

St. Oliver Plunkett Parish

Harris park



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13 April 2025 | Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Hossana to the Son of David;
blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord,
the King of Israel.
Hosanna in the highest.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Father, if this chalice cannot pass
without my drinking it,
your will be done.

Matthew 26:42



Weekday Mass Times

Tuesday to Friday: 7:00 am

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday: Vigil 5:30pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:00 am



Administrator: Fr Paul Marshall
School Principal: Pascale Rone
School Tel: (02) 8633 8300
Parish Secretary: Lilia Tolentino
Tel: (02) 88638801

OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday & Friday: 10:00 am. - 3:00 pm
Wednesday: 8:00 am - 12:30pm

Sacraments @ St Oliver's

**For Baptism, Reconciliation,
First Holy Communion,
Confirmation, Marriage and
Funerals, please ring or email the
parish office for assistance.**

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Thinking about becoming a Catholic
or know someone who may be
interested in exploring the Catholic
faith? Contact the Parish Office for
more details on joining the RCIA
program.

A Week Walking with Christ-Holy Week 2025

After a downpour, prospectors walk along river beds and discover semi-precious stones washed to the surface. Unless you have a trained eye, many would not recognise the treasure there. Similarly, our journey through Holy Week can unearth many spiritual treasures which we may have glossed over previously. How might we, this Holy Week, still recognise and claim the precious stones of our Faith and Liturgical Tradition? We invite you to be "prospectors-in-faith" that we may uncover the precious jewels of grace that God wants to unearth for us during this most sacred week of the Church's year.

Let's uncover some of those jewels of grace this Holy Week. This weekend set up a table with a tablecloth and place on it a candle, a wooden cross or crucifix, some palms for Palm Sunday and a Bible. Perhaps some dads and sons and daughters may band together this Holy Week to make a wooden cross to place in your sacred place to remind us of our redemption.

I invite you, as a family, to take up the bible from your sacred space and walk with Christ through Holy Week:

Walk in the spirit of Jesus as he processes into Jerusalem on a donkey with the people jubilantly waving palms. Read the Palm Sunday account either in your Sunday Missal or in your bible. In the missal you can read, in parts, the Passion account for Year C on Palm Sunday with your family taking the turns of the Crowd, the Narrator and Jesus. Ask your children to decorate your sacred place with palms, alongside the bible/missal; candle; and a wooden cross-which the children could make from wood. You can find the passion account in your bible in Luke 22.14 – 23.56

On Holy Week Monday 14th April, read about Mary of Bethany anointing the feet of Jesus and wiping them with her hair. (John 12.1-11)

On Holy Week Tuesday and Wednesday 15th-16th April read about Jesus' prediction of Judas' betrayal (Matthew 26.14-25).

Follow Jesus through the Last Supper. (John 13.1-5) with John's emphasis on the washing of the feet.

Follow Jesus in his agony in the Garden of Gethsemane (John 18.1-11). Can we stay awake to pray with Jesus?

Follow Jesus in his trial before Caiaphas, Herod and Pilate (John 18.12 – 19.42)

Follow Peter in his denial of Jesus (John 18.15-27)

Follow Jesus to his Crucifixion (John 19.17-19.42)

The time of Resurrection (John 20.1-33; 21.1-25)

This Holy Week, follow Jesus through a rough justice system before Caiaphas, Herod and Pilate. Let's pray for the rough justice systems present in our own times. See Jesus stripped and laid on the wood of the cross-his wrists and feet tortured by the hammering of the nails. With the crucifixion we learn with Him abandonment to Divine Providence. On Good Friday write down your own personal crosses on a cardboard cross and join it to the cross of Jesus. Join us for 1-1 Reconciliation after the Good Friday Passion. Come to the Vigil at the Tomb on Holy Saturday at 10.00am (outside in the seminary grounds) as we wait in expectation and hope for Jesus to rise again on the third day.

Walk with Christ this Holy Week. Uncover the precious stones of God's grace. Seek the face of Jesus. Seek to find the fountains of grace he wishes to give to us. Walk alongside our Saviour this week and at Easter we will share the joy of Christ risen.

