

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR B

29th March 2009

THEME: John 12: 20-33

We are confronted today with the unavoidable fact that each of us must die. We live in such a way that we might die prepared for eternal life with Jesus.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Create a clean heart in me, O God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, my servant will also be.
Glory to You, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

I tell you solemnly: Unless a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it remains a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Friday 3rd April First Friday, Sacred Heart

Saturday 4th April First Saturday, Fatima

THE DEATH OF JESUS - AN ACT OF PERFECT OBEDIENCE

In his dying, Jesus has become the source of eternal salvation for all who will follow his example and obey the ways and will of God.

Jesus' obedience brought him to his "hour," as is reflected in today's Gospel. That hour was the reason for Jesus' coming into this world. Born into our own flesh Jesus embraced the human condition fully, accepting to be lifted up so as to draw everyone to himself in that one perfect act of sacrificial love and praise. Drawn to Jesus, forgiven and redeemed sinners are also drawn with Jesus to God and to the experience of eternal life.

These are the valiant reasons for which Jesus accepted death. In celebrating and giving thanks for this generous gift, each of us is invited to consider whether or not there is anyone or anything for which we too might die. In all the little and big everyday dyings to self, we prepare for that ultimate dying that will lead us home to God.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Grant spiritual comfort and healing to the sick, especially:

Geoff Bray, Pat Esler (Wagga Wagga), Paul Moatz, Eileen Carroll, Lyle Jansen, Maureen Burke, Kath Robinson, Mitchell Wallace (baby), Gary McLinden, Paul Trotman, Mary Hamilton, Lillian Roberts, Norm McLaurin, Kevin Hynes, Mihovil Katalinic, Vin Griffiths, Juanita Jervois, Norina Spinelli, Bishop Brennan, Nancy Gibson, John Hunt, Rob Deller, Mary McNamara, Ria Stumpe, James Williams, Mary Cooper, Monette Fealy, Annette Hoffman, Lionel Jansen, John McManus, Peter Cairns, Allan Dedrauth, Melda McDonald, Kristi Cassandra, Luke Heffernan, Rosel Free, Reece Valta, Yela Jankovic, Karl Grlica, Alvin Horn, Kate Cox, Patricia Hamill, Zoltan Tar, Catherine Mead, Charles Francis, Will Carland, Maureen Fields, Patricia Barber, Ian Walters, Des O'Meara, Ben Harper, Bess Harris,

Gregory Cummins, Patricia Bourke, Joseph Doran, Nicholas Hetherington, Effie Ray, Bob Woods, Sandra Varrasso, and Marie Cook.

Grant eternal life to:

Margaret Smith, Katerina Serbinek, Colin Paul, Pat Murray, Paul McCormack (Malasia), Brian McGee, Noel Flanagan (Fr Kevin's brother) and all our dear ones deceased.

Anniversaries:

All our loved ones whose anniversaries occur now.

And Also:

Bert Scammell, Lorraine Hill and all our dear ones deceased.

LORD HEAR US

BAPTISMS

Last weekend we welcomed into God's church the following newly baptised:

ARTHUR CUNNINGHAM

LACHLAN MCPARTLAND

FOR YOUR DIARY

CHRISM MASS

The Mass of the Holy Oils will be celebrated at St Michael's Cathedral Wagga Wagga at 6.00pm on Monday 6th April. All parishioners are most welcome.

ALBURY PARISHES ADORATION

Albury Parishes Adoration will be held this month at Holy Spirit Church, Lavington on Friday 3rd April from 6.00pm to 10.00pm.

MASS WITH SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING THE SICK

This Thursday 2nd April at 10.30am in St Patrick's Church. Confessions 10.00-10.30am.

MARY'S JUNIOR LEAGUE

Mary's Junior League will meet this Wednesday 1st April from 3.30pm-5.00pm for children under 12 years of age. For details please contact Anna on 6023 3838.

CHOIR PRACTICE

Choir practice for Easter will be held on Saturday 28th March and 4th April at 12.00noon in St Patrick's Church (one hour only). Past and new members most welcome.

Please contact John Harrold on 6021 4079 for details.

CHURCH HELPERS

There will be a working bee after the 10.30am Mass on Tuesday 7th April for anyone who can come to help dust and generally clean the church for Easter.

PALM SUNDAY - WYD09

Come and celebrate World Youth Day 2009 in the Wagga Wagga Diocese on Sunday 5th April at Holy Spirit parish Lavington. The day starts with Mass at 10.00am, followed by a day

of prayer, catechesis and recreational activities. Lunch and afternoon tea provided. There is no cost but donations of \$10.00 are welcome to cover the costs of the day.

Contact Miriam: 0400 419 981, mizmim@gmail.com

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be held in St Patrick's Church at 7.30pm each Friday evening during Lent.

LENTEN STUDY GROUP FOR 16-35YRS

A Lenten Study Group for 16-35yr olds meets weekly on Wednesday night at 7.00pm in the upper room of St Patrick's Hall. Contact Miriam Kirley on 0400 419 981 or email mizmim@gmail.com John Burton 0400 574 958 or Marcus Shaw 0418 463 952.

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Academic Scholarships for Xavier High School are available for students entering Years 7, 9 and 11 in 2010. Application details may be obtained by contacting Mrs Cerina Meredith on 6040 6388 or email info@xhsww.catholic.edu.au

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HOLY SPIRIT PARISH - SCHOOL FETE

The Holy Spirit Parish and School will hold their annual fete on Sunday 3rd May this year. The fete will run from 11.00am until 3.00pm in the school grounds, on the corner of Mutsch & Prune Streets, adjacent to Holy Spirit Church.

TRADITIONAL PILGRIMAGE IN HONOUR OF THE DIVINE MERCY

Start: Thursday 16th April 2009: 7.45am Mass (Extraordinary Form) at St Michael's Cathedral Wagga Wagga, Blessing of Pilgrims by Bishop Gerard Hanna, followed by breakfast.

Concludes: Sunday 19th April 2009 - Feast of Divine Mercy: 2 Masses, 9.00am and 12.30pm. After lunch, Eucharistic Procession to the Cross will take place followed by the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction around 3.00pm. For details on cost, registration, what to bring, accommodation and food, see the noticeboard or visit:

divinemerucypilgrimage@gmail.com

SNIPPET

Sanctifying grace is not like a liquid that is poured into an inert vessel; it is a new life, which the adult will receive only if he desires it. (Reginald Garrigou-Lagrange, OP)