

Please Pray for

OUR SICK - Bernadette Rose Hodgson, Angela Stoffles, Cris Lawserasors, Alicia Cuapio-Atriano, Kim Nicol, Pat Kovacic, Eric Church, Eden, Maureen Hepburn, Sarah Flavill, Bryan, Ross Monterosso, Harper, Francis.

RECENTLY DECEASED - Tex Devlin, Moira Renouf, Mylee Trevitt, Fr. Salvador Sanchez-Perez, Hortencia Sanchez-Rodriguez, Miguel Macuil.

REMEMBRANCE - Alan Wardley, Tom O'Leary, Bridget Bonner, O'Loghlin family.

Child Safe Standards **Safeguarding Children and Young People:**
Enquires /Complaints: 0426 211 572
Policies:
<https://www.frankstoncatholic.com.au/sfx/policies/>
If you see something, say something

St John's
97899794
Principal
Derek Bruitzman

John Paul College
9784 0200
Principal
John Visentin

St Augustine's
9781 3007
Principal
Carrie Rodda

St Francis Xavier
9783 3424
Principal
Stephen Peart

Can you do calligraphy? We are looking for someone who has a "nice hand" to update our Memorial books. If you are talented in that way, please contact the Parish Office. 9783 3484

OFFERINGS
GIVING BACK TO GOD

Thank you for your continued support

St. John the Evangelist		St. Francis Xavier	
Presbytery	\$ 603.00	Presbytery	\$ 1,184.00
Church	\$ 808.00	Church	\$ 656.00

This Sunday's Readings

1st Reading Isa 50:4-7
2nd Reading Phil 2:6-11
Gospel Mark 14:1- 15:47

Next Sunday's Readings

1st Reading Acts 10:34, 37-43
2nd Reading 1 Cor 5:6-8
Gospel John 20:1-9

LENT and Holy Week 2021

Sundays of Lent
Palm Sunday, 28 March



Stations of the Cross and Veneration of the Cross

will be held on Good Friday, **2nd April**
SJE 9.00am - SFX 9.15am
and **Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion** at 3.00pm at SJE and SFX.

Easter Reconciliation / Confession will take place this **Monday, 29 Mar at 7.00pm at St John's**



Exposition, Adoration and Benediction shall take place following Mass on **Wednesday**.



Please take some Easter timetable flyers and place them in the letterboxes in your area .

Divine Mercy Sunday
We will be celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday with Confession, Rosary and Mass on Sunday 11 April 2021 at 1.30pm



St Francis Xavier	HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2021	St John the Evangelist
Palm Sunday 28 March		
6.00pm (27 March)	Vigil Mass- Blessing of Palms	7.00pm (27 March)
8.30am	Mass - Blessing of Palms	8.30am
10.30am 5.30pm	Mass - Blessing of Palms	10.00am
Holy Thursday - 1 April		
7.30pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper & Watch & Prayer until 12am	7.00pm
Good Friday - 2 April		
9.15am	Stations of the Cross / Veneration of the Cross	9.00am
3.00pm	Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion	3.00pm
SOLEMNITY OF EASTER		
8.00pm	Easter Vigil - 3 April	7.30pm
5.00am 8.30am 10.30am 5.30pm	Easter Sunday - 4 April	8.30am 10.00am
EASTER RECONCILIATION		
	7.00pm (Second Rite)	Mon, 29 Mar
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY 11 April		
1.30pm	Confession, Rosary and Mass	-

Palm Sunday - 28 March 2021



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH
60 Davey Street, Frankston 3199

ST. JOHN the EVANGELIST PARISH
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Office Hours : 9.00am - 4.00pm Mon-Fri



Gospel - Mark 15:1 - 1-39

First thing in the morning, the chief priest together with the elders and scribes, in short the whole Sanhedrin, had their plan ready. They had Jesus bound and took him away and handed him over to Pilate.
Pilate questioned him, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' 'It is you who say it' he answered. And the chief priests brought many accusations against him. Pilate questioned him again, 'Have you no reply at all? See how many accusations they are bringing against you!' But to Pilate's amazement, Jesus made no further reply.

