

THE SAVING WORD

PASSION SUNDAY (PALM SUNDAY) / C

13 APRIL 2025

FIRST READING

Isa 50:4-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed.

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied, he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

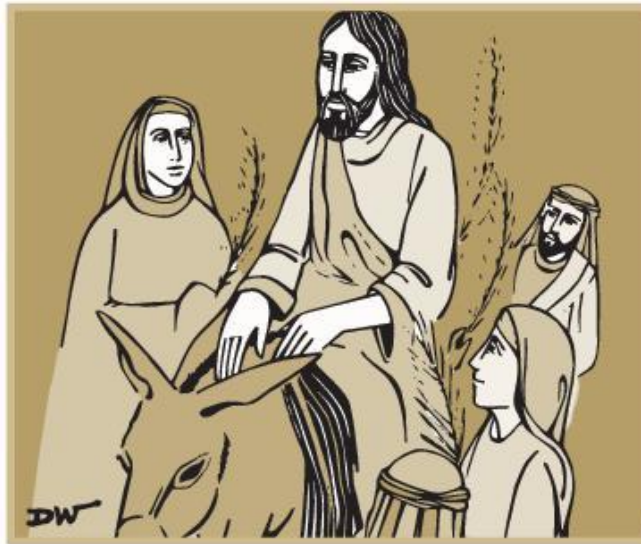
Ps 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24. R. v. 2

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

1. All who see me deride me. / They curl their lips, they toss their heads. / 'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him: / let him release him if this is his friend.' **R.**

2. Many dogs have surrounded me, / a band of the wicked beset me. / They tear holes in my hands and my feet, / I can count every one of my bones. **R.**

3. They divide my clothing among them. / They cast lots for my robe. / O Lord, do not



leave me alone, / my strength, make haste to help me! **R.**

4. I will tell of your name to my brethren / and praise you where they are assembled. / 'You who fear the Lord give him praise; / all sons of Jacob, give him glory. / Revere him, Israel's sons.' **R.**

SECOND READING

Phil 2:6-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high.

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Phil 2:8-9

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

Lk 23:1-49

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (N. Narrator J. Jesus O. Other single speaker C. Crowd)

N. The whole assembly then rose, and they brought him before Pilate.

They began their accusation by saying,

C. We found this man inciting our people to revolt, opposing payment of tribute to Caesar, and claiming to be Christ, a king.

N. Pilate put to him this question,

O. Are you the king of the Jews?

N. He replied,

J. It is you who say it.

N. Pilate then said to the chief priests and the crowd,

O. I find no case against this man.

N. But they persisted,

C. He is inflaming the people with his teaching all over Judaea; it has come all the way from Galilee, where he started, down to here.

N. When Pilate heard this, he asked if the man were a Galilean; and finding that he came under Herod's jurisdiction he passed

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF ST JOSEPH'S, ELSTERNWICK & HOLY CROSS, CAULFIELD SOUTH

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ST JOSEPH'S, ELSTERNWICK

71 Orrong Road, Elsternwick 3185

www.melbcatholic.org/elsternwick

Facebook



Mass

Friday 10:00am, Saturday 6:30pm and Sunday 10:30am

Reconciliation

Friday after Mass, Saturday 6:00pm

Thanksgiving & Special Collections

Church: \$698.50 Presbytery: \$708.50

Special Collection: -

Next Week's Roster

Lector - Saturday: S Bettoni

Lector - Sunday: M Nelson

Counters: No Counting

Thanksgiving



HOLY CROSS, CAULFIELD SOUTH

707 Glen Huntly Road, Caulfield South 3162

www.melbcatholic.org/caulfieldsouth

Mass

Thursday 10:00am and Sunday 9:00am

Reconciliation

Thursday after Mass

Thanksgiving & Special Collections

Church: \$346.00 Presbytery: \$361.00

Special Collection: -

Next Week's Roster

Lector: D Duffy

Thanksgiving



ST ANTHONY'S, GLEN HUNTLY

74, Grange Road, Glen Huntly 3163

In Residence: Fr Pat Jackson SAC, Br Lindsay Rust SAC

Mass

Monday - Saturday 9:15am

Saturday 6:00pm

Sunday 9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm

Reconciliation

30-minutes before all Masses & Saturday 9:45-10:10am

This Week's Liturgical Calendar

Thu 17 Apr: Holy Thursday

Fri 18 Apr: Good Friday

Sat 19 Apr: Holy Saturday

Sun 20 Apr: Easter Sunday

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (cf. Jn 12:1, 12-13; Ps 23:9-10)

Six days before Passover, when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem, the children ran to meet him; in their hands they carried palm branches and with a loud voice cried out:

Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory! Who is this king of glory? He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory.

Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (Mt 26:42)

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill*: **Paulette Dobbin, Tony Messina, James Jackson (Jimmy)**

** Names will be published for a month, unless otherwise requested.*

Recently Deceased: **Tim Donohoe, Clare Snell**

Death Anniversary: -

Summary of PFC and PPC Meeting

An Extraordinary Meeting was held on Monday, April 7 with regards to the Decree for the Amalgamation of the Parishes of Elsternwick and Caulfield South received from Archbishop Comensoli.

1. The Amalgamation Decree has been posted on all notice boards and will be read out at all Masses on the weekend of April 26-27.
2. Amalgamation Celebration will be held on Sunday, May 4 at St Joseph's Church. Details to follow.
3. Our official name will be: **The Parish of St Joseph's, Elsternwick and Holy Cross, Caulfield South**
4. We welcome parishioners' to submit their ideas for a new parish logo. Email the Parish Office by April 30.
5. An independent property inspection firm will be engaged to conduct a thorough inspection of buildings at both Elsternwick and Caulfield South in order to initiate a longer term Parish Maintenance Plan.
6. A Parish Strategy will be further deliberated upon and implemented to best utilise our resources in building up our Parish into a more vibrant community.

Washing of the Feet

We are looking for 12 volunteers, men and women (18 years and over) for 'Washing of the Feet' on Holy Thursday 17th April at 7:00pm Mass.

Please call/email the Parish Office or leave your name with Fr Leenus or Fr Pat.

Feast of St Joseph the Worker - 1st May 2025



This year, the Feast Day falls on a Thursday.

Please note change of Mass location for the week as follows:

Thursday, 1st May: 10am at St Joseph's

Friday, 2nd May: 10am at Holy Cross

Trivia Lunch @ Holy Cross Parish Hall

Join us on Wednesday, 16th April at 12-noon. Bring your own lunch and enjoy the trivia session and a catchup. All are welcome.

2025 Holy Week

PALM SUNDAY 12-13 April

St Joseph's - Sat 6:30pm & Sun 10:30am
(Reconciliation Sat 5:30pm)
Holy Cross - Sun 9:00am
(Reconciliation Sun 6:30pm)

HOLY THURSDAY 17 April

Holy Cross - 7:00pm

GOOD FRIDAY 18 April

St Joseph's - Stations of the Cross - 10:00am
St Joseph's - The Passion of Our Lord - 3:00pm

HOLY SATURDAY 19 April

Holy Cross - Easter Vigil Mass - 7:00pm

EASTER SUNDAY 20 April

Holy Cross - 9:00am & 7:00pm (Divine Mercy)
St Joseph's - 10:30am



Easter Raffle Tickets on Sale

Tickets are \$5 each or \$10 for three tickets. There will be a total of 4 prizes. Proceeds go to St Anthony's Church. Please email glenhuntly@cam.org.au to organise tickets.



Good Friday Collection for Holy Land

Envelopes available in the church.
Thank you!

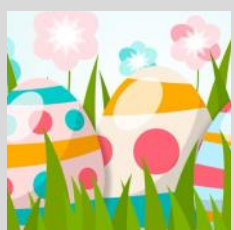
Give for the Kids @ St Anthony's Church

On Good Friday April 18th there will be a collection at the intersection outside the church and door knocking in the local area. Pick up your tin from the front of the church.

Use the link below or the tin situated at the stall to donate:
<https://fundraise.goodfridayappeal.com.au/fundraisers/StAnthonysYouthGroup>

Anyone can help. Give that they may grow.

Easter Egg Hunt



An Easter Egg Hunt will be organized for children under 18-years after Easter Sunday Mass at St Joseph's Church.

Parents must accompany their children if they wish to participate.

Project Compassion Boxes

Please return your Project Compassion Boxes by Sunday, 20th April 2025. You may do so during the thanksgiving collection at weekend Masses.

Palm Sunday, Year C

Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus,

Today is a joyful day as well as a sorrowful one. We express its joyful aspect and call it "Palm Sunday" and express its sorrowful aspect and call it "Passion Sunday". On this day, we hear Jesus saying that if the people kept silent then the very stones would be shouting out Hosanna to him. Surprisingly, it's on this same occasion that we see Jesus also weeping.

What made him weep that day? Amidst all the joyful atmosphere, why was Jesus so sorrowful? Was he anticipating his terrible death? I believe the reason for his sorrow was the hard-heartedness of the people. He knew that their expression of welcome was not a whole-hearted acceptance of him. All these would soon be turning into rejection and hatred. Soon the shouts of Hosanna will be replaced by shouts of 'Crucify Him'.

