

St Catherine Labouré Gymea Parish

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

Year C

2 / 3 April 2022



“The Mass is long”, you say, and I add, “Because your love is short!”

St Josemaria Escriva



From **Good Friday** to **Easter Sunday**

What do Catholics Believe About Life After Death?

Fr Greg Morgan



Lenten Lecture Series: Talk 5 **7pm Thursday 7 April** @ St. Catherine Labouré Catholic Church, Gymea

Many Catholics believe that when we die, our body is put in the ground, the soul of the person is judged by God, and then we go to heaven, hell, or purgatory. Beyond this, nothing else can be said. But this is actually a heresy! In this final Lenten talk, Fr Greg will try to explain what the Catholic Church teaches about life after death with reference to what we commemorate and celebrate during the Easter Triduum: From Good Friday to Easter Sunday!

In your charity, please pray for our recently deceased;

Arthur Ollenrenshaw, Suzanne Miller, John Keys, Michael Malvern, Rex Watson, Terry Briggs, Mary Tuite, Johnny Raper, Norm Whitaker, Peter Wild, Nita Edwards, Maria Casamento, Trevor Gittoes, Joe Dias, Anne Crank, John Gough, Joseph 'Joe' Hansel, Judith King, Carmel Farnham.

We remember those whose Anniversaries we commemorate at this time:

Rusty Abel, Denis Boyle, Tracy de Lyall, Vincent Donohoe, Brian Dooley, Roy & Mary Esplin, Bill Godfrey, Rod Halter, Lionel & Bev Hurst, Alexander Martin, Sid & Sylvia Mullen, Sarah Murrells, Peter Mounce-Stephens, Joan Patterson, John Vincent Sidgreaves, Antonio Sorbara, Bennet Toms, Annette Twiss, The Holy Souls.

We pray for all the sick of our Parish Community and their carers. Especially:

Catherine Bassiuoni, Gerry Banister, Jean Bell, Helen Bridges, Pamela Buckley, Patricia Butler, Hugh Casey, Elaine Coughlan, Patricia Cutcliffe, Alice Elliott, Dorothy Fraser-Bell, Jeff Greenaway, Patricia Gordon, Maree Hinton, Melina Grieco, Gloria Klein, Laurence McDonnell, Doug Maybon, Evie Morgan, Anthony Morris, Julia Quach, Marie Rayner, Tony Ryan, Evelyn Spiteri, Yin Kwan Tsang, Lindy Webb, Maree Whitaker, Gary Wood.

LENTEN LECTURE SERIES: Last Thursday night was a particularly special event with Fr Ronnie presenting a truly beautiful and moving talk on Saints Clare and Blessed Carlo Acutiz; emphasising how both true love and true holiness can only be found through devotion to the Eucharist. A number of parishioners left with tears of profound love for the Blessed Sacrament and inspired by the Saints. As I said, it was very moving and the discussion that followed was superb! You might like to watch this talk online by visiting our YouTube page. I would also like to say that a number of people, including Bishop Umbers and Monic Doumit, have commented on the good turn outs for these talks. I certainly intend to keep building up the opportunities for intellectual and spiritual formation in this parish. Ultimately, they are one small resource to help you grow in your love for our faith and perhaps feel more confident in sharing its intelligence and its joy with those around you. The final talk will be a little more catechetical as I (attempt) to explain a bit about how Jesus' own death and resurrection gives us an insight into what happens when we pass away. Lent is a time where we reflect a little more sincerely and honestly about "end times" in order to treasure the gift that is "having time".

7 pm, Thursday, 7 April – Fr Greg Morgan.
"From Good Friday to Easter Sunday: What do Catholics Believe About Life After Death?"

FATHER'S/MEN'S BUSH WALK: Leaving from St Cath's after morning Mass on **Easter Monday, 18th April**, the hike starts at the entrance to Kamay Botany Bay National Park. The hike will take about four hours, which includes time to have a swim/bite to eat. A tremendous way to meet other dad's at the school and other men in the parish for fun and fraternity. **If you're interested, please contact Robert: r.purdon@live.com** More details to come but please save the date and get involved!

NEXT SUNDAY IS PALM SUNDAY: The Solemn Blessing of the Palms and Procession will be conducted at the Sunday, 9:30 am Mass starting from the School quad. You will be invited to move to that area at 9:25 am with your palms. Palms will be blessed at all other Masses as usual.

SAVE THE DATE: Our inaugural, though henceforth annual, "Labouré Lecture and Parish Dinner" will take place on **Friday, 25 November**. A distinguished guest speaker will be invited. Details to follow but please save the date in your calendars now.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

Monday 11th-Wednesday 13th April: Adoration 8:30am-9:10am. Mass at 9.15am. Confessions before and after every Mass. (Normal schedule)

Holy (Maundy) Thursday:

No Adoration or 9.15am Mass here at St Cath's.

