

FR ALO WRITES...

“Death and Glorification”

(John 12:20-33)

Our Lenten season’s readings relates the events that lead-up to and includes the suffering and death of Christ. These readings remind me of the Catholic culture in which I was brought up. I grew up in a very devout Catholic family who strictly observed the rules of lent. If I failed to abide by any of the Lenten rituals that my family observed, I would be punished by my parents. Moreover, we lived in a village where every household was Catholic. What this meant was that any violation of Lenten observances would result in corporal punishment and this brought great shame upon one’s whole family. Physically and psychologically I felt an inner heaviness and dread whenever the season of Lent drew near. I felt entrapped by the season’s rules and I loathed the punishment for non-observance. This brought me unhappiness. Reflecting on these experiences I concede that we undertook “penance” for breaking our Lenten observance to appease and regain the acceptance of our family and village, rather than reflecting on the spiritual meaning of the why Lenten observances was an important part of our faith. Having a negative experience of lent meant that reflecting on Jesus’ suffering and death was for a youngster a burdensome experience.

Today’s gospel is once again about Jesus’ death: *“This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world, now shall the ruler of this world be cast out; and I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself.”* [Jesus] said this to show by what death he was to die (John 12:30-33). Surprisingly in verse 28 prior to this passage, the Father speaks of Jesus’ glorification: *“I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again”* and in John 12:23, Jesus states his willingness to go to the cross, as his “hour of glory” was approaching, when he would fulfill his Father’s will and accomplish the mission entrusted to him. Perhaps for some, this passage from John’s gospel might lead them to reflect on: How is that we can reconcile death with glorification? Or is God a brutal Father that demands his son be offered as an atonement for sin? Or another question could be: “did Jesus want to die?”

Reflecting on these questions, a man I find inspirational came to mind. He is Basuki Tjahaya Purnama, the current governor of Jakarta in Indonesia. He is of Chinese background and also a Christian. Prior to his election, it was hard to imagine and even impossible conceive that a person of his background (Chinese and Christian) could become governor of Jakarta. Since his election, he has been very strong in redressing corruption; trying to clear Jakarta’s government of people linked with corrupt practices. Because of his Chinese and Christian background, he was “advised” by many prominent politicians, as well as religious leaders, not to “rock the boat” (i.e. disturb the status quo). He was also reminded of the consequences for him and his government if he persisted. But Basuki Purnama is fully aware of the consequences of his conviction to rid the government of corruption and one of them is death. In one of the interviews he quoted St. Paul in his letter to the Philippians: *“For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain”* (Phil 1:21). And he would like these words put on his tombstone in Indonesian, English and Mandarin. While some people say that he is crazy, others have come to admire his faith, courage and conviction.

Jesus was aware of and accepted the consequences of his persistence and faithfulness in carrying out the Father’s will, and one of them was death. Yet even the threat of death did not deter him from faithfully doing his Father’s will. And because of that, Glorification and death could be reconciled. Our call as Christians is to do the Father’s will. Suffering and death for some may be the consequence of doing God’s will, but as God shares in their suffering, they in turn also share in the glory and glorification of God. So Lent is time to glorify God and our Lenten observances serves to remind us of God’s love for us and our duty to each other. This would mean that Lent is to be a love-filled season and not a burdensome season.



THIS WEEK

SATURDAY 21 MAR

6:00pm Mass

SUNDAY 22 MAR

9:30am Mass + Kids Church, Morning Tea

3:30pm Indonesian Mass

6:00pm Mass + Kids Church

MONDAY 23 MAR

9:00am Mass

9:30am Reconciliation

WEDNESDAY 25 MAR

9:00am Mass

FRIDAY 27 MAR

9:00am Mass

SATURDAY 28 MAR

6:00pm Mass

SUNDAY 29 MAR

9:30am Mass + Kids Church, Morning Tea

3:30pm Indonesian Mass

6:00pm Mass + Kids Church

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?

Welcome! Let us know how we can support you in your faith journey. Please introduce yourself to the parish priest and/or one of the hospitality team at morning tea.

SIGN UP!

