



The Catholic Parish of Pittwater

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

Prayer during the coronavirus pandemic

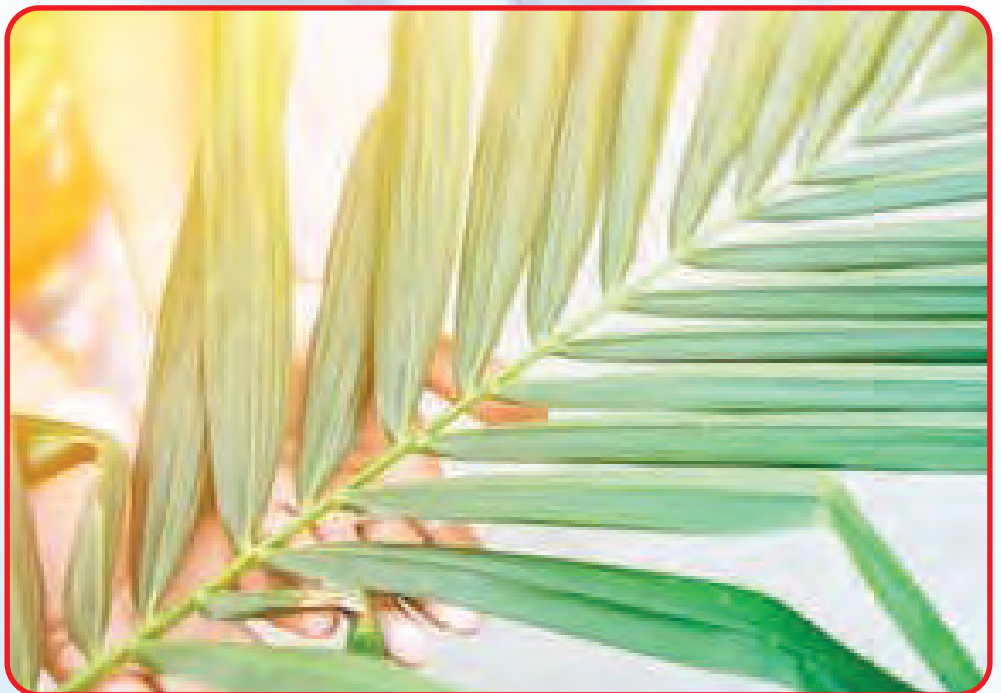
God of Salvation,
We turn to you with a
prayer for protection and
healing as the coronavirus
is spreading. Help those
who are affected and have
become sick.
Grant patience to those
who live in quarantine.
Give strength to those who
care for the sick.
Inspire scientists in their
research.
Strengthen between us the
sense of togetherness.
Let no one be abandoned,
make everyone feel safe
together and with You,
because You are
compassionate.
Through the intercession
of Blessed Mary of the
Apostles and Fr. Francis
Jordan, we thank you,
present and faithful God,
You who live and love for
ever and ever.

Amen.



Thoughts of Fr Francis Jordan

Do everything as if you really saw God before you.
This is a sure way to make great progress in virtue.



3 April 2020

Dear Parishioners,

As we enter into the experience of Holy Week, this Palm Sunday, we pause to remember that all we do and all that we are has special meaning because of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Jesus's life, death and resurrection are all connected; It is impossible to separate them as isolated events. The same is true for our lives. Everything we do is united with Christ, the good times and the difficult ones. Even when God seems distant and far away, we know that we are always connected to the story of Jesus's life, death and resurrection.

During these days, let us try to participate as fully as we can in our liturgies with open hearts, take part listening to the stories of Christ's death and resurrection

continued next page...

so that we can cling to Jesus Christ as our personal Lord and Saviour.

We are delighted to be able to offer you a way that we can spiritually come together to maintain our life of prayer and worship and strengthen our communion with one another by livestreaming our Holy Week celebrations.

