



MANLY FRESHWATER CATHOLIC PARISH

Mary Immaculate and St John the Baptist Churches

Palm Sunday – 13th April 2025

Palm Sunday & Holy Week Experience

As we enter Palm Sunday and begin our journey through Holy Week, I want to take a moment to thank everyone who participated in our recent Parish Lenten Retreat. It was truly a grace-filled evening of reflection and renewal.

A heartfelt thank you to our hospitality and social group who offered such warm and generous care behind the scenes—your work created a space where our community could feel truly welcome.

We were also incredibly blessed to have Dr. Peter Holmes as our guest speaker. His inspiring and thought-provoking talk touched many hearts, reminding us of God's presence and compassion, especially in the midst of suffering. On behalf of the parish, I thank him for generously sharing his wisdom and experience. For those who were not able to attend, I encourage you to watch the recording available on our parish Facebook page—you will not be disappointed.

As we now enter the most sacred days of our faith, I invite you to join us for our Holy Week liturgies. These powerful celebrations draw us into the heart of Christ's passion, death, and resurrection. The full schedule is available in the parish newsletter and on our website.

We also continue to accompany our catechumens and candidates as they take their final steps toward full initiation into the Church at the Easter Vigil. Please keep them in your prayers during this special time of grace.

I pray that this Holy Week will be a time of deep renewal for each of us—a chance to walk closely with Christ, to reflect on His love, and to prepare our hearts for the joy and hope of Easter.

Let us journey together with faith and trust in the One who makes all things new.

Fr Chima



MARY IMMACULATE CHURCH, MANLY

Mass of the Lord's Supper 17 April 7pm

Good Friday 18 April

Stations of the Cross 10am

The Lord's Passion 3pm

Easter Vigil 19 April 6.30pm

Easter Sunday 20th April

8:30am, 10:30am & 6pm

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH FRESHWATER

Good Friday 18 April

Stations of the Cross 10am

The Lord's Passion 3pm

Easter Vigil 19 April 6pm

Easter Sunday 20th April 9am



Washing of the Feet on Holy Thursday 7pm at Manly only

We would like to invite 12 parishioners to participate in the Washing of the Feet on Holy Thursday. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the Parish Office on 9977 5822.



The Chrism Mass will be celebrated at 7.30pm on Tuesday 15 April at Our Lady of the Rosary

Cathedral, Waitara. Priests of the Diocese of Broken Bay gather for this celebration with Bishop Anthony Randazzo to renew their priestly commitments. During 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.



LET US PRAY FOR

13th April 2025

Recently Deceased: Jilean McTeigue

Anniversary: Callum Dent; Maria Vasile; Albert See sr; Anita Morris; Roderick Valenton; Alfonso Yuchengco

Prayers for the sick in our parish: *"Lord, grant them and their carers strength and courage"* Stephen Robertson; Maureen Williams; Gerry Wybrandt; Amy Farrow; Patricia Duffy; Florencia Lira; Ken Waller; Mary Helen Fogarty; Belinda Nicholls; Jacqui Dawson; Gerry Ring; Zacchaeus Ratnam; John Connors; Don Hews; Joan Jacobs; Paul Donnelly; Julie Wallis; Lyn Hillard; Jake Usher; Wayne Smedley; Apolinar Anasarias; Kay Flenady; Annette Frances O'Leary; Anna Kalayzich; Veronica Rinaldo; Rena Curll; Shirley Ford; Ana Maria Saladana; Peter Hoang Ngoc Thai; John Santos; Garry Kirkman

Dates to remember...

- **ALPHA continues** Monday 14 April 7pm
- **Holy Thurs Mass 17 April 7pm Manly**
- **Cenacle of Our Lady**
Manly: Tues 9:45am; Freshwater: Wed 9:45am



Sacrament of confession/reconciliation

is available in Manly every Saturday from 10am to 11am and Wednesday from 6pm to 7pm.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION IN MANLY ON WEDNESDAYS 6pm – 7.30pm

Quiet Prayer, Adoration and reconciliation will be available

6pm – 7pm concluding with **Benediction**

"Hours of Mercy" every First Wednesday from 6:00 pm to midnight, we will hold a special time of grace and prayer. The evening will begin with **Mass**, followed by **Eucharistic Adoration**. This extended time of prayer allows us to deepen our relationship with God and receive the gift of **Plenary Indulgences**.

