



St Peter's Parish, Surry Hills

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Fr. John Macdonald, Administrator

Fr. Nicola Falzun OP, Priest in Residence for the *Missio ad gentes* of the Neocatechumenal Way

Fr. Daniel Meagher, Priest in Residence

Feast days of the week:

Thur 25 Mar Annunciation of The Lord

Sun 28 Mar Palm Sunday

MASS TIMES – Fifth Sunday of Lent

Mon: 7:30am

Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat: 10:00am daily

Thur: 5:15pm

Sundays: 9:00am and 10:30am (Sung Mass)

Every Tuesday: Cenacle (after 10:00am Mass)

Every Thursday: Cenacle at 10:00am

Friday during Lent: 9:30am Stations of the Cross

Every Friday and Sat: 9:30am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Confessions: 9:30am Friday & Saturday

HOLY WEEK LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday Masses: 9:00am and 10:30am

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday as usual (7:30am, 10:00am & 10:00am respectively)

Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper 8:00pm

Good Friday Stations of the Cross 10:00am

Reconciliation: 9:30am to 10:30am (Good Friday and Holy Saturday)

Celebration of the Passion of the Lord 3:00pm

Holy Saturday The Church waits at the Lord's tomb, in prayer and fasting, for his Resurrection

Easter Vigil begins **8:00pm** Saturday night at the Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians in the courtyard.

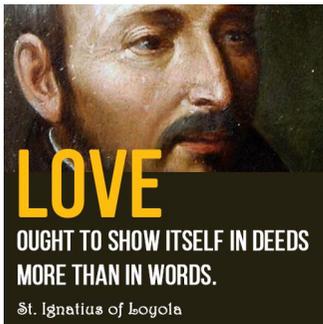
Easter Sunday Mass 9:00am

RCIA – The group meets on **Thurs 25 Mar 2021** at 6:30pm in the Duffy Hall. All parishioners are welcome as a way of revising their own knowledge and practice of the faith.

Our prayers for the Sick – Ettore Pelewzick (*Dominic's father*), Mira Krcma, Josephine Finneran, Poppie Swierab and Marija Barclay.

We remember our deceased - Frederick, Edward & Margaret M Hailwood, Margaret D Hailwood (21/9), Joyce Hailwood & Marge Heaney, Joan McEvoy, June Veronica Hailwood, Robin Bridgewater, Bernard Saddler, Lydia Garrone (1st Anniversary 4/12), Elaine Buchhorn, Celestino Simoes, Francisco Baptista, Mari Do Carmo, Kenneth Finn, Martin Tierney, Arthur Horder, Mila Ignacio, John Carolan and Oscar McKinnon (18/3).

Project Compassion - An essential part of the Churches Lenten tradition is looking after the poor in various ways. Via Project Compassion, as a wealthy country, the Church in Australia tries to be generous to our less fortunate brothers and sisters throughout the world. The Project Compassion donation box is located next to the collection plate on the Sign-in table. Alternatively, you may like to collect a Project Compassion box for your own home. **"ASPIRE NOT TO HAVE MORE, BUT TO BE MORE"** – Saint Oscar Romero



Christian Life Community

(CLC) - Where was God in my month? All are welcome to a 'review of the month' in the form of the Ignatian examen.

The examen is a prayer exercise developed by Ignatius Loyola to recall and savour those moments where God was present to us (and not all might be moments of peace and tranquillity!) We will be guided through the exercise with an opportunity for sharing at the end. Presented by Christian Life Community, the Ignatian association for lay people. A limited number of people can attend in person in the BXVI Room under St Peter's Surry Hills or you can

participate via Zoom. RSVP your attendance to mbwalk001@myacu.edu.au Learn more about CLC at www.clcaustralia.org.au

PARISH GROUPS

RCIA – Duffy Hall – Thursday: 6:30pm – 7:30pm

Neocatechumenal Way – Duffy Hall - Thursday: 7:30pm – 8:30pm

Mother's Group – Courtyard – Friday: 2:30pm

AA Surry Hills Group – Duffy Hall – Tuesday: 6:00pm – 7:00pm

Christian Life Community (CLC) – B16 Room - Tuesday: 7:30pm

Young Adults – Sunday: 11:30am – 2:00pm (morning tea, Angelus, Evangelium & pub lunch)

Marian Group – before mass daily

Divine Mercy Group – before mass daily
Cenacle – Church – Tuesday: 10:30 am to 11:30am
Cenacle – Church – Thursday: 10:00am
Bible Group – Church – Monday: 8:00am
Liturgy Group – B16 – after Sunday lunch

To be announced

St Vincent de Paul Society
Legion of Mary

Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord – 25 March 2021



The Solemnity of the Annunciation celebrates the coming of the Angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary to announce to her the special mission God had chosen for her in being the mother of His only son. We are continually reminded of the importance of this feast to our salvation in various devotional prayers.

