them; For all of our family members and friends; Horatius Macariola, Clarita Trajano, Anicita Medalla, Francisco Medalla, Alfonso Emnas, Victoria C. Macariola, Luz U. Lopez, Queenie Pereira, Hubert Pereira, Arnold Rodaje LaPena, Brian Smith.

Other intentions: Offering for the Church from John Hall
Best wishes to all students, teachers, school staff, and families for the new school year. May the Lord grant you wisdom, patience, and joy, and may His loving presence accompany you throughout the year.

Thank You

With grateful hearts, we thank all our parish volunteers who so generously serve our parish.

We are deeply thankful for our liturgy team, altar servers, acolytes, bell ringers, flower ladies, musicians, choirs, and cleaning and gardening teams. Through your prayerful preparation, faithful service, and generous sharing of your gifts, you help lead our parish more fully into the sacred mystery of the Eucharist.

May God bless you abundantly for the time, love, and devotion you offer in service to Him and to our parish community.

Has Your Child Been Baptised?

Our parish warmly invites families with children aged 5 to 12 years who have not yet been baptised to being their journey towards this Sacrament.
A preparation program will commence on *22 February at 3.30pm in the Parish Meeting Room.* For further information, please speak with Father Henry or the Parish Office .

2026 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS: ****PLEASE REGISTER VIA THE PARISH WEBSITE****

Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion
If your child is in Year 3 or above, and has been Baptised, they are eligible to receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion in our parish.
The Sacrament of First Reconciliation will be celebrated on Monday, 30 March 2026.
The Sacrament of First Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, 31 May 2026.
Additional information and registration form is available from the parish website.

CATECHISTS NEEDED

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations" Matthew 28:19-20

Would you like to join the Catechists team this year?

Would you be interested in teaching in the local state primary schools?

Our parish is seeking volunteer Catechists or Classroom Helpers to support the faith journey of students in our local state schools.

No experience needed. Training and support are provided.

For more information contact our parish Catechist Coordinator Adam Rakvin on 0433245822 or the Parish Office

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