Get the OLR eNews in your inbox each Friday afternoon. Visit www.olrkensington.org.au



PARISH DIRECTORY

4 Roma Ave Kensington NSW 2033
T: 9663 1070
 F: 9313 6348
 E: kensoparish@pacific.net.au
 W: <http://olrkensington.org.au>

PARISH PRIEST
Fr Aloysius Lamere msc

PARISH SECRETARY
 Maria Caetano (Mon-Fri, 9am-1pm)

MASS TIMES
 Sat - 6pm (Vigil)
 Sun - 9:30am (Family), 6pm
 Mon, Wed, Fri - 9am
 Indonesian Mass Sun - 3:30pm
 French Mass Third Sun - 11am

RECONCILIATION
 Mon 9:30am or by appointment

HOLY HOUR + RECONCILIATION
 Thursday before 1st Friday - 7:00pm

INDONESIAN COMMUNITY
 Fr Aloysius Tamnge msc – 0426 042 624

BAPTISMS
 First Sunday - 11am, bookings required

WEDDINGS
 By Appointment

SACRAMENTS
 Contact parish office

OLR PRIMARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL
 Marie Nilon – 9663 3346

OLSH COLLEGE PRINCIPAL
 Jenny Fowler – 9662 4088

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
 Roy Rigotti - 9313 8334, is a JP and is happy to sign documents as required.

RESPONSES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON
 Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

FIRST READING
 Jeremiah 31: 31-34

RESPONSORIAL PSALM
 Create a clean heart in me, O God.

SECOND READING
 Hebrews 5: 7-9

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!

GOSPEL
 John 12: 20-30

COMMUNION ANTIPHON
 Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.

OREMUS

Let us Pray

SICK
 Will Coady, Ghassan Serhan, Leo O’Sullivan, Min Keating, Tonia Pastorelli, Manuel Mouco, Baby Alessio, Ashika Nandan, Vivien Christie, Lucienne Radzyminski, Fr Roger Duggan msc, Neville Dunn, Fr Chris Murphy msc, Derek Chick, Tony (Dulwich Hill), Br James Maher msc, Francesco Alessi, Lucia Simeone, Fr Peter Robinson msc, Assunta Ciaglia, Natalina Beghetto, Frank Zakrzewski, Llewellyn Samuel, Antonio Laquian, Joe Di Blasio, Rina Vecchief, Anton’s mum, Nella Custorella, Marie LaBrooy, Patty Ingram, Dee Piper, Rosaria Ciaglia, Frank George, Colleen Corcoran, Zanita Banzon, Angela Breen Ortega

BELOVED DECEASED
 Lee Jun Hoy

ANNIVERSARIES
 John Michael Stinson, Giuseppe Sidoti

ROSTERS

MAR 21/22	SAT 6PM	SUN 9:30AM	SUN 6PM
Acolyte	John Allen	Handojo Widjaja	Fred Luca
Readers	Agnes Irhia Sr Helen Hearne	Jessica Bong James Wong	Nicholas Black Virginia Black
E. Ministers	John Ryan John Dorahy	Grace Pandiangan Sheila McAndrew Barbara Hitchcox Amelia Iovanella Stephen Gatt Hartono Ong	Lyn King Francine Pirola
KidsChurch	9:30am – Christina Halim 6:00pm –		
Counting	James Lynch, John Sparke, Helen Liew		
Comm to Sick	Grace Pandiangan, Sheila McAndrew		
MAR 28/29	SAT 6PM	SUN 9:30AM	SUN 6PM
Acolyte	Gus Alimhamzah	Dennis Fenech	Terry Gormley
Readers	Linda Irhia John Dorahy	Ana Corpuz Vicky-Kerry Offord	Selvi Ung Marieann Duncan
E. Ministers	Alice Mouco Vien Suhadi	Henny Ramali Nani Widarto Robyn Kildea Mary Martin Margaret Rigotti Roy Rigotti	Jan Nicholas Marieann Duncan
KidsChurch	9:30am - Mark & Fiona O’Farrell		
Counting	John Moore, Ray Delohery, Selvi Ung		
Comm to Sick	Mary Martin, Robyn Kildea		

CHILDREN'S SACRAMENT PROGRAM 2015

Registration is now open for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation (Yr 2, September 2 & 3), First Communion (Yr 3, Oct 11, 17 & 25) and Confirmation (Yr 6, Aug 5). Please visit the parish website for information on the preparation courses and to enroll your child. www.olrkensington.org.au

**THE CENTRE FOR CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY:
ADULT FAITH FORMATION 2015**

Bishop David Walker DD, Emeritus Bishop of the Diocese of Broken Bay, will deliver teachings on St Teresa of Avila in April & May 2015. St Teresa, a Doctor of the Church, has come to be recognised as one of the great teachers of how to journey to God. Come and join us in exploring the richness of St Teresa's wisdom. All are welcome! The venue for all courses will be **The Centre for Christian Spirituality, 14 Frances St Randwick.**

St Teresa of Avila 2: The Interior Castle

Dates: Wednesday's 29 April, 6 & 13 May 2015, 7.00-8.30pm.

Course Cost: \$25 Limited Spaces- Bookings essential.

To register: <http://trybooking.com/GVFS>

St Teresa of Avila: One Day Seminar

Date: Sunday 12 April 2015, 10am-4pm. Mass at 9am.

