

Palm Sunday (Year B)

24th March 2024

Participating in Holy Week

These coming days are the holiest in the Christian year. Over this week, we recall the events of our salvation. In these events, Our Lord saved us from eternal death and sin by meriting the outpouring of sanctifying grace and the opening of the gates of heaven. The Church retraces these events each year in the Sacred Liturgy so that we can participate in them.

I encourage you to make time to attend the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, the Solemn Commemoration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night. These three ceremonies form what we call the Sacred Triduum. In addition to these ceremonies, there will be ample opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. On Good Friday morning, we will also observe the Stations of the Cross.

In particular, I encourage you to stay on after the Mass of the Lord's Supper for the 'Night Watch' at the Altar of Repose. This year, the Altar of Repose will be set up in the Xavier Centre. At the conclusion of Holy Thursday's Mass, the Blessed Sacrament will be carried to the Altar of Repose. There, we can watch and pray as the apostles watched and prayed with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. This time of prayer will conclude at 10.00pm with Night Prayer.

Participating in these ceremonies is often a sacrifice. Our regular activities get put on the back-burner. Our friends and family may wonder why we are 'spending all week in the church'. The sacrifice of our time is both a great gift of love to the Lord as well as a powerful witness to our family and friends. The way we use our time reflects what we value.

In 2005, days before he was elected Pope, Cardinal Ratzinger led the Good Friday Stations of the Cross around Rome. At the Thirteenth Station, when Jesus is taken down from the Cross, Cardinal Ratzinger reflected:

"Jesus is dead. Now, at the end of his sufferings, it is clear that he was never alone. There are faithful ones who remain with him. Under the Cross stand Mary, his Mother, the sister of his Mother, Mary, Mary Magdalen and the disciple whom he loved. A wealthy man, Joseph of Arimathea, appears on the scene. He buries Jesus in his own empty tomb, in a garden. At Jesus' burial, the cemetery becomes a garden, the garden from which Adam was cast out when he abandoned the fullness of life, his Creator. The garden tomb symbolizes that the dominion of death is about to end. A member of the Sanhedrin also comes along, Nicodemus, to whom Jesus had proclaimed the mystery of rebirth by water and the Spirit. Even in the Sanhedrin, which decreed his death, there is a believer, someone who knows and recognizes Jesus after his death. In this hour of immense grief, of darkness and despair, the light of hope is mysteriously present. The hidden God continues to be the God of life, ever near. Even in the night of death, the Lord continues to be our Lord and Saviour. The Church of Jesus Christ, his new family, begins to take shape."

Let us, too, remain with Him.

Fr Marcus Goulding, Administrator

CHURCHES

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

ADMINISTRATOR

Fr Marcus Goulding marcus.goulding@cam.org.au

WEBSITE

www.pol.org.au/corio

PARISH OFFICE

Jasna Brdar | *Parish Secretary* Tues, Wed, Fri | 10am – 3pm 143 Bacchus Marsh Rd, Corio 3214 T. 03 4212 0791 E. corio@cam.org.au

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

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!

First Reading | Isaiah 50:4-7

Responsorial Psalm | *Psalm* 21(22):8-9,17-20,23-24 **R.** My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Second Reading | Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel Acclamation | Philippians 2:8-9

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!

Gospel | Mark 14:1-15:47

Communion Antiphon | Mt 26:42

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

MASS ROSTER FOR HOLY WEEK		
7.30pm Corio Holy Thursday 28/03/24	Reader P.o.F. EMHC	Frank Moloney Marlo Drake Trudy v. d. H. Tony v. d. H
3.00pm Lara Good Friday 29/03/24	Reader Passion EMHC	Angela Pearson Gudrun Philipp Val Brennan A. Buttigieg
8.00pm Corio Easter Vigil 30/03/24	Reader 1 Reader 2 Reader 3 Reader 4 EMHC	Luka Brdar Lara Mesoga
9.00am Lara Easter Sunday 31/03/24	Reader 1 Reader 2 EMHC	Rosanna Vasquez Angela Pearson Sarah Jackson
11.00am Corio Easter Sunday 31/03/24	Reader EMHC	Volunteer Volunteer Volunteer

Parish Notices

STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES NOW AVAILABLE FOR NEW ENVELOPE GIVERS. Stewardship envelopes for April to June 2024 are now available <u>for new envelope givers</u> in the church foyers. Envelopes are enclosed in named packages. If you want to give by envelopes but can't find your name, contact the Parish Office. New envelopes for the next financial year will be distributed to all envelope givers in June 2024.

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

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

HOLY WEEK CHOIR. Rehearsals before each ceremony: 6.15pm Holy Thursday in the Presbytery, 1.45pm Good Friday in Lara Church, 6.30pm Holy Saturday in the Presbytery.

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.

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.

'SPARK' U18 YOUTH GROUP. Open to high-school-aged youth. Next meeting 6.00pm - 8.30pm on Sunday 14th April 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. No Church Café on Easter Sunday.

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

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.

