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(Safeguarding purposes only)

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**Year A****4th/5th April, 2020****Let's walk with the Lord.....**

The journey of our human lives can pass through the daylight and even it can be as deep dark as the night. But we recognize that history teaches us that it quite normal, this kind of journey, the journey of struggles and tempests as we now face Covid-19 and is part of human life in the course of time and space. But the hope in the resurrection of Christ will conquer everything, even death itself.

Eucharist has a central role in the Christian life, we must remember, however Christians throughout the centuries, and in many diverse places, have remained faithful while incapable of routine participation in the Mass (and other sacraments). Many Christians have had an infrequent connection with priests, for one reason (priest shortage) or another (plague) that has made them make do with a Christian life that had infrequent reception of the sacraments. Now, many of us, at least for the present time, face a similar situation to many of our fellow brothers and sisters in other parts of the world. What all of this means is that we should not panic and be afraid. If we are unable to receive the sacraments due to this situation it is important that we remain open to God even when our doors are closed.

When we cannot go to Mass, when we cannot receive the sacraments as normal, we should find ways in which we continue our spiritual life. That is why we are using all the available ways to connect with you through our parish website, Facebook, emails and telephone calls. It's bit hard for me to celebrate mass without you but I am remembering you all in my masses and keeping you in my prayers. As we move close to the Easter ceremonies we are united as one in spirit through the liturgical celebrations that you have received. It is important to put our hope and faith in God, even as it is important for us to act with prudence in regards to the Coronavirus. We must not despair. Even though we find the routines of life changes, God is always there, ready and willing to offer his love.

John, Chapter 14 says 'Don't let your hearts be troubled trust in God and trust also in me.' Again the psalmist says 'those who live in the shelter of the most high will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty. He alone is my refuge my place of safety he is my God and I trust in Him.' These are words of Jesus, who will rescue us from every trap and protect you from the deadly diseases. He will cover you with his feathers and he will shelter you with his wings; his faithful promises are your armour and protection. Hosanna to the son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. May this great season of Joy heal and comfort us. Here, I conclude with the Prayer over the Offerings for this week. 'Through the passion of your only begotten son, O Lord, may our reconciliation with you be near at hand, so that, though we do not merit it by our own deeds, yet by this sacrifice made once for all, we may feel already the effects of your mercy. Amen.

Be safe and take care.

Every blessings

Fr.Jason

Readings: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Isaiah 50:4-7

Philippians 2:6-11

Matthew 26:14 – 27:66

READINGS FOR PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-7

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

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Second Reading

Romans 8:8-11

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

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

Matthew 27:1-54

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 judgment, 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 round 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 to 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.

(All kneel and pause a moment.)

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.'

HOLY WEEK AND THE CELEBRATION OF THE TRIDIUM

We are preparing for a Holy Week like no other. The days of Holy Week and the Triduum are central to the liturgical life of the Church and are being celebrated this year under the restrictions, without a congregation. I will be celebrating our normal liturgies at the following times, and although you cannot be with me in person you might like to be with me in spirit at these times. We have included prayer leaflets, prepared by Liturgy Brisbane, which may assist you to celebrate this most important liturgical time.

Passion Sunday: 7:00 am	Mass of the Lord's Supper	6.30 pm	Easter Vigil Mass	6:30 pm
	Stations of the Cross	10:00 am	Easter Sunday mass	7:00 am
	Liturgy of the Lord's Passion	3:00 pm		

Continuing on our faith journey during this time of isolation Our faith will sustain us through challenging times

WE REMEMBER

We remember Maidie Johnston, Mark Tiainen and Les Richards. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

SUPPORT OF OUR PLANNED GIVING

Please keep helping your parish community by continuing your weekly offering. Following on from last week's advice there is also the option of netbanking. The Parish Office can advise of our banking details, please give us a call or send an email. If you wish, you may also drop your envelopes in the office.



Each Friday, we will be holding Youth Online! First, we will be tuning in to "Ignite Youth Live", released at 7pm each Friday on their Facebook. Immediately following their livestream, we will break off into a separate Google hangout to chat and discuss the content. Feel free to get updates from the Abundance Youth Facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/Abundance-Youth-114497676854096>

There will be no youth on Good Friday, but continuing from the 17th of April. All are welcome, looking forward to seeing everyone there!

Nick Kelly

GOD'S WORD 2020

There are 2 copies of this books still available at the Parish Office if you are interested. Cost: \$10. Please ring the office if you would like one.

LIVESTREAMING OF MASSES FROM ST STEPHEN'S CATHEDRAL

Watch Mass online at 8:00am Monday to Friday and 8:00am and 10:00am Sunday at www.archbne.org/bzw

CHRISM MASS

The Chrism Mass will be livestreamed from St Stephen's Cathedral at 10:00am on Holy Thursday.

MASS ON TV – CHANNEL 10

Mass for You at Home is broadcast each Sunday at 6:00am.

SHALOM MEDIA

As the world is going through the Covid-19 crisis and the resulting home confinements and ban on public gatherings, **Shalom World** is livestreaming daily mass. Using Google Chrome search for the following link: <https://shalomworld.org/watchlive/?region=masslive>

Unfortunately this does not appear to work on Internet Explorer.

QUOTE OF POPE FRANCIS

Pope Francis says, "The Internet, social networks and text messages were "a gift of God" if used wisely".

"Emails, text messages, social networks and chats can also be fully human forms of communication," the pope said in his message for the Roman Catholic Church's World Day of Communications.

TWO MINUTE HOMILY

Each week there is a 2 Minute Homily, presented by one of our archdiocesan priests, which can be viewed at:

<https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/>

OUR ENFORCED RETREAT

Bishop James Foley has likened the closure of churches across the country to an "enforced retreat". He wrote, "Our enforced retreat from the world can be an opportunity to grow closer to God and more prayerful."

Cairns Diocese is live-streaming The Liturgy of the Hours on its YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC62ZAC9PYygbOuYJ1hwjV-Q>

The daily schedule is:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| * 9am: Morning Prayer | * 12pm: Midday Prayer |
| * 3pm: Office of Readings | * 5pm: Evening Prayer |
| * 5pm: Mass of the Day | * 6pm: Night Prayer of the Church |

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be streamed at all other times during the day and night.

CATHOLIC FAMILY - CATH KIDS SIGN UP FOR FREE NOW

FREE access to CathKids until June 30, 2020. Please click on the link below to access.

https://cathfamily.org/cathkids-faith-unlimited/?utm_source=mailpoet&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=cf-200322-covid-special-week1

CATHOLIC LEADER

This digital newspaper will be free for readers to access until parishes reopen. It is our commitment to ensure that everybody has access to stories of connection, inspiration, and faith. Click on the link above or go to: www.catholicleader.com.au

COVID-19 PRAYER

The National Council of Churches has invited all of us to pray this prayer at 7pm each day.

Gracious God,
We give thanks anew for your providence and presence.

We prayerfully seek your grace,
amidst COVID-19 here and overseas.

We pray for those in need of healing.
We pray for your peace

with those who are anxious or grieving.

We pray you will continue to strengthen and sustain
all those who are serving in response.

We pray for your Holy Spirit's discernment
amidst the many choices and decisions

facing our national, community and medical leaders.

We pray we each might see quickly what more we can do
to help those who are vulnerable.

This prayer for our nation in the family of nations,
with all that is on our hearts,
we gather now and pray
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Let your
Light
Shine



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