



Tea Tree Gully Parish - St David's Catholic Church

Incorporating - Our Lady of Hope Chapel - Greenwith

8264 4694

Under the care of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate

email: pp@stdavidsttg.org.au

17th March 2024



Fifth Sunday of Lent Yr B

Readings next weekend Palm Sunday — Isaiah 50:4-7, Philippians 2:6-11, Mark 14:1 – 15:47

FOREVER AHEAD OF OUR SOULS

Sometimes there's nothing as helpful as a good metaphor.

In his book, *The God Instinct*, Tom Stella shares this story: A number of men who made their living as porters were hired one day to carry a huge load of supplies for a group on safari. Their loads were unusually heavy and the trek through the jungle was rough. Several days into the journey they stopped, unshouldered their loads, and refused to go on. No pleas, bribes, or threats, worked in terms of persuading them to go on. Asked why they couldn't continue, they answered: "We can't go on; we have to wait for our souls to catch up with us."

That also happens to us in life, except mostly we never wait for our souls to catch up. We continue without them, sometimes for years. What this means is that we struggle to be in the present moment, to be inside our own skin, to be aware of the richness of our own experience. Too often our experiences aren't very soulful because we aren't present to them. I cite myself as an example:

For the past twenty-five years, I've kept a journal, a diary of sorts. My intent in keeping this journal is to record the deeper things that I'm aware of throughout each day; but mostly what I end up actually writing down is a simple chronology of my day, a daybook, a bare, no-frills, recounting of what I did from hour to hour. My diaries don't much resemble Anne Frank's diary, Dag Hammarskjöld's *Markings* or Henri Nouwen's *Genesee Diary*. My journals resemble more what you might get from a schoolboy describing his day at school, a simple chronology of what happened. Yet when I go back some years later and read an account of what I did on a given day, I'm always amazed at how rich and full my life was on that day, except that I wasn't much aware of it at the time. While actually living through those days, mostly I was struggling to get my work done, to stay on top of things, to meet expectations, to carve out some moments of friendship and recreation amid the pressures of the day, and to get to bed at a reasonable hour. There wasn't a lot of soul there, just routine, work, and hurry.

I suspect that this is not atypical. Most of us live most of our days not very aware of how rich our lives are, forever leaving our souls behind. For example, many is the woman who gives ten to fifteen years of her life to bearing and raising children, with all that entails, tending constantly to someone else's needs, getting up at night to nurse a child, spending 24 hours a day on constant alert, sacrificing all leisure time, and putting a career and personal creativity on hold. And yet often that same woman, later on, looks back on those years and wishes she could relive them – but now, in a more soulful way, more consciously aware of how privileged it was to do precisely those things she did within so much tedium and tiredness. Years later, looking back, she sees how rich and precious her experience was and how because of the burden and stress how little her soul was present then to what she was experiencing.

This can be multiplied with a thousand examples. We've all read accounts wherein someone shares what he or she would do differently if he or she had life to live over again. Mostly these stories rework the same motif. Given another chance, I would try to enjoy it more, that is, I would try to keep my soul more present and more aware.

For most of us, I fear, our souls will only catch up with us when, finally, we are in retirement, with diminished health, diminished energy, and no opportunity to work. It seems we need to first lose something before we fully appreciate it. We tend to take life, health, energy, and work for granted, until they are taken away from us. Only after the fact do we realize how rich our lives have been and how little of those riches we drank in at the time.

Our souls eventually do catch up with us, but it would be good if we didn't wait until we were in assisted living for this to happen. Like the porters who dropped their loads and stopped, we need to stop and wait for our souls to catch up.

Early on in his priesthood, when Pope Francis was principal of a school, he would at a certain point each day have the public address system cut in and interrupt the work that was going on in each classroom with this announcement: *Be grateful. Set your horizon. Take stock of your day.*

Fr Ron Rolheiser OMI

EASTER ROSTERS IN FOYER

Please place your name on the Roster at the Back of the Church Foyer on the Parish notice board, if you can help with ministries for the Easter Services.

Extra-ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, Collectors, Ushers, Commentators and Readers will be required for certain Masses. For Holy Thursday Mass at 7pm, volunteers for 'washing of the feet' will be required. If parishioners from OLOH want to place their names on this list, please contact Denise.

People reading at Palm Sunday and Good Friday and the Easter Vigil, will be contacted by the office during this week and readings will be emailed to you to practice.

DIARY DATES

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Held every Friday evening at St David's beginning at 7pm

OBLATE YOUTH GAMES NIGHT

Tuesday 19th March at 6.30pm, with practice for Good Friday

WIDOW/ERS MASS

Thursday 21st March at 11am with a shared lunch

EASTER MONDAY

De Mazenod Club family gathering 1st April from 6pm

MONTHLY GARDENING GROUP

As the next group will be Monday 1st April, Easter Monday, Barry has requested that just this one could be changed to the Tuesday 2nd April from 10am. So if you are free to help with clearing of weeds etc in the garden beds, please come on Tuesday 2nd April.

FAREWELL FOR FR JOSHUA

This will take place after the 10.30am Mass Sunday 7th April. Please bring a shared plate for morning tea.



ALTAR SERVERS FOR EASTER CEREMONIES

If you would like to help with Altar Serving at the Easter Ceremonies, please speak to either Fr James or Fr Joshua. Training will be held at St David's Church on Saturday 23rd March at 2pm. If you want to help at Easter, you **MUST** attend this training session.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Unfortunately, due to lack of volunteers for both Our Lady of Hope and St David's Church, Children's Liturgy will not be offered at each week.

