
Granville

Catholic Church Record

Vol. 10. No. 13

March 30, 2025

4th Sunday of Lent, Year C

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

Address

200 The Trongate,
South Granville, N.S.W. 2142

T 0497 190 444

E granville@parracatholic.org

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

Parish Priest

Rev. Fr. Andrew Bass PP

Business and Projects Manager

John Portelli

Catechist Co-ordinator

Lana Leatherby

Sacraments and Youth Co-ordinator

Rosette Chidiac

Online and Social Media Co-ordinators

Rosette Chidiac and John Portelli

Piety Shop

Claudette Takchi and Annette Wirz

Holy Family Primary School

T (02) 8633-8200

Holy Trinity Primary School

T (02) 8633-8500

Delany College

T (02) 8633-8100

DONATIONS

BSB: 067-950

Account: 00007247

Name: Granville Catholic Parish

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, 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Confessions

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

Sunday, 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Stations of the Cross

Each Friday of Lent, 5:00 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Sunday, 6:00 p.m.

Nigerian Community Mass

Second and fourth Sunday of the month,
11:00 a.m.

Rosters

Church and Toilets Cleaning

N. Khoury, C. Takchi, M. Wehbe

Flower Arranging

volunteers needed

SOCIAL MEDIA



holycrossgranville.org.au



HolyCrossGranville



Holy Cross Parish App



@holycrossgranville

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.

Confessions

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

Stations of the Cross

Each Friday of Lent, 6:00 p.m.

Holy Mass in Latin

Each Thursday of Lent, 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 1: D. Portelli,
L. Toman, W. Krasinski, J. Galea,
A. Quinlan, N. Begley

Readers

Vigil Sisters, Gerry Pinto,
Racquel La Rosa

10:00 a.m. Rosza Kazmer,
Raphaella Chidiac, Mary Georges

Children's Liturgy Victor Liu and
Armani Barakat

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Joseph Akkary, Janelle Allan, John Anjoul, Marlene Ashton,
John Augustus, Frank Azzopardi, Antonio Bifulco, Ann
Blesson, John Borg, Vincenzo Colosimo, Lucy Farrugia,
Carmel Galea, Carmello Giovenco, Evangeline Grabato,
Thomas Hayek, Elizabeth Hicks, Peter Higgins, Therese
Khalil, Kay King, Fortunato La Macchia, Silvio La Macchia,
Jacob Lee, Josephine Magro, Ester Matos, Sid Morgan,
Scott Moulton, Ben Nursoo, Sarah-Joy O'Connor, 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.*

IN MEMORIAM

Victor Azzopardi, Bonello family, Engedi Brown, Jim Brown,
Dick Cahill, Gwen Cahill, Vincent Cahill, Albert Camilleri, Les
Camilleri, Tessie Camilleri, Phyllis May Denmeade, Maria Dinh,
Alan Frost, Carmen Galea, Maria Gambin, John Graham, Joe
Grech, Mary Grech, Sam Grech, Melissa Irons, Joe Joseph, May
Joseph, Salim Karaki, Nouhad Khoury, Thomas Lam, Rustica La
Rosa, Laurie Lowe, Frouzine Malkoun, Jacob Malkoun, Mouna
Malkoun, Ofimia Malkoun, Jack McGrath, Aileen McIntyre, Roy
McIntyre, Joseph Nammour, Jack Newell, Hazel Jean Newell,
Tony Newell, Vincent Nguyen, Michael O'Brien, Zackary
Orenshaw, Doris Pickering, Sheila Pidgeon, Flory Pinto, Peter
Robertson, Saliba family, Geoff Senior, Garry Smith, Noel So,
Emanuel Tabone, Alex Taktak, Darren Thornton, John Timbs, John
Vella, Peter Vu Van Vuong, Graham Wales, Carmel Watts, Phyllis
Webb, Mershed Wehbe, Yesmine Wehbe, Dennis Wilson, Phyllis
Yott, Dib Zaiter, Laila Zaiter.



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

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.

This is an annual event of the parish which we began back in 2016.

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 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 look at how we may include your home in the route planned for the Good Friday walk.

Good Friday “Cross Walk” Safety Marshalls

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

This is an annual event of the parish which we began back in 2016.

We are asking for people to volunteer as marshalls to help along the way. The role of the marshall is to help us safely cross roads and to guide people along the route. In this way, we can safely carry out this noble work in honour of Our Lord as we commemorate His saving Passion.

