



St Bernadette's Parish

Under the Pastoral Care of The Paulist Missionaries
59B Westmoreland Road, North Sunshine

Parish Office / Presbytery 9311 2977 - School 9311 8872 - Augustinian Sisters 9312 3953
Parish Email: sunshinenorth@cam.org.au - Parish website: stbernadettesparish.com.au



Palm Sunday

Year B

24th March 2024

Parish Staff

Fr Silvio Bezzina mssp	Parish Priest
Miss Amanda Browne	Pastoral Worker
Mrs Joyce Cutajar	Parish Secretary (Mon, Thurs & Fri)
Mrs Bev Tessari	Office (Tuesday)
Miss Josie Desira	Office (Wednesday)
Mr Brendan Gill	School Principal



Dear Parishioners and Friends,

By the grace of God, we have journeyed through lent, and today we celebrate Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week. Sometimes I wonder how the disciples and friends of Jesus managed to get through this week. Their experience of Jesus over the years must have been so intense. They accompanied him and heard the words he spoke. They ate with him, and they touched him. They observed his actions and they understood he was more than a prophet, holy man, or miracle worker. They recognised him as the Son of God, intent on fulfilling a mission that the Father gave him. Their faith in him, sometimes strong, sometimes shaky, was going to be truly tested.



I can only imagine the thoughts and emotions that ran through their minds and hearts as they accompanied Jesus during those last few days. The exuberance of the entry into Jerusalem, riding on a donkey. People calling Hosanna, and then the lull of a few days. The closeness they felt during that supper, washing their feet, telling them *this is my body, this is my blood* as he shared the bread and the wine.

Then the pain and anger of betrayal. The guilt of abandonment. The great sense of loss as they saw evil people mistreat him, hurt him badly, and condemning him to the cruellest of deaths on the cross. Some people rejoicing because they finally got rid of him... or so they thought. Others crying because they lost the best friend they ever had. He who loved them beyond measure was now in the tomb. They could only reflect on his life, his teaching, his compassion, his care, his love. They were devastated, and exhaustion overtook them.

And then, the sun rose to herald the first day of the week... He is Risen!

God bless you.

Fr Silvio

Last Weekends Thanksgiving \$3,324.20

EASTER FLOWERS

If you would like to make a donation to help with the cost of Church flowers for Easter, please place your donation in an envelope with the words **"Easter Flowers"** on the front and give to Father or the Parish Office. Thank you for your generosity.



Weekday Masses

Monday 25th Monday in Holy Week

5.30 - 7.00 pm Polish Mission
7.00pm Vietnamese Stations of the Cross followed by Reconciliation

Tuesday 26th Tuesday in Holy Week

9.15 am Daily Mass
9.45 am - 10.15am Reconciliation
10.30 am Funeral - Josephine Borg
Rosary followed by Mass
6.30 pm - 8.30pm Polish Reconciliation
7.00 pm - 8.00pm Polish Mission

Wednesday 27th Wednesday in Holy Week

9.15 am Daily Mass
9.45 am - 10.15am Reconciliation
6.00 pm - 8.00pm Reconciliation
6.30 pm Novena, Rosary followed by
7.00 pm Mass

Thursday 28th Holy Thursday

7.00 pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday 29th Good Friday

10.00 am Meditation on the Sorrowful Mother
10.30 am - 11.30am Reconciliation
3.00 pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Weekend Masses

Saturday - 6.30pm and
8.00pm Neo-Catechumenal (Pioneers Hall)
Sunday - 8.30am, 9.45am (Polish) 11.00 am,
12.30pm (Vietnamese) and 7.00pm.
2nd Sunday of the Month 2.00pm (Samoan)
except in November and at Easter time.

Reconciliation

Wednesday Evening - 6.30pm to 7.00pm
Saturday - 11.00am to 12 noon (at the Presbytery)
and 6.00pm to 6.30pm.

Baptisms

By Appointment Only.
Held on 2nd Saturday of the Month at 11.00am.



Palm Sunday

Reflect, today, upon the God Whom you worship this Holy Week. Do not shy away from all that Jesus endured. Gaze at His rejection and passion. Look at the hatred He endured. As you do, see not only your glorious God, see also the remedy for all your ills. God descended to us in this most humble form so that He could meet us where we are at and raise us to new life with Him.



