

‘No, he only looks like him.’ The man himself said, ‘I am the man.’ So they said to him, ‘Then how do your eyes come to be open?’ ‘The man called Jesus’ he answered ‘made a paste, daubed my eyes with it and said to me, “Go and wash at Siloam”; so I went, and when I washed I could see.’ They asked, ‘Where is he?’ ‘I don’t know’ he answered.

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man’s eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, ‘He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.’ Then some of the Pharisees said, ‘This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.’ Others said, ‘How could a sinner produce signs like this?’ And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, ‘What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?’ ‘He is a prophet’ replied the man.

However, the Jews would not believe that the man had been blind and had gained his sight, without first sending for his parents and asking them, ‘Is this man really your son who you say was born blind? If so, how is it that he is now able to see?’ His parents answered, ‘We know he is our son and we know he was born blind, but we don’t know how it is that he can see now, or who opened his eyes. He is old enough: let him speak for himself.’ His parents spoke like this out of fear of the Jews, who had already agreed to expel from the synagogue anyone who should acknowledge Jesus as the Christ. This was why his parents said, ‘He is old enough; ask him.’

So the Jews again sent for the man and said to him, ‘Give glory to God! For our part, we know that this man is a sinner.’ The man answered, ‘I don’t know if he is a sinner; I only know that I was blind and now I can see.’ They said to him, ‘What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?’ He replied, ‘I have told you once and you wouldn’t listen. Why do you want to hear it all again? Do you want to become his disciples too?’ At this they hurled abuse at him: ‘You can be his disciple,’ they said ‘we are disciples of Moses: we know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this man, we don’t know where he comes from.’ The man replied, ‘Now here is an astonishing thing! He has opened my eyes, and you don’t know where he comes from! We know that God doesn’t listen to sinners, but God does listen to men who are devout and do his will. Ever since the world began it is unheard of for anyone to open the eyes of a man who was born blind; if this man were not from God, he couldn’t do a thing.’ ‘Are you trying to teach us,’ they replied ‘and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!’ And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, ‘Do you believe in the Son of Man?’ ‘Sir,’ the man replied ‘tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.’ Jesus said, ‘You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.’ The man said, ‘Lord, I believe’, and worshipped him. Jesus said: ‘It is for judgement that I have come into this world, so that those without sight may see and those with sight turn blind.’ Hearing this, some Pharisees who were present said to him, ‘We are not blind, surely?’ Jesus replied: ‘Blind? If you were, you would not be guilty, but since you say, “We see”, your guilt remains.’

**Communion Antiphon** Cf John 9:11,38  
The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.



#### Year of Prayer 2026

(Australian Catholic Church, in preparation for Eucharistic Congress 2028)

#### Prayer for Spiritual Communion

*My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.*

#### Prayer for Peace in the Middle East

*God of peace, bearer of hope, we seek your help for the peoples of the Middle East. Quiet the clamour of war and guide us towards peace. Where there is hatred and division sow seeds of calm and openness. Where there is destruction help us to rebuild. Where children are crying bring an end to tears. Shelter your peoples and protect them Guide them and keep them from harm. Show us how to break down the barriers of history and fear and breathe whispers of hope. Amen. Linda Jones / CAFOD*

#### Good Night

God: “Whew! I just created a 24-hour period of alternating light and darkness on earth.”  
Angel: “What are you going to do now?”  
God: “Call it a day.”

Catholic Parish of Our Lady of the Southern Cross, Enmore  
Archdiocese of Sydney

*Serving the suburbs of Enmore, St Peters, Sydenham & Tempe*

## Fourth Sunday of Lent – Year A

15 March 2026

### Entrance Antiphon Cf Isaiah 66:10-11

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

### First Reading 1 Samuel 16:1. 6-7. 10-13

A reading from the first book of Samuel  
*In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.*

The Lord said to Samuel, ‘Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.’ When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, ‘Surely the Lord’s anointed one stands there before him,’ but the Lord said to Samuel, ‘Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.’ Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, ‘The Lord has not chosen these.’ He then asked Jesse, ‘Are these all the sons you have?’ He answered, ‘There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.’ Then Samuel said to Jesse, ‘Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.’ Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, ‘Come, anoint him, for this is the one.’ At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

### 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 Ephesians 5:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians  
*Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.*

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said: Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.



