

St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Year C

20 March 2016

#17.16

“To be on earth the Heart of God”

Parish Administration:

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MASS TIMES

Vigil Saturday 6:00pm

Sunday 8:30am, 10:00am, 6:00pm

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9:30am

LITURGIES

Liturgy of the Word with Communion: Tues 9:30am

Baptisms: 1st & 3rd Sun 11:30 am

Reconciliation: Sat 11:00 – 11:30 am or by
appointment with the priests

PRAYER

Charismatic Prayer: Thursday 7:30pm

Maida: 0423 658 326 Rosary 7:00pm

Meditation [Library] Friday 7.30-8.15 pm

Morning Prayer: Mon, Tues, Fri 9:10am

Stations of the Cross First Fri Monthly 5:30pm

From the Pastor's Desk.....

Passion Sunday, or Palm Sunday as it is more familiarly called, is a liturgy marked by contrast. It begins with jubilant cries of hosanna as it recalls the crowds welcoming Jesus into Jerusalem. But then we are suddenly plunged into the darkness of the cross “My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?” Holy Week has begun. The reality of suffering hits us squarely in the face. We are reminded that the cross is ever present in our lives and in the world. The paradox is that by embracing the cross we are lead to the resurrection. This is the paschal mystery: Christ’s death and resurrection in which we are called to live.

The Dominican Fr Timothy Radcliff in his book *Seven Last Words* touches on this paradox when he writes, “Happiness means that we share in God’s delight in humanity. That means that we must also share in God’s sorrow at the suffering of his sons and daughters. You cannot have one without the other. Sorrow hollows out our hearts so that there is a space in which God’s happiness can dwell.”

Humanity is going through a tumultuous period. There seems to be no end to warfare, strife and violence in so many places of the world and the massive displacement of peoples that accompany such events. Poverty and environmental destruction continue to be huge concerns. And in recent times the church has been racked with scandal.

As we move into Holy week we journey with Jesus to the Cross and beyond to the Resurrection.

*Peace & blessings,
Gerard*

Walking the path from Palm Sunday to Good Friday

The crowd who cheered on Palm Sunday proved to be a fickle lot. It took them no time at all to move from the cries of adulation of Palm Sunday to the derision of Good Friday, and back again, with frightening speed.

We bask in the myth that this is the land of the fair go, but seem to think that this fair go is primarily for white people born of an Anglo Celtic, Christian background.

You don't have to search too far for Calvary.

Try being black in a white world.

Try being Asian in a Eurocentric world.

Try being a woman in a man's world.

Try being gay in a straight world.

In the Passion we are told that Jesus did five things:

- He healed the ear of the High Priest's servant;
- He spoke the truth to Pilate;
- He empathised with the women of Jerusalem;
- He forgave those who condemned him;
- He had compassion toward the other criminal being crucified.

If Holy Week means anything it means we end this week as we began it – processing.

Walking away from inflicting pain to being a healer, desisting with lies and speaking the truth, resisting the temptation to judge and embracing empathy as our first response and, always and everywhere, being generous with forgiveness and compassion. No more and no less is asked of us if we are to follow 'the King of Love on Calvary'.

Resources used: Homily by Richard Leonard SJ at LiturgyHelp

Discussion on the Catholic Bishops Statement on Refugees

A 'Kitchen Table Discussion' on the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement 'For Those Who've Come Across the Seas-justice for asylum seekers and refugees' will be held at the parish centre Tuesday 22nd March 7.30 - 9.30pm. All welcome.

This is an initiative of the Catholic Social Justice Commission. The aim is to respectfully discuss the issues raised in the statement and to listen to all viewpoints.

The statement can be downloaded from <http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au/publications/social-justice-statement-2015-16>

To RSVP or if you would like more information contact facilitator Murray Bruce phone 62540577 or email murray.bruce@ed.act.edu.au."

HOLY WEEK

Holy Thursday 24 March

No 9.30am Mass

Mass of the Last Supper 7:00 pm

Please bring bells to ring during the Gloria

Prayers at the Altar of Repose:

Concluding with night prayer 10:00 pm



Good Friday 25 March

Stations of the Cross – 10:00am

The Lord's Passion - 3:00pm

Holy Saturday 26 March

No confession on Saturday morning

Easter Vigil – 7:30pm

Please bring bells to ring during the Gloria



Easter Sunday 27 March

Mass of the Resurrection

8:30am, 10:00am

No 6:00pm Mass Sunday night



PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES

Please bring your Project Compassion sacrificial giving to Mass on Holy Thursday. All Project Compassion boxes will be brought to the altar as part of the Procession of gifts during Mass.

JUBILEE OF MERCY

THE SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY

Just as Jesus attended to the spiritual well-being of those he ministered to, these Spiritual Works of Mercy guide us to "help our neighbour in their spiritual needs"

The seven Spiritual Works of Mercy are:

- ✦ Counselling the Doubtful
- ✦ Instructing the Ignorant
- ✦ Admonishing the Sinner
- ✦ Comforting the Sorrowful
- ✦ Forgiving Injuries
- ✦ Bearing Wrongs Patiently
- ✦ Praying for the Living and the Dead

FORGIVING INJURIES

Forgiving others is difficult at times because we do not have God's limitless mercy and compassion. But Jesus teaches us that we should forgive as God forgives, relying on him to help us show others the mercy of God

- Let go of grudges
- Saying sorry is something we learn as kids, but how often do we really mean it?
Forgiveness transforms hearts and lives
- Participate in the Sacrament of Penance.