Welcome to Our Parish!

If you are new to the Parish or are not currently registered, we warmly welcome you and ask that you complete a Parish Census form. This will assist us to connect with you and your family and advise you of any of our parish community activities. The census form can be found on the back wall of the Church or at the side door entrance and may be left in the collection plate or emailed to the Parish Office - manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au



CAN'T GET TO MASS ON SUNDAY AND WANT TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION?

Many of you have not been able to come back to Mass on Sunday for different reasons. If you would like one of the Priest to visit you at home, please ring the parish office on 9977 5822

Why We Venerate Relics - A Biblical, Theological and Historical Explainer



Relics are material objects, like the physical remains of saints, or objects that belonged to, or have come in contact with, saints.

We venerate relics because of the belief that **God can and has mediated His grace through material things**. This has its **basis in the Scriptures**. For example, in the book of Numbers 21: 8-9 God says to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live." Also, in the book of 2 Kings 13: 20-22 a group of Israelites bury a dead man's body in the tomb of the Prophet Elisha, and **when the body touched Elisha's bones, the man came to life** and stood up on his feet?

In the New Testament we have stories that recount similar phenomena. For example, the haemorrhaging woman in the Gospels who **was healed when she touched the edge of Jesus' cloak** (Luke 8: 43-48). Or in Acts 19:11-12 where we read: "So remarkable were the miracles worked by God at Paul's hands that **handkerchiefs or aprons which had touched him were taken to the sick, and they were cured** of their illnesses, and the evil spirits came out of them." And again in Acts 5 we read of how the sick and those tormented by unclean spirits were laid in the streets in the hope that **the passing shadow of Peter** might fall on them "and all of them were cured" (v. 15-16).

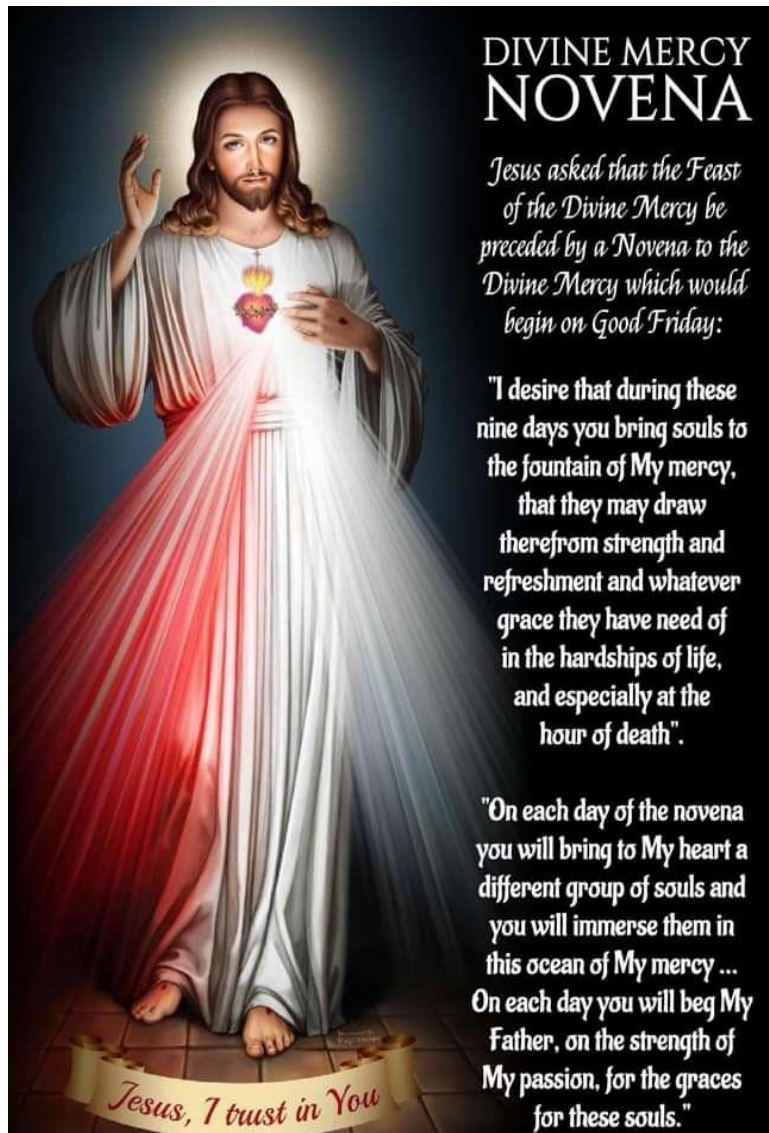
Numerous **early Church writers also speak of the practice of the veneration** of relics. One example is when Polycarp was martyred by the Smyrnaeans in the year 156 A.D. the Christians describe how they took the bones of the martyr and would gather and venerate them.

