 **Immaculate Heart of Mary Church**

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**All Masses and Liturgies suspended.**

**St Joseph,**

**You were receptive to God working in your life.**

**Help us by your prayers at this time of trial.**

**You kept Jesus and Mary under your watchful care:**

**may your prayers assist our local Church to respond**

**to those in need.**

**You taught the Christ Child your trade and prayers:**

**help us to follow his example of love.**

**You were part of God’s plan for all humanity:**

**assist us to be vigilant and responsible this day.**

**You spent your life in service:**

**may we be mindful of others, particularly the**

**elderly and vulnerable, caring for them in these**

**difficult days.**

**You trusted in the clear primacy of God over all**

**history and every situation: help us to grow in faith**

**and pray to the Father, Thy will be done. Amen**

**March is the month of St Joseph**

**Our Parish is committed to Safeguarding Children with dignity and respect.**

**Pray the Rosary Daily**

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK**

Filippo and Sara, Joe Harb, Sophia, Connie Kilpatrick, Daniel Rivalland, Georgette Kheir, Christine Banerjee, Ettore Poletta, Francesco Paolo Ricciardi, Gemma Foster, Victoria Foster; Millie D’Alton, Claire Posten, James Morrison, Catalina Morrison, Jim Walsh; Rosa Maria Santos,Ben, Mary Muscat, Patrick Lakagreagrow, Brian Tierney, , Carmel Kanci, Jo Arena, Pam Montgomery, Helen Mille; Jason Denis; Mary Westhead; Rosa Nistico, Margaret Denis; Arthur Astarlis, , Lourenca Fernandes, Prithie Pereira, Madison Kelly, Pat Flarve.

**SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED**

Vince Giglio.John Rivalland,Douglas Gonsalves, Charlotte Godfrey, Linda D’Souza; Felix Lobo, Margaret Herbstreit; Trevor Anthony Fernandez,Pauline Burke, Sandra Highland, Rudolph D’Souza, Michelle Fowler, Sam Molino, Margherita M. La Macchia, Joan Elliot, Archimede Camba, Denzel D’Souza, Melissa D’Souza John Noal, Lorraine Thompson, Peg Smith, Gladys DeRosario, Molly Wintle, Florencio David Sr, Kathy Taranto, Maureen Collins, John Palamara, May Ray, Milan Lozo, Albert & Hillary D’Souza; Shannon Baker; Margaret Dowsey, Janine Capiron; George Tickner; Jack Foley; Marie Rivalland; Sheila McKenna; Peter Dunne; Tony Molloy; Dulcie Jopling; Gerard Bourke, Alfred Foster, Joan Mealing; Judith Buckley; Genevieve Rodrigues Jean Allday; Gloria James; Earnie Breznik; Margaret Daveron; Patrick & Maurice Kelly; Edward Majda; Elizabeth Mary McKay; John H. Moloney; +Fr. Frank Maher; +Fr. Victor Crennan.

**Thanksgiving Collection Weekend: 22/3/2020 - $to be counted**

**Loose Money: 29/3/2020 - $to be counted**

**THE PIETY STALL run by the LEGION OF MARY has given $1000 to Fr Vittorio for the Parish**

**Mon:30th Mar, St Fergus**

**2nd April- 15th Anniversary of Pope John Paul II’s Death.** John Paul II is credited with helping bring an end to communist rule. He played a significant role in improving the Catholic Church’s relations with Judaism, Islam, the Eastern Orthodox Churches and the Anglican Communion.He was a staunch defender of the Catholic Church’s position on a number of matters, but most especially on the value of life and the family.

Above all, Pope John Paul II is known for his world travels. As Pope, he visited 129 countries, making him one of the most travelled world leaders of all time.

