

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Joel 2:12-13

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!  
With all your heart turn to me,  
for I am tender and compassionate.  
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

## GOSPEL

John 8:1-11

*Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.*

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them. The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and do not sin any more.'

The Gospel of the Lord

## FAREWELL TO FR. ROY

We warmly welcome everyone to farewell Fr. Roy at Morning Tea after Palm Sunday Mass on 13th April 2025. We invite donations for a farewell gift to Fr. Roy to commemorate his 7 years as our Parish Priest. Please use the white envelopes at the end of every pew & place into either collection plate. Thank you for your generosity.

Alan Tyson  
PPC Chair



## BACKGROUND ON THE GOSPEL READING

Loyola Press

The Gospel for the fifth Sunday of Lent continues to offer lessons about God's mercy and forgiveness. Last Sunday we heard the Parable of the Prodigal Son from the Gospel of Luke. Today we hear not a parable, but the report from John's Gospel of an encounter among Jesus, the scribes and Pharisees, and a woman caught in adultery.

In John's Gospel, the conflict between Jesus and the scribes and Pharisees occurs much earlier than in the Synoptic Gospels. Jesus' cleansing of the Temple in Jerusalem is reported at the beginning of John's Gospel. Even after this event, Jesus continues to teach in the Temple. After returning to Galilee for a time, Jesus again enters Jerusalem and cures a man on the Sabbath. From this point forward in John's Gospel, the Pharisees are described as making plans for Jesus' arrest and seeking his death.

In the chapter preceding today's Gospel, Jesus was teaching in the Temple area. Feeling threatened by his teaching and his actions, the chief priests and the Pharisees are already sending guards to arrest Jesus. The guards return, however, without arresting Jesus because they have been impressed by his words. Even more than this, some among the crowds are considering the possibility that Jesus is the Messiah. The chief priests and the Pharisees change their plan. Before making an arrest, they seek to gather more evidence against Jesus by posing a question intended to trap Jesus.

Today's Gospel begins by reporting that Jesus is again teaching the crowds in the vicinity of the Temple. The scribes and the Pharisees approach Jesus, bringing a woman who has been caught in the act of adultery. They put to Jesus the question of what ought to be done in this case.

The Pharisees state clearly that according to the Law of Moses, those caught in the act of adultery were to be stoned to death. Under Roman occupation, however, the Jewish people did not have the authority to execute people; this is cited in John's passion narrative. To answer the Pharisees' question, Jesus must propose an action that will be either contrary to the Law of Moses or contrary to Roman law. The purpose of the question appears to be similar to the question about paying taxes found in [Mark 12:13-17](#). Either answer, yes or no, will support the Pharisees' case against Jesus.

Jesus avoids the trap, however, by offering an answer that was not anticipated by those who posed the question. Jesus, after writing on the ground with his finger, addresses those who stand before him and suggests that the one without sin cast the first stone. Jesus then returns to his writing. This Scripture reading, by the way, is the only evidence we have of Jesus writing. Yet there are no specific details about what he wrote.

We can easily imagine the scene as the Pharisees and the elders disperse, one by one. Jesus has eluded the trap they had prepared. We might also give credit to the elders and the Pharisees who do not, in the end, claim to be sinless and worthy of passing judgment. These Pharisees are not as self-righteous as the portrait found in the parable of the pharisee and the tax collector (See [Luke 18:9-14](#)).

Left alone with the woman, Jesus asks where the accusers have gone. With no one remaining to condemn the woman, Jesus (the one who truly is without sin) sends the woman on her way, refusing to pass judgment on her and exhorting her to avoid future sin.

Jesus' response to those who accuse the woman is more than a caution to us about making judgment of others. It is a profound lesson in divine mercy and forgiveness. As sinners, we are all unworthy to judge the sins of others and we would stand convicted by God for our transgressions. Yet Jesus, the one without sin and thus our judge, offers us who are sinners his mercy and forgiveness. Redeemed by Jesus' compassion, we are sent to sin no more and to live in God's love and peace.



