

# OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT / C

6 APRIL 2025

STRAINING AHEAD. The Israelites in exile, St Paul the apostle and the woman caught in adultery all had shameful pasts. They acknowledged their sins but were not weighed down by them because they experienced the forgiveness of God. Freed of the burden of their sin they were able to continue on their way. We also are sinners but with God's forgiveness we too can put the past behind us and strain ahead for the prize to which God is calling us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** Ps 42:1-2

**Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.**

## GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**R. Amen.**

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**R. And with your spirit.**

## PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

P. Lord Jesus, you were lifted up to draw all people to yourself: Lord, have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

P. You shouldered the cross, to bear our suffering and sinfulness: Christ, have mercy.

**R. Christ, have mercy.**

You open for your people the way from death into life: Lord, have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**R. Amen.**

*The Gloria is not said during Lent.*

## COLLECT

P. By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God, may we walk eagerly in that same charity with which, out of love for the world, your Son handed himself over to death. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

**R. Amen.**

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

**FIRST READING** Isa 43:16-21

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

*I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my people.*

Thus says the Lord, who made a way through the sea, a path in the great waters; who put chariots and horse in the field and a powerful army, which lay there never to rise again, snuffed out, put out like a wick:

No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before. See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it? Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds. The wild beasts will honour me, jackals and ostriches, because I am putting water in the wilderness (rivers in the wild) to give my chosen people drink. The people I have formed for myself will sing my praises.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Ps 125. R. v. 3

**R. The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.**

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, / it seemed like a dream. / Then was our mouth filled with laughter, / on our lips there were songs. **R.**

2. The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' / What marvels the Lord worked for us! / Indeed we were glad. **R.**

3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage / as streams in dry land. / Those who are sowing in tears / will sing when they reap. **R.**

4. They go out, they go out, full of tears, / carrying seed for the sowing: / they come back, they come back, full of song, / carrying their sheaves. **R.**

**SECOND READING** Phil 3:8-14

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians**

*Because of Christ I look upon everything else as useless in order to gain him.*

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on



everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Joel 2:12-13

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**

**With all your heart turn to me,**

**for I am tender and compassionate.**

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**

**GOSPEL** Jn 8:1-11

P. The Lord be with you.

**R. And with your spirit.**

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

**R. Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.*

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them.



**THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT  
6th of April 2025**

HOLY EUCHARIST & ST. MARY'S MALVERN EAST  
ST. JOSEPH'S MALVERN  
ST. ROCH'S GLEN IRIS

**Parish Priest:** Rev. Fr Michael Gallacher

**Assistant Priest:** Rev. Fr Tom Christie

**Telephone:** 9571 2407

**After Hours (Emergency):** 03 9885 6611 or 9571 8384

**Email:** [mmegi@cam.org.au](mailto:mmegi@cam.org.au)

**Website:** <https://www.mmegi.org.au/>

**Parish Office Hours and location:**

Tuesday to Friday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

47 Stanhope St, Malvern

**Parish Staff:**

Mrs Karina Burga R.

Mrs Clare Snell

Miss Bernadette Winkels

**Mass Times**

Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	St. Mary's
	9:30 a.m.	St. Roch's
	10:30 a.m.	St. Joseph's
	5:00 p.m.	St. Roch's
Monday	5:30 p.m.	St. Roch's
Tuesday	9:15 a.m.	St. Joseph's
Wednesday	5:30 p.m. [Exposition until 7 p.m.]	St. Roch's
Thursday	9:15 a.m. [Exposition until 10:30 a.m.]	St. Mary's
	12:00 p.m.	Cabrini Chapel
Friday	9:15 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
Saturday	9:15 a.m.	St. Mary's

**Confessions:**

Monday	6.00pm (until the last penitent is heard)	St Roch's
Tuesday	9.45am (until the last penitent is heard)	St Joseph's
Wednesday	6.00 p.m - 6:50 p.m	St Roch's
Thursday	9.45 a.m - 10.20 a.m	St Mary's
Friday	9.45am (until the last penitent is heard)	Holy Eucharist
Saturday	9.45am (until the last penitent is heard)	St Mary's

