



What the Passion Meant For Jesus

What did the Passion mean for Jesus?

During the years of his public ministry, he had gone from village to village. Everywhere he went he was surrounded by crowds of people who listened to his teaching and sought healing from him. It had been an incredibly full and active three years. During all that time he had been in control and had come and gone as he wished.

But when he was handed over to his enemies in the garden of Gethsemane, all this came to an end. Now everything was out of control. And that is when his passion began.

From then on he began to undergo suffering. Things were now done *to* him rather than *by* him. Now he had to accept a passive role. He had to allow himself to be taken where he would rather not go.

He was led in turn before Caiaphas, Herod and Pilate. He was interrogated, mocked, pushed around, scourged, crowned with thorns, given a cross to carry, stripped of his clothes, nailed to the cross, and finally died. The fact that Jesus was a sensitive, compassionate person meant he suffered more than others.

Here we have to be very clear about one thing: the Father did not throw Jesus to the wolves. His son died voluntarily. He gave his life.

He did so with the words, 'Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.'

In this way he made his death into a final gift. He fulfilled his mission not only by what he did, but also and more importantly by what was done to him - by his passion.

So it can be with us. As a result of serious illness, an accident or just extreme old age, we can lose control over our lives. From that point on things are done to us rather than by us. And that is when our passion begins. The essence of suffering lies in the fact that the resourcefulness is taken out of our hands. Much of our lives are determined by what is done to us rather than what we do. It is important to realize the extent to which we are acted upon. There are many things that are outside our control. But we do have a choice in how we respond to what life throws at us.

The Passion story shows how Jesus responded to what was done to him. He absorbed all the violence, transformed it and returned it as love and forgiveness.

This is the victory of love over all powers of destruction. With his help, that same victory can be ours.

Flor McCarthy SDB

PARISH NEWS

Holy Week Gospels

What can we learn about the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus and ourselves from the readings? You are all welcome to join Lyn Smith in the hall **Monday 25 March 7pm-8.30pm** to explore the Holy Week Gospels.

Holy Week & Easter

Holy Thursday

7pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper

Adoration at Altar of Repose in the Parish classroom till 11pm.

Good Friday



9am: Stations of the Cross (in church)

10.30am: Stations of the Cross (in church)

3pm: The Passion of the Lord

Holy Saturday

7pm: Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday



9am & 10.30am masses
(No 5pm mass)

Easter Monday

9am mass

Sacramental Programme 2024

The Sacramental Programme will begin **Sunday 12 May 2024**. We invite all parents who are interested in enrolling their child(ren) to fill in a form available from the church foyer or apply online from our website (front page).

Important - All enrolment forms must be returned before or by **Monday 29 April 2024**. **No late enrolments will be accepted.**

Daylight Saving

Please note that Daylight Saving ends **Sunday 07 April 2024**.

DIOCESE NEWS

Palm Sunday Candlelight Vigil

Sunday 24 March 7.30pm at Potter's Park, Balmoral. Organized by Family Life International NZ, changing hearts and minds of every human person by praying for an end to abortion.

Mass Times

Monday: 9am
Tues/Wed/Thurs 6.30pm
Wed: Novena 6pm
Friday: 9am
First Friday: 6.30pm
Saturday: 5pm Vigil
Sunday: 9am, 10.30am, 5pm

**Reconciliation by appointment.
Please contact the parish office.**

Please pray for our sick parishioners:

Violet Furtado, Yvonne Sommers, Mary Holmes, Kanesi Masae, Ethan Peter Lelo, Rosalen Ahearn, Saulius David Balsys, Kalameli Tauta, Joan Unkovich, Pauline Caffell, Louisa Baptist, Robert Shearman, Siufaga Maileoi Lili, Lee Dunn, Alex Soniega, Barbara Lynch, Fata Peter & Lenora Fuiava, Priscilla Fernandes, Nellie Lemusu-Kea, Aaron Ablan, Joy Rapcsak, Gerard Hoover.

