

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY / A

29 MARCH 2026

THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS. We see ourselves in the crowds who cried ‘Hosanna to the Son of David’ one day and ‘Crucify him’ just a few days later. Like Peter and the other disciples we can be fickle followers of Jesus. We should not, however, imitate Judas and despair at our infidelity. Rather, we should look to Jesus who allowed his blood to be poured out for many ‘for the forgiveness of sins’. Let us praise him with grateful hearts.

COMMEMORATION OF THE LORD'S ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM

THE PROCESSION

The faithful, carrying palm branches, assemble either in front of the church or inside the church.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

cf. Jn 12:1; Ps 23:9-10
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!

The Gloria is omitted.

COLLECT

P. Almighty ever-living God, who as an example of humility for the human race to follow caused our Saviour to take flesh and submit to the Cross, graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering and so merit a share in his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Isa 50:4-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed.

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied, he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

The word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

P. Pray, brethren . . .

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. Through the Passion of your Only Begotten Son, O Lord, may our reconciliation with you be near at hand, so that, though we do not merit it by our own deeds, yet by this sacrifice made once for all, we may feel already the effects of your mercy. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

PREFACE OF THE LORD'S PASSION

After the Preface, we sing or say:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

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

COMMUNION RITE

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God . . .

R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Mt 26:42

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Nourished with these sacred gifts, we humbly beseech you, O Lord, that, just as through the death of your Son you have brought us to hope for what we believe, so by his Resurrection you may lead us to where you call. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Go forth, the Mass is ended.

R. Thanks be to God.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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N. For Pilate knew it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. Now as he was seated in the chair of judgement, his wife sent him a message,

O. Have nothing to do with that man; I have been upset all day by a dream I had about him.

N. The chief priests and the elders, however, had persuaded the crowd to demand the release of Barabbas and the execution of Jesus. So when the governor spoke and asked them:

O. Which of the two do you want me to release for you?

N. They said:

C. Barabbas.

N. Pilate said to them:

O. What am I to do with Jesus who is called Christ?

N. They all said:

C. Let him be crucified!

N. Pilate asked:

O. Why? What harm has he done?

N. But they shouted all the louder,

C. Let him be crucified!

N. Then Pilate saw that he was making no impression, that in fact a riot was imminent. So he took some water, washed his hands in front of the crowd and said:

O. I am innocent of this man's blood. It is your concern.

N. And the people, to a man, shouted back:

C. His blood be on us and on our children!

N. Then he released Barabbas for them. He ordered Jesus to be first scourged and then handed over to be crucified.

The governor's soldiers took Jesus with them into the Praetorium and collected the whole cohort round him. Then they stripped him and made him wear a scarlet cloak, and having twisted some thorns into a crown they put this on his head and placed a reed in his right hand. To make fun of him they knelt to him saying:

C. Hail, king of the Jews!

N. And they spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head with it. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the cloak and dressed him in his own clothes and led him away to crucify him.

On their way out, they came across a man from Cyrene, Simon by name, and enlisted him to carry his cross. When they had reached a place called Golgotha, that is, the place of the skull, they gave him wine to drink. When they had finished crucifying him they shared out his clothing by casting lots, and then sat down and stayed there keeping guard over him. Above his head was placed

the charge against him; it read: 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews'. At the same time two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left.

The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said:

C. So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself! If you are God's son, come down from the cross!

N. The chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him in the same way, saying:

C. He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He put his trust in God; now let God rescue him if he wants him. For he did say, 'I am the son of God'.

N. Even the robbers who were crucified with him taunted him in the same way.

From the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour, Jesus cried out in a loud voice:

J. Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?

N. That is: 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood there heard this, they said:

C. The man is calling on Elijah,

N. and one of them quickly ran to get a sponge which he dipped in vinegar and, putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink. The rest of them said:

C. Wait! See if Elijah will come to save him.

N. But Jesus, again crying out in a loud voice, yielded up his spirit.

All kneel and pause a moment.

N. At that, the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom; the earth quaked; the rocks were split; the tombs opened and the bodies of many holy men rose from the dead, and these, after his resurrection, came out of the tombs, entered the Holy City and appeared to a number of people.

