

Immaculate Conception Pinetown

Mission: To fulfil Christ's command to evangelise all people.

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Facebook: Church of the Immaculate Conception

Parish Priest: Fr Sifiso Ndlovu

Deacon: Dc Trevor Kondiah

Office Hours: Weekdays 08:00 – 16:00

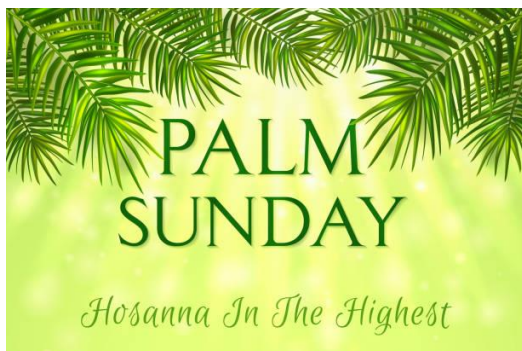
Friday's 08:00 – 15:00

Confessions: Saturday: 16:30 – 17:00

Mass Intentions

Sunday - 2 April (Palm Sunday) Teens and Children participate	
17:30	Mass. Special intentions Swardling family
08:00	Mass. Pious Lists
10:00	Mass. Pious lists
17:00	Mass. Pious Lists
Monday – 3 April Holy week begins	
Tuesday – 4 April	
18:00	Home Mass.
18:00	RCIA
19:00	Griefshare via Zoom
Wednesday – 5 April	
09:00	Mass. Pro Populo
10:00	Chrism Mass Durban
10:00	Stations of the Cross
16:00	No Catechism Grade R - 7
17:00	Choir 'Z' - M/Room '1'
17:30	No Confirmation
Thursday – 6 April (Triduum begins) Holy Thursday	
15:00	Servers Practice
19:00	Solemn Mass. Pro Populo
Friday – 7 April (Day of fast and Abstinence) Good Friday	
05:00	Pilgrimage walk
10:00	Stations of the Cross
10.45	Servers practice
15:00	The Lords Passion

Saturday – 8 April (Holy Saturday)	
09:00	RCIA prac.
11:00	Altar Servers Prac.
19:00	Easter Vigil (SVDP Collection)
Sunday – 9 April (Easter Sunday)	
07:00	Mass. SVDP Collection
08:30	No IsiZulu Catechism
08:30	IsiZulu RCIA
09:00	Mass. SVDP Collection
09:30	CWL Easter Hamper Ticket Sales
11:30	St Anne M/R '2'



Announcements

1. **Palm Sunday - The Passion of the Lord**
Today we commemorate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. **Sunday 8.00 a.m.** All except the elderly and infirm gather in the piazza for the procession with palms.
2. **Lenten Collection** at all Masses this weekend.
3. **Passion Booklets and Hymn Sheets**
Please treat Passion booklets and hymn sheets with care. Do not crumple or fold them as we need them for future use. After each Mass, please leave *Passion booklets* in the pews for the next Mass. After the 8.00 a.m. Mass please give the procession *hymn sheets* to ushers or place them in the box outside the office.
4. **Narrative of the Passion** Today and on Good Friday the priest begins the passion narrative by proclaiming: "The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to..." The congregation does *not* respond: "Glory to you O Lord." At the end, the priest says: "The Gospel of the Lord" and the congregation responds: "Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ."
The elderly, sick and infirm may sit during the reading of the Passion.
5. **Home Mass** on Tuesday 4 April 2023 at 18:00 p.m. will be at No 4 Durnford place 3610 Westville all parishioners are welcome.
6. **Palm Branches**
Please take your palm branches and crosses and place them respectfully in your homes, as a reminder of Christ's Kingship and victory. They may be returned before Lent next year, to make ashes for Ash Wednesday.
Ministers to the sick, please take blessed palm crosses to the sick and housebound.
7. **Holy Thursday 'Foot Washing' ceremony** All those participating in the ceremony to arrive at 6.30 p.m. and



collect their instructions from the Liturgy Co-ordinator on duty, in the church foyer.

