

Date:	28th March / 29th March 2026		Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord		
Mass Time:	Acolyte	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful	Readers of the Passion of Our Lord	Music
Vigil 5:00 PM	Phil Saville	Anne Maureen Scarff	Wilhelmina de Raadt	N: Tanya Baldwin O & C: Timothy Baldwin	Chris Wilson
8:00 AM	Randall Noney	Georgia Cook	Domhnall MacCormack	N: Kim Crawford O & C: Tanya Graham	
9:30 AM	Ian Boncales	Vicky Walker	Lisa Vaughan	N: Peta Sparkes O & C: Matt Aldous	Couples for Christ

Morning Tea: Couples for Christ

Date:	2nd April 2026		Thursday of the Lord's Supper		
Mass Time:	Acolytes	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful	Readers of the Passion of Our Lord	Music
7:00 PM	1. Marek Grus 2. Ian Boncales	Anne Maureen Scarff	Lisa Vaughan		Parish Choir

Assistants:
1. Sebastian Cook
2. Jakub Grus (Incense)

Date:	3rd April 2026		Good Friday, Stations of the Cross		
Service Time:	Acolyte				
10:00 AM	Marek Grus				

Service Time:	Acolytes	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading	Readers of the Passion of Our Lord	Music
3:00 PM	1. Phillip Saville 2. Ian Boncales	Kim Lonergan	Lisa Vaughan	N: Deacon Alan Skofic O & C: Chris Lonergan	Andrew Wilson & Chris Wilson

Assistants:
1. Deacon Alan Skofic
2. Joseph Tabone

The Solemn Intercessions:
Deacon Alan Skofic

Date:	4th April 2026		Easter Vigil		
Mass Time:	Acolytes	First Reading	Second Reading	Obligatory Readings	Music
7:30 PM	1. Randall Noney 2. Bernard Ellis 3. Joseph Sukkar	a) Tanya Baldwin	b) Anne Maureen Scarff	c) Tamsyn Baldwin d) Timothy Baldwin	Parish Choir

Assistant:
Jakub Grus (Incense)

Altar Server:
Patrick Sukkar

Epistle Reading
e) Kim Lonergan

Date:	5th April 2026		Sunday of the Resurrection		
Mass Time:	Acolyte	First Reading & Responsorial Psalm	Second Reading & Prayer of the Faithful	Music	
8:00 AM	Ian Miles	Kim Crawford	Domhnall MacCormack	-	
9:30 AM	Ian Boncales	Anne Edwards	Brian Edwards	The Streeters	

Morning Tea: Mothers Prayers Group

N: Narrator
O & C: Other Single Speaker and Crowd or more than one other speaker

HOLY WEEK RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE:

Holy Tuesday, 31st March: 8:15 am—Adoration & Confession; After the 9:30 am Mass; 5:00 pm Adoration & Confession; After the 6:00 pm Mass

Holy Wednesday, 1st April: After the 9:30 am Mass

Good Friday, 3rd April: After the 10:00 am Stations of the Cross; After the 3:00 pm Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

Helper: Minnie Harb

Thank you to all who volunteer to be a part of our Holy Week Liturgical Celebration!

St Thomas Aquinas Parish

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Parish Email: springwood@parracatholic.org
Parish Website: www.stachurchspringwood.org.au
Parish Facebook Page: St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Community Springwood
Parish Administrator: Fr Jack Elkazzi
Parish Pastoral Council: springwoodparishpc@gmail.com
Parish Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 8.30 am - 3.30 pm

Weekend Masses: Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00 pm, Sunday 8:00 am and 9:30 am
Weekday Mass: Tuesday 9:30 am & 7:00 pm, Wednesday - Saturday 9:30 am
Adoration: Tuesday 8:15 am & 6:00 pm, Wednesday - Saturday 8:15 am
First Friday Adoration: Adoration & Confession—8:15 am;
First Friday Mass—9:30 am will be offered for the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Reconciliation: Saturday after 9:30 am Mass and 4:00-5:00 pm before the Saturday Vigil Mass
Baptisms: 2nd and 4th Sundays of every month - 11:00 am and by appointment
Weddings: By appointment
Funerals: Please Contact the Parish Office



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We respect the Darug people and their elders both past and present, as the traditional custodians of this land on which we celebrate the Eucharist.

