



29 March 2026 - Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (Year A)

**ST PATRICK'S
CATHEDRAL**
PARRAMATTA

1 Marist Place, Parramatta NSW 2150
(02) 8839 8400 www.stpatscathedral.com.au

Bishop of Parramatta: Most Rev Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM Conv, DD

Mass Schedule

WEEKENDS

6:00pm (Saturday) Vigil Mass
7:30am Morning Prayer
8:00am Mass
9:30am Mass
11:00am Solemn Mass with Cathedral Choir
6:00pm Mass

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

6:10am Morning Prayer
6:30am Mass
11:15am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
11:15am Reconciliation (till 12:15pm)
Rosary after Angelus at 12:00 noon
12:30pm Mass

SATURDAY

7:30am Morning Prayer
8:00am Mass
8:30am Reconciliation (till 9:00am)
5:00pm Reconciliation (till 5:30pm)

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

8:00am Mass (No Adoration or Confessions)

WEEKLY PRAYER GROUPS

Monday 7:15pm - Legion of Mary
Tuesday 9:30am - Christian Meditation
Tuesday 7:30pm - RCIA (Sept - April)
Friday 1:00pm - Cenacle Prayers

MONTHLY PRAYER GROUPS

First Friday Devotions: 7:00pm in Chapel
True Life in God: Last Friday @ 6:00pm in the Cloister Cafe

OTHER GROUPS

Credo Youth Ministries

Contact the office or find information on

Facebook: credo.stpats

Email: credo@stpatscathedral.com.au

Friends of St Patrick's Cemetery

stpatscemeterynp.com



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Holy Week is here...

THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT that for most Christians, the week ahead is their favourite time of year. Certainly, everyone enjoys Christmas, but the commercialisation that encompasses the Christmas season tends to somewhat smother the religious significance of the season. This is not to say that there is no commercialisation of Easter, but it is nowhere near the level we see for the Feast of the Nativity.

Before we get to the joys of Easter, we are treated to the drama, (and there is no other word for it), of Holy Week which begins this weekend. I would encourage you to come to every liturgy the Cathedral offers this week that you possibly can. This will ensure that you are best prepared for the season of the Resurrection. We only genuinely appreciate something to the full when we have waited in anticipation for it. The Holy Week schedule is available in the bulletin and on the cathedral noticeboards. Below, I highlight some of the key events of this most beautiful and sacred period in the Christian calendar.

The celebration of **Tenebrae** (Monday at 7:30pm), is a solemn and beautiful liturgy, set in darkness with the gradual extinguishing of candles to the accompaniment of some beautiful music. On Wednesday evening (7:30) we host the **Chrism Mass** with clergy and laity from across the diocese, as Bishop Vincent blesses the oils which will be used in the year ahead by all the parishes around the diocese. At 7:30pm on Thursday we celebrate the **Mass of the Lord's Supper** followed by **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**. Good Friday morning is the time we pray the **Stations of the Cross** (10:00am), returning in the afternoon at 3:00 for the **Commemoration of the Lord's Passion**, recalling the extraordinary events on the day of Jesus' crucifixion. Holy Saturday (note, *not* "Easter" Saturday) is a day of silent reflection, but even so we will celebrate the **Office of Readings** and **Morning Prayer** at 9:00am.

This is not an exhaustive list by any means.

All of this leads to the highlight of the Catholic Christian calendar, the **Easter Vigil Mass** (7:00pm). Yes, this is a long Mass (finishing around 9:30pm) but if you have never been to it before, I suggest you come along this year, especially considering that we will rejoice in the baptism of nineteen adults! In this Mass, beginning in darkness, we witness the blessing of the Easter fire and the Paschal Candle, which takes a place of prominence in the cathedral throughout the Easter season. We hear the dramatic readings from the Hebrew scriptures of the creation of the world and the freedom of the Israelites from slavery and so many more, concluding with the Gospel of the Resurrection. Following this we have the baptismal liturgy in which Bishop Vincent will baptise and then confirm those nineteen adults who have been preparing for initiation into the Church. We conclude with the celebration of the Eucharist. All of this is, naturally, accompanied with some stunning music from our exceptionally talented choir and organists. The end of the great Easter Vigil Mass marks the end of one long celebration which began on Thursday with the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper.

And thus begins the marvellous season of Easter...

