



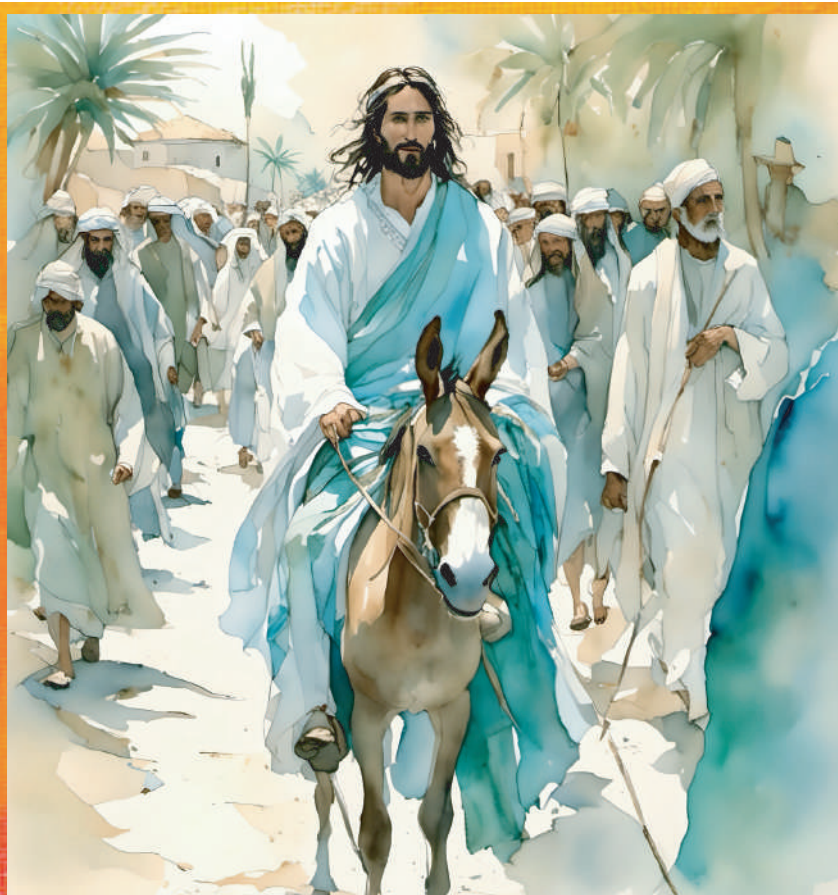
# The Catholic Parish of Pittwater

Sacred Heart & Maria Regina. Neighbourhoods of Grace, entrusted to the care of the Salvatorians.

*A warm welcome to all our parishioners and visitors who are celebrating the Eucharist with us at Pittwater Parish - Sacred Heart Church and Maria Regina Church*



**Thoughts of Blessed Francis Jordan**  
God became a human being for us to redeem us, to rescue our souls. Therefore, let us seek only the honour of God and the salvation of souls.



*The Passion of our Lord,  
Jesus Christ*

## Prayer of Blessing on Palm Sunday

God, our loving Father, increase the faith of those who place their hope in You. Graciously hear the prayers of those who call on You.

May today hold high these branches to hail Christ in His triumphs. May it bear fruit by the good works accomplished in His home.

May we also receive Your powerful protection from every evil, sickness and misfortune.

Through Christ,  
our Lord.  
Amen

## SAFEGUARDING

We, the people of the Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay and the Catholic Parish of Pittwater are committed to fostering communities of safety and care for all people, especially for children and others in the community who are vulnerable. Our commitment is underscored by our faith in Jesus Christ.



## POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL

### For the Use of the New Technologies

*Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.*

## MASS TIMES

### Sacred Heart Church

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

**Tuesday 9.30 am**  
Exposition of the  
Blessed Sacrament,  
Adoration, Reconciliation  
and Benediction from  
8.30 am followed by Mass

**Wednesday 9.30 am**

**Thursday 7 pm**  
Exposition of the  
Blessed Sacrament,  
Adoration, Reconciliation  
and Benediction from  
7.30 pm to 9.00 pm

**Friday 9:30 am**  
First Friday of the month,  
Exposition of the  
Blessed Sacrament,  
Adoration, Reconciliation  
and Benediction  
from 9:30 am,  
followed by Healing Mass/  
Anointing of the Sick  
at 10.30 am

**WEEKEND MASSES**  
**Saturday Vigil 5.00 pm**  
**Sunday 8.00 am, 10.00 am**  
**& 6.00 pm (SOUL)**

**RECONCILIATION**  
**Saturday Vigil**  
**4.00 pm to 4.30 pm**

**BAPTISM**  
**4th Sunday of the Month**  
**11.30 am**

### Maria Regina Church

7 Central Road, Avalon

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

**Monday 8.00 am**

**Wednesday 8.00 am**

**Thursday 10 am**  
9.00 am Exposition of the  
Blessed Sacrament,  
Adoration and Benediction  
at 9.45 am

**Friday 8.00 am**  
First Friday of the month,  
Healing Mass/  
Anointing of the Sick  
at 8.00 am

**WEEKEND MASSES**  
**Saturday Vigil 6.00 pm**  
**Sunday 9.00 am**

**RECONCILIATION**  
**Before Vigil Mass on**  
**Saturday**

**BAPTISM**  
**3rd Sunday of the Month**  
**11.00 am**

## We Pray for

**Deceased Anniversary**  
**Conrado Macarayan**  
**William Deegan**  
**Teresa Shepherd**  
**Theodore Shepherd**  
**Hannah Corkery**  
**Tony Gerathy**

*May all the souls of the  
faithful departed, through  
the mercy of God,  
rest in peace. Amen.*

### Prayer for the Sick

**Anna Śmigowska**  
**Lily Janosik**  
**Trish Newman**  
**Giannina Amore**  
**Bruce Farr**  
**Maureen Larios**  
**Owen Graham**  
**Elaine Boyes**  
**Pauline Chipman**  
**Ron Clarke**  
**Barbara Clarke**  
**Anna Katanec**  
**Mother Pauline**  
**Angela Miller**  
**Philip Khalifeh**  
**Joseph Khalifeh**  
**Heidi Taylor**  
**Cathy Dyer**  
**Jacinta Purnell -**  
**Major**

## BOOK REVIEW

### On the Way to Jesus Christ

by: Joseph Ratzinger  
Pope Benedict XVI



This series of meditations, studies the true Jesus, the Jesus of the Gospels who is quite different, demanding and bold and is not convenient for us. The Jesus who makes everything OK for everyone is not a real figure. The true Jesus answers the deepest question of our existence, which-whether we want to or not- keeps on the look-out for God, for gratification that is limitless- for the infinite.

### Blessing of the Easter Foods



**Holy Saturday, 19 April**  
**at 11 am,**  
**Sacred Heart Church,**  
**Mona Vale**

### Liturgy for the Week

- 14/04 Monday, Holy Week**  
Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11
- 15/04 Tuesday, Holy Week**  
Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33,36-38
- 16/04 Wednesday, Holy Week**  
Is 50:4-9; Mt 26:14-25
- 17/04 Thursday of the Lord's Supper**  
Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Jn 13:1-15
- 18/04 Friday, Passion of the Lord**  
Is 52:13 - 53:12; Jn 18:1 - 19:42
- 19/04 Holy Saturday**  
Gen 1:1 - 2:2; Gen 22:1-18;  
Ex 14:15 - 15:1; Is 54:5-14;  
Is 55:1-11; Baruch 3:9-15, 32 -  
4:4; Ezek 36:16-28; Rom 6:3 -  
11; Mk 16:1-7

## Scan to

**Give to our**  
**Parish of**  
**Pittwater**

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with your camera app  
and follow the prompts

Use this App to support our  
Clergy through the first  
collection and our Parish  
through the second collection.  
Donations can be made weekly,  
fortnightly, monthly or one-off.

Thank you for your continued  
contributions and support. Your  
financial contributions and your  
generous donations throughout  
the year are greatly appreciated.



