



# St Mary of the Cross Catholic Parish

EMBODYING CHRIST'S LOVE

## Parish Vision Statement:

*We are a faith community who gather to praise and worship God.  
We express Christ's presence among us by reaching out to those in need  
with Christ's message of love and forgiveness and the promise of justice and hope for all.*

## Palm Sunday – 5th April 2020

This week's readings: **ISAIAH 50: 4-7; PHILIPPIANS 2: 6-11; MATTHEW 26: 14 - 27: 66**

### PARISH CHURCHES:

**St Brigid's,  
520 Main St, Mordialloc  
& St Louis de Montfort's,  
37 Dolphin St, Aspendale**

### PARISH PRIEST:

**Fr Andrew Jekot**

### PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:

**Bernadette Carr**

### PARISH SECRETARIES:

**Susan Dornom**

*Monday, Thursday & Friday*

**Ann Fitzgerald**

*Tuesday & Wednesday*

### PARISH HOUSE:

**9580 1018**

### PARISH OFFICE:

**9580 7981**

*Monday-Friday 9am-4.30pm*

### PARISH EMAIL:

[mordiallocaspendale](mailto:mordiallocaspendale@cam.org.au)

[@cam.org.au](mailto:@cam.org.au)

### PARISH WEBSITE:

[www.cam.org.au/](http://www.cam.org.au/)

[mordiallocaspendale](http://mordiallocaspendale)

### PARISH SCHOOLS:

**St Brigid's School,**

129 Albert St, Mordialloc

**9580 4518**

[www.sbmord.catholic.edu.au](http://www.sbmord.catholic.edu.au)

**St Louis de Montfort's School,**

37 Dolphin St, Aspendale

**9580 5169**

[www.stlouisaspendale.catholic.edu.au](http://www.stlouisaspendale.catholic.edu.au)

### Gospel Reflection:

Palm Sunday is a wonderful day for Mass and celebration, it is the end of Lent and the beginning of Holy Week. However, this year we will not find ourselves at Mass, we will not stand out the front of the church where Andrew blesses the palms and we would process into the Church, times are certainly different this year. *(Just for interest sake did you know that the palms Andrew blesses are incinerated and used for Ash Wednesday?).*

It was only a few days earlier that Jesus stood with Mary and Martha as he called Lazarus out of the tomb and now the people are lining the street waving palm branches (which are a sign of peace), and throwing their cloaks on the ground, which people of that time did as a sign of honouring a well thought of and respected person arriving in town.

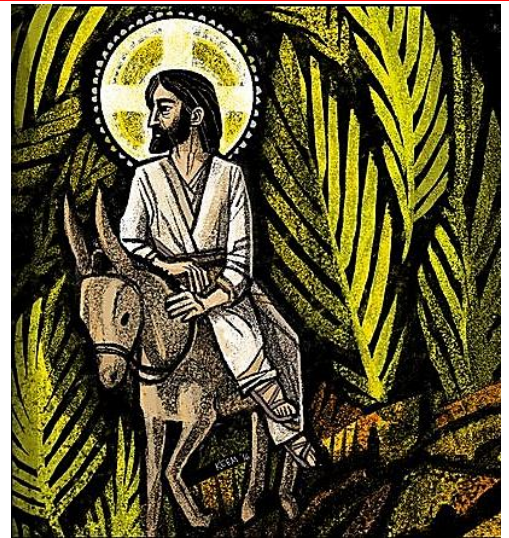
Have you ever wondered why Jesus rode into town on the donkey and not a horse? Well, the donkey represents a number of images and symbols. Many think of the donkey as a fool, stubborn and a thing that can hold a heavy load. All true, however a donkey is hard working, determined, with a strong will power dedicated toward work and devoted. Donkeys are also gentle and affectionate. In the Eastern tradition the donkey is said to be an animal of peace unlike the horse which may be thought of as an animal of war. A king would have ridden a horse when he was bent on war and he would have ridden a donkey to symbolic his arrival in peace.

The donkey gives us so much to reflect on. I imagine Jesus to have ridden a donkey for many of the above reasons, he was all about peace, he was humble just as many thought of the donkey as humble. Jesus was determined to do the Fathers will.

I guess the question for each of us lies between that of the horse and donkey. Are we prepared to be loyal, peace-filled people, strong in our commitment to the Father and hard working in the name of Jesus? Or, are we more easily lead by someone in control who holds our reins?