At festival time Pilate used to release a prisoner for them, anyone they asked for. Now a man called Barabbas was then in prison with the rioters who had committed murder during the uprising. When the crowd went up and began to ask Pilate the customary favour, Pilate answered them, 'Do you want me to release for you the king of the Jews?' For he realised it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed Jesus over. The chief priest, however, had incited the crowd to demand that he should release Barabbas for them instead. Then Pilate spoke again. 'But in that case,' he said 'what am I to do with the man you call king of the Jews?' They shouted back. 'Crucify him!' Pilate asked them, 'What harm has he done?' But they shouted all the louder, 'Crucify him!' So Pilate, anxious to placate the crowd, released Barabbas for them and, having ordered Jesus to be scourged, handed him over to be crucified.

The soldiers led him away to the inner part of the palace, that is, the Praetorium, and called the whole cohort together. They dressed him up in purple, twisted some thorns into a crown and put it on him. And they began saluting him, 'Hail, king of the Jews!' They struck his head with a reed and spat on him; and they went down on their knees to do him homage. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the purple and dressed him in his own clothes.

They led him out to crucify him. They enlisted a passer-by, Simon of Cyrene, father of Alexander and Rufus, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross. They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha, which means the place of the skull.

They offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he refused it. Then they crucified him, and shared out his clothing, casting lots to decide what each should get. It was the third hour when they crucified him. The inscription, giving the charge against him read:

'The King of the Jews.'
And they crucified two robbers with him, one on his right and one on his left.

The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said, 'Aha! So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself: come down from the cross!' The chief priests and the scribes mocked him among themselves in the same way. 'He saved others, they said 'he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the king of Israel, come down from the cross now, for us to see it and believe.' Even those who were crucified with him taunted him.

When the sixth hour came there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice, 'Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?' which means, 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood by heard this, they said, 'Listen, he is calling on Elijah.' Someone ran and soaked a sponge in vinegar and, putting it on a reed, gave it to him to drink, saying, 'Wait and see if Elijah will come to take him down.' But Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

All kneel and pause a moment
And the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The centurion, who was standing in front of him, had seen how he had died, and he said, 'In truth this man was a son of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ



Homily for Palm Sunday, Year B

Palm Sunday is the last Sunday in Lent and the beginning of the most Holy Week in the Christian calendar, when we commemorate the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Holy Week is a week of no swearing, no quarrels, no hatred or hurtful feelings in our hearts and no gossiping. It is a week of love, reconciliation, fairness, kindness and of peace.

Palm symbolises peace and victory, hence, the use of palms today portrays Christ as the King of peace. Jesus came to reconcile humanity with itself and with God. He said, “blessed are the peace makers, for they shall be called children of God,” (Mt 5:9). St Paul also informed us that in Christ, God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting our sins against us, and now, He has entrusted to us the task of spreading the Good News of God’s reconciliation, (2Cor 5:19). Though in Christ, God has reconciled the world to Himself, however, the world is still in dire need of the fruits of that reconciliation. Hence, there is a need for humanity to allow the way of life of Jesus to permeate their lives by accepting him as their King, Lord and Saviour!

Today, we are celebrating the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem to accomplish the mission entrusted to him by the Father. This celebration is both joyous and sober. The first part of the ceremony which relates to Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem is joyous and the second part of the ceremony that narrates his Passion is sober.

Jesus who is our king, priest and prophet had shied away from drawing attention to himself during his earthly ministry. When he healed the sick, he would instruct them not to reveal his identity to others. Though he was God, he emptied himself and became human for our sake, and being human, he lived a humble life, (Phil 2:6-7). Jesus invites us to emulate his self-emptying by getting rid of unnecessary pride in our lives. He also calls on us to come to him with our joys and sorrows, for he said, “come to me all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest, shoulder my yoke for I am lowly and humble of heart and you will find rest for your souls,” (Matt 11:20-30).

