



## Palm Sunday—Year A

9 April 2017

### First Reading

Is 50:4-7

Despite rejection, Isaiah does not abandon his call.

### Second Reading

Phil 2:6-11

Jesus made himself lowly and was exalted.

### Gospel

Mt 27:11-54

The Passion.

### SUNDAY VIGIL GATHERING 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.

### PROCESSION HYMN FOR PALM SUNDAY

All glory praise and honour,  
to You Redeemer King  
Through whom the lips of children  
made sweet Hoannas ring  
You are the King of Israel,  
and David's royal Son,  
Now in the Lord's name coming,  
the King and blessed One.

The company of angels  
are praising you on high,  
As we and all creation,  
exultant make reply.

The people of the Hebrews,  
with palms before you went;  
Our praise and prayer and anthems  
before you we present.

To you before your passion  
they sang their hymns of praise;  
To you, now high exalted,  
our melody we raise.

Their praises you accepted,  
accept the prayers we bring,  
Rejoicing in all goodness,  
our Saviour and our King.

### SUNDAY MASS GATHERING 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.

### PROCESSION HYMN FOR PALM SUNDAY

*Refrain:* Hosannah! Hosannah! Blessings on the King!  
Hosannah! Hosannah! Song of God we sing!  
Hosannah! Hosannah! Blessings on the King!  
We praise you, we bless you, our gifts to you we bring!

Your people are gathered on this holy day,  
To lay down before you,  
Branches on your way.  
We sing of your glory as you enter in.  
Come now, Lord Jesus, wash away our sin.

### Refrain

O Lord, you are King now, King of all the earth.  
The stars in the heavens shine on your rebirth.  
Your death and your rising  
Gives to us new life.  
No longer darkness  
Now we have your light.

### Refrain

You are our brother, brother and friend, sent by the Father, all our hearts to mend.  
We pray now Lord Jesus, as you come today.  
Please guide us now with you  
As you go your way.

### Refrain

REMINDER!

## Walking Holy Week with Matthew 10-13 April

### 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) ,  
Karim Kassis, 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

## Holy Week 2017 Schedule

### 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

#### 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

### Mass Intentions

**Recently Deceased:** Alma (Jum) Starr, Pat McManus, Lee Kong Wan

**Deceased:** Mark Man-Wah Chiu, Sylvia Portelli

**Anniversary:** 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 Javier Family  
39 Fifth Avenue, Berala  
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.

Q: What do you call a rabbit with fleas?

A: Bugs Bunny.

Q: What do you call a bunny transformer?

A: Hop-timus Prime



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

**Spiritual Retreats:** Benedictine Abbey Jamberoo - [www.jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats](http://www.jamberooabbey.org.au/retreats) Ph: 4236 0533

Carmelites Varroville - [www.carmeliteretreats.com.au](http://www.carmeliteretreats.com.au) Ph: 8795 3400

Vincentian Retreat Centre Somersby - [www.divineretreatcentre.org.au](http://www.divineretreatcentre.org.au) Ph: 4372 1598

**Sara's place:** For pregnancy support or grieving after abortion visit [www.sarasplace.org.au](http://www.sarasplace.org.au) Ph: 9699 8190

## So Profound was Christ's Self-Sacrifice



We want to do good to others. Unless we make ourselves useful to others it does not have much value. I am not speaking about spending our time and energy to make money or win positions or to become a celebrity. If you do good only to receive some good to yourself it is business for profit. It does not add anything to the value of life. Only when we spend our life for the sake of those people who dire need, our life become precious. Now your thought may be of those people who are materially poor. But no material poverty destroys life like sin. Therefore the people in greatest need are the ones fallen into the trap of sin. Any sacrifice we undertake for the sake of the people in need of salvation from their sin is far more valuable than anything else you could think of. Awareness of our sinfulness makes us thank God for Jesus Christ for washing away our sins and gifting us with the divine dignity.

Today we remember and celebrate Jesus entry into the city of Jerusalem. That was a deliberate act from the part of Christ. Jesus wanted to get ready to sacrifice his life for the sins of people.

On Holy Thursday Evening, at the Mass of Lord's Last Supper we shall reflect on how to be with Jesus Christ in his Sacrifice. All of you are invited to Walk with Matthew this Holy Week under the guidance of Fr John Sullivan on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. May this Holy Week help us to realise the profoundness Christ's self-sacrifice for our sins.

### LIVING THE GOSPEL

#### The Blame Game

This Passion narrative has been used in the past as justification for persecution of Jews. The text has the people of Jerusalem calling out, 'his blood be on us and on our children!' This has been interpreted (poorly) as reason to condemn all subsequent generations of Jews for the death of Jesus. However, this gospel was written in the aftermath of the fall of Jerusalem and destruction of the Temple in 70 CE. The gospel writer sought some explanation for this disaster in the story of Jesus' life and death: it is the children of the crowd at Jesus' death who suffered in the fall of Jerusalem.

