



CANNON HILL CATHOLIC PARISH

Under the pastoral care of the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate



*The call of Jesus Christ, heard within the Church through people's need for salvation,
draws us together as Missionary Oblates of Mary.' (Oblate Constitution 1)*

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT, YEAR A

22ND MARCH 2026

Our Gospel on this day, the fifth Sunday of Lent, is again taken from the Gospel according to John. The reading from John continues the break from Cycle A's focus on the Gospel of Matthew. Today's Gospel reading recounts another sign, or miracle, found in John's Gospel, the raising of Lazarus. As our catechumens move closer to the celebration of their Baptisms at the Triduum, today's reading invites us to reflect upon what it means to call Jesus the Resurrection and the life.

The context for the story of the raising of Lazarus is the Jewish leaders' growing animosity toward Jesus. Jesus has been in Jerusalem, taking part in the feast of the Dedication, which we have come to know as Hanukkah. The people have been pressing him to declare plainly whether he is the Messiah. Jesus tells them to look to his works, which testify to his coming from God. Many do not believe Jesus, however, and some try to stone him for blasphemy.



Depiction of Jesus Christ raising Lazarus from the Dead

Catacombs of Callistus, Rome, 3rd Century CE, © Christian Art

See art reflection here: <https://tinyurl.com/yaxre3xk>

Into this scene of confrontation, Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus, send word to Jesus that his friend is ill. Jesus is said to love Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, but he delays his journey for two days. The delay heightens the drama and shows Jesus' obedience to God, who is to be glorified through Lazarus's resurrection. When Jesus finally declares that he will journey to Bethany, his disciples fear for his life. Thomas declares that he and the other disciples should prepare to die with Jesus.

The scene described at Bethany is a sad one. Martha meets Jesus weeping and saying that if Jesus had been there, Lazarus would not have died. Yet she remains confident that God will do whatever Jesus asks. Martha affirms her belief that there will be a resurrection of the dead in the last days. Then Martha's sister, Mary, comes to Jesus with the same confidence, saying that Jesus could have cured Lazarus. Jesus asks to be brought to Lazarus's tomb where he prays and calls Lazarus out from the tomb. At this sign, many come to believe in Jesus, but others take word of the miracle to the Jewish authorities, who begin their plans for Jesus' death.

Set against the backdrop of Jesus' impending death, many elements of the raising of Lazarus foreshadow the good news of Jesus' own Resurrection. Jesus, facing the conflict with the Jewish authorities, acts in complete obedience to God. In raising Lazarus, Jesus shows his power over death so that when Jesus dies, those who believe in him might remember that and take hope. Just as Jesus calls for the stone to be rolled away from Lazarus's tomb, so too will the disciples find the stone rolled away from Jesus' tomb.

With our catechumens preparing for their Baptism at Easter, the Gospel today calls us to reflect on Baptism as a dying and rising with Jesus. In Baptism we die to sin's power over us, rising as children of God. In Baptism we join ourselves with Christ, who conquered death once and for all so that we who believe in him may have eternal life. With Martha and Mary, we are called to profess our belief that Jesus is indeed the Resurrection and the life.

Source: Loyola Press

NEXT WEEK'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.

Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 21

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

Second Reading - Philippians 2:6-11

He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high.

Gospel Reading - Matthew 26:14 - 27:66

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Mass Intentions

Week beginning 22nd March - 9 am

24/03 Tuesday: Oblate Youth Ministries

25/03 Wednesday: Springvale North

26/03 Thursday: Rosies, VIC & QLD

27/03 Friday: Iona Passion Play

Weekend Masses offered for the intentions of all in the Parish

MASSES & MEETINGS

Cannon Hill - St Oliver Plunkett Catholic Church:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday - 9:00am

Saturday - 6:00pm; Sunday - 9:30am

Tingalpa - Holy Family Catholic Church:

Thursday - 9:00am; Sunday - 8:00am

Reconciliation: Saturday, 5:00pm - 5:30pm - St Oliver Plunkett Church

Prayer Intentions Prayer Group: Every Friday at 9.30am - St Oliver Plunkett Church (exc. during Lent).

Eucharistic Adoration: 1st Friday of the month following 9:00am Mass at St Oliver Plunkett Church (except during Lent).

Baptisms: 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month held after the 9:30am Mass at St Oliver Plunkett Church. (*Welcoming Mass combined with the Baptism Mass.*)

Little Lanterns Liturgy: 1st Sunday of the month (except January) during the 9:30am Mass at St Oliver Plunkett Church. All primary school-aged children are welcome to attend.

Hospitality - Parish Morning Tea: 1st Sunday of the month following Mass at both Churches; Every Wednesday after 9:00am Mass in the Parish Hall.

THIS WEEKEND...

21 MAR - SAT: RCIA Catechumens - 3rd Scrutiny & Presentation of The Lord's Prayer, St Oliver Plunkett Ch.

22 MAR - SUN: Baptisms, St Oliver Plunkett Church.

COMING UP...

25 MAR - WED:

- **The Annunciation of The Lord (Solemnity);**
- Special Mass with the Superior General at Iona College, 9am. All welcome to attend.
- **Regular Parish Morning Tea CANCELLED.**

26 MAR - THU:

- **Special Mass with the Superior General** at St Oliver Plunkett Church, 9:00am, followed by morning tea in the Parish Hall. All are welcome
- **Connect Dinner CANCELLED**
- **Chrim Mass** at Cathedral of St Stephen, 7:00pm.

29 MAR - SUN: Farewell brunch for Father Vasanthan.

EASTER MASS TIMES - SEE PAGE 3.

REGULAR MEETINGS

MON: Cannon Hill St Vincent de Paul Conference

Fortnightly at 6:15pm

Next meeting: **Monday, 30th March**

Contact: Paul 0418 750 367

TUE: Parish Leadership Team

Fortnightly at 6:00pm

Next Meeting: **Tuesday, 24th March**

WED: Parish Liturgy Meeting

Monthly at 4:30pm

Next Meeting: **Wednesday, TBA**

THU: Parish Finance Council Meeting

Bi-monthly at 4:30pm

Next Meeting: **Wednesday, 25th March**

Plate Collections - 15th March 2026

1st Collection (Oblates): \$677.05 | 2nd Collection (Parish): \$503.25

Thank you for your ongoing support.

THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL - JOHN 11:1-45

I am the resurrection and the life.

There was a man named Lazarus who lived in the village of Bethany with the two sisters, Mary and Martha, and he was ill. - It was the same Mary, the sister of the sick man Lazarus, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair. The sisters 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.' The disciples said, 'Rabbi, it is not long since the Jews wanted to stone you; are you going back again?' Jesus replied: 'Are there not twelve hours in the day?

A man can walk in the daytime without stumbling

because he has the light of this world to see by;

but if he walks at night he stumbles,

because there is no light to guide him.'

He said that and then added, 'Our friend Lazarus is resting, I am going to wake him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he is able to rest he is sure to get better.' The phrase Jesus used referred to the death of Lazarus, but they thought that by 'rest' he meant 'sleep', so Jesus put it plainly, 'Lazarus is dead; and for your sake I am glad I was not there because now you will believe. But let us go to him.' Then Thomas - known as the Twin - said to the other disciples, 'Let us go too, and die with him.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathise with them over their brother.

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.'

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

First Reading - Ezekiel 37:12-14

I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.

Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 129

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

Second Reading - Romans 8:8-11

If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he will give life to your own mortal bodies.

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 Reading - John 11:1-45

I am the resurrection and the life.



In the face of the many questions of the human heart, as well as tragic situations of injustice, violence and suffering that mark our time, our faith needs to be alert, attentive and prophetic. Faith should open our eyes to the darkness of the world, and bring others the light of the Gospel through our commitment to peace, justice and solidarity.

Pope Leo XIV, March 2026

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

5.30pm each week during Lent, followed by Mass:

Thursdays - Holy Family Church (No Mass 26th Mar)

Fridays - St Oliver Plunkett Church

NB. No morning Masses at Cannon Hill or Tingalpa during this time.

