

Fifth Sunday of Lent Year B

Sunday 17 March 2024

**Readings
for this week:**Jeremiah 31:31-34
Hebrews 5:7-9
John 12:20-33Readings for
next weekEntrance: Mark 11:1-10 / John 12:12-16
Isaiah 50:4-7

Philippians 2:6-11

Passion of Mark 14:1-5:47



Liturgical Jottings

Lent – 5 Lectionary

The Gospel of the first Sunday of Lent gives the account of Jesus in the wilderness from Matthew (in cycle A), Mark (B) and Luke (C). The Gospel for the second Sunday of Lent gives the account of the transfiguration, again from the three Gospels. For the other Sundays of Lent they differ. The Gospels in cycle A are baptismal in character. The Gospels in cycle C are penitential in character. Thereby relating to the double focus of Lent: preparing for Baptism for RCIA candidates and Penance for the initiated. Year B has two themes: the first reading recalls God's covenant established and re-established and the Gospel focuses on the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Thereby preparing all for the Paschal mystery.

On Passion (Palm) Sunday we read Jesus entry into Jerusalem with Matthew (in cycle A), Mark or John (B) and Luke (C) and proclaim the Passion Narrative, again from Matthew (A), Mark (B) and Luke (C).

Looking at the Readings

We hear a lot today about Treaties. A treaty is made between two nations or two parties that mutually design it and have respect and commitment to abide by its terms. A covenant is also a mutual agreement normally made by one and an individual or a group. The covenant expressed in the Sacred Scriptures is made by God to his people. The first readings on the Sundays of Lent continue with accounts of God's Covenant. This Sunday there is a significant shift. Jeremiah speaks of God establishing a *new covenant* with his people. This is the only time "new covenant" is mentioned in the Old Testament. And this covenant looks forward to the one established by Christ's death and resurrection. "New Covenant" is found in Luke's Gospel, St Paul's letters, and the letter to the Hebrews which quotes the entire first reading from Jeremiah (Hebr 8:8-12). New Covenant is expressed at every Mass in the Eucharistic Prayers.

The passage from the Letter to the Hebrews today, however, is not just about covenant but about suffering, death and salvation. Just in two sentences we have a great insight into the mind and heart of Jesus. He prayed, he cried, he was fearful but resolute, humble and obedient. Prayer leads to acceptance, acceptance gives him strength. May our prayers for healing, solutions to hardships, for peace bring us acceptance and salvation.

Palm Sunday

Next Sunday, 24 March is Passion Sunday, the day we read the Passion of the Lord. It is also known as Palm Sunday with the commemoration of The Lord's Entry into Jerusalem. Monday of Holy Week, 25 March, displaces the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord until the next liturgically free day, Monday 8 April.

Prayer over the People


Bless, O Lord, your people,
who long for the gift of your mercy,
and grant that what, at your prompting, they desire
they may receive by your generous gift.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Roman Missal, 5th Sunday of Lent)

On the Lighter Side

I grew up a Catholic in Victoria. Giving up alcohol was a common Lenten sacrifice. When I visited Chicago I was amused to hear that the Archbishop would give a dispensation from this Lenten sacrifice for St. Patrick's Day. Was that Lenten sacrifice simply too great to bear?



	Those who are recently deceased and those who are grieving	
	For those whose anniversary occurs at this time	Lesley Kennedy
	Our sick and their carers	Ellie Kleindienst, Jillian Taylor

Two Week Mass Timetable Week commencing 4 March

Weekday Mass

Mon 18 March	No Mass
Tue 19 March	No Mass
Wed 20 March	9:15 Mass 6pm First Reconciliation
Thur 21 March	No Mass
Fri 22 March	9:15 am Mass & Stations of the Cross 6pm Parish Reconciliation

Weekend Mass

Sat 23 March	No Mass
Sun 24 March	10:30 am 11:30-12:30 Individual Reconciliation

Weekday Mass

Mon 25 March	No Mass
Tue 26 March	11am Chrism Mass Bendigo
Wed 27 March	9:15 Mass
Thur 28 March	6pm Holy Thursday
Fri 29 March	10am Stations of the Cross 3pm Passion of Christ

Weekend Mass

Sat 30 March	7:00 pm Easter Vigil
Sun 31 March	10:30 am Mass

Reconciliation: Saturday 6 April 5 pm

Plate Collection and Envelops

Thank you so much for your generosity and support of our Parish. May God bless you always.

