

# WELCOME

ST BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC CHURCH—5 APRIL 2020



*"The Love of Christ must come before all else." (Rule of St Benedict)*

## WEEKLY SERVICES

### Mass Times:

NO MASSES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

### Reconciliation:

Sat: **ONLY ON REQUEST**

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

**CLOSED**

### Rosary Groups:

STOPPED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

### Prayer Group:

Mary Mother of Sorrows:

STOPPED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

### Catholic Women's League (CWL)

STOPPED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

**Baptisms:** CANCELLED

**Marriages:** By Appointment

### BENEDICTCARE CO-ORDINATORS

Anne - 0477 284 906 (Meals)

Lourdes - 0402 929 391 (Visiting)

Margaret - 9364 8146 (Transport & Home Help/Garden/Handyman)

Elizabeth - 9364 9386 (New Parishioners)

**PREP CO-ORDINATOR:** Maureen Bright

*Email:* applecrossrelgedu@gmail.com

**SACRAMENTAL CO-ORDINATOR:** Rosa Ranieri

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**ST BENEDICT'S YOUTH GROUP:** Emily Hardbottle

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### HOLY HOUR & BENEDICTION

STOPPED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE



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**Parish Priest:** Fr Nelson Po

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[www.stbenedicts.net.au](http://www.stbenedicts.net.au)

**Parish Secretary:** Colleen Geldenhuys

## PALM SUNDAY, YEAR A

### **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 to 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.

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The following links are available for live-streaming of Sunday Mass and available at 11.00am on Sundays:

Archdiocese Website – [www.perthcatholic.org.au](http://www.perthcatholic.org.au)

Archdiocese Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/perthcatholic/>

The Record YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMFFqA8iYLIIVb72LXMYFQ/live>

TV: Mass for You at Home on Channel 10 and via <https://10play.com.au/mass-for-you-at-home>

### **PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS:**

Karl Brown, Marina Ciccarelli, Frances Meyerkort, Alana Coffey, Ondine Komnick, Rodney Dowling

**Email contact:**

[applecross.safeguarding@gmail.com](mailto:applecross.safeguarding@gmail.com)



## READINGS FOR THE DAY— AT HOME FOR YOU

**Entrance Antiphon:** *Cf. Jn 12: 1, 12-13; Ps 23: 9-10*

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!

**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.

**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.

**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:** *Mt 27:11-54*

*(Shorter Version)*

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

Jesus was brought before Pontius Pilate, the governor, and the governor put to him this question, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' Jesus replied, 'It is you who say it.' But when he was accused by the chief priests and the elders he refused to answer at all. Pilate then said to him, 'Do you not hear how many charges they have brought against you?' But to the governor's complete amazement, he offered no reply to any of the charges.

At festival time it was the governor's practice to release a prisoner for the people, anyone they chose. Now there was at that time a notorious prisoner whose name was Barabbas. So when the crowd gathered, Pilate said to them, 'Which do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?' For Pilate knew it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. Now as he was seated in the chair of judgement, his wife sent him a message, 'Have nothing to do with that man; I have been upset all day by a dream I had about him.'

The chief priests and the elders, however, had persuaded the crowd to demand the release of Barabbas and the execution of Jesus. So when the governor spoke and asked them, 'Which of the two do you want me to release for you?' they said 'Barabbas'. 'But in that case,' Pilate said to them 'what am I to do with Jesus who is called Christ?' They all said, 'Let him be crucified!' 'Why?' he asked 'What harm has he done?' But they shouted all the louder, 'Let him be crucified!' Then Pilate saw that he was making no impression, that in fact a riot was imminent. So he took some water, washed his hands in front of the crowd and said, 'I am innocent of this man's blood. It is your concern.' And the people, to a man, shouted back, 'His blood be on us and on our children!' Then he released Barabbas for them. He ordered Jesus to be first scourged and then handed over to be crucified.

The governor's soldiers took Jesus with them into the Praetorium and collected the whole cohort around him. Then they stripped him and made him wear a scarlet cloak, and having twisted some thorns into a crown they put this on his head and placed a reed in his right hand. To make fun of him they knelt to him saying, 'Hail, king of the Jews!' And they spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head with it. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the cloak and dressed him in his own clothes and led him away to crucify him.

On their way out, they came across a man from Cyrene, Simon by name, and enlisted him to carry his cross. When they had reached a place called Golgotha, that is, the place of the skull, they gave him wine to drink mixed with gall, which he tasted but refused to drink. When they had finished crucifying him they shared out his clothing by casting lots, and then sat down and stayed there keeping guard over him.

Above his head was placed the charge against him; it read: 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.' At the same time two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left.

The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said 'So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself! If you are God's son, come down from the cross!' The chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him in the same way. 'He saved others,' they said 'he cannot save himself. He is the king of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He put his trust in God; now let God rescue him if he wants him. For he did say, "I am the son of God."' Even the robbers who were crucified with him taunted him in the same way.

From the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour.

And about the ninth hour, Jesus cried out in a loud voice, 'Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?' that is, 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood there heard this, they said, 'The man is calling on Elijah,' and one of them quickly ran to get a sponge which he dipped in vinegar and putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink. 'Wait!' said the rest of them 'and see if Elijah will come to save him.' But Jesus again crying out in a loud voice, yielded up his spirit.

