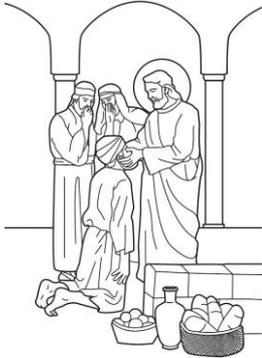




PRIEST ADMINISTRATOR: Fr Joe O'Shea
PARISH CENTRE: 7 Foote St Dromana 3936

*The Holy Scriptures
are our letters
from home*



Please address ALL correspondence to:
PO Box 126 Dromana Vic 3936

☎ (03) 9401 6314

website: <http://perpetualhelp.org.au> e-mail: dromana@cam.org.au

Office Hours: Monday & Friday 10am – 4.30pm



19th March 2020 until further notice
4th Sunday of Lent, Yr A

● **Corona Virus Crisis:** In these days of increased awareness of the risks associated with COVID-19 (Coronavirus) I implore the faithful to be patient, prayerful and resilient. We fully support the Government's restrictions on social gatherings as being responsible and sensible. To protect one another, especially the most vulnerable, we have been instructed to be very mindful of personal hygiene, of the careful washing of hands, of regularly cleaning shared surfaces and spaces and of respecting the need for physical distancing. In Melbourne, as with the Dioceses of Ballarat, Sandhurst and Sale, the following actions were determined on 18th March with respect to Catholic worship:

- **Immediate suspension of PUBLIC liturgies, including celebrations of the Mass, until further notice.**
- All other gatherings are suspended. For clarification of any concerns, please be in contact with your Parish Priest or Parish Administrator.
- While public celebrations of Mass are suspended, our common work for the Gospel does not cease. In fact, this is a time for us all to re-engage in our mission to share Christ, in thoughtful and appropriate ways, with those in most need.
- Please check the Melbourne website for information about Mass online and other helpful information: www.cam.org.au/coronavirus NOTE: The Sunday Obligation of the Faithful will not apply during this time of suspension.

✍ Archbishop Peter Comensoli

● **Keep in Touch:** See our website: <http://perpetualhelp.org.au>

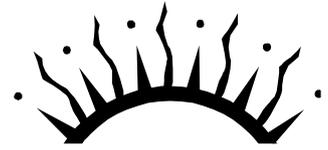
● **Masses Privately:** Fr Joe will continue to say Masses privately through this time of suspension of Public Masses. Private Home Masses can be arranged with Fr Joe for a few people while observing health restrictions and quotas. Mass Online is available for people to join together in spiritual communion. Details are available at cam.org.au

● **Reconciliation & Anointing:** These Sacraments are available on a one to one basis. Contact Fr Joe to arrange a time and place if you require these Sacraments. In an Emergency Fr Joe may be contacted as above or ☎ (03) 9401 6314

● **Support Your Parish:** We need to continue to support our Parish while we have no collections at Masses. Those who use sacrificial giving envelopes might consider dropping their envelopes off at the Parish Office (in the box by the presbytery door) or setting up a direct debit payment during this time. You may wish to contact CDF (catholicdevelopmentfund@cam.org.au) to enable online donations. All donations will be graciously received. We need finance to continue to pay the bills of our Parish. ✍ Fr Joe

➤ **PENITENTIAL RITE:**

- ⌘ Lord Jesus, you offer healing and wholeness.
Lord, have mercy. All: **Lord, have mercy.**
- ⌘ Christ Jesus, you give light to those in darkness.
Christ, have mercy. All: **Christ, have mercy.**
- ⌘ Lord Jesus, you gave sight to the man born blind.
Lord, have mercy. All: **Lord, have mercy.**



- **FIRST READING:** *1st Samuel 16:1.6-7.10-13*
In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.



➤ **RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

**℟ The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.**

**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.**

℟

**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.**

℟

**You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.**



℟

**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.**

℟

- **SECOND READING:** *Ephesians 5:8-14*
Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

➤ **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

**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*
The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.

Please pray for those who are sick especially:

**Raelene Watt, John Coughlin, Mike Henry, Denise Vidoni, Mark Burns,
Jenny Brewer, Hank Morris, and all those who need our prayers. May they receive the Lord's
comfort and strength.**

(Because we respect your privacy – For people to be named on the list of the prayers for the sick: their names must first be submitted on an AUTHORIZATION FORM available in the church foyer or from the Parish Office.).

**Please pray for Fr Peter Robinson, and Nat Drago who died recently, and for those whose
anniversaries occur about this time, and for all who have died. May they rest in peace.**

PARISH PRAYER

Father, pour out your Spirit upon the people of this Parish so that, inspired by your Word, nourished at your table and graced by your empowering love, our lives may be devoted to the service of our brothers and sisters and the building of your Kingdom. May our Parish Community truly be, for this place and time, the Body of Christ your Son, through whom we make this prayer. **AMEN.**

Readings for next Sunday:

5th Sunday of Lent, Yr A

1st Reading: **Ezekiel 37: 12-14**

Resp. Psalm: **Ps 129**

2nd Reading: **Romans 8: 8-11**

Gospel: **John 11: 1-45**

WORD of God – are we Listening better ?

→ Use these notes to pray through Lectio Divina on the text of this Sunday's Gospel:

Lectio: Our text is the whole of chapter nine. Jesus is in the midst of discussions with the Jews who have set themselves to reject Jesus. Threatened with being stoned, Jesus had just come out of hiding from the Jews. One of the Jews' understandings was that sin was the cause of illness or disability. Jesus will contest this understanding.

Read: **John 9: 1 – 42** or Shorter version:

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. 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, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.'

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 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.

'Are you trying to teach us,' the Pharisees 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.

Meditatio: Do I understand that sinning can mess up mine and others' lives? How do I cope when illness or bad things happen in my life? How has Jesus been a light for me through my troubles? Have other people ever persuaded me to **not** speak the truth? How have I responded to threats? Have I been slow to accept God's blessings & guidance in my life; have I been blind to them? How is my relationship with Jesus; can I say with conviction: "Lord, I believe"?

Oratio: Pray for deeper faith in Jesus. Pray for blind people and anyone living with a disability. Pray for an understanding of the dangers of sinning. Pray for consideration of how our actions affect others. Pray for calm in this time of pandemic. Pray that truth may not be overwhelmed by fear or threat. Pray that the light of Christ may lead us always.

Contemplatio – Dwell in stillness, simply aware of the boundless expanse of mercy that surrounds you.

After your prayer – Respect the dignity of everyone who is disabled; never treat them as inferior. ✍ Fr Joe

Coming Events in 2020

2020 – Plenary Council Year

- NO Masses & Services during Covid-19 Crisis
- 31st March – Pastoral Council at a time TBA
- 4th April – Last day of Daylight Saving Time
- 12th April – Easter Sunday, services TBA



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