



Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (Year A)

2 April 2023

readings

Next Week

Acts 10:34, 37-43
Ps 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23
Col 3:1-4
Jn 20:1-9

in a nutshell

The forgiveness of sins. We see ourselves in the crowds who cried 'Hosanna to the Son of David' one day and 'Crucify him' just a few days later. Like Peter and the other disciples we can be fickle followers of Jesus. We should not, however, imitate Judas and despair at our infidelity. Rather, we should look to Jesus who allowed his blood to be poured out for many 'for the forgiveness of sins'. Let us praise him with grateful hearts.

we pray for

all who are sick or suffering and those parishioners unable to be among us this weekend: Dorothy Heering
For those who have died recently: and those whose anniversary occurs at this time.

of special note

Easter Raffle tickets on sale after Mass.

More Information Inside!

Raise Your Voices

Entrance Antiphon

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!

Responsorial Psalm

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

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.)

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.)

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.)

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!

Communion Antiphon

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.

The Parish of St Mary's

Parish Priest

REV. MICHEL G CORRIVEAU

Parish Secretary

Janine Meades

Parish Office Hours

Thursday

9:00am-4:00pm

Weekly Schedule

Sunday Mass

Saturday—6:30pm (EST)

5:00pm (EDST)

Sunday—10:30am & 5:00pm

Weekday Mass & Rosary

Tuesday—9:00am

Thursday—9:00am

Friday—9:00am

Rosary prayed before morning Mass

Reconciliation

Saturday—11:30am-12:30pm

Friday—8:10am-8:40am

Exposition

Friday at 8:00am

Weddings

Please contact the office

Baptisms

Please see Father after Mass

Parish Primary School

Principal: Angela Glennie

Website:

smmountevelyn.catholic.edu.au

Child Safety

Child Safety is everyone's responsibility. Our Parish is committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, and vulnerable people in our community.

Remember children should be accompanied by an adult family member to the toilet.

Safeguarding Committee

Fr Michel
Janine Meades
Alan Somers
Karen Somers
Sue Van der Linden
Karla Zmegac

Car Parking –Weekend Masses

In the interests of safety please park in the official carparks rather than on the grassy areas around the picnic tables. Keep this area for people to gather and chat after mass.

Car Parking –WEEKDAY Masses

Please use available car parks for Mass rather than the front of the church. Please Leave the front for the truly disabled.

Do you need a Helping Hand?

Ring the St Vinnies Call Centre 1800 305 330 Monday - Friday 10am to 3pm, St Mary's Conference 0427 874 374 or Alan Somers 0419 134 300

Bulletin notices: by 12:00 noon

Thursday please:

moutevelyn@cam.org.au

For positions vacant within the Diocese visit:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>

Parish Meetings: Tuesday, May 2

Finance Committee	7:00pm
Parish Safeguarding	7:30pm
Parish Council	8:00pm

Parish Notices

Special Parish Meeting

Thank you to those parishioners who attended the parish meeting on Wednesday evening. The purpose of this meeting was to highlight the drop in parishioners attendance at Mass and therefore the drop in income. Catholic parishes' income comes from contributions to thanksgiving/stewardship either through envelopes, direct debit or credit card. At St Mary's the number of parishioners contributing on a regular basis is now below 40 when once this number was in the 70's. Keeping St Mary's viable as a parish relies on the ability to meet their bills. Therefore our income needs to increase, if not already doing so consider contributing to the upkeep of the parish and formally join the stewardship program. Contact the office for further details.

Daylight Saving

Easter schedule remains as stated. 'Winter' Mass times take effect the week after Easter (15/16 April).

Easter Baskets Raffle

Tickets for the Easter Raffle are now on sale. Tickets are \$2 and the drawing will be after the Easter Sunday morning Mass. The drawing is next week so this is the only weekend to buy your tickets. Good luck to all!

Easter Egg Hunt

Calling all kids! There will be an Easter Egg Hunt following the 10.30am Easter Sunday Mass to celebrate Our Lord's Resurrection.

Parish Easter Colouring Competition

For children in Kinder- grade 6. Please find colouring sheets in the Church foyer, return by Holy Thursday (6th April). Prizes for winners in each age group. Winners will be announced following the 10.30am Easter Sunday Mass.

Project Compassion—Palm Sunday

Every day, more than 200 million children miss out on school, around 690 million people go hungry and 2.2 billion people cannot access clean drinking water. With your generosity, Caritas Australia has been able to help millions of vulnerable people around the world, through the Project Compassion appeal. Please donate to Project Compassion 2023 to help continue empowering vulnerable communities around the world to lift themselves and their communities out of poverty. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available from your parish, or visit caritas.org.au/project-compassion or phone 1800 024 413.

