

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or a hymn) 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.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 50)

ANTIPHON: Create a clean heart in me, O God

RESPONSE: Create a clean heart in me, O God

LECTOR: 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.**

LECTOR: 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.**

LECTOR: 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.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION 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!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (or a hymn) 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.

TODAY'S READINGS Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 5:7-9; John 12:20-33

NEXT WEEK (Passion Palm Sunday, Year B) Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 21; Philippians 2:6-11; Mark 14:1 – 15:47

*Brighten up
your day with
The Majellan*

Year of the Family

Pope Francis has declared a "year of the family" to celebrate the 'beauty and challenges' of family life. It began on March 19 on the Solemnity of Saint Joseph and will run until June 26, 2022. The Majellan which has long been a proud supporter of the 'family' will feature stories and provide resources on our website to promote *Amoris laetitia* (The Joy of Love). Details at www.majellan.media

majellan

Dying for a rich harvest

21 March 2021 5th Sunday Lent Year B

too must be ready to suffer and to die, just as a grain of wheat dies in order to yield a rich harvest.

Being true disciples of Jesus, we are invited to "die or sacrifice or let things go" for the sake of justice, and truth and what is right and good; to say no to exploitation and abuse; to be open and transparent in our dealings with each other; welcoming and loving others as they are; and caring for our "common home".

This "daily death of a grain" might weaken us physically, but it strengthens us spiritually. As we continue our journey with Christ in this Lenten season, Jesus' suffering and death must be ours too. Lent is a time to prepare to celebrate the Glory of God manifest in the death and resurrection of His Son Jesus Christ. It reminds us of His promise of eternal life for which we hope.

Like the Greeks in today's gospel, may our desire to meet the Lord keep burning in our hearts, no matter what our life situation. As we continue on the journey to seek God's Glory and eternal life, let us allow the Lord to empower us with the Holy Spirit, mindful that only in Jesus can we find the fullness of life and true joy.

God bless us and our world.

Redempt Jawa CSsR

© Majellan Media 2021

When we know something good or bad is about to happen, we like to be prepared. We may even sacrifice something to make way for what's to come.

Today's gospel tells us the time has come, and that time leads us as Christ's disciples closer to our destination. Jesus himself proclaims that "Now the hour has come for the son of man to be glorified." Jesus, the Lord, was about to be arrested, punished and killed, yet he spoke about His glory. He gave His own life so that we can follow Him to eternal life, our destination.

Jesus teaches: "Unless a grain of wheat dies it remains a single grain, but if it dies it yields a rich harvest." He offered His life in order to restore our broken relationship with God and with one another. His suffering, death and resurrection would restore life to all creation. He promised that he leads all who believe in Him to eternal life.

The proclamation "the hour has come..." reaches out to everyone. The presence of some Greeks in today's gospel who want to meet Jesus shows us that the glorification of Jesus Christ – through His suffering, death, resurrection and ascension – is available to the whole world, to everyone.

Unfortunately, not everyone wants to listen to Jesus' proclamation and to follow Him. But Jesus never stops inviting us to take this journey. He wants us to be where He is. He asks us to be ready to endure as he did. We



Sacred Heart Parish

South Mount Druitt

Sunday Masses	Saturday 6.00 pm Vigil	5th SUNDAY of LENT	21/3/2021: B
Weekday Masses	7.30 am & 9.00am	Week 5 of Lent	
	9.00 am	Week 5 of Lent	
	9.00am	Week 5 of Lent	
	7.30 pm then Rosary	Week 5 of Lent	
	9.00am & 7.00pm	Annunciation of the Lord	
	9.00 am & 7.00pm	Week 5 Lent. Stations	
	9.00 am	Week 5 of Lent. Exposition?	
Confessions	10.30am, 12.00-1.00pm, 5.00-5.30pm		
Parish Priest	Father C. Ashton	(Confessions after Mass: see Fr.)	
Presbytery/Church	9 Ropes Creek Rd, Old Mt. Druitt	Ph: 9625-8847	
Baptisms	By arrangement – Godparents must be Catholics.		
Weddings	Six Months Notice – Marriage Preparation Course		

Exposition of BI Sacrament for 1/2hr. after 9.00am Mass & Rosary Saturday if enough

1stReading: Israel's failure to be true to the ancient covenant leads to the catastrophe of the Exile in Babylon. This serves as a purification and prepares for a new covenant!

2ndReading: Paul is concentrating on the human life of Christ. His suffering is to be an encouragement to Christians under persecution. It is through these we gain Salvation

Readers	6.00pm	7.30am	9.00am
March 28	S. FERNANDEZ	A. WIGGINS	A. WONG
PALM SUNDAY	M. FARQUHARSON	V. NAGARAJA	B. BUHAGIAR
April 4	EASTER	J. MENDES	H. CRUZ
EASTER SUNDAY	VIGIL	A. MCKENZIE	F. ANTOWN

PILGRIM STATUE of Our Lady will be at the home of the Penafiel family, 31 Chester St. 96250251 this week. You are welcome for the Rosary for the Parish each night at 7.00 pm

The WAY of the CROSS is on **Friday night** after 7.00 Mass. The **last one** for this Lent!