I invite you to be united with us as a parish by participating in the following celebrations:

Palm Sunday

Mass of the Last Supper

Good Friday Stations of the Cross and Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday

Easter Sunday

For information on the times of these celebrations and the links to watch, please visit

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/pittwater/news-events/parish-news>

For those of you who don't have access to the internet, the Seven Network will televise the Easter services from St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, commercial-free and in their entirety. You can watch the Lord's Passion at 3pm on Good Friday and Easter Sunday Mass at 10.30am. "Mass for You at Home" continues to be broadcast on Channel 10 each Sunday from 6am. Mass on Demand can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/user/cathnews> The Catholic Weekly can be read online at www.catholicweekly.com.au

Our Bishop of Broken Bay, Bishop Anthony Randazzo, has asked us to advise you that on 26 March 2020, the Province of Bishops for NSW/ACT extended the precept of the obligation for annual Communion of the Faithful until Christmas 2020.

Bishop Anthony has also filmed a short message for you "Be Careful, Be Kind, Be Creative" You can watch the video on our website <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/pittwater/news-events/parish-news> or you can read the transcript in this weekend's bulletin.

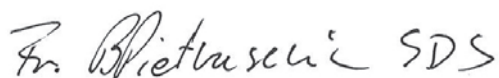
We are very aware that many of our parishioners are going through some very difficult times, with some losing jobs, struggling with financial situations and feeling very isolated. I encourage you to contact your family, friends and neighbours and to check in on each other and I also encourage you to seek help if you are in need. We have some parishioners that have offered assistance with items such as meals, the office staff are always available for a friendly chat and St Vincent de Paul is available to assist you. All enquiries are kept in complete confidence. Please don't hesitate to contact our parish office if you are in need. Enquiries for St Vincent de Paul assistance should be directed to the Brookvale office on 9905 0424.

Some pastoral resources for you and your family can be found in this weekend's bulletin. Printed copies of the bulletin are available outside our Maria Regina Church, Avalon or the front of the parish office, Mona Vale and are available on our website <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/pittwater/news-events/bulletins>

Fr Richard and myself continue to be available to offer you the Sacrament of Reconciliation and to anoint the sick. Fr Richard, Bishop Bernard and myself will continue to celebrate the Holy Mass privately and will fulfil any scheduled Mass intentions this way. Please arrange a time for these Sacraments and Mass intentions through the parish office.

In our year of prayer, I thank you for including us in your prayers in what is a hard time for us as well. We are also very grateful for your donations which continue to financially support our parish and for your understanding of the situation which we find ourselves in. For those of you that are in a position to support us financially, donations can be made by Visa or MasterCard via our website <https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/pittwater/archive/donations-and-giving>

With assurance of our constant prayers for you all and for all those in need,



Fr Bronek Pietrusewicz SDS

Parish Priest



**Vinnies
changes
lives
everyday.**

Show your support and
give to our annual appeal



"TINNIES FOR VINNIES"

Thank you to our generous parishioners for their past donations to 'Tinnies for Vinnies'. By your generosity, our stockpile is overflowing. As such, we will not be needing anything for the month of March. You make a difference in the lives of our clients.

Sue Bowra

For the needy, help is available by contacting the Brookvale Centre 9905 0424 during business hours.

Did you know that if you are new to our parish you can register your details through our website or if your contact details have changed you can update them.

Simply go to www.pittwaterparish.org, click on the "Welcome" menu item and select "Parishioner Registration" from the dropdown menu. If you have any problems, please contact the parish office on 9157 0999.

BOOK REVIEW

Praying with Therese of Lisieux

by Joseph F. Schmidt, FSC

Therese knew that God led her, with all her inadequacies, to holiness. She assures us that God can do the same for us. So, pray with her.



**We Pray for
Recently Deceased**

**Doreen Collingridge
Josephine Wasinski**

If you would like the names of your relatives or friends and offerings included, please drop the envelope in to the Parish Office by Midday on Wednesdays. Thank You.

**Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them
O Lord, And Let Perpetual Light
Shine Upon Them.
May they Rest in Peace. Amen.
May Their Souls And The Souls
Of The Faithful Departed,
Through The Mercy Of God,
Rest In Peace. Amen.**

Deceased Anniversary

**Erin Crumlin
Terry Shanahan**

Prayers for the Sick

Tayla Riddle
Giovanni Returra
Bill Eyre
Manny Zarb
Philip Maddrell
Gail Reiher
Imelda Vince
Eric Domagas
Vicky Villaluz
Ben Castillo
Moira Howie
Carol Brennan
Jomar
Christine Hills
Ross Perkins
Donald McRae
Mary O'Connor
Sara Zofrea
Beryl Peo-Duncan
Joe Romeo
Graham Baker

The names on this list will be removed after four weeks unless otherwise requested or advised. Thank you

LIBRARY

The books which are reviewed here each week are from our Parish Library situated at Maria Regina Church, Avalon. The Library is opened at Maria Regina Church, Avalon before and after the weekend Masses, Saturday 6 pm and Sunday 9 am, and on week day Masses, except Tuesdays, at 9.15 am. You can browse our full collection of books and DVDs on the Parish website. Go to Resources > Library > Our books. If these hours don't suit you and you would like to borrow or have an inquiry you may phone me on 99183973 (Home) 0401613643 (mobile).

Trish Newman



**THANK
YOU**

I wish to take this opportunity to say thank you for your contributions and support throughout the year. Your financial contributions in our Planned Giving Programme and your generous donations throughout the year to Charitable Works Fund are greatly appreciated. I also wish to extend a warm welcome to any new parishioners to Pittwater Parish.

**Fr Bronek SDS
Parish Priest**



**Daylight saving will
end at 3am on
Sunday,
5 April 2020
when clocks go back
one hour.**

Watch the daily Mass on
Demand at

<https://www.youtube.com/user/cathnews>

We hope that this will
help the faithful to
celebrate the Holy Mass
online wherever they are



If you are experiencing
Domestic Violence.

Ring 1800 RESPECT
1800 737 732



Holy Week from our parish will be streamed live :

Palm Sunday: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBpLC9Gn8yp4qW-TU0GDzsw/videos>

*Please check our website for links to the other celebrations
www.pittwaterparish.org or our facebook page
for updates.*

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.



PARISH DIRECTORY

Pittwater Parish
1 Keenan Street Mona Vale NSW 2103
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www.pittwaterparish.org

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ap@pittwaterparish.org

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music@pittwaterparish.org

Music Director
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Media & Communication
Laura Ee
Tel 9157 0999 ext 31
media@pittwaterparish.org

Sacramental Program
Suzy Caruso
Tel 9157 0999 ext 13
sacraments@pittwaterparish.org

Parish Office Hours
Monday to Thursday
9.00am to 4.00pm
Friday 9am to 12 noon

Sacred Heart Church
1 Keenan Street Mona Vale

Maria Regina Church
7 Central Road Avalon

Mona Vale
Sacred Heart School
Tel 9999 3264
Principal: Mrs Suellen Garey

Avalon
Maria Regina School
Tel 9918 2608
Principal: Mrs Kathy Gee

Warriewood
Mater Maria Catholic College
Tel 9997 7044
Principal: Mr Marc Reicher

We acknowledge the lifelong trauma of abuse victims, survivors and their families, the failures of the Catholic Church to protect, believe and respond justly to children and vulnerable adults, and the consequent breach of community trust.

**PROJECT
COMPASSION**
GO FURTHER TOGETHER

Caritas
AUSTRALIA



Dominic, 47 is a former teacher and father of six from Papua New Guinea. In 2016, he became involved with the Caritas Australia's Safe House and Family Anonymous programs and turned a difficult life and an unhappy relationship around. The program provides gender-based violence prevention training, counselling services and safe accommodation for women and children survivors of violence. Now a community trainer, he works with other men to help them to change their behaviour and build more harmonious family lives. Dominic and his wife, Christophylda say that their relationship has been transformed – and their family life is now harmonious, happy and safe.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 to help support the Safe House project and help bring greater harmony to families in Papua New Guinea.

Let's Go Further, Together. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**
GO FURTHER TOGETHER

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING PROJECT COMPASSION 2020
COVID-19 is affecting all of us. In these challenging times, your kindness and solidarity can make a world of difference to the lives of the most vulnerable. Your support is life saving.

