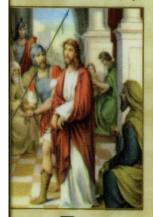
# THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS



Jesus is condemned to Death



Jesus Carries His Cross



Jesus Falls
the
First Time



Jesus Meets His Blessed Mother



Simon Helps Jesus to Carry His Cross



Veronica
Wipes the
Face of Jesus



Jesus Falls the Second Time



Jesus Speaks
to the Women
of Jerusalem



Jesus
Falls the
Third Time



Jesus is Stripped of His Garments



Jesus is Nailed to the Cross



Jesus Dies on the Cross



Jesus is Taken Down from the Cross



Jesus is Laid in the Sepulchre

# The Pauline Fourth Sunday of Lent

#### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### FIRST READING 1 Sam 16:1,6-7,10-13

A Reading from the first book of Samuel.

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him: God does not see as man sees: man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

The Word of the Lord.

#### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 22

R.

## R. The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

- 1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose. Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit.
- He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.
   If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear. You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort.

  R.
- You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.
   My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

#### SECOND READING Ephesians 5:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

The word of the Lord.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

John 8:12

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

#### **GOSPEL** John 9:1,6-9,13-17,34-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man, and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored. His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the

Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man. 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away. Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him. Jesus said: 'It is for judgement that I have come into this world, so that those without sight may see and those with sight turn blind. Hearing this, some Pharisees who were

Hearing this, some Pharisees who were present said to him, 'We are not blind, surely?' Jesus replied: 'Blind? If you were, you would not be guilty, but since you say, "We see," your guilt remains.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

#### **CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, (All bow during these two lines) who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead: he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

## ST PAUL'S PARISH

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Parish Secretary: Mrs Loretta Meilak
St Paul's School Principal: Mrs Maria Mercuri

School Tel: 9354-8970

St Paul's Parish strives to create an environment where children are safe, respected and cared for.



## NOW WHAT? ONLINE MASS AND OTHER RESOURCES

#### What should I do if I can't go to Mass?

If you are unable to be present at a celebration of the Eucharist, we encourage you to participate in other ways such as spending time in personal and family prayer, reflecting on and praying with the Scriptures (particularly the Mass readings), making a Stations of the Cross, praying the Rosary, making an Act of Spiritual Communion (see below) and participating in Mass online (see more below). Further information about opportunities for Sacrament of Reconciliation, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and times of private prayer in parishes will follow, however, churches will remain open.

#### 1. St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne

Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne is available daily. The 1pm Mass is streamed live daily (Mon-Fri) and is then available as a recording on-demand until one hour prior to the next Mass. Sunday Mass is available, with the 11am Mass live streamed and it is also available as a recording on-demand.

Watch here: https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass

#### 2. Pope Francis' daily Mass

Pope Francis' daily Masses are now available online through the Vatican's website and YouTube channel.

Watch here: https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope-francis/mass-casa-santa-marta.pagelist.html

#### 3. Mass for You at Home

Broadcast on Eleven and Network Ten on Sundays and Aurora Channel on Foxtel every day.

Watch here: <a href="http://www.mfyah.com/video.html">http://www.mfyah.com/video.html</a> or <a href="https://10play.com.au/mass-for-you-at-home">https://10play.com.au/mass-for-you-at-home</a>

What is an Act of Spiritual Communion and how do I make one? Catholics have long been encouraged to partake in the practice of "spiritual communion" if they are unable to receive the Eucharist for a particular reason (e.g. being homebound). Simply put, it is coming before God in prayer – expressing our deep desire to be united to Him despite the fact that we are unable to be united to Him in receiving the Eucharist. In making an Act of Spiritual Communion we ask the Lord to give us the graces that would come to us if we were able to receive Him sacramentally (Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity). Reciting the prayer written by St. Alphonsus Liguori below is simple and common way of making an act of of Spiritual Communion.

#### An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

**APRIL AT ST PAULS** 

#### HOLY WEEK CELEBRATIONS ARE ALL SUSPENDED.

Sat 18th Wedding of Stephanie Galante & Joseph Schiavello at 1pm Sun 26th Baptisms of Leila De Gisi, Andrew Vitolo, Zara Galasso & Christian Marin, individually, at separate times.

## IN THESE DAYS OF INCREASED AWARENESS OF THE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH COVID-19 PANDEMIC:

These days have been emotional for everyone, heartbreaking in fact, in so many ways.

May I remind you that the church will remain open, as usual times, for private prayer. Take with you home, **The Prayer of St Joseph**, **The Guidelines in Response to the Covid-19 Pandemic** issued by the Bishops of Victoria, and **The Pauline**.

