



Holy Spirit Catholic Parish

93 Burdekin Ave, Amaroo ACT and 220 Victoria St, Hall ACT
Supporting and supported by Holy Spirit, Good Shepherd,
Mother Teresa Primary Schools and St John Paul II College

16-17 March 2024

Fifth Sunday of Lent | Year B



Holy Spirit Amaroo

Monday

No Mass
Office closed

Tuesday

9:15am Mass

Wednesday

9:15am Mass
6pm Holy Hour and
Reconciliation

Thursday

9:15am Mass

Friday

7:00am Mass
12:00pm Mass
6:00pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday

4:30pm Reconciliation
5:00pm Mass

Sunday

8:00am Mass
9:30am Mass
5:00pm Mass

Seeing Jesus

It was a simple request. Some strangers in town wanted to see Jesus, and they approached Philip with the hope of getting an audience with the famous rabbi. What did they expect to see? Did they just want the first-century equivalent of an autograph? Or did they want a life-transforming encounter with a holy man?

When Jesus is told of their request, his response is rather mysterious. What does it mean that Jesus is about to be glorified? Jesus proposes that the only route to seeing him is to travel the road he's about to take: dying and rising. If we lose our lives, die to ourselves, and follow him in service, then we'll see who Jesus is. Otherwise, we're only clutching his garments and missing the Son of Man entirely.

Many of us know Jesus from hearsay, like the strangers did. We've seen his picture, read his story, and can quote a few memorable lines. But until we die and rise with him in a truly surrendered life, we haven't really seen Jesus. We've missed the glory.

Where do you go to see Jesus?

Pray

Seek. Declare. Treasure. Delight. Meditate. In our inward being, stir us, O God. Wash. Purge. Create a clean heart within us, O God. This is the time to begin anew. Amen.

Ponder

Contemplate an image of Jesus that draws you in: a painting or crucifix, a stained glass window or crèche. What does this image teach you about who God is and how God loves you? Express your heart to God in prayer with this renewed understanding. *"Anyone who holds on to life just as it is destroys that life. But if you let go, reckless in your love, you'll have it forever, real and eternal."*

Kids' Corner

When Hanna gets home from school, she and her grandpa talk together over milk and choc-chip biscuits. Grandpa tells jokes, and Hanna shares things that happened during the day. Hanna knows Grandpa listens and cares, and that makes Hanna happy. Our prayer life can be like this. We can tell God what's going on in our lives anytime. And while it's true that our prayer is pleasing to God, our prayer can be pleasing to us too. We pray because we know that God listens to us and cares for us.

Hello God! What can I tell you about today. Amen. www.gpbs.com.au



St Francis Xavier Hall

Saturdays 5:00pm

Holy Week Flyer Letterbox Drop

Flyers with Holy Week Mass times are ready for distribution to all suburbs in the Parish. Please take some flyers this weekend and drop them into the letterboxes of the people in your street or area. Thank you.

Parish News and Events

- * **Fridays During Lent | 6:00pm**— Stations of the Cross
- * **Wednesdays during school term 8:20am** | JPC Community Mass—parishioners and school families welcome.
- * **Wednesdays 10:00am** — Lenten group using Archdiocese of Wollongong Lenten Guided Program Pietà
- * **Thursday 21 March 6:00pm**—The Chosen (8 episodes) during lent with pot luck dinner.
- * **Sunday 17 March 2024 at 3:00pm | Working Bee** at St Francis Xavier Church, Hall. Pruning of plants and tree, removal of fallen branches, general autumn clean up. Please come along if you can spare an hour or so to help.



Please keep the following individuals in prayer.....



For those who are sick

Kathy Morris
Elisabeth Faith O'Connell
Caitlin Wigglesworth
Kwang Hui Lim
Grant
Gail
Elizabeth
Adriano Cesar Junior
Maria Teresa Meireles
Theresa and Joseph Tan
Cyril Jolicoeur
Tony Johnston
Jaya Raghwan
Julie Mirfan
Paul Johnston
Edwin Joseph Dsouza
Alan Kay
Sharron Davis
Michelle
Mark Bush
Julie Morgan
Tim Watson
Jim Banks
Barbara Kirk
Vesna Ljubičić
Gaudencio Montaos
Alonso
Rozalind Murphy
Sharni Laffan
Marc Darlington
Liam O'Brien
Nancy Phillips
Daranee Thepthong

Anniversaries

Bob Conway
Guadalupe Vargas
Bill Sullivan
Richard Moon
Lai Thi Nguyen

Recently Deceased

Stjepan Cirjak
Shirley Clifford
Anthony Gendusa

Birthdays

We include those who are members of our Parish or relatives. Please email the parish office or click here to request prayers.

