



During Lent we shall be reciting the Rosary prior to the 10.00 am Sunday Mass. So please aim to be seated by 9.45 a.m if possible

The English Speaking  
Roman Catholic Community on Gozo  
Patron Saint – St. Thomas More  
Our website: www.esccgozo.org  
Seminary guest WiFi: Letmein123!  
Sacred Heart Seminary Chapel – Enrico Mizzi Street , Victoria

1st March 2026  
2nd Sunday Lent  
Celebrated by  
Fr. Loretu Tabone

*Calling and Mission*

**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.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Responsorial Psalm 32(33):4-5,18-20,22**

**(R) May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.**

The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love.

**(R)**

The Lord looks on those who revere him,  
on those who hope in his love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine. **(R)**

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.  
The Lord is our help and our shield.

May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
as we place all our hope in you. **(R)**

**We Pray For**

Those in our community and all our relatives and friends who need our prayers as well as those who have died



**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.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Glory and praise to you Lord Jesus Christ!**

From the bright cloud the Father’s voice was heard:

‘This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.’

**Glory and praise to you Lord Jesus Christ!**

**Memorial Acclamation  
We proclaim your Death, O Lord  
and profess your Resurrection  
until you come again**



**♪ Hymns for Today ♪**

74 Be Thou My Vision  
147 Do Not Be Afraid  
388 Shine, Jesus, Shine

**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.’

*The Gospel of the Lord*

**Communion Reflection**

God is joy, God doesn’t want sadness,  
God is optimistic, God is the possibility of everything good, God is all powerful to do good and to love. Who can be sad given a God whose presence fills everything.

Oscar Romero)



After listening to today's readings let us now consider the following :

**Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.**

Each year on this second Sunday of Lent we read the account of the Transfiguration. It was the moment when the disciples were shown the divinity of Jesus on the Holy Mountain. The scene is reminiscent of Moses' encounter with God on Sinai, when his face, too, shone like the sun. Moses and Elijah are present because they are the two Old Testament figures who experienced the presence of God on the Holy Mountain. With his usual impetuous generosity Peter attempts to 'freeze' the moment. The public declaration of Jesus as God's Son at the Baptism is repeated, but with the addition that Jesus is the authorized divine teacher; Matthew is alert to the implications for the Church of the presence of Christ as Teacher. The cloud is also a symbol of God's presence, to which the human response can only be to fall to the ground in fear and reverence. The awesome moment of revelation cannot, however, last, and Jesus brings his disciples back to the dire realities before them with the reminder that his death must precede the revelation of his glory at the Resurrection. Until they have experienced the limitless generosity of his death, and the vindication by God of this love, they are not ready to spread the message of Jesus. What stands out for you in this account of the Transfiguration? How may it help you to deepen your own relationship with Christ?

**And that of Fr. Robert Draper**

It is striking that our introduction to Abraham, the great figure of promise and faith in the Old Testament is so stark and brief. Abram is the man whom God called and sent, and the man who is to be the start of the great project of God making a people for himself. It is significant that the calling of Abram is a sending, a putting to the test as it were. God asks, or demands, of him that he trust God and walk out in faith. That will be the great theme of the life of Abraham - and indeed of Abraham's descendants - the theme of faith and obedience or infidelity and disobedience. And it is still the reality for God's people today - all are called to walk in faith and trust in the will of God. The Abraham stories portray this, and the rest of the Scriptures illustrate it. For Christians of course, the paradigm of trust and faith in God is Jesus whose total submission to the will of the Father leads to Calvary and the Resurrection. The Gospel today is the Transfiguration, as it is every year on the second Sunday of Lent - the vision of the glory of Christ which complements the picture of the humanity of Christ portrayed in the Temptations in the desert last week. The Trans-figuration is a moment which offers promise and hope for the disciples - and it is given to us at the beginning of Lent to encourage us as we under-take the call to abandon our security and like Abraham step Out in faith - trusting that the one who calls us to follow is he who triumphs over all things - even death - and invites us to share life with the Father.

**Pope Leo XIV's prayer intention for March**

**For disarmament and peace**

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead

Dates and Information for your diaries



**12th March 2026 3.30 pm**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in English at Ghasri church followed by refreshments.

**21st March 2026. Lenten Retreat.**

Sign up list outside chapel

**Money Matters**



**The collection for last Sunday was €206.48 And Ash Wednesday € 84.63 All monies collected are deployed to cover the costs of running our community and for good causes**

**Celebrations in March**

**Birthdays**

- 8th Reg Fitzpatrick
- 9th Isabel Barlow
- 13th Audrey Pace
- 16th Jacque Vassalo
- 24th Eileen Davie
- 27th Lesley Dando

**Anniversaries**

- 13th Hazel & Don Cranston
- 30th Audrey & John Pace

**Eucharistic Ministers**

<b>01-Mar-26</b>	<b>Monique Sant Georges</b>	<b>Iain Dando</b>
08-Mar-26	Ben Miltenburg	David Felice Pace
15-Mar-26	Mary Newman	Johanna Marks
22-Mar-26	Iain Dando	Ben Miltenburg
29-Mar-26	Monique Sant Georges	David Felice Pace

**Readers Rota – If you would like to join please contact Johanna on johannamarks3@gmail.com**

<b>01-Mar Readings</b>	<b>John Attard</b>	<b>Prayers</b>	<b>Mary Newman</b>
08-Mar Readings	Vince Vella	Prayers	Johanna Marks
15-Mar Readings	Johanna Marks	Prayers	John Attard
22-Mar Readings	Andy Young	Prayers	Stella Woodgate
29-Mar Readings	Stella Woodgate	Prayers	Angelika Camilleri
05-Apr Readings	Angelika Camilleri	Prayers	John Attard

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**Council Members:**

- John & Veronica Grech 21551180**
- David Felice Pace 79560051**
- Marcel & Sylvia Grech-Marguerat 77051050**
- Johanna Marks 99950596**
- Mary Newman 77047872**

**Would you like to join us on the Council and help in running our community?**

Contact johannamarks3@gmail.com