



St Mary's Cathedral Parish

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ARCHBISHOP ANTHONY IRELAND

Administrator:
Fr Bernard Perera

Assistant Priest:
Fr Steven Smith

Deacon & Sacristan:
Deacon Michael Smith
Pastoral Associate:
Sr. Monica Shelverton PBV

Director of Music:
Clair Stanelos

Parish Secretary :
Nimshini Peiris

PARISH OFFICE :

(Tuesday & Friday - 8.30 am -5.30pm and
Wednesday 10.30 am -1.30pm)



cathedralparishhobarttasmania
<https://www.stmaryscathedralhobart.org.au>

Fifth Sunday in Lent Year A- 22nd March 2026

As we enter the final weeks of the Lenten season, the Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year A) invites us to reflect deeply on the themes of faith, hope, and new life. The Gospel reading from the Gospel of John (John 11:1-45) presents the moving story of Jesus Christ raising Lazarus from the dead. This powerful event not only reveals the compassion and authority of Jesus but also prepares our hearts for the celebration of Easter.

The story takes place in the village of Bethany, where Lazarus lived with his sisters, Martha of Bethany and Mary of Bethany. When Lazarus falls ill, the sisters send word to Jesus, hoping that he will come and heal him. Yet by the time Jesus arrives, Lazarus has already been in the tomb for four days. The grief of the sisters and the sorrow of the community are very real and deeply human.

Martha approaches Jesus with both sorrow and faith. She says, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." Yet she also expresses her belief that God will act through him. Jesus responds with one of the most powerful declarations in the Gospel: "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live." These words reveal the heart of the Christian faith. Jesus is not only a teacher or a miracle worker; he is the source of life itself.

One of the most touching moments in this passage is when Jesus weeps. Even though he knows that he will raise Lazarus, he shares in the grief of those who mourn. This reminds us that God is not distant from our suffering. In Jesus, God enters fully into human pain and sorrow.

When Jesus calls Lazarus out of the tomb, it becomes a sign of something even greater—the victory over death that will be fully revealed in the resurrection of Christ at Easter. The raising of Lazarus points forward to the triumph of life over death and hope over despair.

As we draw closer to Holy Week, this Gospel invites us to reflect on the areas of our own lives that may feel like a tomb—places of fear, sin, discouragement, or loss. Just as Jesus called Lazarus to come out of the grave, he calls each of us to step into the new life that he offers.

During these final days of Lent, the Church encourages us to renew our faith through prayer, repentance, and acts of charity. Let us open our hearts to the voice of Christ, who continues to say to each of us, "Come out." May we trust in him who is truly the resurrection and the life, and may our journey through Lent lead us with renewed hope toward the joy of Easter.



MASS TIMES

St Mary's Cathedral, Hobart

7.30am: Tuesday— Friday
15.00pm: Saturday (Vigil Mass)
10.30am: Sunday
6.00pm: Sunday

Sacred Heart Church New Town

9.15am: Tuesday—Thursday
6.00 pm: Friday (Way of the cross)
8.00am: Saturday
8.30am: Sunday

Lawrenny Court

(131 Hill St West Hobart)
10.30am: Friday

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St Mary's Cathedral, Hobart
4.00pm - 4.30pm: Saturday

NOVENA TO OUR LADY AND ROSARY

Sacred Heart Church, New Town

After 9.15am Mass: Wednesday
7.30am: Saturday

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

St Mary's Cathedral Crypt, Hobart
6.00pm - Midnight: Friday

SACRAMENTS & DEVOTIONS

*ENQUIRIES FOR BAPTISMS AND MARRIAGE
PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE*

COMING UP

- **Parish Lenten Program 6**—26th March
Day session— Cathedral Parish Centre 10 AM –12 PM| Evening Session— Sacred Heart Parish Centre 5.00 PM –7.00 PM
- **Stations of the Cross**— Every Friday During Lent Season, 6.00PM—7.00 PM at Sacred Heart Church

HOLY WEEK SERVICES 2026 St Mary's Cathedral Parish, Hobart

St Mary's Cathedral, Hobart

Saturday 28 March

5:00 pm — Palm Sunday Vigil Mass

Sunday 29 March

10:15 am — Palm Sunday Morning Mass

6:00 pm — Palm Sunday Evening Mass

Tuesday 31 March

Morning — Clergy Retreat at the Shrine of Our Lady, Lutana

6:00 pm — Chrism Mass

Wednesday 1 April

7:30 am — Mass (Wednesday of Holy Week)