Other News and Events

ELECTION STATEMENT 2025 Called to Bring Hope in the Year of Jubilee

As Australians prepare to vote in the federal election, Catholics have a vital role in shaping our nation's future.

Key issues to reflect on before voting

In determining our electoral choices, Australian Catholics search always to uphold the sanctity of life, protect the vulnerable, support and strengthen families, promote the common good, and foster a just society where all Australians can thrive.

To read more about Catholic Social Teaching, scan the QR code or visit this link: bit.ly/ElectionStatement2025

Prayer for the election

Grant, we pray, O Lord our God,
that as the Cross shines in our southern skies,
so may Christ bring light to our nation,
to its peoples old and new,
and by saving grace,
transform our lives.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



Palm Sunday 12-13th of April 2025

As Project Compassion 2025 draws to a close for another year, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your generous support throughout this Lenten Season.

This year, we shared the inspiring stories of 3 individuals whose lives have been transformed through your compassion and generosity.

But the work isn't done yet. There is still time to donate! Together, we can *Unite Against Poverty* and help transform lives this Lent.



Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

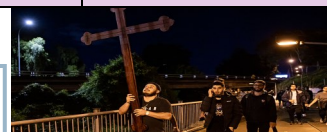
Parish Updates

Holy Week and Easter Timetable

13 th April	Palm Sunday	Vigil Mass	5:30 pm
		Sunday Mass	8:00 am / 10:00 am
17 th April	Holy Thursday	Mass of the Lord's Supper (no morning mass)	7:30 pm
18 th April	Good Friday	Stations of the Cross (no morning mass)	10:00 am
		Passion of the Lord	3:00 pm
		1 st Rite of Reconciliation	4:15 pm
19 th April	Holy Saturday	Pilgrims on <i>The Good Friday Walk</i> arrive at St Oliver's	5:00 am
		Vigil at the Tomb b/w the church & seminary	10:00 am
		EASTER VIGIL	7:30 pm
20 th April	Easter Sunday	Easter Sunday Mass	8:00 am / 10:00 am
25 th April	ANZAC Day	Morning Mass	9:00 am

* No weekday Masses during Easter week from 22nd to 24th of April

Young pilgrims are seen carrying a cross during Catholic Youth Parramatta's Good Friday Night Walk in April 2023. Image: Diocese of Parramatta



PARISH READING ROSTER NEXT WEEK: HOLY WEEK and EASTER

Holy Thursday	7:00 pm	Gerard Pinto / Robert Aquino		
Good Friday	3:00 pm	Geoff & Monica Officer / Reema & Nelton D'Souza		
Easter Vigil, Saturday	5:30 pm	Reema & Nelton D'Souza / Jim Hanna / Kristine Alba		
Easter Sunday	8:00 am	Anne Haddad / Victoria Micalizzi	10:00 am	Carol Isaac / Nick Tagnipis

Diocesan Notices

Study of Luke's Gospel with Dr Laurie Woods: Fridays 2–30 May

Join us for an enriching study of Luke's Gospel, led by Dr Laurie Woods and hosted by the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD). Sessions will take place each Friday in May from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. All parishioners are welcome to attend. For more information or to RSVP by 30 April, contact ccd.training@parracatholic.org

Safeguarding the Elderly Project

Are you interested in sharing and listening to ideas about how we can meet the needs of older people in our Parish communities? You are invited to host a morning tea with your parish or ministry team. Those involved in ministries such as Ministers of Communion to the Sick and Pastoral Care Groups, are invited to share their experiences and reflections. Please contact Maria Kervin (Manager, Prevention, Healing & Support) at: mariakervin@parracatholic.org for more information.

Commissioning Mass of Liturgical Ministers: 13 May

In this Jubilee Year of Hope all liturgical ministers - readers, servers and extra ordinary ministers are invited to join us for our Annual Commissioning Mass of Liturgical Ministers. Families and friends are also invited. This celebration will take place at 7:30pm on 13th May 2025, at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. To register your attendance and guests please visit parracatholic.org/events/liturgical-ministers-commissioning-mass/



Pontifical Holy Land Good Friday Collection 2025

As a reminder that every year on Good Friday, a collection is taken up in every Catholic Church to support the people and places of the Holy Land. The Franciscans of the Custody of the Holy Land have the unique responsibility of caring for the Holy Places as well as caring for the Christians living in the Holy Land.