Building Community—Morning Tea after 10.30am Sunday Mass

Stay and chat over a cuppa! Consider joining the roster to assist in serving. If you are unable to serve but would like to contribute, donations of packaged biscuits would be appreciated. Contact Rachael 0437123802 Morning tea after 9:00am Mass first Tuesday of the month. (April's tea cancelled due to it being Holy Week.)

Stewardship Corner

"As they were marching out, they came upon a man of Cyrene, Simon by name; this man they pressed into service to carry his cross." Matthew 27:32

The Lord calls us to love God and to love our neighbour. Every day we are presented with opportunities to love our neighbour and help him "carry his cross." These opportunities aren't usually big events, they are usually ordinary occurrences like helping someone carry their groceries or holding the door open for them. The key is putting the other person's needs before our own and not expecting anything in return.

Direct debit details St Mary's Church BSB 083-347 account number 648531736 Ref your surname.

Readings Reflection

[All Is Fulfilled](#)

“All this has come to pass that the writings of the prophets may be fulfilled,” Jesus says in today’s Gospel (see Matthew 26:56).

Indeed, we have reached the climax of the liturgical year, the highest peak of salvation history, when all that has been anticipated and promised is to be fulfilled.

By the close of today’s long Gospel, the work of our redemption will have been accomplished: the new covenant will be written in the blood of His broken body hanging on the Cross at the place called the Skull.

In His Passion, Jesus is “counted among the wicked,” as Isaiah had foretold (see Isaiah 53:12). He is revealed definitively as the Suffering Servant the prophet announced, the long-awaited Messiah whose words of obedience and faith ring out in today’s First Reading and Psalm.

The taunts and torments we hear in these two readings punctuate the Gospel as Jesus is beaten and mocked (see Matthew 27:31), as His hands and feet are pierced, as enemies gamble for His clothes (see Matthew 27:35), and as His enemies dare Him to prove His divinity by saving Himself from suffering (see Matthew 27:39–44).

He remains faithful to God’s will to the end. He does not turn back in His trial. He gives Himself freely to His torturers, confident that, as He speaks in today’s First Reading, “The Lord God is My help . . . I shall not be put to shame.”

Destined to sin and death as children of Adam’s disobedience, we have been set free for holiness and life by Christ’s perfect obedience to the Father’s will (see Romans 5:12–14, 17–19; Ephesians 2:2; 5:6).

This is why God greatly exalted Him. This is why we have salvation in His name. Following His example of humble obedience in the trials and crosses of our lives, we know we will never be forsaken. We know, as the centurion realizes today, that truly this is the Son of God (see Matthew 27:54).

[Dr. Scott Hahn](#)
stpaulcenter.com

Adoration of the Eucharist

We find it a joy and happiness to spend some time near Him, to adore Him, and to keep company with so good a friend. What is He doing, this good Jesus, in the Sacrament of His love? He is loving us !! (St. John Vianney)

Confession: This is the time of repentance for us to atone for our sins and seek salvation.

Adoration: Friday morning 8:00am. Yarra Junction Thursday 6:00pm (first Thursday Warburton). Confessions available during Adoration.

Holy Land (Good Friday) Collection

This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment and housing. Parishes, schools, orphanages and medical centres in the Holy Land rely on assistance from this collection. Envelopes are available this weekend to be returned at Good Friday ceremonies or Easter Masses.

Catholic Theological College

Sign up for one of 18 short, online sessions. Engaging Your Faith – May 2023 Theology, Vatican II, Scripture, Spirituality, Science & Faith. Choose what interests you from \$25 per session. For more information and to register: ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith/

Something to Make You Smile

One Palm Sunday, a little boy had a sore throat and had to stay home from church. When the rest of the family came home, they were carrying palm branches. The little boy asked what they were for. His father told him that people held them over Jesus’ head when he walked by. In a sad, disappointed voice, the little boy said, “Wouldn’t you know it? The one Sunday I miss, Jesus shows up!”

There was a parish that had many attendees. The parish priest there used to give out miniature palm crosses that he made by hand. One Sunday, he announced that he would be giving them out. The congregation in the church that day reacted with glee. “Put this cross in the room where your family argues most,” he said. “When you look at it, the cross will remind you that God is watching.” When the parishioners were leaving the church, a woman walked up to the priest, shook his hand and said, “I’ll take five.”

