

STS PETER & PAUL'S

CATHOLIC PARISH SOUTH MELBOURNE

Under the Pastoral care of the Capuchin Friars

5th April 2020



Palm Sunday of Lent A

All is Fulfilled

“All this has come to pass that the writings of the prophets may be fulfilled,” Jesus says in today’s Gospel (see **Matthew 26:56**).

Indeed, we have reached the climax of the liturgical year, the highest peak of salvation history, when all that has been anticipated and promised is to be fulfilled.

By the close of today’s long Gospel, the work of our redemption will have been accomplished, the new covenant will be written in the blood of His broken body hanging on the cross at the place called the Skull.

In His Passion, Jesus is “counted among the wicked,” as Isaiah had foretold (see **Isaiah 53:12**). He is revealed definitively as the Suffering Servant the prophet announced, the long-awaited Messiah whose words of obedience and faith ring out in today’s First Reading and Psalm.

The taunts and torments we hear in these two readings punctuate the Gospel as Jesus is beaten and mocked (see **Matthew 27:31**), as His hands and feet are pierced, as enemies gamble for His clothes (see **Matthew 27:35**), and as His enemies dare Him to prove His divinity by saving Himself from suffering (see **Matthew 27:39–44**).

He remains faithful to God’s will to the end, does not turn back in His trial. He gives Himself freely to His torturers, confident that, as He speaks in today’s First Reading: “The Lord God is My help. . . . I shall not be put to shame.”

Destined to sin and death as children of Adam’s disobedience, we have been set free for holiness and life by Christ’s perfect obedience to the Father’s will (see **Romans 5:12–14, 17–19; Ephesians 2:2; 5:6**).

This is why God greatly exalted Him. This is why we have salvation in His Name. Following His example of humble obedience in the trials and crosses of our lives, we know we will never be forsaken. We know, as the centurion today, that truly this is the Son of God (see **Matthew 27:54**).

Scott Hahn

ABOUT OUR PARISH

Parish administrator:
Fr John Spiteri OFM Cap

Parish secretary:
Mon, Tues and Thurs
9:30am–3pm

Emerald Hill Mission (EHM)

CONTACT US:

Phone
9690 5895 (parish)
0409 417 412 (EHM)

Email
stspeterandpauls@gmail.com

Facebook
[@stspeterandpauls](https://www.facebook.com/stspeterandpauls)

Web
stspeterandpauls.com

MASS TIMES

Sunday	10am
Saturday (Vigil)	6pm
Mon–Thurs	8am
Friday	10am
Saturday	10am

CONFESSION TIMES

Saturday	10.30am
	5.30pm

**ALL MASSES HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED BY THE
ARCHBISHOP UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

We trust in merciful God, we pray for one another

Lenten reflection – The Passion, Palm Sunday

(Diocese of Wollongong – Grace Lenten Program 2020)

Truly this was a son of God.

Sr. Anastasia Reeves, OP.



Have you ever wondered how you would have responded to the events of the Passion had you been there? In today's Gospel, with whom do you closely identify? Peter? Judas? Pilate? The crowds who praise Jesus or the crowds who condemn him? The centurion who believed? The false witnesses who accused Jesus? The passers-by who seem to ignore the whole thing? Or, one of the women who faithfully follow Christ to the bitter end?

In just a few days, many of these same gospel figures will be transformed as they witness Christ's definitive victory over sin and death. Fear will be replaced with joy, and the guilt of betrayal with mercy. Some of those weak and wounded figures – Peter, the centurion, Pilate's wife, the noticeably absent cohort of apostles-will realise that, what on Good Friday looks to be a total disaster, is by Easter Sunday, in fact, the fulfilment of Christ's sovereign, efficacious plan of salvation for the whole cosmos. They will rejoice in the forgiveness and salvation that Christ has wrought for each of them.

Even the Blessed Mother, although she was conceived and lived without original or personal sin, is as dependent on Christ for her salvation, as we are. Mary shows us how best to enter into Holy Week-standing in contrast to the frantic movement of the Passover pilgrims in Jerusalem and the cries of the blood thirsty crowd, Mary prays.

Lent is a desert revealing our dependence on God, our need of his help and grace. At Mary's side, we go even deeper into the desert by meditating on Christ's suffering, which in some mysterious way encapsulates our small response of love to Love., himself. Let us not ignore Christ, nor run away, no get overly preoccupied with life's minor details, but cling faithfully to him.

Personal reflection for the week ahead.

- St Anastasia reminds us: 'We, too, need Christ just as much as those who lived with him.' What difference does Jesus make to us?