Thank You for Supporting our Catholic Care's chaplaincy services

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains thank you for your kind-hearted generosity and support for people in hospital and prison who might otherwise feel abandoned. Our Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal will provide pastoral, spiritual, and sacramental support to people in times of darkness. If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit parracatholic.org/appeal or scan this QR code. Thank you.



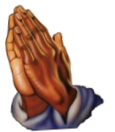
Our Community

HOLY SATURDAY SESSION AT 10 AM

We have an extra prayer session on Holy Saturday at 10.00am, namely, the Vigil at the Tomb. This will be outside in the seminary grounds where we can focus in expectation on Jesus' death, descent to the realm of the dead, and awaiting His resurrection as the Light and Life of the world.



Please pray for those who are sick, recently deceased, have an anniversary at this time and all those for whom you have a special intention.



Recently Deceased: Fr David Coffey | Rebecca Llanillo | Brian Peterson | All those who died recently, especially those who used to be part of this parish community as parishioners or relations of our parishioners

Deceased: Namtallah & Patrick Malkoun | Frank & Ray Malkoun | Romanos Malkoun | Samiha Frome | Joe & Clare Boulous, Isaac Moses, Ruby Moses | Rachael Sumagui & Artemio, Abraham, Augustus, Rebecca & Tranquilina Patacsil, Yolanda & Donald Muir, Rebecca Llanillo | Queenie & Nicholas Nicholas, Namtullah & Christine Coorey, Rizcullah & Patricia Coorey & family, Jabour & Doura Nicholas & family, Saidie & Joseph Coorey & family, Najia & Toufic Samyia, Dr Kevin Coorey, All deceased members of the Nicholas, Coorey, Budwee & Norman families | David (Dib) & Theresia Romanos | Romanos Family | Pamela Romanos | Evelyn Betros | Tony & Samira Abood & their Family | Fred Betros Family | Constanton Family | All Holy Souls in Purgatory especially for those who have no one praying for them

Anniversary: Jocelyn Lusañea Tababa | Ruby Moses | Godofredo San Pedro | Cyriaco Pinto | For all those whose anniversaries of death occur around this time

Sick: Virginia, Agnes, Napoleon, Jorge, Neil, Manuel & John Joaquin Patacsil, Elizabeth, Maryrose & Michael Perez, Naty & Maria Aurora Degamo, Erwin Ayuste | All the Sick especially those who are sick in our parish community

Special Intention: John Joaquin, Manolo, Agnes & Napoleon Patacsil; Elizabeth, Michael & Maryrose Perez; Erwin Ayuste | For all our special intentions and for those who have asked us for prayers

Thanksgiving: For all our blessings and prayers for thanksgiving

To our parishioners who would like to request for a home or hospital visit for the sick, please call the parish office on (02) 8863 8801 or email harrispar@parracatholic.org. For mass offerings or special intentions, you may use the envelopes provided at the church foyer.

Mass Readings

First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The Lord has given me
a disciple's tongue.
So that I may know how to reply to the wearied
he provides me with speech.
Each morning he wakes me to hear,
to listen like a disciple.
The Lord has opened my ear.

For my part, I made no resistance,
neither did I turn away.
I offered my back to those who struck me,
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;
I did not cover my face
against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help,
so that I am untouched by the insults.
So, too, I set my face like flint;
I know I shall not be shamed.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 21:8-9,17-20,23-24

℟ My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

When All who see me deride me. They curl their lips, they toss
their heads. 'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him; let him
release him if this is his friend.' ℟

Many dogs have surrounded me, a band of the wicked beset me.
They tear holes in my hands and my feet. I can count every one of
my bones. ℟

They divide my clothing among them. They cast lots for my robe.
O Lord, do not leave me alone, my strength, make haste to help
me! ℟

I will tell of your name to my brethren and praise you where they
are assembled. 'You who fear the Lord give him praise; all sons of
Jacob, give him glory. Revere him, Israel's sons.' ℟

Second Reading Philippians 2:6-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

His state was divine,
yet Christ Jesus did not cling
to his equality with God
but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.

