



Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Year C
9 / 10 April 2022

“Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!”

Luke 19:38 (NRSVCE)

St Catherine Labouré
Gynea Parish.



Dear Parishioners, Palm Sunday (also known as Passion Sunday) marks the beginning of the holiest week of the year. There is always much to pray for but perhaps especially this year, as we emerge from the pandemic and consider the turbulence that continues to envelop our world, we need the graces of Good Friday and the hope of Easter Sunday more than ever before. On that score, I really, really would like to encourage each and everyone of you to attend the Easter Triduum in our parish this year. Please reach out to those of your family and friends who might still be away from the practice of their faith (especially if they might still be using Covid as an excuse—the Archbishop has long since reinstated the obligation to attend Mass in person unless one is sick or particularly vulnerable). The Triduum begins on Holy Thursday evening with the Mass of the Lord’s Supper at 7pm (please note that we have adjusted the time from 6pm to 7pm so that those who work have time to attend — my apologies for any inconvenience caused), when we will give thanks to God for the gift of the Eucharist and commemorate the institution of the priesthood. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will then continue unto midnight. We recall how Our Lord said to his disciples who had fallen asleep in the Garden of Gethsemane “So, couldn’t you stay awake with me one hour?” Please consider spending an hour with Our Lord in quiet prayer. There is a sign up sheet at the back of the Church to ensure someone is with the Blessed Sacrament until midnight. Confessions will be available between 8-9pm and by request thereafter. Inside today’s bulletin, you will find the times of all the other liturgies celebrated in Holy Week. At today’s Mass, the Passion of the Lord will be read from the Gospel of Luke. We will kneel at the moment when we hear the words “he breathed his last.” We fall to our knees in silence overcome by God’s love for us and in awe of God’s mercy and humility — that God Incarnate, Lord Creator, Word Eternal ‘breathes a last breath’ and so conquers sin and death. Silence is the right response because words are just not enough to articulate this the greatest of mysteries. The key thing to ask ourselves, I believe, during this Holy Week is: What difference does that silence make to my life? And, of course, this silence does not equate with nothingness; it is, as I have already intimated, imbued with profound meaning. But how does that silence — and the truth it embodies — transform and define the way we live? How does it change the way we speak, the way we work, the way we pray, the way we love, the way we hope, the way we desire? Please know that you and your families will be at the forefront of my prayers during this Holy Week. It is my deepest hope that God will continue to purify our heart and minds so that St Catherine’s will be a place ready and open to a new “springtime”; a new era of evangelization via the proclamation of the greatest gift of all, Christ and His Church.

In your charity, please pray for our recently deceased;

Biagio 'Bill' Parrino, Terry Hall, Arthur Ollenrenshaw, Suzanne Miller, John Keys, Michael Malvern, Rex Watson, Terry Briggs, Mary Tuite, Johnny Raper, Norm Whitaker, Peter Wild.

We remember those whose Anniversaries we commemorate at this time:

Rusty Abel, John Bain, Denis Boyle, Tracy de Lyall, Vincent Donohoe, Brian Dooley, Roy & Mary Esplin, Bill Godfrey, Rod Halter, Lionel & Bev Hurst, Felicity Ketel, Alexander Martin, Sid & Sylvia Mullen, Sarah Murrells, Peter Mounce-Stephens, Joan Patterson, John Vincent Sidgreaves, Antonio Sorbara, Bennet Toms, Annette Twiss, Fr. Reg Wilson (1st Anniversary), 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, Marié Rayner, Tony Ryan, Evelyn Spiteri, Yin Kwan Tsang, Lindy Webb, Maree Whitaker, Gary Wood.

LENTEN LECTURE SERIES: Last Thursday night, Father Greg Morgan delivered a talk on a rather morbid yet fundamental (and not so morbid) topic for all Catholics: "From Good Friday to Easter Sunday: What do Catholics Believe About Life After Death?" You can expect last week's talk (and previous talks) to be available from both the parish YouTube Page and the Facebook page in the coming week. Thank you to everyone who attended our Lenten Lecture series. There will be lots more talks to come.

