

## HOLY WEEK PROGRAM 2024

### Palm Sunday

**23 March** Vigil Mass **5pm** Saturday

### 24 March—Palm Sunday

**8am** (Tuross), **10am** (Moruya)

Procession with Palms and Passion Reading

### 25 March—Monday of Holy Week

Chrism Mass—at The Cathedral **5pm**

### 26 March—Tuesday of Holy Week

Mass **5pm**

### 27 March—Wednesday of Holy Week

Mass **9:15am**

2nd Rite of Reconciliation &

Liturgy **5-6pm** followed by

Paschal Meal

### 28 March —Holy Thursday

Commemoration of the Lord's Supper **7pm**

followed by an hour of Eucharistic Adoration

### 29 March—Good Friday

1) Stations of the Cross **10am**

2) The celebration of the Passion of  
the Lord **3pm**

### 30 March—Holy Saturday

Easter Vigil Moruya **7pm**

### 31 March—Easter Sunday

**8am** (Tuross), **10am** (Moruya)

**All welcome to our Holy Week services**



### Lenten Prayer this week

Loving and merciful God,  
As we gather in prayer, we are  
Reminded of the immense love you  
Have for each one of us.  
Your love is so great that you willingly  
Sacrificed your Son, Jesus to  
Save us from our sins.

Help us to grasp the depth of your love  
And to trust in your infinite mercy.  
In moments of doubt and fear,  
When we are tempted to believe that  
You condemn us, grant us the grace to  
Remember the words of today's Gospel:  
"You sent your Son not to condemn  
The world, but to save it".

Strengthen our faith and help us to  
Surrender our doubts and  
Insecurities to you. May we be filled  
With gratitude for the gift of salvation  
Through your Son, Jesus Christ.  
As we journey through this week,  
May our faith be deepened, and  
may we radiate your love and  
Mercy to all those we encounter.  
We ask this through Christ  
Our Lord. Amen

## SACRED HEART PARISH MORUYA



36 Queen Street (PO Box 23) Moruya NSW 2537

Phone: 4474 2024 Email: [moruya@cg.org.au](mailto:moruya@cg.org.au)

Web: <http://cg.org.au/Moruya>

Priest: Fr George Azhakath

Secretary: Mrs Vickie Moore

Parish Office hours: Wed and Fri 9:00am—2:00pm

### Mass Times:

**Moruya:** Sat: Vigil 5:00pm Sun: 10:00am

Tue: 5:00pm, Wed, Thu & Fri: 9:15am/1st Saturday of the month 9:15am

**Tuross:** Sun: 8:00am **Bodalla:** 4th Sunday of the month 3:00pm/2nd Thursday of the month 9:00am

**Reconciliation:** Every Saturday @ Moruya 4:15pm-4:45pm before Vigil Mass

1st Saturday of the month @ Moruya 8:15am-9:00am

**Devotions:** Daily Rosary and Saturdays 9:30am **Adoration:** All Fridays after Mass

**Schools:** St Mary's Moruya: 4474 2817

Carroll College Broulee: 4471 5600

**Caring Groups:** Tuross Head: 0497 315 534 Moruya: 0431 354 993



4th Sunday of Lent

- YEAR B -

9 & 10 March 2024

## Behold the Cross

### The Cross: the symbol of God's forgiving and merciful love

As we continue our Lenten observance in the fourth week, the Sacred Liturgy invites us to enter more deeply in the mystery of God's grace, mercy and salvation. The central theme of today's readings is that our salvation is the free gift of a merciful God given to us through Jesus, His Son. The reading stresses God's mercy and compassion, the great love, kindness and grace extended to us in Christ. As an act of love and gratitude to God who is "rich in mercy" and as an expression of our faith, we are invited to share his sufferings by doing penance during Lent so that we may inherit our eternal salvation and the glory of his resurrection in heaven.

In the first reading, from the Second Book of Chronicles, we learn the compassion and patience of God. God allowed Cyrus the Great, a pagan conqueror, to become the instrument of His mercy and salvation for His chosen people who were in exile in Babylon.

