

FIRST READING *Chronicles 36:14-16. 19-23*

The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of his people.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever forget you!

SALMO RESPONSORIALE

Il ricordo di te, Signore, e' la nostra gioia.

SECOND READING *Ephesians 2:4-10*

When we were dead through sins, he brought us to life.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

CANTO AL VANGELO

Lode e onore a te, Signore Gesu'! Dio ha tanto amato il mondo da dare il Figlio unigenito; chiunque crede in lui ha la vita eterna. Lode e onore a te, Signore Gesu'.

GOSPEL *John 3:14-21*

God sent his Son into the world that we might be saved through him.

THANKS TO THOSE WHO GAVE LAST WEEK

1 st Collection	- Thanksgiving Offering.....	\$905.00
	- Loose Money.....	\$207.00
2 nd Collection	- Presbytery/Priests.....	\$226.00

LECTORS - THIS WEEK 22/03/09

6.00pm (SAT) – B Nadenbousch & E Saliba
 9.00am (SUN) – C Brunetti & G Barbaro
 10.30am (SUN) – A Vinelli & D Lucato

SPECIAL MINISTERS

S Dakin
 L Catena, L Cavedon & A Sonza
 C McMahan, S Miano & D Herbert

LECTORS - NEXT WEEK 29/03/09

6.00pm (SAT) –
 9.00am (SUN) – L Calafiore & R DeZan
 10.30am (SUN) - L Conte & Elizabeth Bartlett

SPECIAL MINISTERS

E Saliba
 S Lo Bartolo, G Moltisanti & R Mercuri
 J & J Kearney & J Vincitorio

CHURCH CLEANERS

28/03/09 J Aliphone, T Saleh & P Sparano

MONEY COUNTERS

23/03/09 E Claridge, F Carabott & G Canavan
 30/03/09 D Herbert, C McMahan, J Galea & R Comito

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING

RECENTLY DECEASED

Maria CAPARSO (d. Rec. USA)

ANNIVERSARIES

Gina DI DONATO, Salvatore & Sofia RACHIELE, Antonio & Filomena PISANI, Salvatore MONFORTE Gaetano & Concetta ABBATE, Giuseppe & Antonina CATALANO, Domenico & Domenica VARRENTI, Pasquale CIMINO, Orsola BONACCI, Carmela CIMINO Francesca CASALE, Giuseppe & Giuseppina SCARAMOZZINO, Vicenzina COLACI, Antonina CASTELLI, Laura, Pasquale & Carlo MARIANI, Lorenzo & Rachele PACELLA, Liberatore & Marco CIAMACCO, Cesare & Severino AGOSTINELLI, Pietro & Silvana D'ALESSANDRO, Guido PACE

ST JOSEPH THE WORKER

NORTH RESERVOIR

79 Wilson Boulevard, North Reservoir 3073
 Parish House/Office Tel: 9460 3013 Fax: 9460 8832 Mb: 0431 643 674
 E-mail: stjtw@westnet.com.au
 www.stjosephtheworker.org.au
 School Tel: 9460 7506 Fax: 9462 2949

SUNDAY MASS TIMES:

Sat 6.00pm - English
 Sun. 9.00am - Italian
 Sun. 10.30am - English

Fr Emmanuel Bonello–Parish Priest
 Sr Doreen Bentley-Pastoral Associate
 Mr Peter Chowne -School Principal
 Mrs Liz Pistoni – Parish Secretary

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:

Mon. 9.10am Comm. Service
 Tue. 10.00am Italian
 Wed. 9.10am - English
 Thur. 9.10am - English
 Fri. 9.10am - English
 Sat. 8.30am - English

Maltese Mass

1st Saturday of the Month 6.00pm

Baptisms – Sunday 12.00pm

Marriages - By Appointment



4th Sunday of Lent, Year B

22 March 2009

Look to the cross



Jesus often taught by recalling incidents familiar to his hearers. Today's Gospel passage begins in this fashion. Jesus says to Nicodemus, "The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert". What had Moses done? The people of Israel had spoken against God and against Moses. At this, God sent fiery serpents among them, their bite bringing death to many. Moses interceded for the people, and was told, "Make a fiery serpent and raise it on a standard. Anyone who is bitten and looks on it will live". Jesus takes this Old Testament incident into his own time and his own plan, and promises that everyone who believes in God's only son raised up on the cross will have eternal life. Catholics have been outstanding in finding ways to keep the cross at the centre of our attention. We make the sign of the Cross with holy water as we enter the church, we open and close our Mass with the Sign of the Cross, a cross is prominent near the altar throughout the time Mass is being celebrated. The same has been true of more personal prayers. The rosary beads in common used among Western Catholics always had a crucifix attached to them. Eastern Catholics, along with their Orthodox brethren, made even more abundant use of the Sign of the Cross in their worship than did we of the West. In my childhood, I traveled with my parents by car to many parts of our country. Coming into a town with which they were unfamiliar, my parents could almost always pick out the Catholic Church from the others. This was by looking for the church which had a cross on the peak of the roof. Rarely were they lead astray. So we Catholics have traditionally done well in displaying and honouring the cross on which our Saviour was raised on high. But that by itself is not enough. As Jesus told Nicodemus, it is those who believe in the Saviour that will be saved. Our faith and our belief must back up our external performance. Today's Gospel is an occasion for checking up how we have been doing. Has, for instance, our uttering of prescribed words of prayer been performed with faith in the Father we address, in the crucified Son whom we invoke, and in the Spirit whom we believe acts in us? Only in such believing fashion will we win through to eternal life. We who live in this part of the world are especially blessed and aided in this matter. In our national flag the cross is represented not once but four times. In our night sky burns that unique constellation, the Southern Cross. We do not have to pray every time we salute our country's ensign or glance upwards on a cloud-free night. But at least on occasion, we can use that patriotic emblem or those stars to remind us of the one who was lifted up for all to see. We can renew our faith in Him who died on the cross to bring us eternal life. He is truly the Saviour of those who believe in him.