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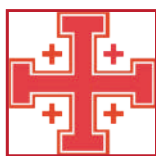


**From GOOD FRIDAY,**  
**18 April**  
**and will re-open on**  
**22 April, Tuesday**

**Have a Blessed Holy Week!**

**The phones and emails**  
**are monitored regularly.**  
**So please don't hesitate to**  
**contact us and leave a**  
**message.**





# GOOD FRIDAY HOLY LAND COLLECTION

*To the people of the Church in Australia, for the Holy Land Collection 2025*

As many of you are aware, 800 years the Franciscan Friars have shared the difficult lives of Christians in the countries that make up the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land: Israel and Palestine, Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Rhodes and Cyprus. The people of these countries face their own difficulties, but particularly Christians due to their minority status. Among them, the friars have never ceased offering their pastoral care.

Over the last five years the people of the Holy Land have had so much turmoil in their lives. My prayer as I write this letter is that the ceasefire in Palestine, Gaza and Israel will be honoured by all the leaders. Already the Christian church leaders are encouraging people to come back on pilgrimage. Pilgrims are vital because they generate income that allows the Friars and the local Church to fulfil their mission of caring for the Holy Places (which also gives work to the local people), as well as running parishes, schools and caring for orphans, refugees, the homeless, and more.

Brothers and sisters, I am amazed at the determination of the people of this area of unrest. I read with interest in January about the consecration of the new Church of the Baptism of the Lord at Al-Mughtas, Jordan. I remember visiting this site in 2015 when it was just concrete shell of a building. Despite the challenges of the last 10 years, the people in the Holy Land (including many pilgrim sites in Jordan) have stayed strong in faith and the opening of a new church must bring about a great hope for the future.

In December 2024, Fr Francesco Patton OFM, the Franciscan leader of the Holy Land Custody wrote the following, which reminds us of the need to continue to support the Holy Land...

*We provide more than 400 apartments for local Christians in Jerusalem. In this way, we are able to preserve the Christian character of the Christian Quarter in the Old City. We provide more than 200 houses in Bethlehem and the surrounding areas. We also have a major project starting soon in Jaffa and a joint project with the agricultural sector to build an efficient compound near the wall that encloses Bethlehem. This is one way we provide job opportunities. We provide jobs for more or less 2,000 people, which is great effort because it means every month we have to pay a lot of salaries.*

*For me, the most important social activity is our schools. We have 18 schools in the Holy Land. These schools are crucial because they provide not only cultural education but also human and religious education. We stress the importance of living together and the values of (papal encyclical) "Fratelli Tutti". Our Magnificat music school is a rare example of coexistence: Most of the teachers are Jewish and most of the students are Muslim and Christian. Through these efforts, we hope to foster a mentality of living together and counter the polarisation fueled by politics and ideology.*

Brothers and sisters, as is always the case, the Good Friday Holy Land Collection is extremely important, and a mission that we all can assist with. The hope is that our Australian parishioners, Parish Priests and Bishops will again be as generous as they have always been. Our donation is a direct way to make a difference in the lives of people who are keeping alive the Christian presence in the land of Jesus, often in the face of great difficulty in recent years. On their behalf, I humbly and wholeheartedly thank you all.

*Fr. Bernie Thomas OFM*

Friar Bernie Thomas OFM  
Commissary of the Holy Land (Australia)