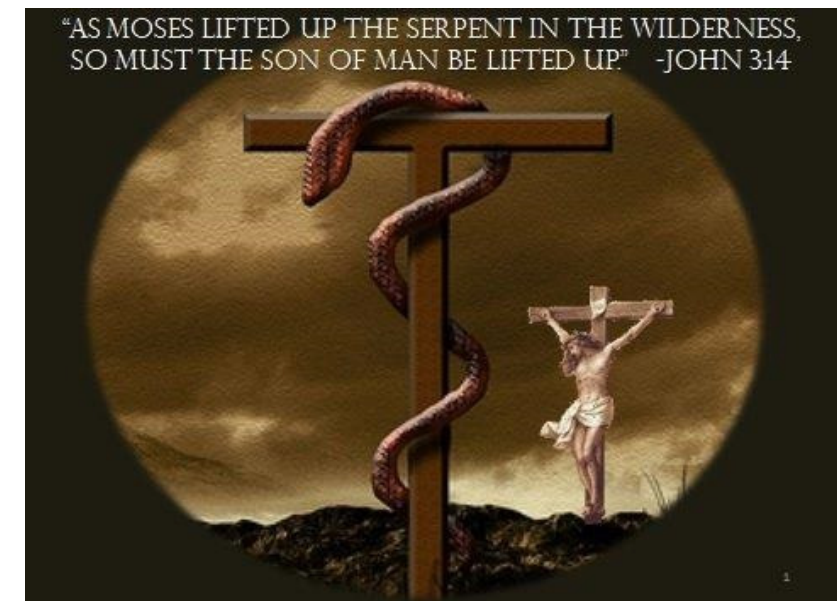
In the second reading Paul tells us that God is so rich in mercy that He has granted us eternal salvation and eternal life as a free gift through Christ Jesus. Today's gospel has a parallel theme but for the sinfulness of the whole world. Through John 3:16, the gospel teaches us that God expressed His love, mercy and compassion for us by giving His only Son for our salvation.

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

**Communion Antiphon:** Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together. It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, to praise the name of the Lord.

**Prayer after Communion:** Lord, we thank you for coming into our hearts in Communion. We believe you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. You are our life and our hope. Draw us more deeply to yourself and transform our hearts through your abiding love. May we come to know Sunday as a special day of faith, the day of our Risen Lord. May our celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday consecrate this day to you.

**O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine, All Praise and All Thanksgiving be every moment Thine.**



Fourth Sunday of Lent  
9 & 10 March



As the eldest child in a low-income farming family in rural Malawi, Memory faced many barriers to her education. But, with the support of Caritas Australia, she enrolled in a technical school and became the first female carpenter in her village.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.

# Liturgy of the Word

## First Reading 2 Chronicles 36:14-16. 19-23

A reading from the second book of Chronicles

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, ‘Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.’

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: ‘Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, “The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up.”’

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

## Responsorial Psalm Ps 136. R. v.6

**(R.) Let my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!**

1. By the rivers of Babylon  
there we sat and wept,  
remembering Zion;  
on the poplars that grew there  
we hung our harps. **(R.)**
2. For it was there that they asked us,  
our captors, for songs,  
our oppressors, for joy.  
‘Sing to us,’ they said,  
‘one of Zion’s songs.’ **(R.)**
3. O how could we sing  
the song of the Lord  
on alien soil?  
If I forget you, Jerusalem,  
let my right hand wither! **(R.)**
4. O let my tongue  
cleave to my mouth  
if I remember you not,  
if I prize not Jerusalem  
above all my joys! **(R.)**

## Second Reading Ephesians 2:4-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy: when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with Christ – it is through grace that you have been saved – and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God’s work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

## Gospel Acclamation John 3:16

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

## Gospel John 3:14-21

P: The Lord be with you

**All: And with your spirit**

P: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

**All: Glory to you O Lord**

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

‘The Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. No one who believes in him will be condemned; but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already, because he has refused to believe in the name of God’s only Son. On these grounds is sentence pronounced: that though the light has come into the world men have shown they prefer darkness to the light because their deeds were evil. And indeed, everybody who does wrong hates the light and avoids it, for fear his actions should be exposed; but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.’

