5TH SUNDAY LENT YR A 2020 28 / 29 MARCH

# The Parish of St James Coorparoo

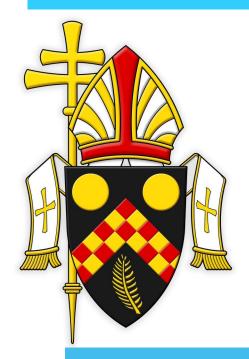
A Vibrant, Prayerful, Inclusive
Augustinian Parish
Archdiocese of Brisbane



# Mass For You at Home

6.00am - 6.30am Channel 10





# Mass Live-streamed from the Cathedral

Sundays 8.00am and 10.00am

www.archbne.org/bzw





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# Bringing Home the Gospel

# **Making Peace With Suffering**

Jesus receives word that his friend Lazarus has died. He returns to Bethany to be with Mary and Martha, Lazarus's sisters. Before Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead, he shows genuine human compassion. His first response to seeing his friends' sadness is to weep with them.

Even in Jesus' time, people questioned why they had to suffer. When Lazarus becomes deathly ill, Martha and Mary send for Jesus. When he does not arrive until it is too late, Lazarus's sister challenges Jesus, asking why he did not come sooner to save her brother.

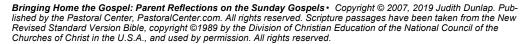
I remember sitting at the bedside of a thirteenyear- old girl who knew she was dying. She suffered for days before she finally died. At the funeral I listened to some of the comments. "God has his reasons," and "God is just testing us." I wondered who the God was they were talking about.

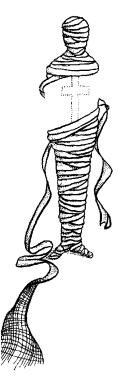
Don't we say, and believe, that God loves us even more than we love our own children? I could not imagine any reason I would cause a child of mine to suffer that much. And what kind of a parent uses the suffering of his own little girl to test some grown-ups?

Suffering happens. It is part of life. No one, not the richest person or poorest, not saint or sinner, can get through life without suffering. God doesn't cause it; God doesn't plan it. Suffering is a part of our fallen human nature. God is just there to see us through it.

When you say yes to God, accept your humanness, and ask for God's help through your pain, God's strength and life becomes your strength and life. Your yes opens you up to the peace, courage and

perseverance that God's love offers. It is so much easier to endure suffering when you know that your good God is with you, as close as the next breath you take.





#### **FAMILY RESPONSE**

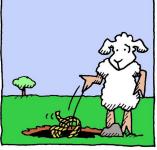
Ask family members to talk about the most difficult thing that happened this week. Pray to let go of any uncomfortable emotions that are left over. Ask them to close their eyes and slowly breathe in and out. Ask them to imagine that their breath is the Holy Spirit healing their hearts.

## PERSONAL RESPONSE

What has caused you the most suffering in your life? If it is still with you today, how can you ease the pain? What do you want to remember from last week? What are you looking forward to next week? What are your concerns?

- Ezekiel 37:12-14 Prophecy of restoration
  - ▶ Romans 8:8-11 The flesh and the Spirit
  - ▶ John 11:1-45 The raising of Lazarus
  - ► Adults: Christ calls us from death to new life. To what new life are you being called during this Lent?
  - ► *Kids*: How does Jesus help you do what is good and avoid what is not?







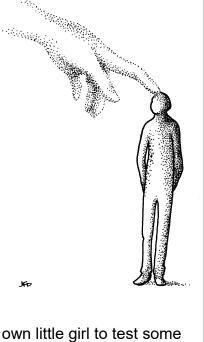


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"You shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and have you rise from them."

### Sheepish Question:

In what ways do I need to strengthen my belief in God's power, particularly in the truth of resurrection?



# **Prayer Requests**

Please pray for recently deceased:

Archbishop John



Bathersby; Rollie Van Roca; Ludgerio Gamalier Maeve Murphy; Aurelio Leonor; Fr Joe Walsh OSA.

And these anniversaries: Secondo Berta: Elsie Frampton: Braulio Monterde:

Robert DeMello; Luke O'Reilly; Robert Romano; Merle Chapman.

Please pray for these unwell: Sylvia Wilson; Jocelyn Tibayan, Judy Ketter; Veron Forsyth; Peter & Stephen Darch; James Clifford; Tina Romano; Fr Ron Mollison; Greg Whitney; Tess Walsh; Rodrigo Urbano; Tina Romano.

# On Dispensation from Sunday Worship by Pat Mullins

The obligation of the Faithful to participate in the Mass on Sundays and other holy days of obligation emerges from canon 1247 of the current Code of Canon law. But, in addition to the obligation to participate in the Mass on these days, the Faithful are also obliged on such days to abstain from those works and affairs which hinder the worship to be rendered to God, the joy proper to the Lord's Day, or the suitable relaxation of mind and body.

You should all be aware that the Archbishop has dispensed the Faithful of the Archdiocese from this obligation until future notice, because Masses are not to be celebrated on Sundays or holy days because of the risks associated with the coronavirus.

Canon 87 §1 provides that the diocesan bishop, (whenever he judges that it contributes to their spiritual good) is able to dispense the Faithful from universal and particular disciplinary laws issued for his territory or subjects by the supreme authority of the Church. Here, the Archbishop as diocesan bishop has judged that it will contribute to the spiritual good of the faithful of the Archdiocese to be dispensed with the Sunday Mass obligation.