FATHER'S/MEN'S BUSH WALK: Leaving from St Cath's after morning Mass on **Easter Monday, 18 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!

MEN'S BREAKFAST: The next Men's Breakfast will be held the Saturday after Easter Sunday: **Saturday, 23 April**. It is a great opportunity for men to catch up over a hot breakfast before hearing an inspirational talk on a topic of our Catholic Faith! Last month we heard a talk on the humble St Joseph, this month's talk is TBC.

TODAY 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.

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**

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

Monday, 11 April – Wednesday, 13 April:

Adoration 8:30am-9:10am. Mass at 9.15am. Confessions before and after every Mass. (Normal schedule)

Holy (Maundy) Thursday:

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

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

7 pm (not 6pm) – Mass of the Lord's Supper

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until Midnight.)

Confession will be available.

Good Friday:

10 am Stations of the Cross

Confessions available afterwards for as long as required.

3 pm Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday:

No morning Adoration/Mass.

7:30 pm 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 7:30 am, 9.30 am, and 5 pm.

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.)**

CONFESSIONS: Holy Week is a good time to go to confession as we prepare our hearts and souls to enter into the suffering, death and resurrection of Our Lord. A reminder that confessions are available **before and after every weekday Mass** (including Saturdays). Please approach Fr Ronnie or myself if you wish to receive this Sacrament. On Saturdays, Fr Ronnie or myself will be in the confessional immediately following the morning 9:15am Mass for as long as necessary and from 4:30 - 4:55pm.

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 - www.trybooking.com/BXRIT

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:** 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 www.youtube.com/watch?v=IIQKbrUV1VI (Or go to our parish's YouTube page). Please get involved: www.no euthanasia.org.au/petition_2108_ocp_nsw

PARISH DIRECTORY:

Parish Priest: Father Gregory Morgan
Assistant Priest: Father Ronnie Maree
Presbytery: 123 Gymea Bay Rd Gymea
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: www.stcaths.org.au
Facebook: <https://m.facebook.com/St-Catherine-Labour%C3%A9-Parish-Gymea-108678858244000/>
YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiprf67dfGwEtt6hduzy7Og>
Parish Safeguarding Officer: Kerry
Email: safeguarding@stcaths.org.au
St Catherine Labouré Parish School
Principal: Jodie McKay

PARISH DIRECTORY:

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Email: musicgymea@stcaths.org.au
Legion of Mary - Mike (President)
Email: legionofmarygymea@stcaths.org.au
Medjugore Prayer Group - Bruno
Email: medumedjugorjeprayegroup@stcaths.org.au
St Catherine's Friendship Club:
Email: friendshipclub@stcaths.org.au

MASS TIMES

Monday—Saturday 9.15am
Saturday 5 pm Vigil Mass
Sundays 7:30 am, 9:30 am & 5 pm

CONFESSION TIMES

Monday—Saturday
 Before and after every weekday Mass (including Saturdays).
On Saturdays 4:30 – 4:55pm

ADORATION TIMES

Tuesday—Saturday
 8:30 am - 9:10 am
Fridays and Saturdays
 9:00 am Benediction



16 / 17 April 2022

Easter/Resurrection Sunday - Year C

	Saturday Vigil 5.00pm	Sunday 7.30am	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday Evening 5.00pm
Acolytes & Ministers of Holy Communion:	REFER TO EMAILED ROSTERS FOR BOTH HOLY WEEK AND EASTER/RESURRECTION SUNDAY			
1st Reader:				
Psalmist: 2nd Reader: Intercessions:				



The Altar Society: Group 3:
 Doreen Vernon, Kath Lloyd,
 Norma Wong & Chris.

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

<u>Altar Servers:</u>			
<u>Audio-Visual</u>	Pauline / Mark	Hugh	Faye & James
<u>Operators:</u>	SENIOR CHOIR		
<u>The Clean Team:</u> Group C:			



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