



Bombala-Delegate Catholic Parish



PARISH BULLETIN: PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD, YEAR A, 29 MARCH 2026



PARISH VISION STATEMENT 2004



“Created by God, Loved by Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit ... We come together inspired by our patrons, St Mary the Virgin and St Joseph, her husband, to worship, study and serve.”

St Mary's Bombala
St Joseph's Delegate
St Peter's Corrowong



PRAYER INTENTIONS

POPES INTENTION MARCH

For disarmament and peace

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.



We pray for the women whose appeals for care of the earth and the poor fall on deaf ears, that they will not cease to speak out until justice is done.

We pray for the United Nations Organisation and for all international bodies entrusted with keeping the world safe. May their authority be respected and used effectively in the cause of peace.

We pray for rural dioceses and country parishes, including our own, that they may be strengthened by the Holy Spirit, finding creative ways to build a vibrant community and proclaim the Gospel with renewed faith and hope.



We pray for those who are sick in our family & community, may they be able to see Christ's presence in their most difficult moments:

Adam Crotty, John Elliott, Christine Cowell
Lorna Thornton, Clive Cottrell
Joyce Crotty, John Liston
Roma Brownlie, Jenny Chaplin
Peter & Joyce Reed, Glad Hurley
Jim Parkes, Marilyn Holdsworth, Jen Farrell Patricia
Guthrie, Mary Anne Dillon
Terry Perkins, Kath Farrell, Val Perkins
Kim Peisley, Heather Whitby
Peter Hopkins, Marlene Kennedy



PARISH CALENDAR

WED Mass Bombala 9.30am
THU HOLY THURSDAY
Ecumenical Lenten Prog
Delegate 2pm
Mass Delegate 5pm
Mass Bombala 6.30pm
FRI GOOD FRIDAY STATIONS
Bombala 9.30am
Delegate 12 noon
SAT EASTER VIGIL
Mass Bombala 5pm
LW&HC Delegate 5pm
SUN EASTER SUNDAY

PARISH CONTACTS

PARISH PRIEST
Father Mark Croker
02 6452 2062

ASSISTANT PRIEST
Fr Daniel Ukpong (Easter)
ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL
02 6458 3776

School Principal
Mrs Susan Tighe

PARISH COUNCIL
-

PARISH WEBSITE
www.cg.org.au/bombala

PARISH BULLETIN
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Please assist the team by having items in by Wednesday pm.



REMEMBERING THEIR FAITH AND LOVE

Recently Deceased

Tony Ingram, Doug Peadon

March Anniversaries

June Beileiter, Keith Brownlie
Lorna Callaway
Archbishop Francis Carroll
Patricia Casey, Una Collins
John Coman, Olga Cotton
Edna Cottrell, Murray Garnock
Terrence Ingram, John Jones
Ruth McKay, Neville Murphy
George Reed, Enid Stewart
Thelma Stewart, Andre Teschke
Rita Thornton, Lawrence Tighe
Don Tindale, Betty Twigg
Myra Walker



“May we all try to eradicate all weeds so as to make the soil of our poor hearts fit to give room and growth.”

Mother Mary Aikenhead



A journey with
SAINT MARY
of the Cross
MACKILLOP



To me, the will of God is a dear book which I am never tired of reading and which has always some new charm for me. Nothing is too little to be noticed.
(1873)

God's presence seems to follow me everywhere and makes everything I do or wish to do a prayer. (28.3.1870)

Mary MacKillop departs for Rome, 1873



Palm Sunday (Humility and Sacrifice)

Lord Jesus, you entered Jerusalem in humility, welcomed with praise, yet walking the path toward the cross. In this sacred time, help us to follow you with faithful hearts, not only in moments of joy, but also in times of challenge. Teach us to live with humility, to serve others with love, and to trust in your saving grace. May we walk with you this Holy Week and grow closer to the hope of new life you bring.

AMEN

FINDING GOD IN OUR WORLD

We pray for trusting hearts this Lent

May we place our hope in God, embrace new life, and walk forward with faith and courage.



Daily Prayer Intention - We pray for the Australian Catholic community. May Caritas Australia's Lenten appeal to 'Unite against Poverty' stir us to action throughout the year.

Weekly Prayer Intention - We pray for members of the Jewish community as they begin observing Passover this week. May their rituals renew them in faith and fellowship.



Prayer of the Faithful

Response: (R)
Lord, hear our prayer

CELEBRANT/LEADER: Dear friends, today with Jesus we enter Jerusalem and follow him on the way of the cross. With steadfast faith, let us place our troubled world in God's saving hands.

READER: For Pope Leo and all bishops, priests, deacons and liturgical ministers. May they lead us well through the mysteries of this Holy Week to the dawn of Easter Day. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

For the whole human family in these times of deep distress. May the suffering so many innocent people are enduring come to a merciful end. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

For rural and regional Australians overwhelmed by storms, floods, drought or bushfire loss. May they receive the support they need to cope and recover. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

For one another, especially those among us preparing for Christian initiation this Easter. May we all acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord to the glory of God the Father. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

For the sick among our parish community and for all who have sought our prayers, may they find strength comfort, and healing. For those who have recently passed from this life and those whose anniversaries we commemorate at this time. May they be lifted to the glory of the Risen Lord and rest in eternal peace. We pray to the Lord. **(R)**

For Our Lady's intercession for all our needs and especially for the people in war torn places. We pray **Hail Mary...**

CELEBRANT/LEADER Holy and mighty God, your Son became as we are, even unto death, that we might be graced with glory. Give us the strength to follow him without fail. We ask this through Christ our Lord.