ST THOMAS AQUINAS — HOLY WEEK 2026

29 March – 5 April

Palm Sunday – 29 March

- 8:00am – Mass
- 9:30am – Mass

Tuesday – 31 March

- 8:15am – Adoration & Confession
- 9:30am – Morning Mass (followed by Confession)
- 5:00pm – Adoration & Confession
- 6:00pm – Evening Mass (followed by Confession)

Wednesday – 1 April

- 8:15am – Adoration
- 9:30am – Morning Mass (followed by Confession)
- 7:30pm – Chrism Mass
at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta

Holy Thursday – 2 April

- 7:00pm – Mass of the Lord's Supper
(No Morning Adoration or Morning Mass)

Good Friday – 3 April

- 10:00am – Stations of the Cross
- 3:00pm – Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

Good Friday liturgies will be followed by Confession

Holy Saturday – 4 April

- 7:30pm – Easter Vigil
No morning Adoration, Mass and Confession

Easter Sunday – 5 April

- 8:00am – Mass
- 9:30am – Mass

Palm Sunday Reflection (Year A)

Palm Sunday presents us with a striking contrast. At the beginning of the liturgy, the crowd welcomes Jesus with joy: "Hosanna to the Son of David!" Yet, in the Passion, that same crowd cries out: "Crucify Him!"

This sudden shift reveals something profound about the human heart. We rejoice in Christ when He meets our expectations—but struggle when He does not. The people of Jerusalem wanted a powerful, triumphant Messiah. Instead, Jesus enters humbly, riding on a donkey, and goes on to embrace the Cross.

The Passion shows us that while human love can be fragile and inconsistent, Christ's love remains constant. Even when betrayed, denied, and abandoned, He continues to love, forgive, and give Himself completely.

Palm Sunday invites us to examine our own hearts. Do we follow Christ only when it is easy—or are we willing to remain with Him in difficulty and sacrifice?

As we enter Holy Week, may we walk faithfully with Christ—not only in moments of praise, but also in the mystery of the Cross, trusting in His unchanging love.

May God Bless you All +
Fr Jack Elkazzi





Responsorial Psalm [Ps 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24. R. v.2](#)

(R.) My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

1. All who see me deride me.
They curl their lips, they toss their heads.
'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;
let him release him if this is his friend.' (R.)
2. Many dogs have surrounded me,
a band of the wicked beset me.
They tear holes in my hands and my feet.
I can count every one of my bones. (R.)
3. They divide my clothing among them.
They cast lots for my robe.
O Lord, do not leave me alone,
my strength, make haste to help me! (R.)
4. I will tell of your name to my brethren
and praise you where they are assembled.
'You who fear the Lord give him praise;
all sons of Jacob, give him glory.
Revere him, Israel's sons.' (R.)

Second Reading [Philippians 2:6-11](#)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high.

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are, and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation [Philippians 2:8-9](#)

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
Christ became obedient for us even to death
dying on the cross.
Therefore God raised him on high
and gave him a name above all other names.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel [Matthew 26:14 - 27:66](#) (see next page)

Communion Antiphon [Matthew 26:42](#)

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it,
your will be done.

Entrance Antiphon [Cf John 12: 1, 12-13; Ps 23: 9-10](#)

Six days before the Passover,
when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem,
the children ran to meet him;
in their hands they carried palm branches
and with a loud voice cried out:

* Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant
mercy!

O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory!
Who is this king of glory?
He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory.

* Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant
mercy!

