



# Our Lady of the Rosary Parish

Palm (Passion) Sunday | Year A Cycle II | 29 March 2026



## Trust in the Plan

As disciples of Jesus, we are challenged through the account of his Passion to follow him. Does that mean we too have to be killed? For most of us the answer is no. In following Jesus, what we are called to do is to listen to God and do what we are asked. This undoubtedly will involve self-sacrifice and won't be easy, but we respond to God's call together as the people of God, filled with the Holy Spirit, who gives us everything we need.

It is easy, when looking at our country and our world, to lose hope, to see only the difficulties and horrors. It can feel like God is no longer in control. This simply cannot be true. God has a plan, and it is good. Part of recognising that Jesus is our King is learning to trust that God sees the big picture and we simply need to play the part allotted to us. When we learn to listen to God's word and follow what we are asked to do, we must learn to trust the author of the plan. We may not see the fruit of the seed that we plant, but we trust that in time and with the right conditions, God will bring the plan to fruition. Hopefully we see the beauty of our efforts during our time on earth, but we trust that in time we will see the new creation in all its beautiful glory.

*Sunday Living Word* Majellan Family Media

## Holy Week Ceremonies Timetable

<b>Tuesday 31 March</b>	7:30pm Chrim Mass at Waitara Cathedral
<b>Wednesday 1 April</b>	6:00pm Second Rite of Reconciliation
<b>Holy Thursday 2 April</b>	7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper   8.00pm-9.00pm Gethsemane Adoration
<b>Good Friday 3 April</b>	10:00am Stations of the Cross followed by Confessions 3:00pm Commemoration of the Lord's Passion followed by Confessions 5:30pm Maronite Liturgy
<b>Holy Saturday 4 April</b>	9:30am-10.00am Confessions   4:00pm-4:30pm Confessions 5:00pm Easter Vigil Ceremonies and Mass
<b>Easter Sunday 5 April</b>	8:00am & 9:30am Masses   11:00am Mass at Reynolds Court Bateau Bay 5:00pm Maronite Mass

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## The Depth of Divine Love

The Gospel of Palm Sunday draws us into the heart of the Passion - the betrayal, suffering, and death of Jesus Christ - and invites us to contemplate both the gravity of sin and the depth of divine love.

This passage begins with Judas' betrayal. It is striking - and sobering - that one of the Twelve, someone who walked closely with Jesus, becomes the instrument of his arrest. The Church invites us to see in Judas not just a historical figure, but a mirror: every time we choose sin over grace, we risk turning away from Christ. Yet even here, God's mercy remains mysterious. Judas' tragedy is not only his betrayal, but his despair - his inability to trust in forgiveness.

At the Last Supper, Jesus institutes the Eucharist, offering his Body and Blood under the signs of bread and wine. In the very moment when betrayal is unfolding, he gives himself completely. This reveals something essential about God: he does not wait for us to be worthy. He gives himself precisely when we are most in need. Every Mass makes this moment present again, inviting us into that same covenant of love.

In Gethsemane, we witness Jesus' agony. Fully human, he experiences fear and anguish, yet he surrenders: "Not as I will, but as you will." This is the model of Christian prayer - not the denial of suffering, but trustful obedience in the midst of it. When we face trials, we are not alone; Christ has already entered into that darkness.

Peter's denial reminds us of human weakness. Even the most devoted disciple can fall. Yet Peter's story does not end here - his tears are the beginning of repentance. Unlike Judas, Peter allows failure to lead him back to mercy. This contrast is central to the Christian life: both sin and redemption are real possibilities.

The trial and crucifixion reveal the injustice and cruelty of the world, but also God's plan of salvation unfolding through it. Jesus is mocked as a king, crowned with thorns, and lifted up on the Cross. From a worldly perspective, this is defeat. From the perspective of faith, it is victory - the triumph of love over sin, of obedience over rebellion.

When Jesus dies, the veil of the Temple is torn. This powerful image signifies that the barrier between God and humanity has been removed. Through Christ's sacrifice, we are given direct access to the Father. The Cross is not just an event to remember; it is the source of our salvation.

Finally, the burial of Jesus and the sealing of the tomb remind us of the apparent finality of death. Yet, as Catholics, we read this passage in light of the Resurrection that follows. The silence of Holy Saturday teaches us to trust even when God seems absent.

In reflecting on this passage, we are invited to respond personally:

- \* Where do I see myself in the Passion story - Judas, Peter, the crowd, or the faithful few?
- \* Do I trust in God's mercy when I fall?
- \* Am I willing to unite my own sufferings with Christ's?

The Passion is not only about what happened to Jesus - it is about what his love means for us today. It calls us to conversion, gratitude, and deeper communion with the One who gave everything for our salvation.

**Masses:** Saturday Vigil 5pm | Sunday 8am & 9:30am | Reynolds Court 11am | Maronite Mass 5pm

**Weekday Masses:** Monday Communion Service 9am | Tuesday - Thursday 9am | Friday 11:45am  
Saturday 9am | Reynolds Court Wednesday 10am

**Reconciliations:** Saturdays 9:30am - 10am | 4pm - 4:30pm **Liturgy of the Hours:** Saturday 8:40am

**Rosary:** Monday-Thursday 8:35am | Friday 11:20am | Saturday 9:30am

**Holy Souls Crusade Prayer Group:** Tuesday 9:30am **Cenacle Prayer Group:** Wednesday 9:30am

**Christian Meditation Group:** Friday 10:30am - 11:30am Reynolds Room



# A Beacon of Faith, Hope & Love

## Congratulations Archbishop Randazzo!

His Holiness Pope Leo XIV has appointed the Most Reverend Anthony Randazzo DD JCL, until now Bishop of Broken Bay and Apostolic Administrator of the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of the Southern Cross in Australia, as Prefect of the Dicastery for Legislative Texts, with the personal title of Archbishop. Archbishop Randazzo will be the Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese for the next 3 months allowing him to Ordain to the Priesthood our 3 Deacons and to join in the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of our Broken Bay Diocese. The process will now begin in selecting the 5th Bishop of our diocese. Please pray for Archbishop Anthony and our local church of Broken Bay.



