



OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY PARISH

Beerwah | Caloundra | Currimundi | Kawana | Landsborough
Little Mountain | Maleny | Unity

5th Sunday of Lent - 16/17 March 2024 - Year B

Holy Week - the Most Sacred Week of the Year

To say something is "Holy" means to be "set apart" for a specific and sacred purpose. As an analytical thinker and having a creative mind, I always find myself using my imagination to help me enter into Holy Week, the most sacred week in the liturgical year in Christianity. I hope this reflection can help provide you with an overview of Holy Week so that it may deepen your experience and lead you into continued encounter with Jesus Christ.

Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday and concludes at the end of the Easter Triduum – Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil.

Palm Sunday recalls Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem where crowds praised Jesus and waved palm branches, an action usually reserved for royalty. Jesus is welcomed into Jerusalem like a king except he is seated on a donkey, rather than a horse, symbolising peace. The Passion narrative will be read at Mass recounting the beginning of Jesus' suffering. It is also interesting to note that the blessed palms from this Mass are burnt down to make the following year's ashes for Ash Wednesday.

The readings at Mass on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday describe the events leading up to Jesus' Passion. Monday retells the anointing of Jesus' feet with costly fragrant ointment, an action foretelling the anointing of Jesus' body at his burial. Tuesday recites Jesus' prediction of his own death and Wednesday recounts Judas' betrayal of Jesus.

The summit of the Liturgical Year is the Easter Triduum – from the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday. Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery.

Holy Thursday commemorates the institution of the Eucharist, where Jesus has the last supper with his closest companions. He takes the bread and the wine and says "this is my body, this is my blood, do this in memory of me." At this liturgy, Jesus the Son of God who is a revered rabbi and a divine miracle worker takes the position of a lowly servant and washes his disciples' feet. Jesus gives the mandate for them to wash the feet of others just as he has done, hence the name Maundy Thursday.

Good Friday is a solemn day recalling Jesus' gruesome death. It is "good" because willingly suffered for us. He was the scapegoat, the sacrificial lamb killed once and for all for atonement of our sins. We venerate the cross in thanksgiving for the sacrifice and example Jesus gave us. Gaze at a crucifix today for a short while and let Jesus speak to you.

On *Holy Saturday* the Church waits at the Lord's tomb in prayer and fasting, meditating on his passion and death and his descent into hell (to preach the Good News to the souls there), and awaiting his resurrection. The altar stands bare, and the Church does not celebrate the Eucharist until the solemn Vigil of the night, when the rejoicing of Easter begins, with such abundance that it overflows into the next fifty days.

Easter Vigil is the mother of all vigils. So of course, it is supposed to be grand and splendid. The Church begins in darkness and the Paschal Candle is lit and its flame shared to all. An Exultet is sung to recount God's saving work throughout all of history. There are many readings recounting the wonderful works of God and in some churches, candidates may receive Baptism or Confirmation at this time. Alleluia, Rejoice! Jesus is Risen! Take some time to reflect over your 40-day pilgrimage of lent and notice the ways you may have grown and matured over this time.

As Holy Week draws near, I pray this reflection may help you enter into a deeper relationship with Jesus through the Liturgy. *God bless, Fr Gerard*

Adult Faith and Formation

Alpha:
It has been a busy few months for the AFF Ministry. We currently have three Alphas running with over 50 participants. It has been exciting to offer our first Hinterland Alpha, as well as our first 'off site' Alpha at Southern Cross Village. **Our next Alpha will commence on Tuesday April 30.** Please register via the Parish Linktree if you would like to join us on this amazing faith experience!

Know Your Faith:

With a view to serving our wider Parish, Fr Francis will be taking the 'Know Your Faith' formation program to the Hinterland as well, starting in April. The plan is to offer a faith formation opportunity following Friday Mass at Landsborough on the first week of the month, and Maleny after Tuesday mass every third week of the month. Weeks 2 and 4 of each month

Continued over the page....

Our Parish's Mission is to be a vibrant community that actively accompanies people to encounter Jesus.

Continued from front page.....

will continue to be offered on Thursdays at 5pm in the Parish Centre. Please come and join us for an interesting and thought-provoking topic each week!

Faith Circles:

Faith Circles are an initiative we are hoping will gain momentum in our Parish. Anyone can lead a Faith Circle, and we would love for every parishioner to eventually be a part of one or more Faith Circles. Faith Circles can include Parish based initiatives like the Women's Faith and Friendship Group, or home-based small group Bible study like those hosted by Caroline Kettle. Contact us if you would like to know more at

cp.faithandformation@catholic.bne.net.au

The Faith and Formation team – Fr Francis, Julie Borger, Carol Devcich, Caroline Kettle and Jacinta Elks

Anointing Mass This Thursday the 21st of March the 9am OLR Mass will be an Anointing of the sick.

Next Sunday is Harmony Day - Celebrated throughout the parish on March 23 and 24.