Another account by the early Church historian Eusebius writes about St Helena, Emperor Constantine's mother, who in the fourth century was able to locate a number of relics in Jerusalem, including **the True Cross of Christ's crucifixion**. St Helena, with the help of Bishop Macarius of Jerusalem, was able to authenticate this relic by bringing **a dying woman to touch the cross which cured her**.

This process of authenticating relics was also described by the anti-Catholic historian Adolph Harnack, who writes, "[N]o Church doctor of repute restricted it... The **numerous miracles which were wrought by bones and relics seemed to confirm their worship**. The Church therefore would not give up the practice" (History of Dogma, tr., IV, 313).

Relics are not "magic" nor are they a way of compelling God to act in a certain way. Graces communicated through relics occur at God's sovereign will. Catholics are not compelled to venerate any particular relic, however **the Church maintains that this practice is valid and proper**. The theological justification is based on the fact that the earthly remains of saints are venerated because they are living members of Christ, and their bodies like ours were temples of the Holy Spirit. While the saints were on earth God bestowed many graces through them on the Church, and He continues to do so now that they are glorified in heaven. May the relic of St John Vianney be a source of blessing to our parish and to all those who come to venerate it, Amen!

Alfred Soliman – Seminarian



The Novena commences on Good Friday

We invite you to join us in saying the Novena commencing on Good Friday continuing on the following days at the times set out below.

Mary Immaculate, Manly

- Good Friday following 3pm The Passion
- Easter Saturday 10am
- Easter Sunday 9.30am
- Easter Monday following 9.15am Mass
- Weekdays following 9.15am Mass
- Saturday 26th April following 9.15am Mass

St John the Baptist, Freshwater

- Good Friday 2.30pm before the Passion
- Easter Saturday 5.30pm
- Easter Sunday 8.30am
- Easter Monday join with Manly following 9.15am Mass
- Tuesday to Friday following 9.15am Mass
- Saturday 26th April 4.30pm

DIVINE MERCY HOUR

SUNDAY 27th of April

2.00pm - 4.00pm

- Procession
- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- Sacrament of confession
- Adoration with St Faustina's Diary
- Divine Mercy Chaplet
- Benediction
- Veneration of St Faustina's relic
- Blessings of Divine Mercy Images



St Mary's Church, 6 Raglan St, Manly



Morning Prayer



During this Jubilee Year of Hope 2025, we are all invited to a deeper spiritual renewal, embracing prayer as a way to grow in faith and trust in God's providence and love. As part of this journey, Morning Prayer (Liturgy of the Hours) will be prayed at 8:45am, Tuesday to Friday, before Mass, at the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, at Mary Immaculate Church, Manly. This ancient prayer of the Church unites us in praise and reflection through Scripture and psalms, drawing us into the rhythm of daily prayer with the universal Church. Prayer books will be provided, and all are welcome to join.

