



# 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 - 8.30 am - 5.30pm and Wednesday  
10.30 am - 1.30pm)



[cathedralparishhobarttasmania  
https://www.stmaryscathedralhobart.org.au](https://www.stmaryscathedralhobart.org.au)

### **Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Year A – 29th March 2026**

We begin Palm Sunday with a parade and end it with an execution. But the real tragedy of this week isn't just the physical violence; it's a profound, heartbreaking misunderstanding. From Palm Sunday to Good Friday, humanity and God are speaking to each other, but we are completely missing His point.

When Jesus rides into Jerusalem, the crowds wave branches and shout, "Hosanna!" Originally, that ancient word meant, "Save us, please!" It was a desperate plea for rescue from a drowning people. But by the time the crowd yelled it that Sunday, it had been watered down into a cheap parade cheer. They were asking God to save them, but they had already decided exactly how He should do it. They wanted a political fixer, someone to crush the Romans and make their lives comfortable. They wanted a parade; Jesus was marching towards a sacrifice. They entirely misunderstood their own deepest need, and they misunderstood the Saviour right in front of them.

A few days later, the misunderstanding reaches its darkest point. Hanging on the cross, suffocating and bleeding out, Jesus cries, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?"—My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? He is quoting the first line of Psalm 22, a song that begins in total agony but ends in absolute, unshakable trust in God's ultimate victory. It is the perfect prayer of faith in the dark. But the crowd standing at the foot of the cross? They don't get it. Hearing the mangled words "Eli, Eli," they mistakenly think He is calling for the ghost of the prophet Elijah to come rescue Him. Even as God is dying for them, they think they are watching a magic trick.

Two thousand years later as we walk into Holy Week are we going to make the exact same mistakes?

Will we still wave our palms and shout our modern "Hosannas," wanting a God who will simply fix our immediate problems, smooth out our stress, and make our lives easier. Do we want the victorious King on our terms, not the bleeding servant? And when our own Good Fridays arrive—when life shatters and heaven seems silent will we misunderstand the cross all over again. The danger is in thinking that our suffering means God is absent. We completely miss that Christ's cry of "Eli, Eli" proves He has stepped into the absolute rock-bottom of our despair. He isn't ignoring our pain; He is fluent in it.

This Holy Week, the challenge is simple: stop trying to make God speak your language. Drop our personal agendas, our expectations, and our carefully written scripts. Walk with Him through the silence, the suffering, and the tomb, and for once, let Him be the Saviour we actually need.



### **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 (Palm Sunday)**

10:15 am — Palm Sunday Morning Mass

6:00 pm — Palm Sunday Evening Mass

#### **Tuesday 31 March**

Morning — Clergy Retreat - Shrine of Our Lady, Lutana

6:00 pm — Chrism Mass

#### **Wednesday 1 April**

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

#### **Thursday 2 April (Holy Thursday)**

7:00 pm — Mass of the Lord's Supper

#### **Friday 3 April (Good Friday)**

9:00 am — Stations of the Cross

(Reconciliation after stations of the cross)

3:00 pm — Passion of the Lord

#### **Saturday 4 April**

7:30 pm — Easter Vigil Mass

#### **Sunday 5 April (Easter Sunday)**

10:30 am — Easter Sunday Mass

**No 6:00 pm evening Mass**

#### **Sacred Heart Church, New Town**

#### **Sunday 29 March (Palm Sunday)**

8:20 am — Palm Sunday Mass

#### **Wednesday 1 April**

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

#### **Friday 3 April (Good Friday)**

10:00 am — Stations of the Cross

#### **Sunday 5 April (Easter Sunday)**

8:30 am — Easter Sunday Mass

#### **NOVENA TO OUR LADY**

**Sacred Heart Church, New Town**

**After 9.15am Mass: Wednesday**

#### **NO EUCHARISTIC ADORATION ON FRIDAY.**

#### **SACRAMENTS & DEVOTIONS**

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



St Mary's Cathedral Parish embraces and wholeheartedly supports the Archdiocese of Hobart Safe Communities Policy and Framework, which can be found at the Parish office. Any enquiries regarding Safe Communities contact the Parish Office (03) 6234 4463.

### Clergy Retreat

Please keep in your prayers all priests who will be participating in the **Clergy Retreat on Tuesday, 31 March**. May this time of prayer, reflection, and renewal strengthen them in their priestly ministry and draw them closer to the Lord.

### An important reminder for parishioners

Please be aware Daylight Saving Time Ends 5th April 2026 - **Easter Sunday**.

This means at **3am** clocks are turned **backward** 1hr to **2am** local standard time

Remember to adjust your clocks, the night before so you are not late for Mass on Easter Sunday.

### Notice

Please be advised that the **morning Masses on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday** at St Mary's Cathedral (7:30 am) and Sacred Heart Church (9:15 am) will not be celebrated during the holy week.

### Prayer for Peace in the Middle East

Lord, we ask you to bring peace to the Middle East. Protect those who are suffering and guide leaders to choose justice, mercy, and reconciliation. May your peace overcome all violence and fear.  
Amen.

### 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

SAFE COMMUNITIES NEWSLETTER

OUT NOW!

