

You are the Christ . . . The Son of Man was destined to suffer much.

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R. Blessed be God for ever.

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

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. Look with favour on our supplications, O Lord, and in your kindness accept these, your servants' offerings, that what each has offered to the honour of your name may serve the salvation of all. Through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

PREFACE I-VIII OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

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

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven . . .

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray . . .

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said . . .

R. Amen.

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace.

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

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

cf. Ps 35:8

How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. May the working of this heavenly gift, O Lord, we pray, take possession of our minds and bodies, so that its effects, and not

our own desires, may always prevail in us. 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.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

'WHO DO YOU SAY I AM?'

This quintessential question arises today in two ways: 'who do *people* say I am?' and, 'who do *you* say I am?' The setting for this event that forms the turning point in Mark's Gospel is 'on the way' to Caesarea Philippi. Being on the way is being on the journey with Jesus. It is not clear whether they enter the villages. This conversation is often envisioned as occurring beside the rock wall of the waterfall with its niche and caves and the spring that emerges at the base of Mount Hermon. This cultic setting of the Temple of Pan, other deities and a marble temple to Augustus might distract from Mark's purpose. Meandering along the stream under a Roman bridge, past a water mill, a synagogue and a palace might be enough context to consider the questions on Jesus' lips.

To the first question 'they' – the disciples – answer variously, 'John the Baptist ... Elijah ... one of the prophets.' Peter answers the second question definitively 'You are the Messiah.' This is a crystallisation of the identity of Jesus that we have known from the first line of this Gospel. Yet, it is still not to be told and has been misunderstood so far. What is important for the disciples, and for us, is the first of the passion predictions that follow, and the reality of Jesus' mission. After the rebuke by Peter, Jesus declares to the crowd as well as the disciples 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.' In light of this, how will you answer, 'who do you say I am?'

DR ROSEMARY CANAVAN

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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ST MARY'S PARISH, DANDENONG—160 FOSTER STREET, DANDENONG

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TEL: 9791-4611/OFFICE HOURS 9AM-3PM MONDAY-FRIDAY/EMAIL: dandenong@cam.org.au

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

15 SEPTEMBER 2024

WHO DO PEOPLE SAY I AM? In modern parlance, we could say that Jesus was seeking some feedback from his disciples about himself, especially how he was perceived, when he asked this question. If we were to ask Jesus, 'how would you describe today's Christians?', what feedback do you think he might give? How do you think a non-believer might describe the Christian community?

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

cf. Sir 36:18

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

P. Lord Jesus, you are the image of the unseen God: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You are the first born of all creation: Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are the head of the body, the Church: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.

COLLECT

P. Look upon us, O God, Creator and ruler of all things, and, that we may feel the working of your mercy, grant that we may serve you with all our heart. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, 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 50:5-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah. I gave my body to those who struck me.

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.

My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone start proceedings against me? Then let us go to court together.

Who thinks he has a case against me? Let him approach me.

The Lord is coming to my help, who dare condemn me?

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM

Ps 114:1-6, 8-9. R. v. 9

R. I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living. (or Alleluia!)

1. I love the Lord for he has heard / the cry of my appeal; / for he turned his ear to me / in the day when I called him. **R.**

2. They surrounded me, the snares of death, / with the anguish of the tomb; / they caught me, sorrow and distress. / I called on the Lord's name. / O Lord my God, deliver me! **R.**

3. How gracious is the Lord, and just; / our God has compassion. / The Lord protects the simple hearts; / I was helpless so he saved me. **R.**



4. He has kept my soul from death, / my eyes from tears / and my feet from stumbling. / I will walk in the presence of the Lord / in the land of the living. **R.**

SECOND READING

James 2:14-18

A reading from the letter of St James.

Faith without good works is dead.