Holy Week

In Holy Week the Church celebrates the mysteries of salvation accomplished by Christ in the last days of his life on earth, from his triumphal entry into Jerusalem as Messiah-King on Palm Sunday until his Passion, Death and Resurrection.

The Triduum is the period of *three days* that begins with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday evening and ends with Vespers (evening prayer) on Easter Sunday. It is the culmination of the liturgical year. The services form a unity, so it is very important to attend at least the three main ones, namely:

- **Holy Thursday Mass** of the Lord's Supper, including the washing of feet, at 7.00 p.m.
- **Good Friday** Celebration of the Lord's Passion 3.00 p.m. (Bilingual)
- **Holy Saturday** Easter Vigil at 7.00 p.m. (Bilingual)
- **Easter Sunday** Mass at 7.00 a.m. in English and 9.00 a.m. in Zulu.

On each of the holy days read the part of the bulletin that is relevant to the day.

8. **Penitential service thanks** Thank you to Fr Sifiso, Dc Trevor, the choir, musicians, hospitality ministers, lectors, projectionist, sacristan, secretary, admin assistants and all who contributed to the *joyful* celebration of God's mercy. A big thank you to Jennette for providing the supper for the priests.
9. **Special Birthdays March** Wishing all who celebrate a birthday this month a *Very Happy and Blessed Birthday*



especially those turning 70, 75, 80 and over. Shelagh De Kock, Carolle Angelsante, Leonard Jackson, Vincent Roberts, Helena

Robinson, Eddie Heylen, Richard Truen,

Lorraine Gabin, Murial Holmes, Lois Penn –
Clarke, Berendina Hemme, Dawn Beukes.

10. Week day and Weekend Rosters
now ready for collection from outside
the office.

11. Holy Thursday Vigil - Watch and
Pray for one hour with our Lord at the
altar of repose in the hall after the
Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy
Thursday night, 6 April until 12.00
p.m. Please write your name on the
list outside the office.

12. Altar Server practices

Holy Thursday 6.4.23 3.00 – 4.00 pm.

Good Friday 7.4.23 10.45 – 12. pm.

Holy Saturday 8.4.22 11.00 – 12 noon

**13. Marriage Enrichment Mass and
talks** 22 April at 9.00 a.m. in the
Church. They will be 2 guest speakers
Fr Marcel and Mr Thabani
Mzolo. Should you wish to attend
please fill in your details in the
clipboard outside the office.

14. Fr Sifiso will be on leave from 11 April
to 14 April 2023.

15. Prayers for Candidates and Catholics
Offer special prayers for those who will
be received into the full communion of
the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil:

a. The Elect (Catechumens) (Not
baptised): Graham Anderson, Nhlakanipho
Biyela, Keagan Hittler, Princess Mtambo,
Mpilwenhle Ngcamu, Mbalenhle Ntombela,
Sebenzile Nzimande.

b. Candidates (Baptised in other
Churches): Londiwe Sithole.

**c. Baptised Catholics completing their
initiation:** Nomali Mkhize, Leovigildo Serra,
Faith Wanda.

WEDNESDAY 5 April

16. Chrism Mass

Parishioners are encouraged to attend
the Chrism Mass this Wednesday, 5
April at 10.00 a.m. in Emmanuel
Cathedral. The bishops, priests and
deacons of the Archdiocese will renew
their ordination promises and the
Bishop will consecrate the Oils which

will be used for the next year,
throughout the Archdiocese, for
Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders
and Anointing of the Sick. We will
receive these oils formally in our parish
during the Procession of Gifts on Holy
Thursday night.

17. Mass of the Lord's Supper No
genuflection upon
entering the church as
the tabernacle will be
empty; bow to the
altar. On Holy
Thursday night,
beginning at 7.00 p.m., we shall com-
memorate Jesus' Last Supper with his
disciples, at which he:

- instituted the Eucharist ("This is my
Body... This is my Blood...");
- instituted the priest-hood ("Do this in
memory of me...");
- commanded his disciples to love one
another, as he loved them;
- gave an example of humility, service
and love by washing their feet.