We cannot choose different parts of Jesus teachings that might suit us, the Gospels are the single most important document we as Christians/Catholics have. As we walk this Holy Week together may we all be committed to the sacred stories and the divine life of Jesus that fills the pages of the gospels, even the bits we're not so keen on.

*Bernadette Carr*



### **NEXT SUNDAY- 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

Next Sunday is Easter Sunday in Year A:

Our readings for next week are: **ACTS 10: 34, 37-43;**

**COLOSSIANS 3: 1-4; JOHN 20: 1-9**

**CORONAVIRUS ADVICE:** In order to help prevent the spread of Corona Virus **ALL MASSES HAVE BEEN CANCELLED** until further notice. All parishioners are reminded to heed health advice about washing hands regularly and avoiding unnecessary contact with others. **BOTH OUR CHURCHES ARE NOW CLOSED. PARISH OFFICE IS NOW CLOSED.** All staff are working from home. Phone calls and emails are still being attended to. **Don't forget to keep checking our Parish website [www.cam.org.au/mordiallocaspendale](http://www.cam.org.au/mordiallocaspendale)**

## Palm Sunday:

**Recently Deceased:** Kathleen Crowe (mother of Bernadette Durant)

**Anniversaries:** Marjorie Kirkby, Sharon Budge, Keith Keatinge, Margaret Lloyd, Sophie Medicott, Ross Stevens, Ana & Louisa Vitulic, Doreen Jewell, Margarita Lacson, Eric Ludwick, Thomas Shanahan, Kitty Greenwell, George Irving, Delfino Castenetto, Brian McMahon, Alan Vickers, Giovanni Faoro, Patricia Forkgen, Calvin Saddler, Hans Bongers, Peter Grotto, William Peart, Foster Varney.

**Healing Prayers Asked For:** Alex Brodie, John Nicholson, Lorraine Ingram, Trish Wardle, Helen Pedrazzini, Bob Orchard, Helen Munro, Margaret McCormack, Michelle Ives, Noel Ryan, Ed Jansen, *(If you know of anyone who needs prayers or a pastoral visit please contact the Parish Office.)*

## Parish News:

**Holy Week:** The coming week is Holy week and this year we will not be able to attend all the usual ceremonies on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday. This will be difficult and we will have to find other ways to celebrate. Go to our Parish website for options.

**Mass at Home:** Fr Andrew is now celebrating Mass for us online every Sunday. Simply go to our **Parish website [www.cam.org.au/mordiallocaspendale](http://www.cam.org.au/mordiallocaspendale)** and click on the link to view. Mass for You at Home can be viewed on Sundays on Channel 10 or on Aurora Channel on Foxtel. *(See your TV Guide for details).* Daily Mass and other options for prayer in these difficult time can be viewed on the Archdiocese website [www.cam.org.au](http://www.cam.org.au)

**JAG News: Donations to BASP:** Thank you to everyone who donated goods for the refugees and asylum seekers supported by BASP - Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project. If you were unable to donate but would like to support BASP go to [www.basp.org.au](http://www.basp.org.au)



**JAG's Easter Raffle** with 4 prize baskets of slavery free products will be drawn this **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April**. Money raised will support the work of **ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against the Trafficking of Humans)** Tickets (\$2 ea or 3 for \$5) If you didn't get a chance to buy a ticket before the shutdown but still want to support this worthy cause please contact **Susan 0413 979 049**.



**St Vincent De Paul:** Our two St Vincent de Paul conferences continue to visit needy families in this area using current social distancing guidelines.

Anyone needing assistance from St Vincent de Paul Society can call: **1800 305 330**

**Stewardship Donations:** With no Masses at the moment many may be worried about how to continue to support the Parish and Fr Andrew.

Parishioners who usually contribute using envelopes may wish to change to credit or direct debit contributions or they can drop envelopes off at the Parish Office.

Stewardship donations support the Parish. Donations to support Fr Andrew are separate and need to be in a separate envelope or noted on your stewardship envelope. Anyone who wishes to change their contributions for any reason is asked to contact Parish Office 9580 7981.

Thank you to everyone for their continued support – financial, physical and spiritual.

**Project Compassion Boxes** are usually due back at this time but as this is difficult at the moment you can return them later or you can donate at [www.caritas.org.au](http://www.caritas.org.au)