DO YOU HAVE PC BOXES AND CASH TO HAND IN?

We know that many of you may not be able to hand in your PC Boxes, or cash, to parishes or schools at this time. Did you know that you can go online at 'lent.caritas.org.au' and securely donate with your credit card, or you can send a cheque to Caritas Australia, GPO Box 9830 Sydney NSW 2001. Alternatively, if you require assistance with your PC Box or cash, please call our friendly team on 1800 024 413.

PLANNED GIVING

The money contributed to our parish via our second collection helps us to meet the running costs which our Parish incurs, including wages, electricity, telephones, insurances, rates, building and equipment repairs and maintenance, to name but a few. As we are unable to donate via our second collection at present, our parish will not receive the funds which are truly needed to cover our relentless stream of expenses. Whilst you are unable to attend Mass, if you are able to make your regular donation by way of automatic direct debit from your credit card, please complete the form included in this bulletin. **Or donations can be made on our website: www.pittwaterparish.org through the donations and giving tile.** If you would prefer not to give by credit card, please contact the parish office, 9157 0999 for other ways that you can contribute.



We need Saints

without cassocks, without veils - **we need saints with jeans and tennis shoes.** We need saints that go to movies, that listen to music, that hang out with their friends. We need saints that place God in first place ahead of succeeding in any career. We need saints that look for time to pray everyday and who know how to be in love with purity, chastity and all good things. We need saints - saints for the 21st Century with a spirituality appropriate to our new time. **We need saints that have a commitment to helping the poor and to make the needed social change.** We need saints to live in the world, to sanctify the world and to not be afraid of living in the world by their presence in it. We need saints that drink Coca-Cola, that eat hot dogs, that surf the internet and that listen to their iPods. We need saints that love the Eucharist, that are not afraid or embarrassed to eat a pizza or drink a beer with their friends. We need saints who love the movies, dance, sports, theater. We need saints that are open socially normal happy companions. We need saints who are in this world and who know how to enjoy the best in this world without being callous or mundane.

We need saints.

- Popes John Paul II and Francis



The Catholic Parish of Pittwater

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Planned Giving Direct Debit Agreement Form for Contributions Via Credit Card

☐ I am an existing Planned Giving contributor

☐ I am new to Planned Giving

Or Donate at
www.pittwater-parish.org
Donations and
Giving Tile

Full Name			
Address:			
Telephone:		Email:	

Payment Agreement

<input type="checkbox"/> Weekly	<input type="checkbox"/> Fortnightly	<input type="checkbox"/> Monthly
Debit Amount:	\$	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Until Further Notice

Debit from Credit Card

Card Number:	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Card Holder Name:					<input type="checkbox"/> Visa	<input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard							
Expiry Date:					/	CCV:	<input type="text"/>						

This authorisation is to remain in force until notice is received in writing for it to be changed.

Signatory of Nominated Account:		Date:	/	/
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Thank you for supporting our planned giving programme.

Please return the completed form to the parish office or email to office@pittwaterparish.org

Terms and Conditions

I/We hereby authorise The Catholic Parish of Pittwater to debit my/our credit card account. Monthly debits occur on the 15th day of each month or the next business day. Weekly and fortnightly debits occur on the Monday of each week or fortnight accordingly. The administration of this agreement is conducted by The Catholic Parish of Pittwater. The Catholic Parish of Pittwater will not change the amount or frequency of drawing arrangements without my prior approval. It is my responsibility to ensure that I/We have sufficient clear funds in our nominated account to enable the direct debit to be honoured by our financial institution. If the Debit request falls on a weekend or public holiday, it will be processed on the next working day. I/We are advised to verify account details against a recent bank statement and if uncertain to contact our financial institution or The Catholic Parish of Pittwater. If our Direct Debit is dishonoured or returned by our financial institution, for any reason, The Catholic Parish of Pittwater reserves the right to re-present the Direct Debit for processing again on the next business day. The Catholic Parish of Pittwater will keep the information about our nominated account at the financial institution private and confidential unless this information is required to investigate a claim made in relation to an alleged incorrect or wrongful debt, or otherwise required by law. I/We may stop, cancel, alter or defer your Direct Debit Request at any time, by contacting The Catholic Parish of Pittwater I/we agree to notify The Catholic Parish of Pittwater if the account is closed.