You are encouraged to support the parish with an 'online collection.' Those who use sacrificial giving envelopes might consider dropping their envelopes off at the Parish Office or setting up a direct debit payment during this time. Bank details: St Paul's Church

BSB: 083-347 Account: 67541 0884

Reference: Surname/ Envelope Number

Information will be updated on our website regularly. Go to

https://www.cam.org.au/coburg

#### **NOTICES:**

ON THE OCCASION OF FR RAY'S 63rd Birthday - Sunday 15th March 2020



#### LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION:

1st CollectionSacrificial Offering\$ 791.002nd Collection:Presbytery\$ 526.25

#### **WE PRAY FOR**

BAPTISMS: Lucas Vassallo, Laila Rose Macheda.

We pray for those in our local community who are **sick** and vulnerable: may they see in us the followers of a God who heals and serves.

Let us pray for those who have died recently: and those whose anniversaries we remember at this time, Frances Grima, Vincent Borg; that they may enter the peace of God.

#### STEWARDSHIP:

"Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance but the Lord looks into the heart." (1 Sam 16:7)

How often do we invest our time, talent, and treasure in creating an appearance that does not matter at all to God? We strive to impress with our clothing, home, career, possessions, car, and other marks of distinction. But none of these illusions of greatness will impress God. Instead, He will look into our hearts to see how much we loved Him, how much we loved others and how we showed that love by the way we used our time, talent, and treasure here on earth.

#### REFLECTION: "The Heart of the Matter"

Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance, but the Lord looks into the heart. 1 Sam 16:7

While contemporary society discourages it, judging someone is not always a terrible thing. There is a place for what we call "good judgment." After all, there are people with evil intent in society. Obviously, it's not wise to befriend someone in a dark alley in a crime-riddled neighbourhood. Is it less than Christian to be wary of the person approaching us on the street asking for money? They may simply be in need. But while we know that everyone is a child of God, we can't see into their heart the way that God can. So, what can we do? If we are to truly live the gospel, then turning our back is not an option. We can take the time, in silence and prayer, to look into our own hearts. We can seek to root out our own evils and prejudices. We can pray for all those in need and then find ways to confidently (yet prudently) reach out to them.

Lord, help me to purify my heart today.

Terence Hegarty

#### PRAYER OF THE WEEK

That we are less concerned about our outward appearance and more concerned with our interior conversion of heart.

#### **QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "Mornings"**

With each sunrise, we start anew.

Anon.

#### **VOCATION VIEWS**

If we can't see where we're going, we'll never get there. The Good Shepherd leads us to green pastures, refreshes our souls and brings light to a darkened world.

**HOMILY** on the Gospel of the 4th Sunday in **Lent.** The protagonist of the story is considered as the least important person in th city, a blind beggar from birth, who has never seen the sun or his mother's face. So poor that he has nothing, he has only himself. And Jesus stops for him, without asking him anything. He makes a little mud with dust and saliva, like clay of a minimal new creation, and spreads it on those eyelids that cover the dark. In this tale of dust, saliva, light, fingers, Jesus is God who contaminates himself with man, and it is also man who becomes infected with heaven; we have a mestizo look, with an earthly part and a celestial part. Every child who is born "comes to light" (giving birth is "giving birth"), each is a mixture of earth and sky, of dust and divine light. "We are all born halfway and we need our whole life to be born completely" (M. Zambrano). Our life is a continuous dawn. God dawns in us. Jesus is the guardian of our dawns, the guardian of the fullness of life and following him is being born again; to have faith is to acquire "a new vision of things" (G. Vannucci). The blind man is born, he is born again with his new eyes, told by the red thread of a question repeated seven times: how did your eyes open? Everyone wants to know "how", to take possession of the secret of eyes invaded by light, all with eyes not yet born. The pressing question (how do you open your eyes?) Indicates a desire for more light that inhabits everyone; a vital but unripe desire, a bud immediately suffocated by the sterile dust of the institution's ideology. The man born blind changes from miraculous to be accused. The Pharisees are not concerned with the person, but with the textbook case; it does not concern the life returned to shine in those eyes, but the "sound" doctrine. And they start a trial for heresy, because he was healed on Saturday and on Saturday it is not possible, it is a sin ... But what religion is this that does not look at the good of man, but only at itself and its rules? To defend the doctrine they deny the evidence, to defend the law they deny life. They all know moral rules and are illiterate in man. Instead of enjoying the light, they would prefer that he return blind, so they would be right and not Jesus. They say: God wants the blind to remain blind on Saturdays! No miracles on Saturdays! Glory of God are the precepts observed. They put God against man, and it is the worst that can happen to our faith. But no, glory of God is a beggar who gets up, a man who returns to full life, "a man finally promoted to man" (P. Mazzolari). And his luminous gaze, which passes and illuminates, gives joy to God more than all the commandments observed! Ermes Ronchi