Thursday 2 April

7:00 pm — Mass of the Lord's Supper

Friday 3 April

9:00 am — Stations of the Cross

3:00 pm — Passion of the Lord

Saturday 4 April

7:30 pm — Easter Vigil Mass

Sunday 5 April

10:30 am — Easter Sunday Mass

No 6:00 pm evening Mass

Sacred Heart Church, New Town

Sunday 29 March

8:20 am — Palm Sunday Mass

Wednesday 1 April

9:15 am — Mass (Wednesday of Holy Week)

Friday 3 April

10:00 am — Stations of the Cross

Sunday 5 April

8:30 am — Easter Sunday Mass



From Our Anniversary Book

Archibald Hawkes, Florence Proto, Giovanni Ferraro, Archbishop Guilford Young, Nancy Foale, Anthony Pauly, Rosemary Cooper, Peter Roach, Joseph Dominic Michael Xiberras, William Warren, Eileen Burke, John Kelly, Walter Pauly, Guido Toffoli, Michele Giura, Rosa Rello, Ernest McDonald, Maria Sofia di Noia, Mary News, Julian Donnelly, John Farrington, Clarke Henry, Mona Jones, Bernard Gillon, Margaret Connell, Mary Duggan, Bernard Shelverton, Giovanni Marino, Francis Fox, Sr. Mary Philbin, Christina Kesson, Anna Szeles, Rose Radic **May they rest in peace !**



THE ANGELUS PRAYER



V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, full of grace, The Lord is with Thee; Blessed art thou among women, And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, Pray for us sinners, Now and at the hour of our death. Amen

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
R. Be it done to me according to your word. **Hail Mary. . .**
V. And the Word was made flesh.
R. And dwelt among us. **Hail Mary. . .**
V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ our Lord.

Amen.



LENTEN RESOURCES: Sign up to the Cathedral Parish FORMED Subscription for free <https://formed.org/>

The Way of the Cross: We Need You

This Good Friday, we seek your help to bring the Stations of the Cross to life at **Sacred Heart**. We're looking for a few reliable souls to help us ensure the morning is as solemn and impactful as it should be.

Where we need a hand:

- **Readers:** To lead us through the reflections with clarity and heart.
- **Cross Bearers:** To carry the processional cross.
- **Marshals:** To help manage the flow and assist those with mobility needs.
- **Set-up/Pack-down:** To help prepare the sanctuary and tidy up afterward.

Your help is invaluable!

PIETY SHOP— Thursday, 10 am –3pm. Saturday & Sunday the shop is open after every weekend Mass

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A

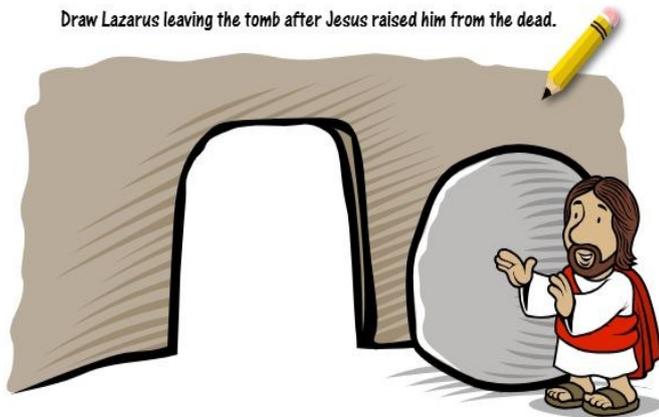
Jesus brings Lazarus back to life

John 11:3-7,17,20-27,31-45
My name is

Martha and Mary were sad when their brother Lazarus died. Draw Jesus reassuring them.



Draw Lazarus leaving the tomb after Jesus raised him from the dead.



© Creative Ministry Resources

Did you know?

Did you know? The Passion of Christ is not only the story of Jesus' suffering — it is the greatest sign of God's love, showing how far Christ was willing to go for our salvation.

Did you know? In His Passion, Jesus took upon Himself the weight of human sin and suffering, and transformed the Cross into the path to eternal life.

Did you know? Every moment of Christ's Passion reveals His mercy: even in suffering, He forgave His enemies, comforted the sorrowful, and entrusted Himself completely to the Father.

