

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Ps 21:8-9. 17-20. 23-24

**RESPONSE:** My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

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.' **Response.**

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. **Response.**

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! **Response.**

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.' **Response.**

**SECOND READING:** Philippians 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.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

**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 26:14 – 27:66

**THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO MATTHEW.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:**

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

**Project Compassion.**

Your support of Catholic Mission makes such a big difference to communities around the world. All donations are 100% tax deductible.

**You can drop off your donations into the presbytery secure letterbox as it is cleared daily.**



**Catholic weekly digital edition.**

*The Catholic Weekly* has temporarily transitioned to a digital presence only due to the government's decision to close all Churches during the COVID-19 pandemic. While it has brought challenges, it has now been adapted well and are continuing to produce the paper look in a **digital form** making it available to everyone online at [www.catholicweekly.com.au](http://www.catholicweekly.com.au)

So go to the Catholic Weekly website and find the latest edition online by clicking the tile they can read through the paper flicking through page by page.

**Channel 7 will air Easter Services** with Archbishop Anthony Fisher on **Good Friday at 3pm and Easter Sunday 10.30am.**



## PARISH OF ST. THERESE, DENISTONE

Presbytery and Office

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### MASS TIMES:

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6:00 pm.

SUNDAY: 8:00 am and 9:30 am.

MONDAY: No Mass.

TUESDAY through to SATURDAY: 9.00 am Mass.

FRIDAY: 9.00 am Mass.

Exposition & Benediction every Friday after Mass.

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 5pm – 5.45pm or by appointment.

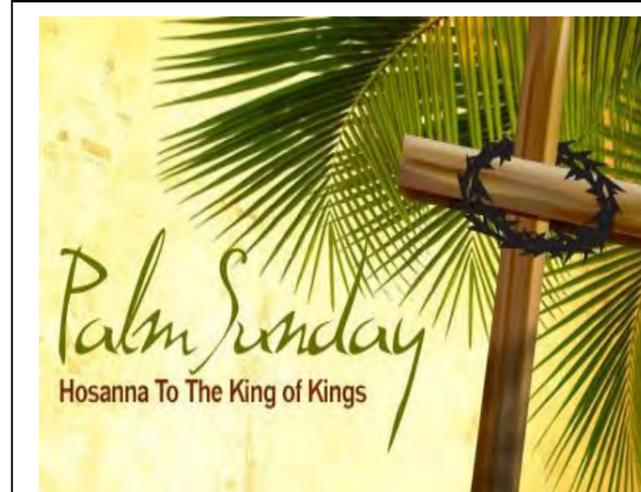
Baptism: Every Sunday at 11am or 11.30am. Please contact Parish Office.

Marriage: By appointment.

Anointing of the sick: Please give names to Father Roberto Castillo.

## PALM SUNDAY (Year A)

4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> April 2020



**FIRST READING:** Is 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.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(continued on back page)*

### **ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:**

**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!**

## A message from Fr Roberto.

My dear brothers and sisters, I hope you are all travelling well in the midst of this unexpected viral storm that has been battering the world in the last few months. It looks like we still have to keep sailing through heavy violent seas, before we reach peaceful shores once again. I have been praying for all of you during this time, my dear people, every day, asking our Lord, our Mother Mary and all the saints to keep us all safe in God's hands, especially to keep us always close to his sacred heart full of love and mercy for us all, and to bless us with a strong faith. Nothing can separate us from the love of God! As Saint Paul said it in the letter to the Romans: **"Can anything cut us off from the love of Christ -- can hardships or distress, or persecution, or lack of food and clothing, or threats or violence; 36. as scripture says: For your sake we are being massacred all day long, treated as sheep to be slaughtered? 37. No; we come through all these things triumphantly victorious, by the power of him who loved us."** May that faith, stay with you even if your circumstances seem very bad. Sadly the huge impact of this tragic event won't be fully experienced until this is over or controlled.

Unfortunately in the meantime, hundreds of thousands, if not millions of people will suffer the damaging effects of this pandemic of 2020, and I am sure some of you will be affected. You are all in my prayers and be assured of my support, even though I might not be able to be present and visit everybody, you are all close to me through the faith that unites us in the love of God and the love of our Saviour Jesus Christ who experienced in himself the human sufferings and through them He brought life to the world; and through his resurrection conquered all darkness, all sufferings, all sins and destroyed the power of the devil. His resurrection is now the hope to the world, this can be seen even more clearly now than before; He is indeed the light and salvation to those who come to him, to repent from their sins, and make every effort to come back to him with all their hearts. May the celebration of Easter, renew us all and help us to be more committed to our Christian way of life.

I am aware that many are feeling down because they cannot participate in our Masses, don't forget the Lord walks with us everywhere we go; through the Holy Spirit living within us. As a priest called to be mediator between God and his people, rest assured that I will be offering my masses for all of you, knocking at the doors of heaven for all. But we can still be united in so many ways, I will be live-streaming some of the Masses, especially a Sunday Mass through the internet, in Youtube.com In this way you can have the opportunity to come together with others in the spirit of prayer. All the details about these are published in our more recent bulletins. If you need more information call the presbytery, especially in the morning.