## Parish Directory

### Pittwater Parish

1 Keenan Street,  
Mona Vale  
NSW 2103  
Tel 9157 0999

#### Parish Priest

**Fr Richard Sadowski SDS**

Tel 9157 0999 ext 10  
pp@pittwaterparish.org

#### Assistant Priest

**Fr Zygmunt Smigowski SDS**

Tel 9157 0999 ext 12  
ap@pittwaterparish.org

#### Parish Secretary

**Belinda Cimino**

Tel 9157 0999 ext 30  
office@pittwaterparish.org

#### Administrative Assistant

**Shereae Knight**

Tel 9157 0999 ext 30  
office@pittwaterparish.org

#### Media & Communications Coordinator

**Conille Felias**

Tel 9157 0999 ext 31  
media@pittwaterparish.org

#### Sacramental Coordinator

**Sonia Samartin**

Tel 9157 0999 ext 13  
sacraments@pittwaterparish.org

#### CCD Catechist Coordinators

**Maureen Wooldridge**

Mobile 0421 907 469

**Veronica Thomas**

Mobile 0417 061 534

### Sacred Heart Church

1 Keenan Street, Mona Vale

### Maria Regina Church

7 Central Road, Avalon

## SCHOOLS

### Sacred Heart School Mona vale

Tel 8197 6900

Principal: Mr Jamie Wahab

### Maria Regina School Avalon

Tel 7256 2138

Principal: Ms Kirsty Thorpe

### Mater Maria Catholic College Warriewood

Tel 7256 2100

Principal: Mr Marc Reicher

## DATES *for your DIARY*

### CHRISM MASS



**Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral,  
Waitara**

**15th of April, Tuesday  
at 7.30pm**

### HOLY THURSDAY

**Sacred Heart Church,  
Mona Vale**



**17th of April, Thursday  
at 7.00pm**

*(No Morning Mass at Avalon)*

### GOOD FRIDAY

*(Stations of the Cross)*

**18th of April**

**Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale  
at 10.00 am**

**Maria Regina Church, Avalon  
at 10.00am**



### THE PASSION OF THE LORD

**18th of April, Friday**

**Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale  
at 3.00pm**

**Maria Regina Church, Avalon  
at 3.00pm**



### HOLY SATURDAY

**19th of April**

**Maria Regina Church, Avalon  
*FAMILY MASS***

**at 6.00pm**

**Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale  
at 7.30pm**

*(No 5.00pm Vigil Mass)*



### EASTER SUNDAY

**20th of April**

**Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale  
at 8.00am, 10.00am & 6.00pm**

**Maria Regina Church, Avalon  
at 9.00am**



## Jesus Christ's Great Promise about the Divine Mercy Sunday to Mankind

*(excerpt from her dairy, 699)*



On one occasion, I heard these words: My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the Fount of My Mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come forth from the very depths of My most tender mercy. Every soul in its relation to Me will contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity. The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy.

## Divine Mercy Holy Hour

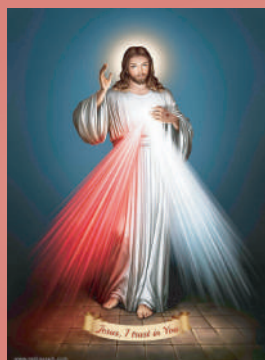
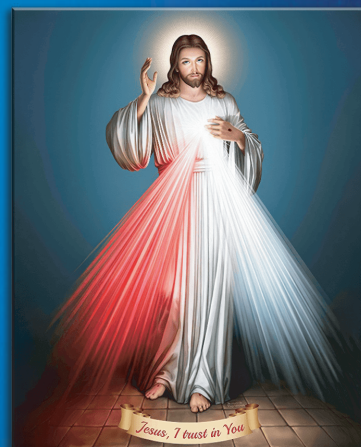
*Join us for a  
Holy Hour to honour the  
Mercy of God*

**at Sacred Heart Church,  
Mona Vale  
on**

**Sunday, 27th April  
at**

**3:00 pm**

**Divine Mercy Chaplet, Adoration  
and Reconciliation**



The Divine Mercy novena prayers were given to St Faustina through an apparition of our Lord Jesus. Each day has a new petition that seeks God's mercy for different purpose. The message of the Divine Mercy is a powerful and moving way to come closer to Christ. His Mercy is central to our lives and we must continually depend on it and ask for it daily.

**The Divine Mercy Novena begins on Good Friday and goes until  
the 2nd Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday**

*You can join thousands of people in praying the novena this year!*

**More information on the novena:**

**[www.divinemercy.net.au](http://www.divinemercy.net.au)**





## Parish Bulletin Term 1, Week 10

We concluded Term 1 with a busy week. Our Project Compassion fundraising initiatives, including bake sales, an Easter egg raffle, and a Teacher Wet Sponge Throwing Challenge, wrapped up successfully. We were grateful for the compassion and generosity displayed by our Mater Maria community, embodying our five College values: Community, Justice, Hospitality, Spirituality, and Stewardship. For over 50 years, Project Compassion has raised essential funds for Caritas Australia, supporting communities affected by poverty and injustice globally.

