

# SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

Kabega Park, Port Elizabeth

*Welcoming, inclusive, united family!*

*PARISH DIAMOND JUBILEE YEAR  
(June 2021 – June 2022)*



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## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR C) – LAETARE SUNDAY – 26/27 MARCH 2022

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is also known as “Laetare Sunday”, when rose colour vestments are used as a break from the Lenten purple. A few words from the Entrance Antiphon for “Joyful Sunday” set the tone for today: “Rejoice, Jerusalem...and be joyful...exult”. And so, each Sunday of Lent, the Liturgy of the Word leads us gradually to the coming celebration of the Lord’s Passion and Resurrection, which we mark with particular solemnity during Holy Week and Easter, and today’s celebration intensifies the sense of joyful anticipation for what is to come. We are more or less half-way through our annual Lenten pilgrimage. By reflecting on the “return of the Prodigal Son” in our Gospel this Sunday, we are reminded about the compassion of God, *who comes to seek and save those who are lost in sin*. Are we making a concerted effort to *return to the Lord* this Lent?

### Schedule for Masses and Devotions this Week:

| Time           | Day       | Date   | Liturgical Day   | Readings                                |
|----------------|-----------|--------|--|---|
| 17h00          | Saturday  | 26 Mar | Holy Mass – Fourth Sunday of Lent  | Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 34                 |
| 08h00          | Sunday    | 27 Mar | Holy Mass – Fourth Sunday of Lent  | 2 Corinthians 5:17-21                   |
| 10h30          | Sunday    | 27 Mar | Holy Mass – Fourth Sunday of Lent  | Luke 15:1-3, 11-32                      |
|                |           | 28 Mar |  | Isaiah 65:17-21; John 4:43-54           |
| 17h30          | Tuesday   | 29 Mar | <i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament<br/>(with the Opportunity for Quiet Adoration)<br/>Rosary Prayers before the Blessed Sacrament<br/>Holy Mass – Liturgy of the Day</i> | Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12; John 5:1-16         |
| 18h00<br>18h30 |           |        |  |   |
| 06h00          | Wednesday | 30 Mar | Holy Mass – Liturgy of the Day   | Isaiah 49:8-15; John 5:17-30            |
| 08h30          | Thursday  | 31 Mar | Holy Mass – Liturgy of the Day<br><i>Followed by the Holy Hour – Adoration &amp; Benediction</i>   | Exodus 32:7-14; John 5:31-47            |
| 08h30<br>18h00 | Friday    | 01 Apr | Holy Mass – Liturgy of the Day ( <i>First Friday Devotion</i> )<br><i>Stations of the Cross (SVDP)</i>   | Wisdom 2:1, 12-22; John 7:1-2,10, 25-30 |
| 08h30          | Saturday  | 02 Apr | Holy Mass – to begin Parish Lenten Day of Prayer –<br><i>All Day Adoration, ending with Benediction at 16h45</i>   | Jeremiah 11:18-20; John 7:40-53         |

(Lectionary/Daily Missal – Fourth Week of Lent – Readings for Weekdays from Daily Lenten Readings/Sundays from “YEAR C”)

*\* For the safety of all, please comply with the Covid-19 health and safety protocols, whenever visiting the church \**

**MASS INTENTIONS:** Holy Mass is both a celebratory banquet as well as a sacrifice. It is the highest form of prayer and praise with immeasurable spiritual benefits. There is no prayer that surpasses that of the Mass. Every Mass is offered for all people, especially those in need. The Church encourages “full, active and conscious participation” by all the Christian Faithful in the liturgy. As a way of participating more intimately in the Eucharistic Sacrifice, it has long been the pious tradition, that the faithful request a Mass to be offered for their particular intentions, be it on the occasion of your birthday, wedding anniversary, death/death anniversary of a loved one, in thanksgiving or for any special intention. **If you are marking any of these occasions in March, the envelopes for the offerings are now available in the foyer.** Those who are able to give an offering or stipend to apply the Mass for their intention contribute to the good of the Church and by that offering share in, and express, its concern to support its ministers and works, especially in Lent. **Mass Intentions for the Coming Week:**

| Day      | Date   | INTENTION  |
|----------|--------|--|
| Saturday | 26 Mar | For the Repose the Souls of Tony & Mel Papman  |
| Sunday   | 27 Mar | For the Repose of the Soul of Faith Augustine on the Anniversary of her Death<br>In Thanksgiving – Birthday of Rita Martin |
| Sunday   | 27 Mar | For the People of the Parish   |

