

Mon 8 Apr Liturgy of the Day

Daniel 13:1-9,15-17,19-33-62; Psalm 23; John 8:12-20
God's forgiveness implies that we take ownership of ourselves and change ("go and sin no more"). Take full responsibility for the sins/mistakes you have committed and follow the road of the Gospel.

Tue 9 Apr Liturgy of the Day

Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 102; John 8:21-30
The face of God in Christ crucified is not always easy to look upon. Lord, give me the courage to look upon – to gaze upon – your face, that I may see your compassion and mercy.

Wed 10 Apr Liturgy of the Day

Daniel 3:14-20,24-25,28; Daniel 3:52-56; John 8:31-42
Each negative word or remark made against someone else becomes a harmful stone thrown at the Body of Christ. In an effort to be Christ-like this Lent, put down your harmful stones.

Thu 11 Apr (St Stanislaus, BM)

Genesis 17:3-9; Psalm 105; John 8:51-59
Patron Saint of Poland, St Stanislaus was known for his vigorous opposition to the evils of an unjust government – and paid the ultimate price! How far are we prepared to go by following in the footsteps of Jesus?

Fri 12 Apr (St Zeno of Verona, B)

Jeremiah 20:10-13; Psalm 18; John 10:31-42
St Zeno (300-37 IAD), originally from Mauretania in North Africa, became the eighth bishop of Verona in Italy. He is the patron saint of fishermen, because of his great love for fishing.

Sat 13 Apr (St Martin I, PM)

Ezekiel 37:21-28; Jeremiah 31:10-13; John 11:45-56
Pope from 649-655, Martin I stood up for the right of the Church to establish doctrine, even in the face of imperial power. He, too, paid the price, enduring much suffering until his death in exile.

Sun 14 Apr PALM SUNDAY

Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 22; Luke 22:14-23-56
How far will we go in speaking up for others when they face oppression, bigotry and injustice. Am I willing to challenge a cruel remark, or gossip? Will I add to their suffering because I was afraid of the consequences?

(KEY: SOLEMNITY; FEAST; Memorial; Optional Memorial)

H=Hermist; B=Bishop; M=Martyr; P=Pope

SUNDAY MASS

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: Isaiah 43:16-21.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 126.

RESPONSE:

What great deeds the Lord worked for us!
Indeed, we were glad.

1. When the Lord brought back the exiles of Zion, we thought we were dreaming;
then was our mouth filled with laughter;
on our tongues, songs of joy. R

2. Then the nations themselves said,
'What great deeds the Lord worked for them!
What great deeds the Lord worked for us!
Indeed, we were glad. R

3. Bring back our exiles, O Lord,
as streams in the south.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. R

4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,
bearing seed for the sowing;
they come back, they come back with a song,
bearing their sheaves. R

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:8-14.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Glory and praise to you, O Christ. Even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your hearts, for I am gracious and merciful. Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL: John 8:1-11.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Has no one condemned you, woman? No one, Lord. Neither shall I condemn you. From now on, sin no more.

Season of the Passion

TODAY, the fifth Sunday of Lent has an interesting history. For centuries it was the day on which our Lenten observance took on a special intensity: it was the beginning of two weeks called "Passiontide".

These last two weeks of Lent were perceived as a time when we entered more deeply into the mysteries of the Passion and Death of Jesus. With the first liturgical renewal of modern times (in 1955), the fifth Sunday of Lent was called "The first Sunday of the Passion" or just "Passion Sunday", whereas the sixth Sunday of Lent was called "The Second Sunday of the Passion" or just "Palm Sunday".

In the next liturgical reform (1969) the term "Passiontide" was not used nor was the term "First Sunday of the Passion". But something of the spirit of Passiontide remained: statutes could still be covered for the last two weeks of Lent and in the fifth week the special Preface of the Passion (I) must be used at all Masses during that week.

As we are drawn into this special time in the Church's life, the focus is entirely on the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus our Redeemer. Whatever we have sacrificed during the earlier part of Lent, whatever we have done in response to the promptings of the Spirit, all gives way to quiet reflection, meditation and prayer in the context of the Paschal Mystery.

A sure guide through this first week of "passiontide" is the daily Gospel readings. They are all from

the Gospel of John and they gradually approach the central question of the identity of Jesus.

Today we are offered the story of the adulterous woman (John 8:1-11) in which we see not only the compassion of Jesus and his delicate and discreet relationship to the guilty woman, but also his exercise of the divine prerogative of forgiving sin.

Monday's Gospel passage contains the direct claim by Jesus: "I am the light of the world", adding to what has been revealed already. On Tuesday and Wednesday the portrait of Jesus is further filled in by John in recalling the ultimate origin of Jesus: "I am from above... I am not of this world... if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

The culmination of the gradual revelation about Jesus comes in Thursday's Gospel text when, after a discussion about Abraham, Jesus concludes in a solemn moment of revelation "I tell you most solemnly, before Abraham ever was, I AM" (John 8:58).

The Pharisees and leaders of the Jews begin to sense what Jesus really means when he says "The Father and I are one" (John 10:30) and so they conclude "You are only a man and you claim to be God" (John 10:33). The week ends (on Saturday) with the Jewish leaders deciding on the death of Jesus (John 11:45-56).

May we too be led to a deeper appreciation of the Jesus who endured so much to prove his love for us.