PIETY STORE

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA SPECIAL OFFER to help us prepare for **Divine Mercy Sunday**

We have a limited number of Rosaries from the Sanctuary of Divine Mercy in Poland. These Rosaries contain the 3rd class relic of St Faustina. Available this week with a copy of the Novena and votive candle.



Novena commences Good Friday

There are St John Vianney candles, prayer books and holy water bottles available in the Piety Store along with books on St Joseph for the month of March, a variety of crosses, rosary beads, CD's, DVD's and much more.



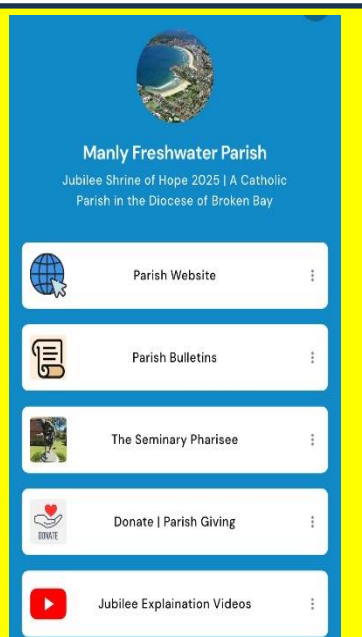
Movie of the month: The Doctors of the Church – St Ambrose of Milan. Destined to reach the highest political office, he instead fully embraced life's mission to serve God and became one of the greatest bishops of the Church. Leaving behind a legacy of hymns, influential writings and the title, Doctor of the Church. Only \$10 @ the piety store.

CD of the month: Beyond Belief – Following Christ today – Fr Michael Schmitz. Fr Mike challenges us to not settle for mediocrity and to allow Christ to change our lives. Once we are changed by the love of Jesus, then together we can change the world. Only \$5 @ the piety store.



Manly Freshwater Parish –QR Code

CHECK OUT Fr Sam's new 90 second Jubilee YouTube video by scanning the QR Code. Other parish information can also be found.



Parking at Manly



It's wonderful to see so many people coming along to Masses over the weekend. You may have noticed last weekend the car park was overflowing. As we are expecting many attending our Easter Ceremonies, please be aware there is 2 hr free parking in both parking stations in Central Avenue. We need to have emergency access at all times so please do not stack park.



HAVE YOU CONSIDERED BEING A EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER OR READER AT MASS?

As we start a new year, we are looking to hold training for new Eucharistic Ministers and Readers. If you are interested in this very important and fulfilling ministry, please contact the parish office 9977 5822 to register.



Pope's Intentions: For the use of the new technologies Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.



Easter Ministry Roster

If you are a reader or a senior server and are able to assist with our Easter Services, please advise the

Parish Office.



PARISH MORNING TEAS

MANLY: 3rd Sunday after 10:30am Mass

FRESHWATER: Sunday after 9am

Mass.

**Join us for morning tea and a chat.
All welcome and bring a friend**

PROJECT COMPASSION



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.

Please donate today. You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413



YOUTH GROUP

1st and 3rd Sunday of the Month following the 6pm Mass (7pm – 9pm).


We welcome all youth who are in High School (Yr 7 – Yr 12) to come along and join the Manly Freshwater Parish Youth Group. Join us for free food and drinks, table tennis, basketball, party games, talks and new friends! Feel free to check out our instagram or send us an email!

Email: manlyfreshwatercatholicyouth@gmail.com


Instagram: [manlyfreshwater_catholicyouth](https://www.instagram.com/manlyfreshwater_catholicyouth)

AT THIS JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE

Take the challenge and join us for the



REGISTER



WALKING PILGRIMAGE FOR YOUNG ADULTS

FROM MANLY TO CHATSWOOD

26.04.2025 FROM 8 AM TO 4 PM

**Are You a Young Adult?
Ready for a Walking Challenge?
Looking to Connect with Other Young People?
Do You Have a Special Intention Worth the Effort?**

If you answered "Yes" to any of these questions, join us for a **walking pilgrimage** to the **Jubilee Shrine for Young People in Chatswood!**

 **Date:** 26th April 2025

 **Start Time:** 8:00 AM

 **Arrival at Chatswood:** Around 1:15 PM

Come walk with us, connect with others, and make this journey one of purpose and reflection!

For more info contact Fr Marek via:
marek.woldan@bbcatholic.org.au

WARRINGAH CATHOLIC PARISH INVITES YOU

ECUMENICAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS

FRIDAY 18TH OF APRIL 2025



**11:00 AM
AT ST. KEVIN'S CHURCH**

COME AND JOIN US IN THIS SACRED OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE WITNESS OF OUR FAITH AND TO CELEBRATE THE LOVE OF GOD WITH OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF OTHER CHRISTIAN CHURCHES AND COMMUNITIES.

JOIN OUR NORTHERN BEACHES



YOUNG ADULTS

COMMUNITY

Every 2nd Saturday at pub/restaurant
Every 4th Saturday at Manly Parish message: (6 Raglan St)
Fr Marek at 0422532173
or Cam at 0432895304



Thank you for your generous support. We encourage you to use the tap machines at the Church entrances. If you prefer to use cash, there will be **ONE** collection during Mass at the offertory at Manly and **TWO** at Freshwater.

PILOT PROGRAM –The Diocese has agreed for Manly to pilot a **ONE COLLECTION** at the weekend Masses. The Diocese will continue to monitor this. The collection is for the First and Second Plates and will be allocated as follows:

- 25% to Supporting our Priests including the sick & retired in our Diocese.
- 75% to Parish operations and maintenance of building.

SUPPORT OUR PARISH & PRIESTS FINANCIALLY by using one of the following...

1. **Planned Giving:** through a monthly **direct debit** or **credit card**. Please contact the parish office for more information 9977 5822.
2. **Collection plates during Mass**
3. **Tap and Go machines** using your credit/debit card or **EFTPOS Terminals**.
4. **Scan to Donate** using the QR code to access our BPoint Donation page.
5. **Direct into Parish Bank Accounts**



Parish Giving (2nd collection)

Funds the running of the Parish

Account Name: Manly Freshwater Parish

Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank

Account # 100002025 BSB: 062 784

Clergy Giving (1st collection)

Supports our Priests

Account: Manly Freshwater Parish Pastoral

Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank

Account# 13958002 BSB: 062 784

HAS YOUR CREDIT CARD EXPIRED?

If you donate to the Parish using your credit card please let us know if you have a new card or the card has expired by contacting the Parish Office 9977 5822 or email

manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

DIRECT DEBIT FROM BANK ACCOUNT

Please consider changing your giving from a credit card deduction to a direct debit from your bank account. Please contact the parish office to have this set up automatically for you.



Grace and Truth Event

You are invited to join the Dominican Friars and Sisters on Wednesday, 30 April for an evening of prayer, formation, and fellowship. Open to men and women of all ages. The evening will consist of Eucharistic Adoration, Vespers and Benediction, a light dinner, and talks by Sister Elena Marie and Father James Baxter. The event will run from 5-9PM, starting in the crypt of St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, and moving to the Cathedral Hall. Fee: \$20. For more information, contact the Dominican Sisters at sydney@op-tn.org

PARISH WEEKLY EVENTS

- Cenacle of Our Lady: Tues 9:45am Manly Church
- Craft Group: Tues 10:00am Parish Centre
- Christian Meditation: Tues 12:15pm Parish Centre
- Eucharistic Adoration: Weds 6:00pm Manly
- Lectio Divina: Tues 7.30pm & Weds 10am Parish Centre
- Piety Store: open on weekends or call the Parish Office
- Prayer Group in Spanish – 2nd & 4th Friday 6pm Parish meeting room
- Reconciliation: Manly: Sat 10am – 11am
- RCIA: Contact the Parish Office 9977 5822
- Rosary: Freshwater Tues – Fri 8.45am in Church
- Youth Group (Yrs 7 – Yr 12): 1st & 3rd Sunday 7pm – 9pm

PARISH MONTHLY EVENTS

- Anointing Mass: Manly & Freshwater 1st Friday 9:15am
- Parish Pastoral Council: contact Parish Office
- St Vincent de Paul Conferences:
Manly 1st Mon each month 5:30pm
Freshwater 2nd Mon each month 5:30pm



Lectio Divina Read his story in the Gospels. Spend time with him. Lectio Divina groups meet in the Parish Centre on Tuesday evenings at 7:30pm and Wednesday mornings at 10am.