[Prayer Requests](#)

Congratulations Chelsey!!



On behalf of Holy Spirit Parish we would like to congratulate and farewell Chelsey Ortega who next week will leave us to join the Discalced Carmelite Nuns in Goonellabah NSW.

We are grateful to God that our parish has been the seed ground where Chelsey's vocation has been nourished throughout the years she has been with us. We wish Chelsey God's blessings as she continues to respond to the call of Jesus in her life.

Warm Clothing Appeal - Palm Sunday 23-24 March 2024

As summer has come to an end and the cooler days are fast approaching, we may remember our brothers and sisters who will find the winter months difficult due to lack of warm clothing and blankets. As part of our Lenten journey we remember Palm Sunday (Jesus' entry into Jerusalem), we hear of Jesus riding on the donkey through the gates of Jerusalem and people shedding their cloaks and tunics. This year I would like us to do the same, I would like us to shed a warm piece of clothing and bring it on Palm Sunday Weekend (23-24 March) and hang them on the end of the first chair of each row and after Palm Sunday services we can pass on the clothing through St Vincent de Paul to our brothers and sisters who are standing beside us shivering.

Cursillo Retreat 12-14 April, St Clement's Retreat Centre, Galong

Cursillo provides an opportunity for men and women to renew and deepen their faith life through a program of talks, meditations and prayer. Contact Irma and Joe at irmandjoe@gmail.com.
Info: <https://bit.ly/cursillo24>



Fifth Sunday of Lent —Mask of Difference

Let's Contemplate: Recall (from Week2) ways in which one comes to know another.

Let's Consider: Think about what might result from one person presenting only one side/face/mask. What real knowledge can be gained when such a situation occurs?

Let's Connect: Research Jesus' attitude to 'difference' – e.g. dealings with sinners, women, tax collectors, those who followed the 'letter' of the Law rather than the 'spirit' of the Law.

Entrance Antiphon | Cf Psalm 42:1-2

Give me justice, O God,
and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me,
for you, O God, are my strength.

First Reading | Jeremiah 31:31-34

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

Responsorial Psalm | Ps 50:3-4. 12-15. R. v.12

(R.) Create a clean heart in me, O God.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt.
and cleanse me from my sin. (R.)
2. A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. (R.)
3. Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you. (R.)

Second Reading | Hebrews 5:7-9

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

Gospel Acclamation | John 12:26

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord;
and where I am, my servant will also be.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel | John 12:20-33

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come
for the Son of Man to be glorified.
I tell you most solemnly,
unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies,
it remains only a single grain;
but if it dies,
it yields a rich harvest.
Anyone who loves his life loses it;
anyone who hates his life in this world
will keep it for the eternal life.
If a man serves me, he must follow me,
wherever I am, my servant will be there too.
If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him.
Now my soul is troubled.
What shall I say:
Father, save me from this hour?
But it was for this very reason that I have come to
this hour.
Father, glorify your name!'

A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.'

People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.'

'Now sentence is being passed on this world;
now the prince of this world is to be overthrown.
And when I am lifted up from the earth,
I shall draw all men to myself.'

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

Communion Antiphon | John 12: 24

Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.

Source: Liturgy Help © 2024



Your invitation to
Holy Week
2024



— AT HOLY SPIRIT PARISH CHURCH, AMAROO —

- **PALM SUNDAY 23/24 MARCH** -
Saturday 5:00pm, Sunday 8:00am, 9:30am & 5:00pm
- **RECONCILIATION 26 MARCH** -
Tuesday 7:00pm

— AT ST. JOHN PAUL II COLLEGE, NICHOLLS —

- **HOLY THURSDAY 28 MARCH** -
Thursday 7:00pm
- **GOOD FRIDAY 29 MARCH** -
Friday 9:00am Walking Stations of the Cross
Friday 11:00am Stations of the Cross
Friday 3:00pm Liturgy of the Passion
- **HOLY SATURDAY 30 MARCH** -
Saturday 7:00pm Easter Vigil Mass
- **EASTER SUNDAY 31 MARCH** -
Sunday 9:30am Only (No 8:00am or 5:00pm Mass)

For information
about Holy Week visit



Holy Spirit Catholic Parish

www.holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Palm Sunday Rally – Justice for Refugees

On Sunday 24 March the annual Palm Sunday Rally for Refugees will be held in Garema Place, Canberra at 1pm. People will gather at Petrie Plaza (near the merry-go-round) at 12.30pm. The rally will support the rights of refugees in Australia. 24 March is also the feast day of St Oscar Romero, who was martyred for his words and actions in support of social justice issues in his home country of El Salvador.

Why should you care about refugees?

