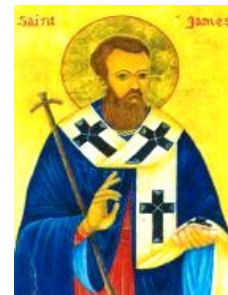


5TH SUNDAY LENT YR B 2021 21 MARCH

The Parish of St James Coorparoo A Vibrant, Prayerful, Inclusive Augustinian Parish Archdiocese of Brisbane



ALPHA @ St James

Our first ever parish ALPHA began last Wednesday with Session 1: **IS THERE MORE TO LIFE THAN THIS?** Please do consider our invite and if you've been personally invited by a member of YAM to join and wondering what the next step is, please simply give the parish office a ring for any question (3397-1671), or feel free to speak with one of our YAM. Session 2 on Wednesday, 24th March, is entitled **WHO IS JESUS?** Just in case your schedule is just tight or full-on before Easter, but still really want to join, please do not hesitate to let us know, you're still very much welcome!

Alpha is definitely an important tool in helping us get a handle of our need for a renewed community, and by renewed I mean an *evangelised church*, that is, a St James community that is trusting of, animated, inspired by the Holy Spirit! I dream of a parish community where those who have received or will receive the sacraments are also, or have been, evangelised! I dream of a church where parents bring their children to receive the sacraments because they themselves have encountered Christ and are confident



of the impact that Christ will have in their children's lives and in their family's. I dream of a parish where those whom we sit with and see Sunday after Sunday are known not just by face or name, but by their stories. Where the laity finds it normal to minister to or be ministered by their fellow laity (specifically in terms of leading or doing the non-sacramental roles which are not reserved to clergy: baptism preparation, sacramental program preparation for children or adults; looking into projects,

application for grants, helping in continuing Alpha, bible studies, faith sharing, catechism, helping priests in faith formation programs, helping in organising family groups, organising morning teas and other gatherings, liturgical ministries training and coordinating with EB, social justice, marriage courses, children's liturgy, etc.). I dream of a church where hospitality is seen beyond hosting morning teas and other beautiful venues to gather people, beyond the giving of bulletins, but partly by how sensitive we are towards welcoming the unchurched and the so-called 'lapsed Catholics'. Where the laity are empowered to freely share their individual gifts, talents and/or time for the flourishing of the faith community; where a genuine need in our locality is explored and identified and supported by us. I have always prayed to see us, as a community, grow and mature in our faith, and reach out to others. Now, the above list of dreams may be the *fruits* that could borne in our community. But how about the *soil* and *seed*? [continued on next page... **ALPHA**]



Reflections from St James Lenten Group

March 10th to March 20th:

This week we are called to reflect on how Jesus relates to religious laws – 'that any religious law that contributes to our understanding of how to relate to God and the need to act mercifully and justly towards others is to be preserved...' and that it is, 'The Spirit that is to guide us to live the sort of authentic life that includes and goes beyond the law.' As well, we must always try to, 'respond to the God of love who saves us, to see God in others and to go forth from ourselves to see the good of others.' This does not come easily; 'it is a battle' involving difficult choices we have to make '...to embrace fully the life God has for us'.

We are also reminded by Jesus of the two great commandments of love: 'To love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength.' and, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' He invites us to, 'Take our love of God out of the clouds and place it squarely in our day-to-day lives...that every person, every sunset, every created thing is recognised as a manifestation of the One who has called everything into being'. **This challenges us, as Fr Francis also did this week, when he asked – 'Are we clear about what we are on about? And to remember that - we are gifted to give, whatever it is, to others.'**

For it is with humility and faith that we can enter into a relationship with our God who said of himself, 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.' It is through the gospels that this truth goes beyond the recorded events: 'that Jesus is the one who brings life...the fulfilment of God's plan and represents the hope and desire for a future that resides within every human being.'