### Gospel Acclamation John 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 John 9:1-41

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John  
*The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.*

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. His disciples asked him, ‘Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, for him to have been born blind?’ ‘Neither he nor his parents sinned,’ Jesus answered, ‘he was born blind so that the works of God might be displayed in him.

‘As long as the day lasts I must carry out the work of the one who sent me; the night will soon be here when no one can work. As long as I am in the world I am the light of the world.’

Having said this, he spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, ‘Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam’ (a name that means ‘sent’). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, ‘Isn’t this the man who used to sit and beg?’ Some said, ‘Yes, it is the same one.’ Others said,



Parish Administrator—Reverend Father Christopher Higgins  
*(available Tuesday to Sunday)*  
 Parish Permanent Deacon – Reverend Mister Alfredo Bouroncle  
 Parish Secretary—Bernadette Hickey  
*(Office hours—Tuesday 8-3pm & Thursday 8-5pm)*



*Our Parish respectfully acknowledges the Gadigal people of Eora nation as traditional caretakers of the land.*

Parish Office Address—209A Edgeware Rd, Enmore 2042  
 Parish Church Address—St Pius V Church, 256 Edgeware Rd, Enmore 2042  
 Postal Address—PO Box 3266, Marrickville Metro 2204  
 Telephone: 9557 1815 | Email: [admin@enmoreparish.org.au](mailto:admin@enmoreparish.org.au)  
 Parish website: [www.enmoreparish.org.au](http://www.enmoreparish.org.au)

**St Pius V Catholic Primary School, Enmore**  
 209 Edgeware Rd Enmore 2042  
 Principal: Mrs Caroline Boulis  
 Telephone: 9557 4027 | Email: [info@stpenmore.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stpenmore.catholic.edu.au)

**MASSES AND SACRAMENTS**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Masses</b>   | Friday – 9:15am (during Lent)<br>Saturday—5:00pm – (6:30pm – Portuguese)<br>Sunday—9:30am – (12:00 noon - Indonesian) |
| <b>Confessions</b>  | Saturday 4:15—4:45pm <i>or</i> by appointment   |
| <b>Adoration &amp; Benediction</b>                            | Mon 3:00 – 3:50pm, Tues to Fri 8:00 – 9:00am & Sun 9:00—9:25am  |
| <b>Baptisms (2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays)</b> | By appointment—about 1 month’s notice required  |
| <b>Marriages</b>  | By appointment—about 6 months’ notice required  |

**COLLECTIONS for weekends of 1/2 & 7/8 March 2026**

| 1st collection                   | 2nd collection          | Envelopes                | Candle offerings         |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>\$924.75</b>                  | <b>\$773.90</b>         | <b>\$360.00</b>          | <b>\$105.90</b>          |
| (supports the priest’s expenses) | (for running of parish) | (part of 2nd collection) | (part of 2nd collection) |

**Masses for:** Alfred Khouri, Suzana Jesus, Conceição Santos, Nelson Afonso, Emanuel Cruz, João Manuel, Dave (lung biopsy), Peter L., Bash (ill health), for end to human trafficking, safe pregnancy of mum Tamara & baby, Danniell (severe pain, post physio).

**A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney:** Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. *(Archdiocesan permanent notice) Safeguarding Children information can be found in folder at the back of the church.*

*Lord Jesus, Strengthen and guide us as we strive to make our Catholic communities a safe place for all, especially the children and vulnerable adults you entrust to our care. We also pray for those who have been harmed. We ask this through Christ, our Lord, Amen*

**Covering statues with purple** Please come and help cover the statues on **Tuesday 17 March at 9am**

**Stations of the Cross during Lent** Fridays 9:45am (after Mass)

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>Holy Thursday</b> | 6:30pm <b>Mass of the Last Supper</b> (Indonesian Mass - 8:30pm)  |
| <b>Good Friday</b>   | 10:00am <b>Stations of the Cross</b><br>3:00pm <b>Commemoration of the Lord's Passion</b> (with Indonesian Community) |
| <b>Holy Saturday</b> | 3:30pm-4:30pm <b>Confessions</b><br>5:00pm <b>Easter Vigil Mass</b> (Indonesian Mass - 8:00pm)                        |
| <b>Easter Sunday</b> | 9:30am <b>Easter Mass</b>   |

**Level up your Lent: A Work of Mercy for the Unborn** Who is there to pray for the eternal souls of those affected by abortion? This Lent, we invite you to "level up" your spiritual practice by performing a corporal work of mercy: accompanying the dying and praying for an end to abortion. When: **Feb 18 - End of Lent (Roster: 7am–7pm daily)**. Where: Outside NSW Parliament House, Sydney. Book a slot for 40 days: <https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/sydney> **We still have some slots to fill in.** Help us fill the roster.

