

## **HOLY WEEK**

Finally, after five weeks of good Lenten practice we have reached the last week of Lent – Holy Week. This coming week is the most significant period in the church year as it encompasses the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus. The number of liturgies planned for this week, the days and times of which are detailed in this Bulletin, give evidence of the singular importance of this week in our church year. As we near the Paschal feast of Easter Sunday, we have the opportunity to reflect on our achievement of any personal goals we have set ourselves in terms of reviewing and renewing the practice of our Catholic faith.

Palm (Passion) Sunday introduces us to the profound events of Holy Week by demonstrating the changing nature of human behaviour presented for us to consider on this day. First, we have the crowd's stated intention of installing Jesus as their king; less than a week later that same crowd calls for his crucifixion and death. Thus is highlighted the very fickle nature of human behaviour.

For all the suffering endured by Jesus through his passion and death, the critical act of salvation by Him occurred early on Easter Sunday morning through his resurrection. Without Jesus' resurrection from the dead, the Catholic Church could not have been established and you and I would not be here now. All that occurs during this coming week leads us inexorably to the events of Easter Sunday morning – Jesus' Resurrection.

You are, therefore, invited to share with our parish family, the events of this week and the celebrations to follow.

## **POPE BENEDICT XVI ANNIVERSARY**

Tuesday next 19<sup>th</sup> April, is the 6<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Pope Benedict's election as Pope, so we congratulate him on achieving this milestone in his life and pray that his leadership will be fruitful in the years ahead.

## **MEETING OF HOLY WEEK ORGANISERS**

Following this morning's 9.30am Mass a meeting has been convened in the parish hall for all involved in organising the various liturgies to take place up to and including Easter Sunday. Would those involved also bring with them to this meeting their plans for the respective activities that they are organising. This is intended to be a short meeting only, however your presence is essential to the success of the Easter ceremonies.

## **ANZAC DAY MASS (EASTER MONDAY)**

Mass will be celebrated at Sacred Heart Church commencing at 8am on Anzac Day. Following Mass, there will be an Anzac Day ceremony conducted at Mt. Victoria (9am) and Blackheath (10.45am).

## **FINANCES**

Our operating profit for the July 2010 to March 2011 period was \$17.03 – a remarkable achievement considering all the unexpected one-off expenses which we have had to deal with during this period.

God Bless! Fr. Bob

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This week's Saints

<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)</b> <b>St Stephen Harding, Abbot (dd1134)</b>
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	St Apollonius, Martyr (d186)
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	St Leo IX, Pope (1022 -1054) Election of Pope Benedict XVI 2005
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	St Agnes of Montepulciano, Virgin (1268-1317)
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Mass of the Lord's Supper St Anselm, Bishop & Doctor (1033-1109), optional
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Stations of the Cross St Carius, Pope (d296) St Opportuna, Virgin & Abbess (d770)
<b>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	The Easter Vigil St George, Martyr (d4th Century) Patron of England

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**EASTER SERVICES AT SACRED HEART PARISH**

**BLACKHEATH**

Palm Sunday	April 17 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am
Holy Thursday	April 21 <sup>st</sup>	7.30pm
Good Friday	April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	
❖ Stations of the Cross		10.00am
❖ Passion of our Lord		3.00pm
Easter Saturday	April 23 <sup>rd</sup>	7.00pm
Easter Sunday	April 24 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am



**EASTER SERVICES AT ST PAUL'S CHURCH MOUNT VICTORIA**

Easter Sunday April 24<sup>th</sup> 7.00am

**EASTER SERVICES AT ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH MEGALONG VALLEY**

Prayer and Scripture Service - Good Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 10am  
Easter Mass - Sunday April 24<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon

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