Wishing you a blessed Holy Week,

Fr Robert



THE BULLETIN

STAFF CONTACT DETAILS

Dean and Administrator

Very Rev Robert Riedling EV
8839 8420 - dean@stpatscathedral.com.au

Assistant Priest

Rev Andrew Rooney
8839 8423 - assistantpriest@stpatscathedral.com.au

Assistant Priest

Rev Dr Vincent Ojo
8839 8400 - assistantpriest2@stpatscathedral.com.au

Deacon

Rev Mr David Dowling
8839 8415 - deacon@stpatscathedral.com.au

Priest in Residence

Rev Dr Philip Alesin

Office Hours: 9:00am - 4:00pm Weekdays

Parish Coordinator: Pascal El-Hage (Mon - Fri)
8839 8419 or coordinator@stpatscathedral.com.au

Parish Secretary: Donna Missio (Mon, Wed, Fri)
8839 8400 or enquiry@stpatscathedral.com.au

Parish Secretary: Pat Preca (Tue, Thu, Fri)
8839 8412 or secretary@stpatscathedral.com.au

Sacramental Coordinator: Parish Team
8839 8400 or secretary@stpatscathedral.com.au

Director of Music: Bernard Kirkpatrick KSS HonFGCM
8839 8400 or music@stpatscathedral.com.au

Assistant Director of Music: Eric Grella
8839 8400 or music@stpatscathedral.com.au

Assistant Organist: Patrick Newman
8839 8400 or music@stpatscathedral.com.au

MC & Liturgy Coordinator: Jorel Mateo
8839 8400 or liturgy@stpatscathedral.com.au

Assistant MC: Blake Bano
8839 8400 or liturgy@stpatscathedral.com.au

Youth Coordinator: TBC
8839 8400 or credo@stpatscathedral.com.au

Gift Shop Manager: Contact Parish Office
8839 8400 or giftshop@stpatscathedral.com.au

Sacraments

Baptisms are celebrated in the Cathedral on most Sundays after the 11:00am Solemn Mass, at around 12:45pm. Contact the parish office to book or fill out the form on the website.

Weddings are by appointment only.

At least six months' notice is necessary.
Contact the Parish Secretary on 8839 8412.

First Eucharist and Confirmation

Please contact the Parish Secretaries.

Hiring of Rooms

For hire of Cloister Function rooms, call the office on 8839 8400 or enquiry@stpatscathedral.com.au

Material for Bulletin

If you have something that you would like published in the bulletin, please ensure that it is conveyed to our Parish Secretaries, Pat or Donna, by **12:00 noon on Thursday**.

Update from the PFC Meeting

At the recent Parish Finance Committee (PFC) meeting on 19 March, we welcomed Kerry Giumelli, Chair of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC), who shared feedback from the PPC's recent meeting. This level of sharing strengthens the capacity of both committees to remain informed, aligned, and collaborative in responding to the needs and priorities of the parish.

The PFC members also discussed a number of priorities to support the day-to-day life and ministry of the parish. This includes exploring and planning for essential works within the presbytery to better meet the needs of the priests. The committee is also working towards finalising a fundraising policy and procedures to guide future initiatives, as well as considering how we engage with external organisations when they come on-site to promote their causes. The aim is to ensure a clear, focused and consistent approach that prioritises the needs of St Patrick's Parish Community.

The PFC takes this opportunity to thank our parish volunteers who worked so generously to support the Parish bazaar, and to everyone who joined us to celebrate St Patrick's Day. Your presence, energy and goodwill are a real blessing to our parish.

Safeguarding in our Parish

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. It ensures that children, young people, and vulnerable adults are safe, respected, and protected in our parish community. All volunteers and ministry members are required to complete safeguarding training, online or in person. In-person sessions will soon be held at St Patrick's. For more information, please visit the Diocese of Parramatta Safeguarding website. <https://parracatholic.org/safeguarding/>

Thank you for helping keep our parish a safe and welcoming place.

Our Commitment to Safeguarding

At St Patrick's Cathedral Parramatta, we are dedicated to creating a safe and nurturing environment for all members of our community, especially children and vulnerable adults, in line with the "Parramatta Way."

The Parramatta Way of Safeguarding is to...

- Act with justice, and state that we have a zero tolerance for any form of abuse or harm to children or any person;
- Act with justice, and ensure that laws and obligations are upheld, and safety is paramount.

Holy Week Schedule

PALM SUNDAY - 29 MARCH

6:00pm Vigil Mass (Saturday 28 March)
8:00am Mass (said)
9:30am Mass (singing led by cantor)
11:00am Procession of Palms & Solemn Mass (music by Cathedral Choir)
6:00pm Mass (singing led by cantor)



MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK - 30 MARCH

6:30am & 12:30pm Mass
11:15am – 12:15pm Reconciliation
7:30pm Office of Tenebrae (with Cathedral Choir)



TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK - 31 MARCH

6:30am & 12:30pm Mass
11:15am – 12:15pm Reconciliation



WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK - 01 APRIL

6:30am & 12:30pm Mass
11:15am – 12:15pm Reconciliation
7:30pm Chrism Mass with Blessing of the Holy Oils