The Craft Group meets each week on Tuesday mornings from 10am to 12noon in the Parish Center. We invite you to come along for a cuppa and a chat in a friendly relaxed environment. Bring your knitting or other craft if you wish.



Children's Liturgy is held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month during the 10:30am Mass.

Children's Activity pages available at the entrance of the Churches.

Children's Mass books are now available at the entrances of the Church for use during the Masses. Please return after the Mass.

Mass booklets can be purchased from the Piety Store for \$10.00

PARISH SOCIAL MEDIA

Parish facebook: facebook.com/manlyfreshwaterparish

Parish website: bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater
Livestreaming on Facebook Sunday 8:30am Mass
manlyfreshwaterparishfacebook/videos

Manly Freshwater Parish promotes SAFEGUARDING which involves the implementation of proactive, common sense and practical ideas that ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults in our MANLY community.

EASTER ROSTER 2025

THE EASTER TRIDUUM – Manly

HOLY THURSDAY Mass of the Lord's Supper – :7pm		GOOD FRIDAY Solemnity of the Lord's Passion – 3pm	EASTER VIGIL 6:30pm
Acolytes & Servers	Alfred Soliman Ivica Covic Gabriel Wan Owen Koster Richard Heasman Teresa Hearn Luke Druery Kieran Wan	Alfred Soliman Ken Thompson Ivica Covic Louise Wareham Owen Koster Richard Heasman	Alfred Soliman Ivica Covic Gabriel Wan Louise Wareham Owen Koster Richard Heasman
Readers	Reader 1 Patty Thomas Reader 2: Rita Bruzzese	Reader 1: Patty Thomas Reader 2: Sandie Cornish Gospel Passion Reading Narrator: Rita Bruzzese Other Voices: Katalina Taefotu Intercessions: Rita Bruzzese	Reader 1 Sandie Cornish Reader 2: Rita Bruzzese Reader 3: Freya Zemek Reader 4: Janie Fonua Epistle: Assistance Required
Music	Tongan Choir	Parish Choir	Parish Choir

THE EASTER TRIDUUM – Freshwater

		GOOD FRIDAY Solemnity of the Lord's Passion – 3pm	EASTER VIGIL 6pm
Acolytes & Snr Servers		Mick O'Farrell Francis Raymond	Ian Press Joanne Druery
Readers		Reader 1: Vincent Bokanovic Reader 2: Toni Walsh Gospel Passion Reading Narrator: Vincent Bokanovic Other Voices: Toni Walsh Intercessions: Amanda Whitfield	Reader 1: Vincent Bokanovic Reader 2: Toni Walsh Reader 3: Assistance Required Epistle: Assistance Required
Music		Pat Brown	Pat Brown
Welcomer		Shirley Abbott	Shirley Abbott

EASTER SUNDAY

	Freshwater 9am	Manly 8:30am	Manly 10:30am	Manly 6pm
Acolyte/ Server	Alfred Soliman Amorina Wright	Ken Thompson	Louise Wareham Teresa Hearn	Ivica Covic
Readers	Assistance Required	Patty Thomas Katalina Taefotu	Carole O'Donnell Janie Fonua	Assistance Required
Music	Parish Choir	Parish Choir	Gina & Robert Marshall	TBC
Piety Store			Kim McGrath	

Palm Sunday – Year C

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.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24

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.

All: Thanks be to God.

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

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

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 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,

O 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 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 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.

