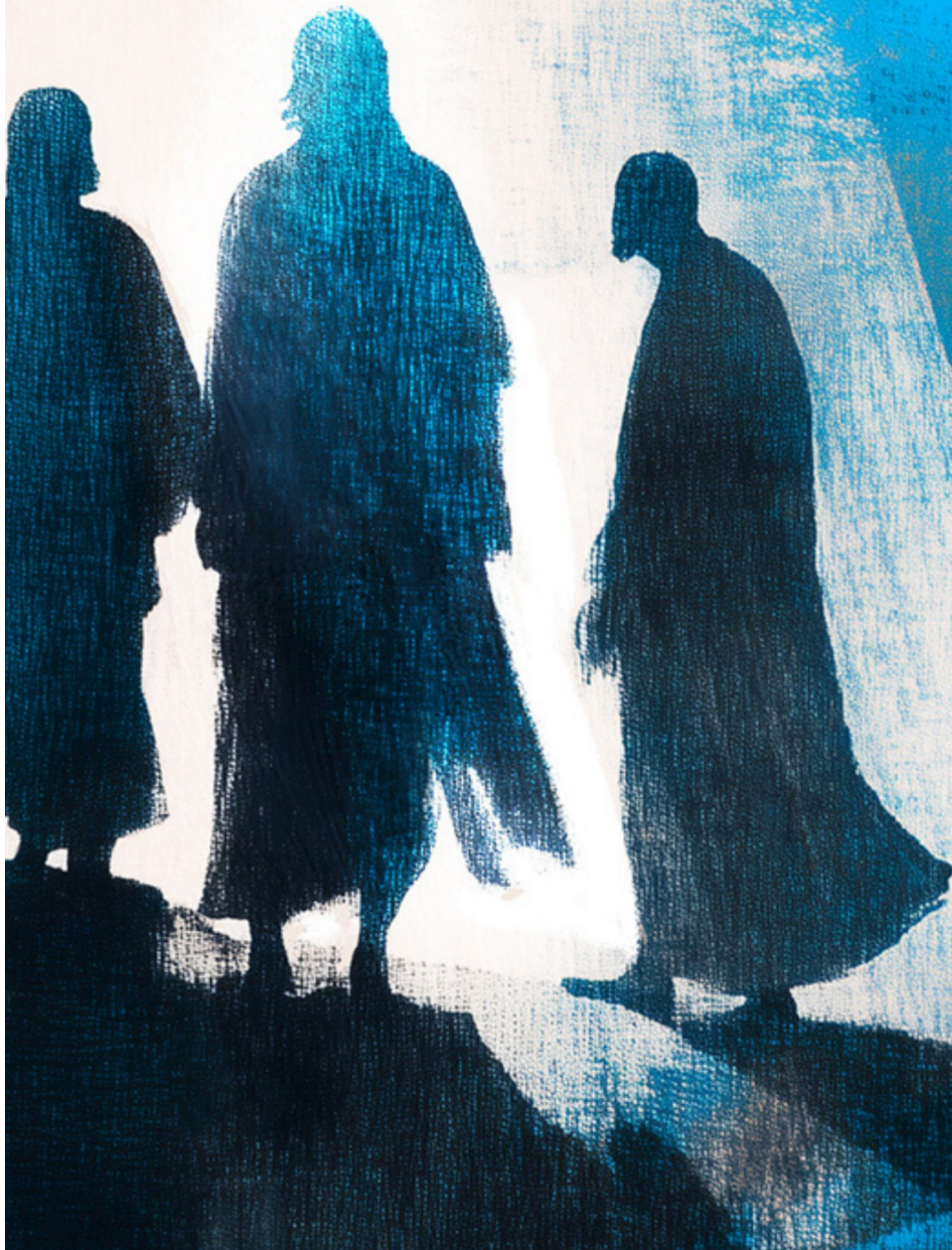


THE BULLETIN

Second Sunday of Lent

Sunday, 1st March 2026



Reflection by Greg Sunter

In all three versions of this Transfiguration event that appear in the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, the context in which the event occurs is identical. That's a little unusual with these three gospel writers who like to put their own spin on events and often play with the chronology or settings of events.

However, in this case, all three writers report the Transfiguration event as taking place immediately after a particular sequence of events. Jesus has asked the disciples who they think he is and Peter has made his confession of faith by declaring that Jesus is the Messiah. This declaration is followed by Jesus teaching about the demands of discipleship and then the account of the Transfiguration.

Furthermore, all three versions are directly followed by an account of a man who brings his possessed son to Jesus for healing after the disciples have tried and failed to cast out the demons.

When all three of the synoptic gospels use the same story with little variation and all three retain the same context around the event then there are some pretty clear signals that this was a commonly accepted sequence of events and their sequence holds significance. The core message of this sequence of stories is about the faith of the disciples. Whilst Peter declares Jesus to be the Messiah, he and the others don't really yet know what this means. In the Transfiguration, they are given the clearest possible indication of Jesus' identity and yet they're confused and scared by what they witness. The following failure by the disciples to cast out a demon shows that they still haven't understood fully who and what Jesus is.

During this Lenten season, like the disciples, we are called to consider who Jesus is and what role he plays in our lives.

