



The Catholic Community of HOLY TRINITY PARISH BLACKBUTT NORTH



St John the Evangelist Church
Dickson Street Lambton Est. 1873



Corpus Christi Church
Platt Street Waratah Est. 1917



St Therese's Church
Royal Street New Lambton Est. 1954

◆ PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD ◆ YEAR A ◆ 5 APRIL 2020 ◆

PARISH OFFICE

Street Address: 58 Victoria Street
NEW LAMBTON NSW 2305
Phone: 02 4979 1365
Email: triparish@mn.catholic.org.au
Website: www.holytrinityparishblackbutt.com.au
Facebook: www.facebook.com/holytrinityblackbuttnorth

OFFICE HOURS

Monday:
Tuesday:
Thursday:

We recommend contacting the office via phone or email with your enquiries.

PARISH STAFF

Parish Administrator: Fr Sabu Adimakiyil
Lambton Presbytery: 02 4956 1953
Email: sabu.adimakiyil@mn.catholic.org.au
Assistant Priest: Fr Camillus Nwahia
Shortland Presbytery: 02 4955 9575
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Parish Secretaries: Mrs Liza Ruitenbach
Ms Justine Atkinson

SCHOOLS

ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL LAMBTON

Principal: Ms Annie Duggan
Street Address: Dickson Street LAMBTON NSW 2299
Postal Address: PO Box 8 LAMBTON NSW 2299
Phone: 02 4952 1423
Email: admin@lambton.catholic.edu.au
Website: www.lambton.catholic.edu.au

CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL WARATAH

Principal: Ms Julie Mulhearn
Street Address: Platt Street WARATAH 2298
Postal Address: PO Box 63 WARATAH 2298
Phone / Fax: 02 4968 3220 / 02 4968 3833
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Website: www.waratah.catholic.edu.au

ST THERESE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEW LAMBTON

Principal: Mr Duilio Rufo
Street Address: Burke Street NEW LAMBTON 2305
Postal Address: PO Box 321 New Lambton 2305
Phone / Fax: 02 4957 4922 / 02 4952 1637
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Website: www.newlambton.catholic.edu.au

INFORMATION

Diocesan Website: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au>

Celebrating Mass: Bishop Bill will celebrate Mass every Sunday at 9:30AM live streamed from Sacred Heart Cathedral while the COVID-19 restrictions are in place. This will also be available to be accessed at a later time if needed.
<https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/>

Prayer Resources: During this time of social isolation, it is important that we pray and stay connected to our community. A range of online resources is available to support personal and family prayer at <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/liturgy/supplementary-resources-for-prayer-and-reflection/>

LiturgyHelp: Free access to a range of prayer resources is available at <https://liturgyhelp.com/aus/mn/pray>.

Keeping the Sunday Holy and What we can do:
<https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/media/4197/keeping-sunday-holy-what-can-we-do.pdf>

The Prayer of the Church: Morning and evening prayer is available by downloading the [Universalis App](#) which contains not only the Prayer of the Church but also the Mass of the day and many other things. See also: <https://liturgy.life/2020/03/keepingsunday-holy-when-we-cannot-gather-for-mass-liturgy-of-the-hours/>

Recorded Homilies: The homilies of Bishop Bill or Fr Andrew from the Cathedral Mass on Sundays will be recorded and made available online by lunch time on Sundays. These may help in individual or small group reflections on the readings of the day. These homilies can be accessed via [Spotify](#) or [iTunes](#).

Special Note: Some people have asked how they can continue to financially support our Parish. If you wish to contribute via Direct Debit or Credit Card please feel free to email the Parish via triparish@mn.catholic.org.au or phone the Parish Secretary on 02 4979 1365 or Catholic Development Fund via <http://www.cdfmn.com.au/> or phone 02 4979 1160. Our grateful thanks to everyone.

Parish Office: To work to the requirements of our time the office is closed but still functioning, so please do not hesitate to contact us by email with all your enquiries, and Justine and Liza will endeavour to assist you in whatever way we can. In case of Funerals, please contact the Funeral Directors who will contact the Priests directly.

Bulletin: We will be uploading the bulletin and resources to the Parish website by closing each Thursday, as well as emailing same to our parishioners. If you are currently receiving the bulletin by email, please share it with others, especially those who might not have internet or email. Please advise anyone wishing to receive a bulletin via email to contact us and we will add their names to our distribution list.

Happy 100th Birthday: Fay Conaghan, a long time parishioner of St Therese's, is celebrating her birthday of 100 years. Our congratulations and love go out to Fay at this special time. Our thanks to Fay for the care and concern she has given to so many. God bless you, Fay.

Maintaining Your Mental Health: The Australian Psychological Society offers information to the public on a variety of topics via <https://psychology.org.au/for-the-public/Psychology-topics>

FIRST READING

Is 50:4-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed.

The Lord has given me
a disciple's tongue.
So that I may know how to reply to the wearied
he provides me with speech.
Each morning he wakes me to hear,
to listen like a disciple.