\$365.55

Easter Timetable

Wednesday 20 March	First Reconciliation
Friday 22 March	6pm Parish Reconciliation
Sunday 24 March	10:30 Palm Sunday 11:30-12:30 Individual Reconciliation
Tuesday 26 March	11am Chrism Mass Bendigo
Thursday 28 March	6pm Holy Thursday Mass
Friday 29 March	10am Stations of the Cross 3pm Passion of Christ
Saturday 30 March	7pm Vigil Mass

Rosters

Sunday 24 March– 10:30 AM

Commentator: – Mary Gale
Reader: – Ann Marie Nihikl
Gospel Procession: -Doreen Corrigan
Gifts: – B & J Low
Special Minister: –Connie Serra

PLEASE FILL IN YOUR AVAILABLE FOR THE EASTER ROSTER

Baptism



We congratulate

Rex Michael McCready.
Son of Joanne & Matthew,

and

Fletcher Patrick Kerrins.
Son of Megan & Mitchell,

On their Baptism this weekend and welcome them into our parish community.

Jesus made Himself like the grain of wheat that falls to the ground and dies to give life. Our hope springs from that love-filled life. - **Pope Francis**

Volunteer Parish Secretary – Vacant Position

After six years being the Parish Secretary(both as an employee and for the past year on a voluntary basis), Mary has decided it is time for some new energy to come into the role. As many of you know Mary is very involved with a Charity called Days for Girls and over the next six months Mary will be travelling to a number of island nations to work with the DfG teams in-country. Mary and Allen will also be in Perth for a 10 week period commencing in July.

We are looking for someone or a few people who can take on the duties as Parish Secretary. The role requires the person to be competent in:

- The Microsoft suite of packages especially WORD, EXCEL AND POWERPOINT
- One Drive
- Bookkeeping (using both a manual and computerised package).

If you are interested in helping Sacred Heart Parish on voluntary basis as parish secretary please speak to me.

Fr Uday

Sandhurst Diocese Celebrates 150th Anniversary with Pilgrimage

Join us on Palm Sunday for a symbolic pilgrimage to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Diocese.

This 150th-anniversary pilgrimage from St. Kilians Parish to the Sacred Heart Cathedral symbolically traces this part of our Diocese's journey while paying tribute to the strength and commitment of the many faith-filled people who have helped to build parish and school communities in the forty parishes of Sandhurst over the last 150-years.

The pilgrimage begins at St Kilians Parish at 9:45 am with the Blessing of the 150th Processional Cross and concludes at Sacred Heart Cathedral with the Blessing of the Palms and the opening of the Jubilee door at 10:45 am.

Participants are welcome to walk with us or join us at each location for this celebration.

Attention all Volunteers

Just a reminder if you are a volunteer at Sacred Heart Parish you need to have the following:

- 1) a current Working With Children's Check that is linked to Sacred Heart
- 2) completed the Sandhurst Safeguarding Training.

We are a Child Safe Parish, we have a zero tolerance for child abuse and aim to provide a safe, supportive and welcoming environment to all visiting children, young persons and vulnerable adults.

If you have any questions speak to our Safeguarding Officer is Debbie Turvey 0407 804 317

Positions Opened for the Parish Pastoral Council

Fr Uday is seeking additional people to join the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC). The PPC Provides support and advice to Fr Uday in fostering the spiritual growth of the parish.

If you are interested in becoming part of the PPC you will need to have or a willing to obtain a Working With Children's Check and undergo a formal interview including reference checking.