Most Rev Anthony Randazzo
Bishop of Broken Bay

Video Message to the People of Broken Bay
29 March 2020

Over the past week, I have had the opportunity to visit people around the Diocese. I am conscious of physical distancing; however, I am equally aware of the need for social solidarity.

I am delighted that so many people throughout the Diocese are making an enormous effort to connect and remain close, in a spirit of charity and compassion, even when there is physical distancing. I think that it is a great sign of the presence of the Holy Spirit.

While some in society are unable or even unwilling to seek spiritual solace in times of trouble, there are many woman and men, young and old, who look for grace moments in the uncertainty of our time.

Again, that is a sign of the Spirit who unites us as disciples of the Lord and gives us courage to live well - no matter what the circumstances.

This week, can I encourage you to seek out those who might fall between the cracks. It is not difficult to check on a neighbor, phone a friend, write a note to a relative.

Likewise, might I encourage you to pray for each other, especially for the sick and infirm, and for those who care for them.

In the days ahead, be careful, be kind, and be creative.

God bless.

+ Anthony Randazzo

FINE WINE, SPIRITS & BEER



WELCOME TO PALM SUNDAY AND HOLY WEEK

Upon Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem, the people greeted him with hope and joy exclaiming "Hosanna in the highest. Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!" Let us at this time, remind ourselves that we too are a people of hope and joy as we welcome Jesus into our hearts and homes this Holy Week.



READING SUNDAY'S GOSPEL – THE PASSION OF THE LORD MT 26:38-39

'My Father, if it is possible let this cup pass me by. Nevertheless, let it be as you, not I, would have it.'

Read the full text of the Gospel in 'parts' with your family at <https://liturgyhelp.com/> (Create a free account)

REFLECTION:

Humility is above all God's way: God humbles himself to walk with his people...During this week, let us set about with determination along this same path of humility, with immense love for him, our Lord and Saviour. Love will guide us and give us strength. For where he is, we too shall be (cf. Jn 12:26)

(Pope Francis, Palm Sunday Homily, 29 March 2015)

Q. In challenging times and with humility, do you surrender and trust in God and pray, as Jesus did and as we do in the Our Father, "Your will be done"?



PRAYER:

Dear Lord, I pray that you keep our families safe from all that is going on in the world. I also pray for the countries and people who are suffering because of the Coronavirus.

Amen

(Vanessa Sarkis - Year 2, Glenorie Public School)



CHILDREN'S RESOURCES:

Holy Week activities & explanation: <https://cathfamily.org/holy-week-explained/>

Stations of the Cross for Families: <https://thekidsbulletin.com/stations-of-the-cross/>

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Stations of the Cross: https://www.cssr.org.au/pray_with_us/dsp-default.cfm?loadref=263

The following resources are on the Formed platform, free short-term subscription available

Reflection on Palm Sunday by Edward Sri <https://watch.formed.org/videos/palm-sunday-of-the-passion-of-the-lord-april-14-2019>

Talk on Holy Week by Dr Brant Pitre <https://watch.formed.org/holy-week-by-dr-brandt-pitre/videos/holy-week>

SONG:

Matt Maher - 40 days: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NWKRhk-yYIO>

THIS WEEK:

Create a sacred prayer space in your home using branches (palm, olive or Eucalyptus), a crucifix, a candle and some holy water.



<https://www.bestcoloringpagesforkids.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Branches-Palm-Sunday-Coloring-Pages.jpg>

MORE HOLY WEEK RESOURCES AT
<http://bbcatholic.org.au/connected>



CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF
BROKEN BAY

The *Living* Word

First Reading

Is 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

Phil 2:6-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

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

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

underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Phil 2:8-9

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!
Christ became obedient for us even to death
dying on the cross.
Therefore God raised him on high
and gave him a name above all other names.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!

