

Fifth Sunday of Lent—Year A

2 April 2017



First Reading

Ez 37:12-14

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

Second Reading

Rom 8:8-11

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

Gospel

Jn 11:3-7. 17. 20-27. 33-45

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, ‘Lord, the man you love is ill.’ On receiving the message, Jesus said, ‘This sickness will end not in death but in God’s glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.’

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, ‘Let us go to Judaea.’

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, ‘If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.’ ‘Your brother’ said Jesus to her ‘will rise again.’ Martha said, ‘I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.’ Jesus said:

‘I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?’

‘Yes, Lord,’ she said ‘I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.’ Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, ‘Where have you put him?’ They said, ‘See how much he loved him!’ But there were some who remarked, ‘He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man’s death?’ Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, ‘Take the stone away.’ Martha said to him, ‘Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.’ Jesus replied, ‘Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?’ So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

‘Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.’

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, here! Come out!’ The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, ‘Unbind him, let him go free.’ Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.



Holy Week
Reflection
10-13 April

Parish Diary This Week!

Monday	6.45am Mass
Tuesday	6.45am Mass
Wednesday	6.45am & 9.15am - Mass 7.00pm RCIA Lenten Prayer (Jubilee Hall) 7.30pm Meditation for Lent with Fr Thomas (St Joseph's House, 68 Kingsland Rd)
Thursday	6.45am & 9.15am - Mass 7.00pm Psalmist Practice (8 Wallace St, Sefton) 7.30pm General Practice for Parish Choir (8 Wallace St, Sefton)
Friday	6.45am Mass & 9.15am Mass 7.00pm Stations of the Cross
Saturday	8.00am Mass 8.30am Rosary 9.00am Novena, Adoration & Confession 5.00pm Mass (Sunday Vigil)
Sunday	8.00am Mass at SJW Church Auburn Sth 10.00am Mass 11.00am Confirmation Class (Jubilee Hall) 4.00pm Special Practice for Holy Week and Easter Singing (SPC Church)

Parish Priest

Fr Thomas Kurunthanam
pp@stpeter-stjoseph.org.au
T (02) 9644 7787

Priests in Residence

Mgr Michael Berbari, Cor Bishop
T (02)8723 9192
M 0418 459 431

Parish Secretary

Lea Baldoria
Tues to Fri 9am -3pm
T (02) 9644 7787

Youth Ministry Co-ordinator

Tommy Francisco
tommy.bolin.francisco@gmail.com

Pastoral Relations Officer

Mariana Tannous

Pastoral Council

Charlie Scully (Chair)
T. 0402071849
Maureen Hynes (Secretary)
Joji Salar (Asst Secretary),
Micheline Botham (Social Committee)
Jenny Michael (Liturgy Committee)
Pat Kavanagh (Social Justice),
Jann Rockliff (Hospital Visit) ,
Joe Moses, Rhia Victorino, Arthur
Doumit (SVDP) and Principals of the
Parish Schools.

Finance Committee

John Le Mottee (Chair)
T (02) 9644 8859
Micheline Botham (Secretary)
0422939342,
Joe Moses, Ingrid Scharenguivel &
Brendon Nazareth (Finance Controller)

Parish Schools

St Peter Chanel, Regents Park
T. 96449083
Principal - Phil Townsend
Family Educator - Barbara Mucha

St Joseph the Worker, Auburn South
T. 96461434
Principal - Gai Melville
Family Educator - Angela Finnane

Mass Intentions

Recently Deceased: Alma (Jum) Starr, Pat McManus, Lee Kong Wan
Deceased: Mark Man-Wah Chiu, Sylvia Portelli
Anniversary: Frank Picek, Joseph Portelli, Angelo Attard
Deceased members and friends of : Erwin & O'Dwyer Families,
Ross & Mitchell Families

"Family that pray together stay together"

PILGRIM STATUE from St Peter Chanel



at the Flores Family
The Boulevard, Lidcombe
Please join them any evening at 7.30pm
for the Rosary

**We need more families to host the Pilgrim Statue
from St Peter Chanel.**

Please contact Mona on 9709 8701 or 0417 282 603.

