



THE SAVING WORD

MATTHEW

PASSION SUNDAY (PALM SUNDAY) / A

2 APRIL 2023

- 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.
 - O. 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

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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.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24. R. v. 2

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

1. All who see me deride me. / They curl their lips, they toss their heads. / 'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him: / let him release him if this is his friend.' **R.**

2. Many dogs have surrounded me, / a band of the wicked beset me. / They tear holes in my hands and my feet, / I can count every one of my bones. **R.**

3. They divide my clothing among them. / They cast lots for my robe. / O Lord, do not leave me alone, / my strength, make haste to help me! **R.**

4. I will tell of your name to my brethren / and praise you where they are assembled. /

'You who fear the Lord give him praise; / all sons of Jacob, give him glory. / Revere him, Israel's sons.' **R.**

SECOND READING

Phil 2:6-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high.

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Phil 2:8-9

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! / Christ became obedient for us even to death, / dying on the cross. / Therefore God raised him on high / and gave him a name above all other names. / Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

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?

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 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:

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www.youtube.com/c/StKevinsParishEastwood



www.facebook.com/EastwoodCatholic

NB: New Parish PO Box address: PO Box 437 West Ryde NSW 1685. For your information

MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION AND DEVOTION

Weekday Mass: Monday - 7:30am (Communion Service, except on Feast Days);

Tuesday to Thursday - 7:30am (followed by Holy Rosary); Friday - 5pm

Weekend Mass: Saturday Vigil - 5:30pm (livestreamed); Sunday - 8am, 9:30am, 6pm

CCC Mass: Sunday at 11:30am (English/Cantonese)

Eucharistic Adoration: Friday 4pm-5pm

First Friday Devotion: Monthly at 4pm

First Saturday Mass and Devotion: Monthly at 9am

Exposition and Benediction: First weekend of the month at all Masses

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Friday 4pm-4:45pm and Saturday 4:30pm-5:15pm

SCAN OUR
PARISH
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Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)/Year A

2 April 2023

PRAYER REQUESTS:



Death Anniversary: Nicola & Sapienza Tedesco, Giovanni, Agata & Samuel Laguzza, Manuel Wong

Deceased: Mary Saba, Toufic & Yessmin Saba, Samany, Mehzen Moujalli, Tony & Rose Isaac, Joseph Vella, Selwyn Jackson, Marie Commins, Nunziato Laguzza, John Davidson, Lucy Ng, Cecilia Tan, Peter McNamara, Milly Farrell, Francis Murray; Casey, Landon, O'Connor, Pigott & Stewart families; Geoff & Patricia Clarke; Ron & Jan Brayan

Sick: Elizabeth Uy Tan, Lyn Crown, Burkardt Foertsch, Graham Rumble, Ben Isaacs, Sam Wong, Robert Lauw, Tenille Moujalli, June Phelan, Anne McIntyre, Adhy Guna S., Daisy Gouw, Nur Gouw

HOLY WEEK LITURGY AND MASS TIMES:

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------|---|
| Thu 6th Apr | 10:30am 6:00pm | Chrim Mass at St Mary's Cathedral Mass of the Lord's Supper |
| Fri 7th Apr | 10:00am 3:00pm | Good Friday - Stations of the Cross The Lord's Passion (Holy Land Appeal) *Start of Divine Mercy Novena, daily until April 16 |
| Sat 8th Apr | 10:00am 6:00pm | EASTER BASKET BLESSING (see poster) Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil |
| Sun 9th Apr | Usual Mass Times | Easter Sunday |
| Mon 10th Apr | 9:00am | Easter Monday Mass (No 7:30am Communion Service) |
| Sun 16th Apr | 2:30pm - 3:30pm | Holy Hour - Divine Mercy Sunday |



ON BEHALF OF THE MICHAELITE COMMUNITY HERE AT ST KEVIN'S, WE WISH EVERYONE A HAPPY AND HOLY EASTER, AND A JOY FILLED TIME WITH FAMILY AND LOVED ONES. ALLELUIA!
- FR PAWEL AND FR TOMASZ

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS AND MEMORIALS:

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA starts on 7th April after The Lord's Passion on Good Friday and will continue daily until Sun 16th Apr, **FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY**. To celebrate the feast of Divine Mercy, we will have a **HOLY HOUR** from 2.30-3.30pm. This will include adoration, praying of the Divine Mercy Chaplet and blessing of devotional articles.



PARISH NEWS:

- **NO MORNING MASS ON HOLY THURSDAY, APR 6.** Mass of the Lord's Supper is at 6pm.
- **Collect a copy of our Holy Week 2023 program as you leave the church. Thank you.**
- **Volunteer Needed: Family Mass Coordinator.** Must be available Sundays, 9:30am. Contact the parish office at 9874 2533 or E: parish@stkevinseastwood.org.au if interested to help.
- **We thank Fr Mirco Integlia for leading our parish retreat for Engaged and Married Couples.** Thank you to all the couples who attended and the FOSK ladies who provided the afternoon tea!
- **Project Compassion boxes/envelopes can be returned until Easter Sunday. Thank you.**
- **On Good Friday, we will have our Holy Land Appeal.** Your donation will help support the missionary work of the Church and help preserve the sacred places in the Holy Land.
- **Please collect an Easter Offering Envelope as you leave the Church in time for next week's Easter celebrations. Thank you.**
- **Easter Food Basket Blessing, Sat 8th Apr, 10am in the Church.** Parishioners are welcome to bring their own baskets containing samples of food that they would like to serve on Easter.
- **Men's Choir will be singing on Easter Sunday, 9:30am Mass.** New Members are warmly welcomed. Do you play an instrument? Please contact the choir on 0400 303 733.
- **Sacrament of Confirmation Information Evening for Parents/Guardians** will be held on Tuesday, 2nd May, 7pm at St Kevin's Church Eastwood. Candidates must be in Year 6 or above and have received the sacraments of First Reconciliation and Holy Communion. For more info visit: <https://www.stkevinseastwood.org.au/confirmation/>.

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE:

- **'HIS ONLY SON: His FAITH was tested. Our HOPE was born.'** - This beautiful and deeply moving story of sacrifice is now showing in selected cinemas. See poster for details or visit: <https://www.hisonlysonmovie.com.au>.
- The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, in partnership with Theology of the Body Institute, is offering an online and in-person opportunities to learn Theology of the Body. Following his successful events in Sydney & Melbourne, **Dr Christopher West will be delivering the 'Theology of the Body I: Head & Heart Immersion' online course from April 17 to 28.** To encourage registrations, we have limited partial subsidies on offer – applications must be submitted by Apr 7. See poster for details or visit: www.sydneycatholic.org/tobi.

PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL:



St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle; be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray and do you, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY:

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you or anyone you know have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, contact Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office (02) 9390 5810 or E: safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support & guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to police.