Divine Mercy Feast



Divine Mercy Feast at St Benedict's Parish (1 St Benedict's Street, Eden Terrace) **Sunday 07 April 5.30pm.** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Blessing of Images, Benediction, Holy Mass, Veneration of St Faustina's relic. Bring your Divine Mercy images and artefacts to be blessed.

Free parking at Wilson carpark & street parking.

If you wish to place a notice in our parish newsletter, please email the parish office by Wednesday.

Last Week's Collection:

House - \$ 1,292.30

Parish - \$ 1,933.50

Thank you for your generosity.

Readings For The Upcoming Week

Mon 25 Mar: Is 42:1-7
Jn 12:1-11 Ps 26:1-3, 13-14
Tue 26 Mar: Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
Is 49:1-6 Ps 70:1-6, 15, 17
Wed 27 Mar: Is 50:4-9
Mt 26:14-25 Ps 68:8-10, 21-22,
Thu 28 Mar: Ps 115:12-13, 15-18
1 Cor 11:23-26 Ex 12:1-8, 11-14
Jn 13:1-15
Fri 29 Mar: Is 52:13-53:12
Jn 18:1-19:42 Ps 25:1-5
Sat 30 Mar: 7 Easter Vigil Readings
Sun 31 Mar: Acts 10:34, 37-43
1 Cor 5:6-8 Jn 20:1-9
Mk 16:1-7

Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship

An invitation to all men to the next Joshua meeting ~ **Wed 27 March 7.15pm** (start with a cuppa) followed by meeting at 7.30pm at St Thomas More Church, 336 Wairau Road, Glenfield.

Guest Speaker: Dr Ethan Breinhorst

Topic: Men's Health

Dr Ethan's talk will focus on how men can look after their health and live healthily. For more info please contact [Russell 022 034 5678](tel:022-034-5678).

NZCatholic

The national Catholic newspaper

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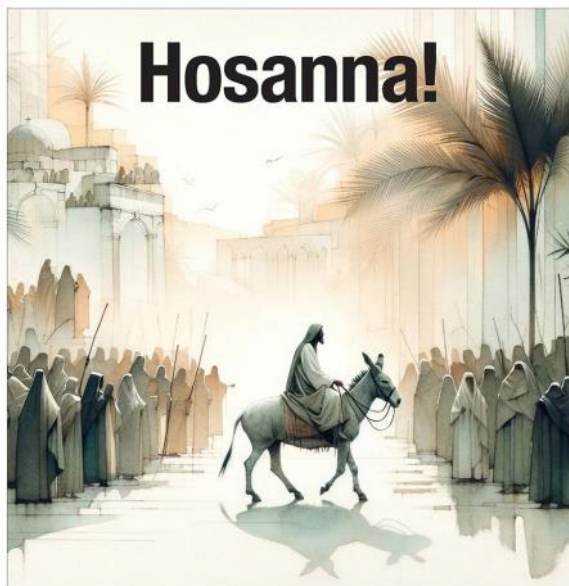
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Pilgrimage
endures
despite conflict

10

Holy Cross
welcomes six new
seminarians

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Six times judged Australasia's leading Catholic newspaper

Stations of the Cross Procession

You are invited to a procession on **Good Friday 29 March** which will start at Albert Park Rotunda 9am and will conclude at St Patrick's Cathedral 11am. Join us for this powerful public witness of faith through the streets of Auckland. For more info please email Sam: samuelb@cda.org.nz

Young Adults Group

Next meeting: **Sunday 24 March.**

Final Adoration: Mount St Mary's, Titirangi

Wed 27 March 8pm-9pm.

Board Games & Movie Night: **Silence (2016)**

Saturday 20 April (hall). It is about two Jesuit priests who travel to Japan to locate their mentor. All welcome.

For more info, please visit the Parish website (Youth/Young Adults section) or follow our Social Media [@ourladyoflourdesgleneden](https://www.instagram.com/ourladyoflourdesgleneden)

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