18. Vigil After the Last Supper, Jesus
crossed the Kidron
Valley to the Mount of
Olives to pray in the
Garden of
Gethsemane.
Sadness came over
him, and great
distress. 'Wait here
and keep awake with
me' he said.

After communion the Blessed
Sacrament will be carried to the altar of
repose.

We are encouraged to spend a suitable
period of time in adoration, which will
end at 12.00 pm Will you stay awake for
one hour with the Lord?

*"O Divine Jesus! lonely tonight... without
visitor or worshipper... I offer Thee my
poor heart... Thou art always watching...
In Thy Love Thou dost never sleep and
Thou art never weary of Thy vigil for*



sinners. O lonely Jesus! May the flame of my heart burn and beam always in company with Thee.” Saint Peter Julian Eymard.

Holy water will be removed from the fonts, which will be refilled on Holy Saturday night with water blessed at the Easter Vigil.

FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

7 April (Parishioners are encouraged to wear black)

19. Day of fast and abstinence.

The Church recommends that we make this day and Holy Saturday quiet, restful and contemplative days. Avoid TV, shopping, unnecessary chores, social gatherings, festive meals and celebrations. Spend time in Scripture reading, prayer, reflection and thanksgiving.

20. No ringing of bells

All bells inside and outside the church must *remain silent* after the Gloria on Holy Thursday, *throughout Good Friday and Saturday*, until the Gloria at the Easter Vigil.

21. Divine Mercy novena begins today.

22. Pilgrimage walk at 5.00 am

23. Stations of the Cross

In our church at 10.00 am.

24. Celebration of the Lord's Passion

3.00 p.m.

Bilingual Service

This is the most important liturgy of the day. There will be:

- Scripture readings that develop the theme of Jesus' suffering and death,
- Intercessions for the salvation of the whole world,
- Veneration of the cross – the symbol of Jesus' triumph,
- Holy communion.

Mass is not celebrated anywhere in the world today.



Only one Cross is to be venerated as this contributes to the full symbolism of the rite.

25. No genuflection the tabernacle will be empty. Bow to the altar.

26. Prostration

All kneel in silent prayer when the clergy prostrate themselves at the beginning of the Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3.00 p.m. The prostration signifies the abasement of man and the grief and sorrow of the Church.

27. Veneration of the Cross

The congregation stands as the Cross to be venerated is carried through the church. The Cross-bearer sings 'Behold the wood of the cross' and all respond 'Come let us worship' after which they *kneel* and adore for a brief moment in silence, *then stand*. Repeated twice.

28. Special collection

The special collection is for the preservation of the places sanctified by Christ in the Holy Land and to assist the Christian faithful there, and for the sick and elderly priests' fund.

29. Silence

There is a mood of sorrow and desolation. At the end the faithful bow to the cross and depart in silence and *maintain silence in the piazza*. Some may remain to venerate or pray at the Cross.



HOLY SATURDAY – 8 April

On Holy Saturday the Church waits at the Lord's tomb, meditating on his passion, death and descent to the dead. It is not a time for festive social gatherings in anticipation of Easter but rather for quiet Scripture reading, prayer, reflection and thanksgiving for the sacrifice of Christ.

The Church recommends that we extend our Good Friday **fast** and **abstinence** to this day, if possible, so that we may come to celebrate the joy of the Lord's Resurrection with alert

and open minds, and uplifted and welcoming hearts.

HOLY SATURDAY NIGHT

EASTER VIGIL (Parishioners are encouraged to wear White)

30. **Bells** Bring small bells to ring during the joyful Gloria.

31. **Repository** The repository will open before the Easter Vigil until 6.40 p.m. It will *not re-open after* the Mass. Please buy your Southern Cross etc. early.

32. **Vigil** When the Hebrews were in Egypt, they kept watch for the Lord's Passover which was to free them from slavery under Pharaoh. That Passover pre-figured the true Passover of Christ, the night of true liberation. During the dark hours of Holy Saturday night, turning into the first day of the week, Jesus rose from the dead.