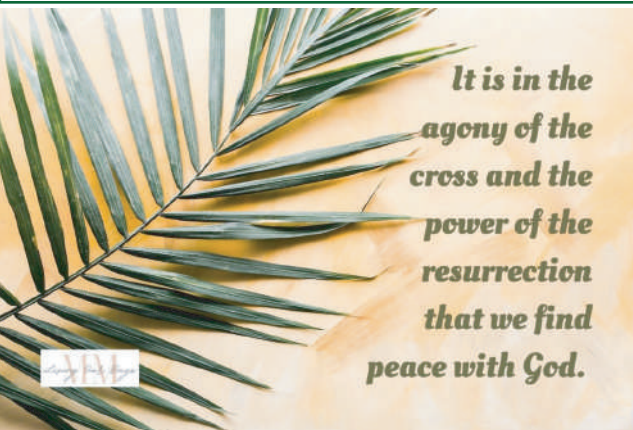
Our students gathered in the Byrne Theatre for an Easter Liturgy. For our Easter Liturgy, we commemorated the events described in the Gospel of Palm Sunday. Palm Sunday is the start of Holy Week. Holy Week also includes the days of Holy Monday, Holy Tuesday, Holy Wednesday, and Holy Thursday (the Celebration of the Last Supper), Good Friday (The Lord's Passion), Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday (Resurrection Day). These are the most significant last days in the life of Jesus. The events of Palm Sunday, which we referred to as the 'Stations of the Cross,' were beautifully dramatised and led by our Year 9 and Year 10 drama and music students, commemorating Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem in those last days before his arrest, passion, and death. Our Liturgy then prepared us to welcome the gift of salvation for which we gave thanks and which we will celebrate on Easter Sunday morning.

Year 11 Studies of Religion students visited the Central Synagogue in Bondi Junction, gaining insights into Judaism. Two alumni shared their experiences with senior students studying sport and business, highlighting opportunities through SEDA Group's dual diploma qualifications. Year 12 hospitality students toured the Royal Easter Show, learning about food production and its impact on the industry.

It was a dynamic week of sport at Mater Maria. Year 10 Pass students completed a biathlon at Collaroy Beach. Students also participated in MWBA basketball competitions, a Rugby 7's Gala Day, and the Bill Turner Trophy Soccer event.

Every Friday, our prefects led Faith Fridays, inviting all students to join in for faith and music in the Chapel and Courtyard. It was a wonderful way to wrap up the week and come together as a community.

Applications are open for Year 7, 2028, and 2027, with a waitlist for Year 7, 2026, and all Year Groups in 2025. Visit <http://www.matermaria.nsw.edu.au/enrolments> for details. Applications for Year 7, 2027 closed on Friday.



## The Mass of *Chrism*

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated at 7:30 pm on  
**Tuesday, 15 April at**  
**Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Cathedral, Waitara**

Priests of the Diocese of Broken Bay gather for this celebration with Bishop Anthony Randazzo to renew their priestly commitments. During the mass, the Oils of Catechumens and the Sick are blessed, and the Chrism is consecrated and brought back to each parish for use in various Sacramental liturgies throughout the year.

All parishioners are warmly invited to attend this sacred occasion in the life of our Diocese.

*Everyone is welcome to attend.*



Caritas  
AUSTRALIA

PROJECT  
COMPASSION

## Palm Sunday 12th and 13th April 2025

As Project Compassion 2025 draws to a close for another year, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your generous support throughout this Lenten Season.

This year, we shared the inspiring stories of 3 individuals whose lives have been transformed through your compassion and generosity.

*But the work isn't done yet.* There is still time to donate! Together, we can *Unite Against Poverty* and help transform lives this Lent.



**UNITE  AGAINST POVERTY**

this Lent

## Please Donate

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above. **THANK YOU**

# The *Living* Word

## Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

### Entrance Antiphon

John 12: 1, 12-13; Ps 23: 9-10

Six days before the 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!

