



Ta' Pinu Shrine

Our Lady, Queen of the Family

A CALL TO PRAYER



"CELEBRATING LENT WITH MARY, DISCIPLE OF THE LORD"

Lent is a "journey" for the faithful, during which they "more diligently listen to the word of God and devote themselves to prayer with greater earnestness" ^[SC 109], and during which they are ready to bear the cross with greater zeal, so that with minds and hearts renewed they may reach a more worthy celebration of the Easter festival. In this way, the faithful show themselves true disciples of Christ, hearing his words and seeking to make them their own (Luke 8:15), following in His footsteps in self-denial, (Matthew 16:24) and striving to stand by his cross in faithful witness. (John 19:26)

For special occasions, such as pilgrimages to a Marian shrine or extraordinary events for Marian groups, the Church provides votive Masses with a Lenten theme. The first of the five Marian Lenten Masses

Mary, Disciple of the Lord ties in with the liturgies for the Church in the theme of the "Innocent young heart who rejoices in her heart because the "precepts of the Lord are right." (Sirach 51:13)

Mary is presented to the Church as the woman who has faithfully sought wisdom. She is the one who believed the word of God, who found the Lord trustworthy, "giving wisdom to the simple." (Psalm 19:8) She is the Virgin who kept the word of God and pondered it in her heart (Luke 2:19). She followed the Lord from the first moment of his earthly existence, and heard the words praising her for her faith:

"Yes, Blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled." (Luke 1:45)

- Mary has sought wisdom, that is, she has searched for her God and found him who is the truth, the way, the life. Because she sought wisdom and found it, she herself is gifted with wisdom, the wisdom that sings God's praises, as Mary did in her Magnificat song.



- Mary was filled with joy at the Annunciation and at the Visitation. The Nativity, too, had its moments of joy, but also its sorrow. But it was when Jesus was presented in the temple that she heard the prophecy: "And a sword will pierce your own soul too -- so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare." (Luke 2:35)

From that moment on, Mary pondered on the saving mission of her Son with the knowledge that she, too, must suffer with him and for him.

THIS SHE FAITHFULLY DID TO THE VERY LAST.

You are kindly invited to join us for one of the most important Marian feast

THE ANNUNCIATION

The incarnation of our Saviour, The Word made flesh...

Major Celebration

Sunday

22nd March 2015

Time 2.00 p.m.

Rosary Procession

Holy Mass

Benediction

All Ethnic groups are invited to attend

Solemnity of
The Annunciation of the Lord

From the Catholic Catechism

Actual Sin

Besides original sin, there is another kind called **actual sin** which we ourselves commit. Actual sin is any willing thought, desire, word, action, or omission forbidden by the law of God.

There are **two kinds of actual sin: MORTAL SIN AND VENIAL SIN.**

MORTAL SIN is a grave offense against the law of God. It is called mortal, which means deadly, because it deprives your soul of sanctifying grace. In addition, mortal sin makes your soul an enemy of God. It takes away the merit of all your good actions. It deprives you of the right to everlasting happiness in heaven and makes you deserving of everlasting punishment in hell. To make a mortal sin, three things are necessary: (1) The thought, desire, word, action, or omission must be seriously wrong or considered seriously wrong; (2) you must be mindful of the serious wrong; (3) you must fully consent to it.

VENIAL SIN is a less serious offense against the law of God. It does not deprive your soul of sanctifying grace, and it can be pardoned even without sacramental confession. A sin is venial when the evil done is not seriously wrong, or if it is seriously wrong but you seriously believe it is only slightly wrong, you do not give full consent to it. Venial sin harms you by making you less fervent in the service of God. It weakens your power to resist mortal sin and makes you deserving of God's punishment in this life or purgatory. You can keep from committing sin:

- (1) by praying and receiving the sacraments often;
- (2) By remembering that God is always with you;
- (3) by remembering that your body is a temple of the Holy Ghost;
- (4) by keeping occupied with work and play;
- (5) by promptly resisting the sources of sin within you;
- (6) by avoiding the near occasion of sin.

