



# PARA HILLS MODBURY CATHOLIC PARISH

## PARISH TEAM

FR MANU KUMBIDIYAMACKAL  
MSFS

(PARISH PRIEST)

JEN SHERLOCK  
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PAULINE LAI  
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## PARISH ADMIN OFFICE

50 RESERVOIR RD,  
HOPE VALLEY 5090  
PH: 8264 7590 OR 8264 7093

### EMAIL:

office@paramodcath.com.au  
bulletin@paramodcath.com.au

### OFFICE HOURS:

TUESDAY-FRIDAY: 9AM-2PM

## HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

171 KESTERS ROAD,  
PARA HILLS 5096

## ST JOHN XXIII CHURCH

50 RESERVOIR RD,  
HOPE VALLEY 5090

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY  
CELEBRATED AT  
10AM MASS**

### BAPTISMS

BOOKINGS TO BE MADE  
THROUGH THE PARISH OFFICE.

### MARRIAGES

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

## REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

**ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S**  
(PRIMARY) 8251 9500  
CARIGNANE ST,  
WYNN VALE 5127

**GLEESON COLLEGE**  
(SECONDARY) 8282 6600  
40-60 SURREY FARM DRIVE,  
GOLDEN GROVE 5125

## PARISH CHILD PROTECTION OFFICER

THERESE MEYERS: 0421 533 761  
TASH SOUTER: 0422 270 655

5th April 2020

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Year A - Red

Bulletin Vol.17  
Issue 11

**We acknowledge the Kurna people as the custodians of this region.  
Let us share and learn together for reconciliation and justice.**



## On the Way to Calvary

This is the time of year we stop to remember and relive the events which brought about our redemption and salvation. What we commemorate and relive during this week is not just Jesus' dying and rising, but our own dying and rising in him, which will result in our healing, reconciliation, and redemption. Attentive participation in the Holy Week liturgy will deepen our relationship with God, increase our Faith and strengthen our lives as disciples of Jesus. We may not have a chance to be present in the church during this most important week. But let us be united in prayer as we celebrate this year's Holy Week. Let us also remember in our prayers those who are in struggle and strife due to the corona virus pandemic in various parts of the world.

On the Palm Sunday celebration, Jesus seems to be doing exactly what his disciples expect him to do; take charge, make a bold statement, enter Jerusalem as the Messiah that he is. The crowds in Jerusalem have swelled to several hundred thousand, crowding the streets of Jerusalem as pilgrims and residents of the city prepare for The Feast of Passover, the most memorable feast in the history of the Jewish people; for it is this Passover feast that commemorates God's deliverance of the nation from the slavery of Egypt. The prayer in Jesus' day was, of course, that God would free the Jews from the oppression of Rome. When Jesus comes riding into Jerusalem on the first day of Passover week, the crowds are looking for someone to rally around, someone to carry the banner of freedom and liberation for the Jewish people. But Jesus is not traveling the road to revolution; he is traveling the road to Calvary. And along the way several things happen.

### **On the Road to Calvary Jesus picks up some silent participants:**

What different story would we be telling today if the unnamed owners of the donkey had refused to give it up? No matter how unknown a person is, he or she can still play a crucial role in the unfolding of God's plan. The Lord needs each one of us as he needed the unnamed owners of the donkey in the reading. A donkey was a very big thing in those days. The donkey was the equivalent of a car, a truck and a tractor all in one. You can see that giving up the donkey just because the Lord needed it was a very big sacrifice. It was a generous and heroic act of faith. And such a faith response is what is asked of each of us.

