

Palm Sunday Yr A 5th April 2020



ST JOHN VIANNEY'S PARISH

Our Mission: We follow the words of our patron, St John Vianney, who said "He is here". We recognise Christ is in the Word, the Eucharist, and in us, His people with a special reverence for Him in the poor and marginalised. We are called to make Christ present through our prayer and charity. We seek to grow in our spiritual lives and create a community where everyone is welcome; the young and old, together to experience the loving presence of God. We believe He is here amongst us and we joyfully go out to make Him present to all.

(This Parish is Child Safety Aware and also complies with Australian Privacy Laws)

Our great week, Holy Week....

We are preparing for a Holy Week like no other. The days of Holy Week and the Triduum are central to the liturgical life of the Church and this year due to the extraordinary situation, Holy Week liturgies will be celebrated under the present restrictions, without a congregation. We are indeed living in a time of great crisis locally and globally. Many of us feel powerless in the face of this corona virus pandemic. We continue to pray for all who are ill, those who have died, and all who have been affected in any way... financially, emotionally, and through isolation.

This most solemn time of the liturgical year was once called the 'Great Week' but nowadays we call it Holy Week. In it we witness the total self-giving of Jesus. We try to follow Jesus every step of the way, beginning with His triumphant entry into Jerusalem. There He was welcomed, applauded and acclaimed by a crowd of followers. On Thursday we commemorate Him at table, to receive His gift of Himself in the eucharistic bread and wine. After dining with Him we will, in our reflections, go with Him along the trail from the Upper Room to the Garden of Olives. We recall His struggle with fear and anxiety about the cruel death that awaits Him. On Good Friday we stand in spirit beside His mother at the foot of the cross, while He hands His spirit back to the Father who sent Him.

On Saturday we will be quiet and silent around His tomb, as we remember the injustice and cruelty of humanity, for which He died. Then, late on Saturday, we will move from the darkness of our Passion journey to the place of the

bright Easter Candle, representing the risen Christ, as He lights up the darkness of our Church and lives. Jesus Christ is not dead and gone. No, He is risen, strong and powerful, alive in Himself, and alive in us.

Dear parishioners as we enter into this Holy Week, I would encourage you to keep these days as holy days by taking time to pray at home, reading the Scriptures of the day, praying the Act of Spiritual Communion which I mentioned in last weekend's newsletter and prayerfully joining Mass online or by television Resources. Also, a series of leaflets are available on our parish website for use at home during the days of Holy Week.

Although we cannot come together for public Masses during this holiest time of year, Fr. Prem and myself will celebrate Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter Masses in our churches. I encourage everyone to participate spiritually and prayerfully unite with us in spirit. The Holy Week mass time schedule is given in the fourth page of the newsletter. You and your people are deeply in my thoughts and prayers. God bless everyone and let's continue to pray for protection, health, recovery and a fuller sense of God's compassionate love.

Blessings,

Fr. Dantus Thottathil.

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

Life

*is never without a need
never without a problem
never without a hurtful
moment....*

*But never forget that we
have a
Loving God
Who is protecting, guiding
and helping us to attain a
meaningful life!*

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK: Karen Booker, Michael Gibbings, Mary Schmidt, Joyce Starkey, Pat Wilson, Sandra Wilson, Maddie Bell, Teresa Geraghty, Mary Forrester, Krystyna Kelly, Sheila Petersen, Richard Pook, Violet Maureen Phillips, Ash Dean, Dennis Patterson, Carmen Phairs, Irene Gavril, Rosa Maria Santos, Dawn O'Sullivan, Leon and Roz Thomas, Maura Poots, Angela Geraghty, Hugo Callan, Joan Francis, Angela de Weger, Terry Coles, Margaret Brennan, Ted Chapman, Fr Frank Jones, Leslee O'Connell, Sally Maletz, Katherine Pickering, Helena Duimpies, Stacie Stonier, Val Steeden

For a name to be included in the 'Prayer for our Sick' list, the Privacy Act now requires the personal permission of the nominee or a close relative.

ANNIVERSARIES: Victor Berger, Paul Bouton, Brian Cahill, Frances Cassell, Gina Clair, Alice Condon, Stephen Connor, Maxwell Cooper, Barry Edward Creevey, Louise DeWeger, Beatrice Fox, Keith Furner, Colin Freebody, Norman Hare, Trevor Hankins, John Harrison, Kevin Hatton, Kathleen Howard, William Jackson, Brett Ledwidge, Margaret Lawder, Mervyn Lewis, Mary Massie, Alec Mathams, Thomas Murphy, Geoffrey Peake, Bernard Peterson, Ann Riseham, Ivy Rafter,

Pastor: Fr Dantus Thottathil MCBS

(email: thottathild@bne.catholic.net.au)

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Acting Parish Secretary: Kate Sellwood Office hours: 9.00am to 2.30pm Mon, Wed, Fri

Manly Office Ph: 3131 2610 (Birkdale 3822-2139) Presbytery Ph: 3396 0742 Parish email: manly@bne.catholic.net.au

Website: manlycatholicparish.org.au

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Les Sellwood (Chairperson) Joshua Walsh (Secretary), Bruce Corrie, Helen McNamara, Paola Nunez, Maria Jones, Pam Chapman and Julia McLean.