This is a great opportunity to celebrate multiculturalism throughout the country but particularly in our parish. Our parish is fortunate to be a melting pot of many cultures enriching our eight communities. To celebrate this national event, we urge you to get into the spirit by [wearing something orange](#) which is the traditional colour of the day. Depending on your community, consider holding a hospitality event (e.g. morning tea after mass or dinner to share after mass) where parishioners bring home-made or bought food from your culture to share. This year's theme is "Everyone Belongs" which is also part of our parish vision. If you require any further support or have any questions, please contact Janice and the Community Life Ministry team on cp.communitylife@bne.catholic.net.au

Rehearsals for OLR Caloundra Easter Ceremonies

With Holy Week fast approaching, we will be holding Rehearsals. If you have volunteered to assist with the big liturgies at the OLR Caloundra church, see below for rehearsal dates. Your attendance is needed:

- ◆ Holy Thursday - Friday 22nd March 2-3.30pm in the OLR Church
- ◆ Good Friday - Tuesday 26th March 2-3.30pm In the OLR Church
- ◆ Easter Vigil - Wednesday 27th March 2-3.30pm In the OLR Church

Bach's St. Matthew's Passion

For those who enjoy classical music and (or) theatre, the parish will be screening St. Matthew's Passion as performed by the Berlin Philharmonic and Rundfunkchor Berlin. It is two things:

1. A setting of the gospel's passion to song with interwoven meditations on that passion. The music was conducted by Sir. Simon Rattle and the semi-staged production is by Peter Sellars.
2. Needless to say, the performance has drawn many accolades and is now available on Blu-ray and DVD.

We will screen it over the **Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week (26/27 March) at 9.45am** following morning Mass on Tuesday and after the school liturgy. Light refreshments will be provided.

Please RSVP via Linktree for catering and seating purposes.



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The flyer features a photograph of three children smiling and a QR code.

Southern Cross Care – 20th Anniversary

A lovely morning celebrating 20yrs with the residents family and friends at Southern Cross Care Little Mountain. A delicious cake was shared with all.

Photo below L-R Monica, Kath, Maria & Mike



On the Journey

We welcome *Charlie Ackerman & Hudson Driscoll-Murray* who will be baptised at OLR this weekend.

We pray for *Thelma Foley* whose funeral will be held on Tuesday the 19th March 11am at Churches of Christ Lt Mountain. May her soul and the souls of our deceased priests, religious and parishioners

Rest in Peace.

We acknowledge the First Peoples of the land on which we celebrate our Eucharist and live out our faith.



Disable Parking near OLR Church

Please be mindful when parking in the disabled carpark. If you are parking in the disable carpark **you must display your sticker.**

Ecumenical Sunrise Service

On Easter Sunday, ministers from various denominations including our own Fr. Francis will be co-celebrating a *Sunrise Service* in the Park on Shelly Beach. All who wish to share in the Easter dawn experience of St. Peter and St. Mary Magdalene are welcome! The service will run from 6am to 6:30am.

Parish Music Mass and Meeting

All those who are currently involved or would like to be involved in playing or singing at Mass are invited to a **9am Mass and Discussion** at OLR church on **Saturday, 6th April**, next month. This Mass, during the Octave of Easter when we celebrate eight Easter Sundays in a row, will have a full music roster, led by the 6.30am Mass choir. The aim of this Mass is to offer music ministers an opportunity to be nourished without having to serve.

Afterward - and this is the secondary, but equally important reason for gathering - we'll move to the Egan Room for an opportunity for every single person to both share and listen. You will be invited to share your *current* experiences serving in this ministry, as well as hopes for the *future* - particularly with regards to the ways in which God is inviting us to grow in this ministry.

It is obvious that we need to be intentional about the future of music liturgy in our parish - evidenced by the dwindling number of musicians alone - and so lets begin journey with a listening and dialogue session for all current and future volunteers of this vital ministry.

We'll see your smiling faces on *Saturday, 6th April, for 9am* Mass at OLR church.



Palm Cross Folding

Come along, meet other parishioners and fold palm crosses for the upcoming Palm Sunday. All are welcome.

2pm, Saturday 23rd March, OLR Parish Centre (Egan Room).

First Holy Communion

Congratulations to our three candidates, Tom, Louise & Samara, who made their First Holy Communion at Maleny last Sunday. May their faith continue to grow and be supported by their family and Parish community.



Laetare Sunday



OLR Rosters

The OLR Caloundra Easter Triduum rosters are in the church. Please put your name down if you are available to help at any of the ceremonies.

OLR Inaugural Book Club

Save the date for the OLR inaugural Book Club on **Thursday, April 18th at 5-6pm** in the Parish Centre. Ensure you have your copy of "*He Leadeth Me*" by Father Csizek, either by purchasing your own or borrowing one of the limited copies available here by March 23rd. Let's gather to dive into the first two chapters and launch the club discussions. Sign up using the OLR Linktree found at the What's New section on our church website.

Parish Diary

Monday 18 March

Mass (OLR) 9am
Adoration (OLR) 9.30am

Tuesday 19 March

Mass (OLR) 9am
Rosary (OLR) 9.30am
Adoration/Rosary (Maleny) 8am
Mass (Maleny) 9am

Wednesday 20 March

Mass (UNITY) 7.50am
Liturgy (OLR SCHOOL) 9am
Mass (Lt Mt) 9.30am

Thursday 21 March

Anointing Mass (OLR) 9am
Rosary (OLR) 9.30am
Mass (Currimundi) 9.30am

Friday 22 March

Mass (OLR) 9am
Stations of the Cross (OLR) 9.30am
Adoration/Rosary (Lands) 8am
Mass (Landsborough) 9am

Saturday 23 March

Mass (OLR) 9am

Vigil Mass

Mass (OLR) 5pm
Mass (Beerwah) 5pm

Sunday 24 March

Palm Sunday & Harmony Day

Mass (OLR) 6.30am
Mass (Landsborough) 7am
Mass (Unity) 8am
Mass (Kawana) 8am
Mass (Maleny) 9am
Mass (Currimundi) 9.15am
Mass (OLR) 9.30am
Mass (Lt Mt) 10.30am
Mass (Unity) 5pm

Linktree QR Code



PARISH OFFICE

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