

CATHOLIC PARISHES OF TAREE & WINGHAM

Two Parishes One Faith, Committed to Stewardship. Good Stewards sharing the God-given Gifts of Time Talent and Treasure

TAREE PARISH & WINGHAM PARISH - DIOCESE OF MAITLAND NEWCASTLE

Mass centres of Cundletown, Harrington, Lansdowne & Old Bar

PARISH PRIEST: Fr George Anthicadu ASSISTANT PRIEST: Fr James Odoh

PARISH OFFICE: Mon CLOSED Tues - Thurs 9am - 3pm Fri 9am - 3.30pm

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5th Sunday of Lent- Year A

2nd of April, 2017

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 37: 12-14

The Lord promises to raise his people from the dead.

SECOND READING

Romans 8: 8-11

The Spirit of God dwells in us.

GOSPEL

John 11: 1-45

Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead.

REFLECTION

As a metaphor, death can stand for many things. The prophet Ezekiel witnessed the death of the nation. The gospel reports the death of Lazarus. Although Paul refers to the mortal character of our physical bodies, he is more concerned with spiritual life and death. Death attacks each one of us in all three of these ways. We are all mortal and subject to physical death; we are all sinners and must deal with the implications of spiritual death; we are all subject to the consequences of social sins such as terrorism, violence, group hatred, greed and ecological exploitation. The question before us is whether or not we are going to allow death to reign in our lives and in our communities.

All three readings for this Sunday, as well as the psalm response, point out our inability to raise ourselves out of the deaths that afflict us. In the passage from Ezekiel, it is God who promises to open the graves of the people; the people are helpless to do anything. The psalmist cries to God from out of the depths of pain and helplessness. Acknowledging human propensity to sin, Paul credits the Spirit of God with transforming death into life. Finally, it is Jesus who calls Lazarus out of the grave and returns him to his life. We can see that God does not leave us to languish in our various deaths. Instead, God offers us new life out of the tombs. All of this is accomplished through the mercy and compassion of God.

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RESPONSORIAL PSALM

With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise, Lord Jesus Christ
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will die for ever.
Glory and praise, Lord Jesus Christ

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE DEADLINE FOR ALL BULLETIN NOTICES IS WEDNESDAY 3PM. NOTICES RECEIVED AFTER THIS TIME WILL BE PLACED IN THE FOLLOWING WEEKS BULLETIN. THANK YOU.

HOLY WEEK MASS VOLUNTEERS

Required for Our Lady of the Rosary Mass services. If you are able to assist, please add your name to the rosters in the front foyer of the Church, or by calling the Parish Office.

ANNA'S GROUP

Will meet at the Manning Hotel on Sunday the 2nd of April for lunch.

MARTHA'S GROUP

Will meet in the Resource Centre on Monday the 10th of April for lunch.

WHITE/MOYLAN FAMILY GROUP

To meet on Sunday the 9th of April at 12 noon for fish & chips at the park (2nd park).

REQUEST FOR ADVERTISERS

If anyone has a business at home, online or in town and would like to advertise in our local Parish Paper, please contact Mike Hogan on 65521478.

EASTER CHOIR PRACTICE

Will be held on Monday the 3rd of April at 7.30pm in OLR Church Taree.

WINGHAM WORKING BEE

To be held on Saturday the 8th of April at 9.00am. BYO tools and cleaning equipment. Morning tea provided.

THANK YOU

To all those who attended the St Patrick's Day Dinner on the 17th of March, a total of \$650 was raised.

CHRISM MASS

The annual Chrism Mass will be held at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 7pm on Tuesday 11th April, to receive the holy oils. Thank you to those who have already volunteered, Harrington is still in need of 2 representatives to attend. If you are able to travel to this mass please contact the Parish Office ASAP.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Will be held each Friday at;

- 9.30am: Star of the Sea, Harrington
- 10am: Lady of Perpetual Help, Wingham
- 6.30pm: St Patrick's, Cundletown
- 7pm: Our Lady of Fatima, Old Bar

EASTER MASS TIMES 2017

Palm Sunday – 8th & 9th April 2017

- Vigil Mass Saturday 6pm Taree
- Vigil Mass Saturday 6pm at Harrington
- Mass Sunday 7.30am at Old Bar
- Mass Sunday 8.30am at Wingham
- Mass Sunday 9.30am at Taree
- Mass Sunday 6pm at Cundletown
- Mass Sunday 6pm at Lansdowne

Holy Thursday – 13th April 2017

- Reconciliation 10am at Taree
- Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm at Taree
- Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm at Wingham

Good Friday – 14th April 2017

- Stations of the Cross 10.30am at Taree
- Stations of the Cross 10.00am at Old Bar
- Mass of the Lord's Passion 3pm at Taree
- Mass of the Lord's Passion 3pm at Wingham