Two examples that highlight the importance of this feast are the joyous mysteries of the Rosary and the Angelus.

The feast of the Annunciation began to be celebrated on this day during the fourth and fifth centuries, soon after the date for celebrating Christmas was universalized throughout the Church. This feast celebrates the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Trinity and the salvation of all mankind. This point of our salvation was deeply discussed by many of the Church fathers, to explain it to the faithful and to show the deep love God has for us. Some of the Church fathers who wrote on this were St. Athanasius, St. Gregory of Nyssa and St. Augustine. (CNA)

Saint Joseph, Our Silent Teacher: A Reflection for the Solemnity of Saint Joseph

- March 19, 2021 | Mary J. Novak, J.D., M.A.P.S.

Joseph does not speak in any of the four Gospels. By the time Jesus' public ministry begins, Joseph is no longer mentioned and we do not know what happens to him.

While this can present a challenge when reflecting during this Solemnity of Joseph, there are advantages as well. Not only can we make reasonable inferences from Joseph's actions referred to in Scripture, we can also understand these spaces where the Biblical text stays silent as an invitation for our imagination to play in them, a practice St. Ignatius invites in his *Spiritual Exercises*.

A good place to begin is with Matthew's Gospel for today.

In Joseph's and Mary's first century Palestinian context, Mary was in a morally suspect situation; she was betrothed to Joseph and pregnant with a child that was not his. Mosaic Law at the time prescribed a death penalty — death by stoning to be exact — in the case of adultery (Deut. 22:21-23). Mary's position was perilous. Even before his life-changing dream, it seems Joseph made up his mind to practice mercy and not expose Mary to shame.

With the intervention of the divine by way of his dream, Joseph responds to God's call by doing even more, taking in Mary and providing for, protecting, and loving her and her unborn Jesus despite the risk.

Let's be clear: we can reasonably infer and imagine that Joseph saved Mary from the death penalty, allowing Jesus to be born.

Showing us how grace operates on nature, Joseph's basic human decency and his openness to and cooperation with God provided the ground for Jesus' birth, God's salvific action in the world.

Luke's Gospel provides an alternative reading for today's Solemnity, and there we learn that when Jesus was twelve years old, Mary and Joseph travelled with him to Jerusalem for the Passover feast and somehow left him behind.

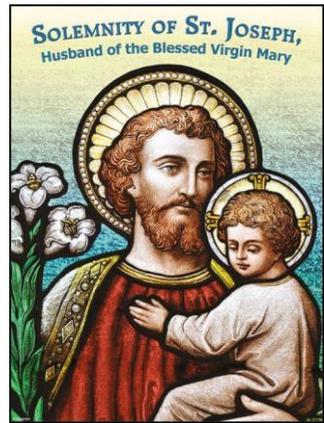
When they found him, Jesus was in the temple amidst teachers who were "astounded at his understanding and his answers" ([Luke 2:47](#)). How did that happen, especially in light of recent scholarship opining that Mary was illiterate?

We learn in Proverbs 1:8 the responsibility of both parents for the education of their child. Traditionally, the father taught the son while the mother taught her daughter domestic skills.

From this we can infer and imagine Joseph teaching Jesus about the Covenant, Mosaic Law, and Scripture as well as the elements of his trade. And we can infer and imagine that in addition to the anxiety Joseph shared with Mary over their missing son, Joseph being recognized as an excellent and knowledgeable teacher.

Considering Joseph's experiences of God in Jesus' early life, can you imagine the depth and breadth of Joseph's teaching?

With St. Joseph, let us pray for the willingness to listen to God's call, to be ready to cooperate with God's Spirit to do even more than what is decent, right, and legal, and the grace to convey that encounter with God in all that we do, say, and teach.



Music List for Sung Mass – 5th Sunday of Lent

Entrance Chant

Iudica me Deus

Vindicate me, O God,
and defend my cause against an ungodly nation;
from wicked and deceitful men deliver me,
for you are my God and my strength. (Ps. 42(43): 1-2)

Offertory Motet

Nolo mortem peccatoris - T. Morley (c.1557-1602)

Nolo mortem peccatoris; Haec sunt verba Salvatoris.

