

Lent at Home

Week 2

Sunday, 5 March 2023

By Fr Frank O'Loughlin



The psalm being suggested for a Lenten reflection for this week tells of God's deep knowledge of each of us.

O Lord, you search me and you know me,
You know my resting and my rising
You discern my purpose from afar
You mark when I walk or lie down
All my ways are open to you.
Before ever a word is on my tongue
You know it, O Lord, through and through.
Behind and before you besiege me,
Your hand even laid upon me.
Too wonderful for me, this knowledge,
Too high, beyond my reach.
For it was you who created my being,
Knit me together in my mother's womb.
I thank you for the wonder of my being,
For the wonders of all your creation.
Already you knew my soul,
My body held no secret from you
When I was being fashioned in secret
And moulded in the depths of the earth.
To me, how mysterious your thoughts,
The sum of them not to be numbered!
If I count them, they are more than the sand;
To finish, I must be eternal like you.

Having read the passage quietly a couple of times, which of its many images strikes you most?

What is your reaction to this poetic account of God's deep knowledge of us?

With the coming of Jesus, we see how fully his gaze into us is one of love. As is said of the Rich Young Man in the gospel, Jesus looked at him and loved him (Mark 10: 17-22).

He was setting out on a journey when a man ran up, knelt before him and put this question to him, 'Good master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?'

Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: You shall not kill; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not give false witness; You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother.'

And he said to him, 'Master, I have kept all these since my earliest days.'

Jesus looked steadily at him and he was filled with love for him, and he said, 'You need to do one thing more. Go and sell what you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' But his face fell at these words and he went away sad, for he was a man of great wealth.

Mark 10: 17-22

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**

Parish Office: 19 Brenbeal Street, Balwyn
T: 03 9816 9291
E: cbdparish@cam.org.au
W: www.cbdparish.org.au