At that, the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom; the earth quaked; the rocks were split; the tombs opened and the bodies of many holy men rose from the dead, and these, after his resurrection, came out of the tombs, entered the Holy City and appeared to a number of people. Meanwhile the centurion, together with the others guarding Jesus, had seen the earthquake and all that was taking place, and they were terrified and said, 'In truth this was a son of God.'

**Communion Antiphon:** *Mt 26:42*

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



## ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

### SUBSCRIBE TO THE eRECORD

Local news from across our parishes, agencies, schools and organisations can be delivered weekly directly to your inbox via The eRecord. It contains the latest news, events and photos from the Archdiocese. Subscribe to the e-newsletter by sending details to [communications@perthcatholic.org.au](mailto:communications@perthcatholic.org.au). Further info: Jamie O'Brien 08 9220 5900

## GOSPEL REFLECTION—CARITAS

In the Passion we see the suffering of Jesus as he is beaten, scourged and ridiculed. He is treated unjustly as a notorious thief is chosen for release over Jesus. Jesus is deserted by his closest friends and it is only a Gentile centurion, Mary and a group of faithful women who remain at the foot of the cross. At the end, Jesus even feels deserted by his Father asking 'why have you abandoned me?'

In the Project Compassion story this week Dominic shares how he was liberated from his pattern of domestic violence. Just as Mary and the faithful women remained at the foot of the cross with Jesus, Dominic's wife and family chose to remain with him on his journey to wholeness. His participation in the Caritas Australia supported program at the Center of Hope in Papua New Guinea brought light back to his family. By opening himself up to the process of counselling with Christophylda, his wife, he was able to learn new ways to manage his behaviour and attitudes, bringing new life to his family where there was once fear and darkness.

Dominic is also bringing change to his community as he now works as an advocate, challenging gender-based violence and sharing his testimony of change. Having people speak from their own experience leads others to challenge their own behaviour through its authenticity.

We can identify with much of Jesus' suffering, in our own lives and the lives of people close to us. We can take comfort and consolation in that Jesus identifies with the suffering of the human race. We now know that the story doesn't end there, that there is the resurrection yet to come. Sadness and death give way to new life.

As we journey through Holy Week, will we keep in mind our sisters and brothers who suffer?

### PRAYER RESOURCES DURING YOUR AT HOME STAY

<http://www.pray.com.au/resources/>

[https://www.catholic.org.au/images/synod/Prayers\\_for\\_Time\\_of\\_Pandemic.pdf](https://www.catholic.org.au/images/synod/Prayers_for_Time_of_Pandemic.pdf)

<https://www.dow.org.au/media-resources/lenten-program/>

### PLEASE PRAY FOR RECENTLY DECEASED:

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Pauline Belviso, Jacob Low, Alison Macchiusi, Babs Falho, Ronald Pereira, Elizabeth, Mavros, Joan Gummer, Kathleen Hossen, Armando Ligovich, all deceased benefactors of the parish and all departed family and friends.  
*Please remember all our ill and sick parishioners in your prayers.*

*Thank you*

### PRAY FOR THE SICK

*Please keep the following people in your prayers:*

Tom Lyons, Myrtle Nimmo, Winifred Trinidad, Beatrice Leong, Peter Colleran, Kathleen Howell, Sr Carla, Beryl Kerman, Truus Botman, Eric Walsh, Sim Tan and all others who are not included in this list.

## PRAYER FOR THE DAY

### **Presence**

I pause for a moment and think of the love and the grace that God showers on me, creating me in his image and likeness, making me his temple....

### **Freedom**

If God were trying to tell me something, would I know?  
If God were reassuring me or challenging me, would I notice?  
I ask for the grace to be free of my own preoccupations and open to what God may be saying to me.

### **Consciousness**

Lord, you gave me the night to rest in sleep.  
In my waking hours may I not forget your goodness to me.  
Guide me to share your blessings with others.

### **The Word of God**

## PREPARING FOR EASTER—AT HOME

We have uploaded a series called 'Holy Week at Home' for our parishioners to reflect on during Holy Week and Easter, to help with ongoing faith reflection during this "At Home-Isolation". Please feel free to download it and use it to keep praying and keep the faith during these unknown times.

## TIPS FOR KEEPING THE FAITH WITH CHILDREN

**Morning Prayers**—Mornings can be a frenzy of activity for families so establishing a routine that includes prayer can be a challenge. So to encourage and help each person to live faithfully as followers of Jesus, take some time out during the day to prayer together asking God to bless each person and their activities. Just teaching them to make the sign of the cross is a simple activity.

**Mealtimes Prayers**—When gathering for a meal, this is a perfect time to pray as a family, thanking God for all the blessings each person has received that day and the food on the table.

**Bedtime Prayers**—This is another great opportunity to get your child to prayer, asking God to keep them safe during the night and giving thanks for the day they have had and asking for healing for their loved sick family members.

OUR LADY'S PILGRIM STATUE ROSTER: 11 APRIL —  
Roger & Elizabeth Few

**PROJECT  
COMPASSION**  
GO FURTHER TOGETHER

**PALM SUNDAY**



**5th April 2020**

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](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.