("I do not wish the death of a sinner." These are the words of the Saviour.)

Father, I am thine only Son, sent down from heav'n mankind to save.

Father, all things fulfilled and done according to thy will, I have.

Father, my will now all is this: *Nolo mortem peccatoris.*

Father, behold my painful smart, taken for man on ev'ry side;

Ev'n from my birth to death most tart, no kind of pain I have denied,

but suffered all, and all for this: *Nolo mortem peccatoris.*

Communion Chant

Qui mihi ministrat

If a man would serve me, let him follow me;

wherever I am, my servant will be there too.

℣. Give heed, O Lord, to my righteousness;

be attentive to my supplication. (Jn. 12: 26; ℣. Ps. 16(17): 1ab)

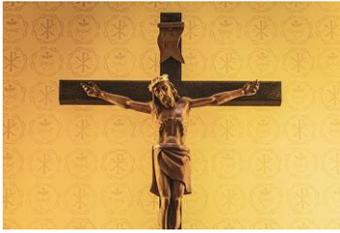
Communion Motet

Civitas sancti tui - W. Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Your holy city has become a wilderness.

Zion has become a wilderness,

Jerusalem has been made desolate.



Passion of Christ and Beauty of the Cross – Aug 3, 2020

The following is an excerpt from the Marian Press book *52 Weeks with St. Faustina Kowalska* by Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle:

“When I see Jesus tormented, my heart is torn to pieces, and I think: what will become of sinners if they do not take advantage of the Passion of Jesus: In His

Passion, I see a whole sea of mercy.” — *Diary*, 948

It might be difficult to meditate upon the bloody wounds and the other sorrows and sufferings of Christ. After all, the human heart tends to recoil from suffering. In addition, pondering what Jesus suffered for love of us can make us very sad. Sister Faustina deeply loved her Lord Jesus and often meditated upon His Passion. In fact, Jesus asked her to do so. How might this practice be a benefit to our souls? Let's delve into this incredible topic and learn the secrets of Jesus' Passion in this week's spiritual exercise!

WEEK 41 - The young mystic recorded in her *Diary*, “Jesus told me that I please Him best by meditating on His sorrowful Passion, and by such meditation much light falls upon my soul” (*Diary*, 267). Jesus told His little bride, “There are few souls who contemplate My Passion with true feeling; I give great graces to souls who meditate devoutly on My Passion” (*Diary*, 737).

Jesus told Sr. Faustina, “There is more merit to one hour of meditation on My sorrowful Passion than there is to a whole year of flagellation that draws blood; the contemplation of My painful wounds is of great profit to you, and it brings Me great joy” (*Diary*, 369). Jesus wants us to also meditate on His Passion. He said, “Remember My Passion, and if you do not believe My words, at least believe My wounds” (*Diary*, 379). In her *Diary*, Sr. Faustina recalled seeing Jesus during His Passion and how it caused her to hate sin and to experience fear for sinners who might not take advantage of God's great mercy. She wrote,

Today, during the Passion Service, I saw Jesus being tortured and crowned with thorns and holding a reed in His hand. Jesus was silent as the soldiers were bustling about, vying with each other in torturing Him. Jesus said nothing, but just looked at me, and in that gaze I felt His pain, so terrible that we have not the faintest idea of how much He suffered for us before He was crucified. My soul was filled with pain and longing; in my soul, I felt great hatred for sin, and even the smallest infidelity on my part seemed to me like a huge mountain for which I must expiate by mortification and penance. When I see Jesus tormented, my heart is torn to pieces, and I think: what will become of sinners if they do not take advantage of the Passion of Jesus: In His Passion, I see a whole sea of mercy (*Diary*, 948).

Sister Faustina Experienced Jesus' Agony and Brought Him Great Solace

Earlier, we discussed that during a Holy Hour, Sr. Faustina shared her experience of seeing Jesus suffering at the scourging and how upsetting it was to her to see such agony and parts

of Jesus' flesh coming off! She also warned "poor sinners" that, on the day of judgement, they would face "the Jesus" that they have tortured "so cruelly" (*Diary*, 188). Another time at adoration, Jesus told Sr. Faustina that He suffered for sins of impurity when He was scourged at the pillar. She recalled her experience with Him. "I saw the Lord Jesus tied to a pillar, stripped of His clothes, and the scourging began immediately. I saw four men who took turns at striking the Lord with scourges." She could barely stand watching it happen before her eyes. "My heart almost stopped at the sight of these tortures. The Lord said to me, 'I suffer even greater pain than that which you see.' And Jesus gave me to know for what sins He subjected Himself to the scourging: these are sins of impurity. Oh, how dreadful was Jesus' moral suffering during the scourging!"