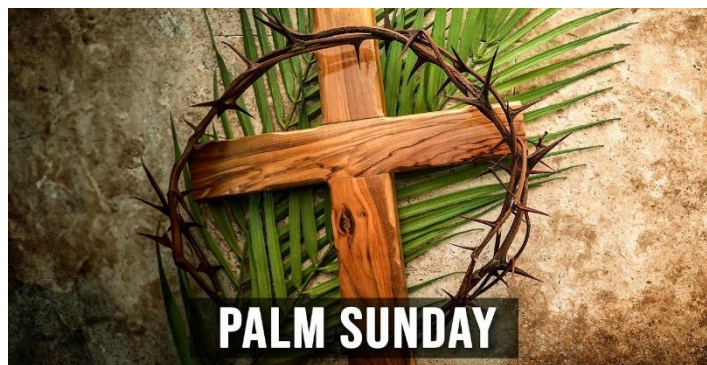
Then a member of the council arrived, an upright and virtuous man named Joseph. He had not consented to what the others had planned and carried out. He came from Arimathea, a Jewish town, and he lived in the hope of seeing the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. He 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.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



Gospel Reflection

The Passion: Luke 22: 14 – 23: 56

Throughout his Gospel, Luke's Jesus has preached the joy of humble servanthood. In his

final hours, Jesus exhibits that same great generosity, forgiving spirit and abandonment for the sake of others. Only in Luke's account of the Passion does Jesus heal the severed ear of the high priest's servant. He does not rebuke his disciples for falling asleep during the garden watch. He urges the women of Jerusalem not to be concerned for him but for themselves: if such injustice can befall the innocent Jesus (the "green wood"), what horrors await an unrepentant ("dry") Jerusalem? At the Place of the Skull, Jesus' crucifixion becomes an occasion for divine forgiveness: he prays that God will forgive his executioners and promises paradise to the penitent thief crucified with him. Even Jesus' final words on the cross are not words of abandonment but of hope: Luke's Crucified does not cry out Psalm 22 (as he does in Matthew and Mark's narrative) but prays Psalm 31: 5-6: "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit." Luke's Jesus is the Suffering Servant whose death for the sake of humanity will be exalted in the Resurrection three days hence.

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Prayer for the Jubilee Year of Hope

Inspired by the Life and Witness of St. John Vianney

Heavenly Father, in this Jubilee Year of Hope, we thank You for the gift of our parish, Manly Freshwater, chosen as a shrine of hope for priests and vocations. Through the intercession of St. John Vianney, the faithful shepherd of souls, renew in us a deep love for the priesthood and a commitment to fostering holy vocations in our community.

Lord, may this parish be a beacon of hope, where priests find strength and renewal, where Your faithful discover peace and encouragement, and where hearts are inspired to answer Your call with courage and joy.

Teach us, through the example of St. John Vianney, to love prayer deeply, to serve with humility, and to bring Your mercy and hope to those who seek You.

We entrust Manly Freshwater Parish and this Jubilee Year of Hope to Your loving care, confident that You will guide us to renewal and bless us with abundant vocations, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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Parish Priest: Fr Chima Ofor
manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Marek Woldan
marek.woldan@bbcatholic.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Sam French
sam.french@bbcatholic.org.au

Seminarian: Mr Alfred Soliman
manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Parish Secretary: Jenny Beninati
manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

Mary Immaculate Church (Parish Office)
6 Raglan St, Manly 2095

Phone: 9977 5822

After Hours Sick Calls: 0499 910 010

Parish Office: Mon to Thur 8:30am – 4:30pm

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Rob Irving; Robert Marshall; Ian Press

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Freshwater: Saturday Vigil 5:00pm and Sunday 9am

Manly: Saturday Vigil 6:00pm

Sunday 8:30am, 10:30am, 6:00pm

Weekday Masses: *Freshwater* Tue, Wed, Thur, Fri 9:15am

Manly Tues and Fri 7am & 9:15am

Wed and Thur 9:15am

Reconciliation: *Manly* Wed 6pm – 7pm; Sat 10am – 11am

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