In my first mass live-streamed we had 100 hits approximately. That was a good beginning. If you can spread the word about our mass, that would be great. In this time of isolation, it is good to be in touch with one another; so please call some other parishioners and tell them about the Mass here at Saint Therese. Those who don't have access to internet they can see other masses from TV or paid channels etc. Please check our bulletin. All the information about this is available there.

We will continue to publish the bulletins through our parish website; and as I said, tell others. You can tell them about our news in the bulletins or you can even print the bulletin for them and leave it in their mailboxes, if they don't have internet.

Please make sure to call us if you find that somebody is in need; you can let us know over the phone, e-mail or you can do something to assist that person yourself. Especially be mindful of those who are home alone, and ask them if they need anything.

We are also trying to organize ways in which you can continue helping your parish through credit cards. We will let you know. Some have already started helping by dropping some envelopes in our mailbox, which will be emptied every day. You don't need to come every week, you can just place a month donation in an envelope and that will be a great help.

Thanks so much for your prayers, support, example and for the love you have for your parish. Stay safe and well. And many blessings to you all, Roberto Castillo.



## Request for Mass and Prayers.

We pray for those who have recently died especially Hamid Amini (*Fr Roberto's brother-in-law*), Florencia Castillo (*Fr Roberto's grand aunty – who died from Covid19 in New York*), Bette Blyth (*a long term parishioner who was a Eucharistic Minister*) and Carmel Morabito.

Also pray for those who celebrate anniversaries especially Neville Braidwood and Dominic Pak.



## This Sunday's Gospel is Mt 26:14 – 27:66.

Google this or use your family bible and read the Gospel as a family this Sunday.

## Live stream Masses.

Just letting you all know that Fr Roberto has been live streaming his Masses. If you wish to view them go to our parish website home page at [www.sttherese.org.au](http://www.sttherese.org.au). Fr Roberto's Palm Sunday Mass will be on at 11am on the 5<sup>th</sup> April. Previous video Masses can be viewed under the News and Events tab in the Video Gallery. If you have any issues you can also go to **YouTube** and search: **Priest Roberto E Castillo**. Enjoy!



## Prepare yourselves and your home for Palm Sunday and Easter.

Why not take the time to do something different due to these unusual and restrictive times, decorate your home in some small way for the Easter Season.

This weekend you can put some palms on your front door. It's a nice reminder for you and your family that it's Palm Sunday.

**For Holy Thursday** you can read the Gospel by John 13: 1-15 or view Fr Roberto's live stream Mass at 7pm.

**For Good Friday** add a purple ribbon to your palm fronds, venerate a cross say some prayers OR read the Pasion of the Lord Jn 18: 1-19:42 OR view Fr Roberto's live stream Passion at 3pm.

**For Easter Sunday** remove the purple ribbon and add some flowers and colourful bows and view Fr Roberto's live stream Mass at 10am OR read the Gospel 28: 1-10 and sign Alleulia.



## Daylight Savings ends THIS Sunday at 2am.

We will have to put our clocks BACK one hour.

## Closed until further notice

❖ **Church is closed until further notice** - even for private prayer. I encourage everyone to continue to pray at home and keep your faith alive!

❖ We have decided to keep preparing the bulletin and just updating it weekly to our website. It may be a good idea to let others know this too. so everyone hears what we are trying to do to keep in touch with you all during this period of isolation.

❖ **Baptisms need to be postponed for at least 6 months;** in case of emergency please call a priest / deacon or parents should baptise the baby/child immediately.

❖ **Private Reconciliation is available** - call the presbytery and book a time with Fr Roberto. Please be assured that Fr Roberto will observe the social distancing rules.

❖ **All parishioners are dispensed from attending Sunday Mass:** please keep faithful by watching Mass on TV, setting aside some time for prayer at home or reading the scriptures. Don't feel bad about not attending Mass, we understand that it's very hard not to be able to attend Mass every Sunday. But know that we are all united in this.

❖ **Any parishioner who needs help** during this time with friendship or food please call the presbytery as we can help out - CatholicCare is setting up a phone service and we are organising some willing volunteers who can help you too.

## Donations.

We have begun making enquiries to be able to accept credit cards or donations online from parishioners due to these very unsettling times. We will keep you posted on our progress through the bulletin.

In the meantime people have generously been putting envelopes into the parish letterbox clearly marking them with their intentions Eg First Collection / Loose / Planned Giving. We thank all those who have done this. Please note our letterbox is secure so long as you make sure the envelope has dropped in and it's NOT sticking out.



## Mass intentions.

Please email, put a note in the letterbox or phone the presbytery and let Fr Roberto who you would like a Mass for.

## Days of Penance!

Don't forget your penance and know that you are already doing this due to the isolation rules. Stay strong and maybe say some extra prayers due to your non-attendance at Mass is all that is needed