



THE SAVING WORD

MATTHEW

PASSION SUNDAY (PALM SUNDAY) / A

2 APRIL 2023

- C. Barabbas.
- N. Pilate said to them:
- O. What am I to do with Jesus who is called Christ?
- N. They all said:

- C. Let him be crucified!
- N. Pilate asked:
- O. Why? What harm has he done?
- N. But they shouted all the louder,

- C. Let him be crucified!
- N. 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:

- O. I am innocent of this man's blood. It is your concern.
- N. And the people, to a man, shouted back:
- C. His blood be on us and on our children!

- N. 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:

- C. Hail, king of the Jews!
- N. 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. 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:

- C. 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!

- N. The chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him in the same way, saying:

- C. He saved others; 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'.

- N. 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:

- J. Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?
- N. That is: 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood there heard this, they said:

- C. The man is calling on Elijah,
- N. and one of them quickly ran to get a sponge which he dipped in vinegar and, putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink. The rest of them said:

- C. Wait! See if Elijah will come to save him.
- N. But Jesus, again crying out in a loud voice, yielded up his spirit.

All kneel and pause a moment.

- N. 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:

- C. In truth this was a son of God.

Longer form, Mt 26:14-27:66

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FIRST READING Isa 50:4-7
A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed.

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.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24. R. v. 2

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

1. All who see me deride me. / They curl their lips, they toss their heads. / 'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him: / let him release him if this is his friend.' R.

2. Many dogs have surrounded me, / a band of the wicked beset me. / They tear holes in my hands and my feet, / I can count every one of my bones. R.

3. They divide my clothing among them. / They cast lots for my robe. / O Lord, do not leave me alone, / my strength, make haste to help me! R.

4. I will tell of your name to my brethren / and praise you where they are assembled. /

'You who fear the Lord give him praise; / all sons of Jacob, give him glory. / Revere him, Israel's sons.' R.

SECOND READING Phil 2:6-11
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high.

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.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Phil 2:8-9
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 Mt 27:11-54

N. The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (N. Narrator J. Jesus O. Other single speaker C. Crowd, or more than one other speaker)

N. Jesus, then, was brought before the governor, and the governor put to him this

question:

- O. Are you the king of the Jews?
- N. Jesus replied:

- J. It is you who say it.
- N. But when he was accused by the chief priests and the elders he refused to answer at all. Pilate then said to him:

- O. Do you not hear how many charges they have brought against you?

- N. 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,

- O. Which do you want me to release for you: Barabbas or Jesus who is called Christ?

- N. For Pilate knew it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. Now as he was seated in the chair of judgement, his wife sent him a message,

- O. Have nothing to do with that man; I have been upset all day by a dream I had about him.

- N. 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:

- O. Which of the two do you want me to release for you?

- N. They said:

2 April 23
Palm Sunday Yr A

WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

Website: <https://stpatrikswesttamworthparish.org>
Email: westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au



Parish Priest Fr Anthony Koppman
Pastoral Associate: Sr Kathryn Sweeney RSJ.
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School Principals Greg O'Toole and Maree Holland

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WEEKEND MASSES Sat: 5.30pm Sun: 9am only *Easter (No 5.30pm Mass)

WEEKDAY MASSES HOLY WEEK Wed: 12pm Thurs: 6pm Fri: 3pm



CONFESSIONS

Sat: 4.30-5.15pm
*Or by appointment

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Hosanna to the Son of David: blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel. Hosanna in the highest
COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.

EASTER CELEBRATION TIMES

Holy Thursday 6pm
Good Friday Stations of the Cross 10am The Lords Passion 3pm
Holy Saturday Easter Vigil 5.30pm
Easter Sunday 9am **No 5.30pm Mass on Easter Sunday*

May God have mercy on all those asked to be remembered in prayer:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Peter Richards, Gary McSweeney, Sr Clare Keating RSJ, Margaret Cummins, Janet Corcoran, Anna Fordham, Pam Perkins.

ANNIVERSARIES: Marie Mansfield (3/3), Vivian Betts (15/3), Colin John Pyke (17/3), Louise McNeill (19/3), Noelene McNeill (nee Baker) (24/3), Sean Killen (26/3), Fr Bruce MacPherson (8/4), Harry Cunningham (30/4).

DECEASED: Des Saunders, Cardinal George Pell, Barbara Smith, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.

SICK: John Betts, Gerard Dunn, Terry Dean, Sr Gerard Joseph, Gail Styman, Suzanne Roberts, Shane Davidson, Pauline Wiley, Joan Crowe, Lisa Foster, Shirley Collier, Norma O'Brien, Barbara Brennan, William Bonner, Colin MacPherson, Alison and baby Huxley Gallagher, Kate Harrison, Maureen Harrison, Deacon Peter Harrison, Graeme Bussell, Fr Bernie Flood.



