



ST. PADRE PIO PARISH GLENMORE PARK

Parish Office: 34 - 38 William Howell Drive (PO Box 8037), GLENMORE PARK NSW 2745

Telephone: (02) 4789 2232 Web: www.padrepio.org.au Email: glenmorepark@parracatholic.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stpadrepioparish/

Fr. Suresh Kumar
Annabelle Bhandoo
Regina Rossetto
EMERGENCIES ONLY

Parish Priest
Parish Secretary
Sacramental Coordinator
0488 448 844

(02) 4789 2232 (Extn.2)
(02) 4789 2232 (Extn.3)
(02) 4789 2232 (Extn.4)

suresh.kumar@parracatholic.org
glenmorepark@parracatholic.org
sacraments@padrepio.org.au

SUNDAY 26 MARCH 2023

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

YEAR A

**ST. PADRE PIO CHURCH
PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

Tuesday – Friday 8:30am – 3:30pm
Closed 12:00pm – 12:30pm

SUNDAY

8:00am Mass
10:00am Mass

MONDAY

No Mass and Office closed

TUESDAY TO FRIDAY

9:00am Mass

SATURDAY

9:00am Mass
Novena to St. Padre Pio
9:30am Sacrament of Penance
5:30pm Saturday Vigil Mass

BAPTISMS

11:30am 1st, 2nd, and 3rd
Sundays. Please contact the
Parish Office. Presentation and
Baptism Information mornings
are held every 4th Sunday.

**FIRST FRIDAY ALL-NIGHT
ADORATION**

8:00pm – 9:00am Saturday Mass
3:00am Divine Mercy Chaplet

CHILDREN'S YOUTH GROUP

For children: Year 1 to Year 8.
Every 1st & 3rd Saturday
4.30pm-5.30pm in school hall

FRIDAY PLAYGROUP

9:30am – 11:30am 0-6 years
Bethany Catholic Primary School
Hall Contact Joanne D'Agostino,
via the Parish Office.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS

Please contact the Parish Office.

Dear Friends,

God loves us so much and He is part of our lives though we may not realise it. He is with us in our joys and sorrows. At times, we may not feel His presence especially when we are faced with difficulties and trials in our lives, but His presence is always there in our lives.

Lazarus, Martha and Mary were very good friends of Jesus who lived in Bethany village. Jesus visited them often and shared meals with them. When Lazarus was very ill, they send a word to Jesus informing Him about the health condition of Lazarus. By the time, Jesus arrives there, Lazarus dies and was buried. The sisters Martha and Mary had tremendous faith in Jesus which made them to say, that if He had been with them, their brother would not have died.

Jesus always expects us to have faith. God always performs a miracle to those who have faith. Faith is a gift and not all the people have it. Faith can change the situation for the better. The faith of the sisters of Lazarus moved Jesus with compassion. Though it had been at least 4 days since the passing of Lazarus, Jesus knew exactly what He was about to do. Jesus wanted the Glory of God to be seen by people. Though people had an initial hesitation due to the number of days that he had been dead, they were touched by the very presence of Jesus.

JESUS WEPT (John. 11:35).

Jesus wept – this is the shortest verse in the Bible but having deepest expression. Though Jesus knew that He is going to perform a miracle to bring back Lazarus, He takes part in the suffering and sorrow of the family and friends. He weeps with those who weep and laughs with those who laugh. The sadness of losing His friend Lazarus overwhelmed Jesus. His weeping also indicated the sorrow that He has on the death of humans. The Holy Scripture tells us that death is a result of sin. So, Jesus, in a way, mourned over the stain of sin which is death.

Jesus brought back Lazarus from the dead. It is a price of faith. It is a gift of God. Life is very dear to God – in all forms and shapes. He always celebrated life and wants of us to do the same. Let us try to have faith in God despite the difficulties that we might go through in our lives. Jesus will say to us always: Your faith has saved you!

God Bless..

Kind regards,

Fr. Suresh Kumar

Parish Priest

THE ANNUNCIATION

Feast day: 25 March



Picture is from: clipart-library.com/annunciation-cliparts.html. The Below is from: ewtn.com/catholicism/seasons-and-feast-days/annunciation-20873

Why is the Annunciation celebrated on March 25?

