

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (or a hymn) Six days before the Passover, when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem, the children ran to meet him; in their hands they carried palm branches and with a loud voice cried out: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy! O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory! Who is this king of glory? He, the Lord of hosts; he is the king of glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 21)

ANTIPHON: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

RESPONSE: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

LECTOR: 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.**

LECTOR: 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.**

LECTOR: 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.**

LECTOR: 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.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION 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!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (or a hymn) Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.

TODAY'S READINGS Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Mark 14:1 - 15:47

NEXT WEEK (Easter Sunday) Acts 10:34, 37-43; Psalm 117; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9

Parenting Sessions

In this series of Majellan podcasts we talk to Dr Rosina McAlpine, who's an author, parenting expert and CEO of Win Win Parenting which supports parents on how best to navigate through the ups and downs of everyday family life. Her podcasts cover such topics as Emotional Intelligence and Understanding the Teenage Brain. Further details from www.majellan.media

And why not Join the family. We invite you to 'Join the Majellan Family' and receive our weekly email about faith and family. Go to majellan.media/join-the-family/

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A tale of love and suffering

For Christians, the story of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus represents the climax, not just of the earthly life of our Lord, but of all biblical revelation. In the gospel of Mark, the passion account begins with a reminder that the leaders of the people (chief priests and scribes) were looking for a way to get Jesus arrested and executed, but they didn't want to incite a riot among the people because of the esteem in which they held Jesus.

It is impossible to comment on all the elements of this incredibly rich gospel, so I will offer some thoughts on a little 'story-within-the-story', which is the anointing of Jesus by an unnamed woman at the very beginning of the narrative.

At first glance, this episode seems completely irrelevant and we may be tempted to dismiss it until we read, at the end of the story: "... wherever throughout the world the Good News is proclaimed, what she has done will be told also, in remembrance of her."

This story is important because it is related to the Passion of Jesus and is a prelude to the more important story. This woman's actions tell us how to read and understand the Passion of Jesus. Briefly stated, her extravagant anointing of Jesus represents what Jesus is about to do for the world. Just as she breaks open the exquisite alabaster jar and pours its precious and fragrant ointment on the head of Jesus in

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anticipation of his death and burial, so also Jesus will allow his body to be broken in death and will pour the precious ointment of his life-blood on all of us.

Her action is considered wasteful and foolish by the bystanders, so that Jesus corrects them as he praises the woman for her generosity. In like manner, what Jesus does may appear to be foolish and wasteful to an unbelieving and cynical world, but his Father will raise him from the dead and thereby confirm forever the wisdom of his generosity.

If we take this little story of the anointing of Jesus seriously, we will learn that the passion story is not primarily about how much Jesus suffered, but rather about how much he loved. He did suffer, and his suffering was intense. But suffering as such is not necessarily redemptive. What makes the pain and suffering of Jesus the source of salvation for us is the fact that it resulted from his extraordinary loving. We all know that suffering can come from sources other than loving, such as not getting our own way or being wedded to false goals, but this kind of selfish suffering has nothing in common with the suffering of Jesus.

The passion is a brutal story of suffering and death, but it is also the defining story of God's love for us. The woman understands, but the disciples have yet to gain this insight

Michael A Kelly CSSR
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Sacred Heart Parish

South Mount Drunit

Sunday Masses	Saturday Easter Vigil: 8.00 pm	PALM SUNDAY
Weekday Masses	Easter Sunday 7.30 am & 9.00am	28/3/2021: B
	Monday 9.00 am Holy Week	
	Tuesday 9.00 am Holy Week	
	Wednesday Chrim Mass by the Bishop at Cathedral 7.30pm	
Confessions here	Confessions at Holy Family, Emerton	
Good Friday: 9.00am—10.00am	And after the Stations	
	Confessions at St. Aidans, Rooty Hill	
And after the 3.00pm Commemoration	Holy Saturday 3.00pm—5.00pm	
Holy Saturday 10.30am—12.00am	Holy Thursday 3.00pm—5.00pm	
	5.00pm—6.00pm	10.00am—11.30am
St. Marys:	Confessions at St. Marys, Passion Play: 11.00am Friday	
Good Friday:	11.30am—12.00pm	
	9.30am—10.00am	Tuesday 7.30pm Communal Rite
Wednesday:	11.15am—12.00	Holy Saturday 9.30-10.30am, 8.00pm
	Confessions at Plumpton: Sat. 11.00-12.30noon	

Readers	8.00pm	7.30am	9.00am
April 4	EASTER VIGIL	J. MENDES	M. BUHAGIAR
EASTER SUNDAY		A. MCKENZIE	B. BUHAGIAR
April 11	J. SALAZAR	V. NAGARAJA	F. ANTOWN
Mercury Sunday(2 nd Easter)	H. VILLARICA	A. WIGGINS	M. ZORE

BLESSING of the PALMS

Entrance Antiphon: Hosanna to the Son of David. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest.