**MASS INTENTIONS THIS COMING WEEK:**

Sat 5th April	5:00 p.m	Anniversaries of Eduardo, John, Angela, Ilario, Rosaria & Giovanni
Sun 6th April	8:30 a.m	Private Intention
	9:30 a.m	<i>Pro Popolo</i>
	10:30 a.m	Francesca Moricca, for the 1 <sup>st</sup> anniversary of her death
	5:00 p.m	Inez Boater, for her anniversary of death
Mon 7th April	5:30 p.m	Private Intention
Tues 8th April	9:15 a.m	Pat Griffin, for the anniversary of death
Wed 9th April	5:30 p.m	Private Intention
Thur 10th April	9:15 a.m	Victoria Refalo, for the repose of her soul
Fri 11th April	9:15 a.m	Victoria Refalo, for the repose of her soul
Sat 12th April	9:15 a.m	Private Intention

**WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE:**

**CURRENTLY SICK:** Pope Francis, Sr. Dr Mary Treacy LCM, Andy Basa, Sam Bernardo, Chris Connaughton, Peter Conroy, John Dals, Tony Davenport, Delfina Di Pasquale, Iris Dumenden, Linette Falckh, Gigi Falckh, Karl Falckh, Primo Giudici, Margaret Gladstone, Raymond Gibson, John Hill, Renee Lawrence, Arlette Lobo, Maria Lombardo, Gemma Lopes, Colleen Lloyd, Margaret Marriott, Mary Maconochie, Audrey Marden, Keith McDougall, Michelle Moore, Laila Petrie, Monique Poussin, Danuta Przekwas, Elizabeth Rusden, Mercedes Sanabria, Corrin Stares, Frances Trainor, Leigh Wingate, Susena Zeiden.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:**

**ANNIVERSARIES AT THIS TIME:** Sr. Margaret Hedigan CM, Alan Almeida, Giorgia Ansaldi, Peter Bishop, Inez Boater, Antonio Bortolazzo, James Brown, Amanda Byrnes, Eileen Dalley, Doreen De la Motte, Francis Dixon, Eryk Fitkau, Patricia Gallagher, Henrietta Hunt, Doris J Adkims, Clyde Johnson, Emelda Kucks, Mary Lucas, Mary Mahon, Susanna Martucci, Moira McAfee, Malcolm MacPherson, Marie Siqueira, Frank Russell, Maureen Traynor, Jean Wilson, Norman Wilson.

## HOLY WEEK TIMETABLE

Monday	14 <sup>th</sup> April	5:30pm Mass	St Roch's (followed by confessions)
Tuesday	15 <sup>th</sup> April	10am Chrism Mass	<i>St Patrick's Cathedral</i> <i>all parishioners welcome</i>
			(*No 9:15am Mass at St Joseph's*)
Wednesday	16 <sup>th</sup> April	5:30pm Mass	St Roch's (followed by Exposition, Confessions, Benediction)
Thursday	17 <sup>th</sup> April	7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper	St Mary's (followed by Altar of Repose until 11pm Compline)
			(*No 9:15am Mass at St Mary's*)
			(*No 12:00pm Mass Cabrini Chapel*)
Friday	18 <sup>th</sup> April	9am Stations of the Cross	St Mary's (followed by confessions)
		10am Stations of the Cross	St Joseph's
		11am Ecumenical Stations of the Cross	Central Park
		3pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion	St Joseph's (followed by confessions)
		3pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion	St Roch's (followed by confessions)
Saturday	19 <sup>th</sup> April	7pm Easter Vigil	St Mary's
		8pm Easter Vigil	St Roch's
Sunday	20 <sup>th</sup> April	8:30am Easter Day Mass	Holy Eucharist*
		9:30am Easter Day Mass	St Roch's
		10:30am Easter Day Mass	St Joseph's

- Please note Holy Eucharist rather than St Mary's usual Sunday Mass

N.B. No 5pm Mass at St Roch's on Easter Sunday

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

#### **5:30pm Fridays**

4<sup>th</sup> April                      St. Joseph's

11<sup>th</sup> April                      St. Roch's

*All welcome!*

### ST JOSEPH'S MUSIC MINISTRY

We are looking for Pianists, Guitarists and Vocalists to join our Music Ministry! If you would like to volunteer, or know someone eager to join.