Holy Saturday – 15th April 2017

- Easter Vigil Mass 7pm at Taree
- Easter Vigil Mass 7pm at Wingham

Easter Sunday – 16th April 2017

- Mass Sunday 7.30am at Old Bar
- Mass Sunday 7.30am at Harrington
- Mass Sunday 9.30am at Taree
- Mass Sunday 9.30am at Wingham
- Mass Sunday 6.00pm at Cundletown
- Mass Sunday 6.00pm at Lansdowne

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK IN THE TAREE & WINGHAM PARISHES:

Patricia Wolfenden, Mary and Helen Trapple, Bev Crouch, Julie Rice, Tom Berryman, May and Terry Bailey, Teresa Harvey, Kelvin Cowan, Sue Davis, Judy Nies, John O'Keefe, Barry Armitage, Mary McCaffrey, Maree Dunne, Ken Campbell, Linda Norris, Margaret Barrett, Gloria Ellis, Helen Wooster, Mikala Corben, John Longden, Bernice Revill, Sandra Baker, Joy Schneider, Rita Joyce, Sonia Pinkerton, Monica Moy, Fred Wisemantel, Anne Cleal, Jim Wills, Robert MacGregor, Anne Hile and Laura Mirabello.

ANNIVERSARIES: Clare Williamson, Valsamma Jacob, John Clarke, Vivian Lovegrove, Mary Poole, Patricia Eade and Norman Eade.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Father Bill Mills.

May they rest in peace.



21 Reasons to go to Confession

1. God commanded we confess our sins to one another in the Bible. (James 5:16)
2. It is the ordinary way to have our sins forgiven.
3. We receive grace to resist sin through the Sacrament, as well as forgiveness.
4. We learn humility by having to confess to another person.
5. There is built-in accountability.
6. Our relationship with the rest of the Church is healed.
7. We receive counsel from the priest.
8. We can be comforted hearing the words of absolution.
9. All our sins are wiped away.
10. Helps give you the strength to forgive others.
11. It doesn't cost anything.
12. We may not be positive that we have "perfect" contrition without it.
13. Helps us go deep within and think about how we can improve.
14. It feels good emotionally.
15. When we realize (again) we are sinners, it is easier to be patient with others.
16. Always confidential – what is said in the confessional stays in the confessional.
17. No more guilt.
18. We are better prepared to receive the Eucharist.
19. Forgiveness is a necessary part of growing in holiness.
20. Our consciences can be better formed.
21. If we have mortally sinned, then Confession brings us back into the family of God – The Church as well as restores sanctifying grace in our souls!

Therefore, as we approach the conclusion of our Easter celebration, the question arises, "Have I made a good confession since Ash Wednesday?" If not, do so, and receive the abundant graces of Our Lord who suffered, died and rose for our salvation.

As Blessed Pope John Paul II taught;

"It would, therefore, be foolish, as well as presumptuous, to disregard the means of grace and salvation which the Lord has provided and, in the specific case, to claim to receive forgiveness while doing without the sacrament which was instituted by Christ precisely for forgiveness"

The Catechism of the Catholic Church

JESUS DIED CRUCIFIED

1. THE TRIAL OF JESUS

All sinners were the authors of Christ's Passion

598. In her Magisterial teaching of the faith and in the witness of her saints, the Church has never forgotten that "sinners were the authors and the ministers of all the sufferings that the divine Redeemer endured."³⁸⁹ Taking into account the fact that our sins affect Christ himself,³⁹⁰ The Church does not hesitate to impute to Christians the gravest responsibility for the torments inflicted upon Jesus, a responsibility with which they have all too often burdened the Jews alone: We must regard as guilty all those who continue to relapse into their sins. Since our sins made the Lord Christ suffer the torment of the cross, those who plunge themselves into disorders and crimes crucify the Son of God anew in their hearts (for he is in them) and hold him up to contempt. and it can be seen that our crime in this case is greater in us than in the Jews. As for them, according to the witness of the Apostle, "None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory." We, however, profess to know him. and when we deny him by our deeds, we in some way seem to lay violent hands on him.³⁹¹ Nor did demons crucify him; it is you who have crucified him and crucify him still, when you delight in your vices and sins.³⁹²

Confession - What is the Easter duty?

The *Code of Canon Law* asserts, "After having attained the age of discretion, each of the faithful is bound by an obligation faithfully to confess serious sins at least once a year" (#989). However, the Code also asserts, "It is to be recommended to the Christian faithful that venial sins also be confessed" (#988.2). (This regulation is a slight variation of the old "Easter Duty" prescribed by the Fourth Lateran Council (1215) which stated, "Every faithful of either sex who has reached the age of discretion should at least once a year faithfully confess all his sins in secret to his own priest. He should strive as far as possible to fulfill the penance imposed on him, and with reverence receive at least during Easter time the sacrament of the Eucharist.")