Gospel

Mt 26:14 – 27:66

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

N One of the Twelve, the man called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said:
O What are you prepared to give me if I hand him over to you?
N They paid him thirty silver pieces, and from that moment he looked for an opportunity to betray him.
Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus to say,
C Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the passover?
N He replied:
J Go to so-and-so in the city and say to him, 'The Master says: My time is near. It is at your house that I am keeping Passover with my disciples.'
N The disciples did what Jesus told them and prepared the Passover.
When the evening came he was at table with the twelve disciples. And while they were eating he said:
J I tell you solemnly, one of you is about to betray me.
N They were greatly distressed and started asking him in turn,
C Not I, Lord, surely?
N He answered:
J Someone who has dipped his hand into the dish with me, will betray me.
The Son of Man is going to his fate, as the scriptures say he will, but alas for that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! Better for that man if he had never been born!
N Judas, who was to betray him, asked in his turn,
O Not I, Rabbi, surely?
N Jesus answered:
J They are your own words.
N Now as they were eating, Jesus took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said:
J Take it and eat; this is my body.
N Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them saying:
J Drink all of you from this, for this is my blood, the blood of the covenant,

which is to be poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. From now on, I tell you, I shall not drink wine until the day I drink the new wine with you in the kingdom of my Father.

N After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them,
J You will all lose faith in me this night, for the scripture says: I shall strike the shepherd and the flock will be scattered. But after my resurrection I shall go before you to Galilee.
N At this, Peter said:
O Though all lose faith in you, I will never lose faith.
N Jesus answered him,
J I tell you solemnly, this very night, before the cock crows, you will have disowned me three times.
N Peter said to him,
O Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you.
N And all the disciples said the same. Then Jesus came with them to a small estate called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples,
J Stay here while I go over there to pray.
N He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee with him. And sadness came over him, and great distress. Then he said to them:
J My soul is sorrowful to the point of death. Wait here and keep awake with me.
N And going on a little further he fell on his face and prayed:
J My Father, if it is possible let this cup pass me by. Nevertheless, let it be as you, not I, would have it.
N He came back to the disciples and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter:
J So you had not the strength to keep awake with me one hour? You should be awake, and praying not to be put to the test. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.
N Again, a second time, he went away and prayed:
J My father, if this cup cannot pass by without my drinking it, your will be done!
N And he came back again and found them sleeping, their eyes were so heavy. Leaving them there, he went away again and prayed for the third time, repeating the same words. Then he came back to the disciples and said to them,
J You can sleep on now and take your rest. Now the hour has come when the Son of Man is to be betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up! Let us go! My betrayer is already close at hand.
N He was still speaking when Judas, one of the Twelve, appeared, and with him a large number of men armed with swords and clubs, sent by the chief priests and elders of the people. Now the traitor had arranged a sign with them. He had said:
O 'The one I kiss, he is the man. Take him in charge.'
N So he went straight up to Jesus and said:

The *Living* Word

O Greetings, Rabbi,
 N and kissed him. Jesus said to him,
 J My friend, do what you are here for.
 N Then they came forward, seized Jesus and took him in charge. At that, one of the followers of Jesus grasped his sword and drew it; he struck out at the high priest's servant, and cut off his ear. Jesus then said:
 J Put your sword back, for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. Or do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father who would promptly send more than twelve legions of angels to my defence? But then, how would the scriptures be fulfilled that say this is the way it must be?
 N It was at this time that Jesus said to the crowds:
 J Am I a brigand, that you had to set out to capture me with swords and clubs? I sat teaching in the Temple day after day and you never laid hands on me.
 N Now all this happened to fulfil the prophecies in scripture. Then all the disciples deserted him and ran away. The men who had arrested Jesus led him off to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and elders were assembled. Peter followed him at a distance, and when he reached the high priest's palace, he went in and sat down with the attendants to see what the end would be. The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for evidence against Jesus, however false, on which they might pass the death-sentence. But they could not find any, though several lying witnesses came forward. Eventually two stepped forward and made a statement,
 O This man said, 'I have power to destroy the Temple of God and in three days build it up.'
 N The high priest then stood up and said to him:
 O Have you no answer to that? What is the evidence these men are bringing against you?
 N But Jesus was silent. And the high priest said to him:
 O I put you on oath by the living God to tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.
 N Jesus answered:
 J The words are your own. Moreover, I tell you that from this time onward you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.
 N At this, the high priest tore his clothes and said:
 O He has blasphemed. What need of witnesses have we now? There! You have just heard the blasphemy. What is your opinion?
 N They answered:
 C He deserves to die.
 N Then they spat in his face and hit him with their fists; others said as they struck him:
 C Play the prophet, Christ! Who hit you then?
 N Meanwhile Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard, and a servant-girl came up to him and said:
 O You too were with Jesus the Galilean.