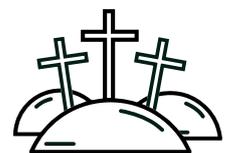
MAUNDY THURSDAY - 02 APRIL

9:00am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer
11:15am – 12:15pm Reconciliation
7:30pm Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper
(Adoration until 12:00 midnight)
10:45pm Office of Compline followed by Benediction



GOOD FRIDAY - 03 APRIL

9:00am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (sung)
10:00am Stations of the Cross
11:00am – 12:00 noon Reconciliation
3:00pm Solemn Commemoration of the Lord's Passion



HOLY SATURDAY - 04 APRIL

9:00am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer
7:00pm The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night



EASTER SUNDAY - 05 APRIL

8:00am Mass (said)
9:30am Mass (singing led by cantor)
11:00am Solemn Mass of the Resurrection (with Cathedral Choir)
6:00pm Mass (singing led by cantor)



HOLY WEEK AT ST PATRICK'S

Invitation to Tenebrae

All are warmly invited to join us for Tenebrae, a beautiful and solemn liturgy of prayer, psalms, and silence, marking the beginning of the Sacred Triduum. Tenebrae will be held on **Monday 30 March at 7:30pm** in the Cathedral.

This ancient service invites us into the mystery of Christ's Passion through Scripture and the gradual extinguishing of light, preparing our hearts for the days ahead.

Come, watch, and pray.

Chrism Mass – All Are Welcome!

You are invited to attend the Chrism Mass, one of the most significant liturgies in the life of our diocese.

Date and Time: 7:30pm on Wednesday 01 April in the Cathedral

At this beautiful and solemn Mass, the Holy Oils used throughout the year in the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick, and Holy Orders are blessed and consecrated by Bishop Vincent. It is also the moment when our priests renew their vows of commitment to priestly service.

Let us all gather in prayer and gratitude for the gift of the priesthood and the sacramental life of the Church!



Hospitality During Holy Week and the Triduum – A Shared Responsibility

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing so some have entertained angels unaware." (Hebrews 13:2)

As we prepare to welcome hundreds of parishioners, families, and visitors to the Cathedral for Holy Week and the Easter Triduum, we give thanks for the generous volunteers who will be stationed at the Cathedral entrances to greet and guide people.

However, hospitality is not just the role of a few - it is the responsibility of us all. The most powerful welcome often comes from the person in the pew.

If you see a new face beside you, extend a warm greeting. Offer them a parish bulletin or a liturgy guide so they can follow the celebration more fully. If we happen to run short of printed liturgy guides, consider offering yours and following along using the Holy Week App or the QR code printed on the second page of every liturgy guide. Simply share the code with others so they can access the texts directly on their phone or device.

Let's make every effort to ensure that all who walk through our doors during these sacred days feel welcomed, seen, and part of our worshipping community!

Lenten Food Drive for Jesuit Refugee Service - Thank you!

There have been over 100 bulk food and bag items plus cash donations made. The JRS foodbank team are very grateful to the parish for their continuing support of the refugees.

Calling for help: Good Friday Youth Pilgrimage Breakfast

Each year on Good Friday night, young people from across our Diocese embark on an overnight Youth Pilgrimage from St Patrick's, Blacktown to St Patrick's Cathedral, stopping at various churches along the way. It is a moving journey of faith, prayer, and public witness.

As they arrive early on Holy Saturday morning, it has become our parish tradition to welcome these pilgrims with a warm breakfast - a small but meaningful gesture of hospitality after their long walk.

Once again Mili has generously offered her time to coordinate this event. Thanks, Mili!

If you would love to help we are short on servers. You can email coordinator@stpatscathedral.com.au or call the parish office. Please arrive by **5:00am**. If this is a bit early for you, come later as all help is appreciated, especially at cleanup time!

Your kindness makes a real difference in supporting these young pilgrims and encouraging their faith journey. Thank you for embodying the spirit of Christian service this Easter.

Church Decorators - Holy Saturday

Following the Pilgrims' Breakfast on Holy Saturday morning (10:00am), we invite volunteers to assist Pascal and the team in preparing our sacred spaces for the Easter celebrations.

We are seeking helpers to:

- Arrange flowers
- Decorate the Cathedral, Chapel, and Baptismal Font

This is a wonderful opportunity to contribute your time and creativity in preparing our church to reflect the beauty and joy of the Resurrection.

If you are available to help, please contact Pat in the Parish Office. Your service is deeply appreciated as we ready our Cathedral for this most sacred night.

