



The Passion Story

If we are told the same story over and over again, we tend to grow tired and switch off. We may be listening but we are not hearing. The same thing can happen with the Passion story. We have listened to it so many times that we no longer hear it. The Passion story shows how Jesus responded to what was done to him. In spite of the cruelty that was inflicted on him, his heart never closed or hardened. Even as he was being put on the cross, it remained open, even to his enemies. He actually prayed for them with the words, '**Father, forgive them, they know not what they do**' (Luke 23:34). We are saved, not by his sufferings, but by his love.

'There is nothing terrible about suffering a bit on earth if it has taught us how to love' (Carlo Carretto).

Is there any other story as moving as that of the Passion of Christ?

Those who remain unmoved by it are not really hearing it. Listen to Oscar Wilde's description of it in his book *De Profundis*:

The last supper with his close friends, one of whom had already sold him for thirty pieces of silver.

The anguish in the quiet moonlit olive garden.

The false friend coming close to betray him with a kiss.

The friend who still believed in him, and on whom as on a rock he had hoped to build his Church, denying him as the cock cried to the dawn.

His utter loneliness, his submission, his acceptance of everything.

The High Priest rending his garment in anger.

Pilate, hoping to cleanse himself of that stain of innocent blood that made him a pivotal figure in Christian history.

The coronation-ceremony carried out, not with a crown of gold, but with a crown of thorns.

The Crucifixion of the Innocent One before the eyes of his mother and of the disciples whom he loved.

PARISH NEWS

Holy Week & Easter Mass Times

Holy Thursday

7pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper
Adoration at Altar of Repose until
11pm (classroom)

Good Friday

9am: Stations of the Cross (church)

10.30am: Stations of the Cross
(church)

3pm: The Passion of the Lord



Holy Saturday

7pm: Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday



9am & 10.30am

Easter Raffle

We are happy to announce that our *Easter Raffle* has raised a total of \$1,085.00. Thank you to everyone who participated and contributed to this successful event.

DIOCESE NEWS

Divine Mercy Feast



Jesus told St Faustina "My Heart rejoices in this title of Mercy."

You are warmly invited to attend the *Divine Mercy Feast* **Sun 27 Apr 5.30pm** at St Benedict's Parish, Eden Terrace. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Blessing of Images, Benediction, Holy Mass, Veneration of St Faustina's relics. **Bring your Divine Mercy images and artefacts to be blessed.** Free parking is available at Wilson carpark, including free street parking on Sundays.

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, 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, Aaron Ablan, Priscilla Fernandes, Nellie Lemusu-Kea, Joy Rapcsak, Gerard Hoover

GEORGE HELSHAM



*Requiem Mass
Tues 15 Apr 11am at
Holy Cross Church,
Papatoetoe*

To Fr Paul:

The Parish community of Our Lady of Lourdes wishes to express their deepest condolences on the passing of your beloved father. May you find peace and solace in the memories of the times you shared with him. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family and we hope you all find comfort in the love and support of the Lord.

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

Last Week's Collection:

House - \$1,734.50

Parish - \$2,598.90

Thank you for your generosity.

Readings For The Upcoming Week

Mon 14 Apr: Is 42:1-7

Jn 12:1-11 Ps 26:1-3, 13-14

Tue 15 Apr: Ps 70:1-6, 15, 17

Is 49:1-6 Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wed 16 Apr: Is 50:4-9

Mt 26:14-25 Ps 68:8-10, 21-22, 33-34

Thu 17 Apr: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14

Jn 13:1-15 Ps 115:12-13, 15-18

1 Cor 11:23-26

Fri 18 Apr: Ps 30:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17

Is 52:13 - 53:12 Jn 18:1 - 19:42

Sat 19 Apr: 7 Easter Vigil Readings

Sun 20 Apr: Acts 10:34, 37-43

Ps 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

1 Cor 5:6-8 Lk 24:1-12

(continued)

***The soldiers gambling and throwing dice for his clothes.
The terrible death by which he gave the world its most enduring symbol
of self-sacrifice and love - the cross.
And his final burial in the tomb, his body swathed in Egyptian linen with
costly spices and perfumes.***

Flor McCarthy SDB

Good Friday Procession - 18 Apr 2025

Each year hundreds of people from across Auckland come together in a powerful public witness of faith. Join us for the **17th Annual Good Friday Stations of the Cross Procession** through Auckland CBD! Gather at 9am at Albert Park Rotunda. Procession concludes at 11am at St Patrick's Cathedral.

Holy Week Prayer

*Loving God,
as we journey through this Holy Week,
we remember the great love and sacrifice of your Son, Jesus Christ.
Help us to walk with Him through the events of this sacred time,
reflecting on His teachings, His suffering,
and His ultimate victory over death.
May this Holy Week deepen our faith,
strengthen our commitment to missionary discipleship,
and fill us with the hope and joy of Easter.
In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.*

Catholic Diocese of Auckland

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