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Gal 6:14

Alleluia, alleluia! My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mk 8:27-35

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Sebastian Arockia
SEMINARIAN: Bro Nicolas Calandra
PARISH SECRETARY: Franca Van Bostel
FINANCE OFFICER: Deslene de Niese
PARISH CENTRE MANAGER:
Mr. Miguel Matamala

If you urgently need a priest please call 9791 4611, if Father does not answer, please leave a message and he will call you back.

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)

ANOINTING MASS

Last Friday of every month 9.15 am

DAILY ROSARY

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

RECONCILIATION

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

BAPTISM

Please contact the Parish Centre on 9791 4611

MARRIAGE

Please book the Church at the same time as you book your venue. As marriage preparation is an essential condition of marriage, you must book your **preparation course** at least **4 months** prior to the wedding. Further details can be obtained from Fr. Sebastian

HOUSE BLESSING

If any Parishioner would like their house to be blessed, please contact Franca or at the Parish office on 9791-4611 to make a booking with either Fr Sebastian

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.

Any parishioners who take Communion to the sick, could you please put your name and the person you are taking Communion to, into the **Communion to the Sick** book. This book is kept in the sacristy.

St. Mary's Primary School Phone: 9791 7650
New St, Dandenong.
Principal: Terry Gardiner
St. John's Regional College Phone 9791 3366
Caroline St, Dandenong.
Principal: Timothy Hogan
St. Mary's Community Centre **9792 4884**
Bookings: Miguel Matamala 0402 155 192

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*

NATIVITY OF OUR LADY NOVENA – THANK YOU!

The practice of making a Novena – nine days of prayer – has its precedent in the New Testament. Jesus Christ, when he ascended into Heaven, promised the apostles the sending of the Holy Spirit. The first disciples prepared for the coming of the Holy Spirit with nine days of prayer. This marked the first 'novena' or nine days of prayer in anticipation of Pentecost.

For this reason, Catholics often have the pious custom of spending nine days in preparation for a special feast, or to ask a grace from God through the intercession of some saint. We recently had the joy of living a Novena anticipating the Nativity of Our Lady.

Thank you to all those who made the sacrifice to attend the daily Rosary and Masses each evening of the Novena. May it be a source of grace to each one of you and to your whole family. We are grateful to all the priests who came to celebrate the Masses, and also to our sacristan Pina who made a special effort to prepare for the sacred ceremonies. Thank you to all who led the rosary, and contributed to the decoration of the Church.

May the Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Good Health, give us all a deeper love of her Son, Jesus Christ, and health of mind and body in accordance with God's will.

A special thank you to Pina, Maria, and Alicia who have spent a few days in the organisation of the sacristy after the recent additions of cupboards. Sacristy means "sacred place" and is important because it contains the items dedicated to the divine worship. Whatever your work is, put your heart into it as done for the Lord and not for human beings." (Colossians 3:23)

Bro. Nicolas Calandra (Seminarian)

ST MARY'S PARISH, DANDENONG

Introducing our new Musical Club—**St Mary's Jazz Junction**

To entertain people of all age groups on the

2nd and 4th Thursday of every month.

COMMENCING THURSDAY, 10TH OCTOBER 2024

Time: 12noon to 2:30pm **Venue:** St Mary's Marian Room

22 New Street, Dandenong

No tickets, ONLY DONATIONS accepted

St Mary's General Account
NAB BSB: 083 347 ACC. No. 483196852
(Reference: Jazz Junction)

Lunch will be provided

If you wish to attend please put your name and details on the sign up sheet in sheet in Church foyer.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT:-

PARISH OFFICE - 9791-4611 OR

BRIAN DAVID (PRESIDENT)

ON —0430 076 691

Band: DANDY LEVITES DANCE BAND



DO YOU HAVE A PASSION FOR SINGING?

Our Sunday 8:30am choir is looking for more members to join their choir. If you are interested please contact the Parish Office on 9791-4611

THE OPEN DOOR

TALKS ON SPIRITUALITY—We welcome Jan Coleman who will discuss 'boundaries' and share how to create boundaries that support and empower us. We will also learn ways to manage difficult conversations with suggested strategies we can implement.

