

EASTER MASS TIMES

Stations of The Cross

Every Friday during Lent commencing

Friday 4th March, 2022

6.30pm Rosary

7pm Mass

Stations of The Cross after Mass.

Palm Sunday:

10th April, 2022

5pm Vigil Mass (Saturday)

8.30am and 10am Sunday

Holy Thursday:

14th April, 2022

No 9am Mass

7pm Mass of The Lord's Supper

Quiet prayer and adoration until 9.45pm

The Church will remain open until 10pm

Good Friday:

15th April, 2022

10am Stations of The Cross

3pm Celebration of The Passion of The Lord

Holy Saturday:

16th April, 2022

No 9am Mass

6pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday The Resurrection of The Lord

17th April, 2022

8.30am and 10am Mass

Monday 18th April and Tuesday 19th April

No Mass

Reconciliation During Lent

Tuesdays 10am - 11am

Fridays 10am - 11am

Wednesdays 6pm - 6.45pm

Saturdays 4pm - 4.30pm

Support Your Parish Online

May I take this opportunity to thank those who have been supporting our Parish. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

You can choose to make a donation online at our parish website at: www.stmelscampsie.org.au and click on the **Support Us** icon and follow the prompts.

Catechists Needed.

Our Parish is in desperate need of volunteers to train as Catechists to assist once a week for a 30 minute lesson at either Harcourt Public School, Campsie Public School and Canterbury South Public School.

All training is accredited by the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine and all lessons can be arranged free of charge at St Mel's Parish Hall.

This is truly a rewarding ministry teaching children the faith and joining them on their Sacramental journey. If you would like to enquire or need any further information please call the Parish Office. Thank you.

Catholic Cemeteries Prayer Service for Ukraine

Please join us for a special **Prayer Service for Ukraine** on Friday 8 April at 5pm at Rookwood Catholic Cemetery. Fr Simon from the Ukrainian Catholic community will conduct a 20 minute celebration of the living service. There will be a Ukrainian singer performing and Fr Simon will provide a short update on the Ukraine. If you would like to attend, please RSVP: to marketing@catholiccemeteries.com.au

Camino of St Joseph: An Overnight Pilgrimage for Men Friday 29-Saturday 30 April.

Join in this challenge in honour of our Spiritual Father for the Feast of St Joseph the Worker! The Camino will begin with 9pm Mass on Friday April 29 at St Jerome's, Punchbowl with Bishop Richard Umbers and conclude on Saturday April 30 with 5.30am Mass at St Michael's, Meadowbank followed by a bbq breakfast. The entire walk from start to finish will include 7 locations with 6 churches: from St Jerome's - Punchbowl, to St Felix - Bankstown, Immaculate Heart of Mary - Sefton, St Peter Chanel - Berala, St Joachim's - Lidcombe, Sydney Olympic Park and St Michael's, Meadowbank. Each location will feature a reflection on St Joseph and a short time in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. You can register at: <https://www.trybooking.com/BXRIT> - Cost is \$15.

A message from the Archdiocese

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at: (02) 9390 5810 or email: safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

3rd April, 2022

Fifth Sunday of Lent Year C



St Mel's Parish

Est 1915

Feast Day: 6th February

7 Evaline Street Campsie NSW 2194

Ph. 9787 1582

Email: stmelscampsie@bigpond.com

Website: www.stmelscampsie.org.au

Parish Priest: Fr. Anthony Mifsud

Parish Secretary: Diane Daher

Parish Office Opening hours: 9.30am-3pm on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.
Monday & Wednesday office is closed.

St Mel's Catholic Primary School:

9789 3800

PARISH MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil: 5pm

Sunday: 8.30am, 10am

Weekdays: 9am Tuesday, Thursday, Friday,

Wednesday: 7pm followed by adoration.

SACRAMENTS:

Reconciliation: 4pm to 4.30pm Saturday.

Baptisms: By arrangement, please call Parish Office or download an application from the Parish website at: www.stmelscampsie.org.au

Weddings: By arrangement with six months notice

Care for the Sick: Please call the presbytery.

DEVOTIONS:

Rosary: Every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday after the 9am Mass.

Adoration: After Wednesday 7pm Mass.

First Friday Adoration: Mass at 9am, followed by Adoration and Rosary.

Every Friday During Lent: 6.30pm Rosary, 7pm Mass followed by Stations of The Cross

SAINTS AND FEAST DAYS THIS MONTH

Sunday 3rd April: Fifth Sunday of Lent

Sunday 10th April: Palm Sunday of the Passion Of The Lord

Thursday 14th April: Holy Thursday

Friday 15th April: Good Friday

Saturday 16th April: Holy Saturday

Sunday 17th April: Easter Sunday of The Resurrection of The Lord

Sunday 24th April: Divine Mercy Sunday

Tuesday 26th April: St. Mark (evangelist)

Thursday 28th April: St. Peter Chanel (priest, martyr)

Friday 29th April: St. Catherine of Sienna (virgin, doctor)

Saturday 30th April: St. Pius V (pope)

FIRST READING Is 43:16-21***A reading from the prophet Isaiah***

Thus says the Lord,
who made a way through the sea,
a path in the great waters;
who put chariots and horse in the field
and a powerful army,
which lay there never to rise again,
snuffed out, put out like a wick:

No need to recall the past,
no need to think about what was done before.
See, I am doing a new deed, even now it
comes to light; can you not see it?
Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness,
paths in the wilds.