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

## THE WORD AND LIFE this week ...

**1) We need to love the cross, the symbol of God’s forgiveness and merciful love:** The crucifix—the symbol of the ‘lifted up’ Jesus—holds a central place in our churches because it is a forceful reminder not only of God’s love and mercy, but also of the price of our salvation. Hence, no Christian home should be without this symbol of God’s love. It invites us to more than generosity and compassion. It inspires us to remove the suffering of other people’s misery. It encourages us not only to feel deep sorrow for another’s suffering, but also to try our best to remove that suffering. Hence, let us love the cross, wear its image and carry our own daily cross with joy.

**2) We need to reciprocate God’s love by loving others:** God’s love is unconditional, universal, forgiving and merciful. Let us try, with His help, to make an earnest attempt to include these qualities as we share our love with others during Lent.

**3) Let us be bearers of Jesus’ light and carry it to other people:** When we allow the light of God’s forgiveness to shine in our lives, it brightens up every corner, forgives every sin, restores our relationship with God and renews our lives. Whoever follows Jesus will not walk in darkness. We will experience the joy and peace of sins forgiven of new attitudes and of new relationships with family and friends.

## NOTICES FROM THE PARISH

We continue to extend our support to those at Banksia Village, IRT Moruya, the sick members of our Parish and those in need of our prayers: Kathleen Ebbelaar, Gerry Ebbelaar, Dianne Ebbelaar, Kylie Leplaw, Andy McCosker, Bala Stankovich, Clare Broekhuysse, Pat Morris, Barry Morris, Christopher Morris, John Kay, Lee Maat, Kirk Dowling, Rosemary Patyus, Kay Morton, Rod McDonald, Hans Brosch, Father Giles Setter OFM, John Nader, Robyn Barkley, Mark Wales, Therese Masserot, Jenny Hopkins, Tammy Whiteman, Clair Holmes, Patricia Murphy, Barbara Kirk, Miriam Turnbull, Natasha Morton, Janice Setter, Pauline de Grave, David McWilliams, Paul Ryan and Sue Holmes Murphy.

**CANDIDATES FOR THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION 2024:** We welcome the children, along with their parents and families, to Sunday Mass each week as part of their preparation for the reception of the Sacrament. Please keep the children in your prayers.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:** The next PPC meeting will be on Wednesday, 13 March. If you have an issue you would like raised, please contact the Parish Office by Tuesday, 12 March.

**BODALLA MASS:** Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, 14 March at 9am. All welcome

**IRT MORUYA:** Mass will be celebrated at Moruya IRT at 11am on Thursday, 14 March.

**LENTEN PROGRAM:** Every **Tuesday after 5pm Mass**. Everyone welcome to attend.

**TUROSS LENTEN PROGRAM:** **Mondays at 2:30pm**, 249 Hector McWilliam Drive. All welcome.

**Parish Safeguarding Commitment:** Sacred Heart Parish is committed to safeguarding and upholding the dignity and rights of all our children and vulnerable people. We seek to empower children, their families and carers, and vulnerable people, to have a say, to be listened to, and to be protected. This approach is at the centre of all of our thinking.

**Communicating Concerns:** Parishioners are encouraged to raise any concerns they may have by emailing Fr George Azhakath or the Parish Office. Alternatively, please phone the Parish Office to arrange a time to talk with Fr George. Specific safeguarding issues can also be emailed to the **Parish Safeguarding Officers: Pauline Parnell** ronandpauline@yahoo.com; **Louise Strahlendorf** loumm214@gmail.com; or **Peter Hoban** peter.hoban@peters.com.au. Parishioners are also welcome to contact Maria Hicks, Manager for the Archdiocese’s Institute for Professional Standards and Safeguarding (IPSS) ipss@cg.org.au/6239 9806.