

First Reading

A reading from the second book of Chronicles

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, 'Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.'

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: 'Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, "The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up."'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

R. Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

By the rivers of Babylon
there we sat and wept,
remembering Zion;
on the poplars that grew there
we hung up our harps. **R.**

For it was there that they asked us,
our captors, for songs,
our oppressors, for joy.
'Sing to us,' they said,
'one of Zion's songs.' **R.**

O how could we sing
the song of the Lord
on alien soil?
If I forget you, Jerusalem,
let my right hand wither! **R.**

O let my tongue
cleave my mouth
if I remember you not,
if I prize not Jerusalem
above all my joys! **R.**

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ - it is through grace that you have been saved - and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus. This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to Nicodemus:
'The Son of Man must be lifted up
as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,
so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much
that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believed in him may not be lost
but may have eternal life.
For God sent his Son into the world
not to condemn the world,
but so that through him the world might be saved.
No one who believes in him will be condemned;
but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already,
because he has refused to believe
in the name of God's only Son.
On these grounds is sentence pronounced:
that though the light has come into the world
men have shown they prefer
darkness to the light
because their deeds were evil.
And indeed, everybody who does wrong
hates the light and avoids it,
for fear his actions should be exposed;
but the man who lives by the truth
comes out into the light,
so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is
done in God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Blackwood Catholic Community

Parish Newsletter

Fourth Sunday of Lent Year B

14th March 2021



St Paul of the Cross

cnr of Simla & Coromandel Pde
Blackwood

Our Lady of the Way

4-6 Laffers Rd
Glenalta

Introduction: During the season of Lent we humbly acknowledge the ways in which we have failed to respond to our Christian vocation. We do this before a God who is infinitely rich in mercy and grace, who sent the Son into the world not to condemn it but to be its Saviour. Acknowledging our failings and accepting healing and forgiveness from Christ prepares us to celebrate the feast of Easter with great joy

Entrance Antiphon:

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling
breast.

Prayer of the Faithful:

Lord hear our prayer.

Memorial Acclamation:

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and
profess your Resurrection until you come
again

Communion Antiphon:

Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one
together. It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord, to praise the name
of the Lord.

St. Michael the Archangel prayer

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen

PARISH PRIEST

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DEACON

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www.blackwoodcatholicparish.org.au

BAPTISMS

By appointment

WEDDINGS

By appointment

MASS TIMES**St. Paul of the Cross (SPC)**

Tuesday 9:30am
Wednesday 9:30am
Friday 11:00am
Sunday 8:00am

Our Lady of the Way (OLW)

Wednesday 7:00pm
Thursday 9:30am
Saturday 6:00pm
Sunday 10:00am

CONFESSIONS

SPC - Friday 10:30 to 10:55am
OLW - Saturday 5:30 to 5:50pm

HOLY HOUR

OLW - Wednesday 7:30 to 8:30pm

ROSARY FOR PEACE

OLW - Monday 10am

PROJECT COMPASSION REFLECTION

Arsad, an Indonesian farmer, had no toilet at home and was often sick due to the practice of open defecation. Through Caritas Australia's support, Arsad and his community improved hygiene and sanitation, and funded their own toilets.

You can pick up Project Compassion boxes and envelopes from the foyer of both churches

Southern Cross for the month of March is available in the foyer of both churches. Cost \$2.00

St. Vincent de Paul

St. Vinnies is holding a Badge Day Collection on **Thursday 29th April**. This is in response to anticipating that the requests for assistance will increase as Jobseeker payments return to below poverty line levels. We urgently require volunteers who are happy to give an hour of their time to cover Drakes, Woolworths or Coles. Please contact Peter Donovan on 0413 910 234 or Eleanora Truskewycz on 0435 441 471 if you are able to assist. Your help would be very much appreciated. Eleanora

Palm Sunday Peace Walk

SA Council of Churches and Churches Together SA invites your community to share in the Palm Sunday Peace Walk on Sunday March 28 2021. It is a gentle walk down beginning at Tarntanyangga (Victoria Square), along King William Road to (Tarntanya Wama) Elder Park, where there will be three short presentations and an invitation to all to stroll in prayerful presence along the banks of the Karrawirra Pari (Torrens River).

Tuesday 16th March—Parish Walking Group

Thank you Barb Colla for the February Sturt River Linear park walk photo. Our next walk is at 9am Tuesday 16th March along the Minnow Creek path. Please meet at the carpark at Hawthorndene Oval and for coffee after at Joan's Pantry. New walkers welcome. Bob 0412 310 947

Sunday 21st March—Morning Tea at Our Lady of the Way in the Cottage after 10am Mass. All welcome.