When: Wednesday 18 September 5.30pm – 6.30pm

Where: The Open Door, 110 Ann St, Dandenong

Enquiries: Ph 9791 8664 or E: Theopendoor@ssjg.org.au

Suggested Donation: \$5

SOCIAL CRAFT GROUP—Come & get creative with us! Bring along any crafty projects you're working on & share your skills or learn some new ones, while relaxing with like-minded people.

When: Thursday 19 September 1.30 - 2.30pm

Where: The Open Door, 110 Ann St, Dandenong

Enquiries: Ph 9791 8664 or E: Theopendoor@ssjg.org.au

Suggested Donation: Gold Coin

HEART OF LIFE

Waiting at the Well (4 weeks) This in person series, starting on Thursday, 17 October between 1-3 pm, offers an opportunity for those waiting to have their thirst quenched at the Well of Life to explore the depths of wisdom in their own heart, to recognise wisdom in the encounter with another, and to dwell in the Heart of Contemplation. Cost \$120. Register and pay at <https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/waiting-at-the-well/>

Walking the Land in Spring Saturday, 19 October 2024,

10 am – 3 pm (in person)

This day involves a walk along the Williamstown beach foreshore, inviting you to contemplate the deep wisdom and spirit of this natural bayside environment. Engage in the stories and the creative edge of two adjoining ecosystems. Journaling and art material. Cost \$60. BYO Lunch. Register and pay at <https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/walking-the-land-in-spring/>

Parish Pilgrimage—Streams of Mercy
Fr Sebastian and Pilgrims have arrived safely in Prague



ROSTER WEEKEND 21ST-22ND SEPT READERS

6:00pm: Marina & Pamela

8:30am: Dalrene & Rebecca

10:30am: Raul & Elizabeth

5:30pm: Eve & Michelle Tordillo

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

6:00pm: Margaret & Maxine

8:30am: Carmel, Rebecca & Tim

10:30am: Stefania, Suzie & Ofelia

5:30pm: Neville, Sharmini & Graham

IMPORTANT NOTICE

**PARISH OFFICE
WILL BE CLOSED
THIS MONDAY**

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

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Recently Deceased: Frank Holohan, Dino Mancuso, Anna Ivancic, Fransico Xavier Nhew

Anniversaries: Rio Manion, Nelson Manion, Alex & Lucila Abarquez

Sick: Rosa Maria Santos, Long Phan, Ush Henry Bangkal, Leti Luki, Kathleen Nelson, Anthony Andrew, Jim Lynch, Bernardo, Ray Gilligan, Frank Pezzaro, Janet Augustine, Bridget Phyland, Desmond Hopper, Chris Grubb, Solofuti, Samantha Vasanthi, Kevin, Jim, Maria Perez, Alan John Borninkhof, Angela Anthony, Ray Simmons, Frank Camara, Rita Breen, Katrina, Tasileta Lolesio, Andrew Jackson, Imelda Quatre-bornes, Charlie Mastrogiovanni, Frank Holohan, Sandra Wills, Reuben Jacobs, Maddie, Herve, Asis Zullah

(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)

**REGULAR GROUP MEETING
ST MARY'S PARISH**

LEGION OF MARY:

Saturday afternoons 4.30pm-5.30pm in the Fellowship Room followed by Rosary before 6pm Mass

SPANISH PRAYER GROUP :

Wednesday evenings at 7pm in the church

AL-ANON : Tuesday evenings at 8pm in the Fellowship Room. For more information call 1300 252 666

VINCENTIAN RETREAT CENTRE:

Fridays Mass with healing prayer 7pm

ST EPHREM CHALDEAN CHURCH:

Sundays Mass (Arabic) 12.30pm

ST MARY'S FRIENDSHIP CLUB:

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

MENS GROUP

1st Thursday of month (Marian Room) 6pm

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

1st Sunday of month (Parish Centre) 6:30pm

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Thanksgiving: \$2489.50

Presbytery \$380.00 **Loose:** \$3453.00

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