My suffering Lord, I worship You and praise You with all my heart. As You entered Jerusalem for the Passover, You intended to give new power to that celebration by becoming the New and Eternal Paschal Lamb. May I always worship You Who suffered for me and give to You all that I endure in life to be transformed by Your saving act. Jesus, I trust in You.

THE VEILING OF CROSSES FOR THE LAST TWO WEEKS OF LENT

The custom of veiling the cross and crucifix during the last two weeks of Lent comes from the former liturgical calendar in which the Passion was read on the Fifth Sunday of Lent (hence called "Passion Sunday") as well as on Palm Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week, and Good Friday. For this reason the period following the Fifth Sunday of Lent was called Passiontide.



The veiling of the crucifix and cross alerts us to a special time. The last 2 weeks of Lent are supposed to be times of intense preparation for the Lord's Passover. It is a forceful reminder for us to get ready. These last 2 weeks of Lent are a reminder of Jesus' final days and so we need to be aware of our Lenten journey and how it has changed our hearts.

ALPHA Series

The Alpha series provides an opportunity for individuals to explore their faith in a different way. It reinforces the power of God's unconditional mercy and love and by sharing their journey with others, participants have the opportunity to deepen their faith and love for Jesus.



We are planning to run another APHA course this year in our Parish and are looking to start the series mid April. The series goes for about 11 weeks and will once again be face to face. This year the Alpha series has new Australian Street Talks and a new interactive format with discussion questions and breaks throughout each episode.

If you think that you would be interested in being a part of this series, please email Amanda at brownieab75@gmail.com or call her on 0438 514 304.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MASS

There WILL BE mass this Wednesday night 27th March. Starting with Novena at 6.30pm. Reconciliations 6.00pm to 8.00pm



Proclaimers of the word and Eucharistic Ministers for the Easter Triduum.

If you would like to either Read or be a Eucharistic Minister during our Easter Triduum celebrations, please place your name on the sign-up sheet in the foyer. Amanda will contact you in regards to which ministry you have been allocated. Thank you.

Washing of the Feet – Holy Thursday

If you would like to have your feet washed on Holy Thursday, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the foyer. Please add your phone number also so that Amanda can make contact with you. Thank you



We Welcome into our Parish Community

Theresa Dang Zammit daughter of Anthony & Phuong
Genevieve Ngoc Bich Luu & Michael Hoang Luu
children of Trung & Chi



WALK A MILE IN MY SHOES

Preca Community are having a Youth Retreat event for young people 13 years and older on Saturday 6th of April between 10am to 4pm.

Location: Preca Centre 29 Rosslare Pde, St Albans.

The day will include: Guest speakers, group discussions, prayer and reflection time, work shops, testimonials, lucky door prizes, BBQ lunch and more. Refer to the flyer on the church notice board for registration. Scan the QC Code or use the link provided or call Phuong on 0434 728 620.



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME
ENDS ON 7 APRIL
DON'T FORGET TO SET YOUR CLOCKS
BACK

More information on the notice board

DIVINE MERCY

JESUS said... to St Faustina
"By this Novena I will grant
unimaginable GRACES to Souls"

ALL WELCOME

9 DAY MASS & NOVENA

1. Good Friday 29th March - 5.30pm Novena
2. Holy Saturday 30th March - 5pm Novena
3. Easter Sunday 31st March - 1.15pm Novena
4. Easter Monday 1st April - 7pm Mass & Novena
5. Tuesday 2nd April - 7pm Mass & Novena
6. Wednesday 3rd April - 7pm Mass & Novena
7. Thursday 4th April - 5.30pm Mass & Novena
8. Friday 5th April - 6.15pm Novena & 7pm Mass
9. Saturday 6th April - 4.30pm Novena

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

7th April 2024

2PM CONFESSION, ROSARY & LITANY
PRAYERS

3PM HOLY MASS

Presider Fr Richard Rosse
The Blessing of DVM Portrait & Holy Ornaments will
take place during Mass
Please bring your Holy Ornaments.