Ushers Needed for Easter Liturgies

We are seeking ushers to support the anticipated large number of people who will attend Masses over the Easter period. If you are able to help at any of the liturgies—especially Good Friday at 3:00pm, the Lord's Supper on Thursday night, or the Easter Vigil—please let the parish office know.

Be a friendly face to welcome all those attending, and assist with communion lines to help ensure the Masses run as smoothly as possible.

Share Your Holy Week Photos

If you take photos during Holy Week, we would love to see them! Please ensure however, that photos are not taken at inappropriate times, such as during the liturgies. Please share your photos to help us capture and celebrate this special time in our parish community. Email: coordinator@stpatscathedral.com.au

HOLY WEEK AT ST PATRICK'S

RCIA and the Sacred Journey to Holy Week

As we enter the most sacred days of our liturgical year - Holy Week - we do so accompanied by the quiet, courageous witness of our RCIA candidates and catechumens, who are preparing to be fully initiated into the life of the Church at the Easter Vigil.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a journey of faith, reflection, and deep personal transformation. For many months, these individuals have prayerfully discerned God's call, learning about the teachings of the Church, engaging with Scripture, and sharing their stories in a spirit of community. They have experienced moments of conversion, healing, and growing trust in Christ, all supported by the prayers and encouragement of our parish.

Now, as they prepare to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist, they enter into the heart of Holy Week - walking spiritually with Jesus from his triumphant entry into Jerusalem, through his Passion and death, and into the glory of his Resurrection. Their journey is not simply a personal milestone, but a powerful witness to all of us of what it means to say "yes" to the Christian life.

At the Easter Vigil, the Church will rejoice as our catechumens rise from the waters of Baptism into new life, are anointed with the Holy Spirit, and receive the Body and Blood of Christ for the first time. Those already baptised in another Christian tradition will be received into full communion and confirmed, completing their journey into the Catholic faith.

To all our RCIA participants: Tiffany Lo; Lachlan Moore; Hanh Phan; Haseeb Ahmad; Vincent Rosslee; Brandon Lampinen; Grace Johnson; Brodie Osborn; Micaiah Vella; Hunter Neville; Roshni Kodikal; Wing Yu Viann Au; Joanne Heather; Retno Hetri Widayati; Krish Thakkar; Fida Noor; Quyen Do; Max Kerr and Annabelle

...we give thanks for your courage, your faith, and your presence among us. Your journey has already enriched our community, and we look forward to celebrating with you as you step fully into the life of the Church.

Please continue to hold them in prayer during these final days of preparation. May the Holy Spirit guide and strengthen them, and may the joy of Easter be forever alive in their hearts.

Karen Samaan, Daniel Quispe, Angela Lovell, Ben Crofts and Brooklynn, Bronte and Liam Kelly will be confirmed at the Easter Sunday morning Mass, entering into full communion with the Catholic Church. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare to receive this sacrament.

Special Collections on Holy Thursday & Good Friday

As we enter the most sacred days of our liturgical calendar, we invite you to participate not only in prayer and worship but also in acts of charity and solidarity through the traditional Holy Week collections.

• Holy Thursday – Collection for the Poor

This collection taken during the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday is dedicated to supporting the poor and vulnerable. In past years, these funds have been forwarded to Caritas and St Vincent de Paul, who provide essential services and emergency assistance to those in need both locally and globally. This is a practical way to live out the call to serve, just as Jesus washed the feet of his disciples in humble love.

• Good Friday – Collection for the Holy Land

The Good Friday Collection is taken up worldwide to support the Catholic communities and sacred sites in the Holy Land. Administered by the Franciscan Custodians of the Holy Land, this collection helps maintain Christian shrines, provide education and housing, and support the dwindling Christian population in the region where Jesus lived, died, and rose again. Your generosity ensures that the Christian presence in the Holy Land remains alive and vibrant.

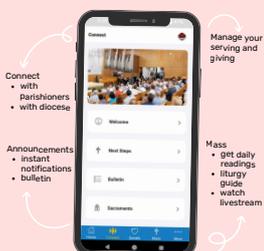
We thank you in advance for your prayerful support of these important causes.

A gentle reminder: Parking during Holy Week and Easter

As we prepare to welcome larger congregations for Holy Week and Easter celebrations, we kindly ask all parishioners and visitors to exercise care, patience, and courtesy when parking on or around the Cathedral grounds.

Please follow the directions of our security guards and volunteers, who are there to ensure everyone's safety and help manage the increased flow of traffic. Your cooperation helps maintain a welcoming and respectful environment for all, especially the elderly, families with young children, and those with mobility needs.

Thank you for your understanding and support.



How to Download the App

1. Scan QR Code to go to Google Play Store or Apple App Store on your mobile device.
2. Tap the "Install" button to download and install the app.
3. Once installed, open the app and finish setting up your profile.