**On the Road to Calvary, Jesus Picks up Some Admirers:** Of course, not even the disciples comprehend that Jesus is heading toward his death by the end of the week. As Jesus rides into Jerusalem, the disciples are joyous, the crowd is energized, and shouts of "Hosanna" ring out. Yes, the crowds that sing and shout and follow him are admirers. They like that Jesus stands up to their own corrupt political leaders and religious figures. They like that Jesus seems to be a man of the people, that he eats with sinners and talks with prostitutes. They have been looking for a hero, and Jesus is the flavour of the day. And, of course, there were strange reports that he could heal people, feed people, and that when he prayed

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evil spirits fled from those they possessed. But the problem with admirers is that they see what they want to see in their hero of the day. What the crowds saw in Jesus was the son of Joseph, not the Son of God. They saw him as a revolutionary, not as Redeemer. In short, they admired Jesus because they thought he was the answer to all their problems. The admirers would walk only up to the cross and not upon the cross. All admirers would run away when they have to follow him upon the cross. So, it's not any wonder that by the end of the week, those who admired Jesus on Sunday were shouting "Crucify him!" on Friday.

### On the Road to Calvary, Jesus Picks Up Some

**Opposition:** In what is an otherwise jubilant scene of singing and shouting and celebration, the Pharisees hear all the commotion. Rushing toward the sounds of joy and laughter, they quickly size up the situation: Jesus' followers are proclaiming him king! And just as quickly, the Pharisees shout out to Jesus, "Rebuke your disciples!" In other words, "Tell them to stop this nonsense. You'll upset the Romans, and besides, you're no king or messiah." This, of course, is not the first time he has encountered opposition. Jesus has been opposed from the very beginning of his ministry:

- In Nazareth, at the synagogue crowd didn't like his interpretation of the prophet Isaiah;
- When he healed on the Sabbath, the Pharisees accused him of being a Sabbath-breaker;
- When he re-interpreted the Torah, the Law of Moses, they murmured against him;
- When he proclaimed that he would and rebuild the temple in 3-days, they tore their clothes and shouted in disapproval.

Opposition to Jesus is nothing new, and sadly, it is not going away either. There have always been, and will always be, those who oppose the work of God, who reject the love of God, and who ridicule the Son of God.

### Most importantly on the Road to Calvary, Jesus Picked Up the Cross:

Let's not forget that the road Jesus travelled led not just to Jerusalem, but through its streets where he was mocked and jeered. The road that Jesus walked was a road that did not end in the city. It continued out to the other side, through the city gates, to Calvary. We usually phrase it in the passive voice by saying "Jesus was crucified." And that is certainly true. The Passover crowd demanded it, Pilate confirmed it, and the Roman soldiers did it. They nailed Jesus to the cross. But if we say, "Jesus was crucified" or "They crucified Jesus" we miss the great significance of this week. Jesus picked up the cross willingly, sacrificially, and obediently. Paul says, "He became obedient unto death, even death on a cross." Jesus said, "I lay down my life, and no one takes it from me." Today when we celebrate this Jesus let us place ourselves into the scene where do we stand? Are we participating disciples who are willing to follow upon the cross or mere admirers who would follow only up to the cross? Let us ask the Lord to grant us the grace to be genuine followers that we may really find the true meaning of what we celebrate.

*Janakumbudramakal*

Readings for next Sunday, 12th April 2020

1st Reading	Act	10:34, 37-43
2nd Reading	Colossians	3:1-4
Gospel	John	20:1-9

### Saints/Feast Days Of the Week

10th	Apr	Friday of the Passion of the Lord Day of Fast and Abstinence
12th	Apr	The Resurrection of the Lord

### Our Community's Prayer Petitions

**PLEASE NOTE: THE NAMES ON THE SICK LIST WILL REMAIN FOR TWO MONTHS ONLY UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED.**

**BULLETIN PRAYER LIST:** Please note that names can only be added to this list by immediate family, or the ill person themselves (for reasons of privacy).

**Please Remember in your Prayers THOSE WHO ARE SICK, especially:**

Pat Collins, Ruby Brokensha, Anne Van Der Arend, Gerry McConnell, Margaret Pitt, Patricia Kopf, Darcy Ridley, Paul Holmes, Father Peter Milburn, Maria Hand, Emma Gammon, Asher Caudle, David North, Elijah Neri, Wayne Collins, Antoinette Pascale, Marg Dolman, Charlotte Fussell, Phyllis Anthony, Reta Lockyer, John MacGrath, Ken Robinson, Graham Armstrong, Mary Redmond, Graham Speed, Marlen Piineda, David Truman, Bruce McAndie, Rosa Maria Santos, Sean Molloy, Betty Roper, Imperia De Ionno, Julie Reimann, Maddison Calleja, Janice Forrester, Jim Marlow, Gerry Canavan, Jayden Lee, Marie Boulton, Sr. Marleen Dewar OLSH, Kay Kennedy, Rita Robinson, Gary Lockyer, Yvonne Summers.