Meanwhile the centurion, together with the others guarding Jesus, had seen the earthquake and all that was taking place, and they were terrified and said:

C. In truth this was a son of God.

Longer form, Mt 26:14-27:66

HOMILY

Nicene Creed

PROFESSION OF FAITH

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL



GOSPEL

Mt 27:11-54

N. The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

(**N.** Narrator **J.** Jesus **O.** Other single speaker **C.** Crowd, or more than one other speaker)

N. Jesus, then, was brought before the governor, and the governor put to him this question:

O. Are you the king of the Jews?

N. Jesus replied:

J. It is you who say it.

N. But when he was accused by the chief priests and the elders he refused to answer at all. Pilate then said to him:

O. Do you not hear how many charges they have brought against you?

N. But to the governor's complete amazement, he offered no reply to any of the charges.

At festival time it was the governor's practice to release a prisoner for the people, anyone they chose. Now there was at that time a notorious prisoner whose name was Barabbas. So when the crowd gathered, Pilate said to them,

O. Which do you want me to release for you: Barabbas or Jesus who is called Christ?

ST MARY'S PARISH, DANDENONG

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Sebastian Arockia **ASSISTANT PRIEST:** Fr. Vincent Nguyen
Parish Website: <https://melbcatholic.org/s/dandenong> **Facebook:** St Mary's Parish Dandenong
Parish Phone: 9791-4611 **Email:** dandenong@cam.org.au **Address:** 160 Foster Street, Dandenong
PARISH SECRETARY: Franca Van Boxtel **FINANCE OFFICER:** Deslene de Niese
Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 9:00am-3:00pm (**Mondays office closed**)
PARISH COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGER: Mr. Miguel Matamala
St. Mary's Community Centre Tel: 7064 3928 or 0402 155 192



St. Mary's Primary School Phone: 9791 7650, New St, Dandenong. **Principal:** Terry Gardiner
St. John's Regional College Phone: 8793 2000 Caroline St, Dandenong. **Principal:** Timothy Hogan

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday Morning: 9.15am
Saturday Evening: 6.00pm
Sunday: 8.30am, 10.30am and 5.30pm

WEEK DAY MASS TIMES

Monday to Friday: 9.15am
Friday (9.45am –12.30pm Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, concluding with Benediction at 12.30pm)

ANNOINTING MASS

Last Friday of every month 9.15 am

DAILY ROSARY

After morning Mass Mon-Sat (Fridays will be before Mass)

RECONCILIATION

Saturday after 9.15am Mass and 5pm to 5.45pm before 6pm Mass or upon request

BAPTISM, MARRIAGE OR HOUSE BLESSING

Please contact the Parish Centre on 9791 4611

COMMUNION AND ANOINTING OF SICK

Please inform the Parish Office on 9791-4611 if a sick person is seriously ill, homebound or hospitalised and wants to receive Holy Communion or the Sacrament of Anointing.

REGULAR GROUP MEETING ST MARY'S PARISH

LEGION OF MARY:

Saturday mornings after 9:15am mass in the Fellowship Room followed by Rosary

SPANISH PRAYER GROUP :

Wednesday evenings at 7pm in the church

ST MARY'S FRIENDSHIP CLUB:

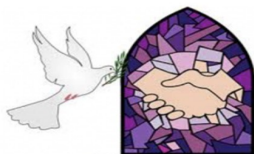
3rd Wednesday of month lunch meet at Dandenong RSL.12pm

BINGO AT ST MARY'S

St. Mary's Bingo is on Tuesdays at 12noon & Saturdays at 6.30pm in St Mary's Community Centre, New St, Dandenong



HOLY WEEK TIMETABLE 2026



Monday, 30th March 2026

9:15am Mass
Tuesday, 31st March 2026 8:00am Mass
Mass of the Holy Oils (Chrism Mass) at St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne 10:00am
All Welcome to attend
Wednesday, 1st April 2026
9:15am, 6pm Adoration and Reconciliation



Maundy (Holy) Thursday

2nd April 2026 (No Morning Mass)
7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
(Altar of Ripose in Church)