The capital sins are the chief sources of the sins which you commit yourself. They are: pride, covetousness, lust, anger, gluttony, envy and laziness. They are called capital sins because they are the chief reasons why a person commits sin. The near occasions of sin are all persons, places or things that may easily lead you into sins members, animates, and sanctifies the Church.

Does the CRUCIFIX mean anything to YOU?

The CRUCIFIX I wear, I wear it in reparation. I was in a Jewish jewellery store one day in New York, where I had known the jeweller for twenty or twenty five years. He said to me, "I have some **Crucifixes for you**". And he gave me a bag of silver CRUCIFIXES, over a hundred of them. I said, "Where did you get them". "Oh" he said, "From sisters, they brought them in. They told me, "We are not going to wear the CRUCIFIXES anymore; it divides us from the world. How much you give us for the silver". "I weighed them out thirty pieces of silver". Then he said, "What's wrong with your Church? I thought it meant something to you". So I told him what was wrong. Three months later I received him in the Church. .

N.B. (Jesus was sold by Jude the Iscariot for 30 pieces of silver, **(exact weight of the crosses)**). (Bishop Fulton Sheen by Henry Dietrich)

Gospel Reflection:

"God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. (Jn 3:16)".



Lent is a 40-day period during which our mother "Church" gives us a light taste of what God, the Father has done for us, what He expects from us and what there is prepared for us after life according to His Will.

First of all it shows us how much God loves us. He offered his Son Jesus, equal to him in divinity, to be sacrificed for us, to atone for our sins, to free us from the devil's slavery; "If the grain of wheat falls into the earth it dies and bears much fruit", at the same time warns us what we must do, if we want to benefit from such an extraordinary and precious gift.

By cleansing the temple from those business-people Jesus shows us that we have to obey God's Commandments and keep our soul free from sin, which is God's temple as well. (Jn2:15-16)

Jesus, to strengthen our belief in him, gave us also a glimpse of his divinity and an idea of the reward that will be granted to us, who live according to God's will. "Jesus took with him Peter, James and John his brother and lead up a high mountain, apart by themselves, and he was transfigured before them, and his face shown like the sun and his garments became white as light" (Mt.17:12)

Dear reader, please take advantage of these few Lenten days to get use to keep yourself always in the presence of God along your daily life by frequent short prayers. It is the only important thing in this life and in the next. If you remain with Jesus, you will be very close to other people and you will be happy in whatever place you may find yourself.