N But he denied it in front of them all, saying:
 O I do not know what you are talking about.
 N When he went out to the gateway another servant-girl saw him and said to the people there:
 O This man was with Jesus the Nazarene.
 N And again, with an oath, he denied it,
 O I do not know the man.
 N A little later the bystanders came up and said to Peter:
 C You are one of them for sure! Why, your accent gives you away.
 N Then he started calling down curses on himself and swearing:
 O I do not know the man.
 N At that moment the cock crew, and Peter remembered what Jesus had said, 'Before the cock crows you will have disowned me three times.' And he went outside and wept bitterly. When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people met in council to bring about the death of Jesus. They had him bound, and led him away to hand him over to Pilate, the governor. When he found that Jesus had been condemned, Judas his betrayer was filled with remorse and took the thirty pieces of silver back to the chief priests and elders, saying:
 O I have sinned. I have betrayed innocent blood.
 N They replied:
 C What is that to us? That is your concern.
 N And flinging down the silver pieces in the sanctuary he made off, and went and hanged himself. The chief priests picked up the silver pieces and said:
 C It is against the Law to put this into the treasury; it is blood money.
 N So they discussed the matter and bought the potter's field with it as a graveyard for foreigners, and this is why the field is called the Field of Blood today. The words of the prophet Jeremiah were then fulfilled: And they took the thirty silver pieces, the sum at which the precious One was priced by children of Israel, and they gave them for the potter's field, just as the Lord directed me. Jesus, then, was brought before the governor, and the governor put to him this question:
 O Are you the king of the Jews?
 N Jesus replied:
 J It is you who say it.
 N But when he was accused by the chief priests and the elders he refused to answer at all. Pilate then said to him:
 O Do you not hear how many charges they have brought against you?
 N But to the governor's complete amazement, he offered no reply to any of the charges. At festival time it was the governor's practice to release a prisoner for the people, anyone they chose. Now there was at this time a notorious prisoner whose name was Barabbas. So when the crowd gathered Pilate said to them,
 O Which do you want me to release for

you: Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Christ?
 N For Pilate knew it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. Now as he was seated in the chair of judgement, his wife sent him a message,
 O Have nothing to do with that man; I have been upset all day by a dream I had about him.
 N The chief priests and the elders, however, had persuaded the crowd to demand the release of Barabbas and the execution of Jesus. So when the governor spoke and asked them:
 O Which of the two do you want me to release for you?
 N They said:
 C Barabbas.
 N Pilate said to them:
 O What am I to do with Jesus who is called Christ?
 N They all said:
 C Let him be crucified!
 N Pilate asked:
 O Why? What harm has he done?
 N But they shouted all the louder,
 C Let him be crucified!
 N Then Pilate saw that he was making no impression, that in fact a riot was imminent. So he took some water, washed his hands in front of the crowd and said:
 O I am innocent of this man's blood. It is your concern.
 N And the people, to a man, shouted back:
 C His blood be on us and on our children!
 N Then he released Barabbas for them. He ordered Jesus to be first scourged and then handed over to be crucified. The governor's soldiers took Jesus with them into the Praetorium and collected the whole cohort around him. Then they stripped him and made him wear a scarlet cloak, and having twisted some thorns into a crown they put this on his head and placed a reed in his right hand. To make fun of him they knelt to him saying:
 C Hail, king of the Jews!
 N And they spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head with it. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the cloak and dressed him in his own clothes and led him away to crucify him. On their way out, they came across a man from Cyrene, Simon by name, and enlisted him to carry his cross. When they had reached a place called Golgotha, that is, the place of the skull, they gave him wine to drink. When they had finished crucifying him they shared out his clothes by casting lots, and then sat down and stayed there keeping guard over him. Above his head was placed the charge against him; it read: 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews'. At the same time two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said:
 C So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then

