

IN THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL WE PRAY FOR:

Our Sick: Those of our community.

Recently Deceased: John Sciberras and for those who have died in natural disaster and wars.

Repose of the Souls: Those whose anniversary occur about this time and those whose names are on the memorial wall.

Church Cleaning	Saturday 12th April — Working Bee all Community.
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Safeguarding of children and vulnerable young people.

St Dominic's Community holds the care, safety and wellbeing of children as a fundamental responsibility of the church. This commitment is drawn from, and inherent to, the teaching and mission of Jesus Christ, with love, justice and dignity of each human person at the heart of the Gospel. A cultural of safety within the Church ensures that children can actively and fully participate in the life of the Church and realise their potential in a faith community. **We are committed to upholding the safety and dignity of each child and young person and ensuring that they are able to grow and develop in a caring and supportive environment in our Church.**

Thanksgiving Envelopes: Dear Parishioners please collect your envelopes from the church as we can not post them any more. If you can distribute them in your neighbourhood, it will be much appreciated. Thank you.

Working Bee—Next Saturday 12th April after 9.00am Mass

Please come along to help cleaning the Church, Church grounds and decorating the church in preparation for the celebration of Palm Sunday and the Holy Week.



This Sunday—Baptism Information Preparation
At 3.00pm in the Church for Parents, Carers & Godparents.

Holy Week Roster. If you are available to Read or to be Minister of the Holy Communion, please write your name in the form provided at the entrance of the church.



Save with CDF Community Fund – it's in everyone's best interest.

By opening a savings account or Term Investment, not only will you receive a competitive financial return, but your savings will also help build parishes, classrooms, hospital wings, aged care homes and social service facilities. With competitive interest rates available across a range of savings accounts, including **5.10% p.a.* on a 6-month Term Investment**, it's a way to save while doing good. To find out more, visit www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund/offer, scan the QR code, or speak to us on 1800 134 135.



THANKSGIVING OFFERING ONLINE TO: ST DOMINIC'S CHURCH

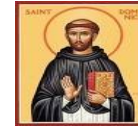
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PLEASE TYPE YOUR THANKSGIVING
ENVELOPE NUMBER WHEN YOU DO
THE TRANSACTION.

ST DOMINIC'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



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PARISH PRIEST: Fr Peter Njau, CSSp; Email: njaup2560@gmail.com

PARISH SECRETARY: Ana Miriam Guardado

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays from 8.00am-2.00pm

ST DOMINIC'S SCHOOL—ACTING PRINCIPAL: Katie Broadbent, Phone: 03 9309 4146



PARISH MASS TIMES

Sundays: 6.00pm Vigil Mass (Saturday evening)
9.00am 1st & 3rd Sundays: Vietnamese Mass
9.00am 2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays: English Mass
11.00am: English Mass
1.00pm: Spanish Mass

Weekdays: Tuesday to Saturday 9.00am Mass

Morning Prayer of the Church: Tuesday to Saturday at 8.25am

Rosary: Tuesday to Sunday before Mass.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Every Wednesday from 6.00pm to 8.00pm

Benediction: Every Friday following the 9.00am Mass.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Tuesday to Saturday before or after Mass.

Baptism Information/Preparation: Every First Sunday of the month at 3.00pm.

Anointing of the Sick: Every Third Friday of the Month at 9.00am Mass.



Fifth Sunday of Lent - Year C

6th April 2025

First Reading: Isaiah 43: 16-21

I am doing a new thing, and I will give drink to my people.

Responsorial Psalm: (Ps 125)

R/ The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Second Reading:

Philippians 3: 8-14

Because of Christ I look upon everything else as useless in order to gain him.

Gospel Acclamation: Joel 2:12-13

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

With all your heart turn to me,

for I am tender and compassionate.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel: John 8: 1-11

Let the man without sin be the first to throw a stone.

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS: Isaiah 50: 4 - 7; Philippians 2: 6-11; Luke 22: 14-23:56

REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

This entire scene is a conspiratorial 'set-up' to trap Jesus. Jewish law dictated that adultery was to be punished by death for both parties. However, the Roman occupation had forbidden the Jewish authorities to carry out the death penalty. By bringing the woman to Jesus they sought to place him in a no-win situation. If he upheld the Jewish law and ordered the death penalty, then he was flaunting Roman law. If he did not uphold the law then he could be branded as a false teacher. They thought it was a perfect trap! But where is the man with whom the woman was committing adultery? When he is not also brought forward for judgment as any legitimate accusation would demand, Jesus senses the trap being set for him. He realises that those accusing the woman must have somehow been involved in setting her up so that she could be 'caught committing adultery'. In Jewish law, accessories to a crime were equally guilty and subject to the same penalty. When Jesus says to the gathering, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned ...,' he's letting them know that he's aware of their part in this crime and what judgment is due them also! If they persist with their accusation, they'll also be tried as accessories! So they quietly walk away. Jesus' words to the woman sum up his message throughout the gospel: 'Neither do I condemn you, go away, and don't sin any more.' As with others in the gospels, Jesus recognises that the woman has indeed sinned, but he does not condemn her for it. By telling her not to sin any more he is calling her to conversion. He is saying, yes, you've made mistakes, but you can do better and I'm challenging you to try.