March 22 is World Water Day. The foundation of all Catholic social teaching is respect for the life and dignity of every human person. Fundamental to both life itself and life lived with dignity is access to clean water. Around the world, millions of people—elderly people, children, and all ages in between—suffer because of a scarcity of water. Your challenge this week is two-fold. First, examine how your family uses water. Do you conserve it as a precious and God-given resource which is not unlimited? Pay attention to how much water you waste (e.g., letting water run while you are brushing your teeth instead of just using it to get your toothbrush wet at the beginning and to rinse at the end). Then on Saturday, discuss how you can limit your use of water and commit to it—at least for the rest of the Lenten season. Secondly, decide on one way you can support people in areas of the world which do not have clean water. You might want to research particular programs of Catholic Relief Services which help people dig wells or purify contaminated water. (www.crs.org for details). Then make a donation on behalf of those denied dignity by helping them receive life-giving water.

March 21, 2021 • 5th Sunday of Lent • John: 12:20-33

Living Life to the Fullest

Jesus talks to his apostles about his death. He tells them that he must die before he can be glorified, just as a seed must die before it can produce fruit. Jesus goes on to tell them that they too must die to themselves and to what the world considers the good life if they hope to share in his glory, his eternal life.

After Jesus proclaims, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified,” he begins to speak to his disciples about his death. He is telling his friends that when he dies, he will be glorified. His death marks the end of all his human efforts. It is the culmination of all his life’s actions. It is the completion of all of the little and big sacrifices he accepted. We find Jesus’ glory as much in a life well lived, as in a death fully embraced.

FAMILY RESPONSE

Ask each person to talk about the most difficult thing they had to go through so far in their life. Discuss what they did to get through it.

PERSONAL RESPONSE

What is the hardest thing for you to give up personal control of? What do you want to remember from last week? What are you looking forward to next week? What are your concerns?

We sometimes get so caught up in the blood sacrifice of the cross as atonement for our sins that we forget Jesus’ whole life was the Way. He came to his glory, as we will come to ours, by accepting all the little and big crosses of being human—including the cross of death.

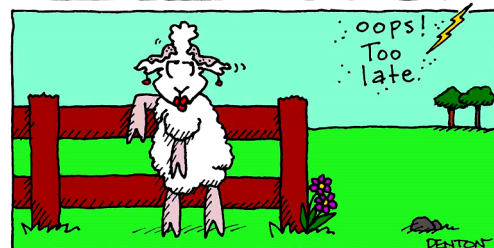
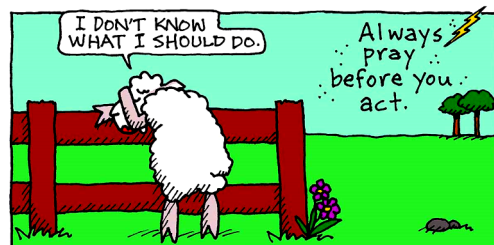
Jesus is the Way because he embraced his life accepting his human limitations and vulnerability. And we are asked to do the same. This does not mean we need to go out and put on a hair shirt or find some

crosses to climb on. The truth is a person can’t get through childhood without a few crosses finding them.

It is extremely difficult to give up the illusion that we can control our lives. (Just try planning an outdoor family reunion when you can guarantee no rain.) But that is what is asked of us. It was in accepting that last cross, a cross he begged God to take away from him, that Jesus finally came to glory. This is the paschal mystery we celebrate at Easter—the same mystery through which we find our own glory—a life lived fully and given freely even to death.

Bringing Home the Gospel: Parent Reflections on the Sunday Gospels • Copyright © 2007, 2021 Judith Dunlap. Published by the Pastoral Center, PastoralCenter.com. All rights reserved. Scripture passages have been taken from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright ©1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., and used by permission. All rights reserved.

BRINGING HOME THE GOSPEL



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"He learned obedience from what he suffered."

Sheepish Question:

What must I do to conform my heart to Jesus' heart?