This Parish is Child Safety Aware and also complies with Australian Privacy Laws. A copy of the Child Safety and Protection of Vulnerable Adults policy is situated in the foyer of the church.

Archdiocesan Safeguarding Officer for Manly is Les Sellwood: 0401 235 739

STOPLINE Contact: AOB@stopline.com.au

St John Vianney's, Manly & St Jude's, Gumdale



Entrance Anthiphon:

Six days before the Passover,
when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem,
the children ran to meet him;
in their hands they carried palm branches
and with a loud voice cried out:
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!
O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory!
Who is this king of glory?
He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

Collect:

Let us pray.
Almighty ever-living God,
who as an example of humanity for the human race to follow
Caused our Saviour to take flesh and submit to the Cross,
Graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering
And so merit a share in his Resurrection.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, for ever and ever.
Amen

First Reading:

Isaiah 50:4-7

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.

Responsorial Psalm:

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

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

All who see me deride me.
They curl their lips, they toss their head.

'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 feet.
I can count every one of my bones. **R.**

They divide my clothing among them.
They cast lots for my robe.
My soul is longing for the Lord
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

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.

Gospel Acclamation :

Philippians 2:8-9

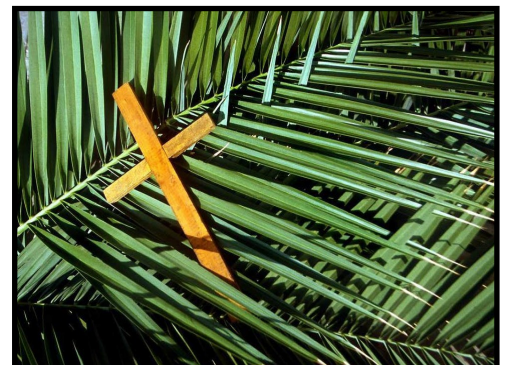
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
Christ became obedient for us even to death,
dying on the cross.
Therefore God raised him on high
and gave him a name above all other names.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel:

Matthew 27:11-54

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Please see
next page.



Gospel:

Matthew 27:11-54

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Jesus was brought before Pontius Pilate, the governor, and the governor put to him this question, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' Jesus replied, 'It is you who say it.' But when he was accused by the chief priests and the elders he refused to answer at all. Pilate then said to him, 'Do you not hear how many charges they have brought against you?' But to the governor's complete amazement, he offered no reply to any of the charges.



At festival time it was the governor's practice to release a prisoner for the people, anyone they chose. Now there was at that time a notorious prisoner whose name was Barabbas. So when the crowd gathered, Pilate said to them, 'Which do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?' For Pilate knew it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over.

Now as he was seated in the chair of judgment, his wife sent him a message, 'Have nothing to do with that man; I have been upset all day by a dream I had about him.'

The chief priests and the elders, however, had persuaded the crowd to demand the release of Barabbas and the execution of Jesus. So when the governor spoke and asked them, 'Which of the two do you want me to release for you?' they said 'Barabbas'. 'But in that case,' Pilate said to them 'what am I to do with Jesus who is called Christ?' They all said, 'Let him be crucified!' 'Why?' he asked 'What harm has he done?' But they shouted all the louder, 'Let him be crucified!' Then Pilate saw that he was making no impression, that in fact a riot was imminent. So he took some water, washed his hands in front of the crowd and said, 'I am innocent of this man's blood. It is your concern.' And the people, to a man, shouted back, 'His blood be on us and on our children!' Then he released Barabbas for them. He ordered Jesus to be first scourged and then handed over to be crucified.

The governor's soldiers took Jesus with them into the Praetorium and collected the whole cohort round him. Then they stripped him and made him wear a scarlet cloak, and having twisted some thorns into a crown they put this on his head and placed a reed in his right hand. To make fun of him they knelt to him saying, 'Hail, king of the Jews!' And they spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head with it. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the cloak and dressed him in his own clothes and led him away to crucify him.