# Parish Bulletin

The Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year C

5/6 April 2025

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 43:16-21

RESPONSORIAL PSALM  
Psalm 125

*Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.*

### STRAINING AHEAD

The Israelites in exile, St Paul the apostle and the woman caught in adultery all had shameful pasts. They acknowledged their sins but were not weighed down by them because they experienced the forgiveness of God. Freed of the burden of their sin they were able to continue on their way. We also are sinners but with God's forgiveness we too can put the past behind us and strain ahead for the prize to which God is calling us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

### PRAYER BEFORE HOLY MASS

Heavenly father, we are about to offer this wonderful memorial of the passion and death of your Son. Bless our Priest as he stands in the person of Christ and makes present for us the great sacrifice of Calvary.

Bless our Ministers here present today-our ministers of the Eucharist, our readers, our Altar Servers, our musicians and ushers. When we reflect on the magnificence of these Sacred Ministries, we are somewhat overawed at our calling. But also we are overjoyed that You have asked us to stand at Your altar and serve You.

Help us to be reverent and to be faithful to our responsibilities. May this Eucharist that we are about to offer be a bond of unity and a sacrament of love for our people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thus says the Lord, who made a way through the sea, a path in the great waters; who put chariots and horse in the field and a powerful army which lay there never to rise again, snuffed out, put out like a wick:

No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before. See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it? Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds.

The wild beasts will honour me, jackals and ostriches, because I am putting water in the wilderness (rivers in the wild) to give my chosen people drink. The people I have formed for myself will sing my praises.

The word of the Lord

### SECOND READING

Philippians 3:8-14

*Because of Christ I look upon everything else as useless in order to gain him.*

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord

St Joseph's Catholic Church  
484 Magill Rd, Kensington Gardens  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5068  
www.stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au

**Parish Priest**  
Fr Roy John Elavumkal SMM  
parishpriest@stjosephsparish  
tranmere.org.au

**Parish Secretary**  
Pat Kwok – Tue to Fri  
info@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au

**Finance Officer**  
Christine Sullivan—Mon, Tue  
finance@stjosephsparish  
tranmere.org.au

**WHS Officer**  
Angela Girolamo – Thursday

**Sacristan**  
Sundays: Terence Yeow  
& Roger Worth

**Parish Office Hours**  
Tue to Fri 9:30am – 12:30pm  
Ph: (08) 8431 6932  
info@stjosephsparishtranmere.org.au

**Mass Times**  
Sunday 9:30 am  
Saturday Vigil Mass 6:30 pm  
Tuesday to Friday 9:15 am

**Confessions**  
Saturday 6:00 pm

**Rosary**  
Tues to Fri 8:45am

**Adoration of the Eucharist**  
Friday before Mass 8:30am

**Novena to St. Joseph**  
Wednesday after Mass

**St. Joseph's Primary School**  
Principal - Adrian Grbin  
Ph: 8217 8300

**Knights of the Southern Cross**  
Michael Boyle Ph: 8337 3270

**Parish Pastoral Council**  
Chair – Alan Tyson

**Parish Finance Council**  
Chair -Edward Konieczny

**Child Safe Contact Person**  
Anne Dudzinski Ph: 0418 847 804

**Vinnies Assistance Hotline**  
1300 729 202 - 9:00am to 4:30pm

ROSTERS— 12/13 Apr 2025 Fifth Sunday of LENT	
Time	Commentator/Readers
6.30pm Vigil	Edward Konieczny Fil Ciancio Giulia Giuliani
9:30am	Antonetta Bartley Sandy Mazzarolo Sheila Hoogland
Children's Liturgy	Suanne Woidt Anne Dudzinski
Count team	Ron Hoogland Sheila Hoogland Peter Rees Indira Seimon
Altar and Flowers	Dolores Arboit Christina Wong Sarita Ingham and volunteers
All those who have volunteered please arrive at least 15 minutes before the start time and report to the commentator for that Mass	

SUNDAY COLLECTION SUMMARY	29/30 Mar 2025
Open Plate	\$495.45
Planned Giving	\$546.00
<b>PARISH TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,041.45</b>
ELECTRONIC PLANNED GIVING	
February 2025: 4,455.00	



Sharing the value that no human being should have their dignity or freedom compromised. Every person should have access to the goods and resources of society so that they can have fulfilling lives. Thank you.