ROSARY STATUE from St Joseph the Worker

To host the Rosary Statue from St Joseph the Worker contact the Legion of Mary.

This week we welcome into the Catholic faith

Joshua Xavier Zaitseff

May he always know the love of God and feel His
guiding hand throughout their lives.



Q: Which servant of God was the most flagrant lawbreaker
in the Bible?

A: Moses. He broke all 10 commandments at once!

Alcohol and Drug Information Service: (Confidential) 02 9361 8000

Spiritual Retreats: Benedictine Abbey Jamberoo - www.jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats Ph: 4236 0533

Carmelites Varroville - www.carmeliteretreats.com.au Ph: 8795 3400

Vincentian Retreat Centre Somersby - www.divineretreatcentre.org.au Ph: 4372 1598

Sara's place: For pregnancy support or grieving after abortion visit www.sarasplace.org.au Ph: 9699 8190

Ezekiel, Lazarus, and New Life



We hear of war and atrocities in Mosul. There are many innocent people caught up in the cross fire. In a similar way there was a man whose dearest wife was killed by armies who were fighting to take over the city. This man was devastated to hear of his wife's death in the hands of the armies. He was a God-fearing religious man. God revealed to him that his grief was to match the grief of God over his beloved people. Therefore God asked him not to grieve over his wife. He was to steel himself to face the tragedy that has come upon his city as consequence of its sins. That man was Ezekiel in Jerusalem and it happened about 600 years before Christ. Jerusalem was overrun by Babylonian invaders and the Israelites were taken to captivity into foreign land. They were feeling hopeless in the face of it all. In such a situation, God's promise of new life was revealed through Ezekiel. The prophet spoke God's revelation to him, "I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live" (Ez37:13). While it generated hope for a new life by settling back in Israel, the primary message was that of new life that is received through the forgiveness of sin. The ultimate price of sin is death and the best of hope should be the victory over death. What Ezekiel revealed to the deported Israelites in Babylon was also a prophecy of the salvation plan to be realised in Jesus.

Jesus, as true God, has power over death and life. In Chapter 11 of John's Gospel we see Jesus raising Lazarus to life. When Jesus heard that his friend Lazarus was sick, he said, "this illness will not end in death; rather it is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." (Jn 11:4). The he stayed two more days in the place (Jn 11:6). When he came to Bethany, his friends Mary and Martha were grieving over the death of their brother Lazarus. Mary seemed to indicate that Jesus was insensitive to the pain of his friends when she said, "Lord if you had been here, my brother would not have died." People also echoed similar sentiments when they said, "he opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?" (Jn 11:37) Isn't it typical of our human nature to blame God for his lack of response when times are hard and painful? In this situation the sisters and the people gathered there seemed to be more in the dark than Lazarus who was buried in a tomb. Bringing Lazarus back to life is a sign that Jesus, as God, is the Lord of Life and Death. Jesus is the resurrection and life. Through raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus gives us hope and a new life who could be in darkness and despair.

Living the gospel

Death for Life

The gospel writer paints the picture that Jesus is fully conscious of the implications of his return to Judea. As the events of the Passion unfold through this gospel, the reader has a very clear impression in their mind that if Jesus had not come to Judea; had not raised Lazarus; then he would not have been arrested and crucified. The reader is also drawn into the revelation that the sacrifice of Jesus was not solely for Lazarus but rather for all humanity. This realisation leads the reader to the ultimate humbling conclusion that if the sacrifice of Jesus was for people then the reader themselves is also the recipient of that sacrifice.

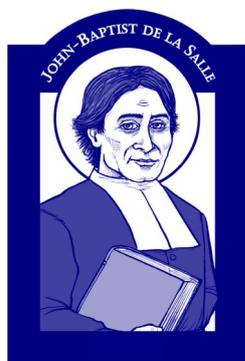
Scriptural Context

Jesus wept

"Jesus wept" is the shortest verse in the New Testament. Just two little words carry a world of emotion and speak volumes about Jesus. Pope Leo I used this verse to highlight the two natures of Jesus, pointing out that in his humanity, Jesus wept for the death of his friend, but in his divinity Jesus raised Lazarus to life. Lazarus and his sisters were close friends of Jesus and Jesus is clearly emotional about the death and its effect on Martha and Mary. That Jesus is about to restore Lazarus to life does not deny the grief and mourning at Lazarus' death.