This means that whilst the dispensation continues the Faithful are not required to attend Mass on Sundays or holy days. However, it may still be appropriate for the Faithful to abstain from any works or affairs, which would hinder their worship of God on a Sunday or the joy which is proper to Sunday as the Lord's Day. Further, it may still be appropriate that the Faithful abstain from works or affairs which would hinder a suitable relaxation of mind and body that can contribute to the worship of God on a Sunday.

Whilst the dispensation lasts and while no Masses are offered in the parish on Sundays or holy days, it would certainly be appropriate on these days for parishioners to prayerfully participate in Mass online from the Cathedral and as well to engage in some practice of prayer, scripture reading and reflection or even in some appropriate works of penance along the lines of what the law stated in canon 1247 recommends.

Canon 1248 §2 suggests that when it becomes impossible for the Faithful to participate in the Eucharistic celebration, they should devote ▶▶▶



Tawonga is a COMPASSION 10-year-old GO FURTHER TOGETHER girl living

with a disability, and struggling with food insecurity and discrimination in Malawi. Since participating in a Caritas Australia supported program, Tawonga's life has transformed. Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 to so this transformational program can continue to empower vulnerable women, men and children, and strengthen the communities

around them.

Let's Go Further, Together. You can donate through Parish envelopes (dropping them to the letterbox at the Priory), by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.



CATHOLIC LEADER

In these unprecedented times, The Catholic Leader has decided to share our news for free.

With the recent announcement to suspend all Sunday and Saturday vigil Masses until further notice, you, our readers, will be unable to buy The Catholic Leader at parishes on weekends. So, we are making our digital newspaper free at our website, catholicleader.com.au. This digital newspaper will be free for readers to access until parishes reopen across the Brisbane archdiocese. It is our commitment to ensure that everybody has access to stories of connection, inspiration, and faith.



# Social Justice MARCH / APRIL:

SIGNIFICANT DATES

**Sunday 29:** 1941: death of

William Cooper, Aboriginal activist and community leader.

Wednesday 1: 1897: death of Jandamarra, Aboriginal resistance leader of the Bunuba people. Thursday 2: World Autism Awareness Day.



### Be Present to others in the Real and Virtual Worlds

The speed and brevity of communication on social media platforms can be open to

misinterpretation and a superficiality that makes others feel that they have not been truly heard or accepted. Similarly, excessive time spent on social media can deprive families and friends of your 'real' presence in their lives.

- Limit the time you spend on devices.
- Take a digital detox for your health and wellbeing. Times of abstinence and reflection fit well with the seasons of Lent and Advent.
- Establish device free times in your household, for example at meal times.

themselves to prayer for a suitable time alone or as a family. (Pat Mullins is a long time parishioner of St James, he is a both a Canon and common lawyer; he is also currently the Brisbane Archdiocese Chancellor.)

## The Parish of St James

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# **Administration**

Parish Priest	Fr Francis Belciña OSA	3397 1671
Assistant Priest	Fr Ngọc Hải Đăng Nguyễn OSA	3397 1671
On Pastoral Experience	Br Tuan Anh Le OSA	3397 1671
Parish Secretary	Trish Rashad	3397 1671
Parish Council Chairperson	Ray Mitchell	3892 1682
Finance Committee	Mark Garden	mrkgarden9@gmail.com

Pastoral Care Parish Office 3397 1671

Safeguarding Officer Kate Pearson capearson

@optusnet.com.au

#### WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday Vigil at 6pm (suspended until further notice)
Sunday at 7am, 9am and 6pm (suspended until further notice)

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday mornings at 8am (suspended until further notice)

Mass with Anointing for the Sick and Elderly (suspended until further notice)
Reconciliation (by appointment only phone 3397 1671)

### Ways to Financially Support Your Parish

www.stjames-coorparoo.org.au/sundays-readings.

Unfortunately, due to the circumstances we are in, the financial implication is dire. Your parish still has to pay the electric bill and your staff, even when public Masses are cancelled. Our collection come from loose money and envelopes collected during our Sunday masses, which is no longer possible. Also we only have a very limited number of parishioners enrolled in the direct debit method for making weekly contribution to the Augustinian Order (1st Collection) and for the upkeep of the Parish (2nd Collection). I would like you to consider either of the following:

• Thru Direct Debit (this is the recommended option). Kindly complete the "Direct Debit Request - Offertory Giving" form, and drop the completed form in the Priory Letterbox, or scan it (or take a picture of it) and send it via email to the parish office. This direct debit request gives you to option to nominate your donation to the Augustinians and/or the Parish. We shall them process this thru ADF in town.

With the Direct Debit method, one has the liberty to decide on the amount to be donated as well as the frequency of this (weekly, fortnightly or monthly). This donation method mirrors our Sunday collection:

1st Collection (Augustinian Order) and/or 2nd Collection (for the upkeep of St James Parish).

- Thru the Planned-Giving envelopes which you already have. You may drop them off at any time in the letterbox at the top of St James Priory steps.
- You may mail in a cheque at any time. Indicate if it's going towards ST JAMES PARISH and/or the AUGUSTINIAN ORDER.

Next Sunday's Readings: Palm Sunday: 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 Matthew 26: 14-27 The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. For complete Sunday's readings, visit our St James website (look for the Prayer tab).