### First Reading

Isaiah 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

### Responsorial Psalm

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

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

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.)**

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.)**

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.)**

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

Philippians 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

Philippians 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

Luke 22:14 - 23:56

#### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ*

**N** When the hour came Jesus took his  
place at table, and the apostles with him.  
And he said to them,

**J** I have longed to eat this passover with  
you before I suffer; because, I tell you, I  
shall not eat it again until it is fulfilled in  
the kingdom of God.

**N** Then, taking a cup, he gave thanks  
and said,

**J** Take this and share it among you,  
because from now on, I tell you, I shall  
not drink wine until the kingdom of God  
comes.

**N** Then he took some bread, and when  
he had given thanks, broke it and gave it  
to them, saying,

**J** This is my body which will be given  
for you; do this as a memorial of me.

**N** He did the same with the cup after  
supper, and said,

**J** This cup is the new covenant in my  
blood which will be poured out for you.  
And yet, here with me on the table is the  
hand of the man who betrays me. The  
Son of Man does indeed go to his fate  
even as it has been decreed, but alas for  
that man by whom he is betrayed!

**N** And they began to ask one another  
which of them it could be who was to do  
this thing.

A dispute arose also between them about  
which should be reckoned the greatest,  
but he said to them,

**J** Among pagans it is the kings who lord  
it over them, and those who have  
authority over them are given the title  
Benefactor. This must not happen with  
you. No; the greatest among you must  
behave as if he were the youngest, the  
leader as if he were the one who serves.  
For who is the greater: the one at table or  
the one who serves? The one at the table,  
surely? Yet here I am among you as one  
who serves!

You are the men who have stood by me  
faithfully in my trials; and now I confer a  
kingdom on you, just as my Father  
conferred one on me: you will eat and  
drink at my table in my kingdom, and  
you will sit on thrones to judge the  
twelve tribes of Israel.

Simon, Simon! Satan, you must know,  
has got his wish to sift you all like  
wheat; but I have prayed for you, Simon,  
that your faith may not fail, and once you  
have recovered, you in your turn must  
strengthen your brothers.

**N** He answered,

**J** Lord, I would be ready to go to prison  
with you, and to death.

**N** Jesus replied,

**J** I tell you, Peter, by the time the cock  
crows today you will have denied three  
times that you know me.

**N** He said to them,

**J** When I sent you out without purse or  
haversack or sandals, were you short of  
anything?

**N** They answered,

**C** No.

**N** He said to them,

**J** But now if you have a purse, take it: if  
you have a haversack, do the same; if  
you have no sword, sell your cloak and  
buy one, because I tell you these words  
of scripture have to be fulfilled in me: He  
let himself be taken for a criminal. Yes,  
what scripture says about me is even



# The *Living* Word

## Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

now reaching its fulfilment.

**N** They said,

**C** Lord, there are two swords here now.

**N** He said to them,

**J** That is enough!

**N** He then left the upper room to make his way as usual to the Mount of Olives, with the disciples following. When they reached the place he said to them,

**J** Pray not to be put to the test.

**N** Then he withdrew from them, about a stone's throw away, and knelt down and prayed, saying,

**J** Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me. Nevertheless, let your will be done, not mine.

**N** Then an angel appeared to him coming from heaven to give him strength. In his anguish he prayed even more earnestly, and his sweat fell to the ground like great drops of blood. When he rose from prayer he went to the disciples and found them sleeping for sheer grief. He said to them,

**J** Why are you asleep? Get up and pray not to be put to the test.

**N** He was still speaking when a number of men appeared, and at the head of them the man called Judas, one of the Twelve, who went up to Jesus to kiss him. Jesus said,

**J** Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?

**N** His followers, seeing what was happening, said,

**C** Lord, shall we use our swords?

**N** And one of them struck out at the high priest's servant, and cut off his right ear. But at this Jesus spoke,

**J** Leave off! That will do!

**N** And touching the man's ear he healed him.

Then Jesus spoke to the chief priests and captains of the Temple guard and elders who had come for him. He said.