4PM DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

In SONG, Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament, Benediction & Divine Prayers
"Couples for Christ Choir"
Followed by hospitality in the front foyer
Coffee, Tea & Refreshments. All welcome.

ST CATHERINE OF SIENA PARISH
Parish Priest, Fr Richard Rosse
28 College Street, Caroline Springs



"O BLOOD & WATER WHICH GUSHED FORTH
FROM THE HEART OF JESUS AS FOUNT OF
MERCY FOR US, I TRUST IN YOU!"
"On this day (Feast of Mercy) I will pour out a
whole ocean of graces upon those souls who
approach the fount of Mercy"

ST BERNADETTE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL SUNSHINE NORTH

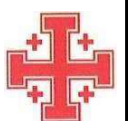
9311 8872

ENROL NOW

ENROLMENTS FOR PREP 2025 ARE NOW OPEN.
IF YOUR CHILD TURNS 5 BY APRIL 30TH 2025, THEY ARE ELIGIBLE TO START
SCHOOL NEXT YEAR. DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION FORM FROM OUR
WEBSITE OR COLLECT ONE FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE.



Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land on Good Friday



The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday, March 29th. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment, housing. Parishes, and orphanages. It is also used to maintain over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. Due to the ongoing war, the Church and people of the Holy Land are still struggling with reduced income due to fewer pilgrims and lower church attendance around the world.

Sixth Sunday of Lent (Palm Sunday) 23 & 24 March

As Project Compassion 2024 comes to an end, we want to thank you for your incredibly generous support throughout Lent. This year, we shared with you the story of three inspiring women from across the globe, who overcame challenges to complete their education. With the support of compassionate people like you, they are now forging a path to a better future for their families and their communities.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2024.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, **for all future generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.



PLEASE PRAY FOR

Saturday 6.30pm: Camilleri & Cutajar Families, Joe Pulis, Louis Xuereb, Stellini & Xuereb Families, Scerri Family, Paul & Rita Bugeja, Antonia Zammit (Canada) - Joe & Mary Porter, Porter, Fleri, Falzon and Micallef families, Louis & Theresa Galea, Michael Angelo & Rita Gatt, Bernard & Carmela Pace, Firmino & Maria Moretto, Alvin John, Joseph & Carmen Bugeja, Ganna & Joseph Pace, Gregory & Joe Pace, Victor, Carmelo & Maria Galea & Family, Carmelo, Rita, Loreto & Damien Grech, Xuereb Family, Grech Family & Special Intentions, Sam Xiberras, Carmelo Mercieca & Grech Family, Lewis & Emanuel Azzopardi, Tarcisio, Gulia, Spiro, Emanuel & Patrick Debrincat, Angelo & Maria Camilleri, Julie Camilleri, Guzeppi & Zarenu Farrugia, All Souls

Sunday 8.30am: Joseph Sultana, Jerry Sultana, Antonio Stenta, Stella Sammut - Laurie Haber, John Muscat, Vernon Browne, Emanuel Spiteri, Rita Cini, Lewis & Emanuel Azzopardi, Tarcisio, Gulia, Spiro, Emanuel & Patrick Debrincat, All Souls

Sunday 11.00am: Rosario Manariti, Sam Spiteri, Jakov Trbuhovich - Spiteri & Mercieca Families, Pauline Debrincat, Tony Micallef, Paul Cutajar, Joseph Grech, John & Nina Sultana, Rita Trost, Catherine Wicker, Josephine Borg, Antonia Lawrence & Joe Sultana & Family, Bernard & Carmela Pace, Firmino & Maria Moretto, Gregory & Joe Pace, Emmanuel Piscopo & Family, Fred Xiberras, Joseph Vella, John & Geswalda Borg, All Souls

Sunday 7.00pm: - Alvin John, Joseph & Carmen Bugeja, Ganna & Joseph Pace, All Souls

Anniversary: Joe Sultana (4th), Sam Spiteri, Jakov Trbuhovich (31yrs)

Recently Deceased: Stella Sammut, Renza Peruch-Pulicino

Funeral: Josephine Borg on Tuesday 26th March at 10.30am, Rosary followed by Mass.