On their way out, they came across a man from Cyrene, Simon by name, and enlisted him to carry his cross. When they had reached a place called Golgotha, that is, the place of the skull, they gave him wine to drink mixed with gall, which he tasted but refused to drink. When they had finished crucifying him they shared out his clothing by casting lots, and then sat down and stayed there keeping guard over him.

Above his head was placed the charge against him: it read: 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.' At the same time two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left.

The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said 'So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself! If you are God's son, come down from the cross!' The chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him in the same way. 'He saved others,' they said 'he cannot save himself. He is the king of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He put his trust in God; now let God rescue him if he wants him. For he did say, "I am the son of God."' Even the robbers who were crucified with him taunted him in the same way.

From the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour, Jesus cried out in a loud voice, 'Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani!' that is, 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me!' When some of those who stood there heard this, they said, 'The man is calling on Elijah,' and one of them quickly ran to get a sponge which he dipped in vinegar and putting it on a reed, gave it to him to drink. 'Wait!' said the rest of them 'and see if Elijah will come to save him.' But Jesus again crying out in a loud voice, yielded up his spirit.

(All kneel and pause a moment.)

At that, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; the earth quaked; the rocks were split; the tombs opened and the bodies of many holy men rose from the dead, and these, after his resurrection, came out of the tombs, entered the Holy City and appeared to a number of people. Meanwhile the centurion, together with the others guarding Jesus, had seen the earthquake and all that was taking place, and they were terrified and said, 'In truth this was a son of God.'

Prayers of the Faithful:

That the leaders of our faith community be strengthened and inspired to celebrate this Holy Week and Easter with sincere fervour and understanding, we pray to the Lord:

Lord hear us. Lord hear our prayer.

That all of us take time today and this coming week to deepen our love of Jesus, we pray to the Lord:

Lord hear us. Lord hear our prayer.

That those who return to this church at Easter after a long absence may discover a reason for remaining with us, we pray to the Lord:

Lord hear us. Lord hear our prayer.

That the poor, the starving, the homeless, and the unemployed find relief from their conditions through our continued charity and support, we pray to the Lord:

Lord hear us. Lord hear our prayer.

That the ill, the dying, and the deceased, be united in the death of Jesus so as to share his resurrection to new life, we pray to the Lord:

Lord hear us. Lord hear our prayer.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER TO MARY DURING THE PANDEMIC

O Mary,
you always shine on our path
as a sign of salvation and of hope.
We entrust ourselves to you,
Health of the Sick,
who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain,
keeping your faith firm.
You, Salvation of Your People,
know what we need,
and we are sure you will provide
so that, as in Cana of Galilee,
we may return to joy and to feasting
after this time of trial.
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who has taken upon himself our sufferings
and carried our sorrows
to lead us, through the cross,
to the joy of the resurrection.
Amen.

Concluding Prayers - Palm Sunday

Almighty and all-merciful God,
lover of the human race, healer of all our wounds,
in whom there is no shadow of death,
save us in this time of crisis;
grant wisdom and courage to our leaders;
watch over all medical people
as they tend the sick and work for a cure;
stir in us a sense of solidarity beyond all isolation;
if our doors are closed, let our hearts be open.
By the power of your love destroy the virus of fear,
that hope may never die
and the light of Easter, the triumph of life,
may shine upon us and the whole world.
Through Jesus Christ, the Lord risen from the dead,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.

Holy Mary, health of the sick, pray for us. St Joseph, guardian of us all, pray for us.

(Most Rev. Mark Coleridge, Archbishop of Brisbane)

Gracious God,
We give thanks anew for your providence and presence.
We prayerfully seek your grace, amidst COVID-19 here and overseas.
We pray for those in need of healing.
We pray for your peace with those who are anxious or grieving.
We pray you will continue to strengthen and sustain all those who are serving in response.
We pray for your Holy Spirit's discernment amidst the many choices and decisions facing our national, community and medical leaders.
We pray we each might see quickly what more we can do to help those who are vulnerable.
This prayer for our nation in the family of nations, with all that is on our hearts,
we gather now and pray
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

(Ecumenical prayer from the National Council of Churches. We have been invited to pray this prayer at 7pm each day.)

Holy Week and Easter Services 2020

Palm Sunday 5th April:

8:00am - St John Vianney's, Manly

Holy Thursday 9th April:

7:00pm - St John Vianney's, Manly

Good Friday 10th April:

3:00pm - St John Vianney's, Manly

Easter Vigil Saturday 11th April:

6:00pm - St John Vianney's, Manly

Easter Sunday 12th April:

8:00am - St Jude's, Gumdale

NB: These liturgies will be celebrated under present restrictions and without a congregation. Please join us spiritually and prayerfully in spirit.

