

Palm (Passion) — Sunday 25th March 2018

Entrance Antiphon : Six days before the Passover, when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem, the children ran to meet Him; in their hands they carried palm branches and with a loud voice cried out: “Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy! O gates, lift your heads; grow higher ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory! Who is the king of glory? He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory. “Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

First reading from the prophet Isaiah. 50: 4 - 7.

Respons. Psalm : My God, my God, why have You abandoned me?

Second Reading from the letter to the Philippians. 2: 6 –11.

Gospel Acclamation : Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! Christ became obedient for us even unto death, dying on the Cross. Therefore God raised Him on high and gave Him a name above all other names.

Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! !

Gospel : According to Mark 14: 1 - 15: 47.

Communion Antiphon : Father, if this chalice cannot pass without My drinking it, Your will be done.

Sydney Archdiocese News

Private Movie Screenings: Paul, Apostle Of Christ is the new and highly anticipated film which explores Saint Paul's final days. Starring Jim Caviezel, Olivier Martinez and James Faulkner in the title role. You are invited to 3 special screenings on Tues, 27 March at Dendy Opera Quays. Choose between the 12pm, 3pm or 6pm sessions with tickets selling for only \$12 each. Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the Priests' Retirement Foundation. To reserve your seat phone the Development and Fundraising Office on 1800 753 959. No tickets sold on the day.

WYD Panama : Sydney Catholic Youth are inviting you on the pilgrimage of a lifetime to Panama where you will celebrate Mass with Pope Francis and millions of young Catholics from around the world. Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP will lead the Sydney pilgrimage departing on 15 January 2019 which will travel from Sydney to Washington DC, then to WYD Panama with the optional extension to travel to Mexico City. Register your interest and find out more www.sydneycatholicyouth.org/wyd

St Christopher's Parish Holsworthy

*We are a community striving for growth, unity, equality,
love and commitment*

Administrator :	Rev. Fr. Andrew James
Assistant Priest :	Rev. Fr. Thomas Alukka Varghese
Assistant Priest :	Rev. Fr. Nicholas Rynne
Permanent Deacon :	Rev. Mr. Al Salu
Parish Secretary :	Mr. David Moore
Parish Office Hours :	Mon 10.00 am - 3.30 pm Wed 9.30 am - 3.30 pm Fri 9.30 am - 3.30 pm
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St Christopher's Catholic School — *Through faith and love we serve*

Principal:	Mr. Tony Boyd
School Tel:	(02) 9825 3251

Palm (Passion) Sunday - (Year B) Sunday 25th March 2018

In this final Lenten Sunday, we see that we have been saved through the kenotic (partial renunciation of divine nature) humility of Jesus, not through military power. We have a saviour who was crushed for our iniquities, nailed to a cross as a convicted criminal, and there endured the sense of abandonment. However, this saviour was later lifted up and exalted precisely because he emptied himself of his divine prerogatives.

Jesus became one of us in order to show us how we are to live. He was raised up because he himself was first willing to be put down. The passion recounts the extent to which he willingly offered himself. We have a saviour who first offered himself for us and then continues to offer himself to us as an example to follow. As he was willing to empty himself for our sake, so we are told to empty ourselves for the sake of others.

The best way to enter Holy Week with him is in the company of those with whom he has identified himself: the poor and the broken; the humiliated and the marginalised; those who suffer the abuse of others; those who never use rank to force their will. If we are to be saved, we must go where salvation takes place: in our streets and in our homes where violence rages; in the dark corners of life where despair seems to hold sway; wherever the innocent are abused or the needy are neglected; wherever there is misunderstanding or fear or jealousy. We must go wherever Christ empties himself for us.

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Parish Collections : 18th March 2018

First: \$1,005.70

Second: \$1,290.40

Parish News:

Good Friday—Holy Land Collection

A collection will be taken up on Good Friday to support the Holy Places. The annual collection directly assists the church in the Holy land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education employment and housing. Our donation is a direct way to make a difference in the lives of those caught up in war, violence and instability.

Fundraising

The goal for the Fete / Fund Raising Committee for a new sound system and overhead screen is currently underway with the 200 Club which still has 77 tickets available. Parishioner support to date is very much appreciated, but we will be unable to draw a winner until all have been sold. Our next venture is the Bunnings Airport Bankstown BBQ on Saturday 14th April from 8am – 4pm. On the day we expect to sell at least 700 sausages and need approx. 600 cans of drink eg. coke, lemonade, diet cola, solo, lemon/lime, Fanta plus at least 100 bottles of water. It will be greatly appreciated if parishioners are able to assist in helping us with donations of cartons of drink or water. Please leave any donations in the container provided in the foyer of the Church. Volunteers are very welcome. For further details contact Helen Carter on 9824 1773 or 0418 403 842.



Project Compassion Boxes

Please return your Caritas Project compassion boxes next weekend. These can be placed on any of the collection plates. Thank you for your generosity.

Holy Water blessed at the Easter Vigil Mass will be available at the back of the church next weekend. Please bring along a small container to fill if you would like to take some home.



Defending the Faith

In the Gospels of Matthew and Mark, you may be familiar with the final words of Our Lord from the Cross “Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?” which is “My, God, My God, why have You forsaken me?”

Much has been debated as to why Jesus spoke these words. Many the critic have suggested that in His final moments Jesus yielded to His mortality, lost faith and cried out in fear and despair. However, this is actually far from the truth. Theologians are in agreement that Jesus’s final words were a direct quote from the first line of Psalm 22. Far from being a cry for help, Psalm 22 tells of Gods deliverance in times of trial. So for the faithful at least, it would actually appear, that even with His last tortured breath, Our Blessed Lord was reminding us all to place our trust in God.

Holy Week Timetable 2018

Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday) Saturday 24th March

Vigil Mass : *5.30pm (*Palm Procession)
Reconciliation : 4.30pm - 5.15pm

Sunday 25th March

Mass: 8.00am, *9.30am (*Palm Procession)

Mon 26th, Tues 27th, Wed 28th

Mass : 9.15am
Reconciliation : 9.45am – 10.15am

Thursday of Holy Week 29th March

Mass of the Lord’s Supper : 7.00pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until Midnight

Good Friday : 30th March

Stations of the Cross : 10.00am
Celebration of the Lord’s Passion : 3.00pm

Holy Saturday 31st March

The Easter Vigil : 7.00pm

Easter Sunday 1st April

Mass : 8.00am & 9.30am

Saints of the Week / Feasts

N / A



We Pray For The Sick : Peter Wanchalerm Srirattana,
Brian Cooney, Cyril Ferriere

Recently deceased:

Anniversary: Hazel Sweeny 19th Mar
Thomas Mendes 25th Mar



Anointing of the sick.