### GOSPEL FOCUS

#### Uniquely Matthew

The passion narrative in the gospel of Matthew follows the gospel of Mark very closely. However, unlike in other sections of the gospel the Matthew writer has not just inserted sections from the Mark account. Rather, the material is reworked and given a unique Matthean 'flavour'. In addition, the Matthew account includes five events that are not found in the Mark account: Judas hanging himself (27:3-10); Pilate's wife's dream (27:19); Pilate's washing his hands (27:24-25); extraordinary events at the time of Jesus' death (27:51b-53); sealing and guarding the tomb (28:62-66).

### SCRIPTURAL CONTEXT

#### Passion narratives

Towards the end of the 19th Century, the German scholar, Martin Kähler, described the gospels as 'passion narratives with lengthy introductions'. Over time, this description was more commonly applied to the gospel of Mark, but it is quite true of all four gospels. The passion elements are the climax of each gospel narrative and were probably written first to establish the unique interpretation of each of the gospel communities. The remainder of the gospel was written to 'set the scene' for the culmination of the message in the passion. Reading the four accounts of the passion reveal the unique styles and themes of the different gospel writers.

## Felicitation for the New Catholics

At Easter Vigil four new members will be joining the Church through the Rite Christian Initiation of Adults. They are Abbey Mae Thatcher, Lisa Phoung, Rossan Dawoonarain, and Alicia Maree Moore. All parishioners are invited to the Easter Vigil at 7 PM on Saturday 15 April to witness their initiation. After the Easter Vigil you are also invited to gather in Jubilee Hall to felicitate the newest members of our faith family born through RCIA. You are also welcome to bring a plate of finger food, if you wish, for a light supper.



## Chrism Mass



One of the special celebrations on Holy Thursday morning is Chrism Mass at St Mary's Cathedral at 10.30 AM. All bishops and priests of the Archdiocese will attend this Mass. The priests will renew their commitment to their Ordination at this Mass. Archbishop Anthony Fisher will also bless Holy Oils at this Mass. The Holy Oils are Oil of the Sick, Oil of Catechumen, and the Oil of Chrism. A portion of each of the newly blessed oils will be brought to our parish for use during the year. Oil of the sick will be used to anoint the sick. The Oil of Catechumen is used in the first anointing at baptism. Oil of Chrism will be used to do the second anointing at baptism and for Confirmation. You are invited to the Cathedral on Holy Thursday morning for the beautiful celebration of the Chrism Mass.

## Singing for Holy Week

The last Sunday practice for Holy Week singing (9th April) will begin at 4.00pm (instead of 5.00pm) in SPC Church. All welcome to come along and help us.



## Project Compassion on Holy Thursday



Project Compassion as our alms giving to the poor is an important part of our preparation for Easter. Therefore on the first day of Easter Triduum, you are invited to bring your Project Compassion contributions. Please bring your Project Compassion boxes and envelopes to the Mass of the Last Supper of the Lord on Thursday night at 7.30 PM. Project Compassion contributions will be taken in the Offertory procession on Holy Thursday night.

## Why Don't Catholics & Orthodox Celebrate Easter on the Same Day?

There is a very interesting history to your question. In the early Church in some places, especially the Roman province of Asia, the date of Easter was determined in conjunction with the Jewish feast of Passover, which was celebrated on the 14th day of the lunar month of Nisan, the day of the full moon. Easter was celebrated on that day so that it could fall on any day of the week. In other places, especially Rome and Alexandria, Easter was always celebrated on the Sunday following the Jewish Passover.

In the second century several synods were held to resolve the matter and, according to the early historian Eusebius, they all ruled in favour of celebrating Easter on a Sunday. The Council of Nicaea in 325 determined, among other things, that the Church would no longer follow the Jewish calendar and that Easter was to be celebrated on a common day throughout the world. The council did not say what that day was to be but at the time Easter was celebrated on a Sunday virtually everywhere.

In 725AD the English monk St Bede wrote that Easter was to be celebrated on the Sunday following the full moon which falls on or after the Spring equinox. This is the formula that is now followed. The equinox is the day twice a year on which the sun passes over the equator and so there are equal periods of day and night all over the world, hence the name equinox, or equal night. While this day in the northern Spring can fall on 19, 20 or 21 March, to facilitate in advance the determination of the date of Easter the Church fixed it as 21 March and so Easter was always celebrated after that. Since different formulas were used in different places to calculate the exact date of the full moon, it took some centuries before East and West were finally able to agree on a common date for Easter. By the end of the eighth century the Christian world was united in its celebration, with Easter falling anytime between March 22 and April 25.

In 1582 that was to change. Until then the whole Roman world was following the Julian calendar, which had been introduced by the Emperor Julius Caesar in 46BC. That calendar had a year of 365 days divided into 12 months, with an extra day added in February every four years. A year therefore had 365.25 days.