**J** Am I a brigand that you had to set out with swords and clubs? When I was among you in the Temple day after day you never moved to lay hands on me. But this is your hour; this is the reign of darkness.

**N** They seized him then and led him away, and they took him to the high priest's house. Peter followed at a distance. They had lit a fire in the middle of the courtyard and Peter sat down among them, and as he was sitting there by the blaze a servant-girl saw him, peered at him and said,

**O** This person was with him too.

**N** But he denied it, saying,

**O** Woman, I do not know him.

**N** Shortly afterwards, someone else saw him and said,

**O** You are another of them.

**N** But Peter replied,

**O** I am not, my friend.

**N** About an hour later another man insisted, saying,

**O** This fellow was certainly with him. Why, he is a Galilean.

**N** Peter said,

**O** My friend, I do not know what you are talking about.

**N** At that instant, while he was still speaking, the cock crew, and the Lord turned and looked straight at Peter, and Peter remembered what the Lord had said to him, 'Before the cock crows today, you will have disowned me three times.' And he went outside and wept bitterly. Meanwhile the men who guarded Jesus were mocking and beating him. They blindfolded him and questioned him, saying,

**C** Play the prophet. Who hit you then?

**N** And they continued heaping insults on him. When day broke there was a meeting of the elders of the people, attended by the chief priests and scribes. He was brought before their council, and they said to him,

**C** If you are the Christ, tell us,

**N** He replied,

**J** If I tell you, you will not believe me, and if I question you, you will not answer. But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the Power of God.

**N** Then they all said,

**C** So you are the Son of God then?

**N** He answered,

**J** It is you who say I am.

**N** They said,

**C** What need of witnesses have we now? We have heard it for ourselves from his own lips.

**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 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. Then Herod, together with his guards, treated him with contempt and made fun of him; he put a rich cloak on him and sent him back to Pilate. And though Herod and Pilate had been enemies before, they were reconciled that same day. 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

# The *Living* Word

## Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

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.**

**N** 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.

Then a member of the council arrived, an upright and virtuous man named Joseph. He had not consented to what the others had planned and carried out. He came from Arimathea, a Jewish town, and he lived in the hope of seeing the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. He then took it down, wrapped it in a shroud and put him in a tomb which was hewn in stone in which no one had yet been laid. It was Preparation Day and the sabbath was imminent.

Meanwhile the women who had come from Galilee with Jesus were following behind. They took note of the tomb and of the position of the body. Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. And on the sabbath day they rested, as the law required.

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Communion Antiphon** Matthew 26:42

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

**REFLECTION**  
**by Dianne Bergant CSA**

*In this final Lenten Sunday we look again at the significance of Christ in our lives. We recognise him as our saviour, but we look more closely in order to discover just what kind of saviour he is. He has taken the form of a slave; he has been glorified with a name above all other names; he continues to suffer with us.*

*We have not been saved through military power, but through the self-offering humility of Jesus. Though he was really in the form of God, Jesus came in the form of a slave. We have a saviour who was crushed for our iniquities, nailed to a cross as a convicted felon, and there endured the sense of abandonment. In the face of this, we must ask a fundamental question: Why does God love us with such abandon?*

*We have a savior who was lifted up and exalted precisely because he emptied himself of his divine prerogatives. He became one of us in order to show us how we are to live. Unlike conquerors who triumph by putting down their opponents, Jesus was raised up because he himself was first willing to be put down.*

*We have a saviour who first offered*

*himself for us and then continues to offer himself to us as an example to follow. As he was willing to empty himself for our sake, so we are told to empty ourselves for the sake of others.*

© Dianne Bergant CSA

*Our deepest sympathy and prayers to the family of the late*

**James "Jim" Colnan**

*He was a devout member of the Maria Regina Parish community.*

*Devoted husband to Jan.*

*Beloved husband of Betty (Dec. 1988)*

*He left Avalon in 1996*

*and moved to Nowra.*

**Jim's Funeral Service will be held at**

**Maria Regina Church,**

**7 Central Road**

**Avalon**

**on Wednesday, 16 April**

**at 11 am**

**Relatives and friends are invited to attend Jim's celebration of life.**

*Congratulations*  
to the **120** children who  
have received their  
**First Reconciliation.**

May the Lord bless them  
and may they discover the  
wonder of God's forgiveness.