**For more information:** [caritas@adelaide.catholic.org.au](mailto:caritas@adelaide.catholic.org.au) or phone 8210 8172.

**EASTER RAFFLE**

**By Tranmere Catholic Women's League**  
Before and after Masses on 12-13th April.  
Tickets are \$1 each.  
We thank you for your support!



*Let's pray together*

**Please remember in your prayers**

We pray for those listed and all the deceased relatives and friends of our Parishioners.


For the Repose of the Soul:

**Death Anniversary:**  
**Eric Labrooy**  
**Kingston Vimalathasan**  
**Ajith Perera**

*Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them; present them to God the Most High.*

Sick:  
*We pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish and our relatives and friends*

**If you know of sick or elderly parishioners who are house-bound or in care and would appreciate a visit, please phone and leave a message with the parish office.**



**Pope Francis @pontifex**  
Jesus' gaze is not one of reproach, but of mercy. It is that mercy we sometimes struggle to accept, especially when God forgives those who, in our opinion, do not deserve it.

This week's contribution to the Diocesan Presbytery Fund: \$744.00

**HOLY WEEK 2025**

**Palm Sunday 13th April**  
9:30am Mass

**Holy Thursday 17th April**  
6:30pm Mass of the Last Supper  
Private adoration until 9:00pm

**Good Friday 18th April**  
11:00am Stations of the Cross  
3:00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

**Holy Saturday 19th April**  
6:30pm Easter Vigil

**Easter Sunday 20th April**  
9:30am Mass of the Resurrection

**Confessions:**  
Tue 15th April— 8:30am & 9:45am  
Wed 16th April—8:30am & 9:45am

**PARISH NOTICES**

**Transfer of Fr. Roy John**  
There is a significant transition for both Fr. Roy John Elavumkal and Fr. Anthony Adimai. Fr Roy's new role as the parish priest of Northern Light Parish, Nuriootpa, Barossa Valley will surely be a new chapter filled with blessings and opportunities for ministry. Meanwhile, Fr. Anthony Adimai taking on the additional responsibility of St Joseph's Church Tranmere. May God bless them abundantly in their new missions. This will take place after the Easter, on Thursday 24 April 2025.

**Volunteers for Holy Week / Easter Masses**  
Thank you for those who have volunteered and written down their names on the roster to help for the Holy Week / Easter Masses. If you are still thinking to participate in a specific role, kindly fill up the roster sheet at the entrance of the church. Your support is appreciated.

**Washing of the Feet on Holy Thursday**  
We are inviting 12 people for Washing of the Feet at the Mass of the Last Supper on Holy Thursday 17th April. Let's follow Jesus' lead and write down your name on the list at the Eastern Entrance. We appreciate your participation.