Palm Sunday Palm Branches

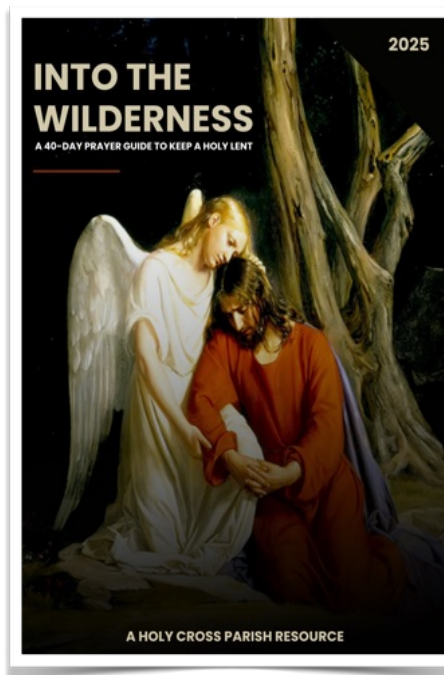
With a shortage of palms this year, we encourage parishioners to bring their own palm leaves to be blessed on Palm Sunday.

If you have additional palms that you can offer, please speak with Fr. Andrew.

“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 shops and online by visiting our website at holycrossgranville.org.au.

First Confession (Sacrament of Penance) and First Holy Communion (Sacrament of the Eucharist)

Enrolment forms are now available for first confession (Sacrament of Penance) and first Holy Communion (Sacrament of the Eucharist). To be eligible, your child must have been baptised in the Catholic church, be in year 3 or above and attend Mass every Sunday.

Enrolment forms can be collected from Fr. Andrew after Mass and must be returned to Fr. Andrew at a Mass by Sunday, 6 April.

Masses will be said on Saturday, 7 June at 12:00 p.m. at Holy Family Church and on Saturday, 14 June at 12:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church.

Please be aware that those enrolling their children for these Sacraments will be obliged to attend Mass every Sunday in the parish as well as attending all lessons and the preparation.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Enrolment forms are now available for the Sacrament of Confirmation. To be eligible, your child must have been baptised in the Roman Catholic church, be in year 5 or above and attend Mass every Sunday.

Enrolment forms can be collected from Fr. Andrew after Mass and must be returned to Fr. Andrew at a Mass by Sunday, 6 April.

The Mass will be said on Thursday, 12 June at 6:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church. Attendance at all lessons and the preparation is mandatory.

Please be aware that those enrolling their children for these Sacraments will be obliged to attend Mass every Sunday in the parish as well as attending all lessons and the preparation.

HOLY CROSS PARISH, GRANVILLE

Lenten DEVOTIONS



Mass in
LATIN

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
6PM Thursdays



Stations
OF THE
Cross

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
5PM Fridays

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
6PM Fridays



ADORATION
of the
Blessed
Sacrament

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
5:45PM 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
4:15PM - 4:45PM Sundays

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

Palm Sunday



13 APRIL

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

4:30PM - VIGIL MASS *Sat 12th April*
8:30AM - HOLY MASS *Sun 13th April*
5PM - HOLY MASS *Sun 13th April*

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

6PM - VIGIL MASS *Sat 12th April*
10AM - HOLY MASS *Sun 13th April*

Holy Week



Holy Tuesday

15 APRIL

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

7PM - TENEBRAE

A solemn service of psalms, prayers & candles

Holy Thursday



17 APRIL

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

5:30PM - MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

7:30PM - MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Followed by the Altar of Repose



Good Friday

18 APRIL

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

9:15AM - STATIONS OF THE CROSS

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

10:30AM - STATIONS OF THE CROSS

HOLY FAMILY & HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

3PM - COMMEMORATION OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
5:30PM - CROSS WALK

Easter Sunday



Easter Vigil

19 APRIL

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
5:30PM - VIGIL MASS
HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
8PM - VIGIL MASS

Easter Sunday

20 APRIL

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
8:30AM - HOLY MASS
5PM - HOLY MASS
HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
10AM - HOLY MASS

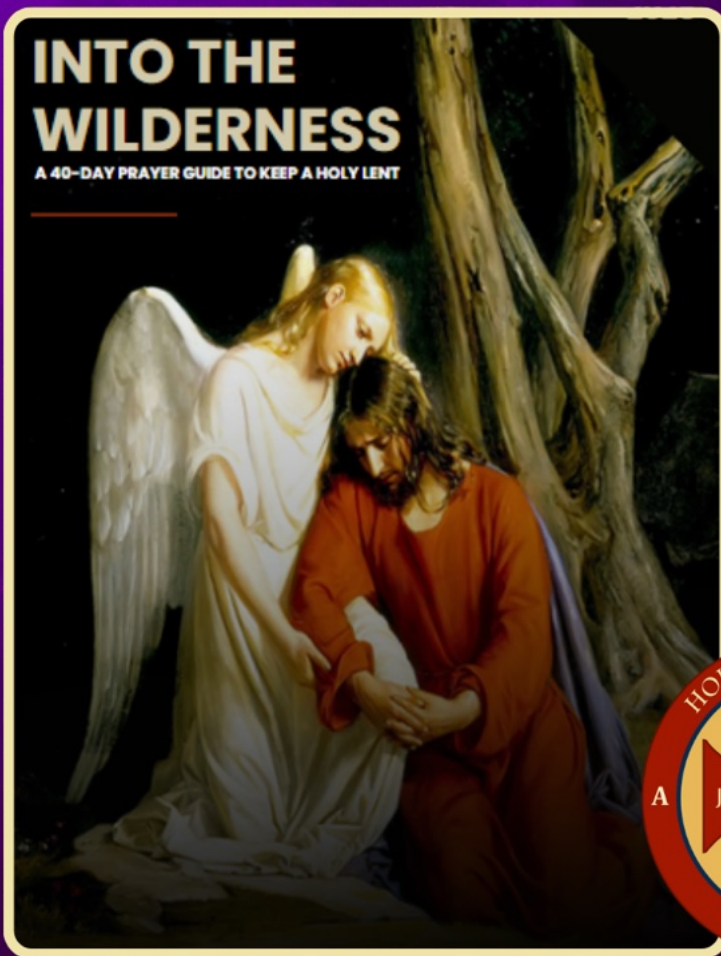
HOLY TRINITY, GRANVILLE
CNR. RANDLE ST & BENNALONG ST