VEENA'S VERSIONS: One Palm Sunday, a little boy had a sore throat and had to stay home from church with a sitter. When the rest of the family came home, they were carrying palm branches. The little boy asked what they were for. His father told him that people held them over Jesus' head when he walked by. In a sad, disappointed voice, the little boy said, "Wouldn't you know it? The one Sunday I miss, Jesus shows up!"

CHURCH COLLECTIONS:

BSB 082105 1st. Collection - West Tamworth Presbytery Acc 001023642 (Diocese collection)
2nd Collection -West Tamworth Catholic Church. Acc 001041198 (Church Collection)

COMING EVENTS:

6 Apr Holy Thursday
9 Apr Easter Sunday
7 Apr Good Friday
16 Apr Divine Mercy Sunday 3pm Devotions

"Goodbye forever to all old scores." (1890)

COVID GUIDE: * FACE MASKS ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED
* ANTISEPTIC WIPES & SANITISER ARE AVAILABLE.



PALM SUNDAY: Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, a distinct liturgy that begins with a Gospel reading of Jesus's journey to Jerusalem at the entrance of the worship space. Those attending the service receive palms, a reminder of Scripture telling us that people welcomed Jesus by laying down their cloaks and waving palm branches (John 12:13). Palm Sunday is the first time we hear the Lord's Passion in the liturgical calendar. In 2023, Palm Sunday is April 2. In the homily that Pope Francis delivered in Palm Sunday in 2022, he stressed that *God can forgive every sin*.

CHRISM MASS: This year's Chrism Mass will take place Tuesday 4th April at 11am with Bishop Hanna presiding. Mass will be followed by a light lunch in the Torreggiani Room for priests and parishioners. Parishioners are very welcome to attend the Mass and to stay for lunch afterwards. Confirmation candidates are also encouraged to attend. An RSVP of numbers will be required for catering purposes. Please contact the parish ASAP if you wish to attend and provide your numbers and if lunch will also be attended for catering purposes. Thank you

EASTER CONFESSIONS: Second Rite of Reconciliation will be held at St Nicholas Wed 5 April 6 pm.

BAPTISMS AT ST PATRICKS: As we look forward to renewing our own baptism vows we celebrate those children who have been baptised this year.: Riley Tomkins, Zoe Strange, River McCallum and Bruno Hayes. Please pray for them their parents and godparents.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS: The Holy Places Collection will be taken up on Good Friday.

PROJECT COMPASSION: It's through the generosity of people like you that we can continue to support people like Laxmi, Tereesa, Priscilla and Thu through Caritas. Please place your Project Compassion boxes and envelopes in the crate provided in the centre of the church. You can also donate to Caritas via www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion or Ph 1800 024 413.

DIVINE MERCY: The first Sunday after Easter (16 April at 3 pm) is Divine Mercy Sunday. The origins of the Divine Mercy image are associated with the vision that Saint Faustina of the Congregation of Our Lady of Mercy had in the convent in Poland on 22nd February, 1931. The image of Jesus appeared to her. Jesus, when asked what the rays meant said, "The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls. Happy is the one who will dwell in their shelter." (Diary 299)

EASTER ROSTERS: **Please note the roster for Easter below and advise the office if you are unable to carry out your set reading or ministry. ** Please speak to Sr Kathryn if you wish to clarify or practice your reading. Thank you

PALM SUNDAY ROSTER 2 Apr 2023

5.30pm: C Ledwos D Bolitho (Passion Narrator) Sr Kathryn
(Others) C Ledwos D Bolitho (Crowd) Everyone

9am: J Ryan G Clout (Passion Narrator) M Donaldson
(Others) G Clout J Ryan (Crowd) Everyone

5.30pm: J Murray A O'Halloran (Passion Narrator) C Lavell
(Others) J Murray A O'Halloran (Crowd) Everyone

Fri Cleaning 7/4 S Brown V Griffiths Alter Linen E Jackson
Counting O & J Whale A Bowden

EASTER CELEBRATIONS 2023

HOLY THURSDAY 6 April 6pm

Readers: M Donaldson G Clout

STATIONS 10 am Good Friday 7 April

THE LORD'S PASSION 3 pm Good Friday 7 April

Readers: G Clout R Paull (Passion Narrator) Sr Kathryn

Others: D Gowing M Donaldson Crowd: Everyone

EASTER VIGIL 8 April 5.30pm

(R): C Ledwos P Bamford Sr Kathryn (Epistle) D Gowing

EASTER SUNDAY 9 April 9am

(R) G Clout A Sartori **No 5.30pm Mass

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and care for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