Senior Singles and Carers Group

Remember to check your diaries and note **Sunday 21st March** is our visit to the Old Government House at **1.00pm**.

Also include on your calendar **Monday 19th April 2021**, as this will be our April 'get together,' A Luncheon at the Torrens Arms Hotel at 12 noon.

Contact Geoff Sugars 8278 5650 or Judy Betros 0439 713 017 for bookings or more information

Saturday 27th March. Beacon Emergency Relief is having a **Trading Table 8.30am to 12.30pm** outside Terry White's Pharmacy, Main Road, Blackwood. There will be baked goods, jams, chutney and plants for sale. Money raised will help assist those in our community who are experiencing hardship.

Sunday 28th March PALM SUNDAY—EASTER MORNING TEA after 10am Mass. Due to COVID requirements relating to serving meals, it has been decided to not have our usual Easter Luncheon. Instead we will provide an Easter focussed morning tea. Hope you are able to attend.

Please Pray for friends, some named previously, some wishing to remain anonymous

Sick: Jacob Van Eyk, Teresa and Tony Lavers, Gary Stafford, Greg Collins, Margaret Granger, Roger Sawley, Laura Fazzalari, Dieter Marwede, Jemima Leydon, Sheila Ko (Tee Ping's sister) Bruce Daw, Stephen Wooding (Janet's husband), Tamika Harrison (Maria Marwede's granddaughter)

Recently Deceased: Magdelene Lau (Mary Ann's mother), Joan Forster (mother of Patrick Forster-Rohal), Diana Siew Eng Ling (Tee Ping's mother), Janine Kinnear, Anna Mackie,

Anniversaries:

**EASTER ROSTERS**

Due to COVID restrictions and directives we have been advised that we are unable to have congregation participation in the Passion on Palm Sunday and Good Friday. This means that we will need additional people to help with the readings on these days. We also need help on Palm Sunday at the 6pm mass in particular. Gaps in the rosters are highlighted in yellow, please have a look and help out where you can.

PALM SUNDAY

To comply with directions from the Archdiocese there will be no procession of the people into the church. We will, instead, gather inside the church. Please ensure you collect your palm cross from the board on entering as they will be blessed inside the church.

GOOD FRIDAY

Adoration of the Cross by the congregation is to be by genuflecting or bowing only – no touching or kissing permitted. Please ensure you observe social distancing as you come forward.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son..." - JOHN 3:16

Of all the wonderful gifts that God has given to us, the Gift of God's Son is truly the greatest. How can we ever thank God for a gift like that? God does not ask us to sacrifice our own precious firstborn but does ask that we are grateful and generous with our God given gifts. That we nurture and develop our gifts, and in gratitude, generously give back with increase in our time of prayer, our talent in charitable works and our treasure to support the mission and ministry of our parish and greater Church

***If a Priest is required
please call 8278 6619***

COVID – Update March 2021

Confusion regarding the use of the QR code and manual sign in sheets throughout SA has seen quite a few people being fined recently. The directive issued in February 2021 states:

All people entering a business/place/activity with a COVID Safe Check-In QR code must ensure that they scan in, or provide their details on paper records, upon entry or as soon as reasonably practicable after entry. If you choose not to provide your details, you may be refused entry or fined up to \$1060 for an individual and a \$5060 fine for the organisation.

Please ensure you comply with this directive.

COVID MARSHALS

COVID Marshals are asked to be even more diligent over the Easter period checking that people have signed in and overall capacity at our venues does not breach the posted levels. If capacity is reached please close the doors and explain that communion can be brought out to them by Deacon Tee Ping if they are happy to wait.

SUNDAY OBLIGATION

We are all reminded that the Vatican directive that Sunday Obligations can be met on any day of the week during the pandemic is still in place. Consider attending Mass during the week or on Saturday evening to avoid overcrowding. It is your responsibility to follow the directives from the Health Department and SA Police in helping to keep yourselves, your families and friends safe.

24 HOUR EXPOSITION

Exposition and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament is a very old devotion in the Catholic Church and it highlights the fundamental mystery of the Holy Eucharist— that our Lord is truly present, body and blood, soul and divinity in the Blessed Sacrament.

Thank you to everyone who committed to specific times to sit with our Lord and those who came and sat when they had a spare moment.