The App can also be downloaded via the Cathedral website: www.stpatscathedral.com.au

PARISH NOTICES

Supper after the Easter Vigil: Can you help?

Easter Vigil Supper - Thank you to all the generous people who have already contributed supplies and cash donations for the supper in the Cloister Function Room after the Easter Vigil Update When to 'Drop off contributions' **1. Sweet donations:** Drop off your donations in the hall on Good Friday; · before or after the Stations of the Cross · or Commemoration of the Passion at 3:00pm · or before the Easter Vigil Mass. **2. Donating trays of sandwiches:** These will need to be dropped off before Easter Vigil Mass. **3. Still interested in volunteering to help?** Or do you have any questions? Contact the Hospitality Coordinator, Marian Polizzi. Mobile: 0418 978 73 Email: balmap5@bigpond.com

Sunday Collection at St Pat's

Unlike other parishes in our Diocese, our Cathedral conducts one collection during Sunday Masses. This collection is split 30/70 to cover and help sustain parish life and ministry, as well as supporting the dedicated priests who serve our community.

That is:

- 30% is contributed to the Diocesan Clergy Fund, which supports the living expenses of priests within our Diocese.
- 70% of the collection stays within the parish to cover the Cathedral's operational expenses and ministries.

Many thanks to the wardens and counters behind the scene who ensure that collections are taken up and in safe keeping each week.

ALPHA 26 has begun... but we really need your help

In 2025 we had two really fruitful Alpha programs and now we have begun our latest Alpha program. Here are some ways you can help:

- 1. Prayer:** Please pray for our guests and our team, every Wednesday at 7:30pm
- 2. Food Providers:** If you can cook, you can help.
- 3. Service Team:** We have a small team of people that support by setting up the room, serving the food and clearing up afterwards - extra pair of hands always welcome.
- 4. Dollars:** Food, retreats etc. all cost money. Donations will really help.

Just click this QR code and fill in which way you would like to help. Alternatively contact the parish office and let them know.

Volunteer

SCAN ME!



Donate

SCAN ME!



Catholic Youth – Egg Drive

The Catholic Youth of the Diocese of Parramatta are preparing for the Good Friday Walk and the Holy Saturday Bacon & Egg breakfast, which last year welcomed over 1000 participants at St Pat's.

An Egg Drive will be held on **Sunday 29 March**. Parishioners are invited to donate one dozen eggs after Mass, with volunteers available to collect donations. **Please do not bring in eggs until 29 March or after.**



With such large numbers attending, every dozen makes a difference. Thank you for supporting the young people of our Diocese and these special Holy Week events.

Experience Mary's Presence: Host the Legion of Mary Statue

Parishioners are warmly invited to welcome the Legion of Mary statue into their homes for one week.

This beautiful devotion offers families a special opportunity to deepen their prayer life and invite Our Lady's spiritual presence and protection. Having the statue in your home encourages daily prayer, strengthens faith, and brings a sense of peace and grace to the household.

We encourage all families to take part in this ministry and experience the blessings it brings. To book a week, please contact Brian Dsouza via SMS or WhatsApp at +61492 836 495 or via email bd.2913@gmail.com.



Easter Monday Mass Time - 8:00am only

As we continue to bask in the glory of the Resurrection, please take note of our special schedule for Easter Monday, a public holiday.

Mass will be celebrated at 8:00am only on Easter Monday. Please note, there will be no Mass at the usual times of 6:30am and 12:30pm, nor will there be any Reconciliation or Adoration. The cathedral precinct will be open till 6:00pm.

The regular schedule will return on Easter Tuesday, 07 April.

Daylight Savings Reminder

Please note that Daylight Saving will end Sunday 05 April. Don't forget to move your clock back when you go to bed on Saturday night (if you still have clocks that need manual adjustment!)



DIOCESAN & COMMUNITY NOTICES

The Witness – Project Update

We are delighted to share progress on The Witness musical, endorsed by the Bishop of Parramatta in a wonderful message shared below (see attached).

Jon-Claire Lee has been appointed Director, bringing his strong experience in theatre locally as a screen-play writer, Director and actor of repute.

Advanced discussions with the Parramatta Riverside Theatre have progressed, with performance dates now locked in for 10-16 September with two education shows for schools 15-16 September.

Our 60-member chorus has commenced rehearsals and have successfully completed four inspiring rehearsals.

As we move into the next phase, there are a number of roles to be filled, both in the cast and in the project team and back-stage teams.

The casting call for lead roles has just been announced across Sydney. Applicants must be 18 years+ and of Christian faith.

We are seeking versatile singer-actors for the following roles:

Apostles: Peter, Andrew, Philip, James, John, and Judas.