Daily reflection:

Monday: 'I, the Lord, have called you for the victory of justice, I have grasped you by the hand; I formed you, and you a covenant of the people, a light for the nations. Jesus, this week you open the heavens so that we might enter in. By the graces you Merited through your sweet sacrifice upon the cross, draw us closer to you and to one another, in love. Amen

Tuesday I will make you the light of the nation's so that my salvation will reach to the ends of the earth. Heavenly Father, help me to know the power of the Gospel and its transforming effects in my own life, that I would seek every opportunity to proclaim your saving work to all those I met. Amen

Wednesday He looked for an opportunity to betray him. Lord Jesus I believe; help my unbelief! Amen

Thursday He had always loved those who were his in the world, but now he showed how perfect His love was, Lord Jesus, help me to be still and know your love for me. Amen

Friday At the place where he had been crucified there was a garden. Thank you, Lord, for blessing me with the gift of your redeeming love. Like Mary Magdalene, may my heart's desire lie always with you. Amen

Saturday It is, Holy Saturday and we are faced with emptiness born of grief. Grief and losses are capable parts of our human story. El shaddai – God of the open wastes: in my grief, come to me; in my emptiness, fill me; in my lostness, find me; in my loneliness, speak to me. And, with you, I will rise again. Amen

Litany of the Love of God

When the feeling of loneliness strikes, this beautiful prayer can help remind us of our love for God. He is the creator of everything we hold dear to our hearts. This prayer, written by Pope Pius VI gives us comfort in knowing that if we place the Lord first, the rest of life's plans will fall into place accordingly.

Prayer of Pope Pius X in The Time of Loneliness

Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, hear us. Christ graciously hear us.
God, the Father of heaven, Have mercy on us.
God the Son, Redeemer of the world, Have mercy on us.
God, the Holy Ghost, Have mercy on us. Holy Trinity, one God, Have mercy on us. Thou Who art Infinite Love, Have mercy on us.
Thou Who didst first love me, Have mercy on us.
Thou Who commandest me to love Thee, Have mercy on us.
With all my heart, I Love Thee, O My God
With all my soul, I Love Thee, O My God
With all my mind, I Love Thee, O My God
With all my strength, I Love Thee, O My God
Above all possessions and honors, I Love Thee, O My God
Above all pleasures and enjoyments, I Love Thee, O My God
More than myself, and everything belonging to me, I Love Thee, O My God
More than all my relatives and friends, I Love Thee, O My God

O My God
More than all men and angels, I Love Thee, O My God
Above all created things in heaven or on earth, I Love Thee, O My God
Only for Thyself, I Love Thee, O My God
Because Thou art the sovereign Good, I Love Thee, O My God
Because Thou art infinitely worthy of being loved, I Love Thee, O My God
Because Thou art infinitely perfect, I Love Thee, O My God
Even hadst Thou not promised me heaven, I Love Thee, O My God
Even hadst Thou not menaced me with hell, I Love Thee, O My God
Even should Thou try me by want and misfortune, I Love Thee, O My God
In wealth and in poverty, I Love Thee, O My God
In prosperity and in adversity, I Love Thee, O My God
In health and in sickness, I Love Thee, O My God
In life and in death, I Love Thee, O My God
In time and in eternity, I Love Thee, O My God
In union with that love wherewith all the saints and all the angels love Thee in heaven, I Love Thee, O My God
In union with that love wherewith the Blessed Virgin Mary loveth Thee, I Love Thee, O My God
In union with that infinite love wherewith Thou loves Thyself eternally, I Love Thee, O My God

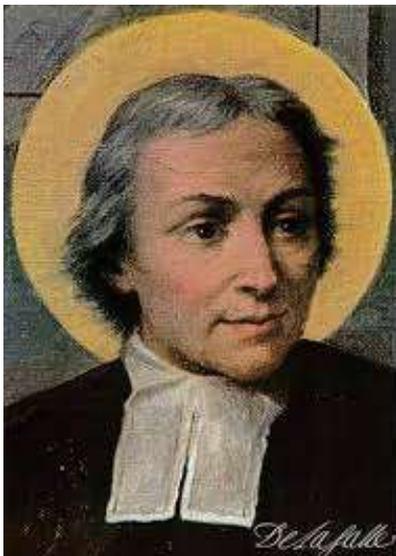
Source: <https://www.catholicingles.com/>

Room No Longer Needed

Dear Friends,
Telmo and Isobel have found a place to share with a couple of other people. We hope that everything goes well for them. Thanks for giving thought to their plight.

Colossian 3:23

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters,



FEAST OF THE WEEK

Saint John Baptist de La Salle 7th April

Jean-Baptiste de La Salle was a French priest, educational reformer, and founder of the Institute of the Brothers of the Christian Schools. He is a saint of the Catholic Church and the patron saint for teachers of youth

In 1900 John Baptist de La Salle was declared a Saint. In 1950, because of his life and inspirational writings, he was made Patron Saint of all those who work in the field of education. John Baptist de La Salle inspired others how to teach and care for young people, how to meet failure and frailty with compassion, how to affirm, strengthen and heal. At the present time there are De La Salle schools in 79 different countries around the globe.