The Easter Vigil, beginning at 7.00 p.m. on this night of all nights, is a joyful celebration of the Lord's resurrection. The elaborate and beautiful ritual includes:

A. A Liturgy of Light

The blessing of a large fire outside. The flames dispel the darkness and light up the night.



The blessing and lighting of the Easter candle which represents Christ the true Light.

The procession into the church, which is in darkness, led by the light of the Paschal candle alone, just as the children of Israel were guided at night by a pillar of fire.

The gradual passing of light from the Paschal candle to the candles of the faithful.

The sung *Easter Proclamation* (the Exsultet), at the end of which we follow the custom of raising our candles while singing the festive "Amen."

B. The Liturgy of the Word

Several Scripture readings through which we meditate on the marvels that God has worked for his people since the creation of the world. The Gloria and joyful Alleluia return.



The Liturgy of Baptism and Confirmation

The Elect (catechumens) will be reborn in baptism through water and the Holy Spirit and will be received into the Church.



All the baptised will renew their baptismal promises while holding lighted candles. The assembly will be sprinkled with Easter water. The newly baptised and the candidates will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.



• **The Liturgy of the Eucharist** This is the high point of the Vigil, for it is the commemoration of the sacrifice of the Cross and the presence of the risen Christ:

The newly-baptised and newly-confirmed will be called, with us, to the table of the Lord to receive the Body and Blood of Christ for the first time.



33. Sunday Mass

The Easter Vigil *is* Sunday Mass, so it is not necessary to attend Mass in the morning too.

EASTER SUNDAY – 9 April Mass during the day (Parishioners are encouraged to wear White)

Mass at 7.00 a.m. in English and 9.00 a.m. in Zulu is a joyful



celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord. All the *younger children* are encouraged to sit in the reserved benches in front of the ambo at the 9.00 a.m. Mass.

The Mass includes a sprinkling with water blessed at the Vigil.

The Paschal candle is to be lit in all of the more solemn liturgical celebrations until Pentecost Sunday (not only until Ascension Day).

34. **Candle holders for the Easter Vigil**

Please prepare a small plastic cool drink bottle as a candle holder for the Easter Vigil. Please bring spare *prepared* holders to the office for the servers if possible.

35. **Youth - Musical Instruments.**

The Church is in need of any youth of our Parish that plays any Musical Instrument. Please contact the office on 031 702 7337.

† **Stations of the Cross** Wednesday 5 April at 10.00 a.m.

36. **Wood for Easter Vigil** Please contact the office if you'll be able to supply wood for the Easter Vigil fire. Large dry pieces and small dry logs will be most welcome.



37. **Easter Triduum Masses**

Please diarise the following Masses

Holy Thursday: 6 April 2023

Solemn Mass 7.00 p.m.

(Bilingual Mass)

Good Friday: 7 April 2023

Pilgrims walk 5.00 a.m.

Stations of the cross (Church) 10:00 a.m.

The Lords Passion at 15:00 (Bilingual Service)

Holy Saturday: 8 April 2023

Easter Vigil at 7:00 p.m. (Bilingual Mass)

Easter Sunday: 9 April 2023

Mass 7:00 a.m. English

Mass 9.00 a.m. Zulu

38. **Pilgrimage to Rome and Fatima 10 – 24 September 2023 – ‘Walking in the footsteps of ‘our Lady of Fatima’**

application forms and itinerary available from the office or the Church entrance.

39. **Ngome Pilgrimage:** 02 June to 04 June 2023. Cost of Accommodation and meals: R1,000.00 per person Please contact Thembe Thusi on 0834689712 for more details.

