



Abbey church epistle

MARCH
2018

At this time of Lent , when we perhaps are trying particularly hard to be nice to people, showing God's love to all, we are given many opportunities to see whether we practise what we preach! Everything in life seems to come down to relationships, and how we deal with both the difficult personalities, along with those who are pleasant to be around. All one needs to do, it seems, is to purchase one of those books prolifically crowding the bookshop shelves, with titles as *How to get on with your boss* or *How to get on with your children* or *How to get on with your spouse*, and you will have all the answers.

Unfortunately, although there are many worthwhile titles available, no doubt offering glimmers of wisdom, because so many of use are seeking instant reward and gratification for our efforts, no one seems to want to take the hard yards and commit to sound positive conduct for the long term. And yet everything does come down to relationships—how we relate to others, and how they relate to us, and very importantly and often overlooked, how we relate to ourselves! What lies profoundly behind this thing we call Life is the relationship we have with God, Who constantly loves and upholds us all. At this Lenten season, let us open our eyes to se the glories that surround us and comprehend just how much we resonate with all of God's marvellous creation. For we are the work of God, and an ongoing work at that! He ensures that there is no separation between us and the Godhead of Love—that Love that is enveloping us all, and which is our connection with all that there is. Let our fast this Lent be from negativity and fear, and may we feast on Love and Peace.

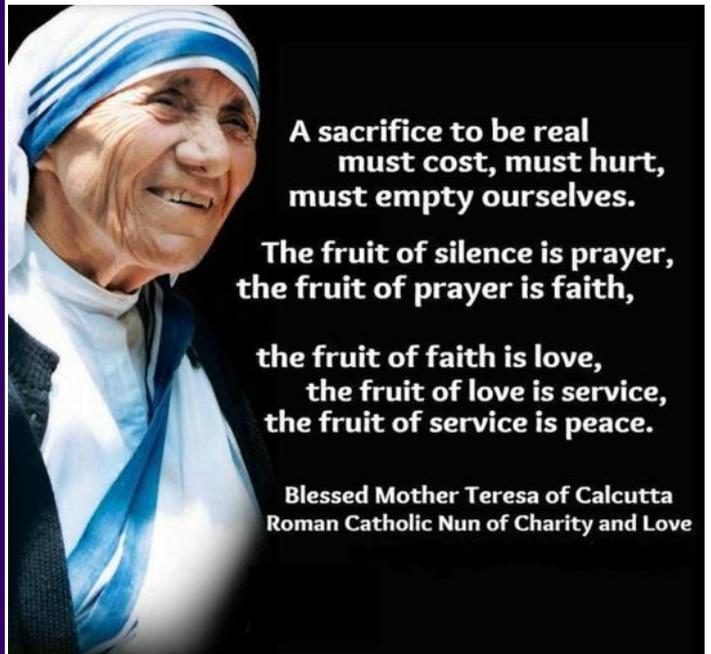
Lenten Blessings

Fr George



MARCH Evening Service now at 6pm

- 4 Sunday Services
- 6 Lent Meditation
- 7 Early Communion
- 8 Benediction 7.15 pm
- 10 AM Friends Trivia Night
- 11 Sunday Services Church BBQ
- 13 Lent Meditation
- 14 Early Communion 5.30 am
- Morning of Prayer 9.30
- 18 Sunday Services
- 20 Lenten Meditation
- 21 Early Communion
- 22 Benediction 7.15 pm
- 25 **PALM SUNDAY**
- 25 **Sunday Services**
- Evening Church Service 6.00 pm**
- Discussion Night 7.00 pm**
- 28 **Service of Preparation**
- 29 **Early Communion 5.30am**
- Maundy Thursday 7.15pm**
- 30 **Good Friday 9.15, 11.50, 7.15 Medita**
tion
- 31 **Quiet Saturday Service 7.15pm**
- 1 **APRIL EASTER SUNDAY**
6am 9.30 am 6pm



**A sacrifice to be real
must cost, must hurt,
must empty ourselves.**

**The fruit of silence is prayer,
the fruit of prayer is faith,**

**the fruit of faith is love,
the fruit of love is service,
the fruit of service is peace.**

**Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta
Roman Catholic Nun of Charity and Love**

LoveOfLifeQuotes.com

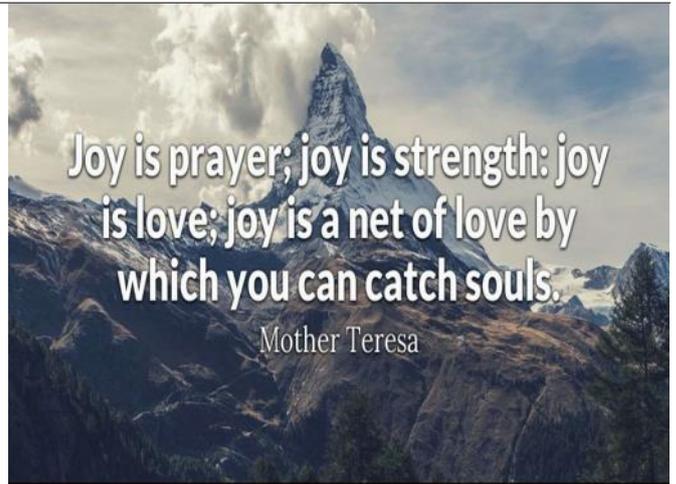
Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable... Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

“Love does not dominate; it cultivates.” — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

CHURCH NEWS

Thank you to those who took the time to be together at our Church Picnic. It was a lovely day with the cool breeze blowing off the water. Next year we will have a free sausage sizzle instead –same venue and same time of the year ..3rd Saturday in February...Pop it into your diaries for 2019.