When Jesus wept he was weeping at the gloom and doom he saw in the face of his beloved friends. Lent is a time for us to weep over the gloom and doom we experience through our sins. Through repentance and confession, we too shall acquire the new life Jesus Christ offers.

Feasts & Memorials of the Week



St. John Baptist de la Salle was born of a noble family in 1651 and from a young age was destined for the church. He was ordained a priest in 1678 and with the help of a layman he opened two schools for poor boys and dedicated the remainder of his life to education. Some of his initiatives included the establishment of the first training college for teachers and the division of classrooms into separate grades. Through his work he founded the Order of the Brothers of the Christian Schools; today there are approximately 20,000 members of the 'Christian Brothers'. Because of John Baptist de la Salle's pioneering efforts, he was declared the patron saint of all school teachers.

Holy Week 2017 Schedule

Palm Sunday 8/9 April



Saturday

5.00pm Vigil Mass, blessing of palms & procession

Sunday

8.00am Mass, blessing of palms & procession at SJW Auburn South
10.00am Mass, blessing of palms & procession

Wednesday 12 April

6.45am Mass

9.15am Mass & "Walking Holy Week with Matthew" & Confession

7.00pm "Walking Holy Week with Matthew" & Confession

Easter Triduum

Thursday 13 April

10.30am Chrism Mass at St Mary's Cathedral

7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Last Supper, Washing of feet, Adoration

Good Friday 14 April

10.00am Stations of the Cross

12 noon Stations of the Cross in Auburn City (combined churches)

3.00pm Passion Service and veneration of the Cross

Holy Saturday 15 April

8.00am Morning Prayer and Blessing of Easter Food

7.00pm Easter Vigil, blessing of Fire & Water, Adult Initiations

Easter Sunday

8.00am Mass at SJW Auburn South

10.00am Mass

Holy Week

Monday 10 April

6.45am Mass

9.15am Mass, "Walking Holy Week with Matthew" & Confession

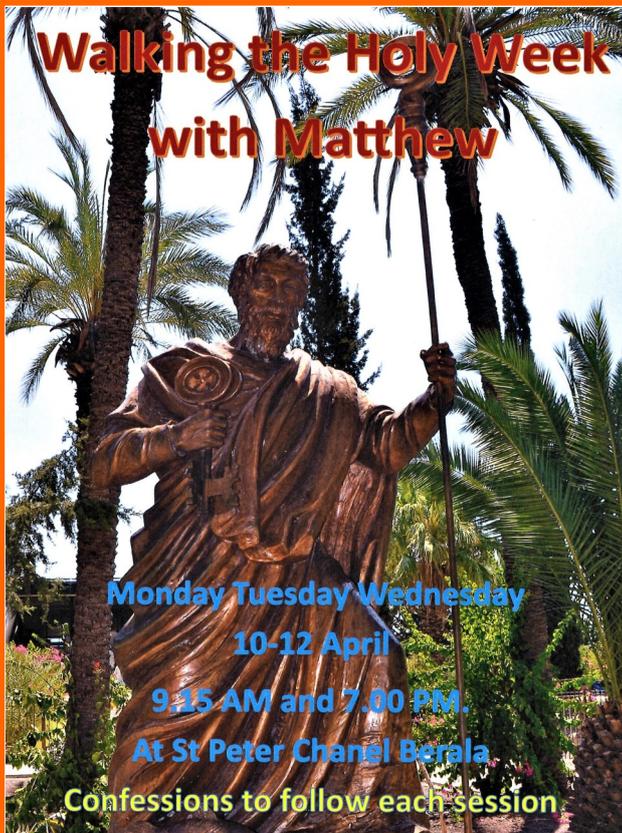
7.00pm "Walking Holy Week with Matthew" & Confession