Rouse Hill Parish is hosting a series of events from Wednesday 24 to Sunday 28 March like Prayers, talks, real life stories of people's journeys in faith. All are very welcome. For information call the office on : 8883-4063 or email: parishoffice@ourladyoftheangels.org.au

GIVE LORD ETERNAL REST to the souls of all the faithful departed especially Domingo PENALES who died last week in the Philippines, Malcolm FARQUHARSON, Nico SANDAGA, Estefania CHUA, Carmelita DAVID, Louis & Lily ABREO, Rey GARCIA, Maria CARRIZALES, Anastasia TWARDOWSKI, Jan & Zofia NAWROCKI, Jozef & Jozefa STASZAK, Dragan CUKAR, Louis PEREIRA, Leandro HERNANDEZ, Loretta LEGRAND, Henry FARES, Antonio FALLA, Owen DAVOREN, Joseph LEE, Corrine PIETERSZ, George & Whilemena LAVIS, Melicio & Bernabela VERGARA, Anthony SEGARRA, Emerita DeLaPENA, Jonathan CONNORS, Norberto HERNANDEZ, Yamel MERINO, Howard SELWYN, Evelyn & Gracia MERJUDIO, Joseph WONG, Francesca LEON, Nikola & Maria SOROCZYNSKI, Paula JEZIDZIC, Frantiska & Jacob LONCAR, John & Nancy LAVIS, James MASON, Sam & Ethel WOOD. Let us be united in the Kingdom of Your Glory

PALM SUNDAY, next Sunday, March 28. It is in the tradition and spirit of the day for you to bring a Palm of your own finding for the celebration of Our Lord's final entry into Jerusalem. Symbolically you do this, to welcome Christ into your hearts and into your homes, in the same way as the Jews did two thousand years ago, turning on Him later in the week to crucify Him, but to welcome Him into your homes for the whole of this year to come. By enshrining it in a place of honour you can remind yourself of your wish to always have Christ as a part of your family, the one you would follow to death like Him, if you had to. But, people forget, so there will be some extra palms here next Sunday if you do!

Fr. Galbert Albino from Rouse Hill Parish is going to come here next Sunday to celebrate the **6.00pm Saturday Vigil** and **Sunday 9.00am Masses** for you!

A GOOD FRIDAY pilgrimage walk from St.Patrick's at Blacktown to Parramatta is still being planned at this stage. We can only say we will let you know next week?

A "RITE of RECONCILIATION" (or a large group for Confessions) has been arranged for **Tuesday week, 30 March**, by "Our Lady of the Rosary" Parish at St. Marys, 26 Swanston St.. It will be at **7.30pm**. It will consist of a Liturgy of the Word from the Scriptures, an examination of conscience, and then individual confessions. **There will be a number of Priests** hearing Confessions. The ceremony will open with some prayers by the Parish Priest.

If you go to one of the priests, he will need to know about how long since your last Confession. If it has been some years, you need only tell him about how many, so he knows you haven't been recently. If you are having difficulty remembering your sins, tell him and he will take you through the commandments. When you go into the room, he could be behind a screen to preserve your anonymity. To let him know you are there, you begin with the phrase used for generations: "Bless me Father for I have sinned, and these are my sins (and you tell him your story)". Ask him if you are having any trouble knowing what to confess. When you are finished what you want to say, tell him "That's all I can remember, Father". He might want you to clarify something, and so he will ask you about it. At the end of that, he will want you to recite an "Act of Contrition" (or any prayer expressing sorrow for your sins). If you don't know one off by heart, you can use the one in the Confession room. He will give you forgiveness by a formula of prayer he knows, then he will say "Goodbye and God bless you". You can make the same reply to him or just say "thanks" and go!

It's all as simple as that. He won't delay because he will assume there are others waiting to go to Confession too. (If you are the last you should tell him, so he won't be concerned about keeping others waiting) **YOU** must understand that it is necessary for you to be truly and genuinely sorry for all the serious sins of your life. The Priest believes this when you say your "Act of Contrition", but God will know if it is true.

GOOD FRIDAY collection is taken up for the "Holy Places" in Palestine. Each year it is collected for the Sacred Places where Christ walked in his lifetime. There are 70 Churches and shrines looked after by the Franciscans. Last year only \$406,000 taken up (\$1.3mill 2019) due to the pandemic. No pilgrims either. Your offerings on **Good Friday** will help support the Franciscan monks, the Shrines, and some poor Christians.