

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: (Continued)

RESPONSE: Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

O let my tongue
cleave to my mouth
if I remember you not,
if I prize not Jerusalem
above all my joys!

Response.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 2:4-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians
When we were dead through sins, he brought us to life.

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ - it is through grace that you have been saved - and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: John 3:16

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL: John 3:14-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him.

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believed in him may not be lost but may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God's only Son.

On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil. And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, to praise the name of the Lord.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:

Jer 31: 31-34; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33.

Days of Penance!

1. Rules for Lent follow in (a), (b), and (c).
2. Abstinence from meat and fasting are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
3. On all other Fridays of the year the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following:
 - (a) Prayer – for example, Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making that Stations of the Cross; praying the rosary.
 - (b) Self-denial – for example, not eating meat; not eating sweets or dessert; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor of one's own country.
 - (c) Helping other – for example, special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or overburdened.

All who have completed their 18th year and have not yet begun their 60th year are bound to fast. All who have completed their 14th year are bound to abstain.



PARISH OF ST. THERESE, DENISTONE

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MASS TIMES:

SATURDAY VIGIL:	6:00 pm.
SUNDAY:	8:00 am and 10am
MONDAY:	No Mass.
TUESDAY through to SATURDAY:	9.00 am Mass.
FRIDAY:	9.00 am Mass. Exposition & Benediction every Friday after Mass.
RECONCILIATION:	Saturday 5pm – 5.45pm or by appointment.
Baptism:	Every Sunday at 11am or 11.30am. Please contact Parish Office.
Marriage:	By appointment.
Anointing of the sick:	Please give names to Father Roberto Castillo.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (Year B)
13th / 14st March 2021

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

FIRST READING: 2 Chronicles 36:14-16. 19-23

A reading from the second book of Chronicles
The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of his people.

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the

word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."'

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 136

RESPONSE: Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

By the rivers of Babylon
there we sat and wept,
remembering Zion;
on the poplars that grew there
we hung up our harps.

Response.

For it was there that they asked us,
our captors, for songs,
our oppressors, for joy.
'Sing to us,' they said,
'one of Zion's songs.'

Response.

O how could we sing
the song of the Lord
on alien soil?
If I forget you, Jerusalem,
let my right hand wither!

Response.

(continued on back page)

ACOLYTES & READERS	6pm Vigil	8am	10am
MAR 6 / 7 Acolytes	T DABBAH	J KWONG	A STANTON
Readers	VOLUNTEER	E WHEELER	VOLUNTEER
MAR 13 / 14 Acolytes	R MORFUNI	D ELLIS	G MOODLEY
Readers	B CLARK	P TREACY	H VAZ
MAR 20 / 21 Acolytes	T DABBAH	D D'MELLO	G MOODLEY
Readers	V PERERA	S JAYAMANNE	VOLUNTEER
MAR 27 / 28 Acolytes	R MORFUNI	D ELLIS	M MORELLI
Readers	J PERERA	Y LEUNG	VOLUNTEER

Holy Week Schedule



PALM SUNDAY - 27th / 28 March

Saturday Vigil: 6pm, Sunday 8am and 10am.

WEEKDAY MASSES DURING HOLY WEEK

Monday to Wednesday - 9am Mass followed by Reconciliations from 9.30am.

HOLY THURSDAY - 1st April

Mass of The Lord's Supper at 6pm with prayers and adoration till 8pm.

GOOD FRIDAY - 2nd April

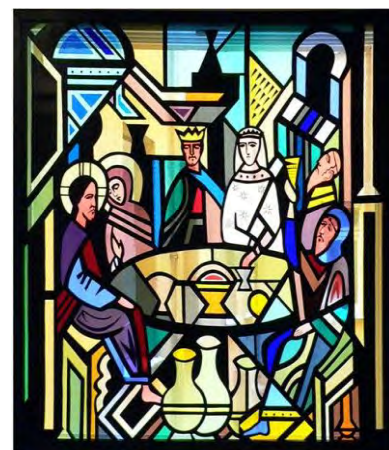
Stations of the Cross at 10am.
The Passion of Our Lord at 3pm.

