
Granville Catholic Church Record

Vol. 8. No. 11

March 19, 2023

4th Sunday of Lent, Year A

The Official Bulletin of Holy Cross Parish

LAETARE SUNDAY

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Laetare Sunday

As the season of Lent goes by, and as we continue our individual penitential practices, we notice that more and more parts of our divine worship are being taken away. The flowers and decorations in the sanctuary have been removed, the Alleluia has been buried, the Gloria is no longer sung in the Mass.

On Holy Thursday night, the altar will be stripped, the Blessed Sacrament removed from the tabernacle and transferred to another place; and eventually the statues are covered.

On Good Friday, even the Mass will be taken away, and we experience our most sorrowful loss when Jesus is crucified. In the middle of our Lenten self-denials and the loss of the things so familiar, the Church gives us Laetare Sunday.

The Name

Today, the fourth Sunday of Lent, is known as Laetare Sunday. The word "laetare" is a Latin word and it means "to rejoice."

The idea of rejoicing is found in the introit or entrance antiphon of the Mass for this Sunday which begins "Rejoice, Jerusalem." It is taken from the prophet Isaiah who goes on to say "rejoice with joy, you that have been in sorrow."

The responsorial psalm exclaims: "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." He is always present, restoring, anointing, comforting us to the point "my cup overflows".

Joy is the theme throughout the Mass and the day. Pope Innocent III (r. 1198-1216) explained that this special Sunday provided "a measure of consoling relaxation... so that the faithful may not break down under the severe strain of Lenten fast but may continue to bear the restrictions with a refreshed and easier heart."

It marks the midpoint of the holy season of Lent which we began three weeks ago with Ash Wednesday and which we will draw to a close in three weeks as we celebrate the great solemnity of Easter.

The Colour Rose

The violet vestments of Lent are put aside in favour of the lighter coloured rose vestments. The dour purple of bruises makes way for the joyful colour of roses. Flowers, forbidden during Lent, may, on this Sunday alone, be placed on the sanctuary. And the organ, in past times silenced, plays on this one day.

Moreover, in the past on this Sunday the Pope would bless golden roses and present these to cathedrals and to heads of state as a mark of gratitude and favour.

It is a day to give us hope and encouragement as we move through these penitential days so that we do not lose our sense of what we are working towards. It is a reminder that the penances and sacrifices we make in Lent are to prepare us for the celebration of the Resurrection.

The fourth Sunday of Lent, Laetare Sunday, has its twin with the third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday, when, again, the spirit of the season is heightened in preparation for the solemnity of the birth of the Lord.

Mothering Sunday

Laetare Sunday is also known as "Mothering Sunday" because of the epistle that was traditionally read on this day. This letter from St. Paul to the Galatians (4:31) speaks of how not the Jews, but those who come to Christ, are the inheritors of Abraham's promise.

Moreover, the old practice of visiting the cathedral, or "mother church" of the diocese on this day is another reason for the name. And Mother's Day was traditionally celebrated today.

As Abbot Dom Guéranger wrote: "The Church's motive is to encourage her children to persevere fervently to the end of this holy season... she not only permits, but even bids, her children to rejoice!"

THE PARISH OFFICE

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Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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John Portelli

Director of Music

John Portelli

Catechist Co-ordinator

Lana Leatherby

Sacraments and Youth Co-ordinator

Rosette Chidiac

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Piety Shop

Claudette Takchi

Annette Wirz

Holy Family Primary School

T (02) 8633-8200

Holy Trinity Primary School

T (02) 8633-8500

Delany College

T (02) 8633-8100

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, 9:15 a.m.

Friday, 9:15 a.m.

Saturday, 9:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, 7:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

Confessions

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Sunday, 5:30 p.m.

Nigerian Community Mass

Second and fourth Sunday of the month,

11:00 a.m.

Rosters

Readers

8:30 a.m.

5:00 p.m.