Please contact Joshua Mac  
[\(joshua.mac0904@gmail.com\)](mailto:joshua.mac0904@gmail.com).

### PALM SUNDAY MASSES

As has been done in the past for Palm Sunday, we will begin by gathering outside for the blessing of the palms and we will then process into the church.

*Please bring your own palms or branches.*

Should you have a palm or conifer plant and are able to bring more branches to share it will be much appreciated.

### ST JOSEPH'S MORNING TEA

Sunday April 6<sup>th</sup> Morning Tea after 10:30 Mass at St Joseph's

Join us in the Hall for a cup of tea/coffee and some lovely cakes and other delicious homemade goodies!

All welcome.

Easter Raffle Tickets will be on sale at the Hall. Lots of fabulous prizes to be won!

Hurry! These are the last days to purchase tickets! Winners will be contacted by phone and names placed in our Easter weekend bulletin.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

### PROCESS FOR REQUESTING MASS INTENTIONS

**[ALL PARISHES]**

Please make sure all requests for Mass offerings are sent, emailed or phoned into the parish office by 12.00pm Thursday. Each Friday the Mass Intentions will be allocated for the Masses in the coming week. With fewer Masses available, there is no guarantee that all requests will be fulfilled on the preferred date or at the preferred church.

We will do our best to allocate the Mass Intentions as closely as possible to the requests.

### BILLINGS LIFE

Billings LIFE has moved and is now in Mont Albert! We are available for face-to-face consultations, if you would like to achieve or space a pregnancy or monitor your reproductive health.

Give us a call to chat, see if we can help you achieve your dream.

We are here on Mondays & Thursdays, if you would like to see an accredited Billings Teacher.

Bookings essential:-

Phone:- 03 9802 2022

311 Mont Albert Road Surrey Hills

[\*\*www.billings.life\*\*](http://www.billings.life)

Greatly appreciate your support.

### GOD AND BEER

Inspiration, ideas and a hot meal. Drawing on the truth, beauty and goodness of Christian faith in the Catholic tradition.

**Topic:** Spiritual Warfare and the Discernment of Spirits

**Speaker:** Rob Zaar

**Date:** Monday 14th April

**Time:** 6.30pm dinner available for purchase, 7.30pm for the talk

**Venue:** Notting Hill Hotel (**Steakhouse Room**),  
260-262 Ferntree Gully Rd, Notting Hill, VIC

**Contact:** John –Email: [\*\*jtsmyth@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:jtsmyth@gmail.com)

**ST ROCH'S AND ST JOSEPH'S OFFERTORY GIVING PROGRAM**

Dear Parishioners,

As we concluded our Parish Offertory Program last weekend, we would like to express our gratitude for your generous response and support. For those whose Pledge Cards were not collected, please note that they have now been delivered to the address we have on file for you. In the coming weeks, you should receive your pledge card in your mailbox. If you have not yet filled out your Pledge Card, they are available on the pews this weekend.

Once you receive it, we kindly ask you to take a moment to prayerfully consider your offering. You may return your completed pledge card by placing it in the offertory collection, dropping it off at the parish office, or mailing it back to us.

Thank you once again for your faithfulness and generosity. Every pledge—no matter the size—is a response to God's blessings and helps strengthen our parish for the future.

**PERMANENT DIACONATE INFORMATION SESSION**  
**3 MAY 2025**

Following the success of the permanent diaconate information sessions in 2024, we will be holding another session for those interested.

