



The Parish of St Matthew's North Fawkner

Archdiocese of Melbourne, 95 William Street,
North Fawkner, 3060 Tel. 9359 2369 e-mail: stmatthews-



PALM SUNDAY YR A.—April 5, 2020

Parish Administrator: Fr. Florentino Galdo Tel: 9359 2369
Krys Herrmann Parish Secretary Tel: 9359 2369

Life messages:

- **Does Jesus weep over me?** There is a Jewish saying, "Heaven rejoices over a repentant sinner and sheds tears over a non-repentant, hardhearted one." Are we ready to imitate the prodigal son and return to God, our loving Father, through the Sacrament of Reconciliation during this last week of Lent and participate fully in the joy of Christ's Resurrection?
- **Am I a barren fig tree?** God expects me to produce fruits of holiness, purity, justice, humility, obedience, charity, and forgiveness. Do I?? Or, worse, do I continue to produce bitter fruits of impurity, injustice, pride, hatred, jealousy and selfishness?
- **Will Jesus need to cleanse my heart with His whip?** Jesus cannot tolerate the desecration of the temple of the Holy Spirit in me by my addiction to uncharitable, neither does the Christ praise my calculation of loss and gain in my relationship with God.
- **Do I welcome Jesus into my heart?** Am I ready to surrender my life to Him during this Holy Week and welcome Him into all areas of my life as my Lord and Savior, singing "Hosanna"? Today, we receive palm branches at the Divine Liturgy. Let us take them to our homes and put them in a place where we can always see them. Let the palms remind us that Christ is the King of our families, that Christ is the King of our hearts, and that Christ is the only true answer to our quest for happiness and meaning in our lives. And if we do proclaim Christ as our King, let us try to make time for Him in our daily life; let us be reminded that He is the One with Whom we will be spending eternity. Let us be reminded further that our careers, our education, our finances, our homes, all of the basic material needs in our lives are only temporary. Let us prioritize and place Christ the King as the primary concern in our lives. It is only when we have done this that we will find true peace and happiness in our confused and complex world.
- **5) Are we ready to become like the humble donkey that carried Jesus?** As we "carry Jesus" to the world, we can expect to receive the same welcome that Jesus received on Palm Sunday, but we must also expect to meet the same opposition, crosses and trials later. Like the donkey, we are called upon to carry Christ to a world that does not know Him. Let us always remember that a Christian without Christ is a contradiction in terms. Such a one betrays the Christian message. Hence, let us become transparent Christians during this Holy Week, enabling others to see in us Jesus' universal love, unconditional forgiveness, and sacrificial service.
- **Can we face these questions on Palm Sunday?** Are we willing to follow Jesus, not just to Church but in our daily life? Are we willing to entrust ourselves to Him even when the future is frightening or confusing, believing God has a plan? Are we willing to serve Him until that day when His plan on earth is fulfilled? These are the questions of Palm Sunday. Let us take a fresh look at this familiar event. It could change us forever because the Passion of Jesus shows us that we are sinners who have crucified Jesus, and we are able to turn to Jesus again and ask for his mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It is through the Passion of Jesus we receive forgiveness, "through his wounds we are healed." (Isa 53:5)

Humour: The king on a donkey! Some of you heard my story about the husband and the wife who had quarrelled. It had been a pitched battle of wills, each digging heels in to preserve the position each had vehemently taken. Emotions had run high. As they were driving to attend a family wedding in a distant city, both were nursing hurt feelings in defensive silence. The angry tension between them was so thick you could cut it with a knife. But, then the silence was broken. Pointing to a donkey standing in a pasture out beside the road, the husband sarcastically asked, "Relative of yours?" The wife quickly replied, "By marriage!"

Recently Deceased: Theresa Cammilleri, Saverio Muscia, Livio D'Ambrosio, Vincenzo David
Anniversaries: Aniceta Esmaque, Eufrosina, Galdo, Giulio Butera, Angelina Markis, Camillo Lamonaca, Nolasco Arabit Snr

Please pray for the Sick : Maura, Robert, Joe, Adam, Rosa, Diana, Gina, Nola, Tony, Emma, Teresa, Steve, Michael, Paul, Giuseppe, Emmanuel, Mary, Michelle, Lucia, Leanne, Raemond, Muriel, Peter, Raphaela, Natalina, Daniella, Christian, Leigh., John, Anthony, Jessie, Con, Teresa, Rita, Gabriella Gino, Jason & Giovanni

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE:
In the Footsteps of Jesus
IN THE LAND OF THE BIBLE with
optional Egypt Tour.
October 16-27 2020
Chaplain Rev Fr Florentino
(Boy) Galdo with Biblical
Catholic guide \$5640 per person
twin share.
\$1699 Egypt. Extra.
For further information contact
Philippine Tours:
9384 1844.
Geraldine: 0412663699
or email:
Pilgrims@discount
flights.com.au

**As you are aware all
Mass and church
celebrations have
been suspended
due to the Corona
Virus outbreak.**
**Therefore during this
time the Parish
Bulletin will not be
printed.**
**Please continue your
prayers privately and
have a spiritual
Communion.**

**Thank You and may
God Bless Us All**

**POPE FRANCIS ~
TWITTER**
In the context of the
pandemic that threatens
human life and the global
economy, today we
reiterate the
teaching of
Evangelium Vitae to
transmit the culture of
life to future
generations: an attitude
of solidarity, care, and
welcome..

**THANKSGIVING
OFFERING**
Thank you for your support

PRAYERS IN TIME OF A PANDEMIC.— The early Christians prayed in the church of the home. Once more in troubled times when public worship has to be restricted we are called to pray in "the cosmetic church", always aware of the promise of Jesus, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there I among them." Matt: 18:20
In this challenging time: Lord Jesus Christ our true physician and healer, be merciful to us and bring us your aid in these troubled times. Heal all our sickness and every affliction of your people. Drive out our infirmities of soul and body; free us from all disease and especially from this pestilence. We place in your gentle Heart the elderly, the frail, people with disability, children, young people and families, our indigenous Peoples, those who are poor, lonely and isolate. As you walk with us, free them from fear, and give them patience and hope together with our loving care. In your mercy deal also with the causes of our pitiful condition, that in curing our lack of faith and spiritual weakness, you may also remedy our bodily ills. We place our trust in you, the risen Lord, who lives and reigns for ever and ever Amen.

St Matthew's daily mass is live streamed on Facebook at : <https://www.facebook.com/groups/206102420820791/> or search for "Mass at St. Matthew's Fawkner North, Melbourne" on Facebook.

Links to the recording of the Masses are also available on the Parish website : <http://stmatthewsparish.org.au/Mass> times are as usual.

**Our Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all
children and vulnerable adults.**