PALM SUNDAY – 29 March
TOGETHER: Project Compassion 2026

As we enter the sacred season of Easter, Project Compassion once again invites us to unite in faith, hope and love, extending our hands and hearts to those who need it most. With the support of parishes like yours, Caritas Australia and its partners help uplift communities facing poverty and hardship, uphold dignity for families navigating crisis and strengthen resilience where life's challenges are greatest. This Lent, the stories you have encountered from Sisilia, Monoranjon, Manaini and Ahmad remind us of the difference compassion can make. Over the past financial year, our humanitarian and development programs (including through the CAN DO Consortium) reached more than two million people, supporting around one hundred projects across 30 countries. In Africa, close to three quarters of a million people were impacted through 16 projects, including the A+ Successor Project, which expanded access to clean water in Sisilia's community. Across Asia, more than 800,000 people benefited through 36 projects. Farmers like Monoranjon worked together to reduce the risks of climate change by growing climate resilient crops and prioritising diverse and nutritious local foods. In the Pacific, close to 300,000 people were impacted through 15 projects, including training programs such as the one Manaini joined. Here in Australia, close to fifty thousand First Australians were impacted through six projects. Initiatives such as homework clubs, mums and bubs sessions and secure housing helped families strengthen their wellbeing and build confidence for the future. Your generosity also helped Caritas Australia respond to 24 humanitarian crises worldwide as part of the Caritas Internationalis network, including in Gaza, Ukraine and Myanmar, where the need for protection and care remains significant. Together with our partners, your support helps families access nutritious food, clean water, education, healthcare and opportunities for sustainable livelihoods. These essentials allow communities to grow in strength and resilience and to build brighter futures for generations to come.



During Lent, we are invited to live out our faith in practical and compassionate ways. As we continue our Lenten journey, may we be guided by Christ's love and remain open to the needs of others. Together, let us work toward a world where all people can flourish and live with dignity.

Sisilia celebrates her graduation from Primary School.

HYMNS - ONE LICENSE 3642645A

1. Glory And Praise To Our God *Dan Schutte*

*Glory and praise to our God
Who alone gives light to our days
Many are the blessings He bears
To those who trust in His ways*

1. We the daughters and sons of Him
Who built the valleys and plains
Praise the wonders our God has done
In every heart that sings

2. In His wisdom He strengthens us
Like gold that's tested in fire
Though the power of sin prevails
Our God is there to save

2. Blest Be the Lord *Dan Schutte*

*Blest be the Lord, blest be the Lord
The God of mercy, the God who saves
I shall not fear, the dark of night
Nor the arrow that flies by day*

1. He will release me from the nets of sinful men
He will protect me from their wicked hands
Beneath the shadow of His wings I will rejoice
To find a dwelling place secure

2. I need not shrink before the terrors of the night
Nor stand alone before the light of day
No harm shall come to me, no arrow strike me down
No evil settle in my soul



CATHOLIC CHURCHES HOLY WEEK SERVICES MONARO MISSION

~ HOLY THURSDAY - 2 APRIL ~

**MASS: 5pm Delegate, 6pm Cooma
6.30pm Bombala**

~ GOOD FRIDAY - 3 APRIL ~

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS
10am Cooma**

All other centres with Leader

9.30am Bombala, 10am Berridale

12 noon Delegate & Nimmitabel

PASSION OF THE LORD

3pm Cooma & Jindabyne

~ HOLY SATURDAY - 4 APRIL ~

**MASS: 5pm Bombala, 6pm Cooma
LW&HC: 5pm Delegate**

~ EASTER SUNDAY - 5 APRIL ~

**MASS: 8am Adaminaby & Nimmitabel
10am Cooma & Jindabyne
LW&HC: 10am Berridale**

LOOKING BACK 73 YEARS AGO ST MARY'S PARISH RECORD

April 1953

FOR MANY YEARS the palms have been prepared for Palm Sunday by Miss M Rogers and Mrs JA Parkes. This year Mrs S Savage relieved Mrs Parkes, who was ill. These ladies put in many hours work picking and tying into bundles about 700 palms and, thank God, almost everyone was disposed of.

THE HEALTH of Vincent Clear, of Delegate, has been causing concern. Vince has been in Lewisham Hospital and has lately passed through a severe crisis. He still needs prayers.

RECENT BAPTISMS Bronwyn Clare Sutor, daughter of Bill and Mrs Sutor of Cambalong; Josephine Anne, daughter of Gordon and Mrs Ingram; Marie Ann Lewis, daughter of Jack and Mrs Lewis; Winsome Elizabeth, daughter of Tom and Mrs Kerrison - all of Bombala. Wayne John, son of Jim and Mrs Ryan; Denise Gai, daughter of Stan and Mrs Collins; Charles Anthony, son of Keith and Mrs Wallace - all of Delegate. Robert James, son of Oscar and Mrs Marriott, of Moe, Vic.