The Solemnity of the Annunciation is celebrated nine months before the Nativity of the Lord, a feast which came about earlier historically. The Annunciation recalls the day when the Archangel Gabriel appeared to Mary and revealed God's will that she become the Mother of the Son of God, and she accepted. At that moment, the "Word became Flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14).

What were the five things that the archangel told Mary about her Son?

Luke 1:32-33: He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; The Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, He will reign over the house of Jacob forever; His kingdom there will be no end.

What does the word "fiat" mean in the Bible?

The word "fiat" is Latin, and it means "let it be done." Mary's fiat was when she said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38).

What does Mary's fiat mean?

Pope St. John Paul II said, 'Mary's words at the Annunciation "I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word" (Lk 1:38), indicate an attitude characteristic of Jewish piety. At the beginning of the Old Covenant, Moses, in response to the Lord's call, proclaims himself his servant (cf. Ex 4:10; 14:31). With the coming of the New Covenant, Mary also responds to God with an act of free submission and conscious abandonment to his will, showing her complete availability to be the "handmaid of the Lord." Mary, "full of grace," by proclaiming herself "handmaid of the Lord" intends to commit herself to fulfil personally and in a perfect manner the service God expects of all his people.

Why is Mary's yes to God so important to us?

Through Mary's fiat, her "yes" to God, she made the Divine Plan of salvation effective in history. As Eve disobeyed and set humanity on a path of sin, Mary was perfectly obedient and set us on the path of grace. As Eve was the "Mother of All the Living" (Gen. 3:20), Mary is the Mother of All those Living "in Christ." We owe her a debt of justice, and a filial obligation of love. Mary responded with the most perfect faith and obedience.

What is the role of Mary in our life?

First, Mary is truly our mother. In Revelation 12:17, we see that the offspring of Mary are "those who keep the commandments of God and bear testimony to Jesus." Thus, as Christians, we become the sons and daughters of Mary. Second, Mary is our perfect example of following Jesus in everything we do. For example, at the Wedding Feast at Cana, she said to the servants, "Do whatever [Jesus] tells you." This was the running theme throughout Mary's life: continually pointing to her Son.

Also, Mary shows us how to truly obey God. At the Annunciation, Mary was a young teenager, a virgin. Instead of saying "no" to the Lord because of the enormity of the request, she put total trust in the Lord. In our daily lives, we should follow her example as we trust God in all large and small issues.

How did the Virgin Mary pray?

The Virgin Mary prayed with great faith and trust in the Lord. In Sacred Scripture, we see glimpses of the Blessed Mother's deep interior life.

For example, when she visits St. Elizabeth, we see this beautiful prayer: The Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55):

*My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
for he has regarded the low estate of his handmaiden.
For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed;
for he who is mighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
And his mercy is on those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm,
he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their
hearts,
he has put down the mighty from their thrones,
and exalted those of low degree;
he has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent empty away.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
as he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his posterity for ever.*

ST. PADRE PIO PARISH INFORMATION

BISHOP'S GOOD SHEPHERD APPEAL: THIS WEEKEND

When: Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 March.

Focus: Holy Spirit Seminary in Harris Park. Will you support our seminarians to humbly serve our faith community? Thank you for accompanying our seminarians on their spiritual journey to become priests.

PARISH RECONCILIATION IN PREPARATION FOR EASTER

When: This Tuesday, 28 March at 7:00pm

Please make use of this wonderful opportunity to prepare yourself to participate fully in the solemnities of Holy Week.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

When: every Friday in Lent, 7:00pm.

WORKING BEE FOR HOLY WEEK

When: This Sat 01 April after 9am Mass.

We need many people to help at the Working Bee. We will be cleaning inside the Church, the grounds, the carpark and decorating for Palm Sunday. BYO garden gloves and garden cutters. If you can help, please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the Welcome Table.

PROJECT COMPASSION

As Lent is ending, please return the Project Compassion boxes or envelopes back to the parish office. Donations can also be made to: caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or 1800 024 413. Thank you.

HOLY LAND (Good Friday) COLLECTION

When: Good Friday 07 April, 3pm Passion of the Lord

This annual collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by maintaining over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus, provide welfare assistance to local Christians, and assist parishes, schools, orphanages and medical centres. Thank you.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

The due date for the Enrolment Form is **31 March**. The Parent Letter and the Enrolment Form are available on the Welcome Table and on the Parish Website.