For more information, please speak to Fr Uday.

Thank You

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped to make my Installation Mass very special.

Thank you to those who helped in the working bee the weekend before to help make St Mary's Hall look good.

Thank you to those who helped set up St Mary's Hall

Thank you to everyone who provided the delicious lunch.

Thank you to everyone who helped in the Church Service.

It is such a privilege to be your Parish Priest and I thank the Bishop for Installing me into Sacred Heart Parish Tatura. I look forward to serving you for the next six years.

Fr Uday.

SANDHURST DIOCESE CHRISM MASS and 150th CELEBRATION

The Chrism Mass for 2024 will be at the Sacred Heart Cathedral on Tuesday, 26th March, at 11.00am. Diocese Parish representatives will present oils to be blessed by the Bishop for the Sacraments during the coming year. Oils will be supplied by the Cathedral; Parishes to bring their own bottles for collection of oils after Mass.

This year's Chrism Mass will also be an occasion to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese. To mark the occasion a commemorative Chrism cruet will be presented to each parish.

All parishioners of the Diocese are warmly invited to this very significant Mass for our Diocese. Light refreshments and beverages will be provided after the Mass on the Cathedral lawns. Please RSVP to your Parish Office by Thursday 21st March for catering purposes.

Parking around the Cathedral will be limited so please allow time to find a suitable park in the nearby streets.

Fr Brian Boyle ADM.

Reflection Questions for the 5th Sunday of Lent

<https://young-catholics.com/>

Reflecting on the readings and themes for the 5th Sunday of Lent Year B, consider these questions to deepen your understanding and application of the messages in your life:

Personal Covenant: How does the concept of a covenant written on your heart change your understanding of your relationship with God? In what ways do you experience this covenant in your daily life?

Forgiveness and Mercy: Reflect on the promise that God will remember your sins no more. How does this assurance of God's forgiveness and love impact your approach to confession and repentance? Are there areas in your life where you need to more fully accept God's mercy?

Transformation Through the Covenant: The new covenant promises to change us from the inside out. Can you identify moments or experiences in your life that have led to significant internal transformation? How have these moments brought you closer to God?

Sacrifice and Fruitfulness: Jesus' analogy of the grain of wheat highlights the necessity of sacrifice for fruitfulness. Reflect on the sacrifices you are called to make in following Jesus. How do these sacrifices contribute to producing fruit in your life and in the lives of others?

Living the Will of God: Jesus surrendered His will to the Father, even to the point of death. Reflect on the areas of your life where God is asking you to surrender your will to His. What challenges do you face in doing so, and how can you overcome them?

Service and Sacrifice: In what ways are you called to serve others and make sacrifices for the sake of the Kingdom of God? How can your sacrifices, even if they seem small, bring glory to God and build His kingdom on earth?

Intimacy with God Through Covenant: The new covenant promises a close relationship with God. How do you cultivate this intimacy in your own spiritual life? Are there practices or disciplines that help you to remain close to God and aware of His presence?

Easter Roster

If you are available over the Easter Period to help during our services, please fill in the sheet in the narthex so that we can create a roster



Fourth Sunday of Lent 16 & 17 March



Partnership in action

The work of Caritas Australia is only possible with 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.

Caritas Australia partners with the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ) to support communities living in urban slums in the Philippines. FCJ runs a number of programs that include house renovating, food processing, basic literacy skills, urban gardening, upcycling and income generating activities. They also have a clinic visited weekly by a doctor and community nurse.

Caritas Australia partners with Caritas Samoa to assist communities to have increased access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene to ensure human health and well-being by providing water tanks and sanitation facilities.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

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. Photo: Tim Lam/Caritas Australia

Acknowledgement to Country

We turn our hearts and minds to the people of the Yorta Yorta nation, who have occupied this country for thousands of year. We pay respect to their elders past, present and emerging, and commit to walking alongside First Nation Australians in truth, justice, and reconciliation.

Sacred Heart Parish, Tatura.
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