First Reading [Isaiah 50:4-7](#)

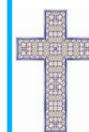
A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be
ashamed.*

The Lord has given me
a disciple's tongue.
So that I may know how to reply to the wearied
he provides me with speech.
Each morning he wakes me to hear,
to listen like a disciple.
The Lord has opened my ear.
For my part, I made no resistance,
neither did I turn away.
I offered my back to those who struck me,
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;
I did not cover my face
against insult and spittle.
The Lord comes to my help,
so that I am untouched by the insults.
So, too, I set my face like flint;
I know I shall not be shamed.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Recently Deceased: Danielle Pace, Patricia Hood, John Hunia, Flordelis Ramos

Sick: Larry Munn, Mary Green, Hannah Irene Argayoso, Rowena Cook, Precious Tamayo, David Rees, Melissa Couch, Erlisa Argayoso, Allan Arias, Mary Coombs, Carl Johnson, Philip Coggan, James Connor, Richard Ford, Julie Somerville, Fr Bob Bossini, Marama Watson.

We also pray for private intentions including the sick, dying and the suffering.

Due to the strict privacy laws, names of the deceased and sick can only be included in the Bulletin with the express permission of the immediate family. Thank you.

PARISH AND DIOCESAN NEWS

FINANCIALLY SUPPORTING OUR PARISH AND ITS WORKS: Please support our Parish and its projects.

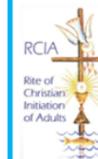
- **Direct Debit:** Please contact the Parish Office for more details.
- **Direct Deposit:** Details are as follows:
Bank Account Name: Springwood; BSB: 067-950
Bank Account Number: 00000560
Reference: Your name in full.

PLEASE NOTE: This is an official parish account linked to the Diocese of Parramatta. Some banks may display automated warning; this account is verified and legitimate. Please proceed. Thank you for your donation.

FIRST COLLECTION: Proceeds go to the Board of Management. The fund supports the living expenses of the priests within our Diocese.

SECOND COLLECTION: Collection is for the upkeep of our Parish of St Thomas Aquinas—directly funding operational costs, pastoral activities and various programs that enrich our community.

MASS OFFERING ENVELOPES are also available which can be used to express your ongoing generosity and support. Thank you.



As our RCIA candidates: Lachlan Peterson, Melissa Peters, Nicole Hill, and Tomas Gallant approach the final steps of their journey toward full communion with the Church, we invite you to keep them in your prayers. *"Lord, draw them ever closer to You, and let their lives shine with Your light."*

We are reaching out to our parish community for support as we attend to several important maintenance and improvement needs within our parish. At present, we are facing a few pressing issues, including major roof leaks, the need for a suitable shaded outdoor area, and the replacement of our ageing hot water system. These are essential works to ensure our parish remains a safe, welcoming, and functional space for all. If you would simply like to contribute towards these projects, your help would be greatly appreciated. Together, as a parish family, we can care for and strengthen our shared home. For more information or to offer your assistance, please contact the Parish Office during work hours or email is springwood@parracatholic.org Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

CARITAS AUSTRALIA PROJECT COMPASSION Please donate today. You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or by calling: 1800 024 413
Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion
Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*



GOOD FRIDAY HOLY LAND COLLECTION: The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on **Good Friday, April 3rd**. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment, housing. For donations, please use envelopes provided or this can be made by direct transfer to:

Name of Bank: Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Waverley NSW
Name of Account: Holy Land Commissariat BSB / Account Number: 062 267 / 1001 4847. Please notify the details of your electronic transfer to admin@franciscans.org.au if you require a receipt.



