



Good Friday

Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

THE WOOD OF THE CROSS!

Strange term, "Good Friday". A tortured body hanging on a cross? The upright beam grounded in the earth. Might something "good" come of that? The horizontal beam stretched east to west. Might something "good" come of that? At the top the plaque. At the bottom the spattering of blood and water. Might something "good" come of that?

Yes, because that cross bore the body of Jesus Nazarene, King of the Jews, but, more than that, the Lord of the Universe, Son of God. Because it held His body, the upright beam grounded in the earth, reaching heavenward, joined heaven and earth, making this Friday *Good Friday*.

Because His arms were stretched out on the horizontal beam the whole of humankind, the whole of creation was embraced. And that makes this Friday, *Good Friday*.

Because His water and blood, signs accompanying birth, spattered the foot of the cross, a new family, of whom we are the descendants, was born.

We could pause for a moment, admitting that we may never understand fully, but resolving to fully stand under the Cross, proclaiming that this was indeed the *Best Friday*.

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Genuflecting on Good Friday.

From Good Friday after the 3pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord we genuflect to the Cross not the tabernacle.

*Through the death and resurrection of his own Son,
the Father has given the human race
the great gift of redemption.
May he give you the grace
to meditate devoutly on Christ's passion
and to follow your crucified Lord,
so that you may come to the glory of his resurrection.*



Today we celebrate Good Friday Collection:

This is a unique day when we recall the love of Jesus unto death for us, when he shows us the extent to which God is in solidarity with our suffering humanity. Can we use this occasion to recall our need to be in solidarity with those suffering around us, and in a particular way with the suffering Church of the Holy Land? Supporting the church in the Holy Land is an historic mission. Since the time of St. Paul, who urged his missionary Churches not to forget the needs of the Church in Jerusalem, Christians worldwide have understood the responsibility to support the land where Jesus walked.

Christians in the Holy Land face special challenges, many of which we hear about in the daily news. The political, religious and military challenges in the Holy Land are more complex than ever. The wars, unrest and instability have been especially hard on Christians. Supporting the Holy Land (Good Friday) Collection offers hope to the Holy Land Christians. Over recent years, their difficulties have been greatly magnified by the pandemic, not only on the health of the people but through the severe economic consequences that have disproportionately affected the most vulnerable

Each year's Holy Land (Good Friday) Collection:

- Supports 29 parishes, 4 homes for orphans, 3 academic institutions
- Helps keep schools open for over 10,000 pre-K to Grade 12
- Supports 120 men preparing to be priests or brothers
- Helps rehabilitate 80 homes for Christian families
- Provides senior care facilities in Bethlehem and Nazareth
- Creates 1,500 jobs in the Holy Land for Christians
- Preserves 54 shrines connected with the life of Jesus

A special collection will be taken up and there is a Good Friday Collection Box and envelopes available from the Church Foyer.



Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

The time is 3:00 pm The altar is left bare. There is no commentary of welcome, to emphasise the silence.

First Reading

Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

He surrendered himself to death, while bearing the faults of many.

See, my servant shall prosper; he shall be exalted and lifted up, and shall be very high.

Just as there were many who were astonished at him, so marred was his appearance, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of mortals, so he shall startle many nations; kings shall shut their mouths because of him; for that which had not been told them they shall see, and that which they had not heard they shall contemplate. Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

For he grew up before the Lord like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity; and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account.

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases; yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By a perversion of justice he was taken away. Who could have imagined his future? For he was cut off from the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people. They made his grave with the wicked and his tomb with the rich, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the Lord shall prosper. Out of his anguish he shall see light; he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge. The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Hot Cross Buns. The familiar hot cross buns are sweet rolls with the sign of the cross cut into it, and they are one of several traditional European breads marked with a cross for Good Friday. According to tradition, these buns originated at St Alban's Abbey in 1361, where the monks gave them to the poor who came there.



These **Good Friday buns** were very popular, and were sold by vendors who cried,

Hot cross buns,
Hot cross buns!
One a-penny two a-penny,
Hot cross buns!
If you have no daughters,
give 'em to your sons!
One a-penny two a-penny,
Hot cross buns!

Responsorial Psalm

Psalms 31:1+5,11-12,14,15,16+24. (R. Lk 23:46)

(R.) Father, I put my life in your hands.

