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The Bulletin is Downloadable from our website at <https://fssp-canberra.org/bulletin/>

The Next **ST CATHERINE WOMEN'S GROUP** will be held on 29th March at 12:30pm. We will begin with lunch followed by a spiritual talk on the dialogue of St Catherine and discussion.
Please let Fr Leung know if you are coming.

EASTER FOOD BLESSING
The traditional blessing of Easter foods (Easter baskets) will take place after the Easter Vigil Mass and after the Easter Sunday Mass.

All are welcome to take part in this beautiful Easter tradition!

ANNOUNCEMENT
A special collection for the Holy Land will be taken during the Good Friday 3pm Mass of the Presanctified. This collection supports the upkeep and maintenance of the holy sites in the Holy Land.

Easter Community Lunch
Join us for a joyful community gathering to celebrate Easter!
Date: Easter Sunday, 5th April
Time: After the 10am Mass
Please bring a plate to share with the community.
All are warmly welcome!

CASH & ONLINE DONATIONS
8th Mar - 14th Mar, 26
First Collection: \$ 2402.55
Second Collection: \$ 1142
Building fund: \$ 220.95

15th Mar - 21st Mar, 26
First Collection: \$ 2551.5
Second Collection: \$ 1773
Building fund: \$ 1230

22nd Mar - 28th Mar, 26
First Collection: \$ 2364
Second Collection: \$ 1118.4
Building fund: \$ 368

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

THURSDAY ONLINE CLASS
is currently on break and will resume after Easter. The date of resumption and the topic will be announced soon.

SATURDAY BIBLE CLASS
is currently on break and will resume after Easter. The date of resumption will be announced soon.

CHILDREN'S CATECHISM
There is NO class today. Classes will resume after the Easter break on 19th April.

DONATIONS:
Cheque donations to:
FSSP Australia
PO Box 6241, Mawson, ACT2607

Bank Account Details:
For online donations **ONLY**

First Collection (Apostolate)
BSB 062 786 A/c No: 00020007
A/c Name: Priestly Fraternity of St Peter

Second Collection (Church)
BSB 062 786 A/c No: 00021179
A/c Name: Priestly Fraternity of St Peter

Church Building Fund
BSB 062 786 A/c No: 00029891
A/c Name: Priestly Fraternity of St Peter (Building fund)

LEGION OF MARY meeting will be held **THIS MONDAY** at 6:30pm.

The FSSP District of Oceania has a zero tolerance policy towards abuse in any form.
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER
Denise Sheehan: 0401 404 539
Latinmass.safeguarding@cg.org.au



St Michael the Archangel Latin Mass Chaplaincy, Canberra



Served by **The Priestly Fraternity of St Peter (FSSP)**

Chaplain:
Rev. Paul Leung, FSSP
Tel: 0405 527 880

Assistant Priest:
Rev. Brendan Boyce
Tel: 0414 055 633

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Mass & Confession Schedule

Sunday:	8:00am	(Low Mass)
	10:00am	(Sung Mass)
Mon - Thurs:	7:00am	(Low Mass)
Friday:	6:30pm	(Low Mass)
	followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 8:15pm	
Saturday:	9:00am	(Low Mass)

Venue: Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Garran
2 Boake Pl, Garran, ACT 2605

CONFESION

30 minutes before all Masses until circa 5 minutes before Mass.
Also during Masses where two priests are available.

29th March 2026
Palm Sunday

CALENDAR

DATE	FEAST	LOCATION / TIME
Mon, 30 th Mar	Holy Monday	7AM (Low)
Tue, 31 st Mar	Holy Tuesday	7AM (Low)
Wed, 1 st Apr	Holy Wednesday	7AM (Low)
Thurs, 2 nd Apr	Maundy Thursday	7PM (Solemn)
Fri, 3 rd Apr	Good Friday (First Friday)	10AM (Stations); 3PM (Solemn); 8PM (Tenebrae)
Sat, 4 th Apr	Easter Vigil (First Saturday)	9PM (Solemn)
Sun, 5 th Apr	Easter Sunday	8AM (Low); 9:30AM (Rosary) 10AM (Solemn)

Just a reminder that there will be a special collection at both Masses for the building fund. You are most welcome to contribute if you wish.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Maundy Thursday	Solemn Mass	7PM
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until mid-night		
Good Friday	Stations of the Cross	10AM
Confessions will be available after Stations		
	Mass of Presanctified	3PM
	Tenebrae Service	8PM
(held at St Christopher's Cathedral)		
Easter Vigil	Solemn Mass	9PM
Easter Sunday	Low Mass	8AM
	Solemn Mass	10AM

During Holy Triduum, Confessions will only be heard before and after the Ceremony

Meaning & Symbolism of the Paschal Candle



One of the most striking moments of the Easter Vigil is the blessing and lighting of the Paschal Candle. This large candle, placed prominently in the sanctuary, is not merely decorative, it is rich in meaning, history, and symbolism.

The Paschal Candle is a large column of wax, specially prepared and blessed on Holy Saturday. The blessing is performed by the deacon during the chanting of the Exsultet, the great Easter proclamation. During this chant, the candle is marked with five grains of incense and then lit from the newly blessed fire. From that moment, it

becomes a powerful symbol of Christ risen from the dead, the light who has conquered darkness.

This practice has very ancient roots. Already in the fourth century, we find references to the blessing of the candle. Jerome mentions a carmen cerei, a hymn for the candle, and Augustine of Hippo speaks of composing such praises. This shows that the Paschal Candle was already a significant part of the Easter celebration in the early Church.

In those early centuries, the Easter Vigil was celebrated at night and was filled with light. Churches (and even entire cities) were illuminated with candles, symbolizing the victory of Christ over darkness. There was also a strong connection with baptism. Catechumens were baptized during this vigil, and baptism was called illumination. The newly baptized held candles, showing that they had received the light of Christ.

The Paschal Candle itself is full of symbolism. First, it represents Christ, the light of the world. Burning in the darkness, it reminds us that Christ has overcome sin and death. The five grains of incense inserted into the candle represent the five wounds of Christ, now glorified. The lighting of the candle from the new fire symbolizes the Resurrection - the rising of new life.

The candle is also plunged into the baptismal water, signifying that the power of the Holy Spirit, flowing from Christ, sanctifies the waters and gives new life. Even the material of the candle has meaning. Traditionally made of pure beeswax, it symbolizes purity. The Fathers saw in the wax the pure flesh of Christ from the Virgin Mary, in the wick His human soul, and in the flame His divinity.

From the Easter Vigil until Ascension Day, the Paschal Candle stands in the sanctuary and is lit during solemn liturgies. On Ascension Day, it is extinguished, marking Christ's return to the Father. After this, it is often placed near the baptismal font, reminding us that through baptism we share in His risen life.

Spiritually, the Paschal Candle reminds us that Christ is the only true light. All other lights fade, but His remains. Just as we light our candles from it, we receive our life from Him. And like the candle, which gives light by being consumed, we too are called to give ourselves in love.

Thus, the Paschal Candle is not just a symbol.

It is a **proclamation**:

Christ is risen, and His light shines in the darkness.