**Tue: 31st Mar, St Benjamin**

**Wed: 1st Apr, St Ludovic Pavoni**

**Thu: 2ndApr, St Francis of Paola**

**Fri: 3rd Apr, St Luigi Scrosoppi**

**Sat: 4th Apr, St Gaetano Catanoso**

**FAST & ABSTINENCE** Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence. In particular, **Fridays during Lent are marked by prayer (Eucharist, family prayer), self denial (abstinence from meat, sweets or desserts, fasting one meal), and helping others especially the poor**. Fasting is obligatory from age 18 until age 59. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members from age 14 onwards.

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**STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING THE SEASON OF LENT EVERY FRIDAY we can pray our own personal station of the cross.**



**MORNING PRAYER or ROSARY** **CAN BE PRAYED DAILY PERSONALLY** **every day.**

**THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION confession by appointment is most welcome.**

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| **Project Compassion Sunday-*Please return your Project Compassion box*** and/or donation by Good Friday during this Lenten season themed **“Go Further Together**”.  |

**REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL – FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT – Jn 11:1-45**

Our Gospel on this day, the fifth Sunday of Lent, is again taken from the Gospel according to John. The reading from John continues the break from Cycle A’s focus on the Gospel of Matthew. Today’s Gospel reading recounts another sign, or miracle, found in John’s Gospel, the raising of Lazarus. As our catechumens move closer to the celebration of their Baptisms at the Triduum, today’s reading invites us to reflect upon what it means to call Jesus the Resurrection and the life.

The context for the story of the raising of Lazarus is the Jewish leaders’ growing animosity toward Jesus. Jesus has been in Jerusalem, taking part in the feast of the Dedication, which we have come to know as Hanukkah. The people have been pressing him to declare plainly whether he is the Messiah. Jesus tells them to look to his works, which testify to his coming from God. Many do not believe Jesus, however, and some try to stone him for blasphemy.

Into this scene of confrontation, Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus, send word to Jesus that his friend is ill. Jesus is said to love Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, but he delays his journey for two days. The delay heightens the drama and shows Jesus’ obedience to God, who is to be glorified through Lazarus’s resurrection. When Jesus finally declares that he will journey to Bethany, his disciples fear for his life. Thomas declares that he and the other disciples should prepare to die with Jesus.

The scene described at Bethany is a sad one. Martha meets Jesus weeping and saying that if Jesus had been there, Lazarus would not have died. Yet she remains confident that God will do whatever Jesus asks. Martha affirms her belief that there will be a resurrection of the dead in the last days. Then Martha’s sister, Mary, comes to Jesus with the same confidence, saying that Jesus could have cured Lazarus. Jesus asks to be brought to Lazarus’s tomb where he prays and calls Lazarus out from the tomb. At this sign, many come to believe in Jesus, but others take word of the miracle to the Jewish authorities, who begin their plans for Jesus’ death.

With our catechumens preparing for their Baptism at Easter, the Gospel today calls us to reflect on Baptism as a dying and rising with Jesus. In Baptism we die to sin’s power over us, rising as children of God. In Baptism we join ourselves with Christ, who conquered death once and for all so that we who believe in him may have eternal life. With Martha and Mary, we are called to profess our belief that Jesus is indeed the Resurrection and the life.

**What is SPIRITUAL COMMUNION? St. Thomas Aquinas described it as “an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the most holy sacrament and lovingly embrace him” at a time or in circumstances when we cannot receive him in sacramental Communion. No particular prayer or formulary is required, though there are acts of spiritual communion in Catholic prayer books to help focus a proper intention. One of the most popular is that composed by St. Alphonsus Liguori:**

**“My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire you with all my heart.**

**Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already in my heart and unite myself to you completely.Please do not let me ever be separated from you.”**

**PARISH UPDATE - MASS ONLINE with Fr Vittorio**

**My dear Parishioners, I hope you have not lost contact with Christ, the Virgin Mary, and the Church. Thanks to all who have contributed to the collections in the Church. Please continue your support.**

**Those who would like to connect with me with the Mass on line for the Celebration of the Eucharist, you nedd to visit the website of the parish, and click the link: Web:** [**www.cam.org.au/hamptoneast**](http://www.cam.org.au/hamptoneast)