The calendar did not allow for the fact that the real astronomical year is a few minutes shorter than 365.25 days, even though this had been known since the time of the Greek astronomer Hipparchus, who died around 120BC. As a result the calendar gained about three days every four centuries compared to what was observed astronomically. To correct this, Pope Gregory XIII in 1582 reformed the calendar, removing ten days, so that Thursday, 4 October, in the Julian calendar was followed by Friday, 15 October, in the new Gregorian calendar.

While the West on the whole adopted the Gregorian calendar, the Orthodox Christian Churches continued after 1582 to follow the Julian calendar. As a result their dates were initially 10 days later than those of the Gregorian calendar and at present they are 13 days later.

Another important difference between the Churches is that while the Catholic Church determines the day of the full moon and of the equinox by definition, not astronomically, most of the Eastern Churches follow the astronomical full moon and equinox as they occur in Jerusalem. As a result, even though the Orthodox Easter is usually after the Western one, in some years it may coincide.

To agree on a common date, in recent years there has been dialogue between the Catholic Church, the Coptic Orthodox Pope, the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople and the Archbishop of Canterbury. They have expressed the hope that a common date can be agreed upon relatively soon. We can pray for this to come about, as a gesture of good will and as a step towards eventual reunion of at least some of these Churches with Rome.

*Fr John Flader*

## Formation & Training Course For Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

This programme is for those who, with the support of their Parish Priest, are or will soon be assisting as **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of HOLY COMMUNION** in the Archdiocese of Sydney. It is also a **pre-requisite** course for those men who wish to attend the Acolytes training courses.

**WHEN: Wednesday 3rd & 10th May 2017**

**WHERE: St Augustine of Hippo Eaton Street Balmain NSW 2041**

## Other Notices

**Nigerian Catholic Women's Retreat** A one day retreat hosted by the Nigerian Catholic Community of Parramatta on **30 April**, Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, Greystanes. Flyer attached. The Nigerian community also holds monthly Masses. For more information, please contact our Chaplain Fr Akamadu, **0451174438** or Stella Nwosu, **0405478472**.

**Open Day— Southern Cross Catholic Vocational College (SCCVC)** is a state-of-the-art, co-educational Catholic Secondary College for Years 11-12 students. Each student undertakes study that leads to a HSC with a focus on practical, hands-on, industry-based learning. Tuesday **2 May 2017 4.00pm – 7.30pm ALL WELCOME!** 17 Comer St Burwood NSW 2134 ph.: **8372 4400** fax.: 8372 4401 **www.sccvc.nsw.edu.au**



### Aloma's story - the Philippines -Love Your Neighbour

When Typhoon Santi destroyed her home in coastal Philippines, Aloma feared for her family's safety and their future. Extreme weather events such as typhoons and cyclones are a common occurrence in this country, threatening the safety and food security of many families.

In the Philippines, GDP per capita is around one-tenth that of Australia's, and life expectancy is around 14 years lower. Poverty is the single most important factor determining vulnerability to natural disasters, which makes communities like Aloma's particularly vulnerable.

However, confidence began to replace fear for Aloma as she began participating in the Integrated Community Development Program (ICDP) in 2011. The program, run by the Socio Pastoral Action Center Foundation Inc., is supported by Caritas Australia. It helps communities to prepare for disasters, and adopt environmentally friendly practices.

Aloma's training in disaster risk reduction empowered her to take a leadership role in her community in caring for the environment. She manages logistics during natural disasters, and encourages the families in her village to plant mangroves for land conservation.

The program also offers guidance on working together for the common good. As a result, Aloma says, "All the skills that I learned, I pass on to friends and neighbours." Aloma's community now cares for their common home together, and Aloma sees a brighter future for her children.

*"My dream for my community is to continue what we are doing right now, so that the next generation will benefit from what we have started."* - Aloma

**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 No .....Email .....

Yes, please organise a set of envelopes.

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

## Antiphons & Readings

**Responsorial Psalm:**

**(R) My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

1. 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)**

2. 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)**

3. 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)**

4. 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)**

**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!**

**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

<b>HOSPITAL VISITATION SAT :</b> A Hehea & B Hawthorn	<b>ALTAR:</b> Group 5 M Heys; C Mabon; M Wood
<b>HOSPITAL COMMUNION SUN:</b> J Skerritt & R Javier	<b>COUNTERS:</b> Grp 4 C & K Scully, J Michael
<b>CLEANERS - SPC:</b> Vietnamese Group <b>SJW</b> Maronite Group	<b>CHILDREN'S LITURGY:</b> School Holidays
<b>SATURDAY</b>	
<b>15 APRIL</b>	
<b>LECTOR FOR MASS</b>	Jann ROCKLIFF

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

**Walking the Holy Week  
with Matthew**

**Monday Tuesday Wednesday  
10-12 April  
9.15 AM and 7.00 PM.  
At St Peter Chanel Berala  
Confessions to follow each session**