St Thomas Aquinas Parish Sacrament of Confirmation 2026 Program

Details and Enrolment Form are available on our website, at the back of the church / Parish Office. For more information, call 02 4754 1052 or email: springwood@parracatholic.org or visit our website: www.stchurchspringwood.org.au

Important Dates to Remember:

Parent Only Information Sessions:
Wednesday 29th April 2026 at 7pm, St Thomas Aquinas Church
Wednesday 6th May 2026 at 7pm, St Thomas Aquinas Church
Children and Parent Information Sessions:
Saturday 16th May 2026 at 11am, St Thomas Aquinas Church
Saturday 23rd May 2026 at 11am, St Thomas Aquinas Church
Confirmation Date: Wednesday 27th May 2026 at 6:30pm, STA Church



ST THOMAS AQUINAS SPRINGWOOD GIFTSHOP IS OPEN!

Please visit our shop located in the parish office building. We are open Tuesday to Friday 9am-3pm and every Sunday 9am—11:30am.

Our Parish Giftshop presents a beautiful new range of Lenten gifts, and seasonal treasures! From inspiring books and rosaries



to unique religious art and thoughtful gifts, there's something for everyone. Whether you're looking for a special keepsake, a meaningful present, or simply wish to browse, we'd love for you to stop by and see what's new.



We extend our sincere thanks to the families who so generously shared their time, donated beautiful statues, and contributed to making our gardens a truly special and peaceful place for all.



SPIRITUAL DIRECTION OPPORTUNITY

A parishioner, in training to be a Spiritual Director, is seeking a couple of parishioners interested in receiving spiritual direction. This would commence early April. If interested email Chris at: currentofgraceministries@gmail.com



REGULAR STA YOUTH NIGHT GATHERING

ceases as of 27th March and will re-commence on Friday **24th of April** from 6pm-8pm in front of the Parish Office. All years 7-12 students are invited to join. For more info call / text Youth Leader on 0433 686 362

N: They all said:

C: **Let him be crucified!**

N: Pilate asked:

O: Why? What harm has he done?

N: But they shouted all the louder,

C: **Let him be crucified!**

N: Then Pilate saw that he was making no impression, that in fact a riot was imminent. So he took some water, washed his hands in front of the crowd and said:

O: I am innocent of this man's blood. It is your concern.

N: And the people, to a man, shouted back:

C: **His blood be on us and on our children!**

N: Then he released Barabbas for them... Then they stripped him and made him wear a scarlet cloak, and having twisted some thorns into a crown they put this on his head and placed a reed in his right hand. To make fun of him they knelt to him saying:

C: **Hail, king of the Jews!**

N: And they spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head with it... The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said:

C: **So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself! If you are God's son, come down from the cross!**

N: The chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him in the same way, saying:

C: **He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He put his trust in God; now let God rescue him if he wants him. For he did say, 'I am the son of God'.**

N: Even the robbers who were crucified with him taunted him in the same way. From the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour, Jesus cried out in a loud voice:

J: Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?

N: That is: 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood there heard this, they said:

C: **The man is calling on Elijah,**

N: and one of them quickly ran to get a sponge which he dipped in vinegar and, putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink. The rest of them said:

C: **Wait! See if Elijah will come to save him.**

N: But Jesus, again crying out in a loud voice, yielded up his spirit.

All kneel and pause a moment.

N: At that, the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom; the earth quaked; the rocks were split; the tombs opened and the bodies of many holy men rose from the dead, and these, after his resurrection, came out of the tombs, entered the Holy City and appeared to a number of people. Meanwhile the centurion, together with the others guarding Jesus, had seen the earthquake and all that was taking place, and they were terrified and said:

C: **In truth this was a son of God.**

N: And many women were there, watching from a distance, the same women who had followed Jesus from Galilee and looked after him... Now Mary of Magdala and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the sepulchre. Next day, that is, when Preparation Day was over, the chief priests and the Pharisees went in a body to Pilate and said to him,

C: **Your Excellency, we recall that this impostor said, while he was still alive, 'After three days I shall rise again.' Therefore give the order to have the sepulchre kept secure until the third day, for fear his disciples come and steal him away and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead'. This last piece of fraud would be worse than what went before.**

N: Pilate said to them:

O: You may have your guards. Go and make all as secure as you know how.