Holy Week Schedule — (Both Parishes)

Holy Thursday: NO 9am Mass. Mass of the Lord’s Supper Yarra Junction 6pm Mt Evelyn 8pm	Confessions—Mount Evelyn Friday: after Stations Saturday : 11:30am-12:30pm
Good Friday: Stations of the Cross: Warburton 10:30 Mt Evelyn 9am	Easter Vigil: Yarra Junction 6pm Mt Evelyn 8:30pm
Passion of the Lord: Pallotti College 3pm Mt Evelyn 3pm	Easter Sunday: Warburton 8:30am Mt Evelyn 10:30am, & 5pm

Jesus makes His Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem

The time of his Passion being now at hand, our Redeemer departs from Bethany to go to Jerusalem. On drawing close to that ungrateful city, he beheld it, and wept: *Beholding the city, He wept over it.* He wept because he foresaw its ruin, which would be the consequence of the stupendous crime of taking away the life of the Son of God, of which that people would shortly become guilty. Ah, my Jesus, when You were then weeping over that city You were weeping also over my soul, beholding the ruin which I have brought upon myself by my sins, constraining You to condemn me to hell, even after You having died to save me. Oh, leave it to me to weep over the great evil of which I have been guilty in despising You, the greatest of all good, and please have mercy upon me.

Jesus Christ enters the city: the people go forth to meet him; they receive him with acclamations and rejoicings; and, in order to do him honor, some of them strew branches of palms along the road, whilst others spread out their garments for him to pass over. Oh, who would ever then have said that that Lord, now recognized as the Messias, and welcomed with so many demonstrations of respect, the next time that he appeared along the self-same ways would be under sentence of death, and with a cross upon his shoulders? Ah, my beloved Jesus, these people now receive Thee with acclamations, saying, *Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord!* Glory to the Son of David! Blessed be he who cometh in the name of God for our salvation! And then they will raise their voices insultingly to Pilate to take Thee out of the world, and cause Thee to die upon a cross: *Away with Him! away with Him! crucify Him!* Go, my soul, and do Thou too lovingly say to him, *Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord!* Blessed forever be Thou that art come, O Saviour of the world! for, otherwise, we had all been lost. O my Saviour, save me!

When the evening, however, came, after all those acclamations, there was no one found who would invite him to lodge in his house; so that he was obliged to retrace his steps to Bethany.

O my beloved Redeemer, if others will not give Thee a welcome, I desire to welcome Thee into my poor heart. At one time, I, unhappily, expelled Thee from my soul; but I now prize to have Thee with me more than the possession of all the treasures of earth. I love Thee, O my Saviour; what power shall ever be able to separate me from my love of Thee? Sin only; but from this sin it is Thine to deliver me, by Thy help, O my Jesus; and thine too, by thy intercession, O Mary, my Mother.

Jesus prays in the Garden

Jesus, knowing that the hour of his Passion had now come...goes to the Garden of Gethsemane, where he knew already that his enemies would come to take him. He there begins to pray, and lo! he finds himself assailed by a great dread, by a great repugnance, and by a great sadness: *He began to be afraid, to be weary, and sorrowful.* There came upon him, first, a great dread of the bitter death which he would have to suffer on Calvary, and of all the anguish and desolations by which it would be accompanied. During the actual course of his Passion, the scourges, the thorns, the nails, and the rest of his tortures came upon him but one at a time; whereas, in the garden, they all came upon him together at once, crowding into his memory in order to torment him. For his love of us he embraced them all; but in embracing them, he trembles and is in agony: *Being in an agony, He prayed the longer.*

There comes upon him, moreover, a great repugnance to that which he has to suffer; so that he prays his Father to deliver him from it: *My Father, if it be possible, let this chalice pass away from Me.* He prayed thus to teach us that in our tribulations we may indeed beg of God to deliver us from them; but we ought at the same time to refer ourselves to his will, and to say, as Jesus then said, Not, however, as I will, but as You wilt. Yes, my Jesus, Your will, not mine, be done. I embrace all the crosses that You will send me. You, innocent as You are, has suffered so much for love of me; it is but just that I, who am a sinner, and deserving of hell, should suffer for love of You that which You do ordain.

There came upon him, likewise, a sadness so great that it would have been enough to cause him to die, had he not, of himself, kept death away, in order to die for us after having suffered more: *My soul is sorrowful even unto death.* This great sadness was occasioned by the sight of the future ungratefulness of men, who, instead of corresponding to so great a love on his part, would offend him by so many sins, the sight of which caused him to sweat in streams of blood: *And his sweat became as drops of blood trickling down upon the ground.*

So, then, O my Jesus, it is not the executioners, the scourges, the thorns, or the cross that have been so cruel: the cruelty lies in my sins, which afflicted Thee so much in the garden. Give to me, then, a share of that sorrow and abhorrence which You did experience in the garden, that so, even to my death, I may bitterly weep for the offences that I have given You. I love You, O my Jesus: Receive with kindness a sinner who wishes to love You. Recommend me, O Mary, to this your Son, who is in affliction and sadness for love of me.