ALPHA... [continued from previous page]

Yes, we want to bear fruit, and we want to see lives changed, but we need to constantly check our soil too while continuing to plant the seeds. The soil is the culture in our parish where the seed could grow. What sort of culture are we growing in our church? Is it a culture that intentionally brings about the bearing and flourishing of these dreams? Or is it a culture that supports a minimalist view of Catholicism (1 hour mass and that's it; where a mass that goes over an hour, just an example, or a homily that seems longish, irregardless of the message, is seen as abhorrent. Is the culture in our parish one that easily supports parents in the development of faith in the family? Is the culture in our parish supportive of married couple in their relationship?

Alpha is a tool, and not the only one if I may add. But I see how Alpha could help us start in this long journey of evangelisation. Yes, this is a long journey for all of us. Let us continue to pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and for the grace to continue our efforts in Alpha that we've only just started. - Fr Francis OSA

St. James Parish acknowledges the Jaggera People of Coorparoo as the traditional owners of the land on which we live.

Prayers

Please pray for recently deceased:

Paul Gannon; Kevin Swifte; Fr Peter Gillam; Maureen Ferguson; Terence Wild; Terry Sheehan; Dominador Sta Maria.

And these anniversaries: Adelma Elicano;

Secondo Berto; Elsie Frampton; Pat Killin; Braulio Monterde.

Please pray for these unwell: Marj Norris, Leanne Hendrix; Fr Ron Mollison; Arturo Belciña; Rhelma Kenny; Edric McAuliffe; Sharon Kennedy Gerlach; Michael & Kathleen Simpson.

Please pray for everyone in our Parish.



Parish news

Worship Night Saturday evening 20th March

7.30-9.30pm in our church, led by SFC and YFC...All are welcome to an evening of songs, reflection and adoration.



New Ministry Roster for weekend masses available in the Sacristy (& email).



Clipboard available at church side entrance for Ministry help Easter Services period.



Sacrament of Reconciliation Program

(Year 5 or older, 10yrs of age or older)

Wednesday **6pm, March 24th**- Rite of First Reconciliation in our Church

Sunday **9am, March 28th**- Thanksgiving Mass



EASTER SERVICES 2021

THURSDAY, 1st April -

HOLY THURSDAY:

MORNING PRAYER - 8AM

MASS OF LORD'S SUPPER - 7PM

FRIDAY, 2nd April -

GOOD FRIDAY:

MORNING PRAYER - 8AM

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - 10AM

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION - 3PM
(also Collection for Holy Land)

SATURDAY, 3rd April - HOLY SATURDAY:

MORNING PRAYER - 8AM

THE EASTER VIGIL - 7PM

SUNDAY, 4th April - EASTER SUNDAY:

MASS TIMES: 7AM & 9AM

MONDAY, 5th April—EASTER MONDAY:

MASS—8AM



MARCH

20 / 21 Saturday 4.30-5.30pm Reconciliation); Year B/1 5th Sunday Lent (Saturday Vigil 6pm; Sunday 7 & 9am) No Baptisms during Lent

20 Working bee cancelled due to wet weather

20 7.30-9.30pm Worship evening with songs & praise

23 Group Lenten Reflection after 8am mass

24 Way of the Cross after 8am mass (final)

24 Rite of First Reconciliation for children 6pm

24 Wednesday 6.30pm - 9.15pm Alpha program: Week 2 (organised by YAM) - in the Hall for 11 weeks

24 / 25 Priests Convocation—gather with Archbishop

26 Friday 9am mass

27 / 28 Saturday 4.30-5.30pm Reconciliation (book through Eventbrite); Year B/1 Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)

Halima is raising her two children in a refugee camp in Bangladesh while caring for her mother, who has a disability. Widowed at 21, Halima fled violence in Myanmar's Rakhine State and arrived at the camp with nothing. Caritas Australia, through Caritas Bangladesh, helped Halima out with a shelter, cooking equipment, hygiene and sanitation training. She took on the role of community trainer herself, organising the cleaning of washrooms, wells and toilets.

Halima aspired to 'Be More'. She is proud that she is now able to earn a small income while maintaining the health of her family and the cleanliness of the camp community.