**ARCHDIOCESE EVENTS**

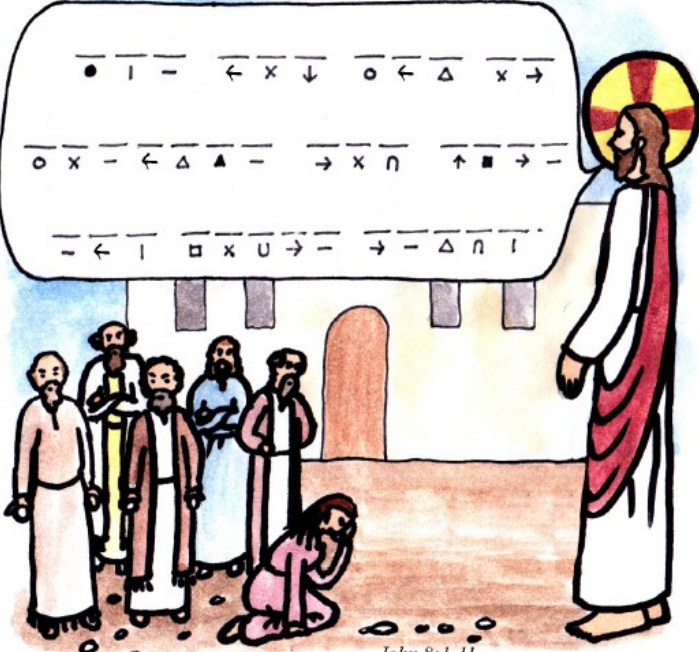
**'Lift Up' Good Friday Night Walk - A Journey of Reflection & Hope**  
Good Friday, April 18, - you are invited to walk together in the spirit of a pilgrimage, inspired by the 2025 Jubilee Year - Pilgrims of Hope. This journey is an opportunity to step away from the everyday and reflect. Our Good Friday night walk is a meaningful way to connect with the Easter story, each other, and the deeper themes of resilience, forgiveness and hope. This event is open to all ages, however it has been inspired and designed with young people in mind by COYYA (Catholic Office for Youth and Young Adults). Our journey begins at The Monastery in Urrbrae at 7.30pm. From there, we will walk towards the city. Along the route, we will pause for reflection at St Raphael's in Parkside before continuing towards our final destination - St Francis Xavier's Cathedral. The walk is roughly 6.5km total. Please register at <https://www.trybooking.com/CZHVW> to secure your spot as well as nominating for transportation provided from the Cathedral back to The Monastery should you require it. Detailed information can be found at <https://www.cathyouthadelaide.org.au/liftup2025>

**Marian Procession**  
The 76th Marian Procession will be held on Sunday May 18 2025 beginning at Victoria Park and processing up Wakefield Street into Victoria Square. The Procession will commence at 2pm and all are invited to attend.  
For more information, please contact Archdiocesan Events on 8210 8220.

**Marian Procession Volunteering**  
The Archdiocesan Events Office is currently seeking volunteers to support at the Marian Procession in a range of roles. If you are available and willing to help, please contact [events@adelaide.catholic.org.au](mailto:events@adelaide.catholic.org.au) or 8210 8220. Volunteer roles are needed for Saturday May 17 (10am - 12pm) and Sunday May 18 (which is the date of the event and begins at 2pm).

**Genesis Pregnancy Support Movie Night 2025**  
A special information evening being presented by Genesis at their Adelaide headquarters. Come and See *The 1916 Project* on Thursday April 10, starting off with a tour of the Genesis facilities at 2 Brooker Tce, Cowandilla, at 6pm. Followed by two documentaries at 6.30pm at the corner of Brooker and Sir Donald Bradman Drive with tea/coffee & supper. Parking on site available. [Click here](#) for more information or contact 8352 4044 for further queries.

# The Kids' Bulletin



In today's Gospel, the Pharisees ask Jesus whether they should obey their law and stone a woman who was a sinner. What did Jesus say to them? Use the code to find out!

**How Does Jesus Treat Sinners?**

In the Old Testament, God gave His people rules that said they should punish the people who sinned. That's why in today's Gospel the Pharisees and scribes brought a sinful woman to Jesus to see what He had to say about the law.

Instead of telling them that they should punish her according to the law, Jesus told them that they should only punish her if they themselves had never sinned.

Sometimes we hear about a sin that someone else did. God does not want us to be mean to that person because of what they did. Does that mean that they didn't do a sin? No. Jesus told the woman to go and not sin again. That means that she did sin, but He was giving her another chance. We should try to be merciful like Jesus, and we should be kind to sinners because we are sinners too.

Answers: front: Let him who is without sin cast the first stone.  
1.True 2.False 3.True 4.True 5.False 6.True 7.True

[www.thekidsbulletin.com](http://www.thekidsbulletin.com)