

Lent at Home

Week 1
Sunday, 26 February 2023

By Fr Frank O'Loughlin



Each week of Lent, a passage will be suggested as one way of celebrating Lent. Lent originated as a means by which those who wished to become Christians were led into faith in Christ. It also became a time when all Christians were invited to renew their faith.

Lent leads into Holy Week and the celebration of Jesus' death and resurrection. It is a time for allowing ourselves to come closer to him and allowing him to come closer to us.

As a beginning, I would like to suggest the following passage from St John's Gospel:

The next day as John stood there again with two of his disciples, Jesus went past, and John looked towards him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' And the two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus.

Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi' – which means Teacher – 'where do you live?'

He replied, 'Come and see'; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him that day. It was about the tenth hour.

One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter.

The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother and say to him, 'We have found the Messiah' – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' – which means Rock.

John 1:35-42

A suggested approach:

- Find a quiet place and read this passage carefully and let it sink in. Then read it again.
- What strikes you in the passage? If nothing strikes, why is that do you think?
- When the Lord asks: 'What do you want?', what is your answer?
- The disciples ask: 'Where do you live?' and Jesus says: 'Come and See". This phrase occurs several times in John's gospel especially when people are wanting to discover him. Accept the invitation to come and see.
- They stayed with him all of that day. What would you say to him? What do you think he might say to you? Simply be with him.
- Be yourself. Be honest. Be easy on yourself and relax in the prayer.

All Hallows Church

17 Brenbeal Street, Balwyn
Sunday 9.00 am

Basilica of Our Lady of Victories

548 Burke Road, Camberwell
Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm & Sunday 10.00 am

Our Holy Redeemer Church

4 Barton Street, Surrey Hills
Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm & Sunday 10.30 am

Our Lady of Good Counsel Church

10 Whitehorse Road, Deepdene
Saturday Vigil 5.30 pm,
Sunday 10.30 am & 5.00 pm

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Church

301 Elgar Road, Surrey Hills
Sunday 9.00 am

The Parishes of Camberwell, Balwyn Deepdene and Surrey Hills Wattle Park are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults. For matters that cause concern, please contact one of our Parish Child Safety Officers, Tricia Norman or Nanette Giovannini .

Camberwell, Balwyn Deepdene and Surrey Hills Wattle Park Parishes

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