The *Living* Word

- save yourself! If you are God's son, come down from the cross!
- N The chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him in the same way, saying:
- C He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He put his trust in God; now let God rescue him if he wants him. For he did say, 'I am the son of God'.
- N Even the robbers who were crucified with him taunted him in the same way.
- From the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour, Jesus cried out in a loud voice: J Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?
- N That is: 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood there heard this, they said:
- C The man is calling on Elijah,
- N and one of them quickly ran to get a sponge which he dipped in vinegar and, putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink. The rest of them said:
- C Wait! See if Elijah will come to save him.
- N But Jesus, again crying out in a loud voice, yielded up his spirit.

All kneel and pause a moment.

- N At that, the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom; the earth quaked; the rocks were split; the tombs opened and the bodies of many holy men rose from the dead, and these, after his resurrection, came out of the tombs, entered the Holy City and appeared to a number of people.
- Meanwhile the centurion, together with the others guarding Jesus, had seen the earthquake and all that was taking place, and they were terrified and said:
- C In truth this was a son of God.
- N And many women were there, watching from a distance, the same women who had followed Jesus from Galilee and looked after him. Among them were Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of Zebedee's sons.
- When it was evening, there came a rich man of Arimathaea, called Joseph, who had himself become a disciple of Jesus. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate thereupon ordered it to be handed over. So Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean shroud and put it in his own new tomb which he had hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a large stone across the entrance of the tomb and went away. Now Mary of Magdala and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the sepulchre.
- Next day, that is, when Preparation Day was over, the chief priests and the Pharisees went in a body to Pilate and said to him,
- C Your Excellency, we recall that this imposter said, while he was still

- alive, 'After three days I shall rise again.' Therefore give the order to have the sepulchre kept secure until the third day, for fear his disciples come and steal him away and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead'. This last piece of fraud would be worse than what went before.
- N Pilate said to them:
- O You may have your guards. Go and make all as secure as you know how.
- N So they went and made the sepulchre secure, putting seals on the stone and mounting a guard.

The Gospel of the Lord

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

As we prepare to enter the sacred time of Holy Week, we look again at the significance of Christ in our lives. 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. We have a saviour who was finally lifted up and exalted precisely because he emptied himself of his divine privileges. 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 must be willing to empty ourselves for the sake of others.

The best way to enter Holy Week with Jesus is in the company of those with whom he has identified himself: the poor and the broken; the humiliated and the marginalised; those who suffer the abuse of others; those who never use rank to force their will. If we are to be saved, we must go where salvation takes place: in our streets and in our homes where violence rages; in the dark corners of life where despair holds sway; wherever the innocent are abused or the needy are neglected; wherever there is misunderstanding or fear or jealousy. We must go wherever Christ empties himself for our sake.



Divine Mercy Novena

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 purposes.

The message of 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 Divine Mercy Saturday
The second Sunday of Easter is Divine Mercy Sunday.

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More information and novena on <http://divinemercysunday.com/novena.htm>



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Liturgy for the Week

06/04 **Monday Holy Week**
Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11

07/04 **Tuesday Holy Week**
Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

08/04 **Wednesday Holy Week**
Is 50:4-9; Mt 26:14-25

09/04 **Thursday of the Lord's Supper**
Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Cor 11:23-26;
Jn 13:1-15

10/04 **Friday Passion of the Lord**
Is 52:13 - 53:12; Heb 4:14-16,
5:7-9; Jn 18:1 - 19:42

11/04 **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; Mt
28:1-10

Friday
10

The Parish Office will be
closed from Good Friday
10 April 2020 and will
reopen on Friday
17 April 2020




Friday
17



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