## Welcome to Tam Nguyen

Seminarian Tam (pronounced Tum) Nguyen is coming to our parish soon. Tam's visa has been granted, and he should arrive shortly from Vietnam. Tam will live with Fr Brian and Fr Rosan to acculturate before going to the Seminary for his studies. Tam will be engaged in ministries in the parish like Deacon Tân was. Please make Tam most welcome.



## First Reconciliation Preparations Completed!

Congratulations to the children who have completed their preparation for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation. The children and their families have reached another milestone on their faith journey and will soon begin preparation for the Sacrament of First Eucharist. Well done all!

## Good Friday - Day of Penance

On Good Friday abstinence from meat is to be observed by those who are 14 years and over. Those between 18 and 60 are to fast on this day. This Lenten practice is not to be a burden upon those who have health issues or special needs. Fasting is to be observed from Good Friday and if possible, until the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday.

Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This is done between Ash Wednesday and Trinity Sunday (31 May), unless for a good reason it is done at another time during the year. All the faithful who have reached the age of discretion (7 years) are obliged to confess their grave sins at least once a year.

## Good Friday Holy Land Collection

Christians in the Holy Land face special challenges, many of which we hear about in the daily news. The wars, unrest and instability have been especially hard on Christians. This has had severe economic consequences that have disproportionately affected the Christian people and the most vulnerable in Palestinian society. Supporting the Holy Land (Good Friday) Collection offers hope to the Holy Land Christians.

**Palm (Passion) Sunday**     **Isaiah 50:4-7** | **Philippians 2:6-11** | **Matthew 26:14-27:66**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

**Responsorial Psalm:** My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

**Gospel Acclamation:** 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!

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



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## Please Note

### Renewal of Commitment

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion please attend the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday for commissioning for the next year. Thank you!

### Gethsemane Adoration

On Holy Thursday after the Mass of the Lord's Supper please join us as we watch and pray with Jesus until 9pm.

### Easter Offering Envelopes

These donations support the Priests of our diocese – retired and active. Envelopes are on the information tables. Thank you!

### Project Compassion

Please remember to return your Project Compassion boxes to the baskets at the Church doors, to the office or to the collections.

### Divine Mercy Novena

For those wishing to pray the Divine Mercy novena in preparation for the Feast which is celebrated on the Sunday after Easter, you may find brochures on the information tables. The novena begins on Good Friday and concludes on the Saturday week.

### Introduction to Pastoral Care Course

Volunteer Catholic Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion visit hospitals throughout the Diocese of Broken Bay providing comfort and care to Catholic patients. We are looking to encourage more volunteers to take Communion to the Sick at your local hospital. The course will be held over five consecutive Wednesdays: 29 April, 6, 13, 20 and 27 May from 9am to 3pm at the Ambrose Centre behind the Church. Please speak to Fr Brian or contact Denis O'Brien on 0439 009 932.

## Keep Us in Your Prayers

**Recently Deceased:** Scholastica Lakra (mother of Fr Anselam Chatswood), Paul Kelberg, Fr John McCall o.s.a., Dino Gava, Lin Ortiz, Annamma Joseph, Imelda Bourke.

**Funerals:** The funeral of Paul Kelberg will be held on Tuesday at 11am at Norville. The funeral of Lin Ortiz will be held on Wednesday at 11am at Palmdale. Please pray for Paul, Lin and their families.

**Anniversaries:** John Paul II, Margaret Pizzuto, George Caruana.

**Remembrances:** Jill O'Sullivan, Arthur Vella, Sam & Carmen Ghirxi, Martin Ghirxi, John Giutronich, Mario Cauchi, Delma Clarke, Richard Falzon, Nona Redman, Fr Michael Kelly, Frank & George Grech, Mary Gatt, Narelle Adams, Simon Butcher, Michael Langley, Bernardo Najera and all the Holy Souls.

**Families:** Grech, Falzon, Zahra, Grima, Camilleri.

**Sick:** Sophie (operation), Susie Reyes, Harry McCarthy, Josephine McMahon, Lynette Falken, Steve Bond, Fr David Taylor, Lynne White, Fr Geoff Bugden, Fr Brogan, Julie Fletcher, Walter Knoke, Pat McCudden, Linda Read, Rod Slater, Pam Elliott, Janine Harpley, Patrick Yeo, Stjepan Tuka, Pauline Fowler, Anne Knoke, John McClement, Emma Horton, Kelly Will.

**Special Intentions:** Thanksgiving for health and operation recovery.

## Our Lady of the Rosary



# Sacred Gifts

## Welcome!

We open on Saturdays before and after the 5pm Vigil Mass and Sundays before and after the 9:30am Mass.

Also weekdays by appointment.

You'll find us in the foyer of the Church.

**4332 2216**