



CORIO LARA

CATHOLIC PARISH

Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year B) 17th March 2024

Why do we cover crucifixes and statues during Lent?

While it may appear counterintuitive to veil statues and images during the final weeks of Lent, the Church recommends this practice to heighten our senses and build within us a longing for Easter Sunday.

The rubrics of the Mass for the Fifth Sunday of Lent guide us. In the Roman Missal we find the instruction, "The practice of covering crosses and images throughout the church from this Sunday may be observed... Crosses remain covered until the end of the celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, but images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil." This is the current practice of the Church, but veiling from the Fifth Sunday of Lent onward is nothing compared to what was once practiced. For example, in Germany there was a tradition of veiling the entire altar from view throughout all of Lent.

Families can also imitate this practice and veil prominent religious images in their homes. It helps us to participate in the liturgical season, especially if we can usually only attend Mass on Sundays. Otherwise, we only see the veiled images in church once or twice before Easter and it has a minor effect on us. It is also a beautiful tradition to pass down to our children, who will be intrigued by it. This practice will help make this time of year truly special for them. We go to great lengths to celebrate Easter in our homes, so why not prepare for the great feast by using veils at home, too?

But why go to such lengths to cover up images that are designed to raise our hearts and minds toward heaven?

First, the veils remind us that Jesus "hid Himself" from His persecutors (John 8:59) until His 'hour' had come, the hour of His saving Death.

Second, we use veils to alert us to the special time that we are in. When we walk into church and notice everything is covered, we immediately know that something is different. These last two weeks of Lent are meant to be a time of immediate preparation for the Sacred Triduum and these veils are a forceful reminder to get ready.

Third, the Church uses veils to produce a heightened sense of anticipation for Easter Sunday. This is further actualized when you attend daily Mass and see the veils each day. *You don't want them to be there* because they are hiding something beautiful.

And therein lies the whole point: the veils are not meant to be there forever. The images need to be *unveiled*; it is unnatural for them to be covered.

The unveiling before the Easter Vigil is a great reminder of our own life on earth. We live in a "veiled" world, in exile from our true home. It is only through our own death that the veil is lifted, and we are finally able to see the unveiled face of God in eternal life.

Adapted from Philip Koloski's 'Why do Catholics cover crucifixes and statues during Lent?' on aleteia.org

CHURCHES

St Francis Xavier Church, Corio
St Anthony of Padua Church, Lara

ADMINISTRATOR

Fr Marcus Goulding
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WEBSITE

www.pol.org.au/corio

PARISH OFFICE

Jasna Brdar | *Parish Secretary*
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PERMANENT DEACON

Rev. Royden D'Souza

EVANGELISATION LEAD

Gudrun Philipp

MASS TIMES

Tue. 9.15am | *Corio*
W. 9.15am | *Lara*
Th. 9.15am | *Corio*
F. 9.15am | *Corio*
Sat. 7pm (Vigil) | *Corio*
Sun. 9am | *Lara*
11am | *Corio*

CONFESSIONS

Tue. 7.30pm – 8.30pm | *Corio*
Sun. 8.30am – 8.55am | *Lara*

THE ROSARY

8.50am | Prior to weekday Masses

HOLY HOUR

Tue. 7.30pm – 8.30pm | *Corio*

FIRST SATURDAYS

8.30am Confessions | *Corio*
9.30am Weekday Mass | *Corio*
5.30pm Vietnamese Mass | *Corio*

PRESBYTERY GIVING (1st Collection)

St Francis Xavier Presbytery Account
BSB 083 347
ACC 543 292 126

CHURCH GIVING (2nd Collection)

St Francis Xavier Church Account
BSB 083 347
ACC 674 963 655

Mass Readings

Entrance Antiphon | *Cf. Ps 42:1-2*

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

First Reading | *Jeremiah 31:31-34*

Responsorial Psalm | *Psalm 50(51):3-4,12-15*

R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Second Reading | *Hebrews 5:7-9*

Gospel Acclamation | *John 12:26*

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, my servant will also be. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel | *John 12:20-33*

Communion Antiphon | *Jn 12:24-25*

Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.

MASS ROSTER NEXT WEEKEND (Palm Sunday | 23/24 March)

7pm Corio	<i>Reader</i>	Jim Forssman
	<i>Passion</i>	Ken McCarthy
	<i>EMHC</i>	Larry Pankhurst
9am Lara	<i>Reader</i>	Noela Meade
	<i>Passion</i>	Bernie Hyland
	<i>EMHC</i>	Diane Saliba
11am Corio	<i>Reader</i>	Nina Singh
	<i>Passion</i>	Kim Tancio
	<i>EMHC</i>	Mercy Leszyk Johnny Gundayo

PLEASE PRAY FOR

The sick: Erminio Perich.

The faithful departed: Kirk Watson.

Pray for Seminarians! Pray for Vocations!

Parish Notices

HOLY WEEK MINISTRIES. Rosters for Holy Week (Palm Sunday – Easter Sunday) are available in the foyer.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY. Celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday on 7/4/2024 at St Francis Xavier. 2pm Holy Hour and Divine Mercy Chaplet. 3pm Holy Mass. 4pm Veneration of Relics. Confessions available from 2pm – 4.30pm. Divine Mercy Sunday Mass fulfills the Sunday obligation.

HOLY WEEK CHOIR. Final major rehearsal 7.00pm - 8.30pm Wednesday 13th March at St Francis Xavier Church. New singers welcome.

HOLY WEEK 2024 TIMETABLE. Take a copy home or download a copy from the website.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS & CONFESSION. 7.30pm in St Francis Xavier church every Friday during Lent. The Stations run for approximately 30 minutes and be led by Fr Marcus. Confession available from 7.00pm.

EASTER SUNDAY EGG HUNT – DONATIONS APPRECIATED. Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held after the 9am Mass at Lara and the 11am Mass at Corio on Easter Sunday, 31st March. Donations of newly-purchased chocolate eggs will be greatly appreciated. Donations can be placed in the basket in the church foyers. For inquiries or offers to assist on the day, contact Gudrun at the Parish Office.

FREE SEWING MACHINES TO GOOD HOME. If you or anyone you know could use a sewing machine, we have three to give away. Please contact the parish office.

TUTORS NEEDED FOR YEAR 11 & 12 REFUGEE AND MIGRANT STUDENTS. CatholicCare is seeking volunteer tutors, see details on notice board or contact Jaclyn on 0499 001 022.

EASTER CONCERT AT THE BASILICA. St Mary of the Angels Geelong invites you to their Easter Concert at 5pm on Sunday 24 March. The Windfire choir and orchestra will present Faure's Requiem. Tickets at www.trybooking.com/CODRN.

'SPARK' U18 YOUTH GROUP. Open to high-school-aged youth. Next meeting 6.00pm - 8.30pm on Sunday 17th March 2024 in the Xavier Centre. Pizza dinner provided. Donations appreciated. Contact Gudrun for more information: gudrun.philipp@cam.org.au.

CHURCH CAFÉ. Every Sunday after the 11am Mass at St Francis Xavier. First and third Sundays of the month after the 9am Mass at St Anthony of Padua.

MONTHLY PARISH BBQ AT CORIO. Second Sunday of the month after the 11am Mass at St Francis Xavier.



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Ph. 5248 3444

OUR PARISH IS COMMITTED TO THE SAFETY AND WELLBEING
OF CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS