



## St Bernard's Parish

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### Parish Team

Fr Sang Ho (Parish Priest)

Marina Dias (Admin Officer - Mon, Wed & Fri)

Chrissie Puls (Sacramental Coordinator - Tues)

Karen Marshall (Finance Officer - Wed)

**Clairvaux Catholic School 03 5243 7102**

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24th March 2024

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Year B

### Palm Sunday

The long Gospel readings this Palm Sunday, from the entry into Jerusalem and the passion, reveal human fickleness as well as loyalty.

Thronged of people who initially proclaim Jesus soon deny him, turn their backs on him, even abuse him. But not everyone. For example, we hear of the many women standing by Jesus as he dies and who remain by his side even as he is entombed. They are the quiet and steadfast followers, the ones who suffer with Jesus throughout his passion. These true disciples are easy to miss in all the noise.

The beginning of the Holy Week is a time to examine honestly our own tendencies toward fickleness and our loyalty as followers of Christ.

*What are our failures and successes in Christian discipleship? When we examine our hearts and actions, to what - or to whom - are we most deeply committed?*

*Mahri- Leonard- Fleckman*



### Our community prays :

*For those who have died:*

*For those who are unwell:*

Joan Hepworth

Riley Swander

Christie Raj

Isobel Symons

David Butler

Iris Appleton

Rita Croft

John Orders

Frank Whyte

Frances Butler

Marion Andrew

Katherine D'Arcy

George Koch

Jennifer London

Jeanette Freijah

Melissa Bann

Lila Moorfoot

Josephine Mariah

Vanessa Eldridge

Judy Robertson

Colin & Linda Boyd

Lynette Stott

Margaret Walker

Maria Pereira

Gerry O'Donoghue

Brittany Schultz

Rev Alan Ansell

Sofia Solisty



*We welcome for Baptism:*

Ilija Erceg

Florence Ruffin

Zach Lee

Aurora Graham

Desmond Poblete

### Easter at St Bernard's

Mon 25th March      **7.30pm**      Tenebrae quiet prayer

Tenebrae is Latin for 'darkness' or 'shadows'. Tenebrae, from the Middle Ages recreates the emotional aspects of the Passion. As Tenebrae progresses, candles are extinguished except for one which symbolizes the light of Christ. Tenebrae ends in darkness and with a striking sound, the 'Strepitus' that signifies the closing of the Tomb and the tumult in Heaven

Holy Thursday      **7.30pm**      Mass : The Lord's Supper  
*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

Good Friday      **10.00am**      The Stations of the Cross  
**3.00pm**      The Passion of the Lord

Easter Vigil      **7.30pm**      Mass

Easter Sunday      **9.00am & 10.30am**      Mass

The RCIA leaders are excited to welcome **Adam and Meredith** as they enter our Catholic community at the Holy Saturday Easter Vigil Mass.

They have completed their formal preparations and are ready to receive their Sacraments of Initiation at St. Bernard's this coming weekend.

This is a special time for our Parish so please keep supporting them and praying for them on their journey of Catholic faith. *RCIA Team*



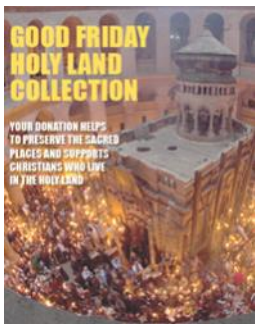
### Volunteers Needed Urgently

*Every Friday morning, a number of people gather, then take communion to those who are sick at home, or in Nursing Homes.*

Please contact the Parish Office on 52 432 739 or emailing [belmont@cam.org.au](mailto:belmont@cam.org.au)

### Important Notice

The Parish Office will be **closed** on **Easter Monday** 1st April



## Holy Land Collection—Good Friday 29th March

This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment, housing, parishes, and orphanages. It is also used to maintain over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus.

Due to the ongoing war, the Church and people of the Holy Land are still struggling with reduced income due to fewer pilgrims and lower church attendance around the world.

In 2023 Australian Catholics were once again extremely generous and we were able to send to the Holy Land nearly \$1.4 million. The reality for the Holy Land mission is that they will continue to face challenges financial and spiritual and so we again ask Catholics around the world again to be as generous as possible, with their financial support as well as the spiritual support.

***Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land on Good Friday.***

## Easter (Sacred) Triduum: The Great Days

For priests, for liturgy planners and ministers, in fact for all Catholics, this coming week is the busiest of the church year. On four consecutive days the church will be filled for important services of worship starting with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Thursday and ending on Easter Sunday.



It may seem strange then that this period of four days is referred to as the paschal or Easter Triduum, meaning three days. Here the church follows the Jewish method of counting a day from sunset to sunset: *so Holy Thursday evening to Good Friday evening is the first day, Good Friday evening to Holy Saturday evening the second, and Holy Saturday evening to Easter Sunday evening the third day.* What may seem like four days is actually three.

With people leading such busy lives and looking forward to Easter holidays, many may be tempted to choose to attend just one of the big liturgies of the Triduum – perhaps Good Friday because of the moving veneration of the cross or the Easter Vigil because it's the main celebration of the period...

But to miss any of the three liturgies of the Easter Triduum is like missing one act of a three-act play. The Triduum is best understood as *one three-day-long liturgy*, or as one liturgy with three different moments. This is illustrated clearly when we consider how the liturgies of this period begin and end.

The Mass on Holy Thursday evening begins in the usual way but there is no blessing or dismissal at the end. Instead there is a procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the place of reservation. People depart in silence. The Good Friday liturgy begins with a silent procession, a period of silent prayer, and the opening prayer. It finishes with the prayer over the people. Again there is no final blessing or dismissal. Again people depart in silence.

The liturgies of Holy Thursday and Good Friday give the sense of being unfinished. They leave us up in the air, waiting for something more. And there is more!

At the Easter Vigil we gather around a fire in silent darkness for the blessing of the fire and the lighting of the paschal candle. The liturgy concludes with the joyful paschal dismissal: *'Go in the peace of Christ, alleluia, alleluia'* as we process out into the dark or Easter dawn, to the sounds of the triumphant Easter hymn.

The three-day liturgy, which began with the entrance and greeting on Holy Thursday evening, has moved us from suffering through death to resurrection. The whole Easter mystery is celebrated from a different point of view on each of the three days. The Triduum is not a re-enactment of past events separated into neat historical or liturgical compartments. *The death and resurrection we celebrate is our dying and rising in Christ today.*

*Elizabeth Harrington*

## Real Deal Action Forum on Thursday 14th March

The current housing crisis is a huge social justice issue in Geelong. St. Bernard's Parish has joined this alliance to advocate for solutions. Over 200 people turned up for this Action Forum on to learn about solutions to the housing crisis in Geelong, including 9 parishioners from St. Bernard's Parish. Victorian MPs Ella George and Christine Couzens attended and pledged to assist our efforts.

7258 people were supported by specialist homelessness services in the Barwon region in the last year. There are 7,101 households on the priority list for social housing.

You can show your support by signing this petition to the City of Greater Geelong to build public and community housing <https://bswhn.org.au/public-community-housing-petition> See notice board and website for more information.

## Holy Week

In Holy Week, which begins on Palm Sunday, 24 March, Catholics participate in ancient religious practices, some of which are detailed below.



### Palms, processions and the passion

On Palm Sunday, the Catholic Church recalls Jesus' messianic entrance into Jerusalem before his crucifixion. As Jesus rode into the city on a small donkey, the Jews gathered around him, throwing cloaks and palm branches on the road and exclaiming praises as he passed by. At Palm Sunday Mass, palm branches are blessed and the faithful process into church.