Christ and the Adulterous Woman by Rodolpho Bernardelli, 1881. Museu Nacional de Belas Artes

CATHOLIC CHURCH GRASSY PARK

(Our Lady Queen of Peace /St. Gerard's /St. Clement's)

1st Road, Grassy Park 7941, P. O. Box 31282, Grassy Park 7888
Tel: (office) (021) 7061570; Fax: 086759453; Presbytery: (021) 7065751; email: grassypark@adact.org.za
Face book page: I love Grassy Park Parish; Church website: www.catholicchurchgrassypark.co.za

Fr. Baiju Mundackal MSFS

Fr. Noble Jose Nakathingal MSFS

Priests' Day Off: Monday

CHURCH BANKING DETAILS

Bank: Standard Bank Grassy Park. Account Name: Catholic Church Grassy Park
Account No. 270346368 Branch Code: 026209

Stations of the Cross: Will be played on Tuesday 9th April at 11.00am at Q.O. Peace. All Welcome.

a. Mass Offering:

QUEEN OF PEACE

Sunday 7.30am - Richard & Margaret Jacobs - wedding anniversary
- Gaby Jacobs - safe keeping in Klerksdorp
(working in Klerksdorp)
- Tina Langley - for physical healing

ST. CLEMENT'S

Sunday 10.00am - Thanksgiving Mass for Sabien Europa (being chosen to play soccer in Manchester)

Weekly Pledge Payments 31st March 2019

QUEEN OF PEACE

4783,7705,1971,1335,3049,7645,7776,4451,4303,2776,1227,2035,1917,1619,7050,1222,3584,1684,3557,6721,2281,1224,5714,2775,1407,1959,3086,1310,7660,5064

ST. GERARD'S

285,2205,244,7288,4802,510,251,6327,7593,286,7474,2462,243

ST. CLEMENT'S

6795,960,6955,680,1003,6241,627,4461,4815,6859,7597,4266,2363,7074,3488,7074

PARISH FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Christmas in July (Snack Dance) 26th July 2019 at Retreat Civic Centre- Tickets are available at R140.00 per person including a Cheese & Wine. Band in attendance is the Cool Sounds. See poster at the back of the church for further details. Please support.

Mothers' Day Breakfast: (Saturday 11th May) in aid of Seniors Christmas Lunch. The Combined Fundraising Team continues to appeal to your generosity for any monetary contributions to buy breakfast items for the Mothers' Day Fundraiser. We need about R5,000.00 to cover cost of bacon & sausage. There is a list at the back of the church if you wish to donate any of the food items listed. We count on your generous hearts as always. Every little bit helps. Limited tickets available @ R50 each after Holy Mass. Contact Judith @ St. Clement's; Chereen J. @ St. Gerard's; Ronald @ Q.O. Peace. All Welcome !

Please Note: There are few more books (Light Through The Bars) left. These can be bought from the parish office at R170.00 per book.

CSP: (Child Safeguarding Policy) It is an Archdiocesan requirement to safeguard our children, therefore a form 29 must be completed by all who are ministering to children at church. All co-ordinators to collect this form from PPC members at your church. A copy of ID to accompany completed form and return to PPC members by next Sunday. For any queries Contact Denise Klassen on 082 7288 169.

Maintenance: Please support the replacement of St. Gerard's Church Ceiling - sponsor a Ceiling Panel for R600.00. Your generosity can stand you a chance to win R1,000.00. A once off payment or pay it over 6 months. Parish banking details on the bulletin. NB: Deposit reference is SIG + your name & Surname. For further information contact Liz Lotters @ 082 319 7249.

PARISH DIARY

DAY & DATE	MEETINGS & EVENTS	TIME & VENUE
Wed. 10th April	BIBLE STUDY	@ 6.00pm @ Q.O. Peace
	Queen of Peace Catechists' meeting	@ 7.30pm
	St. Gerard's Proclaimers' practice	@ 7.00pm
	Marriage Preparation - 8	@ 7.30pm @ Q.O. Peace
Fri. 12th April	Stations of the Cross	@ 7.00pm in all 3 churches
	-Practise for Passion Readings (Proclaimers')	After the Stations in 3 churches
Sun. 14th April	PALM SUNDAY - MASS	@ 7.00am & 9.30am @ Q.O.P.
		@ 8.00am @ St. Gerard's
		@ 10.00am @ St. Clement's
Thurs. 18th April	PASCAL MEAL	from 3.pm at the Harding Hall
	HOLY THURSDAY - HOLY MASS	@ 7.30pm @ Q.O. Peace & St. Clement's
		@ 7.00pm @ St. Gerard's
Fri. 19th April	GOOD FRIDAY DAY OF FAST & ABSTINENCE	
	STATIONS OF THE CROSS	@ 2.00pm in all 3 churches
	SERVICE	@ 3.00pm in all 3 churches
Sat. 20th April	HOLY SATURDAY	
	EASTER VIGIL	@ 8.00pm in all 3 churches
Sun. 21st April	EASTER SUNDAY	
	HOLY MASS	@ 7.30am & 9.30am @ Q.O.P.
		@ 8.00am @ St. Gerard's
		@ 10.00am @ St. Clement's

Confirmation Final Year - Extra classes will begin next Sunday, 14th April from 4.00pm - 6.00pm @ Queen of Peace. Three more classes on 28th April; 5th May; & 19th May.

Confirmation Alpha: Children, parents and catechists are called for a meeting on 28th April @ 3pm @ Q.O. Peace to meet with the Alpha Team. Final year's and their parents are also invited for the meeting.

Donations: Requesting you to kindly donate Easter Eggs to the parish.