THIS WEEK'S MASSES WERE OFFERED FOR THE FOLLOWING INTENTIONS: **Wedding Anniversary:** Matthew & Lorraine Vella. **Deceased:** Tarcisio & Helen Cauchi, John Mark & Louisa Gonsalves. **Prayers for the Sick:** Russell Kars, Jennifer Yara Baypath Majuec, Nicholas Tadros, Charbel Bazouni, Simon Bazouni & family, Ava Vella, Lucy Marie Ciappara, Georgina Rastegorac, Waled Hana, Maryrose Vella, Catherine Vella, Lelyn Velayo, Normie Santos. *Please contact the Parish office if you would like a Mass offered for Recently Deceased, Death Anniversary, Prayers for the Sick, Thanksgiving or Birthdays.*

ST PADRE PIO PARISH ROSTERS WEEK ONE - PALM SUNDAY 01/02 APRIL

MASS TIME	5:30PM	8:00AM	10:00AM
COORDINATOR	Cristina Cignarella	Lynn Young	Regina Rossetto
ACOLYTE	Joe Badrov	Khalid Younan Craig Wilson Dominic Younes	Chris Hersey Manny Medel
SENIOR SERVER	Kylie Sultana		Tracy Amituanai
READER	1. Freeda Fernandez 2. Angelina Badrov	1. 2. Denise Robens	1. 2. Regina Rossetto
THE PASSION	Narrator: Gilbert Grech Other: Rolaine Vibar	Narrator: Trish Warda Other:	Narrator: Other: Deepa Cijo
MUSIC	Mitchell's Group		Children's Choir
HOSPITALITY		Vera Daher	Deepa Cijo & Cijo Mathew
CLEANING TEAM	Doris Cutajar, Paula Harris, Mel Gaudoin, Josephine Caruana, Valeni Rodrigues, Meghan Warda		

Sunday 26 March: Fifth Sunday of Lent Yr. A

ROSARY PRAYER GROUP

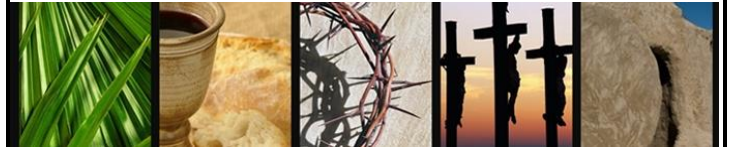
Date: Tuesday 28 March

Place: Jorge & Virgie Sasot, 4/156 Derby St, Penrith

Date: Tuesday 04 April

Place: Nina and William Cimafranca, 21 Pritchard Place GP

HOLY WEEK & EASTER TIMETABLE



RECONCILIATION - TUESDAY 28 MARCH 7:00pm

PALM SUNDAY - SATURDAY 01 APRIL

5:30pm Mass (begins outside the church)

PALM SUNDAY - SUNDAY 02 APRIL

8:00am Mass (begins outside the church)

10:00am Mass (begins in the park across the road)

HOLY THURSDAY - THURSDAY 06 APRIL

7:00pm Mass (No 9:00am Mass)

GOOD FRIDAY - FRIDAY 07 APRIL

10:00am Stations of the Cross

3:00pm Passion of the Lord

EASTER VIGIL - SATURDAY 08 APRIL

7:00pm Mass (No 9:00am Mass)

EASTER SUNDAY - SUNDAY 09 APRIL

8:00AM MASS & 10:00am Mass

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY - SUNDAY 16 APRIL

8:00am Mass, 10:00am Mass, 3:00pm Mass

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: Palm Sunday Entrance: Mt 21:1-11. Readings: Is 50:4-7. Ps 21. Phil 2:6-11. Mt 26:14-27:66



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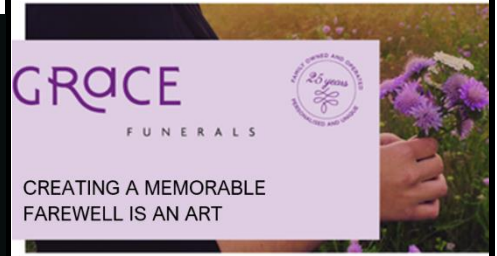
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THIS IS A SMOKE FREE ZONE
NO SMOKING ON CHURCH
OR SCHOOL GROUNDS

SMOKING PERMITTED OUTSIDE GATES ONLY