40. **GRIEF SHARE Myth:** *Myth: I just want to be left alone Fact: Isolation makes your grief more intense.* GriefShare (via zoom) will be on the 4th April 2023. If you require any help, support or assistance during this time, please contact Charmaine Swardling on 0845756006, Cynthia Petzer on 0823747033 or Olivia Swardling on 0845928177. The link is the same every week and is reflected below:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9529095959?pwd=WE5JUFUlcwkw0RjZxUEVsQ29QbkNFQT09>
Meeting ID: 949 232 9595

Passcode: GRIEF SHARE

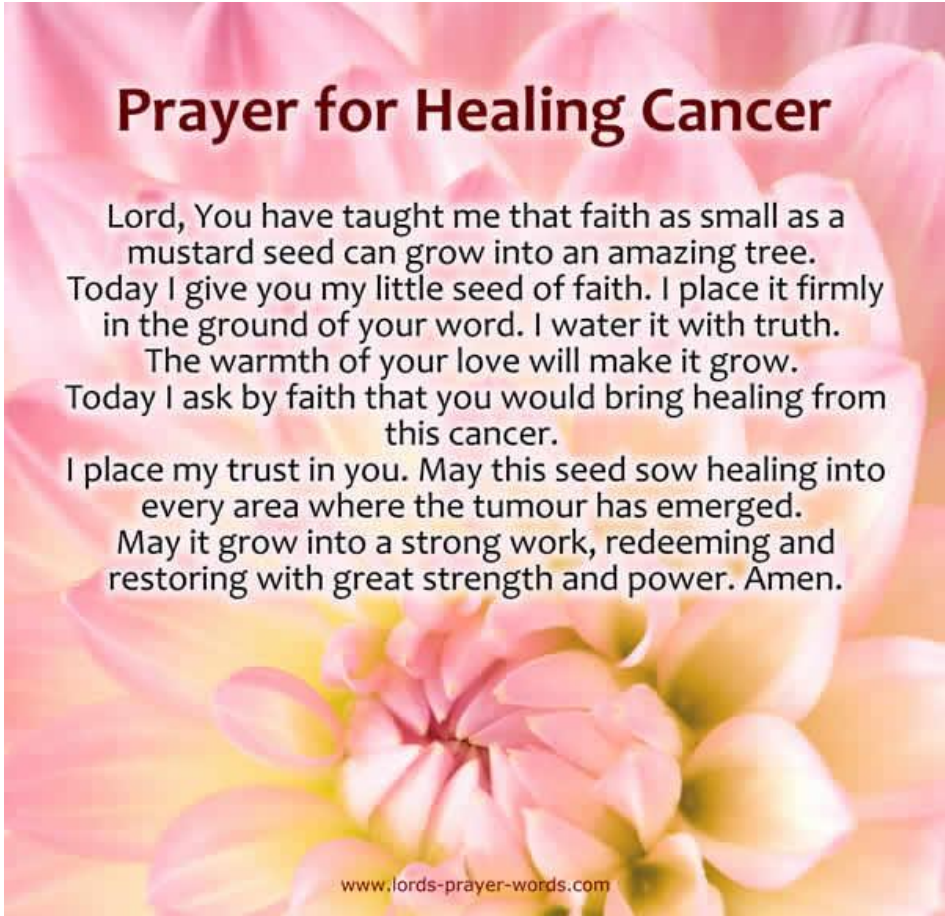
41. **Repository** will be open after the weekend Masses. April Southern Cross, ‘The Joy of being Catholic’ in English and Zulu R90, new Rosaries, car rosaries, Advent candles and rosary bracelets are in stock.

42. **Durban Passion Play**

The tickets are sold at R100 per person, bookings are done through Web tickets or through Pick n’ Pay

43. **Sick** Please pray for all on the April sick list. Please inform the office of any changes to the lists.

44. **Hospital Care** Please advise the parish office if you or a family member will be or have been admitted to hospital so that we can provide pastoral care.



Prayer for Healing Cancer

Lord, You have taught me that faith as small as a mustard seed can grow into an amazing tree.

Today I give you my little seed of faith. I place it firmly in the ground of your word. I water it with truth.

The warmth of your love will make it grow.

Today I ask by faith that you would bring healing from this cancer.

I place my trust in you. May this seed sow healing into every area where the tumour has emerged.

May it grow into a strong work, redeeming and restoring with great strength and power. Amen.

www.lords-prayer-words.com