EASTER MASSES - 3rd / 4th April

Easter Vigil at 8pm
Sunday Masses at 8am and 10am.

One Voice - The Voice

Different catechesis each
Sunday and Thursday Night in Lent
@ 7.30 pm in the Church.
COME and LISTEN,
and spread the word to others
to help them believe
"we are God's work of art"
in these trying times.



Stations of the Cross.

Stations continue on Friday the 19th March at 7.30pm.

PARISH NEWS & NOTICES:

Request for Mass and Prayers.

We pray for those who have recently died. Also pray for those who celebrate anniversaries at this time especially Nicola Nour (8th anniversary)



Working bee.

Our next working bee will be held on Saturday the 27th March at 9.30am. So bring your feather dusters and enthusiasm as we prepare the church for Easter.



Project compassion 2021 – "Aspire not to have more, but to be more".

WEEK 3 – Arsad from Indonesia

Arsad, an Indonesian farmer, had no toilet in his home, so he had to walk into the forest to the open defecation area, even at night or in the rain. Around 17 percent of Indonesia's rural population practice open defecation, with many unaware that it contributes to spreading diseases. Arsad's family was often sick and open defecation caused neighbourhood disputes. With the support of Caritas Australia and its partner, Laz Harfa, he took part in hygiene, sanitation and financial management training. He decided to fund the building of a toilet in his house and facilitated others in his neighbourhood to save up for toilets. Now, Arsad and his family are healthier and have reduced their medical expenses. Their community no longer practices open defecation and is more harmonious. A community event, called 'Declaration of Open Defecation-Free' was even held to acknowledge their achievements. Improved hygiene practices helped Arsad's community during the COVID-19 pandemic. Caritas Australia, through Laz Harfa, also shared prevention measures and distributing soap and masks. Arsad has inspired his neighbourhood to 'Be More'.



"We help each other, the 'togetherness' is growing. Our solidarity had increased," Arsad says.

Lenten programme.

Lenten Group continues each **Wednesday at 7.30pm** in the Church and will run throughout Lent.

Bulletins.

More bulletins are now available for everybody. But they MUST be taken home with you. Thank you!



Anointing of the Sick.

Fr Roberto will anoint the sick and elderly parishioners after each Mass on the weekend of the 21st and 22nd March. Please remember that this sacrament is not for everybody. The sacrament is for:

"those who are dangerously ill through sickness or old age" or "a sick person...before surgery whenever the surgery is necessitated by a dangerous illness" or "elderly people...if they are weak, though not dangerously ill" or "sick children...sufficiently mature to be comforted by the sacrament"



So if you meet the noted criteria and wish to receive this Sacrament please stay back after the Mass.

Feast Days next week:

17th March is the Feast of St. Patrick of Ireland is one of the world's most popular saints. He was born in Roman Britain and when he was fourteen or so, he was captured by Irish pirates during a raiding party and taken to Ireland as a slave to herd and tend sheep. At the time, Ireland was a land of Druids and pagans but Patrick turned to God and wrote his memoir, *The Confession*.

19th March is the Fest Day of St Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In Catholic traditions, Joseph is regarded as the patron saint of workers. *Joseph* is also *patron saint* of the Universal Church, families, fathers, expectant mothers, travellers, immigrants, house sellers and buyers.



The month of March is dedicated to Saint Joseph. Pope Pius IX declared him to be both the patron and the protector of the Catholic Church, in addition to his patronages of the sick and of a happy death, due to the belief that he died in the presence of Jesus and Mary.

Pope Francis wrote: The greatness of Saint Joseph is that he was the spouse of Mary and the father of Jesus. In this way, he placed himself, in the words of Saint John Chrysostom, "at the service of the entire plan of salvation".