N: So they went and made the sepulchre secure, putting seals on the stone and mounting a guard.

Gospel [Matthew 26:14 – 27:66](#)

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. (N: Narrator J: Jesus O: Other Single Speaker C: Crowd)

N: One of the Twelve, the man called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said:

O: What are you prepared to give me if I hand him over to you?

N: They paid him thirty silver pieces, and from that moment he looked for an opportunity to betray him. Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus to say,

C: **Where do you want us to make the preparations for you to eat the passover?**

N: He replied:

J: Go to so-and-so in the city and say to him, 'The Master says: My time is near. It is at your house that I am keeping Passover with my disciples.'

N: The disciples did what Jesus told them and prepared the Passover. When the evening came he was at table with the twelve disciples. And while they were eating he said:

J: I tell you solemnly, one of you is about to betray me.

N: They were greatly distressed and started asking him in turn,

O: Not I, Lord, surely?

N: He answered:

J: Someone who has dipped his hand into the dish with me, will betray me. The Son of Man is going to his fate, as the scriptures say he will, but alas for that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! Better for that man if he had never been born!

N: Judas, who was to betray him, asked in his turn,

O: Not I, Rabbi, surely?

N: Jesus answered:

J: They are your own words.

N: Now as they were eating, Jesus took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said:

J: Take it and eat; this is my body.

N: Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them saying:

J: Drink all of you from this, for this is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. From now on, I tell you, I shall not drink wine until the day I drink the new wine with you in the kingdom of my Father.

N: After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them,

J: You will all lose faith in me this night, for the scripture says: I shall strike the shepherd and the sheep of the flock will be scattered. But after my resurrection I shall go before you to Galilee.

N: At this, Peter said:

O: Though all lose faith in you, I will never lose faith.

N: Jesus answered him,

J: I tell you solemnly, this very night, before the cock crows, you will have disowned me three times.

N: Peter said to him,

O: Even if I have to die with you, I will never disown you.

N: And all the disciples said the same. Then Jesus came with them to a small estate called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples,

J: Stay here while I go over there to pray.

N: He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee with him. And sadness came over him, and great distress. Then he said to them:

J: My soul is sorrowful to the point of death. Wait here and keep awake with me.

N: And going on a little further he fell on his face and prayed:

J: My Father, if it is possible let this cup pass me by. Nevertheless, let it be as you, not I, would have it.

N: He came back to the disciples and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter:

J: So you had not the strength to keep awake with me one hour? You should be awake, and praying not to be put to the test. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.

N: Again, a second time, he went away and prayed:

J: My father, if this cup cannot pass by without my drinking it, your will be done!

N: And he came back again and found them sleeping, their eyes were so heavy. Leaving them there, he went away again and prayed for the third time, repeating the same words. Then he came back to the disciples and said to them,

J: You can sleep on now and take your rest. Now the hour has come when the Son of Man is to be betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up! Let us go! My betrayer is already close at hand.

N: He was still speaking when Judas, one of the Twelve, appeared, and with him a large number of men armed with swords and clubs, sent by the chief priests and elders of the people. Now the traitor had arranged a sign with them. He had said:

O: 'The one I kiss, he is the man. Take him in charge.'

N: So he went straight up to Jesus and said:

O: Greetings, Rabbi,

N: and kissed him. Jesus said to him,

J: My friend, do what you are here for.

N: Then they came forward, seized Jesus and took him in charge. At that, one of the followers of Jesus grasped his sword and drew it; he struck out at the high priest's servant, and cut off his ear. Jesus then said:

J: Put your sword back, for all who draw the sword will die by the sword. Or do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father who would promptly send more than twelve legions of angels to my defence? But then, how would the scriptures be fulfilled that say this is the way it must be?

N: It was at this time that Jesus said to the crowds:

J: Am I a brigand, that you had to set out to capture me with swords and clubs? I sat teaching in the Temple day after day and you never laid hands on me.

