

'Seek God, Find God, Embrace God in Jesus'

Diocese of Broken Bay ~ 28th March 2021 ~ Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord ~ Year B Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1—15:47



Entrance Antiphon: Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel; 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.

Our Mission Statement: 'Help others to recognise, through their experiences, that Jesus who died and is risen is the truth that lights up their lives' Our Vision Statement: 'That the parishioners of Ku-ring-gai Chase Catholic Parish grow as missionary disciples and live as community in Christ inviting all people into our Parish, welcoming them to our Parish life and embracing the rich diversity of our community'

TODAY IS PALM SUNDAY — THE BEGINNING OF HOLY WEEK



Gospel Reflection Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Year B

By the time the gospel accounts came to be written, it was more than 35 years after the death of Jesus.

The Gospel of Mark is now very widely held to have been the first of the four gospels, written in about the year 70 CE. One of the reasons for the writing of the gospels was the fact that those who had walked and talked with Jesus were becoming old and dying. There was a sense of capturing the story before the last eye witnesses were gone. This is very evident in the Passion narrative from the gospel of Mark. One can almost hear an elderly voice dictating the events: 'then this happened ...; then he said ...; then we all thought ...' Like so much of this particular gospel, there is very little embellishment. It's like an old time detective show, 'Just give us the facts!' The gospel of Mark presents the story of the Passion as a sequence of events with little commentary or theological reflection. (That is partly why it lends itself so well to being read by several voices.)

One of the best examples that the gospel is a straightforward recollection of events is the inclusion of the scene in Gethsemane when the young man ran away naked. No storyteller would create such a bizarre, unexplained event. There is no explanation of who the young man is, why he was wearing only a loincloth, nor why the armed men tried to seize hold of him. It is reported in exactly the same style as the rest of the story – very matter-of-fact. The presence of the young man – both in Gethsemane and in the gospel – has puzzled scholars for many years, yet if nothing else, it provides evidence of the way in which this Passion narrative was transmitted from lived experience, to memory, to oral account, to written gospel.

Gospel Focus – This man was a son of God ~ By the time we have stood and listened to this lengthy Passion narrative, the listener may have started to wilt by the time we get to the death of Jesus. Yet the gospel writer keeps one of the most important messages for this moment. As Jesus dies, a centurion standing by utters the inspired words, 'In truth, this man was a son of God.' Famously played by John Wayne in the movie, *The Greatest Story Ever Told*, the centurion is the voice of the gentile – the non-Jew – representing all those throughout the world who will recognise the truth of Jesus' life and purpose.

Have you thought? Passion of the Passion ~ The Passion narrative is very aptly named. The emotion and power of this story is nothing short of passionate. The gospel writer's style of fast paced, unadorned factual narrative is a very effective way of helping the reader/listener to engage in the story. It is, after all, the first half of the most important Christian story – finished off by the resurrection that is celebrated on Easter Sunday. It is easy to see why this stark, narrative style was embellished and expanded upon by the later gospel writers and yet it is perhaps the more passionate for the lack of explanation and theologising.

Living the Gospel – Before the cock crows ~ Peter is an interesting character in the gospels. He is one of the first of the disciples to be called; Jesus changes his name and places great trust in him; he is witness to the most significant moments of Jesus' life; he is able to profess his faith in Jesus as the Christ and yet it is he who denies even knowing Jesus. We might have thought that Peter was Jesus' most loyal and faithful follower, yet it is he who can't stand up and claim that he was a follower of Jesus. Is it any wonder that it is difficult for us today sometimes? © Greg Sunter