The Lord has opened my ear.
For my part, I made no resistance,
neither did I turn away.
I offered my back to those who struck me,
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;
I did not cover my face
against insult and spittle.
The Lord comes to my help,
so that I am untouched by the insults.
So, too, I set my face like flint;
I know I shall not be shamed.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 21:8-9. 17-20. 23-24. R. v.2

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

1. 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.)

2. 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.)

3. 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.)

4. 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.)

SECOND READING

Phil 2:6-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high.

His state was divine,
yet Christ Jesus did not cling
to his equality with God
but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are,
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Phil 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

Lk 22:14 – 23:56

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

PLEASE refer to separate Gospel Reading sheets provided for Palm Sunday.



SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

As we prepare to enter the sacred time of Holy Week, we look again at the significance of Christ in our lives. Though he was really in the form of God, Jesus came in the form of a slave. We have a saviour who was crushed for our iniquities, nailed to a cross as a convicted felon, and there endured the sense of abandonment. We have a saviour who was finally lifted up and exalted precisely because he emptied himself of his divine privileges. Unlike conquerors who triumph by putting down their opponents, Jesus was raised up because he himself was first willing to be put down. We have a saviour who first offered himself *for* us and then continues to offer himself *to* us as an example to follow. As he was willing to empty himself for our sake, so we must be willing to empty ourselves for the sake of others.

The best way to enter Holy Week with Jesus is in the company of those with whom he has identified himself: the poor and the broken; the humiliated and the marginalised; those who suffer the abuse of others; those who never use rank to force their will. If we are to be saved, we must go where salvation takes place: in our streets and in our homes where violence rages; in the dark corners of life where despair holds sway; wherever the innocent are abused or the needy are neglected; wherever there is misunderstanding or fear or jealousy. We must go wherever Christ empties himself for our sake.

© Dianne Bergant CSA

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Lowly Prince of Peace

Jesus entered Jerusalem, not as a warrior in the tradition of King David as many had hoped for, but riding simply on a donkey. The disciples and the crowd applauded him, but they proved fickle in their support.

On the other hand, Jesus remained steadfast in his commitment to non-violent revolutionary change of the religious and political systems so as to establish the reign of God. Why did he renounce marshalling human and angelic warriors to further his cause?

First, Jesus embodied God-for-us, and God does not want the destruction of those he has created out of love. Second, Jesus had a premonition that an armed revolt would lead to the destruction of Jerusalem and the dispersal of the Jewish people (as occurred in 70AD).

Third, another Gospel (Luke) recounts that as Jesus laboured up Mount Calvary he turned to some wailing women and said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, weep rather for yourselves and for your children.' He knew that they suffer grievously in armed uprising. This is seen in barbaric reality in our own time with women being tortured and raped in campaigns of terror, trafficked into sexual slavery, suffering the loss of sons, husband and lovers. We could take a moment to pray that the Church of the 21st century, successor of the pacifist Church of the first three centuries, may enter on a new period of reflection on these issues, grappling with the desire to protect the innocent, yet always challenged by the man on a donkey, Divine Prince of Peace.

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PROJECT COMPASSION

Dominic, 47, is a father of six from Papua New Guinea. In 2016, he became involved with Caritas Australia's partner, Centre of Hope who runs a safe house and family anonymous programs and turned a difficult life and an unhappy relationship around. Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 to help support the Safe House project and help bring greater harmony to families in Papua New Guinea. Let's Go Further, Together. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.



HOMILY

by Richard Leonard

As a child I can remember our diocese having large processions for the feasts of Corpus Christi, Christ the King and one of the Marian feast days. They were called 'public demonstrations of Catholic faith'. For children they were sometimes long and boring, but they did give us a sense that we belonged to something big, and someone bigger, and that our faith had a 'stand up and be counted' dimension to it. For many Catholics today large-scale religious processions are quickly becoming a thing of the past. That's a pity.

The point of religious processions is not just to get us from one location to the next. It is also to mark a rite of passage. Think of the smaller processions most Christians undertake in their lives: to the baptismal font; down the aisle to take their marriage vows, or to graduate from a school or college and to be farewelled. In each case we recess out of the Church differently from how we entered it: as a newly initiated member of the Christian community; as a husband or wife; as a graduate; and to be buried.

The Palm Sunday Procession is the last congregational one mandated by the Missal to be observed throughout the entire Church. Recalling Jesus' procession into Jerusalem this procession is not meant to be an historical pageant. Like all liturgical moments it's meant to intersect with our own lives and speak to our journey of faith. What makes this procession so powerful is that it starts with hysteria and ends in death. And that tells us something we need to hear.

Matthew's account of the Passion is very tough on the Jewish leaders. His entire Gospel has been preparing the hearer for this. Matthew shows that even though the Jews had the New Moses right in front of them, they were unable to recognise him because he didn't fit their expectations of the Messiah. The crowd in Jerusalem receive him like a pop star, acclaiming him as their own. By week's end the Chief Priests and elders manipulate the crowd's enthusiasm to force Pilate to execute Jesus. And throughout it all, during the adulation of the crowd, their change of allegiance to Barabbas and at his trial, Jesus hardly says a word. In Matthew's Gospel Jesus' silence is deafening.