Fr Greg and Fr Ronnie will be attending the Chrism Mass at St Mary's Cathedral at 10:30am.

6pm – Mass of the Lord's Supper

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until Midnight.

Good Friday:

10am Stations of the Cross

Confessions available afterwards for as long as required.

3pm Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday:

No morning Adoration/Mass.

7:30pm Easter Vigil The Easter Fire will be outside the Church's main doors this year and parishioners will be invited to 'crowd' around the Fire from 7:20 pm, and again, the Solemn Procession will take place with the congregation following the Paschal Candle (& servers) into the Church. Candles will be made available to parishioners.

Easter Sunday:

Easter Mass will be celebrated at 7:30am, 9.30am, and 5pm.

EASTER VIGIL: "The Vigil, by its very nature, ought to take place at night" (EV, no. 3). It is not begun before nightfall and should end before daybreak on Easter Sunday. The celebration of the Easter Vigil takes the place of the Office of Readings (EV, no. 5)." For these reasons, **I would like to advise you in advance that the Easter Vigil (Saturday, 16 April) will be celebrated at 7:30 pm. (There obviously will be no 5 pm Vigil.)**

NEW! CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE (GYMEA):

CWL has now been launched in our parish. This wonderful organisation has a rich history of encouraging and empowering Catholic women to do incredible things for God and the Church. In the month of May, our first Women's Retreat Day will be held but I hope to arrange a number of other events before then. Membership to CWL will afford a free invitation to the retreat day. **Sign up forms can be found on the tables at the back of the Church. Please hand them to Fr Greg/letterbox/parish office.** Over time, my hope is that CWL will grow to offer women both intellectual and spiritual formation in order to become a very powerful voice for truth, goodness, and beauty in the life of the Church.

CAMINO IN HONOUR OF ST JOSEPH: This overnight pilgrimage for men is a challenge in honour of our Spiritual Father for the Feast of St Joseph the Worker! The Camino will begin with 9 pm Mass on Friday, 29 April at St Jerome's, Punchbowl with Bishop Richard Umbers and conclude on Saturday, 30 April with 5.30 am Mass at St Michael's, Meadowbank followed by a hearty bbq breakfast. The entire walk from start to finish will include 7 locations with 6 churches: from St Jerome's - Punchbowl, to St Felix - Bankstown, Immaculate Heart of Mary - Sefton, St Peter Chanel - Berala, St Joachim's - Lidcombe, Sydney Olympic Park and St Michael's, Meadowbank. Each location will feature a reflection on St Joseph and a short time in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. *Register Now - <https://www.trybooking.com/BXRIT>*

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Will take place every Friday during Lent at 10 am. Please come along!

ADORATION: Remember, our parish has Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament available every day Tuesday - Saturday from 8:30 am - 9:10 am.

REMINDER ABOUT "LENT": Reminder! Catholics are to abstain from meat and must fast (those who are sick/elderly etc are exempt) on Good Friday. **Catholics are reminded of the Paschal Precept – to confess any grave (mortal) sin at least once a year. Confession of any venial sin is always encouraged.**

FROM THE CATECHISM: 2181 "The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice. For this reason the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation, unless excused for a serious reason...Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin. [One should go to confession, therefore, before returning to Holy Communion if we have missed Sunday Mass due to laziness or indifference.]" I saw a photo recently of a priest (obviously concerned about former practicing Catholics becoming non-practicing Catholics after Covid) standing outside a shopping centre holding up a sign that read something like: "If you are well enough to go shopping you are well enough to go to Mass".

NEW RCIA PROGRAM: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults will be conducted for the first time in this parish this year. **I'm looking for volunteers who have a good grounding in the faith to assist Fr. Ronnie and I in instructing potential converts.** Please let one of the priest's know if you would be interested.

LEGION OF MARY: Our Parish is blessed to have a longstanding Legion of Mary group, which meets every Thursday morning after the 9.15 am Mass. We are always on the look out for new members. Please get involved (or just come and see!) and do pray for our Legion members too! They do such wonderful works in honour of Our Blessed Mother.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM: Thank you to those parents who attended the information evening Tuesday last, to launch our new Sacramental Program. **To watch a recording of what was discussed, please use the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T5eHFIDp5yk>**

COMMUNION TO THE SICK: I am grateful to Michele Anthony who has very generously agreed to become the Co-Ordinator of this important ministry. Please let Michele or the Parish Office know of anyone (perhaps a sick relative or friend in the parish) who might like to have Holy Communion brought to them. Similarly, I am keen to reach out to those who are alone and might require transport to get to Mass on Sundays. Although the Community Car is an elevated 4WD (and, sadly, not a Community Bus), which makes it quite difficult and potentially unsafe for the infirm and elderly to get into (a number of people have expressed concern on this score), if you do know of anyone who is in relatively good health and would like to be brought to Mass, please let the Parish Office know.

ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE SUTHERLAND: Is now accepting enrolments for Year 7 for 2023. To enrol online or download an Application for Enrolment visit www.spcsutherland.catholic.edu.au

EUTHANASIA BILL: This dreadful piece of legislation, which will undoubtedly impact upon the rights and protections of the sick and most vulnerable (as has been proven across the world), is now being debated in the Legislative Assembly in NSW. Incidentally, I was impressed that even the UK government realised the slippery slope of Euthanasia and recently refused to legalise assisted suicide in the country. We too should stand firm and be a sign of hope for a much better way forward. If you would like to hear some of the arguments as to why we should oppose it, you might like to listen to my talk <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IIQKbrUV1VI> (Or go to our parish's YouTube page). Please get involved: https://www.no euthanasia.org.au/petition_2108_ocp_nsw

PARISH DIRECTORY:

Parish Priest: Father Gregory Morgan
Assistant Priest: Father Ronnie Maree
Presbytery: 123 Gynea Bay Rd Gynea
Secretary: Kerry Ginman
Office Hours: Monday to Thursday being:
 8:30 am - 12 noon then 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm
 Friday: 8:30 am - 12:30 pm then closed.
Office & Presbytery telephone: 9525.9993
Email: office@stcaths.org.au
Website: https://www.stcaths.org.au
Facebook: https://m.facebook.com/St-Catherine-Labour%C3%A9-Parish-Gynea-108678858244000/
Parish Safeguarding Officer: Kerry
Email: safeguarding@stcaths.org.au
St Catherine Labouré Parish School
Principal: Jodie McKay
School Office: 9524.9706
Email: info@sclgynea.catholic.edu.au

PARISH DIRECTORY:

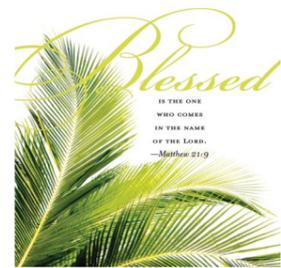
Sacramental Programme: Karen
Email: sacramentalprogramme@stcaths.org.au
Catechist Coordinator: Karen
Email: catechists@stcaths.org.au
Youth (Music) Coordinator: Genevieve
Gynea Music/Choirs - Clare (Coordinator)
Email: musicgynea@stcaths.org.au
Legion of Mary - Mike (President)
Email: legionofmarygynea@stcaths.org.au
Medjugore Prayer Group - Bruno
Email: medumedjugorjeprayegroup@stcaths.org.au
St Catherine's Friendship Club:
Email: friendshipclub@stcaths.org.au

PARISH MASS TIMES.

Mondays: 9:15 am Mass
Tuesdays: 8:30 am - 9:10 am Adoration
 9:15 am Mass
Wednesdays: 8:30 am - 9:10 am Adoration
 9:15 am Mass
Thursdays: 8:30 am - 9:10 am Adoration
 9:15 am Mass
Fridays: 8:30 am - 9:10 am Adoration
 & Benediction - 9:15 am Mass
Saturdays: 8:30 am - 9:10 am Adoration
 & Benediction - 9:15 am Mass
Saturday 5 pm Vigil Mass
Sundays: 7:30 am, 9:30 am & 5 pm



9/10 April 2022 *Palm Sunday - Year C*



	Saturday Vigil 5.00pm	Sunday 7.30am	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday Evening 5.00pm
Acolytes & Ministers of Holy Communion:	Graham Ward Julie Banister Lesley Newman	Phil Boland Judith Rumsey Doreen Vernon	Jim Gothard Michele Anthony Matthew Delasey Peter Cobcroft	David Gormley Amelia Paras Paul Marsden
1st Reader:	Lesley Newman	Doreen Vernon	Matthew Delasey	Jed Loader
Psalmist:	Margaret Morris			Moira Loader
2nd Reader:	Jodie McKay	Adele Greenaway	Barbara Foster	Ronald Paras
Narrator Reader	Julie Banister Maureen Pocock	Judith Rumsey Adele Greenaway	Jim Gothard Michele Anthony	Moira Loader Ronald Paras
Intercessions:	Natasha Metlege	Doreen Vernon	Barbara Foster	Jed Loader

The Altar Society: Group 2:
 Doreen Vernon, Ava T Mahne &
 Aurora Hall.

In The Counting House:
Team :
NOT until further notice.
Thank you.

Audio-Visual Pauline / Mark
 Hugh
Operators: SENIOR CHOIR Jenni & Dolly

The Clean Team: Group B: Paras Family



May God
 and our Lady
 of Lourdes
 care for and
 protect us all.