DONATIONS

BSB: 067-950

Account: 00007247

Name: Granville Catholic Parish

SOCIAL MEDIA



holycrossgranville.org.au



HolyCrossGranville



Holy Cross Parish App



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HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Holy Mass

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 8:15 a.m.

Thursday, 8:15 a.m.

Friday, 8:15 a.m.

Saturday, 8:15 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Confessions

Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Holy Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Mass in Latin

First Thursday of the month, 6:00 p.m.

Ghanaian Chaplaincy Mass

Second and last Sunday of the month,
11:30 a.m.

Vietnamese Chaplaincy Mass

Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

Rosters

Church Cleaning Group 4: A. Quinlan,

G. Pinto, M. Asiedu, M. Moses,

G. Dankwah, S. Martin, M. Magpayo,

C. Elegado, J. Puni, J. Osei-Yamoah,

A. Osei-Yamoah, L. Tordilla, J. Fili,

J. John, A. Abosh, O. Ifeanyi, J. Raj,

S. Joseph

Readers

Vigil Gerry Pinto, Racquel La Rosa,

Rosette Chidiac

10:00 a.m. Reanne Chidiac,

Ingrid Bifulco, Hind Dagher-Hadchiti

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton, John Augustus, Frank Azzopardi, Antonio Bifulco, Ann Blesson, Vincenzo Colosimo, Marcus El-Khoury, Lucy Farrugia, Carmel Galea, Evangeline Grabato, Thomas Hayek, Elizabeth Hicks, Peter Higgins, Therese Khalil, Kay King, Ruth La Rosa, Jacob Lee, Josephine Magro, Ester Matos, Sid Morgan, Scott Moulton, Tony Moussa, Ben Nursoo, Sarah-Joy O'Connor, Flory Pinto, Don Provest, Therese Smeal, Ricardo Tognini, Lorraine Vella, Sam Wardan.



*Lord Jesus Christ, our Redeemer,
by the grace of your Holy Spirit
cure the weaknesses of your servants,
and mercifully restore them to full health.
St. Raphael the Archangel, pray for us.*

IN MEMORIAM

Sr. Teresita Perez, Nieves Arribas, Phillip Axiak, Victor Azzopardi, Claudio Basamez, Antonia Agustin Bernardo, Nick Bonello, Betty Borg, Kathleen Bradbery, Paul Bradbery, Charles Bugeja, Mary Caden, Dick Cahill, Gwen Cahill, Vincent Cahill, Phyllis May Denmeade, Carmen Galea, Maria Gambin, John Graham, Joe Grech, Mary Grech, Sam Grech, Kelvin Huitt, Salim Karaki, Nouhad Khoury, Frouzine Malkoun, Jacob Malkoun, Mouna Malkoun, Ofimia Malkoun, Mounir Mattar, Magdalena Mendoza, Joseph Nammour, Jack Newell, Jean Newell, Tony Newell, Haydee Nursoo, Sheila Pidgeon, Peter Robertson, Anna Saunig, Sergio Sudiro, Emanuel Tabone, Darren Thornton, Joseph Vella, Dib Zaiter.



*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

First Holy Communion Enrolment Form Available

Enrolments are open for those who would like their children to make their first confession and first Holy Communion (year 3 and above) and to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation (year 5 and above). Forms are available from Fr. Andrew after Mass.

Enrolments are now closed for the Sacrament of Confirmation. If, however, you would like to enrol your child, please speak with Fr. Andrew today.

Good Friday “Cross Walk”

On Good Friday, we will again hold our Stations of the Cross “Cross Walk” from Holy Trinity Church to Holy Family Church.

As in previous years, we are asking for people to offer their houses as one of the stations along the way, where we will stop and pray outside for a few minutes before going on to the next station.

If you live on Grimwood Street, William Street, Clyde Street or The Trongate and would like to offer your home as one of the possible stations, please speak with Fr. Andrew or contact the parish office during the week. We can then discuss whether we can include your home in the route planned for the Good Friday walk.