### The Lord's Supper

On Holy Thursday, the Catholic Church celebrates a special Mass of the Lord's Supper - that commemorates the institution of the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper. On the night before Jesus Christ was crucified, he changed the bread and wine into his own Body and Blood, and he commanded the apostles - and their successors- to act in his stead and re-present this sacrifice. So, at every Mass, by the way of transubstantiation, the bread and wine offered by the priest becomes Christ's Body and Blood again.

### Washing feet

Just as Christ did for his 12 apostles at the Last Supper and as he commanded them to do likewise, during the Mass of the Lord's Supper, the priest, who represents Christ, ceremoniously washes the feet of 12 people in the congregation. At the Holy Thursday liturgy in the Vatican, even the Pope performs the foot washing.

### Going with Jesus to Gethsemane

After the Last Supper and before he was arrested and condemned to death, Jesus went to pray in the Garden of Gethsemane, accompanied by two of the disciples. So, after the Holy Thursday Mass, the remaining sacred hosts are carried out of the sanctuary to an Altar of Repose, and the people go with the Eucharistic Christ in a procession. People stay for a time, adoring the wondrous sacrament that Jesus instituted that day more than 2,000 years ago.

### A vacant church

The Mass of the Lord's Supper is finished, the church, now without the Eucharist, is truly empty. So, the tabernacle light- which is always lit and signifying Christ's presence - is extinguished, and the tabernacle door is left open, exposing the vacant interior. The altar is stripped bare of its linens and candles, holy water is removed from the church's fonts and the sacraments are not celebrated until the Easter Vigil. Like the first Christians bereft of Jesus and mourning the two days after the crucifixion, the church stands unadorned until the Easter Vigil Mass on Saturday night. With the resurrection of Jesus, the church's joy is restored.

### Stations of the Cross

The Stations for the Cross devotion is centred on the Passion of Christ. This recalls the way of Jesus' suffering and death. By praying the Stations of the Cross, a person makes a spiritual pilgrimage to the principal scenes of the salvific Passion of the Lord.

### Embrace the Cross

On Good Friday, the church gathers for the Liturgy of the Lord's Passion, which includes a reading of a Gospel account of the Passion, Holy Communion (consecrated at Mass on Thursday night) and veneration of the Cross.

*Edited extracts Kairos March 2013*

## Palm Sunday

Each year, through Project Compassion, Caritas Australia offers us a significant opportunity to become ambassadors for Christ. The prophet Joel says, 'Why should it be said among nations, "where is their God?"' In other words, we must try to live the message of Jesus, which is one of justice, compassion, inclusion and extravagant love.



Prayer of Intercession—We pray that the mystery of the death of Jesus will deepen within our hearts. May we be ready to take up the cross in our time, especially as we support those who experience injustice throughout the world. Lord, hear us.

**Please return Project Compassion boxes and envelopes to baskets in the foyer during the Easter ceremonies.**



## We pray for Mohammad

We pray for Mohammad that he be comforted while he awaits a decision on his application for a visa.



**For the people of Israel, Palestine, Ukraine & other war torn countries.** May there be peaceful resolutions.

## Reflection during Holy Week

St Beuno's Outreach invites you to focus on praying the events of Holy Week through making use of our five bodily senses: listening, smelling, seeing, touching and tasting.

Click here [Praying Holy Week: Using our senses \(australiancatholics.com.au\)](http://australiancatholics.com.au)

## The Geelong Community ...

Saturday 23 March 2.30- 3.30pm Taize Gathering at Santa Casa at 2.30pm lead by Paul Spence . RSVP Sr Lizzie 0418 194 261 or via [santacasa@ismapng.org.au](mailto:santacasa@ismapng.org.au)

Sunday 24 March 5pm, Music at the Basilica invites you to our **Easter Concert** at the Basilica of St Mary of the Angels, Geelong. This year the Windfire Choir, orchestra and soloists will present the Requiem by Gabriel Fauré, Requiem for solo cello by Australian Composer, Peter Sculthorpe and the Australian premier of Septem Verba for violin and organ by Fredrick Frahm Tickets from [www.trybooking.com/CODRN](http://www.trybooking.com/CODRN).