1. In you, O Lord, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me. Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God. **(R.)**

2. I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbours, an object of dread to my acquaintances. Those who see me in the street flee from me. I have passed out of mind like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel. **(R.)**

3. But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, "You are my God." My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors. **(R.)**

4. Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love. Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

He learned obedience and became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

Gospel Acclamation

Phil 2:8-9

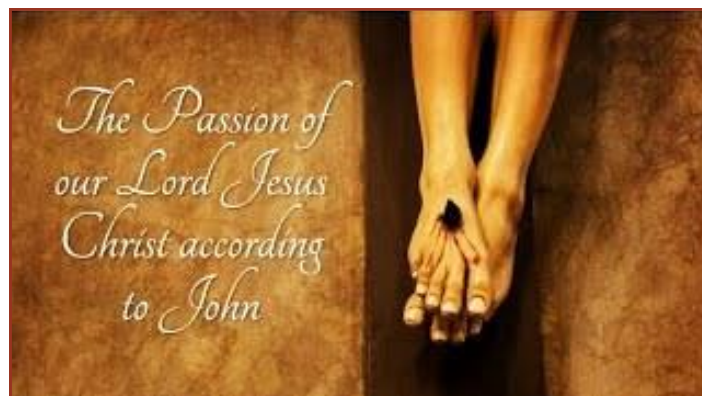
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
Christ became obedient for us even to death, dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

John 18:1 - 19:42

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Today's Gospel we listen to The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.



Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

THE SOLEMN INTERCESSIONS

Reader proclaims the intention, followed by the Leader.

1. For Holy Church, Let us pray, dearly beloved for the holy Church of God throughout the world, that our God and Lord be pleased to give her peace, to guard her and to unite her throughout the whole world and grant that, leading our life in tranquillity and quiet, we may glorify God the Father almighty.

Prayer in silence.

Leader: Almighty ever-living God, who in Christ revealed your glory to all the nations, watch over the works of your mercy, that your Church, spread throughout all the world, may persevere with steadfast faith in confessing your name. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

2. For the Pope, Let us pray for our most Holy Father Pope Francis that God who chose him for the Order of Bishops, may keep him safe and unharmed to guide and govern the holy People of God.

Prayer in silence.

Leader: Almighty ever-living God, by whose decree all things are founded, look with favour on our prayers and in your kindness protect the Pope chosen for us, that, under him, the Christian people, governed by you their maker, may grow in merit by reason of their faith. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

3. For all orders and degrees of the faithful, Let us pray for Archbishop Anthony and his Auxiliary Bishops and for all Bishops, Priests and Deacons of the Church and for the whole of the faithful people.

Prayer in silence.

Leader: Almighty ever-living God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is sanctified and governed, hear our humble prayer for your ministers, that by the gift of your grace, all may serve you faithfully. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

4. For catechumens, Let us pray for catechumens, that our God and Lord may open wide the ears of their inmost hearts and unlock the gates of his mercy, that, having received forgiveness of all their sins through the waters of rebirth, they, too, may be one with Christ Jesus our Lord.

Prayer in silence.

Leader: Almighty ever-living God, who makes your Church ever fruitful with new offspring, increase the faith and understanding of catechumens, that, reborn in the font of Baptism, they may be added to the number of your adopted children. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

5. For the unity of Christians, Let us pray for all our brothers and sisters who believe in Christ, that our God and Lord may be pleased, as they live the truth, to gather them together and keep them in his one Church.

Prayer in silence.

Leader: Almighty ever-living God, who gather what is scattered and keep together what you have gathered, look kindly on the flock of your son, that those whom one Baptism has consecrated may be joined together by integrity of faith and united in the bond of charity. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

6. For the Jewish people, Let us pray for the Jewish people, to whom the Lord our God spoke first, that he may grant them to advance in love of his name and in faithfulness to his covenant.

Prayer in silence.

Leader: Almighty ever-living God, who bestowed your promises on Abraham and his descendants, graciously hear the prayers of your Church, that the people you first made your own may attain the fullness of redemption. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

7. For those who do not believe in Christ

Let us pray for those who do not believe in Christ that, enlightened by the Holy Spirit, they, too, may enter on the way of salvation.

Prayer in silence.

Leader: Almighty ever-living God, grant to those who do not confess Christ that, by walking before you with a sincere heart, they may find the truth, and that we ourselves, being constant in mutual love and striving to understand more fully the mystery of your life, may be made more perfect witnesses to your love in the world.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

8. For those who do not believe in God

Let us pray for those who do not acknowledge God that, following what is right in sincerity of heart, they may find the way to God himself.

Prayer in silence.

Leader: Almighty ever-living God, who created all people to seek you always by desiring you and by finding you, come to rest, grant, we pray, that, despite every harmful obstacle, all may recognise the signs of your fatherly love and the witness of the good works done by those who believe in you, and so in gladness confess you, the one true God and Father of our human race,

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

9. For those in public office

Let us pray for those in public office, that our God and Lord may direct their minds and hearts according to his will for the true peace and freedom of all.