Tuesday 11 April

6.45am Mass

9.15am Mass & "Walking Holy Week with Matthew" & Confession

7.00pm "Walking Holy Week with Matthew" & Confession



Catholics·Uniting Church·Salvation Army·Baptist Church

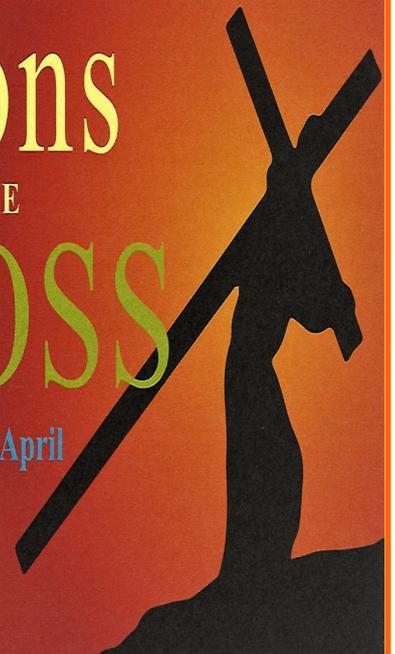
worshiping Christ together at Easter

Stations OF THE CROSS

12 noon on Good Friday 14th April

Trinity College Grounds to
Queen St Mall, Auburn

Information - Sharon: 0438 213 345



Singing for Holy Week

The last two Sunday practices for Holy Week singing (2nd and 9th) will begin at 4.00pm (instead of 5.00pm). All welcome to come along and help us.

Other Notices

Position Vacant

Archdiocese of Sydney. Applications are being considered for the position of **Director, Communications & News Media**. For further information please visit www.catholicjobsonline.com.au or by contacting Anthony Spata, REACH Human Resources, on 0402 210 055. Applications close **Friday, 7 April 2017**.

PALMS Australia: Volunteering Information Sessions. Sat, **01 April** 10.30am to 12.00pm Blacktown, Max Webber Library. Thurs, **06 April** 5.45pm to 7.45pm SYDNEY, Aquinas Academy. Communities in Asia, the Pacific and Africa are looking to provide mentoring opportunities for local personnel and improve processes and procedures for organisations vital to reducing poverty. To ensure sustainable development they prefer those willing to come for two years, but accept that some are only available for 12 months. If you are an experienced professional, business or trades person, in any area, but especially education, please consider volunteering with Palms Australia. Details and **RSVP: 02 9560 5333** or joey@palms.org.au

CatholicCare - Supporting the people of Sydney for 75 years. Our Early Intervention team work hard to ensure every child who is part of our programs can achieve their full potential. To find out more call **13 18 19**, email connect@catholiccare.org or visit www.catholiccare.org.

Semiti's story—Fiji—Love Your Neighbour

Semiti says, "Through the voice of the poor we can become one, and it's very powerful."

Semiti grew up in an informal, or 'squatter', settlement in Fiji. More than a quarter of Fiji's people live in these settlements, with little hope of finding permanent housing and land. Their situation is particularly vulnerable – many live in unstable shelters, and there is a constant threat of extreme climate events. Children have few opportunities for education, and unemployment levels are high. There is little access to public services such as roads, water supply, electricity and garbage collection.



Now Semiti is working together with other residents of informal settlements to make positive changes. He is the Director of the People's Community Network (PCN), which Caritas Australia supports. PCN helps empower landless people in Fiji, enabling them to address the issues that affect their lives.

The network helps people in each settlement to advocate together to improve their living conditions. They work in committees on issues relating to health and hygiene; care of the elderly and of women who need empowerment; education needs; and unemployment.

Semiti and other informal settlement residents tell how PCN helps them work together as neighbours, in solidarity. Through their participation in housing, savings and education programs, they have formed common bonds, and have grown in resilience and in dignity.