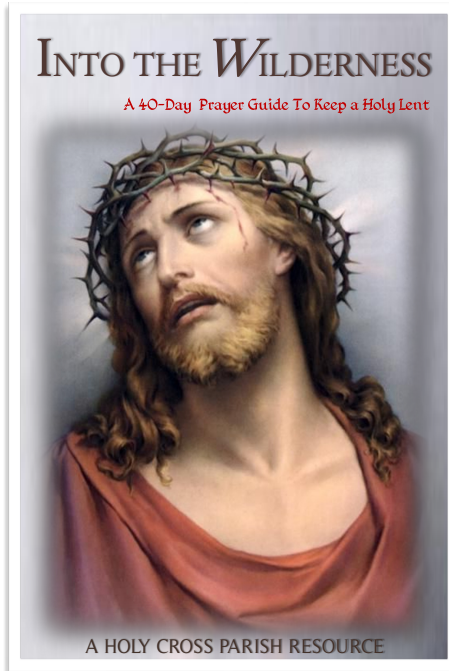
Important Notice Regarding Holy Mass Times

On Palm Sunday, the temporary Holy Mass times of 7:30 a.m. at Holy Family Church and of 3:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church will not be offered. The other Mass times will remain as usual for that day.

On Easter Sunday, the temporary Holy Mass times of 7:30 a.m. at Holy Family Church and of 3:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church will not be offered.

“Into the Wilderness” A Holy Cross Parish 40 Day Prayer Guide to Keep a Holy Lent

Following the success of previous Lent and Advent prayer guides and in response to appeals by parishioners of this parish and of other parishes for another guide for Lent, we are pleased to announce the launch of this year’s 40 day prayer guide for Lent entitled “Into the Wilderness: A 40-Day Prayer Guide to Keep a Holy Lent”.



This book, devotedly written by John Portelli, is a day by day guide for each day of Lent offering the Gospel of the day as well as prayers, meditations and a daily action.

This book of prayers and devotions is a way for each of us to spend a few minutes each day of Lent to focus on the messages given to us through scripture and a way for self-assessment of our own actions, failings, and desire for reparation for our sins through meditation, prayer, and daily actions.

This prayer book is available in the piety shop for \$10 or online by visiting our website at holycrossgranville.org.au.

World Youth Day Fundraiser BBQ in Support of Elvis Nguyen

Elvis Nguyen, who is well known in this parish for his incredible dedication at serving at the altar and for assisting as cantor, has been selected as a pilgrim for this year’s World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal in July.



The travel costs for each pilgrim are high and they are required to arrange all funding for the pilgrimage. In support of Elvis and to assist him with these costs, the parish will be hosting a fundraiser BBQ today after the 10:00 a.m. Mass at Holy Trinity Church.

Elvis serves up to five Masses every weekend in the parish as well as arranging altar servers and assisting in organising many of the other Masses and devotions throughout the year. As well as all this, he also regularly sings at the vigil Mass.

It is for this dedication and service to the parish and his love of the Mass and of Our Lord that we should be generous in our support of him in helping him to raise the money to travel to World Youth Day.

So please join us today for this BBQ to contribute to this fundraiser and to help Elvis travel to World Youth Day!

HOLY CROSS PARISH, GRANVILLE

Lenten DEVOTIONS



Latin MASS

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
6PM Thursdays



Stations OF THE Cross

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
5:30PM Fridays

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
6:30PM Fridays



ADORATION of the Blessed Sacrament

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
5:30PM Sundays

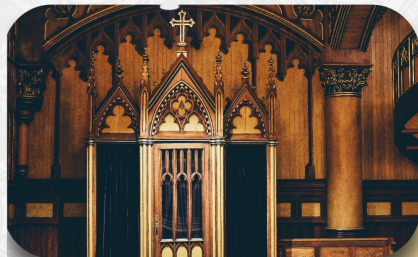
*Following the 5PM Sunday Mass
Includes Evening Prayer & Benediction*