If you feel that you would like to help with this very important ministry, please contact Amanda on 0414255458 or Joan 0407441126

LENT AND EASTER 2024

Tuesday 19th March

Oblate Youth Games Night at St David's with practice for Good Friday

Thursday 21st March

Widow/ers Mass at 11am with a shared lunch

Friday 22nd March

Stations of the Cross at 7pm

Saturday 23rd March

Set up for Palm Sunday after the 9.15am Mass— volunteer helpers required

Sunday 24th March

Palm Sunday

Monday 25th March

Chrism Mass at St Francis Xavier Cathedral 6pm

Thursday 28th March

Holy Thursday—No Morning Mass—Set up for evening at 10am. Help required

Mass of the Last Supper at 7pm with Adoration until 10pm

Friday 29th March

Good Friday—Stations of the Cross at 10am led by the Oblate Youth

Good Friday Passion—3pm

Saturday 30th March

Set up for Easter Vigil at 10am—Help required

Easter Vigil commences at 7pm followed by a shared supper

Sunday 31st March

Easter Sunday Mass at 7am and 10.30am and 9am OLOH

Sunday 7th April

Divine Mercy Sunday and Fr Joshua's Farewell after 10.30am Mass



FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY CELEBRATION Divine Mercy Sunday April 7th, 2024 at Holy Trinity Church, 171 Kesters Road, Para Hills. At 2pm, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Reconciliation, Chaplet of Divine Mercy Benediction, Holy Mass at 3pm concluding with Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image.

TEA TREE GULLY PARISH

Parish Office Phone: 8264 4694 Email: secretary@stdavidsttg.org.au Web Page: <https://www.stdavidsttg.org.au>

Church Office & Presbytery: 2-4 Vizard Rd, Tea Tree Gully 5091 facebook.com/ttgparish

Our Lady of Hope Chapel: Cnr Golden Way & Golden Grove Rd, Greenwith. Contact via St David's Parish Office

STAFF

Priests: Fr James Jeyachandran OMI - Parish Priest (pp@stdavidsttg.org.au)
Fr Joshua Nash OMI—Assistant Priest (jnash@omi.com.au)

Office Manager/Secretary - Denise Crawford - secretary@stdavidsttg.org.au

Church Sacristan - David Reynolds - contact via Parish Office

Child Safe Contacts: St David's Church - Amanda Bartels - contact 0414255458 or Parish Office

OLOH - Leah Tunks - contact 0431049947 or Parish Office

CH&S Officer:- Rina Borlace— contact Parish Office

MASS TIMES

St David's Church **Weekday Mass times:** Monday - Saturday 9.15am Rosary - 8.50am daily

Weekend Mass times: Saturday Vigil - 5.30pm, Sunday 7.00am & 10.30am

Our Lady of Hope Chapel: Sunday 9.00am

Reconciliation: Saturday morning after Morning Mass and Saturday evening from 5pm- 5.20pm.

Exposition: first Saturday of the month after morning Mass



We are a 'Child Safe'
Organisation

Mass Intentions and Feast Days for week commencing

16 March 2024

Saturday 16: 9.15am - Vincent Manuel—RIP

5.30pm: - Mary Harper - RIP

Sunday 17: 7am: for the people of the parish

9am: Nick Picicella - 1 month RIP

10.30am - Teresa Ashton -RIP

Monday 18: St Patrick 9.15am -

Tuesday 19: St Joseph 9.15am - Martin cooper -RIP

Wednesday 20: 9.15am—

Thursday 21: 9.15am:

Friday 22: 9.15am - *Prayer Book Intentions*

7PM - *Stations of the Cross*

Please pray for the sick of our Parish:

names are on the list for a short period, unless parish is notified

John Williams, Judith Murray, Ros Rimmer, Bob Culshaw,
Gloria Grew, Ron & Clare Cashin, Sally Perry, James Perry,
Pauline Read, Brenda Crawford, Colleen Wallace,
George and Mary Willcox, Cathy Cullen

DECEASED ANNIVERSARIES

Maria Caruana, Betty Parker, Nicola Gaudio, Nicola Subotkiewicz,
Charles Combo, Ivy Williams, Margaret Giles, Betsy Van
Kaathovan, Maria Lisowska, Maria Lisowska, John Cleary, Pat
Hayden, William Bye, Elizabeth Sinclair, Thomas Preiss,
Milly Compagnolo



Vinnie's TTG Conference.

**FOOD ITEMS REQUIRED: SPREADS,
SOUP, TUNA, TINNED MEAT AND VEG,**

PASTA SAUCE

On the occasion of the Chinese New Year Vinnies were delighted to receive a substantial gift of food from one particular parishioner. We would like to express our thanks, not only for this, but to the many parishioners in both St David's and OLOH who continue to donate food each week, Your generosity is remarkable especially in the current economic crisis that is affecting us all.

Wasim Saman, *President TTG Conference*

Baptisms: Saturday 16th March at 11am

Ollie Owen Ronald Tiller, son of Tristan & Alana

Sunday 17th March at OLOH

Samantha Jane Gale, daughter of Dylan & Samantha

Cleaners Roster: 27-29 March - Group 3

please come to the Parish Office to collect keys—

Linen for April - Georgina Mizzi

please take dirty linen, at least twice per week

Counting Roster: Next Weekend -24/3- Group 5

Morning Tea Hosts: 24 March

St David's - Jim, Mary & Helen

OLOH - Gardner/Dennis/Clarke

If you would like to help with any of these ministries, please contact Parish Office. Remember you must obtain a Police Clearance to volunteer at the church.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES AVAILABLE from the MAIN
FOYER OF THE CHURCH

If you require Planned Giving Envelopes, please place your name and address on the sheet provided. Your regular giving helps to maintain the upkeep of the church.