### PRAYER AND DEVOTIONAL LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

**We encourage all parishioners to make the Sunday and weekday Masses and the Devotions part of their regular spiritual practices.**

**With the Covid-19 Restrictions now eased, you are able to fulfil your Sunday Obligation by attending a Sunday or, in extreme cases, a weekday Mass. There are now very few valid excuses for missing Sunday Mass.**

**Remember to keep the Lord’s Day holy, by prayer, charity and rest from servile labour.**

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE AND RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION) during Lent:** Saturdays, 16h15-16h45; Sundays, 07:30 and 10:00; weekdays during the Holy Hour on Tuesday evenings/Thursday mornings. There will be a Penitential Service on Wednesday, 6 April at 18h30.

**TUESDAY EVENING ROSARY AND MASS:** is dedicated to prayer for families of the parish. **Families are encouraged to choose at least one Tuesday in the month to come and pray as a family with the larger community to which we all belong.** A simple Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place between 17h30 and 18h30. As usual, at 18h00, we will meditate on the Mysteries of the Rosary. You are welcome to come for the full hour or for the Rosary at 18h00. **Do come in quietly and with reverence.** Mass begins at 18h30.

**THURSDAY ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:** to grow in our devotion to Jesus Christ, really and truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar, there is an opportunity to participate in the Holy Hour on Thursdays, after the 08:30am Mass.

**FAMILY PRAYER:** following the “Sunday of the Word of God” in January, we encourage all families to choose a specific evening, when the family can gather, say a Wednesday/Thursday evening, to prepare for the upcoming Sunday Mass by reflecting on the Scriptures. The Gospel Reading for next Sunday, the Fifth Sunday of Lent, is John 8:1-11...

### STEWARDSHIP

**PROPOSED SALE OF THE PARISH PIPE-ORGAN:** Any serious objection should be emailed to Parish Secretary by no later than **01 April 2022**.

**WEEKLY COLLECTIONS AND MONTHLY PLEDGE:** heartfelt thanks to all parishioners who continue their financial support of the parish through their monthly pledge, either via EFT or the envelope system. All parishioners, who are employed or have a regular income, are invited to pledge every month, and, if they are not already doing so, to register and request a pledge number through the Parish Office. Make use of the “smart option” – *Electronic Transfer/EFT of weekly collections directly into the Parish Bank Account – use your name and “virtual collection”/pledge number as a reference. The Banking Details, for this purpose, are as follows – Standard Bank: Sacred Heart Catholic Church; Account Number: 080389007; Branch: Port Elizabeth; Branch Code: 050-017. The Lord loves a cheerful giver...*

**SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DURING LENT:** the Bishops’ Lenten Appeal envelopes are available in the foyer, on all Sundays of Lent.

### 60<sup>th</sup> JUBILEE GALA DINNER

The Diamond Jubilee Gala Dinner will take place on Friday 24 June 2022 at 7pm in the Hall. Tickets cost R300 per person, payable over 2 months. Limited seats are available, due to COVID protocols being observed. This is a Parish Celebration and not a Fundraising event – preference is given to Parishioners to purchase tickets first. Tickets are available from Tania Williams 084 410 3606. Book before it’s too late!