**Divine Mercy Retreat Centre March schedule** *On noticeboard*

**Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Women's Lenten Retreat** Join us at the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney Women's Lenten Retreat - a full day of prayer and reflection led by the Dominican Sisters of St Cecilia and hosted by the Catholic Women's Network and Sydney Catholic Schools. To accommodate the growing interest in this beautiful retreat day, we are offering the same retreat on two days. DETAILS: Dates: Saturday, **14 March 2026** Venue: St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney Time: 9 AM - 4 PM Cost: \$50 To book, visit: <https://www.trybooking.com/DIBPT>

**St Scholastica's College** are holding an **Open Day afternoon** for prospective families on **Thursday 19 March** from 4.30pm - 6.30pm at 4 Avenue Road, Glebe. The booking link for registrations is: <https://www.scholastica.nsw.edu.au/openay>

**Finding Silence with St Joseph: Men's Lenten Retreat** 'Finding Silence with St Joseph: Praying with the Leader, Provider, and Protector of the Holy Family' is a day retreat for men dedicated to mental prayer and deep encounter with God. It aims to help men deepen their understanding of their masculine identity and connect to their vocation by prayerfully reflecting on St Joseph. The theme of the retreat will focus on St Joseph's prayer life, led by Fr Johnson Malayil Joseph CRS. The day will include Mass, Adoration, Retreat Talks, Spiritual Direction and Confession in a spirit and environment of silence. DETAILS: Date: **Saturday 21 March 2026** Venue: St Joseph's Catholic Church Moorebank - 231 Newbridge Rd, Chipping Norton Time: 9 AM - 4 PM Cost: \$50 per person CLERGY, RELIGIOUS and SEMINARIANS are FREE. Tickets are limited. To book, visit: <https://www.trybooking.com/DHKRV>

**Day of the Unborn Child Procession** led by Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP to celebrate the Feast of the Annunciation DETAILS Date: **Sunday, 22 March 2026** Schedule: 10:30 am Mass - St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney 12:00 Noon - Angelus & Marian Procession 1:30 pm Fervourino - St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney For more information, visit: <https://www.sydneycatholic.org/about-us/archdiocesan-events/day-of-the-unborn-child/>

**Newtown Mission** Parents, carers & parishioners of St Pius are invited to join us in serving lunch to the patrons of Newtown Mission on **Friday March 27 from 11am-2:30pm**. We will be helping the volunteers at Newtown Mission to make and serve lunch to vulnerable people in our local community. If you are able to help or have questions, please email [brigid.vieira@syd.catholic.edu.au](mailto:brigid.vieira@syd.catholic.edu.au). **Please RSVP by Wednesday March 25<sup>th</sup>.**

**A Day of Retreat with Our Lady Easter Monday, 6 April** St Benedict's church & parish hall, 2 Fagans Rd Arcadia. 9:30am Parish Morning Mass with Fr Shansana, 10:00am Cenacle Rosary, 10:45am Morning Tea (bring a small plate), 11:00am Talk by Fr Andrew Grace, 1:00pm Lunch provided: sausage sizzle & salads, 2:00pm rosary procession outside.

**Men's Discernment Day Retreat 11 April 2026, 8:30am – 4:00pm**, for those feeling the call to serve God as priests. St Joachim's, Lidcombe *See noticeboard*

**The Eucharist28 website is now live:** <http://eucharist28.org> It contains a wide variety of materials to help all our people deepen their connection to our Eucharistic Lord: catechetical resources for all ages, parishes and schools, including podcasts, personal reflections, and theological texts. Register your interest for further updates through the website. You can begin following Eucharist28 social media pages on Instagram, Facebook and X,