



THE SAVING WORD

PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY / A

29 MARCH 2026

- C. Barabbas.
- N. Pilate said to them:
- O. What am I to do with Jesus who is called Christ?
- N. They all said:
- C. **Let him be crucified!**
- N. Pilate asked:
- O. Why? What harm has he done?
- N. But they shouted all the louder,
- C. **Let him be crucified!**
- N. Then Pilate saw that he was making no impression, that in fact a riot was imminent. So he took some water, washed his hands in front of the crowd and said:
- O. I am innocent of this man's blood. It is your concern.
- N. And the people, to a man, shouted back:
- C. **His blood be on us and on our children!**
- N. Then he released Barabbas for them. He ordered Jesus to be first scourged and then handed over to be crucified.
- The governor's soldiers took Jesus with them into the Praetorium and collected the whole cohort round him. Then they stripped him and made him wear a scarlet cloak, and having twisted some thorns into a crown they put this on his head and placed a reed in his right hand. To make fun of him they knelt to him saying:
- C. **Hail, king of the Jews!**
- N. And they spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head with it. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the cloak and dressed him in his own clothes and led him away to crucify him.
- On their way out, they came across a man from Cyrene, Simon by name, and enlisted him to carry his cross. When they had

reached a place called Golgotha, that is, the place of the skull, they gave him wine to drink. When they had finished crucifying him they shared out his clothing by casting lots, and then sat down and stayed there keeping guard over him. Above his head was placed the charge against him; it read: 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews'. At the same time two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left.

The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said:

- C. **So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself! If you are God's son, come down from the cross!**
- N. The chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him in the same way, saying:
- C. **He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He put his trust in God; now let God rescue him if he wants him. For he did say, 'I am the son of God'.**
- N. Even the robbers who were crucified with him taunted him in the same way.
- From the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour, Jesus cried out in a loud voice:
- J. Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?
- N. That is: 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood there heard this, they said:

- C. **The man is calling on Elijah,**
- N. and one of them quickly ran to get a sponge which he dipped in vinegar and, putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink. The rest of them said:
- C. **Wait! See if Elijah will come to save him.**
- N. But Jesus, again crying out in a loud voice, yielded up his spirit.

All kneel and pause a moment.

N. At that, the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom; the earth quaked; the rocks were split; the tombs opened and the bodies of many holy men rose from the dead, and these, after his resurrection, came out of the tombs, entered the Holy City and appeared to a number of people.

Meanwhile the centurion, together with the others guarding Jesus, had seen the earthquake and all that was taking place, and they were terrified and said:

- C. **In truth this was a son of God.**

Longer form, Mt 26:14-27:66

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FIRST READING

Isa 50:4-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed.

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

Ps 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24. R. v. 2

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

1. 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.' **R.**
2. 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. **R.**
3. 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! **R.**
4. 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.' **R.**

SECOND READING

Phil 2:6-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high.

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

Phil 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!

GOSPEL

Mt 27:11-54

N. The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (N. Narrator J. Jesus O. Other single speaker C. Crowd, or more than one other speaker)
N. Jesus, then, was brought before the governor, and

the governor put to him this question:

- O. Are you the king of the Jews?
- N. Jesus replied:
- J. It is you who say it.
- N. But when he was accused by the chief priests and the elders he refused to answer at all. Pilate then said to him:
- O. Do you not hear how many charges they have brought against you?
- N. But to the governor's complete amazement, he offered no reply to any of the charges.

At festival time it was the governor's practice to release a prisoner for the people, anyone they chose. Now there was at that time a notorious prisoner whose name was Barabbas. So when the crowd gathered, Pilate said to them,

- O. Which do you want me to release for you: Barabbas or Jesus who is called Christ?
- N. For Pilate knew it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. Now as he was seated in the chair of judgement, his wife sent him a message,
- O. Have nothing to do with that man; I have been upset all day by a dream I had about him.
- N. The chief priests and the elders, however, had persuaded the crowd to demand the release of Barabbas and the execution of Jesus. So when the governor spoke and asked them:
- O. Which of the two do you want me to release for you?
- N. They said:

29 March 2026
Palm Sunday Year A

WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

Website: <https://stpatrickswesttamworthparish.org>
Email: westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au



Parish Priest Fr Vic Ignacio M.S.
Office Admin Sheryl Brown, Di Bolitho
Sacristan Elaine Smyth
School Principals Greg O'Toole & Maree Holland

OFFICE HOURS:
Mon & Fri: 9.30 am - 1.30pm
Presbytery 67658211
St Josephs School 67654079

WEEKEND Sat: 5.30 pm Sun: 9 am & 5 pm
MASSES

WEEKDAY Mon: 9am Tues: 9am Wed: 1pm

MASSES **HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

Holy Thursday 6.00pm - Adoration till 8.00 pm
Good Friday Stations of the Cross 9.00am; The Lord's Passion 3.00pm
Holy Saturday Easter Vigil 5.30pm ; Easter Sunday 9.00 am & 5.00pm

ENTRANCE Hosanna in the highest !
ANTIPHON: Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

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

May God have mercy on all those asked to be remembered in prayer:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Sr Arcadius Guthrie, Maurice Bruccoleri, Thomas Greentree

ANNIVERSARIES: Vivian Betts (16/3).