### Recently Deceased

Dudley Dolman, Patrick Healy, Selena Rose Quinn, Eileen Ryan, Anthony Tuanqui



**PROJECT  
COMPASSION**  
GO FURTHER TOGETHER

Dominic, 47, is a father of six from Papua New Guinea. In 2016, he became involved with Caritas Australia's partner, Centre of Hope who runs a safe house and family anonymous programs and turned a difficult life and an unhappy relationship around.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 to help support the Safe House project and help bring greater harmony to families in Papua New Guinea.**

**Let's Go Further, Together.**

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

**Project Compassion Boxes and Envelopes can be returned to the Parish Office during office hours.**

**Please call ahead to check that the office is open.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL**

HQ: 1300 729 202 from 9.00am — 1.00pm  
or [www.vinnies.org.au](http://www.vinnies.org.au)



**St Vincent de Paul  
Modbury Conference**

*Lord your timeless lesson sings out in the  
voice of constant waves, in the wind through  
the trees and in the harmonies of life.*

*Wash clean our ears to hear you, make us  
listen now, for we need your great wisdom to assist us in  
our life. Amen.*

Calls for assistance dropped to three last week,  
but that was enough to strip the pantry of some items.

The impact of the COVID crisis has already been  
huge on Vinnies fund raising, and the Association has  
had to go to "Survival" mode with some shop closures  
and staff reductions.

Calls are still being taken, but we have advised  
State Office that Modbury will cease home visiting at  
least until May when we'll re-assess.

The impact of shopping difficulties, financial duress,  
membership age and social distancing directives is  
too big to ignore.



**DEVELOPMENT FUND 2020**

Due to the current restrictions regarding  
unnecessary social contact it has been  
decided that the

Development Fund weekly draws  
will be suspended until further notice.

Any monies already paid will be credited  
when draws resume

If you have any further questions or  
if you would like to be included  
in the draw when it resumes.

Please contact: Barbara Mathews 8258 8806



*Congratulations  
Andrea and Ken Randell  
celebrating their  
60th Wedding Anniversary.*

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
APRIL BABIES**

9th Apr	Matthew Chambers
10th Apr	Donna Mills, Mathew Ager
11th Apr	Nicole Smyczek, Barbara Mathews, Mary Mollaghan



**Let us Keep the Holy Thursday Holy**

Holy Thursday, the first day of 'Pascal Triduum.'  
From a historical point of view, on this evening  
we commemorate "Our Lord's Last Supper" with his  
disciples and celebrate the institution of both the Holy  
Eucharist and the Ministerial Priesthood.

As we celebrate the Gift Jesus in the  
Blessed Sacrament, we shall thank God for such a  
wonderful gift, the gift of giving himself up for us.  
On Holy Thursday, when we celebrate the institution of  
the Ministerial priesthood let us specially remember and  
pray for all the ordained.

When we commemorate the anniversary of Jesus'  
promulgation of his new commandment of love:  
"Love one another as I have loved you" (Jn 13:34),  
through the celebration of the washing of the feet, which  
will not happen in reality due to the circumstances in  
which we are placed, we shall renew our own  
commitment to God's commandment of love.



**Collections**

We would like to thank all our parishioners who so  
generously support our Priests and Parish  
We are all going through some difficult times and the  
parish requires your continuous support so that we are  
able to go on as the bills keeps coming in.  
If you can help in any way it is very much appreciated.  
If you would like to contribute online please visit our  
website [paramodcath.com.au](http://paramodcath.com.au) and use the link to make  
your contributions to both the presbytery fund  
(1st collection) and to the parish (2nd collection).