Key Quotes from *Laudato Si'* Pope Francis' Encyclical on Ecology & Climate

"The universe as a whole, in all its manifold relationships, shows forth the inexhaustible riches of God."

EASTER SERVICES

If you are a Minister of Communion and are available to serve during the Triduum, please contact Judy Netting email:
judyneeting@yahoo.com.au

BUYING CHOCOLATE FOR EASTER?

There is a flyer in the church foyer which focuses on the topic of **FAIR TRADE CHOCOLATE**. It highlights the products and shops who offer Fair Trade chocolates.

Refugee Resettlement Committee Volunteer Information Night

31 March 7:00pm Parish Centre
Contact the Parish Office 6254 3236 for further information.

RCIA: Please remember in your prayers, Jessica Lewis, Tiffeney Ronneberg, Melissa McCarthy and her daughters Taylah and Charlotte. Jessica will be baptized at the Easter Vigil mass and Melissa will be received into the church. Tiffeney will be received into the church at Pentecost.



**ST JOHN THE APOSTLE
WOMEN'S BREAKFAST CLUB**
The next breakfast is:

TUES 22 March- 7:30 am

Little Chef Café
Nettlefold Street Belconnen

CLAIM THE DATE:

**Year of Mercy - Prayer Day
Saturday 14th May 2016**

"Merciful like the Father"

St John the Apostle Catholic Church
9:00am – 5:00pm

More information to come.

Contact Sabina Van Rooy: 0400 269 951

TIME & TALENT MINISTRY ROSTERS

Thank you to all the parishioners who have volunteered for the various ministries in our Parish. We need more volunteers for the ministries listed below:

5 - Female Senior Servers
3 Ministers of Communion 8.30am Mass
2 Ministers of Communion 10.00am Mass
5 Ministers of Communion 6.00pm Mass Sunday
2 Readers of God's Word 6.00pm Mass Sunday
6 Hospitality Ministers 6.00pm Mass Sunday

If you are able to assist in these ministries, please complete a Time and Talent form and place it in the container on the table in the foyer.

Daramalan College Open Evening Thursday 31 March 2016

Tours from 5:00 – 6:30pm

Year 7 2017 Information Evening 7:00 – 8:00pm

www.daramalan.act.edu.au

ROSTERS

27 March Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Judy Netting, Marie McKie, John Drury, Maresa Laird, Judy Mewburn
8:30 am	Ljiljana Argy, Violet Duve, Ted & Clare Kell, VACANT
10:00am	Anthony Pitt, Ann Reynolds, Libby Costello, Rachel & Marissa Blackwell
6:00 pm	Margaret McMahon, Judith Deklin, Matthew Toohey, VACANT, VACANT

Reading Roster

6:00pm	EASTER VIGIL READERS
8:30 am	Carmel Screen, Shane Murtagh
10:00am	Louise Honan, Joe Ots
6:00 pm	NO MASS

Hospitality Roster

6:00pm	EASTER VIGIL
8:30 am	Bert Broekhuyse, Fay Stephenson
10:00am	Ann Reynolds, Lucia Moran
6:00 pm	NO MASS

Other Rosters

- 21 March **Altar Society:** Pat Gilchrist
- 21 March **Church Cleaning:** Marian England Sharon & Nicola Greaves
- 2 April **Presbytery Cleaning:** Margaret Ohlin, Maryanne Ferguson, Margaret Sheehan, Ann Clementine, Lynette Weaver
- 27 March **Counting Roster:** Sharon Greaves & Marian England
- 26 March **Grounds:** VACANT

School of Religion: – 9.15 am-10.00 am
Sundays Parish Centre (School Term Only)
For children not attending a Catholic School



Hearing Loop: - We have a hearing loop in the body of the church. To access it turn your hearing aid to the T-Switch setting.

On A Lighter Note:

Sven and Ole are walking home from the tavern late at night and they head down the railroad tracks, and Sven says, "This is the longest flight of stairs I ever climbed in my life." And Ole says, "Yeah, it's not the stairs that bother me so much, it's these low railings."

LIBRARY NEWS: Some newly acquired books on display this week are:- "Band of angels: the forgotten world of early Christian women", "Merton: a biography" and, "Following the path: the search for a life of passion, purpose and joy".

Let us pray for those who are sick.
We remember them in our Masses.

Recently Deceased:

Peter Richards (father of Matthew Egan-Richards)
Michael Worner (brother of Margaret Bowen)

Anniversary: *Helen Murphy, Jill Wilson, Richard Kingsford, Peter Roache, Marijan Cavlovic, Generoso D'Ambrosio, Brian Weston, Jack Ransom, Michael Lowe, Ludvik Koren, James Broderick, Ella Greig, Alexander Van Audenaerde, Clement King, Andrew McEvoy, Stanislaw Bitner, Victoria Huntley, Moira Leader, Mark Markham, Jennifer Adamik, Jack Lenihan, Sybil Lazaro, Catherine Wheelaghan.*

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
Christ became obedient for us even to death dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL

Lk 22:14 – 23:56

The Romans used crucifixion as a deterrent against insurrection and rebellion. Not only was it an agonising death it was usually a slow, drawn out death – taking days to die. Victims were always crucified in public settings; alongside main thoroughfares or on hilltops outside a city. The victims were left on the cross for weeks while birds and wild dogs ate their bodies. The idea of crucifixion was that nothing was left to bury as this was the ultimate domination and humiliation of the rebel. The account of Jesus dying within a few hours is very unusual.

Resources used: Greg Sunter at LiturgyHelp