HOLY FAMILY, EAST GRANVILLE
200 THE TRONGATE



Into the Wilderness 2025 Edition

AVAILABLE NOW!



THURSDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY

SCRIPTURE

PSALM 51: 1-17

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment. Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

REFLECTION

David's plea for forgiveness reminds us that God is gracious and compassionate. Confession is not about

FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS UP ON THE CROSS

THE THIRD WORD

"BEHOLD YOUR SON; BEHOLD YOUR MOTHER."

V. We adore you, O Christ and we praise you.
R. Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

O beloved Jesus, who for the love of me agonized on the cross, and, forgetting your sufferings, left as a pledge of your love your own most holy Mother, that through her we might confidently have recourse to you in our greatest need. Have mercy on all the faithful in their agony, and on me also when I shall be in that extremity, and, through the intercession of this, your dear Mother, awaken in our hearts a firm hope in the infinite merits of your most Precious Blood, that we may avoid the eternal damnation which our sins have deserved.

(Pray the Glory Be 3 times)
V. Have mercy on us, O Lord.
R. Have mercy on us, O Lord.
V. Have mercy on us, O Lord.
R. Have mercy on us, O Lord.

... I hope in you, I love you, and I repent of having offended you by my sins.

"HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?"

... you.



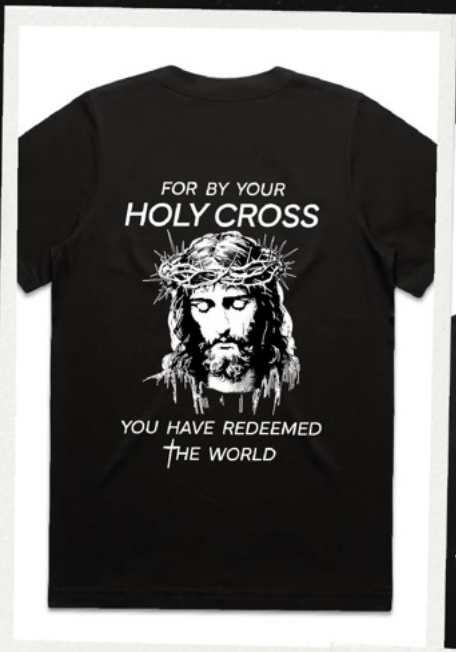
Copies available at Parish Piety Shops for \$10.00



OR

Scan QR Code to download your free copy!

HOLY CROSS APPAREL



TO ORDER
VISIT THE
PIETY SHOP
ORDERS CLOSE
30 MARCH

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S T-SHIRT \$45
MEN'S AND WOMEN'S JUMPER \$70
YOUTH (8-16) T-SHIRT \$35
YOUTH (8-16) JUMPER \$55
CHILDREN'S (2-6) T-SHIRT \$30
CHILDREN'S (2-6) JUMPER \$45

With thanks to
Divine Script
for their generous support
of Holy Cross Parish

www.divinescript.com



The Readings

Introit (Cf. *Is.* 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 Book of Joshua (5:9-12)

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.' The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

Responsorial Psalm (*Ps.* 33:2-7. *R.* v. 9)

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times,
his praise always on my lips;
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.
The humble shall hear and be glad. *R.*

Glorify the Lord with me.
Together let us praise his name.
I sought the Lord and he answered me;
from all my terrors he set me free. *R.*

Look towards him and be radiant;
let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called; the Lord heard him
and rescued him from all his distress. *R.*

Second Reading

The Second Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians (5:7-21)

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

Gospel Acclamation (*Lk.* 15:18)

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I will rise and go to my Father and tell him:
Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

The Gospel of St. Luke (15:1-3, 11-32)

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them: 'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery. When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate. Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property— he and his women—you kill the calf we had been fattening." The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

Communio (*Lk.* 15:32)

You must rejoice, my son,
for your brother was dead and has come to life;
he was lost and is found.