Mary: Mother of Jesus.

Salome: Mother of James and John.

Apostles' Wives: Peter's wife, Philip's wife, and Judas's wife.

The Boy: Raised from the dead by Jesus.

How to Apply

Expressions of interest are open now. To receive the official audition package (containing scripts, scores, and tracks), applicants should email the following to jonclaire@jclproductions.com.au ASAP: Current Headshot, CV or Performance Bio (detailing singing, acting, and dance experience), and a Singing Showreel.

Round 1 (Self-Tape) Submission Deadline: 5:00pm on Thursday, 30 April.

Please see the attached document for full details of the casting call.

Call out for a Professional Choreographer. We are seeking a visionary artist for a professional production of the classic 1978 musical.

How to Apply: Email your CV and a link to your showreel to jonclaire@jclproductions.com.au.

The Project Team are currently seeking volunteers for Marketing and Social Media – to help us amplify and elevate this incredible project and to sell tickets to the production.

Please register on our Website bethewitness.com.au.

Soon to come is The Witness Experience — a faith-fuelled movement which will see a series of performances and outreach initiatives across parishes within the Diocese, extending the mission well beyond the main production.

Community asked to help keep two young sisters together

MacKillop Family Services is urgently seeking foster carers in Blacktown and surrounding suburbs to care for two young sisters, both under the age of two, who need to stay together. Grace and Ava* are happy, settled little girls who thrive on routine. Keeping them together is vital for their emotional wellbeing and sense of security.

Patricia Maher, NSW Carer Recruitment and Development Manager at MacKillop, says the organisation is doing everything possible to ensure the siblings can grow up together, side by side. "Whether you're single, partnered, have kids of your own or not, working part-time or full-time, you can make a life-changing difference," Ms Maher said. "We need people with empathy to nurture and support these little girls to grow to their full potential. Our teams are waiting to give you more information; apply for further details through our website or call 1300 791 677.

MacKillop provides full training, 24/7 support and a tax-free allowance for carers. To learn more about becoming a foster carer, visit mackillop.org.au.

*Names changed for privacy.

Project Compassion

Please return Project Compassion boxes in Holy Week

Your generosity this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.



Or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you to those who have already handed in their donations and for standing with us, as we Unite Against Poverty this Lent.

Retreats at Mary MacKillop Spirituality Centre, Baulkham Hills

Step away from the noise of daily life and enter a sacred space of prayer, rest and renewal at Mary MacKillop Spirituality Centre, Baulkham Hills.

Our 2026 retreat program offers opportunities for spiritual reflection, silence, accompaniment and deeper encounter with God.

To view the retreat program or make a booking, please scan the QR code or contact the Centre on 02 9634 2317



PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for...

Sick: Felixberto de la Pena, Hamish J Pereira, Udaya Rajam, Catherine Ramos, Betty Patinglag, Linda Popic, Charles Dickens, Ghalie Koura, Sebastiao Bugo, Linda Passaro, Ravi Prakash, Rosie Rezk, Mark A Mirando, Adriana Villada, Joana Blandon, Mary Grace Manubay, Vickram & Vasvi Arcot, Rodolfo Manalo, Gretta D'Souza, Sharon Webb, Silvana Rechichi

Special Intentions: Romeo D'Souza, Sumaya, Ryan Lardizabal, Apo Adriaico, Floyd Oribello, Raveen, Naleen, Tian, Aaron Bugo, Esther Lopez, Rajesh Kumar, Juan Charles, Hope & Michael Pace, Maxmillian Lovett, Blang, Jane, Regina, Hazel, Mary Grace Landizabal, Bianca Yousif, Chryslyn Pinto & family, Archie Thorbani & family, Unnati Patel & family, Michael Harper

Anniversaries: Rosetta Raffaele, Frere Alexandre Anh, Aloma Pospischil, Dr C. O. Sioson, Juan & Maria Valdez & family, Juan Montesco, Constance C. Valdez, Victor Dominquez, Erwin Mendoza, John Doolub, Danny Doolub, Pasquale Altamore, Bernard Rodricks, Gracie Rodricks, Irima Muller, Agapito Antonio, Dionisia Antonio, Soosai Villava Rayen, Watson Lee

Recently Deceased: Romula Romy Pena, Elias Safadi, Gloria Bryant, Paloma Escarlan, Elisa Escarlan, Lorna Low, Amanda Villada, Helga Brightenburg, Reggie Court, Doreen Robinson, David Magick, Giuseppe Barbagallo, Brian Climpson, Terry Cook