What was once true of the people of Jerusalem is probably true also of us in our own times. The Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday, painfully makes us aware of our own divided hearts, and double-mindedness. We remember how quickly the enthusiasm of Jerusalem crowd evaporated. We realise how quickly we too fluctuate in our enthusiasm and commitments.

Very many are the times and occasions when we joyfully welcome Jesus into our lives. We praise him, thank him, adore him and make promises to him. But in no time we take U turns and reject him, neglect him, discard him, deny and even betray him. Knowingly or unknowingly we move from one extreme to the other.

Jesus on the other hand is always 'for us'. Never ever did he change sides; he never made compromises. He was firm in his mission. Cross was his aim, our salvation was his purpose. And nothing and no-one could ever stop him from accomplishing it.

During these days of the Holy Week, in response to His unconditional love and mercy, let us make an extra effort, with the grace of God, to draw closer to Jesus as He draws closest to us.

Wishing you all a fruitful Holy Week.

Fr Leenus.



Divine Mercy Novena & Feast NOVENA

Nine Nights: Good Friday, 18th April to Saturday 26th April at 7:00pm

FEAST OF MERCY

Sunday, 27th April

1.00pm Confessions

1.30pm Adoration, Prayers, Hour of Mercy, Holy Mass.

Celebrant: Fr Wodek, Polish Missionary Priest
Venue: Holy Cross Church, Caulfield South



The Combined Societies of Mary.
www.combinedsocietiesofmary.com.
Enquiries: Joy Hunt 9509 2207

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Our RCIA candidates will receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist at the Easter Vigil Mass. Please keep Taylor Mackenzie and Lizeth Alvarado in your prayers.

him over to Herod who was also in Jerusalem at that time. Herod was delighted to see Jesus; he had heard about him and had been wanting for a long time to set eyes on him; moreover, he was hoping to see some miracle worked by him. So he questioned him at some length; but without getting any reply. Meanwhile the chief priests and the scribes were there, violently pressing their accusations. Pilate then summoned the chief priests and the leading men and the people. He said,

O. You brought this man before me as a political agitator. Now I have gone into the matter myself in your presence and found no case against him. Nor has Herod either, since he has sent him back to us. As you can see, the man has done nothing that deserves death, so I shall have him flogged and then let him go.

N. But as one man they howled,

C. Away with him! Give us Barabbas!

N. This man had been thrown into prison for causing a riot in the city and for murder.

Pilate was anxious to set Jesus free and addressed them again, but they shouted back.

C. Crucify him! Crucify him!

N. And for the third time he spoke to them,

O. Why? What harm has this man done? I have found no case against him that deserves death, so I shall have him punished and let him go.

N. But they kept on shouting at the top of their voices, demanding that he should be crucified, and their shouts were growing louder. Pilate then gave his verdict: their demand was to be granted. He released the man they asked for, who had been imprisoned for rioting and murder, and handed Jesus over

to them to deal with as they pleased. As they were leading him away they seized on a man, Simon from Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and made him shoulder the cross and carry it behind Jesus. Large numbers of people followed him, and of women too who mourned and lamented for him. But Jesus turned to them and said,

J. Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep rather for yourselves and for your children. For the days will surely come when people will say, 'Happy are those who are barren, the wombs that have never borne, the breasts that have never suckled!' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us!'; to the hills, 'Cover us!' For if men use the green wood like this, what will happen when it is dry?

N. Now with him they were also leading out two other criminals to be executed.

When they reached the place called The Skull, they crucified him there and the criminals also, one on the right, the other on the left. Jesus said,

J. Father, forgive them; they do not know what they are doing.

N. Then they cast lots to share out his clothing. The people stayed there watching him. As for the leaders, they jeered at him, saying,

C. He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.

N. The soldiers mocked him too, and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said,

C. If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.

N. Above him there was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals hanging there abused him, saying,

O. Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us as well.

N. But the other spoke up and rebuked him,

O. Have you no fear of God at all? You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it: we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

N. He replied,

J. Indeed, I promise you, today you will be with me in paradise.

N. It was now about the sixth hour and, with the sun eclipsed, a darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. The veil of the Temple was torn right down the middle; and when Jesus had cried out in a loud voice, he said,

J. Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.

N. With these words he breathed his last.

All kneel and pause a moment.

When the centurion saw what had taken place, he gave praise to God and said,

O. This was a great and good man.

N. And when all the people who had gathered for the spectacle saw what had happened, they went home beating their breasts.

All his friends stood at a distance; so also did the women who had accompanied him from Galilee, and they saw all this happen.

*The longer form of this passion narrative may be read:
Luke 22:14—23:56*

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