Good Friday

3rd April 2026
Divine Mercy Novena 8:30am (**No Morning Mass**)
Stations of the Cross (Dandenong Park) 11:00am
Passion of the Lord 3:00pm



Holy Saturday

4th April 2026
Divine Mercy Novena 8:30am (**No Morning Mass**)
Easter Vigil 7:30pm Mass



Easter Sunday

5th April 2026
Easter Sunday 8:30am, 10:30am and 5:30pm Mass
Followed by Divine Mercy Novena 6:30pm

Our donations to Project Compassion this Lent will make a positive difference to people in need, especially those coping with humanitarian emergencies in many countries around the world. You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, or a single envelope (which covers six weeks of giving), Please remember to return your Project Compassion Boxes or Envelopes by Easter Sunday. If you have not taken a box home and wish to do so please take one from the table in the foyer.

Good Friday Holy Land Collection

The annual collection for the support of the Church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday 3rd April. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment and housing. Parishes, schools, orphanages and medical centres throughout the Holy Land also rely on assistance from this collection. It is also used to maintain over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land on Good Friday, and keep them in your prayers.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: Prince Machado

Sick: Kulandhai Therese, Rosa Maria Santos, Long Phan, Ush Henry Bangkal, Leti Luki, Kathleen Nelson, Jim Lynch, Bernardo, Ray Gilligan, Frank Pezzaro, Janet Augustine, Bridget Phyland, Solofuti, Samantha Vasanthy, Kevin, Maria Perez, Angela Anthony, Ray Simmons, Frank Camara, Rita Breen, Tasileta Lolesio, Jim, Lucia Germano, Imelda Quatrebornes, Sandra Wills, Maddie, Herve, Asis Zullah, Nacera Burekovic, Charlie Mastrogiovanni, Carla Lunardi, Russell D'Costa, Satty Lee, Ping Lo, Robyn, Fr Brendan Lane, Anne Richards, Gervais Tourmentin, Ashleigh Wills, Anthony Morri, Lyma Payne, Eva Salvacion Satuito, Fr Michael Willemsen, Vreni Bien, Robyn Campbell, Rosario Giaquinta, Joanna Van Der Ven, Ricky (*The privacy legislation requires us to have written permission by an authorised person before any name can be printed*) in the Marian.

(IF THERE ARE ANY NAMES THAT NEED TO COME OFF THE SICK LIST PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE)



Friday 3rd April 2026—Good Friday

8:30am Novena

Saturday 4th April —Holy Saturday (Easter Vigil)

8:30am Novena

Sunday 5th April—Easter Sunday

5:30 Mass followed by Novena at 6:30pm

Monday 6th April –Saturday 11th April

8:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Followed by Rosary, Divine Mercy Novena & Chaplet

9:10am Benediction

9:15am Mass

Sunday 12th April—Divine Mercy Sunday

1:30pm Exposition & Confessions

3:00pm Divine Mercy Novena & Mass

We are pleased to announce that our parish has been blessed to receive a relic of Saint Faustina Kowalska from Poland. This sacred relic will be available for veneration on

Divine Mercy Sunday.

The faithful are warmly invited to take part in this special occasion, to honour the life and mission of Saint Faustina, and to deepen their devotion to the Divine Mercy.



The Holy Week rosters are now up on the notice-board. When you have a moment, please check to see if you're scheduled as a **Reader** or **Eucharistic Minister**.

Readers: Copies of the Holy Week readings are pinned on the board—please feel free to take one home to help you prepare.

Thanks so much for your help and support!

Parish Synod Corner - Synodality is not new

Synodality is not a modern invention. From the earliest days of the Church, Christians gathered to pray, listen, and discern together. In the Acts of the Apostles, the Church faced difficult questions and resolved them not through power struggles, but through prayer, dialogue, and trust in the Holy Spirit.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Thanksgiving: \$1605.40

Presbytery \$593.60

Loose: \$1442.00

Support our Parish If you would like to make direct payments to our bank accounts, the details are:

St Mary's General Account: (Thanksgiving & Donations) NAB BSB: 083 347 ACC. No. 483196852

For contributions to support our priests and the Archdiocese:

Presbytery Account: NAB BSB: 083 347 ACC. No. 460761193

St. Mary's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adult