



Readings for this week:

Jeremiah 31:31-34
Hebrews 5:7-9
John 12:20-33



Readings for
next week

Entrance: Mark 11:1-10
Isaiah 50:4-7
Philippians 2:6-11
Passion of Mark 14:1-5:47



Liturgical Jottings

The Collect

The Opening Prayer at Masses is now more aptly titled the Collect. It may come after several prayers, eg Palm Sunday, so not really the first or opening prayer of the liturgy. The prayer is introduced by the words "Let us pray" and followed by a few moments of silence to let us quietly add our own prayers that are then "collected" by the priest and offered to God through Jesus Christ.

In today's Collect we ask for help on the journey. Throughout Lent, we have the image of the disciples on the road to Jerusalem, of the pilgrim Church on a journey through the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection.

This Sunday, we pray to walk the journey with eager faith and love. With Jesus as our model, we await on the other side of suffering and pain. Let us ask God's help to become more deeply united with Christ, to become Christ-like in love, and to love the world as Jesus did.

Looking at the Readings

The first readings in this Lenten cycle have highlighted "Covenant". It is mentioned 176 in the Old Testament (Hebrew & Greek). This day the Prophet Jeremiah uniquely speaks of the "New Covenant" (31:31) that the Lord will make with new laws and written upon a new heart. The Responsorial psalm also takes up this theme: "A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me." Ps 51:10.

The Gospel passage today is complex. There are four strands: the Greeks, possibly pagan, who wanted to see Jesus; secondly the parable of the wheat grain that dies to give life; thirdly Jesus' troubled soul; and finally the epiphany - God's voice attesting to Jesus and his glory.

What weaves these strands is Jesus' testimony in the last verses. Without mentioning the cross Jesus says he will be lifted up and draw all people to himself. The Parable of the seed united death to the resurrection and ascension and to Christ's life to our lives. The Cross and Resurrection are one act of giving glory. We journey with Christ to his death and to his resurrection.

A Palm Sunday Message

So, in these holy days, in our homes, let us stand before the Crucified One, the fullest measure of God's love for us, and before the God who serves us to the point of giving his life, and let us ask for the grace to live in order to serve. May we reach out to those who are suffering and those most in need. May we not be concerned about what we lack, but what good we can do for others. *Pope Francis 2020.*

Prayer for the Week

Lord God your Son died once for all
to establish your grace for ever amongst us;
and by his rising from the dead
he has fashioned anew our human nature,
restoring to us the heavenly gifts
lost through the deceit of the evil one.
(from the Preface 5th Sunday Lent, Ambrosian Missal)

On the Lighter Side

What did one stalk of wheat say to the other? "We wheat again!" What did the German wheat say to the Aussie wheat? "Gluten tag!" Why did the grain grower insult his crop? "Because he was wheat intolerant!" Why did the farmer win so many awards? He was out standing in his field!



	Those who are recently deceased and those who are grieving	
	For those whose anniversary occurs at this time	
	Our sick and their carers	Carmel Trevaskis

Please note that names on the sick list only remain for four weeks unless, unless the Parish Office is asked for them to remain on the list for an additional four weeks.



Halima is raising her two children in a refugee camp in Bangladesh while caring for her mother, who has a disability. Widowed at 21, Halima fled violence in Myanmar's Rakhine State and arrived at the camp with nothing.

Caritas Australia, through Caritas Bangladesh, helped Halima out with a shelter, cooking equipment, hygiene and sanitation training. She took on the role of community trainer herself, organising the cleaning of washrooms, wells and toilets.

Halima aspired to 'Be More'. She is proud that she is now able to earn a small income while maintaining the health of her family and the cleanliness of the camp community.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2021 to so this transformational program can continue to empower vulnerable women, men and children, and strengthen the communities around them.

DO YOU HAVE PALMS? Can you provide some palm leaves?

If you have any palms on your property, could you please space some leaves for next week's Mass which is Palm Sunday. If you can help please ring Mary on 0484 332 397 and arrange a time to drop them off at the Church on Friday 26th March.

Thank you so much for your help on this – *Fr John Paul*

EASTER MASS TIMETABLE

Parish Reconciliation

Wednesday 24th March 5:30 pm

Holy Thursday - Mass of the Lord's Supper

Thursday 1st April 5:30 pm

Good Friday – Stations of the Cross

Friday 2nd April 10:00 am

Good Friday – The Pasion of our Lord

Friday 2nd April 3:00 pm

Easter Saturday – Vigil Mass

Saturday 3rd April 6:00 pm

Easter Sunday – Mass

Sunday 4th April 9:30 am

EASTER RECONCILIATION

Wednesday 24th March

5:30 pm

Easter Rosters

If you are able to help with our Easter Services please put your name down on the list in the Narthex. Trish will prepare the roster and these will be available next week. Thank you

Stronger Rally Online

The first 'Stronger Tonight' online Rally of 2021 will be on Friday 26th March at 7pm. With music, conversations and our 2021 theme "Let There Be Light", this is an online event not to be missed! The livestream will be available on the Stronger Youth YouTube Channel.

Follow Sandhurst Youth and Stronger Youth on Facebook and Instagram to keep up to date with the latest info including how to be a part of the live studio audience.

Executive Assistant to the Bishop of Sandhurst:

An exciting opportunity exists for a highly organised, proactive, and detail-sensitive individual to provide administrative and personal support to the Bishop. This is a full-time role.

For more information, a copy of the position description and how to apply go to the Employment Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst website [Executive Assistant to the Bishop of Sandhurst \(catholic.org.au\)](https://www.catholic.org.au/employment)

APPLICATIONS CLOSE: 2nd April 2021.



Baptism

Phillip John & Mia Rose Mercuri

Congratulations to Phillip and Mia who are being baptised this weekend.

We welcome them into our faith family.

Mass Timetable Week commencing 22nd March

Weekday Mass

Monday 22 nd March	No Mass
Tuesday 23 rd March	No Mass
Wednesday 24 th March	9:15 am Mass 5:30 Parish Reconciliation
Thursday 25 th March	No Mass
Friday 26 th March	9:15 am Mass

Weekend Mass

Saturday 27 th March	5:30 pm Mass
Sunday 28 th March	9:30 am Mass

Reconciliation (in the Nuns Chapel)

Saturday 27 th March	11:30 am
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In the spirit of Mary MacKillop, we invite you to

“Take fresh courage.”

This year is the ten year anniversary of Mary's canonisation.

During the challenging times we all face, please pray and support Mary MacKillop Today, so that we can continue to transform lives through our vital works and carry on the legacy of Saint Mary MacKillop of the Cross.

For more information
please call 02 8912 2777 or visit
marymackilloptoday.org.au

MARY MACKILLOP
today