Once you click the link

- Choose the parish. Scroll down and choose  
Para Hills /Modbury and click submit.
- Once you have done this please make sure that you  
have filled in all the required fields.
- Choose first collection from the payment type for  
presbytery collection.
- Choose "general" at the payment type if you are  
making a donation for the second collection.  
\*Please fill in your planned giving number in the  
space provided so that we will know from whom the  
debit comes.
- Click next
- Enter verification code
- Click next
- You will have the option to print or email a receipt for  
your records
- Click finish

Contributions can also be dropped off at the Parish office  
using the mail slot next to the office door.

Please mark envelopes clearly as 1st or 2nd collection.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

**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.**



### COVID-19 PHONE COUNSELLING NOW AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT

People struggling to cope with the chaos and fear surrounding COVID-19 can now access free phone counselling by appointment from Centacare Catholic Family Services.

In response to the health emergency, Centacare has increased capacity to provide telephone support for mental health concerns, family stress due to job loss, social isolation and other challenges arising from the coronavirus pandemic.

People do not need a mental health care plan to access the short-term support. Rather, they can phone Centacare direct and book an appointment for a telephone counselling consultation.

**To book an appointment please phone Centacare on 8215 6700.  
For more information, please contact Elizabeth Rowe 0437 062 302.**

### Coronavirus Protocols

**Due to the restrictions on all gatherings, which have been put into place in response to the Coronavirus outbreak, all Parish activities are suspended until further notice.**

**We ask that you do not access any of the Parish buildings for any reason without prior permission. We also ask that if you do enter any of the Parish buildings that you fill in the sign in sheets provided.**

**We regret the inconvenience this may cause, but our priority at this time is to minimise the risk of spreading the Coronavirus in our community.**

**The Parish office will continue to be staffed for the time being, but this may change at short notice, therefore we ask that all queries are made over the phone or via email.**

**We greatly appreciate your cooperation at this difficult time.**

### Parish Bulletin

To help to keep you up to date with developments the Parish Bulletin will continue to be published weekly and posted online on the Parish Website <http://paramodcath.com.au>

If you would like to receive the bulletin via email please contact us at [bulletin@paramodcath.com.au](mailto:bulletin@paramodcath.com.au)

### Bulletin Articles

We would like to publish some stories from our parishioners about how this time of church closures and isolation from our parish community is affecting you and your faith.

If you have a story to share please email it in to [bulletin@paramodcath.com.au](mailto:bulletin@paramodcath.com.au)



### It is Finished: Good Friday

At three o'clock, Jesus said He was thirsty. A soldier fixed a sponge on a spear and held it up to His lips. He took it (John 19:30). Then, straining to raise His head and to look up to Heaven Jesus said "It is finished." Then he bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

A perfect sacrifice of atonement is finished:  
What Jesus really meant was that his job of saving the world had been completed by his offering of himself on the cross as a perfect sacrifice.

Reconciliation is accomplished:  
Sin had separated us from God, Jesus died on the cross to get rid of the power of sin to condemn us. "For God indeed was in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself" (2 Corinthians 5:19).

The ransom is paid:  
"The Son of Man came ... to give his life as a ransom for many." The only way in which the satisfaction could be made for the debt we owed to Divine justice by our sin was by the Incarnation, willing, sacrificial death, and resurrection of a Redeemer who was both God and man.

### Masses Online & On Television

**We will be streaming Masses for Palm Sunday and all of the Easter Liturgies**  
Please visit our parish website for the link or go to [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search for Para Hills Modbury Catholic Parish To find our channel.

**Also visit the Archdiocese website for links to information, prayers and other streamed Masses.**

**The following Easter services will be broadcast on free to air television on Channel 44, a community television station, at the following times:**

**Holy Thursday - Mass of the Lord's Supper, 6.30pm - 7.30pm**  
**Good Friday - Passion of the Lord, 3pm - 4pm**  
**Holy Saturday - Easter Vigil, 6pm - 7pm**  
**Easter Sunday, 9am - 10am**



### THE SOUTHERN CROSS

The Easter edition of The Southern Cross will be inserted in The Advertiser this weekend, Saturday, April 4.

You will also be able to access it online at [www.thesoutherncross.org.au](http://www.thesoutherncross.org.au)