Every Christian has a responsibility to care about the poor and downtrodden of society. People seeking asylum in Australia have often been threatened in their own countries in ways we would find hard to imagine in the relative safety of Australia.

They have often been persecuted because of their race, religion, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, resulting in the suffering of serious human rights violations, including torture or cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment.

The process for acceptance of refugee status in Australia for asylum seekers is incredibly slow. People are waiting for years. Many are still being held in detention. It isn't right.

What can you do?

Come along to the Palm Sunday Rally and join with members of the local Social Justice Group. If you can't attend the rally you could think about making a donation to the Australian Refugee Action Network [Australian Refugee Action Network ARAN](#) or Canberra Refugee Action Campaign [Refugee Action Campaign, Canberra \(RAC\) - Home](#) or the Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project [Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project - Brigidine Asylum Seekers Project \(BASP\)](#)

You can write to politicians, both government and non-government to ask them to do more to help refugees. Don't forget that Jesus and the holy family were once refugees. According to the gospel of Matthew the holy family had to flee to Egypt to avoid the vengeance of Herod. So they were displaced from their home. It is also important to remember the words of Matthew (Matt 25:35) where the king separates the sheep from the goats and one of the criteria is "I was a stranger and you welcomed me". We need to be welcoming.

Mark Carter

On behalf of the Social Justice Group



**Enrolments
now Open!**



ST JOHN PAUL II COLLEGE
1021 Gungahlin Drive, Nicholls

OPEN EVENTS at JPC

Try JPC Day Friday 22 March 2024
9.00 am - 2.30 pm

Open Evening Wednesday 3 April 2024
4.30 pm - last tour at 6.30 pm

Try JPC Day Friday 10 May 2024
9.00 am - 2.30 pm

**Senior College
Expo** Tuesday 7 May 2024
4.30 pm - 6.30 pm
Years 9 - 12

Enrolment Period for Year 7 2025
29 April 2024 - 31 May 2024



Visit the St John Paul II
College Website to book your
tickets for all events
www.act.jpc.edu.au

Fifth Sunday of Lent | 16-17 March

The work of Caritas Australia is only possible with generous supporters and the dedication, passion and tenacity of our local partners who implement the programs. They are the heroes on the ground working tirelessly behind-the-scenes every day to create a better future for their communities.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, **for all future generations.**



You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.



The Roundtable Series | Moments of Encounter: Sacramental Initiation



Moments of Encounter



Join others from across the Archdiocese for a time of prayerful dialogue in the spirit of synodality on significant topics in the life and mission of the Church.

Thursday 21 March 2024, 4:30pm – 6:00pm
at St Christopher's Pastoral Centre + Zoom
– [click here](#) to register or visit <https://www.cgevangelisation.org.au/roundtables/>

WE NEED YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

First Collection (Supporting all priests of the Archdiocese)

1. BSB: 062 786 Acc Number: 00029248 Acc Name: Central Presbytery Fund Ref: Gungahlin and Surname
2. Tap and Go machines or Qkr!

Second Collection (For the upkeep of our parish, staff salaries, parish loans, liturgical needs etc)

1. Click on <https://www.holyspiritgungahlin.org.au/donations-payments/secure-online-payments/>
2. Direct Credit: BSB: 062 786 Acc Number: 00010701 Acc Name: Holy Spirit Parish
3. Tap and Go machines or Qkr!



CONNECT WITH US

Parish Priest: Fr Troy Bobbin

Assistant Priest: Fr Eden Langlands

Parish Office and Presbytery

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Website: www.holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Parish Manager: Theivani Evers

E: theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

P: 0472 921 518

Parish Secretary: Vacant

E: office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Office Support: Anne Smart

E: officesupport@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Finance Officer/ Planned Giving: Tony Rose

E: gungahlin.finance@cg.org.au

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC): Sean Ryan

E: sean.ryan.cdss@gmail.com

Download our parish app: **Pocket Parish** from App Store or Google Play.

Parish Groups

Craft Group | Beth Forshaw

Mondays 1:00pm Parish Office

St Vincent de Paul | Drazen Roginic President

P: 0401 669 301

E: Drazen.Roginic@vinnies.org.au

Call to Connect | Maureen Hilton

M: 0431 123 465

Holy Spirit Prayer Group | Kathy Torcasio 0401 920 028

Wednesdays at 7:30pm in the church

Social Justice Group | Peter Petersen

E: socialjustice.hsp@gmail.com

Legion of Mary | Grace Magbutay

E: office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Youth Ministry

E: office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Care Group | Sonja Vocisano

P: 0438 699 591

Community Garden Group | Parish Office

E: theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

St Francis Xavier Social Group

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