PASTORAL CENTRE			WEEKEND MASSES		
1-19 Woodcourt Road, Berowra Heights 2082 P.O. Box 335, Berowra Heights 2082 Phone: (02) 9456 2450 Email: parishkccp@bbcatholic.org.au Website: www.bbcatholic.org.au/kccp		KU-RING-GAI CHASE CATHOLC MAGH Decreme of Broden Say, Australia	Saturday Sunday	5pm 6pm 8am 9am 10am	St Bernard's St Patrick's St Patrick's St Bernard's St Patrick's
c , .		SEATING CAPACITY AT OUR CHURCHES		6pm	St Patrick's
Centre Hours:	9am – 3.30pm.	[applying the current 2m ² requirement]		WEEKDAY MASSES8amMon, Tues and Thurs.9amWednesday and Friday8amWednesday and Friday9amMon, Tues, Thurs and Sat.RECONCILIATION	
Parish Priest Assistant Priest	Fr Shaju John, OSH Fr Joy Thomas, OSH	St Patrick's: 202 persons at St Bernard's: 122 persons Physical Distancing - people from the same household may	St Bernard's		
Parish Secretary Bookkeeper	Margaret Cooper Karen Price	sit together in the church. Couples and families can be seated together however, social distancing is to be maintained between family groups.	St Patrick's		
Youth Ministry Co-ord. Michelle Chahine Sacramental Team: kccpsacraments@gmail.com		Additional restrictions are at the discretion of the Parish Priest for the safety of all parishioners.	Every Saturday Every Friday	9.30 am at St Patrick's After 9am Mass at St Bernard's	

Emergency sick calls 0468 341 841 (Out of office hours URGENT only) - HOSPITAL ADMISSION: If you are admitted to hospital, please write down your religion as Catholic to receive Catholic Services. *Be sure to notify the Pastoral Centre if hospitalised and you would like our own priests to attend.*

THIS WEEK'S READINGS and PRAYERS	Holy Week Schedule					
Holy Week Year B Monday 29/03 Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11 Tuesday 30/03 Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38	Mass Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	Time and Location Saturday 27 March 2021 5pm St Bernard's // 6pm St Patrick's Sunday 28 March 2021 9am St Bernard's // 8am St Patrick's & 10am St Patrick's (•			
Wednesday 31/03 Is 50:4-9; Mt 26:14-25 The Sacred Paschal Triduum	Please return Project Compassion boxes & gifts for the poor on Holy ThursdayHoly ThursdayThursday 1 April 2021 (No morning Mass)Reception of the Holy Oils7.30pm St Bernard's // 7.30pm St Patrick'sMass of the Lord's Supperfollowed by Exposition/Adoration					
(See Holy Week Schedule) Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper and Washing of Feet Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15 Good Friday Passion of the Lord Is 52:13-53:12; Heb 4:14-16, 5:7-9, Jn 18:1-19:42	Washing of the feet Good Friday Solemn Stations of the Cross Passion of the Lord Easter Vigil Easter Sunday	till 10.00pm at both churches Friday 2 April 2021 Solemnities 10am St Bernard's // 10am St Patrick's 3pm St Bernard's // 3pm St Patrick's Saturday 3 April 2021 (No morning Mass) 7pm St Bernard's // 7pm St Patrick's Sunday 4 April 2021 9am St Bernard's // 8am St Patrick's & 10am St Patrick	Please Note: There is NO Evening Mass in the Parish on Easter Sunday			
Holy Saturday All Masses are prohibited until The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night	Interested in sing	ans needed for Easter liturgies at St Patrick's, Asqui ging for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil or East All welcome!! ional singing is allowed, so this is your chance if you love	er Sunday?			
Ku-ring-gai Chase Parish Remembers & prayers for	Holy Thursday 6.30p	m; Good Friday 1.45pm; Easter Vigil 5.30pm; Easter No previous experience necessary!	ter Sunday 9am.			