PALM SUNDAY – DOMENICA DELLE PALME

If there is any parishioner who can donate Olive branches to the church for Palm Sunday, please let the parish office know on 9460 3013. Branches need to be delivered to the church on the morning of Saturday 4 April. Thank you!

Domenica delle Palme: Se qualcuno puo' donare alla chiesa alcuni rami di Ulivo, per favore telefonate all'ufficio parrocchiale 9460 3013. I rami devano essere portati alla chiesa la mattina di Sabato 4 Aprile. Grazie!

PROJECT COMPASSION GUEST SPEAKER

This weekend we welcome Mary Anne Collins from Caritas who will be speaking to us about Project Compassion, during the 6.00pm and 10.30am Masses.

LENTEN REFLECTION PROGRAM

Lenten reflection discussion group in the Parish House with Fr Manny every Wednesday evening at 7.30pm, and every Wednesday mornings with Sr Doreen at 10.00am. It is done in a friendly and informal way which promotes common faith sharing. Resources used are from the booklet "You've got mail", produced by the Archdiocese of Melbourne, with reflections on the Letters of St Paul.

ITALIAN LADIES: CENA CON I SIMBOLI DELLA PASQUA

Martedì 7 Aprile (settimana santa) dopo la Santa Messa delle ore 10.00am, nella sala parrocchiale si terrà un fraterno incontro con i simboli della pasqua come negli anni passati. L'offerta sarà di \$7, i posti sono limitati, prenotatevi in tempo. Per i biglietti potete rivolgervi a Lucia al 9460 4597 or Rosa al 9460 1695. Riflessioni del Martedì continua alle ore 9.00am in Capella, seguita Santa Messa alle 10.00am

EASTER DAWN

This year's Easter celebration on 12 April 2009, will be an **EASTER DAWN** starting at **5.30am**. This means that on **HOLY SATURDAY** evening 11 April 2009. **There will be NO MASS celebrated.**

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be conducted every Friday evening during Lent at 7.00pm in the Church. It will be in both English and Italian. All parishioners are warmly invited to come together for this important time of prayer.

VIA CRUCIS

Via Crucis in Italiano e Inglese tutti i Venerdì della Quaresima, alle ore 7.00pm, in chiesa.

BAPTISMS

Congratulations to **Brendon Kunda** son of Nazar and Nadiya, **Lucas Catalano** son of Marco and Dimitra, **Marco Tornatore** son of Michael and Elisabeth, who will be baptised this weekend. We welcome them into our parish community and assure the families of our prayerful best wishes on this happy occasion.

MEMORIAL MASS

Monday 23 March 7.30pm – Vincenzo De Thomas (1 mth)

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

The current series of Thanksgiving envelopes ends in March. We greatly thank those who have contributed. A new series of Thanksgiving envelopes will be issued for the following six months, and will be delivered to the homes within the next two weeks.

We ask parishioners who are not currently listed through Thanksgiving to please consider supporting the parish in this way. Please contact the Parish Office for further details on 9460 3013.

HOLY WEEK TIMETABLE

THURSDAY 2nd APRIL

7.30pm - Communal Celebration of Reconciliation

SUNDAY 5th APRIL PALM SUNDAY

Blessing of Palms or other branches during each Mass of that Weekend

THURSDAY 9th APRIL HOLY THURSDAY

7.30pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper

FRIDAY 10th APRIL GOOD FRIDAY

3.00pm - Good Friday Ceremonies - Celebration of the Lord's Passion

7.30pm - Via Crucis (Station of the Cross) in Italian

SUNDAY 12th APRIL EASTER SUNDAY

5.30am Easter Dawn Celebration of Mass

9.00am Mass in Italian

10.30am Mass in English

CARITAS AUSTRALIA



4th Sunday Of Lent

Paul assures us in his letter to the Ephesians that God loves us with so much love that God was generous with mercy! In fact we have been shaped and crafted by the loving hand of God! Such mystery is beyond our understanding and difficult to grasp in a world of extreme differences where poverty and environmental destruction exist alongside wealth and prosperity. For this reason Paul exclaims that it is by God's grace and generous mercy that salvation through the person of Jesus has come into our world.

Today's reading from Indonesia builds on the theme of ecological justice, Ipau, a 29 year old woman from South Kalimantan, Indonesia works to secure a safe environment and sustainable future for families. Ipau participates in a Caritas Australia supported advocacy program jointly run by Down To Earth (DTE). This program has helped her grow in confidence and advocacy skills. She collaborates with local partners in advocating for the rights of indigenous of their land and natural resources. Communities have also acquired local and international networking skills in achieving these goals. World Forestry Day commemorates the importance of forests to our communities and natural environment. Caritas Australia promotes the empowerment of local communities and ecological justice. Your contribution to Project Compassion will support the advocacy roles of disadvantaged communities in protecting their land and sustaining a viable future for their children.