Did you know? The Passion of Christ reminds us that love is strongest when it is sacrificial — for Jesus saved the world not through power, but through humility, obedience, and the Cross.



Silent Retreat - At Your Feet

Do you desire to grow in intimacy with God? You are invited to the welcoming space of love and listening at the feet of Jesus. Come as you are into scripture stories of acceptance, accompaniment and intimacy. Discover your deeper identity and find yourself at home and growing in intimacy with God who walked in human feet. Each day will include input sessions on scripture passages, time for silent personal prayer and reflection, and individual spiritual direction.

Directors: Belinda Chapman and Maureen O'Halloran
Friday 26th June (4pm) - Sunday 28th June (2pm), Seaview, Camp Clayton, Ulverstone.

Cost \$500 (including accommodation, all meals, spiritual direction and all prayer resources)

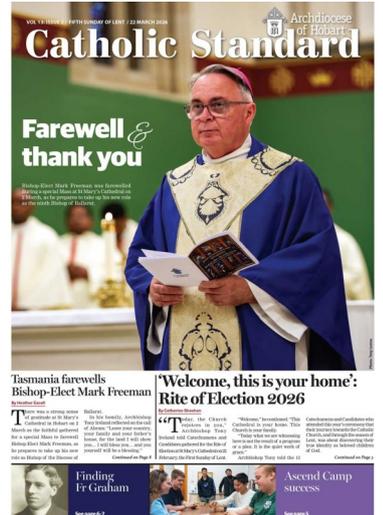
For further details on any of the above or to book please contact Belinda Chapman - ph: 0418 141 171

email: belindachapman.sd@gmail.com or visit the website: belindachapman.square.site

The March 2026 edition of the Catholic Standard

Here are some of the highlights:

- Tasmania farewells Bishop-Elect Mark Freeman
- 'Welcome, this is your home': Rite of Election 2026
- A faithful 'yes' to serve the Church as Chancellor
- Faith and fellowship nurtured in the great outdoors
- A pub night with a purpose
- Finding Fr Graham
- Project Compassion launches (north & south)
- Joyful platinum jubilee celebrations for Sr Margaret Cousins RSJ



His Lordship Mark Freeman

Warmest congratulations on your appointment as the new Bishop of the Diocese of Ballarat. It is a great joy to see a priest from Tasmania called to this important ministry of shepherding God's people.

May the Lord who has begun this good work in you continue to guide and strengthen you with wisdom, courage, and pastoral love. As you begin this new chapter of service, may the Holy Spirit fill you with grace to lead the faithful with faith, humility, and compassion.

Be assured of our prayers for you as you undertake this noble responsibility. May God bless you abundantly in your episcopal ministry.

With prayerful best wishes and congratulations;
ST.MARY'S CATHEDRAL PARISH.



READINGS OF THE DAY—5TH SUNDAY IN LENT - YEAR A

First Reading - Ezekiel 37:12-14

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

Responsorial Psalm - Ps 129. R. v.7

(R.) With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,
Lord, hear my voice!

O let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleading. (R.)

2. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
Lord, who would survive?

But with you is found forgiveness:
for this we revere you. (R.)

3. My soul is waiting for the Lord,
I count on his word.

My soul is longing for the Lord
more than watchman for daybreak.
(Let the watchman count on daybreak
and Israel on the Lord.) (R.)

4. Because with the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed he will redeem
from all its iniquity. (R.)

Second Reading - Romans 8:8-11

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

Gospel Acclamation - John 11:25. 26

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

**I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will not die for ever.**

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel - John 11:3-7. 17. 20-27. 33-45

(Shorter form)

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.' Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.' On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said: 'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' 'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.' When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.' Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

GOSPELS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Monday 23rd March	- John 8:1-11 /John 8:12-20
Tuesday 24th March	- John 8:21-30
Wednesday 25th March	- Luke 1:26-38
Thursday 26th March	- John 8:51-59
Friday 27th March	- John 10:31-42
Saturday 28th March	- John 11:45-56

PALM SUNDAY'S READINGS:

First Reading	- Isaiah 50:4-7
Responsorial Psalm	- Ps 21:8-9. 17-20. 23-24. R. v.2
Second Reading	- Philippians 2:6-11
Gospel	- Mtt 26:14 – 27:66 /Mtt 27:11-54

Pray and Reflect on the Word of God !

Please take your copy of the AVE home to reflect and to share with family and friends.