You can donate by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

PROJECT COMPASSION
BE MORE



The Catholic Leader March 2021 newspaper is now available for \$4—money box near papers.

Villanova College Events 2021

Saturday 20th March Villanova International Carnival
Saturday 1st May Old Boys Day and Official opening of Grandstand

Friday 7th May P&F annual Mothers' Night

Friday 28th May Sports Club lunch

Saturday 24th July Villanova Ball

Sunday 12th September Deceased Villanovans' mass

Saturday 9th October Mothers of Old Boys afternoon

Saturday 30th October Derby Day for Ladies

Planned Giving for the Week of 14th March, 2021

Collection Account numbers have now changed from 1st March	Loose money [not pledged]	Envelopes [pledged]	Direct Debit	Credit card	Total
1st Collection Augustinian Priory BSB: 064 786 Account #: 100019791	\$764.65	\$310	\$570	Last	\$1,644.65
2nd Collection St James Parish BSB: 064 786 Account #: 100005891	\$491.60	\$270	\$640	week only	\$1,401.60

The Parish of St James

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Postal:

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COORPAROO DC, QLD, 4151

Phone: (07) 3397 1671 OR 3847 3696

Email: osastjames@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Priest: pp.stjames@bne.catholic.net.au

Web: www.stjames-coorparoo.org.au



Primary School

92 Kirkland Ave,
Coorparoo, 4151.

Julian Cotter—Principal

Peter Gibson—Religious Education

Phone: 3457 1100

Fax: 3847 3337

Email: pcoorparoostj@bne.catholic.edu.au

Web: www.stjames.qld.edu.au/



Administration

Parish Priest	Fr Francis Belciña OSA	3397 1671
Assisting Deacon	Dcn Lê Tuấn Anh (Tuan Anh) OSA	3397 1671
Parish Secretary	Trish Rashad	3397 1671
Parish Council Chairperson	Ray Mitchell	3892 1682
Finance Committee	Mark Garden	3397 1671
Pastoral Care	Parish Office	3397 1671
Safeguarding Officer	Kate Pearson	3397 1671

Sunday's Readings: **5th Sunday of Lent First Reading** *Jeremiah 31: 31-34* The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel and I will forgive their iniquity. **Second Reading** *Hebrews 5: 7-9* He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation. **Gospel Reading** *John 12: 20-33* If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.



Mass times **WEEKEND:** Saturday 8am; Vigil 6pm.
Sunday 7am, 9am, no longer 6pm.

WEEKDAY: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 8am **WEEKDAY:** Friday 9am.

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 4.30—5.30pm... by [new Eventbrite link](#) or call parish office.

HEALING + ANOINTING MASS: Friday 7th May @ 9am. (not 2 April Good Friday)

ALL NIGHT VIGIL: Friday 7th May. (not 2 April Good Friday)

NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY (at this stage).

Counters

March 20 / 21 Lorie & Leah

March 27 / 28 Kate & Greg

Ministry	Palm Sunday March 27 / 28	SATURDAY 6 PM (QR CODE AT DOOR)	SUNDAY 7AM (QR CODE AT DOOR)	SUNDAY 9AM (QR CODE AT DOOR)
COMMENTATOR		Ron S	Merina M	Christine U
LECTOR		Helen D	Don T	Mike S
Narrators of the Gospel (3)		Anne C Karleen O'R Sylvia P	Jana V Berenice T-F Trish R	Cathy M John W Ray M
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION (2)		Paul D Collette S	Jan L Heather L	Pat P Yen N
ALTAR SERVER/S		Joe / Rodel / Ramil	Gene	Leah
POWERPOINT		Cecilia D	John D / Gilbert	Di / June S
MARSHAL		Lorie / Karen / Will / Rachelle	Brendon G / Trish R	Cathy M

Next Sunday's Readings: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

First Reading *Isaiah 50: 4-7* I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed.

Second Reading *Philippians 2: 6-11* He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high.

Gospel Reading *Mark 14: 1—15: 47* The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. For complete Sunday's readings, visit our [St James website](#) (look for the Prayer tab).