N: Now all this happened to fulfil the prophecies in scripture. Then all the disciples deserted him and ran away. The men who had arrested Jesus led him off to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and elders were assembled. Peter followed him at a distance, and when he reached the high priest's palace, he went in and sat down with the attendants to see what the end would be. The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for evidence against Jesus, however false, on which they might pass the death-sentence. But they could not find any, though several lying witnesses came forward. Eventually two stepped forward and made a statement,

O: This man said, 'I have power to destroy the Temple of God and in three days build it up.'

N: The high priest then stood up and said to him:

O: Have you no answer to that? What is the evidence these men are bringing against you?

N: But Jesus was silent. And the high priest said to him:

O: I put you on oath by the living God to tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.

N: Jesus answered:

J: The words are your own. Moreover, I tell you that from this time onward you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.

N: At this, the high priest tore his clothes and said:

O: He has blasphemed. What need of witnesses have we now? There! You have just heard the blasphemy. What is your opinion?

N: They answered:

C: **He deserves to die.**

N: Then they spat in his face and hit him with their fists; others said as they struck him:

C: **Play the prophet, Christ! Who hit you then?**

N: Meanwhile Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard, and a servant-girl came up to him and said:

O: You too were with Jesus the Galilean.

N: But he denied it in front of them all, saying:

O: I do not know what you are talking about.

N: When he went out to the gateway another servant-girl saw him and said to the people there:

O: This man was with Jesus the Nazarene.

N: And again, with an oath, he denied it,

O: I do not know the man.

N: A little later the bystanders came up and said to Peter:

C: **You are one of them for sure! Why, your accent gives you away.**

N: Then he started calling down curses on himself and swearing:

O: I do not know the man.

N: At that moment the cock crew, and Peter remembered what Jesus had said, 'Before the cock crows you will have disowned me three times.' And he went outside and wept bitterly. When morning came, all the chief priests and the elders of the people met in council to bring about the death of Jesus. They had him bound, and led him away to hand him over to Pilate, the governor. When he found that Jesus had been condemned, Judas his betrayer was filled with remorse and took the thirty pieces of silver back to the chief priests and elders, saying:

O: I have sinned. I have betrayed innocent blood.

N: They replied:

C: **What is that to us? That is your concern.**

N: And flinging down the silver pieces in the sanctuary he made off, and went and hanged himself. The chief priests picked up the silver pieces and said:

C: **It is against the Law to put this into the treasury; it is blood money.**

N: So they discussed the matter and bought the potter's field with it as a graveyard for foreigners, and this is why the field is called the Field of Blood today. The words of the prophet Jeremiah were then fulfilled: And they took the thirty silver pieces, the sum at which the precious One was priced by children of Israel, and they gave them for the potter's field, just as the Lord directed me. Jesus, then, was brought before the governor, and the governor put to him this question:

O: Are you the king of the Jews?

N: Jesus replied:

J: It is you who say it.

N: But when he was accused by the chief priests and the elders he refused to answer at all. Pilate then said to him:

O: Do you not hear how many charges they have brought against you?

N: But to the governor's complete amazement, he offered no reply to any of the charges. At festival time it was the governor's practice to release a prisoner for the people, anyone they chose. Now there was at this time a notorious prisoner whose name was Barabbas. So when the crowd gathered Pilate said to them,

O: Which do you want me to release for you: Barabbas or Jesus who is called the Christ?

N: For Pilate knew it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. Now as he was seated in the chair of judgement, his wife sent him a message,

O: Have nothing to do with that man; I have been upset all day by a dream I had about him.

N: The chief priests and the elders, however, had persuaded the crowd to demand the release of Barabbas and the execution of Jesus. So when the governor spoke and asked them:

O: Which of the two do you want me to release for you?

N: They said:

C: **Barabbas.**

N: Pilate said to them:

O: What am I to do with Jesus who is called Christ?