BOMBALA-DELEGATE CATHOLIC PARISH - IN THE MONARO MISSION Country of the Bidwell, Ngarigo and Yuin People



Our History



The inaugural Catholics to settle in the region arrived in 1826 as designated servants, primarily convicts. The community's foundation expanded with the influx of Scottish, Irish and subsequently German immigrants starting in 1833. Father Patrick Newman assumed the role of the first resident priest in 1864, succeeding a period during which priests were dispatched from Queanbeyan and Cooma. Churches were erected to serve the growing Catholic population, including St Mary's Bombala in 1867 & 1942, St Joseph's Delegate 1877 & 1915, St John's Cathcart in 1878 and St Peter's Corrowong in 1894. Educational institutions also emerged with privately Catholic schools opening between 1866 and 1886, followed by the establishment of Catholic schools in Bombala in 1886 and Delegate in 1921. In 1888, the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart (North Sydney) co-founded by St Mary MacKillop, arrived, embarking on a continuous ministry that spanned 134 years. Monaro & South Coast Parishes transitioned from the Sydney Archdiocese to the Goulburn Diocese in 1917 and later to the Archdiocese of Canberra-Goulburn in 1948. The first local priestly vocation was Fr Ernest Baragry, ordained as a Missionary of the Sacred Heart in 1941. The Parish of Delegate operated independently from 1955 to 1973. Significant events marked parish history in 2008, including the arrival of the World Youth Day Cross & Icon and the Consecration of St Mary's Church Bombala following extensive repairs and restoration. St Joseph's Church Delegate commemorated its Centenary in 2015.



Bombala-Delegate Catholic Parish



Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Year A

Gospel Mt 21:1-11

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

When they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find an ass tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, "The Lord has need of them," and he will send them immediately'. This took place to fulfil what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

'Tell the daughter of Zion, Behold, your king is coming to you, humble and mounted on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of an ass'.

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the ass and the colt, and put their garments on them, and he sat thereon. Most of the crowd spread their garments on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

And the crowds that went before him and that followed him shouted, 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest! And when he entered Jerusalem all the city was stirred, saying, 'Who is this?' And the crowds said, 'This is Jesus the prophet, from Nazareth in Galilee.'

First Reading Is 50:4-7

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.

Responsorial Psalm

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

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

- 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.)
- 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.)
- 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.)
- 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

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.

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 shorter form Mt 27:11-54

Jesus was brought before Pontius Pilate, the governor, and the governor put to him this question, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' Jesus replied, 'It is you who say it.' But when he was accused by the chief priests and the elders he refused to answer at all. Pilate then said to him, 'Do you not hear how many charges they have brought against you?' 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, 'Which do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?' 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, 'Have nothing to do with that man; I have been upset all day by a dream I had about him.'

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, 'Which of the two do you want me to release for you?' they said 'Barabbas'. 'But in that case,' Pilate said to them 'what am I to do with Jesus who is called Christ?' They all said, 'Let him be crucified!' 'Why?' he asked 'What harm has he done?' But they shouted all the louder, 'Let him be crucified!' 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, 'I am innocent of this man's blood. It is your concern.' And the people, to a man, shouted back, 'His blood be on us and on our children!' 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 around 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, 'Hail, king of the Jews!' 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 mixed with gall, which he tasted but refused to drink. When they had finished crucifying him they shared out his clothing by casting lots, and then sat down and stared 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 '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!' The chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him in the same way. 'He saved others,' they said '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."' 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, 'Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?' that is, 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood there heard this, they said, 'The man is calling on Elijah,' and one of them quickly ran to get a sponge which he dipped in vinegar and putting it on a reed, gave it to him to drink. 'Wait!' said the rest of them 'and see if Elijah will come to save him.' But Jesus again crying out in a loud voice, yielded up his spirit.

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, 'In truth this was a son of God.'



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

As we prepare to enter the sacred time of Holy Week, we look again at the significance of Christ in our lives. Though he was really in the form of God, Jesus came in the form of a slave. We have a saviour who was crushed for our iniquities, nailed to a cross as a convicted felon, and there endured the sense of abandonment. We have a saviour who was finally lifted up and exalted precisely because he emptied himself of his divine privileges. Unlike conquerors who triumph by putting down their opponents, Jesus was raised up because he himself was first willing to be put down. We have a saviour who first offered himself for us and then continues to offer himself to us as an example to follow. As he was willing to empty himself for our sake, so we must be willing to empty ourselves for the sake of others.

The best way to enter Holy Week with Jesus is in the company of those with whom he has identified himself: the poor and the broken; the humiliated and the marginalised; those who suffer the abuse of others; those who never use rank to force their will. If we are to be saved, we must go where salvation takes place: in our streets and in our homes where violence rages; in the dark corners of life where despair holds sway; wherever the innocent are abused or the needy are neglected; wherever there is misunderstanding or fear or jealousy. We must go wherever Christ empties himself for our sake.

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