RECENTLY DECEASED: Joaquim Victor D'Souza, Marie Napoli, Jose Morales, Irene Berry, Eleanor Kent, Carmelita Avecilla Evangelista, George Thompson ANNIVERSARIES: Karen Fitzgerald, Winifred & William Colman, Joseph Treacy, Ray Longford, Hilda, Francis & Terrence Conlon, Neville Nicholson, Mary Treacy, Kevin Harant, Stach Romanowski, Maria PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: David Chee, Roger Okell, Patrick Dorahy, Elaine Longmuir, Sr Mary Treacy, John Gallagher, Fr Thomas Philip OSH, Sr Tincy Thomas, Marie Haag, Tom Dawson, Felicity Fone, Barbara Jones, Jean Cook, Peter Brooks, Brian Treacy, Dan Leavy, Terry Treacy, Stephen C C, Anne Brady, Marie O'Hare, John Cosgrove (Snr), Antonia Alvarado,	As advised last December, when one of our priests is away from the parish there will be ONE Morning Mass only on weekdays. Please take note that this will apply from Monday 5 April 2021 to Friday 16 April 2021 (inclusive) ~ being 9am at St Patrick's Asquith ~ Monday-Tuesday-Thursday 9am at St Bernard's Berowra Heights ~ Wednesday-Friday. St Agatha's Parish, Pennant Hills warmly invites you to Join the Celebrations for Divine Mercy Sunday on 11th April: This is your invitation to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday at St Agatha's Pennant Hills, from: 1:30pm to 3:45pm, including Mass at 2:00pm. It is a very well attended afternoon and a wonderful opportunity for prayer and reflection, including: • Recitation of the Rosary • Reconciliation throughout the afternoon • Holy Mass • Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament • Veneration of the Divine Mercy • Benediction and Blessing of					
Peter Nguyen, Nemia Camille Asiong, Rodney Porter The 250 Club!	Image and Relic Sacramentals. Covid restrictions limit the congregation to 200 people only. Bookings essential: www.stagatha.org.au/mass-booking/ "Tell the whole world of My great mercy mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My mercy." (Jesus to St Faustina). Enq's: Greg 0419 228 199. St Agatha's Parish has been formally celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday for over 20 years.					
Week 6– 22/3/21 Winning number: 413 Winner: <i>Unfinancial</i> Amount: \$25.00	St Patrick's Church Ase Restoration Work This vital at St Patri	work WISH LIST and WISH LIST	o achieve our			
Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for March: Sacrament of Reconciliation ~ Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.Tap n Go donation points Available in both Churches. All taps are set to \$10.Thank you for your ongoing support through these devices.	Contributions have been trickling in towards this much needed restoration. Even the tiniest of contributions will he pay for these repairs, rememb Little fish are st Please know that wha you give will have helped ma your church and it will be appreciated by parishioners for years to come. Ways to contribute→ Thank you very much to th who have already given generously to this appear	tot last lastTo contribute your options are: 1. Your contribution to restore St Patrick's can go directly into the collection box at back of SPA Church.Our " • Restor Church • Wo • New tel •	TO DO LIST" ation of St Patrick's n - est. cost \$42,000 rking towards ephones in the office \$4,691.16 bought outright to avoid tt leasing fee's under ontract expiring in May] rking towards 'WISH LIST" omputer/projection n St Bernard's Church over 50% there e may not need to replace so we are investigating a o the it and replace the h a big screen TV instead potentially cost less, yay!]			