DECEASED: We pray for our loved ones now in God's care: Dean York, Daphne Sweeney, Laurie Brodbeck, Ron McGrane, Paul Karam, Trish Thornberry, William Grima, Paul Zammit.

SICK: Sienna Baker, May Press, John Betts, Norma O'Brien, Elaine Murray, Shane Davidson, Sr Cecilia Pistacchio, Judy Murphy, Monica Austin, Brian Rodway, Lisa Bond, Yvonne Tarrant, Bill Dennis, Barry McNamara, Jeanette Whale, Carmel Koppman, Eileen Hudson, Rose Pace, Barbara Brennan, Elizabeth Coroneos, Michael Jones, Elizabeth William, Julie Moran.

MEMORARE

Remember, Our Lady of La Salette, true Mother of Sorrows, the tears you shed for me on Calvary. Remember, also, the care you have always taken to keep me faithful to Christ your son. After having done so much for your child, you will not now abandon me. Inspired by this consoling thought, I come to cast myself at your feet in spite of my infidelities and ingratitude. Do not reject my prayer, O merciful Virgin, but intercede for my conversion, obtain for me the grace to love Jesus above all things, and to console you by a holy life, that I may one day see you in Heaven. Amen
Our Lady of La Salette, Reconciler of sinners,
Pray without ceasing for us who have recourse to Thee.

COMING EVENTS:

29 Mar: Palm Sunday **1 April:** Church cleaning bee for Easter, 9am to 11am.
03 Apr: Good Friday **4 April:** Easter Vigil **5 April:** Easter Sunday **6 April:** Easter Monday
05 Apr: Daylight Savings ends at **3am.** (Clocks back 1 hour)
12 Apr: Parish Monthly Morning Tea - After 9am Mass. All welcome!

COLLECTIONS: BSB: 082 105

Account: West Tamworth Catholic - 'Presbytery' 1st Collection **OR** 'Church'-2nd Collection
1st. Collection: For Armidale Diocese Clergy: **Ac.** 001023642 (**Presbytery Acc.**) for **Diocese**
2nd Collection: For St. Patrick's Church: **Ac.** 001041198 (**Church Acc.**) **St Patrick's**

CONFESSIONS

* **Sat: No Confession**
* **Before weekly Mass**
* **By appointment**



PALM SUNDAY - YEAR A WELCOME TO ALL THOSE JOINING US AT ST PATRICKS.

LITURGY ROSTER FOR HOLY WEEK: The liturgy roster for Holy Week/Easter is on the bulletin board at the back of the church. Please check the roster there and below and notify the Office if you are not available OR seek a replacement and advise the office. **Thank you**

COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY LAND: This special collection will be taken up on Good Friday.

PROJECT COMPASSION: Project Compassion boxes can be returned to the container in the middle of the Church (near the gifts). As Project Compassion 2026 comes to a close, we thank you for your generous support throughout Lent. This year, we shared the stories of four inspiring people whose lives are being uplifted through your compassion. Your support is helping them overcome challenges and build stronger futures. Together, we can continue nurturing hope and empowering communities facing poverty and injustice.

WORKING/CLEANING BEE FOR EASTER: A Working/Cleaning bee will held in the church this Wednesday, 1st April starting at 9am. Please come along and help, if you can.

LITURGY ROSTER - PALM SUNDAY 29 March 2026

5.30 pm: R1 M Holland R2 D Gowing (**Passion Narrator**) D Bolitho
Others D Gowing **Crowd** Congregation
Gifts: B & M Watson

9.00 am: R1 J Ryan R2 G Clout (**Passion Narrator**) S Brown
Others G Clout **Crowd** Congregation
Gifts: B. Schipp, C. Grima

5.00 pm: R1 C Lavell R2 S. Brown (**Passion Narrator**) G O'Toole
Others C Lavell **Crowd** Congregation
Gifts: Volunteers

Counting P Sheils S Brown **Altar Linen** H Reid
Fri Cleaning M. Brown, K. O'Brien

LITURGY ROSTER - HOLY WEEK 29 March - 5 April 2026

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER 2 April 26

6.00pm Holy Thursday R1 G Clout R2 S Brown

THE WAY OF THE CROSS 3 April 26

9 am Good Friday 3 April (**Stations**)

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION 3 April 26

3 pm Good Friday R1 D Bolitho R2 R. Paull

Passion Narrator S Brown **Others** D Gowing **Crowd** Congregation
Solemn Intercessions J. Moloney

CEREMONY OF LIGHT AND EASTER VIGIL 4 April 26

5.30 pm Easter Saturday R1 G Clout R2 J Ryan R3 J Woodbridge R4 P Bamford
Epistle D Bolitho

Prayers of Intercession P Bamford

MASS OF THE RESURRECTION 5 April 26

9 am Easter Sunday R1 A Sartori R2 R Paull

5 pm Easter Sunday R1 A O'Halloran