Humility is not thinking less of yourself, it's thinking of yourself less.

Rick Warren

Life is a song - sing it. Life is a game - play it. Life is a challenge - meet it. Life is a dream - realize it. Life is a sacrifice - offer it. Life is love - enjoy it.

Sai Baba

PRIDE IS
CONCERNED WITH
WHO IS RIGHT

HUMILITY
IS CONCERNED WITH
WHAT IS RIGHT

— EZRA T. BENSON —

MORNING OF PRAYER FOR MARCH

This month we explored the power that comes from living an authentic life. We looked at the importance of living each day in honesty and integrity and making it part of our spiritual journey.

W Clement Stone wrote *Have the courage to say no. Have the courage to face the truth. Do the right thing because it is right. These are the magic keys to living your life with integrity.*

Living with honesty and integrity takes courage and determination. Thank you to all those who joined us on Wednesday 14 March at 9.30 am. Our morning together was followed by a shared morning tea. Our thanks to all those who brought along something yummy to share.

Edie

One life is all we have and we live it as we believe in living it. But to sacrifice what you are and to live without belief, that is a fate more terrible than dying. St Joan of Arc

Life is a song - sing it. Life is a game - play it. Life is a challenge - meet it. Life is a dream - realize it. Life is a sacrifice - offer it. Life is love - enjoy it. Sai Baba

These are the few ways we can practice HUMILITY:
To speak as little as possible of one's self.
To mind one's own business.
Not to want to manage other people's affairs.
To avoid curiosity.
To accept contradictions and correction cheerfully.
To pass over the mistakes of others.
To accept insults and injuries.
To accept being slighted, forgotten and disliked.
To be kind and gentle even under provocation.
Never to stand on one's dignity.
To choose always the hardest.
- Mother Teresa snapchamp

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

World Day of Prayer was held at the Transformational Centre, 195 First Avenue, Bongaree on Friday 2nd March at 9.30am, .

This was an ecumenical event shared with the other Churches in the Bribie area. Everyone was welcomed and joined in praying for those in Suriname. It was a wonderful morning of prayers and songs as well as meeting many other like minded and compassionate Church goers. Thanks to all our congregation who came along and represented our little Church.

JOIN US IN PRAYER

Prayers at this time particularly for those suffering in our congregation and extended Church families, especially Kathleen Watterson, Craig Burkhardt, Frank Cliffort, Evie Moffati, Patrick Goos, Rowan Foster, Archie Griffiths Luke Hunt and Sr Anne

We send our love, comfort and sympathy to all those families who have lost loved ones in the month of March especially remembering these anniversaries
Ethel Mills, Nell Hewitt, and Ray Kendrick.

WE thank God for them in our lives and all they did for us.



DISCUSSION EVENINGS ON THE LAST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7PM

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

We extend our well wishes to all the congregation members who celebrating their birthday in March

How to Be Humble—7 Disciplines You Can Practice Almost Every Day

Humility may be the most difficult virtue to acquire because we fear it at the same time we seek it. While we may say we're trying to be humble, we instinctively avoid things that would make us so. Everyone wants to be humble; nobody wants to be humbled. Here are 7 things you can do nearly every day to practice humility.

1. Avoid taking credit. This goes beyond saying, "Aw shucks," to deflect a compliment. Practice the discipline of secrecy by keeping one of your achievements from being known to others. That means not saying things like, "I fixed the copier, you can thank me later."

2. Praise others. Pride makes us envious or resentful of another's talents. The surest way to break that is to compliment others. Don't pass up an opportunity.

3. Help others succeed. Few things attack the ego quite as much as helping others succeed. Pride hoards knowledge and resources; humility shares them.

4. Admit your mistakes. Ugh. Nobody likes doing this, but the quicker you're willing to say "I was wrong" the closer you are to humility.

5. Learn from others. This is another way to appreciate the value of others. When you acknowledge that they have advanced beyond you, you humble yourself.

6. Go last. At a restaurant, at family dinner, in line at Woolies, let someone else go first. It'll do you good.

7. Serve someone. We instinctively resist serving because we believe there is a direct relationship between being served and being important. Jesus turned that idea on its head. Bring your spouse a cup of tea, run an errand for a friend, give away some money.

The King's Humility



One day a sage came to a King for an interview. The sage had to wait for a long time be-

cause the King was very busy. Finally, the King said he could come in.

When the sage entered the hall, the first thing he did was to take off his hat and bow to the King. Immediately the King took off his crown and bowed to the sage. The ministers and others who were around the King asked, "What are you doing? He took off his hat because he is an ordinary man. But you are the King. Why should you have to take off your crown?"

The King said to his ministers, "You fools, do you think I wish to remain inferior to an ordinary man? He is humble and modest. His humility is a peerless virtue'. He showed his respect to me. If I did not take off my crown, then I would be showing less humility than an ordinary man, and I would be defeated by him. If I am the King, I should be better than everybody in everything. That is why I took off my crown and bowed to him!"

The renowned master, Hasan of Basra, teased a child who was lighting a candle. "Little one, tell me where did this magical flame come from?" The child instantly blew out the candle and asked, "You tell me, where did the flame go?" This awakened something deep in him. The little child, he said, was a big teacher.

A Sufi story