Course Cost: \$100 includes a light lunch. Limited Spaces - Bookings essential.

To register: <http://trybooking.com/GVFT>

VOCATION DISCERNMENT RETREAT, 17-19 APRIL

A retreat for Catholic men exploring if God is calling them to the Priesthood, including talks, opportunities for prayer, Confession, spiritual guidance, Adoration, group discussion and Q & A. **Where:** Seminary of the Good Shepherd, 50-58 Abbotsford Rd, Homebush. **What:** The retreat program can be downloaded from www.vocationcentre.org.au under "Important Dates." **Cost:** It's free, but registration is essential for food & accommodation. Enquiries/registration: vocations@sydneycatholic.org or **9390 5970**. 'No strings attached.' This retreat is designed to help men discern their vocation.



Living in a remote Andean village in Peru isn't easy. Until recently, Cristian (a 33 year old farmer) had to travel one kilometre to access running water. Cristian's community in rural Peru has always lived a traditional life, with simple diets and crops dependent on rainfall. With the help of Caritas Huacho, 33-year-old Cristian and 14 other young farmers have introduced running water and irrigation to the village. They now grow and harvest a wide variety of high-value, sustainable crops, which provide them all with a secure income and a wide variety of food for life.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2015 and help farmers in Peru grow and harvest sustainable crops, providing their families with food for life.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.

HOUR OF GRACE & MERCY

Thursday (First Friday Vigil) | 7-8pm
Reconciliation available.

SICK/HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS

If you have a neighbour, or know any parishioner who is sick or housebound and would like Communion taken to them in their home, would like transport to and from Mass, or would like a visit from a Parish member please contact Maria at the Parish House 9663 1070.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY SCHOOL NEWS

4B – Lent: A Time to Make Choices

This term 4B has begun to explore the Liturgical Season of Lent. We have learnt that Lent is a time when we reflect on how we live our lives and grow in our relationship with God through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Our class is exploring choices and their impact on our growth and change. We are learning about the sacrament of Penance and its role as a communal celebration of God's forgiveness. Finally, we will be reviewing the events of Holy Week through the Scriptural Stations of the Cross.

KIDSCHURCH ROOM

Plans for the renovation of the Kidschurch room are available on the church notice board for parishioners to view and comment. Work is to start after Easter - 2 to 3 weeks.

RABBIT MINDER NEEDED

I was just wondering if anyone would be able to mind my rabbit Captain Carrots over Easter and my mid semester break from Uni so I can go home to see my family. It would be between 3-13 April (it could be less days).



She just needs feeding and watering once a day (and of course loves snuggles if you are interested). She can stay at my place, or happy to move if that is easier. My contact details: mobile: 0430 111 006.

WE'RE CELEBRATING...

NOTICES

THOMAS WILSON ORGAN RECITAL

On **Friday, 27 March** St Mary's Cathedral's Director of Music Thomas Wilson will play movements from Marcel Dupre's *Le Chemin de la Croix* – The Stations of the Cross – as part of a special programme of organ and choral music for Lent and Holy Week. The Scholars of St Mary's Cathedral will sing Gregorian Chant and polyphony by Victoria and Tallis to complement the organ music by Dupre, J.S. Bach and others. An evocative programme of beautiful music within the stunning setting of St Mary's Cathedral. This recital will begin at 7.00pm, admission is free with wine being served afterwards. Please call **9220 0481** for more information.

JOKE CORNER

A CONVERT

A Baptist moved into a neighborhood largely populated by Catholic families. While on the whole, they got along well, one habit he had was to fire up the grill on Fridays and charbroil steaks. After several weeks of enduring this torture, the Catholic men got together and decided the only way to end this problem was to proselytize the offending neighbor and get him to convert. So, they did. At the following Easter Vigil, he was accepted into the Church. The Catholics breathed a sigh of relief as he was baptized, and intoned "You were born a Baptist, you were raised a Baptist, but now you are a Catholic." Fast forward to the following Lent. The message apparently didn't get through, because the new convert fired up his grill and cooked steaks on Friday anyway! The indignant Catholic men rushed over to see what the heck, and they found him pouring water over the T-bones and chanting, "You were born a cow, you were raised a cow, but now, you are a fish!"



			N					L			T				
				R			T								
		A							L						
				A				P		P					
	T					E									
W	H	E	N	R	I	M	A	M	H	L	O	P	T	E	D
D	E	A	F	T	H	S	E	T	P	E	I	F	L	E	
U	P	A	W	M	O	L	I	L	W	E	L	L			
	R	O	R		A		L		F						
	T				Y				I						

To solve the puzzle you must place the correct letter in the box. The possibilities are vertically arranged. When in the right order the code will reveal itself horizontally.