### MINISTRIES AND SODALITIES

#### SACRED HEART OUTREACH MINISTRIES:

- **SATURDAY SOUP KITCHEN:** Group 2 will be distributing soup on Saturday, 26 March 2022, at 08:00am, in aid of the unemployed.
- **EASTER EGG COLLECTION:** Sacred Heart Outreach Ministry is collecting marshmallow eggs for the orphans & elderly. This can be left in the box in the foyer or handed in at the office during Lent.
- **SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL:** is in need of groceries and toiletries as well as monetary donations; these can be handed in at the Office.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC):** the Sacred Heart PPC has been at the helm for the past four years and therefore the time has come to elect a new one as per Diocesan Policy. What is a PPC? *It is a consultative body that serves to advise the parish priest about pastoral issues. The council’s main purpose is to investigate, reflect and reach conclusions about pastoral matters to recommend to the parish priest.*

**PASTORAL PLAN AND SYNOD SESSION:** a meeting will be held on Thursday, 31 March 2022 at 19h00, to launch the Bishops’ Pastoral Plan and the Synod on Synodality in our parish. Synodality means “journeying together” as disciples and witnesses of Jesus. We invite the PPC, and all the members of the Parish who are interested in finding out more about the Pastoral Plan and the Synod, to attend this meeting.

**PARENTS’ MEETING WITH CATECHISTS:** for those whose children are in Grade 1 to Grade 7 (Primary School) on Saturday, **2 April** at 09h00 in the Hall; and for the parents of children in Grade 8 to Grade 11 (High School) on Saturday, **9 April** at 09h00 in the Hall.

**YOUTH:** will meet every Friday at 19h00 in the Hall; those who would like to join may contact Storm Chambel on 083 370 600.

### LENTEN CALENDAR

**THE SEASON OF LENT** – we are now entering the Fourth week of our Lenten journey when *return to the Lord* through sincere prayer, fasting and almsgiving. This Lent is our spiritual preparation for the Jubilee as well. Lent is the perfect opportunity to return in earnest to the Holy Mass, Confession, and the devotions on weekdays. Wednesday morning Masses during Lent will be at 6:00am. Stations of the Cross will be on Fridays 18h00 (outdoors, weather permitting, so bring the whole family); Next Friday, the SVDP will present the Stations of the Cross.

**THE MONTH OF MARCH IS DEDICATED TO SAINT JOSEPH** – may his silent, yet prompt obedience to God’s will, inspire us this Lent.

**DAYS OF RECOLLECTION (RETREAT) DURING LENT** – on the following Saturdays, between 10am and 13h00pm, in the Religious Centre:

- Saturday, 26 March 2022: Sacristans and Ministers of Hospitality.
- Saturday, 9 April 2022: St Vincent de Paul Society and Divine Mercy Group.
- Saturday, 16 April 2022: RCIA Candidates and Sponsors.

**PARISH LENTEN DAY OF PRAYER:** Saturday, 2 April 2022 for all parishioners; Mass is at 08h30am followed by all-day Adoration. Take some time out of your day to come and pray in the church with your family before the Blessed Sacrament. This is an opportunity to reflect on our Lenten Journey thus far, and to prepare for the Easter celebrations. While you are free to come at any time during the day, there is a Sign-Up Sheet in the Foyer if you would like to book a slot. All those in ministries and sodalities should make a special act of Adoration together during the day. There will be an opportunity for Confession at 10h00 – 11h00 and 16h00 – 16h45. The programme for the day is as follows:

08h30 – Holy Mass

*All Day Silent Prayer and Adoration*

12h00 – Rosary

15h00 – Divine Mercy Chaplet

16h45 – Benediction

17h00 – Holy Mass (Fifth Sunday of Lent)

### CONDOLENCES

The Community of Sacred Heart Parish extends heartfelt condolences and assurance of prayers to the Wong Family at the passing of David. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord!

### PRAYER CORNER

**For the sick and the housebound:** Leigh Ah Shene, Sally Botha, Natalie Bray, Valerie Brown, Glynn Brown, Gerald Burger, Deanna Dickson, Pat Douglas, Patrick Dwyer, Sylvia Dyson, Roland Edgar, Butch Engelbrecht, Shirleen Grobbelaar, Graham & Thora Hempel, Lydia Hendricks, James Henderson, Eden Kempthorne, Jocelyn Keun, Lucia Leander, Ann Lentz, Isobel Lloyd, Stuart Mandy, Cynthia Rumble, Leo Smithies, Timothy Teulon, Joe & Thelma Trow.

***“I will arise and go to my Father and I will say to him: Father, I have sinned...” (cf. Luke 15:18)***