**Wanted Singers** to join a Male singing group that sing Golden Oldies to Elderly citizens. Would suit retired singers. Enquiries Les 0414 442 471

## Clean Up Australia - March Campaign

A great opportunity during this month to conserve the environment, eliminate litter and reduce waste. Some neighbourhood actions you might like to consider - Pick up litter, adopt a highway, report graffiti, organise a neighbourhood clean up. To assist you, there is some Clean Up Aust. equipment such gloves, litter bags etc. in the Church storeroom next to the toilets.

The Graffiti Hotline is 03 5272 4319 or email [graffiti@geelongcity.vic.gov.au](mailto:graffiti@geelongcity.vic.gov.au)  
*Laudato Si Goal 1: Cry of the Earth*

## Slavery Free Chocolate



A 2020 Macquarie University report, *Not so sweet: chocolate, slavery and complicit corporations*, found that, "More than two million children under the age of 15 years old work in the cocoa industry in Ivory Coast and Ghana. Many are the children of farm labourers, but others are also sold to farms as bonded labourers from neighbouring Burkina Faso and Mali"

Slavery-free chocolate is chocolate that is certified. Look for chocolate with one of the three logos Fairtrade, Rainforest Alliance, Cocoa Horizons.

'In the spirit of reconciliation, St Bernard's Parish acknowledges the Wadawurrung People, the Traditional Custodians of country and their connections to land, sea and community.  
We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.'

## Mass Times this week

Saturday: **6pm**  
Sunday: **9am & 10.30am**  
Tue & Fri: **12 noon**  
Wed & Thurs : **9.30am**

*The Rosary is prayed after each weekday Mass*  
**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** held **First Friday** of each month after 12pm mass

To receive the **bulletin** by **email** please subscribe via the parish website:

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

Contact the Office - 52 432 739 to arrange :

**\*\* Communion at home (Friday am)**

*New volunteers* welcome to assist with this ministry.

**\*\* To receive an email link to the Passionist Fathers recorded Mass each weekend.**

**\*\* To receive an emailed worksheet for children**, linked to the Sunday readings.

## Sunday Mass on Radio :

7.00am Light FM 89.9

10.00am Pulse 94.7 FM (*St Mary's*)

## Sunday Mass on TV :

Channel 10 6-6.30am

Channel 31 or 44 11am *St Patrick's Cathedral*

## Parish Office hours

**Mon: 9am—4pm**

**Tues: 10am—3pm**

**Wed: 9am—4pm**

**Thurs: 10am—1pm**

**Fri: 9am—4pm**

**\* St Bernard's Play Group** Every Tuesday of school term 9-10.30am Gold coin donation

**\* St Vincent De Paul** Membership enquiries : through Parish Office

**\* Men's Group - 2nd Tues** of the month 10.30am Church cafe

**\* Charismatic Prayer** - next meeting will be on 16 April 2024

**\* Ladies Coffee and Chat Group, 3rd Mon** of the month, 10.30am at **FULL Circle**, Belmont opposite Car Wash, cnr Roslyn Rd.

**\* Mill Market donation & Book Fair drop off** Saturdays **between 9am - 10am**



## To assist the Mannya communities :

direct bank trf to :

BSB : **BSB 083347**

ACC#**358514559**

Ref : **surname & support project**  
i.e *Hall or education or General needs.*

**Please note new account details**

**Readings this week :** Isaiah 50:4-7 ; Ps 21:8-9. 17-20. 23-24 ; Philippians 2:6-11 ; Mark 14:1-15:47

**Next Week's Readings :** Acts 10:34. 37-43 ; Ps 117:1-2. 16-17. 2-23 ; Colossians 3:1-4 ; 1 Corinthians 5:6-8 ; John 20:1-9 or Mark 16:1-7 or Luke 24:13- 35