But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings

in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation Philippians 2:8-9

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
Christ became obedient for us even to 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!

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke 23:1-49 (Short Form)

The elders of the people and the chief priests and scribes rose, and
they brought Jesus before Pilate.

They began their accusation by saying, 'We found this man
inciting our people to revolt, opposing payment of tribute to
Caesar, and claiming to be Christ, a king.' Pilate put to him this
question, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' 'It is you who say it' he
replied. Pilate then said to the chief priests and the crowd, 'I find
no case against this man.' But they persisted, 'He is inflaming the

people with his teaching all over Judaea; it has come all the way
from Galilee, where he started, down to here.' When Pilate heard
this, he asked if the man were a Galilean; and finding that he came
under Herod's jurisdiction he passed him over to Herod who was
also in Jerusalem at that time.

Herod was delighted to see Jesus; he had heard about him and had
been wanting for a long time to set eyes on him; moreover, he was
hoping to see some miracle worked by him. So he questioned him
at some length; but without getting any reply. Meanwhile the chief
priests and scribes were there, violently pressing their accusations.
Then Herod, together with his guards, treated him with contempt
and made fun of him; he put a rich cloak on him and sent him back
to Pilate. And though Herod and Pilate had been enemies before,
they were reconciled that same day.

Pilate then summoned the chief priests and the according to the
plan of God announced in the leading men and the people. 'You
brought this man before me' he said 'as a political agitator. Now I
have gone into the matter myself in your presence and found no
case against the man in respect of all the charges you bring against
him. Nor has Herod either, since he has sent him back to us. As
you can see, the man has done nothing that deserves death, so I
shall have him flogged and then let him go.' But as one man had been
howled, 'Away with him! Give us Barabbas!' (This man had been
thrown into prison for causing a riot in the city and for murder.)
Pilate was anxious to set Jesus free and addressed them again, but
they shouted back, 'Crucify him! Crucify him!' And for the third
time he spoke to them, 'Why? What harm has this man done? I
have found no case against him that deserves death, so I shall have
him punished and then let him go.' But they kept on shouting at
the top of their voices, demanding that he should be crucified. And
their shouts were growing louder.

Pilate then gave his verdict: their demand was to be granted. He
released the man they asked for, who had been imprisoned for
rioting and murder, and handed Jesus over to them to deal with as
they pleased.

As they were leading him away they seized on a man, Simon from
Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and made him
shoulder the cross and carry it behind Jesus. Large numbers of
people followed him, and of women too, who mourned and
lamented for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, 'Daughters of
Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep rather for yourselves and for
your children. For the days will surely come when people will say,
"Happy are those who are barren, the wombs that have never
borne, the breasts that have never suckled!" Then they will begin
to say to the mountains, "Fall on us!"; to the hills, "Cover us!" For
if men use the green wood like this, what will happen when it is
dry?' Now with him they were also leading out two other criminals
to be executed.

When they reached the place called The Skull, they crucified him
there and the two criminals also, one on the right, the other on the
left. Jesus said, 'Father forgive them; they do not know what they
are doing.' Then they cast lots to share out his clothing.

The people stayed there watching him. As for the leaders, they
jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said 'let him save himself if
he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked
him too and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said,
'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there
was an inscription: 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the
Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other
spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he
said. 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we
deserved it; we are paying for what we did. But this man has done
nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said 'remember me when you come into
your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied 'today you will
be with me in paradise.'

It was now about the sixth hour and, with the sun eclipsed, a
darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. The veil of
the Temple was torn right down the middle; and when Jesus had
cried out in a loud voice, he said, 'Father, into your hands I
commit my spirit.' With these words he breathed his last.

(All kneel and pause a moment.)

When the centurion saw what had taken place, he gave praise to
God and said, 'This was a great and good man.' And when all the
people who had gathered for the spectacle saw what had happened,
they went home beating their breasts. All his friends stood at a
distance; so also did the women who had accompanied him from
Galilee, and they saw all this happen.

The Gospel of the Lord.