Date	March- Lenten Celebrations
Sun 1 st March	INDONESIAN COMMUNITY GROUP 10.00a.m Stations of the Cross followed by Holy Mass Our Lady of Lanka Oratory: Private Family Prayer Day
Thu 5 th March	ST JAMES THE APOSTLE PRIMARY (HOPPERS CROSSING) 11.00a.m Stations of the Cross
Fri 6 th March	ST ANDREWS PARISH (WERRIBEE) 10.00a.m Stations of the Cross followed by Holy Mass
Sat 7 th March	HISPANIC COMMUNITY GROUP 9.30a.m Stations of the Cross followed by Holy Mass FEAST OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS FROM 2.00 P.M Rosary Procession, Holy Mass, Benediction
Sun 8 th March	Our Lady of Good Health , Vailankanni at 1.45p.m Confession, Rosary, Benediction, Holy Mass and Divine Mercy Chaplet
Thu 12 th March	ST JAMES PARISH (BALLARAT) 10.00a.m Stations of the Cross followed by Holy Mass
Fri 13 th March 2015	MELKITE COMMUNITY GROUP 9.30a.m Stations of the Cross followed by Holy Mass 24 HRS. FOR THE LORD Starts 5.00 p.m. Holy Mass then Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Overnight Vigil Adoration, Devotional, personal and guided reflection . 3.00 a.m. Live Streaming from Vatican -Papal Penitential Liturgy
Sat 14 th March 2015	IRAQI COMMUNITY GROUP ST PETER, THE APOSTLE PARISH (HOPPERS CROSSING) Stations of the Cross Holy Masses 7.00 a.m., 10.00 a.m. 2.00 p.m. 5.00p.m Closing Celebration of 24 Hrs for the Lord
Sun 15 th March 2015	TAMIL INDIAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY 10.30a.m Stations of the Cross followed by Holy Mass
Sat 21 st March 2015	SLOVENIAN COMMUNITY GROUP 10.00a.m Stations of the Cross followed by Holy Mass
Sun 22 nd March *Major Celebration*	9.30 A.M. SRI LANKAN COMMUNITY GROUP Way of the Cross followed by Holy Mass in Sinhala and English 11.00 ISLANDERS COMMUNITY GROUP Stations of the Cross ***SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION *** from 2.00p.m Walk with Mary Rosary PROCESSION FOLLOWED BY HOLY MASS AND BENEDICTION
TUES 24th Mar	ITALIAN COMMUNITY GROUP ST CHRISTOPHER PARISH (AIRPORT WEST) 10.00a.m Stations of the Cross followed by Holy Mass
Wed 25 th March	Our Lady of Perpetual Help 7.30p.m Mother Mary & Child Novena
Sat 28th March	ALLIANCE OF THE HOLY FAMILY GROUP 10.30a.m Stations of the Cross followed by Holy Mass VIETNAMESE COMMUNITY GROUP 10.00a.m Holy Mass followed by Stations of the Cross
Sun 29 th March PALM SUNDAY	9.30a.m. PORTUGUESE COMMUNITY ROSARY AT OUR LADY OF FATIMA ORATORY followed by Holy Mass
Mon 30 th March	ST BRENDON PARISH COMMUNITY 10.00a.m Stations of the Cross followed by Holy Mass
Tue 31st March	OUR LADY OF LEBANON VICTORIAN MARONITE COMMUNITY GROUP 10.00a.m Stations of the Cross followed by Holy Mass
Wed 1 st April	ST BRENDON PARISH COMMUNITY 10.00a.m Stations of the Cross followed by Holy Mass
Thu 2 nd April HOLY THURSDAY	Devotees are encouraged to attend their Parish Church for the Mass of the Lord's Supper
Fri 3 rd April GOOD FRIDAY DAY OF FASTING AND ABSTINENCE	SYRO MALABAR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY 10.00 A.M. Passion of our Lord followed by Way of the Cross BACCHUS MARSH GOOD FRIDAY ASSN 2.30P.M LITURGY OF PASSION OF OUR LORD FOLLOWED BY THE GOOD FRIDAY PAGEANT
Sun 5 th March EASTER SUNDAY	BACCHUS MARSH GOOD FRIDAY ASSOCIATION FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION 4.00P.M HOLY MASS

Quote: He who does not abide in CHARITY (Love) God does not abide in him. We have known and have believed the CHARITY which God hath to us. **God is CHARITY:** and he that abideth in Charity, abideth in God, and God abideth in him. (1 John 4:16)

The Sanctuary Light

(Catechism Stories about the Holy Eucharist)