MARCH 2026

PLEASE CLICK ON THE QR CODE TO TAKE YOU DIRECTLY TO OUR SAFEGUARDING HOW TO GUIDE ALTERNATIVELY ASK YOUR PARRISH FOR A COPY

WWW.SAFECOMMUNITIESTAS.COM.AU

### From Our Anniversary Book

Fr. Edmund Roche, Thomas Brennan, Phyllis Cronley, Bronislawa Kozak, Ted Cosgrove, Eileen Firman, Margaret Oakford, Edward Dabrowski, Giuseppe Attuoni, Jill Coggan, Vincenzo Calabrese, Minnucci Family, Falconia Family, Kath Pase, Bridged Fahey, Patrick O'Donnell, Leonard Northey, Mary Viney, Maurice Chaplain, Tony Zeitzen, Kathleen Veronica Colbeck, Giuseppe Mione, Mary Fletcher, Helen Kirkwood, Eric Challenor, James O'Kane, Vincent Shaw, Sr. Josephine Howe, SSJ, Alfonso Cavaretta, Lual Majak, John Willemsen, Matt Wheyman . **May they rest in peace !**



# LEAD

## YOUTH MINISTRY TRAINING

SATURDAY, 11 APRIL 2026 | 10AM - 2PM

SISTERS OF CHARITY HALL

123 Roslyn Ave, Kingston Beach (next to Church of Christ the Priest)



*Using your spiritual gifts to lead precisely and confidently*

*Discovering a life of personal prayer, unlocking your spiritual gifts, and grow in understanding of essential youth ministry elements*

With special guest speaker  
Mario Borg



Archdiocese of Hobart

### 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



**Mary MacKillop  
Spirituality Centre  
Josephite Mission  
Hobart**

### Events at the Mary MacKillop Centre – 67 Clare Street, New Town

1. Music and Spirituality (Facilitator Mary-Anne Johnson) – last session Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> 11.30-12.30 pm \$20pp
2. Conversations with Drasko Dizdar - Saturday May 23<sup>rd</sup> (1-3pm one time only) June 27<sup>th</sup> and July 25<sup>th</sup> both 10-12pm – \$20pp – bring a plate to share lunch
3. Living from your Soul Retreat with Sister Ann Morrison rsj 17<sup>th</sup> of April to 18<sup>th</sup> of April 9-3pm (check website for details [www.mmsm.org.au](http://www.mmsm.org.au))
4. Our Father “ with Fr Michael Tate – 29<sup>th</sup> of April and 6<sup>th</sup> of May – 7-9pm \$20pp – supper provided
5. “Ageing can be/IS Transformative – Let God in” – Facilitator Mary Sharpe – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> of June – 10-4pm \$50 pp – catering provided



## Music Jam at 40

*Date & Time*

Saturday 28 March : 14:00 to 16.00

*Event Location*

40 Pirie Street New Town TAS 7008

*Event Summary*

Join our community for music, friendship and great conversation. Please bring a plate to share.



**YOU ARE  
VERY  
WELCOME**

## READINGS OF THE DAY—PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD YEAR A

### **First Reading- Isaiah 50:4-7**

The Lord has given me  
a disciple's tongue.  
So that I may know how to reply to the wearied  
he provides me with speech.  
Each morning he wakes me to hear,  
to listen like a disciple.  
The Lord has opened my ear.  
For my part, I made no resistance,  
neither did I turn away.  
I offered my back to those who struck me,  
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;  
I did not cover my face  
against insult and spittle.  
The Lord comes to my help,  
so that I am untouched by the insults.  
So, too, I set my face like flint;  
I know I shall not be shamed.

### **Responsorial Psalm- Ps 21:8-9. 17-20. 23-24. R. v.2**

**(R.) My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

1. All who see me deride me.  
They curl their lips, they toss their heads.  
'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;  
let him release him if this is his friend.' (R.)
2. Many dogs have surrounded me,  
a band of the wicked beset me.  
They tear holes in my hands and my feet.  
I can count every one of my bones. (R.)
3. They divide my clothing among them.  
They cast lots for my robe.  
O Lord, do not leave me alone,  
my strength, make haste to help me! (R.)
4. I will tell of your name to my brethren  
and praise you where they are assembled.  
'You who fear the Lord give him praise;  
all sons of Jacob, give him glory.  
Revere him, Israel's sons.' (R.)

### **Second Reading-Philippians 2:6-11**

His state was divine,  
yet Christ Jesus did not cling  
to his equality with God  
but emptied himself  
to assume the condition of a slave,  
and became as men are,  
and being as all men are,  
he was humbler yet,  
even to accepting death,

death on a cross.

But God raised him high  
and gave him the name  
which is above all other names  
so that all beings  
in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,  
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus  
and that every tongue should acclaim  
Jesus Christ as Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

### **Gospel Acclamation-Philippians 2:8-9**

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

### **Gospel-Matthew 26:14 – 27:66**

Let us prayerfully listen and reflect on The Passion of our  
Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew.

### **Communion Antiphon-Matthew 26:42**

Pater, si non potest hic calix transire, nisi bibam illum:  
fiat voluntas tua.

*Translation: Father, if this cup cannot pass by without me  
drinking it, your will be done.*



### **GOSPELS FOR THE COMING WEEK**

Monday 30th March	- John 12:1-11
Tuesday 31st March	- John 13:21-33, 36-38
Wednesday 25th March	- Matthew 26:14-25
Thursday 26th March	- John 13:1-15
Friday 27th March	- John 18:1 – 19:42
Saturday 28th March	- Matthew 28:1-10

### **EASTER SUNDAY'S READINGS:**

First Reading	- Acts of the Apostles 10:34. 37-43
Responsorial Psalm	- Ps 117:1-2. 16-17. 22-23. R. v.24
Second Reading	- Colossians 3:1-4 /1 Corinthians 5:6-8
Gospel	- Jn 20:1-9 /Matt.28:1-10 /Lk 24:13-35

**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.**