Prayer in silence.

Leader: Almighty ever-living God, in whose hand lies every human heart and the rights of peoples, look with favour, we pray, on those who govern with authority over us, that throughout the whole world, the prosperity of peoples, the assurance of peace, and freedom of religion may through your gift be made secure.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

10. For those in tribulation

Let us pray, dearly beloved, to God the Father almighty, that he may cleanse the world of all errors, banish disease, drive out hunger, unlock prisons, loosen fetters, grant travellers safety, for pilgrims return, health to the sick, and salvation to the dying.

Prayer in silence.

Leader: Almighty ever-living God, comfort of mourners, strength of all who toil, may the prayers of those who cry out in any tribulation come before you, that all may rejoice, because in their hour of need your mercy was at hand.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

ADORATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

You are invited to come forward and bow before the Cross.

You are asked not to touch or kiss the Cross.

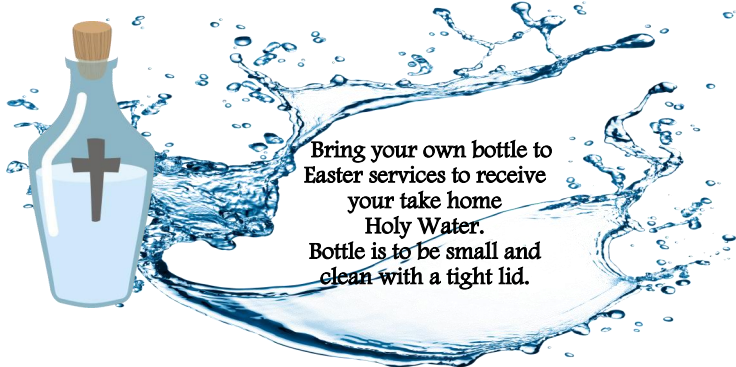
HOLY COMMUNION

FINAL PRAYER - DEPART IN SILENCE

Please Depart
In Silence



Jesus Died To Save Us



Bring your own bottle to Easter services to receive your take home Holy Water. Bottle is to be small and clean with a tight lid.

St. Mark's Parish.

United in Baptism, Nourished by the Eucharist,
Guided by the Holy Spirit,
We Form a Vibrant and Caring Community,
Living and Proclaiming the Gospel,
Reaching Out to Those in Need,
Journeying Together,
Growing in Faith.

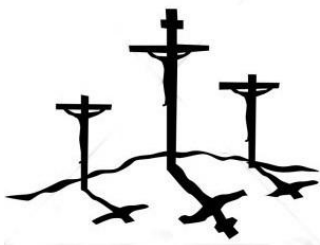
HOLY SATURDAY BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD BASKETS



Baskets containing a sampling of Easter foods and eggs are brought to church to be blessed on Holy Saturday following Morning Prayer.

The tradition of food blessing at Easter, which has early medieval roots in Christian society, possibly originated from a pagan ritual. The tradition is said to date from the 7th century in its basic form, the more modern form containing bread and eggs (symbols of resurrection and Christ) are said to date from the 12th century.

Bring your basket to Holy Saturday Morning Prayer 9:30am at St Mark's Catholic Church



Eastertide for the Sick and Homebound



If you know of anyone in our Drummoyne Parish who is sick or homebound and would like a visit or to receive Holy Communion during this Eastertide Season, please contact the parish office to arrange a visit.



Easter at St Mark's

HOLY SATURDAY: 8 April 2023

9:30am Morning Prayer (Lauds)
No Morning Mass
7:00pm Easter Vigil



EASTER SUNDAY: 9 April 2023

8:00am Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord
10:00am Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord
6:00pm Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord



St Mark's Catholic Parish

33 Tranmere Street, Drummoyne NSW 2047
Tel: (02) 9181 1795

Email: admin@stmarksdrummoyne.org.au

Parish Website: www.stmarksdrummoyne.org.au



St Mark's Church Hearing Loop installed

Parish Bulletin: we ask that you take home your bulletin, do not put it back for others or leave it on the pew for others to pick up.

Parish Priest: Fr Michael McLean PP
Priest in Residence: Fr Denis Minns OP
Pastoral Associate: Sr Antonia Nedu ISR
Chair Parish Pastoral Council: Ms Celine Cheng
School Principal: Mrs Melissa Lentini

Masks are recommended, thank you for social distancing, please respect the sacredness of our church and remember to turn off your phone during the Mass.

St Mark's Parish, Drummoyne acknowledges the Wangal people, one of 29 tribes of the Eora nation and the traditional custodians of the land on which we stand. We pay our respects to them and for their care of the land. May we walk gently and respectfully upon the land.