Sick: Elli Riikonen, Bertti Riikonen, Clementina Leong, Kim Borg, Theresa Vella

EASTER PROGRAM

Saturday 23rd March - Palm Sunday Vigil

Masses - 6.30pm and
8.00pm Neo Catechumenal (Pioneers Hall)

Sunday 24th March - Palm Sunday

Masses - 8.30am, 9.45 (Polish),
11.00am, 12.30pm (Vietnamese) and 7.00pm



Monday, 25th March

5.30pm to 7.00pm - Polish Mission

7.00pm - Vietnamese Stations of the Cross
followed by Reconciliation



Tuesday, 26th March

9.15am - Morning Mass

9.45am to 10.15am - Reconciliation

6.30pm to 8.30pm - Polish Reconciliation

7.00pm to 8.00pm - Polish Mission



Wednesday, 27th March

9.15am - Morning Mass

9.45am to 10.15am - Reconciliation

6.00pm to 8.00pm - Reconciliation



28th March - Holy Thursday

7.00pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper



29th March - Good Friday

10.00am - Meditation on the Sorrowful Mother

10.30am to 11.30am - Reconciliation

3.00pm - Celebration of the Lord's Passion

NB: Today is a day of fasting and abstinence.

30th March - Holy Saturday

3.00pm - A Blessing of the Food
(Polish)

7.00pm - Vigil Mass of the
Resurrection

11.00pm - Neo-Catechumenal Easter Celebration



31st March - Easter Sunday

Masses - 8.30am, 9.45am (Polish),
11.00am and 12.30pm (Vietnamese)



NB: No evening mass on Easter Sunday

1st April - Easter Monday

10.00am - Polish Mass

7.30pm - Vietnamese Mass

LITURGY OF THE WORD - Palm Sunday

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

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.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 21:8-9. 17-20. 23-24

RESPONSE: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?



Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

A reading from the letter to the Philippians

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.

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: Mark 14:1 - 15:47

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Next Week's Readings:

Acts 10:34. 37-43; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9

EDUCATION IN FAITH

The Drama begins...

The story which begins of Palm Sunday is basically a human drama; it is our drama. As Jesus enters into his final week, he takes humanity with him and continues to do so every Easter. We are not just remembering an historical event that happened over two thousand years ago. We are celebrating and taking part in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus as it happens today to us and for us.

His entry into the city begins on a huge wave of optimism, joy and hope. The people line the streets; they wave palms, they put their cloaks and garments on the ground and they shout out his name. This was an ancient Roman tradition used to welcome soldiers and armies home after their success in battle. The crowd welcome Jesus in a similar way as they shout out, Hosanna, Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Yet, how quickly the crowd changed and turned on Jesus. The same people who were happy to welcome him with shouts of joy, will soon begin to shout 'Crucify him, Crucify him.' Jesus is even betrayed and denied by his closet friends. The rest of them run and desert him. He is left alone.

There is a real danger that we can get lost in getting the liturgy of Palm Sunday and indeed the whole of Holy week just right. If we are not careful, we can lose sight of what we are remembering, celebrating and taking part in. As well as celebrating this great week with dignity and reverence, we also need to ask ourselves what it is all about and what it means to each of us.

Where am I in the unfolding drama that begins on Palm Sunday and plays out over Holy Week and which climaxes on Easter? Where am I as Jesus passes by on the donkey? Am I one of the crowd shouting out his name? Am I like Judas in any way? When have I betrayed others or Jesus? When like Peter, have I denied knowing Jesus? Am I like Pilate when I judge and condemn others? How am I like Simon or Veronica who help Jesus in his time of need? Having stood with the crowd shouting out his name and welcoming Jesus, will I stand with the same people spitting out insults as I shout 'Crucify him! Crucify him!'

As we celebrate Palm Sunday and begin our journey through Holy Week, we are called to ask ourselves who and where we are in the crowd. This is a week to pray and then decide what kind of followers of Christ we are and are going to be.

During this busy week of prayer, liturgies and ceremonies, let us not lose sight of what we are remembering, celebrating and talking part in.

As we begin this most holy of weeks, may Jesus be our constant companion. May we enter in the mystery of Jesus' life, death and resurrection with faith and hope.

Michael Moore OMI