Little Ann and her father were non-Catholics who were visiting the city of New York. Since Ann was very much interested in visiting the different kinds of churches, they went into a non-Catholic church and admired the organ, the stained glass windows and the pulpit. Then they went to a Catholic church and the first thing Ann noticed was the little red sanctuary light. She exclaimed, "Daddy, what is the little red light for?" Her father exclaimed that **it was a sign that Jesus was present in the church.** "But where is Jesus?" she asked. "Behind that golden door you see on the altar" "No wonder it feels so holy in this church!". But does He ever go out of that little golden door?" "Yes, the priest takes him out every morning when people come to Mass and receive Him in Holy Communion". "Can I receive Jesus, Daddy?" Ann asked with such an eager desire. "Oh, no! You are not a Catholic. But let's go now; we have seen enough of this church". When they went to another non-Catholic church, the first thing Ann said was, "Dad where is the little red light?" She was disappointed as she begged, "Daddy, let's go to the church where Jesus lives". These last words of Ann kept ringing in her father's ears for a long time, till he finally made up his mind to become a Catholic, because he wanted to belong to the church where Jesus is really and truly present under the appearance of bread and wine. Ann was baptized with her father. Later her mother also became a catholic. Years later when Ann was grown woman, her old father was dying. One of the last things he said to his daughter was:

Covetousness-avarice

He who loves money, will not be satisfied with money; nor he who loves wealth, will gain: When goods increase, they increase who eat them; and what gain has their owner but to see them with his eyes?
(Ecclesiastes 5:10-11)



PONTIFICAL COUNCIL FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE NEW EVANGELIZATION



**24 HOURS FOR THE LORD
GOD RICH IN MERCY (Eph 2:4).**

*Let us not underestimate the power of so many voices united in prayer!
The 24 Hours for the Lord initiative, which I hope will be observed on 13-14 March throughout the Church, is meant to be a sign of this need for prayer."*

(From the Message of Pope Francis for Lent 2015)

For 24 hours on March 13-14, the faithful will be offered the opportunity for Confession and Eucharistic Adoration. Our objective, as possible, we hope the 24-hour period could conclude on Saturday evening with the Vigil Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Lent. During this time, Pope Francis himself will preside at a penitential celebration at St. Peter's Basilica in order to place the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the centre of the Church's mission of the new evangelization. Throughout his Pontificate, the Holy Father has spoken often of the importance of mercy, forgiveness, and Confession. He once said, **"You turn red once, you're absolved of your sins , and you move on."** At another General Audience in February 2014, he encouraged his flock:

"Do not be afraid of Confession! ...

**When one finishes Confession one leaves free , grand, beautiful, forgiven, candid, happy.
This is the beauty of Confession! ...**

Jesus is there, and Jesus is more benevolent than priests.

Jesus receives you; He receives you with so much love. Be courageous and go to Confession!"

Through the Sacraments of Initiation, we receive new life in Christ. This life we carry in earthen vessels, however, and we still experience temptations, suffering, and death. Because of sin, we can even lose this new life. Jesus therefore willed that the Church continue his works of salvation for her members, in particular through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, which flows from the Paschal Mystery. The forgiveness we receive is not the result of our own efforts, but is the gift of the Holy Spirit reconciling us to God and to each other. While the celebration of the Sacrament is personal, it is rooted in the community of the Church, in which the Holy Spirit is present, uniting us all in Jesus Christ.

When confessing our sins then, we confess to the priest who represents not only God but also the community of the Church that accompanies us on the path of conversion. Though this Sacrament is a great treasure, we may be tempted to dismiss it, perhaps due to laziness or embarrassment, or because of a diminishing sense of sin and its effects. Too often, we see ourselves as the centre and measure of all things, and our lives can go adrift.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation calls us back to God, and embraces us with his infinite mercy and joy. May we allow his love to renew us as his children and to reconcile us with him, with ourselves, and with one another.

13-14th March 2015
24 HRS FOR THE LORD
Friday 13th March
Starts 5.00 p.m. with Holy Mass
With Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, Devotional Prayers, personal and guided reflection
3.00 a.m. Live Streaming of Papal Penitential Liturgy from Vatican
Saturday 14th March
Holy Masses at 7.00 a.m. 12.00 , 2.00p.m. The closing celebration will be at 5.00 p.m.
More details on page 3
"All Nations Marian Family"
Invites you and your friends to come and stay a while
In His presence.

Our Lady Ta' Pinu Shrine

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