Vox Populi - The Voice of the People This week's message comes from Br John Verhoeven. Br John is a Pastoral Care

Practitioner, working for CatholicCare, Diocese of Broken Bay at Wyong Hospital.

I am a Patrician Brother, working in Wyong Hospital with CatholicCare as a Pastoral Care Practitioner. I also volunteer in a few roles at OLR Parish, The Entrance. A few weeks ago, my fellow Patrician Brothers and I buried Br Mark Ryan. He was the one few expected

would ever die. Often, this is the expectation of those I meet in hospital, death is rarely expected and plainly unwelcome. I notice that the readings for Palm Sunday suggest the same is true for Jesus. I find myself in a privileged position at Wyong Hospital. The task of listening finds its fulfilment in the role of a Pastoral Care Practitioner. It is not simply being a pair of ears to hear with, but a soul and voice to assure the other that they are both heard and are in a safe place. Not everyone is in a frame of mind to immediately trust the stranger arriving at their bedside, yet when the trust flows I am not the only beneficiary. On those occasions I believe I get an insight into how God feels when people give themselves over to him in praver. Paradoxically this sustains me, even when the process of dealing with many forms of grief is a draining one. We are indeed complex creatures, are we not? Over the past 46 years my ministries (jobs) have varied a lot. I trained to be a Maths/Science teacher. Then a few Year 9 students revealed that I do not have the skills to manage a group of teenage boys. So, Parish work became a key part of my ministries from then on, mostly in a voluntary capacity. Along the way I found further satisfaction in roles as diverse as labourer, Video Production Assistant, Pastoral Associate, Resource Centre Librarian, Vocations Adviser and Pastoral Carer. A life of prayer, within a dedicated community has remained the constant ground which gave purpose to these diverse activities. In reflecting on the readings of Palm Sunday it is easy to miss the little things that make the journey of Jesus into Jerusalem different. Even when I remember how the cries of praise turned vicious, the reasons can be missed. Basically, the crowds, including many of Jesus' own disciples, wanted to use the miracle worker, Jesus, in a way that served them. How bitterly disappointed they were when Jesus led them in a significantly different direction. Can I cope with this type of leadership? When Jesus leads me to a life significantly different to the one I expected, will I too turn on him? This is the question every holy week throws up for me; and most times I change the subject. Undoubtedly, Jesus would like too as well, he was not finished with his temptations in the desert, which we heard about four Sundays ago. During today's Passion, Jesus struggles with his fears to the point of sweating from grief (Luke 23:44) before his prayers afford him the grace to follow his Father's will to the full. I sometimes wonder if my prayers have the power to overcome the fears which abound in me. To let me do the good God gave me the opportunity to carry out. If I could see God's 2 guarantee, the risk of committing myself to following Jesus, would be a lot less daunting. Yet no one I know of, ever, has that level of certainty. In Gethsemane, it seems Jesus was tempted to take a less painful, less risky, path for changing the world. All very rational, perfectly logical too, I suppose: but clearly not what God wanted. In the middle of these prayers, Jesus returns to his (small) community, for affirmation. If others were important to Jesus' prayer, how dangerous is it for me to overlook them in my prayer life. The role of Church community is a sacramental one, and I seek it out whenever I feel the need. If we all followed this practice of Jesus, I believe it would improve the quality of our Church community. It certainly couldn't hurt. At least fewer people would pray alone. Living with complete faith that the God of miracles will do something completely mysterious to make good out of this deeply flawed creation is a risky proposition. Yet Jesus insists on it, by word and action, and is the way God has shown himself for millennia. The temptation to quit is a daily issue for me, thank God for the simple of ways in which he shows his blessing when I stop to listen for his grace. Pray today not to be put to the test.



For over half a century, generations of Australians have participated in Project Compassion, supporting vulnerable communities before, during and after natural disasters, conflicts and crises – making it one of the nation's longest running charity campaigns. Through your generosity and by aspiring to "Be More", you are empowering vulnerable communities around the world lift themselves and their communities out of poverty. Thank you for being more!



Project Compassion 2021

Please return your Project Compassion Box on Holy Thursday.

Pray for Justice and Peace

On Palm Sunday we remember Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on a donkey. Jesus accepts death on a cross rather than



engaging in violence. The contrast between the Prince of Peace and the powers and dominions of his day could not be starker. This is the basis of the Palm Sunday tradition of action in favour of peace and non-violent alternatives for addressing social, ecological, economic and political issues.

The Office for Social Justice invites you, on Palm Sunday and beyond, to pray for justice and peace in Myanmar.



Sign the Sydney Statement: The Sydney Statement is an interfaith charter that details how to engage in interfaith relations with others – in daily life, in acting together for the common good, in sharing knowledge about each other's religions and spirituality – and to promote interreligious dialogue within one's own community. Youth PoWR (Parliament of the World's Religions) generated the content of the statement, approved its text, and authorized its publication. Everyone is invited to sign up to its values, principles and commitments on its dedicated website ~ https://www.thesydneystatement.org.au/ The Statement seeks to build bridges

between believers of different faiths through a series of shared values and principles. It invites signatories to make twenty-one practical commitments based on these values and principles.



Parishioners who are unable to join with us physically for the Easter Triduum

Would you like to receive **Holy Communion** in the morning of either Wednesday (31 March) or Holy Thursday (1 April)?

Fr Shaju and Fr Joy will both be available to bring you Communion in your home.

If this is something you would like, please contact the office on 9456 2450 before 2pm on Tuesday (30 March) to make arrangements.



Our sincerest thanks to the narishioner who

volunteered this week to take **Our Lord in Communion** to the housebound.

 $\dot{\sim}$

This is such a vital ministry in parish life and it would be appreciated if two more volunteers could come forward to replace those who have retired.

"Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and do not wipe out good deeds that I have done for the house of my God and for his service.' Nehemiah 13:14

For more information on becoming a EMHC, or indeed any of our ministries in need of volunteers, *please* speak to either priest or the office.

YEAR of SAINT JOSEPH

"Show yourself a father, and guide us in the path of life"

Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil.



DECEMBER 8, 2020 - DECEMBER 8, 2021 catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph

