



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)*

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

29TH MARCH 2026

Today we begin Holy Week, the days during which we journey with Jesus on his way of the cross and anticipate his Resurrection on Easter. Today's liturgy begins with the procession with palms to remind us of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem.

The events of Jesus' Passion are proclaimed in their entirety in today's Liturgy of the Word. Those events will be proclaimed again when we celebrate the liturgies of the Triduum—Holy Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Good Friday of the Lord's Passion, and the Easter Vigil. In communities that celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation with catechumens, these liturgies take on special importance because they invite the catechumens and the community to enter together into the central mysteries of our faith. These days are indeed profound and holy.

In Cycle A, we read the Passion of Jesus as found in the Gospel of Matthew on Palm, or Passion, Sunday. (On Good Friday, we will read the Passion of Jesus from the Gospel of John). The story of Jesus' Passion and death in Matthew's Gospel focuses particularly on the obedience of Jesus to the will of his Father. As Jesus sends his disciples to prepare for Passover, he indicates that the events to come are the will of the Father (Matthew 26:18). In Jesus' prayer in the garden, he prays three times to the Father to take away the cup of suffering, but each time, Jesus concludes by affirming his obedience to the Father's will (Matthew 26:39-44). Even Matthew's description of Jesus' death shows Jesus' obedience to the Father.

Another theme of Matthew's Gospel is to show Jesus as the fulfillment of Scripture. Throughout the Passion narrative, Matthew cites and alludes to Scripture to show that the events of Jesus' Passion and death are in accordance with all that was foretold. And if the events were foretold, then God is in control. In addition, Matthew is particularly concerned that the reader does not miss the fact that Jesus is the Suffering Servant of the Old Testament.

Jesus acts in obedience to the Father even in death, so that sins may be forgiven. Matthew makes this clear in the story of the Lord's Supper. As Jesus blesses the chalice, he says: "... for this is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed on behalf of many for the forgiveness of sins." (Matthew 26:28)

While the Gospels of Matthew and Mark have many parallels in their narrative of the Passion, there are a few details worth noting that are unique to Matthew. Only Matthew indicates the price paid to Judas for betraying Jesus. The story of Judas's death is also found only in Matthew, as is the detail that Pilate's wife received a warning in a dream and that Pilate washed his hands of Jesus' death. Finally, Matthew's Gospel alone mentions the earthquakes and other phenomena that happened after Jesus' death.

Matthew places the responsibility for Jesus' death on the Sanhedrin, the chief priests and elders who were responsible for the Temple. However, the animosity that those Jewish leaders and the Jewish people demonstrate toward Jesus is not to be interpreted in ways that blame the Jewish people for Jesus' death. Throughout Matthew's Gospel, the narrative reflects the tension that probably existed between the early Christian community and their Jewish contemporaries. At the Second Vatican Council, the Council Fathers made clear that all sinners share responsibility for the suffering and death of Jesus and that it is wrong to place blame for Jesus' Passion on the Jewish contemporaries of Jesus or on Jewish people today.

There are many vantage points from which to engage in Jesus' Passion. In the characters of Matthew's Gospel, we find reflections of ourselves and the many ways in which we sometimes respond to Jesus. Sometimes we are like Judas, who betrays Jesus and comes to regret it. We are sometimes like Peter, who denies him, or like the disciples, who fell asleep during Jesus' darkest hour but then act rashly and violently at his arrest. Sometimes we are like Simon, who is pressed into service to help Jesus carry his cross. Sometimes we are like the leaders who fear Jesus or like Pontius Pilate, who washed his hands of the whole affair. Jesus dies so that our sins will be forgiven.

The events of Jesus' Passion, death, and Resurrection are called the Paschal Mystery. No amount of study will exhaust or explain the depth of love that Jesus showed in offering this sacrifice for us. After we have examined and studied the stories we have received about these events, we are left with one final task—to meditate on these events and on the forgiveness that Jesus' obedience won for us.

Source: Loyola Press

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS - SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION

First Reading - Acts 10:34, 37-43

We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 117

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 5:6-8

Throw away the old yeast, that you may be new dough.

Gospel Reading - Matthew 28:1-10

He has risen from the dead and now he is going before you to Galilee.

Mass Intentions

Week beginning 29th March - 9 am

31/03 Tuesday: Former OMIs & Students
01/04 Wednesday: Fr General & Council
02/04 Thursday: Fr Provincial & Council
03/04 Friday: Beijing Community, PMIs

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...

29 MAR - SUN: PALM SUNDAY

Farewell brunch for Father Vasanthan, following Mass, in the Parish Hall. All are welcome!

COMING UP...

02 APR - THU: HOLY THURSDAY - SOPC

• **Mass of the Lord's Supper** - 6.00pm, followed by **Adoration** in the Parish Hall.

03 APR - FRI: GOOD FRIDAY - SOPC

- *Stations of the Cross & Divine Mercy Chaplet*, 9:00am.
- Reconciliation (following Stations of the Cross).
- Commemoration of the Lord's Passion, 3:00pm.
- HOLY LAND COLLECTION

04 APR - SAT: EASTER VIGIL, 6pm at SOPC; RCIA Celebration of the Sacraments.

05 APR - SUN: EASTER SUNDAY, usual Mass times, 8.00am at Tingalpa & 9.30am at Cannon Hill.

NB. NO REGULAR 9AM MASS ON HOLY THURSDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY.

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, 7th April**

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, 28th May**

Plate Collections - 22nd March 2026

1st Collection (Oblates): \$549.75 | 2nd Collection (Parish): \$450.30

Thank you for your ongoing support.

THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Jesus was brought before Pontius Pilate, the governor, and the governor put to him this question, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' Jesus replied, 'It is you who say it.' But when he was accused by the chief priests and the elders he refused to answer at all. Pilate then said to him, 'Do you not hear how many charges they have brought against you?' But to the governor's complete amazement, he offered no reply to any of the charges.

At festival time it was the governor's practice to release a prisoner for the people, anyone they chose. Now there was at that time a notorious prisoner whose name was Barabbas. So when the crowd gathered, Pilate said to them, 'Which do you want me to release for you: Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?' For Pilate knew it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over.

Now as he was seated in the chair of judgment, his wife sent him a message, 'Have nothing to do with that man; I have been upset all day by a dream I had about him.'

The chief priests and the elders, however, had persuaded the crowd to demand the release of Barabbas and the execution of Jesus. So when the governor spoke and asked them, 'Which of the two do you want me to release for you?' they said 'Barabbas'. But in that case, Pilate said to them 'what am I to do with Jesus who is called Christ?' They all said, 'Let him be crucified!' 'Why?' he asked 'What harm has he done?' But they shouted all the louder, 'Let him be crucified!' Then Pilate saw that he was making no impression, that in fact a riot was imminent. So he took some water, washed his hands in front of the crowd and said, 'I am innocent of this man's blood. It is your concern.' And the people, to a man, shouted back, 'His blood be on us and on our children!' Then he released Barabbas for them. He ordered Jesus to be first scourged and then handed over to be crucified.

The governor's soldiers took Jesus with them into the Praetorium and collected the whole cohort round him. Then they stripped him and made him wear a scarlet cloak, and having twisted some thorns into a crown they put this on his head and placed a reed in his right hand. To make fun of him they knelt to him saying, 'Hail, king of the Jews!' And they spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head with it. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the cloak and dressed him in his own clothes and led him away to crucify him.

On their way out, they came across a man from Cyrene, Simon by name, and enlisted him to carry his cross. When they had reached a place called Golgotha, that is, the place of the skull, they gave him wine to drink mixed with gall, which he tasted but refused to drink. When they had finished crucifying him they shared out his clothing by casting lots, and then sat down and stayed there keeping guard over him.

Above his head was placed the charge against him: it read: 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.' At the same time two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left.

The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said 'So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself! If you are God's son, come down from the cross!' The chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him in the same way. 'He saved others,' they said 'he cannot save himself. He is the king of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He put his trust in God; now let God rescue him if he wants him. For he did say, "I am the son of God."' Even the robbers who were crucified with him taunted him in the same way.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

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 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 Reading - Matthew 26:14 - 27:66

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.



...the gift of light entrusted to you, so that you may nurture it within yourselves and amongst yourselves in all its sweetness, and spread it throughout the world through prayer, frequent reception of the sacraments, and charity. Continue to commit yourselves in this way on your journey.

Pope Leo XIV, 15th March 2026

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.

VISIT OF THE SUPERIOR GENERAL

We were deeply honoured to celebrate Mass with the Superior General, Fr. Luis Alonso, on Thursday. It was also a special privilege to venerate the Cross carried by St. Eugene de Mazenod himself.

Thank you to all parishioners who participated and contributed to such a meaningful morning. It was a great pleasure to meet Fr. Luis and to gather with the Oblates and our parish community on this memorable occasion.

We wish Fr. Luis every blessing and continued grace in his ministry.



To see more, head over to our Gallery at <https://cannonhillparish.org.au/our-parish/gallery/>

FATHER VASANTHAN'S FAREWELL

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

Fr. Vasanthan's final Mass will be on Easter Sunday, after which he will return to Sri Lanka. Parishioners are invited to use the Easter Offering envelopes available in the church foyer to support his upcoming travel, ministry and personal needs.

Kindly note that we will be celebrating Fr Vasanthan's time at Cannon Hill Parish during the brunch in the Parish Hall after Mass. We will not be doing speeches during Mass so we invite you all to come and participate.

HOLY LAND COLLECTION - GOOD FRIDAY

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on **Good Friday**. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land through welfare assistance, housing, health, education, and employment, and supports parishes, schools, orphanages and medical centres. Due to the recent events, this is an extremely difficult time for the Church and people of the Holy Land. See back page. Envelopes are available at the church entrance. More info here: <https://franciscans.org.au/holy-land-commissariat/>



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



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**

Palm Sunday
28–29 March 2026

As Project Compassion 2026 comes to a close, we thank you for your generous support throughout Lent. This year, we shared the stories of four inspiring people whose lives are being uplifted through your compassion.

Your support is helping them overcome challenges and build stronger futures. There is still time to donate! Together, we can continue nurturing hope and empowering communities facing poverty and injustice.



**UNITE
AGAINST
POVERTY**
this Lent

Please donate today.

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

Envelopes and donation boxes available in the foyer.

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.*



GOOD FRIDAY HOLY LAND COLLECTION

Offer hope by supporting the Sacred Places and Christians of the Holy Land



Donations can be made to:

Commissary of the Holy Land, 47 Victoria Street, Waverley NSW 2024
T: (02) 9369 9300 | E: holyland@franciscans.org.au



www.franciscans.org.au/holy-land-commissariat/

POSITION VACANT COOK REQUIRED

The Good Samaritan Sisters, Hawthorne

require the services of a cook,
Tues/Wed evenings, 3.00 - 6.00pm (negotiable).

Award wage.

Please contact **Sr Joanne** on

0457 836 833 with your expression of interest.

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

3 APRIL - 7PM

Doors open 6:30pm

COME AND SEE

this 90min family friendly version
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Iona Performing Arts Centre

Tickets on sale 22nd February 2026

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