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and 60 years, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. It is an ordained ministry of service.

The information session is open to everyone interested in learning more about the permanent diaconate. If you have attended any previous session, you are also welcome to attend this session. Wives most welcome.

The session will be on Saturday morning, 3rd May and will be in person. If you are interested email Deacon Kevin Pattison

**Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au** with full name and parish, but if you forget, then just turn up on Saturday morning. All are welcome.

Event Date: Saturday 3 May 2025  
Time: 10.00am–11.30am

Venue: Catholic Theological College  
278 Victoria Parade — East Melbourne



# beyond the vows

**Saturday 12th April • 9:45am to 5pm**  
St Catherine of Siena Parish, Caroline Springs

**\$50** per couple

A one day Catholic marriage retreat designed to help couples navigate life and draw closer together.

To register, scan the QR code or visit [beyondthevows.site](https://beyondthevows.site)



Deepen in Intimacy

Connect with God

Be Renewed



## CHISHOLM CANDIDATE FORUM

CROSSWAY BAPTIST CHURCH  
WEDNESDAY, 30 APR

[MEETyourCANDIDATES.ORG.AU](https://MEETyourCANDIDATES.ORG.AU)

Crossway Baptist Church is hosting a "meet the candidate forum" for all of the churches in the electorate of Chisholm.

Come and hear from the candidates on issues that matter to Christians, with time to ask your own questions.

**Wednesday, 30 Apr, 7:30pm**  
**Crossway Baptist Church**  
**2 Vision Drive, Burwood East**

Most forums are being live streamed or recorded for those who cannot attend live.

You can find more information about this event, or forums for other electorates at:  
[meetyourcandidates.org.au](https://meetyourcandidates.org.au)





The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## HOMILY

### PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

*Or the Nicene Creed may be said.*

**I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.**

### PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

#### LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:*

**R. Blessed be God for ever.**

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

### PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. Hear us, almighty God, and, having instilled in your servants the teachings of the Christian faith, graciously purify them by the working of this sacrifice. Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

**R. And with your spirit.**

P. Lift up your hearts.

**R. We lift them up to the Lord.**

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**R. It is right and just.**

### PREFACE I OR II OF LENT

*After the Preface, we sing or say:*

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

### THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

**All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.**

### COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven . . .**

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray . . .

**All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.**

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said . . .

**R. Amen.**

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**R. And with your spirit.**

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*All exchange a sign of peace.*

### LAMB OF GOD

**All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON Jn 8:10-11

**Has no one condemned you, woman? No one, Lord. Neither shall I condemn you. From now on, sin no more.**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. We pray, almighty God, that we may always be counted among the members of Christ, in whose Body and Blood we have communion.

Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**R. Amen.**

## THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

**R. And with your spirit.**

P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

**R. Amen.**

P. Go in peace.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

## BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

### JESUS' LIBERATING GAZE

Today's Gospel from John might seem out of place in a year where the liturgical focus is on Luke. However, some scholars suggest that the story of a woman caught in an adulterous act belongs more in Luke's Gospel and became misplaced in time. Whatever of the story's history, it is the teaching that unfolds that is so important as we come to our final week in our Lenten journey.

In the story, the woman becomes a pawn in a dispute over Torah teaching and as an object to trap Jesus in his apparent moral liberality and rejection of Mosaic teaching. Never addressed is the way the knowledge of the woman's adulterous act is derived. How would her accusers know of her conduct if they had not set themselves in a position to spy upon her? They, too, are incriminated by their very witness. Jesus does not buy into their legal dispute nor their accusation of the woman.

As her accusers depart from the scene without condemning the woman, Jesus gazes upon her without judgement. His gaze frees her. The story leaves contemporary listeners with at least two insights. It affirms Jesus' forgiveness and his desire for our spiritual release. It also provides an opportunity to reflect on the way women are treated today in many contexts as objects of sexual desire, domestic violence, male abuse and pornographic depiction.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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