Deceased: Robert Valentin, Roydon Fernandez, Peter Netto, Shierly Tan Lorenzo, Danny Doolub, John Doolub, Mathew Sieders, YT & Deanna Hsu, Lucy D'Mello, Philip Vas, Leti Vas, Charles Vas, Rufino Soriano, Elsa Soriano, Elias Koura

Anniversaries: Rafaela de la Pena, Teresa Van Tilburg, Pedro Obar Morales, Edward Muller, Juan Montesco

Perpetuals: Thanh Hung Le, June Schembri, Antoine Morvan, Leo Bardetta, Carmen Train, Joan Brady, Rudy Rupac, Frank Agostino, Wendy A Smith, Louisa & Arthur Baxter, Paul Mahoney, Nat Fedyk, Robert Dearie, Norm Hector, Bokeyar family, David family, Japour family, Paula Loto'aniu, Peter, Teresa & Annette Van Tilburg, Margaret Angela Roberts, Sally & Frank Martlew, Sherwood family, Pat & Jim Hartman, John Ryan, Mark Fletcher, Royan & Andrews families, Don & Pat Andrews, Juliet & Peter Noronha, Vijaya Sawant, Dr Joseph Malouf, Abel Moses, Jimmy, Anna & Frank Grainda, Jack & June Barrett, Ann O'Brien, Watson Lee, Ian & Pat Sanders, Bill & Alice Kendall, Allan Kendall, Maria Patterson & Ellen Bancan, Hooper family, Giuseppina & Giovanni Rechichi, Mary Coady, Mary & Jack White, Vincent & Rebecca Vella, Walter Townsend, Ferris Grugeon, McInherny, White, McWilliam & McGuckin families, Mary Abela, Robert Andrews, Sylvester family, Rogan family, Adcock & McMillan families, Love family, Gabrielle Baker, Paula Cowling, McDermott & Starr families, Repose of the Souls in Purgatory and all deceased parishioners of St Patrick's and St Monica's

BAPTISMS



We welcome into our Catholic Christian family the following children recently baptised here...

**Arshan Yousefi, Luca Del Rosario
Carmelo Perez & Audrey Stagnitta**

WEDDINGS



We pray for the following couple recently married here...

Lorrae Johnston & Sean Pender

POPE LEO'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 of violence."

From Pope Leo...

"X" post dated
22 March

"I strongly renew my appeal to persevere in prayer. May hostilities cease and may paths to peace finally open up, based on sincere dialogue and respect for the dignity of every human person."

Saint of the Week

04 April - Saint Isidore of Seville (560 - 636), Bishop

He was born in Seville in about 560 and after his father's death he was educated by his brother Leander, Archbishop of Seville. He was instrumental in converting the Visigothic kings from the Arian heresy; he was made Archbishop of Seville after his brother's death; and he took a prominent part in councils at Toledo and Seville. The Council of Toledo, in particular, laid great emphasis on learning, with all bishops in the kingdom commanded to establish seminaries and to encourage the teaching of Greek and Hebrew, law and medicine. He promoted the study of Aristotle, long before the Arabs discovered him and centuries before 13th-century Christian philosophers discovered him through the Arabs.

He embarked on the project of writing an encyclopaedia of universal knowledge but did not live to complete it.



Information: Universalis

“Quote of the Week”

“If God at times seems to be slow in responding, it is because he is preparing a better gift. He will not deny us. We well know that the long-awaited gift is all the more precious for the delay in its being granted ... Ask, seek, insist. Through this asking and seeking you will be better prepared to receive God's gift when it comes. God withholds what you are not yet ready for. He wants you to have a lively desire for his greatest gifts. All of which is to say, pray always and do not lose heart.”

St Augustine of Hippo
(354 - 430)
Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Did You Know...?

...that the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke do not mention palms when writing of Jesus entering Jerusalem?

In fact, in Luke's version of this Gospel, there is no mention of the crowds placing anything on the road Jesus was taking, except that they “spread their garments on the road.” Matthew and Mark both mention the crowds spreading garments in the path of Jesus. These two Gospels also talk of the people cutting branches and spreading them before Jesus, but no particular mention of palms. We can only assume that because palms are common in the Middle East they were cut down and spread before Jesus as he entered the Holy City.