"One thing that my past taught me is to give back to the community what I have learned. I always tell them: I was once in your shoes." - Semiti

Project Compassion envelopes and boxes are available in the Church. Your generous donations are greatly appreciated!

Planned Giving Request Form

Your financial contribution to the Planned Giving of the Parish is your appreciation for the Parish. At the end of the financial year you will receive a receipt for your contributions. To join the Planned Giving Program fill this form, tear this part off and place it in the Sunday Collection plate

Your Name:.....

Telephone NoEmail

Yes, please organise a set of envelopes.

Yes, please organise automatic credit card deductions. (An authority form will be sent for completion)

Antiphons & Readings

Entrance Antiphon:

Give me justice, O God,
and plead my cause against a
nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning
rescue me, for you, O God, are
my strength.

Responsorial Psalm:

**(R) With the Lord there is
mercy and fullness of
redemption.**

1. Out of the depths I cry to
you, O Lord, Lord, hear my
voice! O let your ears be
attentive to the voice of my
pleading. **(R)**
2. If you, O Lord, should mark
our guilt, Lord, who would
survive? But with you is found
forgiveness: for this we revere
you. **(R)**
3. My soul is waiting for the Lord,
I count on his word. My soul is
longing for the Lord more than
watchman for daybreak. **(R)**
4. Because with the Lord there is
mercy and fullness of
redemption, Israel indeed he will
redeem from all its iniquity. **(R)**

Gospel Acclamation:

**Glory and praise to you, Lord
Jesus Christ!**

I am the resurrection and the
life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will not
die for ever.

**Glory and praise to you, Lord
Jesus Christ!**

Communion Antiphon:

Everyone who lives and believes
in me will not die for ever, says
the Lord.

Next Week's Readings:

Is 50:4-7
Phil 2:6-11
Mt 27:11-54



Holy Mass at Berala

Monday to Friday 6.45am
Wednesday to Friday 9.15am
Saturday 8.00am
Saturday 9.00am Adoration &
Novena.

Holy Mass at Auburn South

Tuesday 9.00am
(during school term only)

Lord's Day Mass Berala

Saturday 5.00PM (Vigil)
Sunday 10.00AM

Lord's Day Mass Auburn South

Sunday 8.00AM

Reconciliation at Berala

Saturday 9.00AM - 10.00AM.
Or contact the parish office for
any other time.

For Baptisms, Weddings, Bible
Study and Catholic Enquiry,
please contact Fr Thomas or the
parish office.

St Peter Chanel & St Joseph the Worker Rosters - Next Week

9 APRIL 2017			PALM SUNDAY
MASS	VIGIL (SPC)	8AM (SJW)	10AM (SPC)
ACOLYTE	Bob KENSEY	William ANDREWS	Robert JAKSIC
ACCOMPANIST	Kate PARISH		ELMER'S
CANTOR	J SALAR & PARISH CHOIR		GROUP
LECTOR/S	John DONNELLAN	Ingrid SCHARENGUIVEL	Carmel MARTIN
	Noelene DONNELLAN	Maris MARSH	Mai VU
COMMENTATOR	Lawrence LOPEZ	Karim KASSIS	Margarette NGUYEN
GIFTS	Helen LE MOTTEE		Micheline BOTHAM Family
SP. MINISTER	Warren RYAN		Anna MANGANARO
SP. MINISTER	Janet RYAN		Hoa NGUYEN
CHURCH SHOP	Charlie SCULLY		Edgar AMORES
GREETERS	Dante & Lynda AMORES	Loutoa OLIE	A THAM S TAN G KIM
HOSPITALITY			Pam SNELL

HOSPITAL VISITATION SAT : J Le Mottee & D Gooch	ALTAR: Group 4 A Yip; M Botham;
HOSPITAL COMMUNION SUN: C & K Scully	COUNTERS: Group 3 K Hartman, A Tham
CLEANERS - SPC: L & P Lopez SJW M & J Marsh & J Moses	CHILDREN'S LITURGY: School Holidays

SATURDAY	8 APRIL
LECTOR FOR MASS	Christine KENSEY