Just as Jesus allowed his glory to become manifest to his disciples at his Transfiguration, likewise, in his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, he allowed himself to be treated as a King. Angel Gabriel had proclaimed during the Annunciation that Jesus was to be born to take over the throne of his ancestor David and that his kingdom will have no end, (Lk 1:32). Jesus consecrated by the Holy Spirit and sent by the Father, entered Jerusalem for the climax of his mission. The Father had attested that Jesus was His Son in whom He was well pleased, and He had asked us to listen to him, (Lk 9:35). In the Gospel of John, in the lead up to his Passion, Death and Resurrection, many people came to the awareness that he was the Messiah and believed in him; thus, obeying the injunction from the Father that we should listen to him.

The Gospel of Mark, (Mk 11:1-11), narrates Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Even in his moment of glory, Jesus still chose the humble path. He chose to ride on a donkey which espouses humility and peace, rather than on a horse which is more magnificent and projects power, strength, and war. His disciples spread their cloak on the donkey and Jesus sat on it. Some people in the crowd placed their cloaks on the road, others cut tree branches and placed them on the road. They chanted with joy and praise, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heavens!”

Today as we celebrate Palm Sunday, let us with hearts full of gratitude to God raise our branches with songs of praise to Christ our King. Let us adore and worship him with our hearts, minds, and bodies. Jesus enters Jerusalem to undergo his Passion, Death, and Resurrection; may his sacrifices bestow on us grace upon grace, (Jn 1:16).

Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp

Pastoral Letter

Dear Parishioners,

May the peace of Christ be with you. This is an updated version of the pastoral letter I sent out on the 23rd of this month.

We are in the most holy week of the Christian calendar when we celebrate the Passion, Death and Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We thank God that in Victoria we can celebrate these holy mysteries in person unlike last year when we were in total lockdown due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Though the situation has greatly improved in Australia at large and in Victoria in particular, we are not completely out of the woods. Hence, the need to be cautious as we celebrate our Lord’s Passion, Death and Resurrection.

The palm and olive branches shall be blessed on Palm Sunday, (in the Church), but only the Priests and altar servers shall process with the palms, the rest shall participate from their pews.

The Blessing of the Holy Oils, (Chrism Mass), shall take place on Tuesday, 30th March at St Patrick’s Cathedral. Due to the density requirement on every Church, only the Priests, Deacon, and two parishioners would be able to participate in the Chrism Mass this year from our Parishes.

On Holy Thursday, the Mass of the Last Supper shall be celebrated and the Vigil with the Lord shall be kept until midnight, however, the Washing of the Feet Ceremony shall be omitted following the decree from the Congregation of Divine worship and the recommendation of Archbishop Peter Comensoli. Please sign up to keep Vigil with Lord in the sheet provided in the Foyer.

On Good Friday, the Lord’s Passion shall be commemorated in a morning and afternoon session. To make it possible for more people to participate in the Good Friday celebrations, please participate in one of the ceremonies only. Veneration of the Cross and distribution of Holy Communion shall take place in both ceremonies. Veneration of the Cross shall be by genuflecting or bowing to the Cross. No touching or kissing of the Cross. The Good Friday collection to help Christians in Holy Land shall be taken up in both ceremonies. If we have good weather, the 3.00pm ceremony may take place outside the Church.

The Easter Vigil Mass of the Lord’s Resurrection shall be celebrated with the Ceremony of Light. However, while everyone will have a candle, only the altar ministers shall process with the Easter Candle. The rest of the congregation at Mass shall participate from their pews.

Easter Day Masses shall proceed as usual. Five and three Masses shall be celebrated between the Vigil Mass and the Easter Day Masses in St Francis Xavier’s and St John’s Churches, respectively. Please participate in one Mass only. Parishioners of St Francis Xavier’s and St John’s may consider participating at the dawn Mass, (5.00am at SFX), or 8.30am Mass in both Churches rather than concentrating at the 10am Mass in St John’s and 10.30am Mass in St Francis Xavier’s.

May the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ bring the pandemic to an end, and healing on humankind. Amen.

Kind Regards,

Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp

26.03.21