(There follows the Blessing of your Palms, the Gospel reading, procession to the Altar)

Procession Antiphon(no.2): The children of the Hebrews spread their garments on the road, crying out and saying: Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. (The antiphon is repeated between each of the verses: Psalm 46)

Responsory: As the Lord entered the Holy City, the children of the Hebrews proclaimed the resurrection of life. Waving their branches of palm, they cried:

Hosanna in the Highest.

Versicle: When the people heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they went out to meet Him. Waving their branches their, they cried: Hosanna in the Highest.

FOR THE EASTER VIGIL: BRING CANDLES, if you come, whether here or elsewhere !

This Church must be closed on Good Friday 12.00-2.00 to prepare for the 3.00pm Liturgy !

GIVE LORD ETERNAL REST to the souls of the Faithful Departed especially Godfrey & Rose

GULLAUMIER, Ellen & Steve HREPKA, Corinne PIETERSZ, Dick & Max GALE, Ted MALLETT, Alan BERNARDINO, Fr.Karl BOES, Fr. Rod BRAY, Joan CRIDLAND, Fred GREENING, Colin FITZGERALD, George DICKSON, KiongLoc TENG, Loretta LEGRAND, Mary & David DAS, Arthur & Mary CLIFT, Anthony SCOTT, Helen BISCHOF, Dragan CUKAR, Ron GAHAN, Jean KNIGHT, Eddie HAGEMANN, Nada MARTINOVICH, Alan DYSON, Leandro HERNANDEZ, Bill & Wilga MEREDITH. Let us be united in the Kingdom of Your Glory

HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES

This week is the holiest week of the year because it remembers the events of the last week of Our Lord's life ending in His Crucifixion.. We trace through this week all the major events decreed by God for the Salvation of mankind: The Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem, the Last Supper, Christ's arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane, His trial before the Jews then Pontius Pilate, the Scourging, the journey to Calvary, and the Crucifixion, all part of the plan of Salvation. Each year we retrace these events so that we will never forget what God did for us, even though the world has forgotten long ago, and we cause ourselves to acknowledge them with gratitude as we take part in the ceremonies, thereby in some small way offering our recognition of all that Christ has done for our Salvation. We should try to pause through these days from the unchanging routine that dominates every day we live, and watch and contemplate in the ceremonies the great events that have guaranteed our eternity with God. That "eternity" is finally all that matters; yet we constantly forget eternity because of the continuous distractions of living. This week brings before us the things that matter. But this requires Faith, and many have long ago lost that because they always had more important things to do in their own lives with no thought of God. For them these days are only holidays to be enjoyed with indulgence; but for those who have Faith,---- these are the most momentous days of every year !

The Ceremonies here are:

HOLY THURSDAY: Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper 8.00pm

Psalm: (SUNG) Our Blessing Cup is a Communion with the Blood Of Christ

Accl: Praise and Honour to You Lord Jesus Christ. I give you a new commandment : Love one another as I have loved you. Praise and Honour to You Lord Jesus Christ

Comm. Antn: This is the Body that will be given up for you. This is the Chalice of the new covenant in my Blood, says the Lord. Do this whenever you receive it in memory of Me.

After Mass spend some time in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament at the side altar till Midnight when it concludes. This is a symbol of Christ's Agony in the Garden of Gethsemane.

GOOD FRIDAY: Stations of the Cross 10.00am

Commemoration of the Lord's Death 3.00pm

Psalm: (SUNG) Father I put my life in Your Hands.

Accl: Glory and praise to You Lord Jesus Christ. 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. Glory and Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ.

HOLY SATURDAY: SOLEMN EASTER VIGIL 8.00pm (bring candles)

EASTER SUNDAY: MASSES 7.30am and 9.00am

Remember for Holy Week;

1. Good Friday is both a day of Fast and a day of Abstinence from meat all day.

2. Holy Saturday is not, but if you choose, you can make it a day like Good Friday

3. The days of Holy Week, though most sacred, are not Holy Days of Obligation.

4. The Easter or Paschal Precept of the Church commands a good Confession (if one has mortal or serious sins on his soul), and a sincere Communion during this Lent & Easter period

The GOOD FRIDAY HOLY PLACES Collection goes to the Franciscans in Palestine to maintain the Shrines there. The Arab and Jewish governments, of course, provide nothing.

The envelopes on the seats are for this. We'll collect at the Stations & the 3.00pm Ceremony