The wild beasts will honour me,
jackals and ostriches,
because I am putting water in the wilderness
(rivers in the wild)
to give my chosen people drink.
The people I have formed for myself
will sing my praises.

WORD OF THE LORD.**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Ps 125. R. v.3

(R.) *The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.*

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. **(R.)**

The heathens themselves said:
'What marvels the Lord worked for them!'
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. **(R.)**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. **(R.)**

They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing;
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves. **(R.)**

SECOND READING Phil 3:8-14***A reading from the letter of St Paul to
The Philippians***

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

WORD OF THE LORD.**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** JI 2:12-13

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

With all your heart turn to me,
for I am tender and compassionate.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL Jn 8:1-11***A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John***

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.' **GOSPEL OF THE LORD**

Gospel Reflection

by Greg Sunter

This entire scene is a conspiratorial 'set-up' to trap Jesus. Jewish law dictated that adultery was to be punished by death for both parties. However, the Roman occupation had forbidden the Jewish authorities to carry out the death penalty. By bringing the woman to Jesus they sought to place him in a no-win situation. If he upheld the Jewish law and ordered the death penalty, then he was flaunting Roman law. If he did not uphold the law then he could be branded as a false teacher. They thought it was a perfect trap!

But where is the man with whom the woman was committing adultery? When he is not also brought forward for judgment as any legitimate accusation would demand, Jesus senses the trap being set for him. He realises that those accusing the woman must have somehow been involved in setting her up so that she could be 'caught committing adultery'. In Jewish law, accessories to a crime were equally guilty and subject to the same penalty. When Jesus says to the gathering, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned ...,' he's letting them know that he's aware of their part in this crime and what judgment is due them also! If they persist with their accusation, they'll also be tried as accessories! So they quietly walk away.

Jesus' words to the woman sum up his message throughout the gospel: 'Neither do I condemn you, go away, and don't sin any more.' As with others in the gospels, Jesus recognises that the woman has indeed sinned, but he does not condemn her for it. By telling her not to sin any more he is calling her to conversion. He is saying, yes, you've made mistakes, but you can do better and I'm challenging you to try.

Gospel Focus – Restoring honour

When the accused woman is brought before Jesus for judgment he neither looks at the woman nor at the accusers. He bends down and writes in the dirt. When the accusers melt away, Jesus (still kneeling on the ground) looks up at the woman to speak to her. She has probably never been treated with this level of respect in all her life. With this action, as much as anything else, Jesus restores dignity and honour to the woman. No longer looked down upon, she can begin a new life.

Living the Gospel – Forgiven, not forgotten

The words Jesus speaks to the accused woman could as easily be addressed to each of us. We all feel at times that we've done the wrong thing – something we don't deserve to be forgiven for. However, Jesus says to us, I know you've done the wrong thing, and you are already forgiven, but you need to make a commitment to change and not repeat the error. It is Jesus' promise not to give up on us – not to forget about us – that we can draw strength from as we try to respond to his challenge to change.

Appointment of Parish Priest at St Mel's

Effective Saturday the 30th April, 2022 Reverend Fr. Peter Joseph from St Dominics Flemington will be joining the St Mel's community as our Parish Priest.

On **Sunday 24th April after the 10am Mass** we will have a Parish BBQ to farewell Fr Anthony. Weather permitting the BBQ will be in the school playground, alternatively it will be in the Parish Hall. We kindly ask you to bring a plate to share.

We remember in our Masses

Lord, we commend to your loving care all the sick of our parish.

We also pray for all the Souls of the faithful departed: Christopher Calata, Caterina Repice, Eren Yik Paang Wong, Zenaida Tuico Vitorino Jesus Santos, Antonio Ramos, Mrs Aida Camilleri, Maria Do Carmo, Manuel Outeirinho, Sr. Margaret Jennings, Patrick Schinkel and Schinkel family members, Simon & Josephine Gitanny, Said family members, Dorothy Stanton, Freda Budwee, Jennifer Blair, Genevieve Zoghbi Zeaiter, Luigi Zampino, Emanuel & Carmen Spiteri, Lennox Lolesio, Leodegario Enting Chan, Francesco Viterale, Da Silva & Viera families, Georges Azzi, Tony Laban, Yvonne Hallo, Semaan Gorges, Francesco Viterale, Tony & Victor Karam, Joseph & Halema Moussa, Jhottos & Rosemont Moses, Therese Badaoui, James Lahood, Sayed Saad, **We pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Regina Maria Fernandes, Frank Stanton, Ramez and Rada Constantine, Danilo Tuico, Fahim, Jeanette Elias, Elias Makhloof, Nakad families, Mitch Daniel, Huggette Moses, Teofisto and Maura Mandanas, Victor Samuel, Francis Samia, Antonio Ramos, Vitorina Santos, Alex Henriquez, Maria Odete Da Silva, Hend El-Daher, Anthony Samuel, Vince Samuel, **Lord Hear Us.**