One time, the Lord came to Sr. Faustina hanging on the Cross. The young mystic observed His sacred blood flowing from all His wounds. Jesus said to her, "All this is for the salvation of souls. Consider well, My daughter, what you are doing for their salvation." Sister Faustina lamented that she felt she was doing "next to nothing." Jesus reassured her, "Know, my daughter, that your silent, day-to-day martyrdom in complete submission to My will ushers many souls into heaven. And when it seems to you that your suffering exceeds your strength contemplate My wounds, and you will rise above human scorn and judgment. Meditation on My Passion will help you rise above all things" (*Diary*, 1184). Sister Faustina then understood many things she hadn't understood before.

In Our Own Lives

When sufferings unfold in our own lives, we might want to run from the Cross. Yet our Lord calls us to deny ourselves, pick up our crosses, and follow Him. He will help us through our afflictions: As our Divine Physician, He knows exactly what we need and when we need it. We can also recall that St. Paul wrote, "For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal" (2 Cor 4:17-18). Many times, our affliction feels anything but "slight" or "momentary," but we must trust God and recognize that there is a great purpose to our suffering. Indeed, it can become redemptive when it is united to Jesus' Passion and Crucifixion.

In 1 Peter 4:12-13, we are told, "Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout with joy when his glory is revealed." It is a privilege to share in Jesus' sufferings. As Christians, we shouldn't be surprised to suffer. Rather, we should have joy in our hearts and pray for the graces we need in order to be transformed and grow closer to Jesus.

Mother Mary Tells us to Fix our Gaze on her Son's Passion

Let's take a quick look at some blessed advice from the Queen of Heaven. The Blessed Mother has always been fully united to her Son's mission in the redemption of souls. It would be difficult to fully understand the pain she had endured while at the foot of the Cross, know-

ing that her Son had been abandoned by those that He served and that He had been mercilessly tortured, and then watching Him suffer an extremely cruel death. Yet we should know that Mother Mary was also keenly aware of the unspeakable power and victory in Jesus' Passion and Death on the Cross — that His suffering was not in vain, because His holy Death brought great hope to our world. As the *Catechism* states, “Jesus atoned for our faults and made satisfaction for our sins to the Father” (CCC, 615).

On August 5, 1935, the Feast of Our Lady of Mercy, Sr. Faustina was going through an interior struggle and turned to the Blessed Virgin Mary in prayer. Suddenly, during Mass, Mary appeared to Sr. Faustina, “unspeakably beautiful.” The Blessed Mother left the altar to come to the young mystic’s kneeler. Sister Faustina recalled that Mary “held me close to herself.” The Blessed Mother let Sr. Faustina know that she was pleasing to her because she “faithfully carries out the will of God” and “had found favour in His eyes.” Mary then gave instruction to her daughter. “Be courageous. Do not fear apparent obstacles, but fix your gaze upon the Passion of My Son, and in this way, you will be victorious” (*Diary*, 449).

Something to Ponder

Take Jesus’ words to heart: “There is more merit to one hour of meditation on My sorrowful Passion than there is to a whole year of flagellation that draws blood; the contemplation of My painful wounds is of great profit to you, and it brings Me great joy” (*Diary*, 369). Once we’ve welcomed these words into our hearts, we can work at carving out more time daily to think about the Passion of Jesus. Even little aspirations lifted from your heart will please Him and can help atone for sin. Jesus wants us to meditate on His Passion, as He reminded His bride, Sr. Faustina: “Remember My Passion, and if you do not believe My words, at least believe My wounds” (*Diary*, 379). Mother Mary encouraged Sr. Faustina to fix her gaze upon Her Son’s Passion. Take time this week to ponder Jesus’ sacred wounds. Consider meditating on each wound in turn (each hand, each foot, and His side) during each of the five decades of the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Remember that Jesus told St. Faustina to let that one word (“crucified”) be enough. He said, “You know what is contained in the cross.” Endeavour to learn what Jesus means.

A Merciful Action - With regard to His Passion, Jesus told Sr. Faustina, “All this is for the salvation of souls. Consider well, My daughter, what you are doing for their salvation.” What are we doing? Are we going out of our way to reach out to others who need His mercy? Pray and carry out meaningful works of mercy this week. Pray to unite yourself with Jesus’ Passion, and pray that those you serve will be granted graces according to God’s holy will.