Gospel Focus – Restoring honour

When the accused woman is brought before Jesus for judgment he neither looks at the woman nor at the accusers. He bends down and writes in the dirt. When the accusers melt away, Jesus (still kneeling on the ground) looks up at the woman to speak to her. She has probably never been treated with this level of respect in all her life. With this action, as much as anything else, Jesus restores dignity and honour to the woman. No longer looked down upon, she can begin a new life.

Living the Gospel – Forgiven, not forgotten

The words Jesus speaks to the accused woman could as easily be addressed to each of us. We all feel at times that we've done the wrong thing – something we don't deserve to be forgiven for. However, Jesus says to us, I know you've done the wrong thing, and you are already forgiven, but you need to make a commitment to change and not repeat the error. It is Jesus' promise not to give up on us – not to forget about us – that we can draw strength from as we try to respond to his challenge to change.

Permanent Diaconate Information Session 3 May 2025

Following the success of the permanent diaconate information sessions in 2024, we will be holding another session for those interested. The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and 60 years, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. It is an ordained ministry of service. The information session is open to **everyone interested in learning more about the permanent diaconate**. If you have attended any previous session, you are also welcome to attend this session. Wives most welcome. The session will be on Saturday morning, 3rd May and will be in person. If you are interested email Deacon Kevin Pattison. Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au with full name and parish, but if you forget, then just turn up on Saturday morning. All are welcome.



Lenten Reconciliation Service

Thursday 10th April at 7pm in English and Spanish

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a most natural way to celebrate God's forgiveness and love.



Fifth Sunday of Lent

The life-changing work of Caritas Australia is only made possible by the unwavering generosity of our supporters and the dedication of our local partners on the ground. Our partners are the true heroes, working tirelessly on the frontlines every day to transform lives and build brighter, more hopeful futures for their communities. **Please donate today.**



Passion and Easter Liturgy 2025

13th April: **Passion/Palm Sunday**—Blessing of Palms at all Masses

Processions:

6.00pm Saturday Vigil Mass

9.00am & 11.00am English

1.00pm Spanish



17th April: **Holy Thursday** (Combine Celebration)

Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.00pm

Holy Hour Adoration:

8.30pm to 9.30pm: All Communities

9.30pm to 10.30pm: Spanish Community

10.30pm to 11.30pm: Legion of Mary

11.30pm to 12.00 Midnight: Silent Reflection

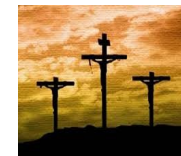


18th April: **Friday of the Passion of the Lord**

10.00am Stations of the Cross

3.00pm The Lord's Passion—English

5.00pm The Lord's Passion—Spanish



19th April: **Easter Vigil (Holy Saturday Evening)**

7.00pm— Mass in English

10.00pm— Mass in Spanish



20th April: **Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord**

Masses: 9.00am and 11.00am English Mass

1.00pm. Spanish Mass

Station of the Cross every Friday at 7.00pm

Jesus' seven words from the cross:

.... **"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"** (Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34; Psalm 22:1)

The word of abandonment—This is the only one of the seven words recorded by Matthew and Mark, and the only one recorded in Jesus' native Aramaic language. They both translate it as "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Jesus, already abandoned by his closest friends, had been on the cross for hours when he uttered this heartbreaking cry. It's also a direct quote from Psalm 22, in which David prophesied about the sufferings of the coming Messiah. On the cross, Jesus bore the awful punishment for all the sins ever committed by his people, and for the only time in all of eternity, he experienced his Father's righteous wrath and abandonment. Even though he knew he would soon rise and regain his loving relationship with his Father, the horror and anguish of the moment overwhelmed him. Small wonder that just a short while earlier, he had prayed in agony, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will." It was both a human and a divine outcry, an astounding mystery that drives us to repentance and worship of our Saviour.

"I thirst." (John 19:28; Psalm 69:21) - **The word of distress**

During crucifixions, it was customary to offer the condemned wine mixed with myrrh as a means to dull their suffering to a small degree. On his way to the cross, Jesus refused this offer, committed as he was to drink down the full cup of God's wrath against sin on behalf of his people. But once he knew his work of atonement was finished, he called out, "I thirst." After so much horrific trauma, Jesus would have been severely dehydrated and in acute physical distress. In response, someone filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on stick and held it up to his mouth. And this time, Jesus drank it. Unlike the earlier beverage, this one had no pain-dulling properties and was offered to Jesus out of mockery. Nevertheless, Jesus called for it in order to fulfill another messianic prophecy from Psalm 69. In his real human distress and near death, Jesus was still aware of his prophetic role as the Messiah...