In the journey of faith we should always be on our guard against being part of a manipulated crowd. The unchecked enthusiasms of a crowd can carry us away to places, people or things we would not ordinarily choose and should not embrace. If we are vulnerable, a gifted guru through his or her version of eternal life can whip us up into a frenzy. We only have to look at the power of the media and advertising to see how susceptible we are to becoming a slave to fashionable ideologies, dress codes and what and who is in or out. Every time we buy something because someone else has it or because we convince ourselves that our wants are really our needs, the crowd has won. The story of Passion Sunday is that manipulation of a crowd, even by legitimate authorities, can be the beginning of spiritual death. Hype often distorts priorities, blurs good judgment and can choose expediency over integrity.

So what's the remedy to being manipulated, to regaining a sense of what really matters, to standing up against the crowd for the values we know are right? Jesus shows us in Matthew's Gospel. It starts with silence. It's being a contemplative in a manic world and praying for the courage to dissent from the crowd's hyped-up madness.

As we process into Holy Week, this annual rite of passage for our faith, may we model our lives on Jesus in every way by creating the silence we need in our lives to sort out our priorities, by using silence powerfully in a world that loves words but has very little to say about our meaning and destiny and allowing our sacrificial love, even to the point of death, to do all the talking.

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PRAYERS

Light a Candle

In the absence of our Sunday Eucharistic gathering we invite you to light a candle to symbolize the Light of Christ. Below are our Prayer of the Faithful which we can still pray together.



Prayer of the Faithful

Introduction: Brothers and Sisters, let us make our prayers before God, the Father of our Saviour.

1. That through compassion and self-giving, the Holy Church will follow the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ during Holy Week. Let us pray to the Lord:
2. That those who are unjustly condemned may live in the truth, and trust in the hope that they are favoured in the Lord's eyes. Let us pray to the Lord:
3. That Christians may embrace the sacredness of Holy Week with a commitment to repent of their sins and strive for true holiness in Christ. Let us pray to the Lord:
4. That all who deny Christ or live with spiritual distress may become faithful witnesses of Jesus' love for all humankind. Let us pray to the Lord:
5. That the sick will be shown mercy and the gift of restored health. Let us pray to the Lord:
6. That those who have died will live forever with Christ Jesus. Let us pray to the Lord:

Conclusion: God our Father, you gave us your Son as life for the world. Hear our prayers and help us unite ourselves with the Passion of your Son and so rise to new life with you. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

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A VOCATION VIEW

Today's world is so filled with suffering, injustice, anger, depression and loneliness that it cries for people waving palm branches of hope and resurrection, proclaiming new life. For more information regarding Vocations contact 02 4979 1112 or vocations@mn.catholic.org.au



FEAST DAYS

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|---------|---|
| 9 Apr: | Holy Thursday – Mass of the Lord's Supper |
| 10 Apr: | Good Friday – Celebration of the Lord's Passion |
| 25 Apr: | ANZAC Day |
| 3 May: | Saints Philip and James, Apostles |
| 14 May: | Saint Matthias, Apostle |
| 31 May: | Pentecost Sunday |

WE REMEMBER

Please Pray for:

Sick: Bernadette Coffey, Michael Payne, Gerard Harvey, Fred Stanwell, Sheila Bell, Robert Watson, Paul Mowbray, Maureen Ashlett, Gary Herschel, Shelley Smith.

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: Dolores Garaty, Mgr Vincent Casey, Fr Patrick Hand.

During this time of restrictions Intentions for publication may be submitted by email (or phone) by midday Monday each week ahead. Reminder that you need the person's permission if sick or the immediate family if it is a death.

In this challenging time

Lord Jesus Christ, our true physician and healer, be merciful to us and bring us your aid in these troubled times. Heal all our sickness and every affliction of your people. Drive out our infirmities of soul and body; free us from all disease and especially from this pestilence. We place in your gentle Heart the elderly, the frail, people with disability, children, young people and families, our indigenous peoples, those who are poor, lonely and isolated. As you walk with us, free them from fear, and give them patience and hope together with our loving care. In your mercy deal also with the causes of our pitiful condition, that in curing our lack of faith and spiritual weakness, you may also remedy our bodily ills. We place our trust in you, the risen Lord, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Jesus puts himself in the Father's hands

Is 50:6-7
Ps 22:7-8, 16c-17a & 18, 19 & 22 R.v.2A
Mt 27:11-54

C G A M B L E D P F Y K M E
L W D B X I Z L I A B E W N
V C R B G W I E X T P I B E
N W S T N O P R I E S T S M
C L O T H E S P E I O G W I
B S W Q O J M R L N B A T E
F N S F U Q W O I M X Z F S
X E T C H G B T P I Y A P R
N C R O S S B E I S A F E H
P F N T L X N C L U A P N K
F A C E Y J V T A T A X M M
Q M Q T C Z Q P T J S A H E
D E A R T H Q Z E F D I P S
Q B A R A B B A S J C S E W

Try to find these words:

Barabbas
clothes
cross
earth
Eli
enemies
face
gambled
Pilate
priests
protect
safe