May his love be  
upon them and his presence  
always guide them.

Thank you to all the parents, teachers,  
catechists, group facilitators and  
everyone involved in the  
preparation of these children.





**BLESSED IS THE KING WHO  
COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!**



**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Year C**

Help fill in the details of the  
important events of Holy Week.

## **PASSION SUNDAY**

Crowds of people saw Jesus ride a donkey into  
the city of Jerusalem. The people cheered,  
"Blessed is the king who comes in the name  
of the Lord!"

Draw some of the symbols of Passion Sunday.

## **HOLY THURSDAY**

Write down what you know  
about the last supper.



After the last  
supper, Jesus  
led his disciples  
to the garden at  
Gethsemane to be  
with him while he  
prayed. It was  
here that Jesus  
was betrayed by  
Judas and arrested  
by soldiers.

Draw some of  
the symbols of  
Holy Thursday.

## **GOOD FRIDAY**

Write down what you know  
about Pontius Pilate.



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Jesus carried his  
cross through the  
streets until he  
arrived at Calvary  
where he was  
crucified. With the  
sky dark he died  
on the cross.

Draw some of  
the symbols of  
of Good Friday.

## **HOLY SATURDAY**

Holy Saturday is a quiet time when we  
reflect on the death of Jesus.

Draw the closed tomb where  
Jesus' body lay.

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM UPDATE

### *SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION*

This year the Sacrament of Confirmation will be on

**Saturday, 21 June 2025**

*Children in Year 3 and above are eligible to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation if they have been baptised.*

*For more information about the requirements, the preparation program, enrolments, etc.*

you **MUST** attend one

**"Parent Information & Commitment"** session which will take place at **7.00pm:**

**Wednesday 30 April - Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale**

**Thursday 1 May - Maria Regina Church, Avalon**

We need facilitators for the four weekly preparation sessions. You can share this role with another parent.

If you would like to be a group facilitator or would like to have more information about the role, please contact Sonia as soon as possible at [sacraments@pittwaterparish.org](mailto:sacraments@pittwaterparish.org)

### PARISH MORNING TEA

*Everyone is welcome to  
join us*

*every month after the  
8 am Mass on the 1st Sunday  
and after the  
10 am Mass on the 3rd Sunday  
at the*

**Sacred Heart Parish  
Centre,  
Mona Vale**

*2nd & 4th Sunday  
after the 9 am Mass  
in front of the*

**Maria Regina Church,  
Avalon**

Took branches of  
palm trees...and  
cried, Hosanna:  
Blessed is the King  
of Israel that  
cometh in the  
name of the Lord.

John 12:13

## EASTER MASSTIMES



### HOLY THURSDAY

7.00 pm

*Sacred Heart Church,  
Mona Vale*

*(NO MORNING MASS at Maria Regina Church)*



### GOOD FRIDAY

#### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

10.00 am

*Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale*

10.00 am

*Maria Regina Church, Avalon*

#### PASSION OF THE LORD

3.00 pm

*Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale*

3.00 pm

*Maria Regina Church, Avalon*



### HOLY SATURDAY

#### BLESSING OF THE EASTER FOOD

11.00 am

*Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale*



#### FAMILY MASS

6.00 pm

*Maria Regina Church, Avalon*

#### EASTER VIGIL MASS

7.30 pm

*Sacred Heart Church, Mona Vale*

*(NO 5.00 PM MASS at Sacred Heart Church)*

## EASTER SUNDAY

8.00 am, 10.00 am, 6.00 pm

*Sacred Heart Church,  
Mona Vale*



9.00 am

*Maria Regina Church,  
Avalon*



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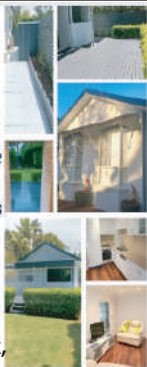
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men & great need in the life of the Catholic Church.

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**For any questions contact**

**Joe Cilla - 0418 863 814**



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