Fifth Sunday of Lent Year B Third Scrutiny

I will be their God and they shall be my people

First Reading: Jeremiah 31: 31-34. I will write it on their hearts

Psalm 50 Create a clean heart in me O God

Second Reading: Hebrews 5:7-9 He became the source of salvation for all who obey him

Gospel Acclamation Glory and praise to you Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ. If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord and where I am, my servant will also be. Glory and praise to you Word of God Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel: John 3:14-21. Unless the grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies it remains but a grain of wheat

Com. Verse: Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever says the Lord


Prayers of the Faithful

Celebrant: God has written on our hearts that we were made to know him. Help us to live in that knowledge as we seek to bring love and forgiveness to the parts of our world that we pray for now.

Leader: We pray for Pope Francis (pause)

All: May he lead the Church in your ways of love and forgiveness.

Celebrant: Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer

Leader: We pray for our children preparing for their first Reconciliation and their families. (pause)

All: May they be ready to be hugged by our merciful and loving God.

Celebrant: Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer

Leader: We pray for Janice, Laura and James who are preparing to be received into the Church (Pause)

All: May they be open to the surprises of the Spirit and to respond with generosity to go where there is inner struggle to accept fully God’s love.

Celebrant: Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer

Leader: We pray for those in our community who struggle to forgive (pause)

All: May they be inspired by our merciful God to extend that same love and mercy to their brothers and sisters who have wronged them.

Celebrant: Lord, in your mercy

All: Hear our prayer

Celebrant: Merciful Father, hear the prayers we have brought before you this day, and help us to daily be mindful of the blessings that you bestow on your children. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

OUR POPE SAYS: "I am convinced that the whole Church -- that has much need to receive mercy because we are sinners -- will find in this jubilee the joy to rediscover and render fruitful the mercy of God, with which we are all called to give consolation to every man and woman of our time Let us not forget that God pardons and God pardons always Let us never tire of asking for forgiveness. We entrust it as of now to the Mother of Mercy, because she looks to us with her gaze and watches over our way Our penitential way, our way of open hearts, during a year to receive the indulgence of God, to receive the mercy of God."

Announcing the Holy Year of Mercy, Feast of the Immaculate Conception, celebrated Dec. 8. It will close on Nov. 20, 2016, the day celebrated that year as the Feast of Christ the King.

Please Pray

For those who have died: Mary Martin, Adam Lowe
For the sick: Les and Clare Fern, Joe & Rosemary Valle, Br James Maher MSC; Josephine Di Lembo; Margaret McDonald, Margaret Heagney (Catherine Phillip’s mother) Loretta Grimster, Mona Spain-Pedder, Arturo Bavato. Viviane Taranto.
Living the Gospel  The Liturgies of Holy Week.

Passion Sunday – (Palm Sunday) – the Entry into Jerusalem.

The Sunday before Easter is known as Palm Sunday. It commemorates Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem for the Jewish festival of Passover. Since Jesus was Jewish, he went to celebrate this highlight of his religious year, remembering the Exodus and the freedom from slavery in Egypt. Great crowds of people had gathered for the celebrations in the Temple and they lined the streets waving palm or olive branches to welcome Jesus. They spread the branches on the road – and even laid down their clothes. As the Readings remind us, Jesus was being welcomed as the fulfilment of the prophecies of the Old Testament – as the Messiah – the Promised One.

Today and throughout Holy Week our attention focuses on the sufferings Jesus endured for our sake and how they led to his Resurrection and our own rising to new life, and freedom from the slavery of death. We read an account of the Passion of Christ as the Gospel; hence this is sometimes called Passion Sunday. We keep in mind also, that Jesus goes on suffering today in his body in the people who are victims of injustice, of deprivation, marginalisation and isolation, betrayal, persecution, and prejudice, even within our own Church community. In many parts of the world, people march through cities carrying palms demonstrating the need for justice and peace – for there can be no peace without justice.

On Palm Sunday, people are given palm leaves. Traditionally, many churches will have a procession in or around the church while people sing songs of praise and wave palm leaves in a re-creation of the events commemorated this day. There is a link back to the Ashes of Ash Wednesday and a link forward to the beginning of Lent next year. Any leftover palms are kept, sprinkled with salt and burned back to the Ashes of Ash Wednesday and a link to the beginning of Lent.

PARISH NOTICES AND COMING EVENTS

Collections:  1st Collection: $ 969.30
2nd Collection: $1144.60 Direct Debit: $ 355.00

St Vincent de Paul: If you would like to volunteer with, or join, the St Vincent de Paul Society or need the Society’s help please call the Society on 8948 8100.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS EVERY FRIDAY IN LENT AT 6.00 PM. SYRO-MALABAR AT 7.00 PM

ACTIV8 every last Tuesday of the month for young people from years 9-12 from 6-8.30pm. $3 for pizza.

MARCH CALENDAR

Sunday 22nd March Children’s Mass
Tuesday 24th Mass of Oils at Cathedral at 7.00 pm
Thursday 26th Children Reconciliation at 6pm. Monday 23rd– Thurs 26th Confessions at 6.00pm
Saturday 28th Working Bee
Sunday 29th PALM SUNDAY. Ecumenical Blessing of Palms at 8.30 am Mass.