Tuesday to Friday 10:00am to 3:00pm Sunday 9:00am to 1:00pm
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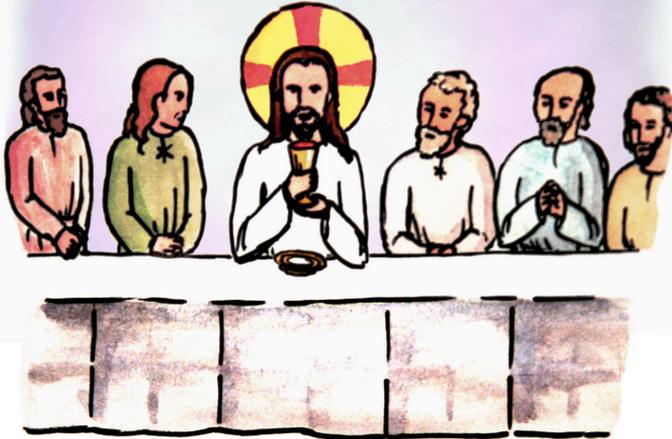
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The Kids' Bulletin

Palm Sunday / Passion Sunday
March 29th, 2026

T A H B I C S D I E S F M G Y H B I L J
O K O L D M O N F O T P H Q E R N S
E T W U C W O X V Y E Z N A A B N C T
D W E H F I G C H H I W J I K L L L M
B N E O S P H Q E R D S F T O U R V
M W A X N Y Y Z



Use every second letter to fill in the blanks.

T H _____

Holy Week

Did you know that this week is the most important one in the whole year? Holy Week has Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. On these days we remember and celebrate the most important things that Jesus did before His resurrection on Easter Sunday.

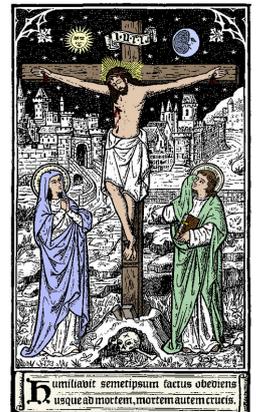
On Holy Thursday Jesus said the first Mass and made his apostles the first priests. Go to Mass on Thursday if you can, and think about what Jesus did- He made bread and wine into Himself so that He could still be with us after He went back into Heaven.

On Good Friday Jesus suffered terribly and then died on the cross because of our sins. He offered up His life, even though He had never sinned, so that all of us could go to Heaven. That's why we call it "Good" Friday. Can you offer some sacrifice to Jesus in return for what He did for you?

On Holy Saturday Jesus' body was in the tomb. His friends were all shocked by what had happened and were afraid and sad. They did not remember what was going to happen next... Do you remember what happened after Holy Saturday?



Answer to Puzzle on Front: This is my Blood of the New Covenant which will be shed for many.
Answer to Word-Find: He died for sinners.



Palm Sunday

AS JESUS AND THE DISCIPLES WERE GOING CLOSE TO JERUSALEM FOR THE PASSOVER...

Go into the village and you'll find a donkey with her colt. Untie them and bring them to me.

It's just like He said!

Hey! What are you doing?

The Lord has need of them.

Oh! Then take them, for sure!

THE LORD IS COMING!

Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest!

Who is that?

ALL THIS HAPPENED A FEW DAYS BEFORE JESUS WAS ARRESTED, SCOURGED AND KILLED ON THE CROSS.

He's the prophet - Jesus of Nazareth.

ON PALM SUNDAY EVERYBODY CHEERED FOR JESUS, BUT A FEW DAYS LATER THEY SHOUTED AT HIM AS HE WAS LED TO HIS DEATH. WE MUST BE FAITHFUL TO JESUS WHEN IT'S EASY AND EVERYONE AROUND US IS, AND WE MUST ALSO BE FAITHFUL WHEN IT'S REALLY HARD AND EVERYONE ELSE IS AGAINST HIM.

Good Friday Word-Find

HHWEDBHEAVY
DIEDMUESJIV
JLPCARRIEDE
OLTARIOMSNR
SEDLYEDOUIO
ESAVEDFN SCN
PILATEOFROI
HSCROSSESDC
INCYRENETEA
NEHANDSTOMB
NAILSJOHNUR
MAGDALENES

See if you can find all the words in CAPITALS in the puzzle.

Use the leftover letters to fill in the blanks:

What did Jesus do on the cross?

On Good Friday JESUS was taken before King HEROD and the governor, PILATE. Even though He had not committed any crime He was scourged and condemned to die on the CROSS. He CARRIED the cross as far as He could up CALVARY hill, but when He got too weak a man named SIMON of CYRENE was forced to help Him. On the way He met His mother, MARY, who WEPT at seeing her Son in such pain. A woman named VERONICA wiped the blood and sweat from His face with a cloth. At the top of the HILL Jesus was thrown onto the cross and His HANDS and FEET were fastened to it with NAILS. They raised the cross, where Jesus hung for three hours before He DIED. He did all this to SAVE us from Hell. At the cross were JOHN, Mary MAGDALENE, His mother, and some other women. At the moment He died the curtain of the old Temple was TORN in half. When His body was taken down from the cross JOSEPH of Arimathea and NICODEMUS BURIED Him in a new TOMB and rolled a HEAVY STONE in front of the door.



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