PARISH NEWS AND NOTICES

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

OUR SICK

Please contact the Parish Office if you or someone you know is sick and would appreciate a home visit. **We pray for those in the community who are sick. May the healing spirit of Christ bring them comfort and hope.**

Anna Slawek, Gary Smith, Margaret Kykkanen, Lameki Eketi, Damon Stokes; Eli Jorna, Marina Gilbert, Edgar Tan, Vincy Law Tan, Sam Swann, Athol Young, Ken Drego, Karen Marrinan, Carol-Ann Marrinan, Jeanette Hill, Lucia Giaccio, Rob Connolly, Ashley Anthony, Daniel Normyle, Lani Clow, Carol Flannigan, Catherine, Elizabeth and Monika, Harry Lynas, Michael Simpson, John la Spina, Von Leeman, Imelda Khoo, Lorretta Stephenson, Brian Crimmins, Angela White, Mary Stevenson, Veronica Roberts, Melisa Duffy.

BAPTISMS



We are delighted to welcome **Pia Puglisi, Noah & Eloise Nawaqaliva, and Ziggy & Zetta Smith-Clarke**, as their baptisms are celebrated in our Parish this Sunday. May God's peace, joy, and protection be with them, their families and their godparents on this joyous occasion and throughout their lives.

FAREWELL AND THANK YOU

Please join us for a farewell brunch following Mass on **Sunday, 29 March** in the Parish Hall, as we celebrate and give thanks for Fr Vasanthan's time with our parish. Please bring a plate to share.

Fr Vasanthan's final Mass will be on Easter Sunday, after which he will return to Sri Lanka. Parishioners wishing to contribute towards a farewell gift are kindly asked to contact the Parish Office by Thursday, 26 March.

VISIT OF THE SUPERIOR GENERAL

Celebrate Mass with the Superior General, Fr Luis Alonso on **Thursday, 26 March at 9:00am at St Oliver Plunkett Church.**

Following Mass, all parishioners are invited to morning tea in the Parish Hall.

- **RCIA** - at this Saturday's Vigil, Michael and Sade will celebrate the **Third Scrutiny**, the last of the three special rites of prayer during the RCIA journey. The Scrutinies are moments of spiritual reflection and healing, where the Church prays that God will strengthen the Elect and free them from anything that keeps them from fully living in Christ. **Michael and Sade will also receive The Lord's Prayer and the Bible.** Please keep them in your prayers as they continue their journey toward full initiation into the Catholic Church.
- **Easter Offering for Fr Vasanthan:** we are incredibly grateful for Fr Vasanthan's ministry in our Parish. To show our appreciation and support and to say thank you to Father for his dedication to our community, we invite you to use the Easter offering envelopes available in the church foyer to support his upcoming travel, ministry and personal needs.
- **Iona Passion Play:** tickets are on sale for the annual Iona Passion Play. Show for one night only on **Good Friday, 3rd April at 7pm.**
- **Easter Rosters:** Roster sheets are now available in the church foyer - please take a moment to let us know where you're able to help. Catherine has also sent an email to all volunteers.

EASTER MASS TIMES

	Sat, 28 th March	6:00 pm	St Oliver Plunkett Church	
PALM SUNDAY	Sun, 29 th March	8:00 am	Holy Family Church	
		9:30 am	St Oliver Plunkett Church	
HOLY THURSDAY	Thu, 2 nd April	6:00 pm	St Oliver Plunkett Church	
		<i>Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Parish Hall until 10pm.</i>		
GOOD FRIDAY	Fri, 3 rd April	9:00 am	St Oliver Plunkett Church	
		<i>Stations of the Cross, Divine Mercy & Confession.</i>		
		3:00 pm	St Oliver Plunkett Church	
		<i>Adoration of the Cross.</i>		
EASTER VIGIL	Sat, 4 th April	6:00 pm	St Oliver Plunkett Church	
EASTER SUNDAY	Sun, 5 th April	8:00 am	Holy Family Church	
		9:30 am	St Oliver Plunkett Church	

CANNON HILL CATHOLIC PARISH



OMI
The Missionary Oblates
of Mary Immaculate



OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday: 9.00am - 2.30pm

ADDRESS

St Oliver Plunkett Church & Parish Centre

21 Beauvardia St, Cannon Hill Q 4170

Church of the Holy Family

41 Belmont Rd, Tingalpa Q 4173
(enter via 56 Palgrave St)

CONTACT

Phone: (07) 3853 7490

Mobile: 0493 096 073 (after hours)

WhatsApp: 0493 096 073

EMAIL

cannonhill@bne.catholic.net.au

WEBSITE

www.cannonhillparish.org.au

FACEBOOK

Cannon Hill Catholic Parish

PARISH TEAM

Parish Priest: Fr Vasanthan Anthonipillai
OMI pp.cannonhill@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Secretary: Norma Martiri
cannonhill@bne.catholic.net.au

Administration Support: Ronda Vorrasi
sc.cannonhill@bne.catholic.net.au

Local Safeguarding Rep: Ronda Vorrasi
Mobile: 0494 166 815

Parish Leadership Team:

Sachin Rasquinha, Ronda Vorrasi, Guy Elliot, Michael Hill, Lawrence Swann



MISSIONARY OBLATES
of MARY IMMACULATE

From the moment the Oblates arrived in Fremantle in 1894, they have dedicated themselves to the mission of the Church in Australia. They dedicate themselves to serving the poor in parishes, schools, prisons, among the youth and with those on the streets. The Oblates preach Christ to the poor and the most abandoned and have served them in Australia for more than 100 years.

To learn more go to www.omi.com.au

DONATIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME

Thank you for your generous support, which impacts the lives of those we serve. Your donations directly foster the growth and prosperity of our community and sustain our ministries. Donations can be made via the EFTPOS terminal at the church entrance (split between 1st and 2nd collections) or through our secure online direct debit system (call the Parish Office to organise). Please consider including our *Perpetual Endowment Fund* in your Will to help continue our mission for future generations. For more Bequest info. contact the Catholic Foundation on 3324 3200 or call the Parish Office. Donate using the QR Code or go to <https://tinyurl.com/parish-donate>



OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

Fifth Sunday of Lent

21–22 March 2026

Envelopes and donation boxes available in the foyer.

Since October 2023, Caritas Jerusalem staff in Gaza have endured displacement, personal loss, and danger alongside the communities they serve. Despite unimaginable challenges, they remain committed to providing lifesaving support, standing in solidarity with families enduring this conflict.



Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at: <https://tinyurl.com/CH-Compassion>

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*



Rosies - Friends on the Street

provides street outreach for the homeless, disadvantaged and isolated.

Your support ensures that Rosies can continue helping people who are doing it tough. Please help by filling the red bin in the foyer at St Oliver Plunkett Church (see lid for items needed). Thank you for your support!
<https://rosies.org.au>

27.03.26



AN ARCHDIOCESAN EVENT

RECO RALLY

6:00 - 8:30PM

LOURDES RECONCILIATION,
HILL COLLEGE SPEAKER, GAMES,
PRAISE AND WORSHIP

CATHOLIC
Collective

[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/RECORALLY26](https://tinyurl.com/RECORALLY26)

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

The Brisbane East Deanery will begin the **Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible study by Jeff Cavins** beginning in April: Morning session at St Oliver Plunkett Church, Cannon Hill - **Thursday 23 April**, and an evening session at St James Church, Coorparoo - **Friday 24 April**. The course will run for **8 weeks** with a week's break in the middle. Through the fourteen narrative books of the Bible, this foundational study traces Salvation History from Adam and Eve to Christ and the Church.

For more information or to register your interest, please contact **Louise Simento at 0456 700 040**.

the IONA PASSION PLAY

1 SHOW ONLY
Good Friday, 3rd April
at 7pm
Tickets on sale.

Journey with us as we re-enact
the events of the Passion,
death and Resurrection
of Jesus Christ

www.passionplay.org.au