Daily MASS

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
6:30PM Tuesdays
8:15AM Wed - Sat

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
6PM Wednesdays
9:15AM Tue & Thur - Sat



SACRAMENT of Penance

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
6:30PM - 7PM Wednesdays

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
10AM - 10:30AM Saturdays



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, GRANVILLE
Cnr. Randle St & Bennalong St, Granville

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH, EAST GRANVILLE
200 The Trongate, South Granville

Schedule subject to change. Please see the Granville Catholic Church Record for any changes

INTO THE *W*ILDERNESS

A 40-Day Prayer Guide To Keep a Holy Lent



A HOLY CROSS PARISH RESOURCE

Available in the piety shop for \$10
or download your copy at holycrossgranville.org.au

World Youth Day

FUNDRAISER BBQ

Buy a burger and
help send Elvis to
World Youth Day
in **Lisbon!**

TODAY

**HOLY
TRINITY
CHURCH**
*Following
10AM Mass*



Saints & STUFF

ST. MACARIUS

So who is the patron saint of sweets and pastries? That's St. Macarius of Alexandria whose feast day is celebrated on 2 January.

St. Macarius was born in Alexandria in Egypt sometime in the early 300's. He was a merchant in Alexandria selling sweets, fruits, and pastries. In A.D. 335, he became a monk and a hermit. But he himself only ate raw vegetables soaked in water and bread dipped in oil.

Later he travelled to southern Egypt and joined a monastery there. He died sometime between A.D. 401 and 405.



CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Sabbath Day

2168 The third commandment of the Decalogue recalls the holiness of the sabbath: "The seventh day is a sabbath of solemn rest, holy to the Lord."

2169 In speaking of the sabbath Scripture recalls creation: "For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and hallowed it."

2170 Scripture also reveals in the Lord's day a memorial of Israel's liberation from bondage in Egypt: "You shall remember that you were a servant in the land of Egypt, and the Lord your God brought you out thence with mighty hand and outstretched arm; therefore the Lord your God commanded you to keep the sabbath day."

2173 The Gospel reports many incidents when Jesus was accused of violating the sabbath law. But Jesus never fails to respect the holiness of this day. He gives this law its authentic and authoritative interpretation: "The sabbath was made for man, not man for the sabbath." The sabbath is the day of the Lord of mercies and a day to honour God. "The Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath."

CATHOLIC Trivia

5 Lies from the Devil and What God Has to Say About Them

2. You have no identity and you need to find it to live

Crises strike when we accept the idea that we are nothing. It becomes a tragedy when we resort to attaching ourselves to all worldly things mundane. Popular modern-day lifestyles such as YOLO (you only live once) and FOMO (fear of missing out) only add to drama and various other problems.

Though it is important to understand yourself, there is no need to say "I don't care" and do reckless things with your life. Cherish it, Christ died for your right to enjoy life, as well as your ability to do good unto others and yourself. Whenever you begin to question who you are, turn to Christ and remind yourself that following His footsteps is all you need to do to discover, or rediscover yourself.

**"I have been crucified
with Christ; and it is no longer
I who live, but it is Christ
who lives in me."**

(Galatians 2:19-20)

MT
V C A L S

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4th Sunday of Lent, Year A

The Readings

Introit (Cf. Ps. 66:10-11)

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

First Reading

The First Book of Samuel (16:1, 6-7, 10-13)

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

Responsorial Psalm (Ps. 94:1-2, 6-9. R. v. 8)

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. R.

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. R.

You have prepared a banquet for me
In the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. R.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. R.

Second Reading

The Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians (5:8-14)

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said: Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.

Gospel Acclamation (Jn. 8:12)

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.
Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

The Gospel of John (9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38)

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored. His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man. 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away. Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.