Our Mission:
Building a Loving Christ-Centred Community



Parish Administrator:

Fr Joy D'Souza OCD

Chief Executive Officer:

Michael Darragh

Administration Officer:

Jennifer Oliver

Pastoral Associate:

Margaret Ryan

Church

Corner of East Street & Fourth Avenue, Sawtell

Parish Office

1/44 Boronia Street, Sawtell NSW 2452. Office Hours are Monday to Friday, 9am to 3pm.

Church Mass Times

Tuesday 9:30am

Thursday 9:30am

Saturday 6pm

Sunday 7:30am & 9am

Reconciliation every Saturday 5:30pm
no appointment necessary

Chapel Mass Times

Our Lady of the Way at SCC

Marian Grove, Toormina

Wednesday 9:30am

Friday 9:30am

PARISH GIVING

First & Second Collection + Donations



**MASS MINISTRIES
IMPORTANT UPDATE**

Thank you to those volunteers who were able to check their contact details and let us know if they would like to be on a regular roster or just be available to cover if someone is away or unwell.

If you didn't get a chance to have a look at the lists last weekend, we will be in touch in the next couple of weeks to check your preference.

HOLY HOUR

Eucharistic Congress 2028



Preparations for the International Eucharistic Congress 2028 to be held in Sydney are in full swing. Eucharist28 is not simply an event, but a defining moment in the life of the Church in Australia.

2026 is the Year of Prayer, inviting the Church to experience the Eucharist as a mystery to be encountered. This Sunday, every parish in

the country is invited to celebrate a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration following Mass. Here in Sawtell, Eucharistic Adoration, followed by Benediction, will be offered directly after this Sunday's 9am Mass.

WELCOME FR VINOD

Coffs has welcomed the arrival of Fr Vinod Lobo OCD. Fr Lobo has been Provincial Secretary of the Karnataka Goa Province for a number of years and has done post graduate studies in Rome.



Welcome!

"Lord, it is wonderful for us to be here."

Matthew 17:4



Help bring safe water to communities in need.

Donate now

**UNITE
AGAINST
POVERTY**
this Lent



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

CHRISM MASS
Monday, 23rd March 11am
St Carthage's Cathedral,
8 Leicester Street, Lismore.
All welcome.

**Gospel Acclamation
Matthew 17:5**

Glory and praise to you, Lord
Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud
the Father's voice
is heard:

this is my beloved Son,
hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord
Jesus Christ!

First Reading Genesis 12:1-4

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:
I will curse those who slight you.

All the tribes of the earth
shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

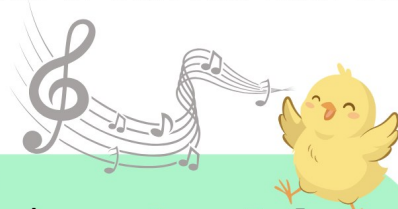
Second Reading 2 Timothy 1:8-10

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

Gospel Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'



Choir Practice for Easter

The choir will be singing at Easter Services 9am Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday & Easter Vigil. Practice is Tuesday in the church 7pm-8pm, 17th, 24th and 31st March. All voices welcome!

Mass Roster for Third Sunday of Lent 8th March 2026

Third Sunday of Lent - Sunday, 8th March 2026								
MASSES	Com/tator	Co-Ord	Welcomer	Ex. Min	Offertory	Reader	P/point Op	Altar Servers & Sacristan
Sat 6pm		J Walsh	S Hunt					L Michalik
Sun 7:30am		Mash + Latham	B Graham					L Hollyman
Sun 9am	Les T					Brigid	Marthese	J Baiada

PLEASE ADD YOUR NAME ON THE SHEET AT THE FRONT DOORS IF YOU CAN HELP

A very big THANK YOU to Fr Paul Mahony. Last weekend! We sincerely appreciate your assistance whilst Fr Joy has been away.



World Day of Prayer

Friday, 6th March 2pm
Uniting Church
24 Elizabeth St, Sawtell
Bring a plate to share for afterwards
All welcome



Join our local prayer service focused on **Nigeria**



Mass Rosters: Last chance to add your name to the Mass ministry Roster for the next 3 months. Flexible rostering is available. Let us know your preference - call the Parish Office 6658 3544.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The prayer list for the sick will be updated from 1st March (next weekend). If you would like a name included or remain on the list - please contact the Parish Office.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Brian Beynon
Kevin Bamber
Brendan O'Sullivan
Anne Maginnity

THE SICK

Tracey de Wan
Peter Rose
Pat Verity
Nadia Bridge
Reger Bridge
Leo Rawlings
Fr John Goulding
Helen Dwyer
Mike Maxwell

The Catholic Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office

the Diocese of Lismore Safeguarding Office can be contactable if you have any Safeguarding concerns. We will listen to you respectfully; offer support and discuss options you have available to you. Contact the Safeguarding Office - Phone: (02) 6621 9444 or Email: safeguarding@lismore.catholic.org.au



Interest Rate—3.40%

For further information and our current interest rate, please visit our website www.dif.org.au or contact us on 1800 802 516

EVERY TUESDAY CENACLE ROSARY 3PM IN THE CHURCH ALL WELCOME

