

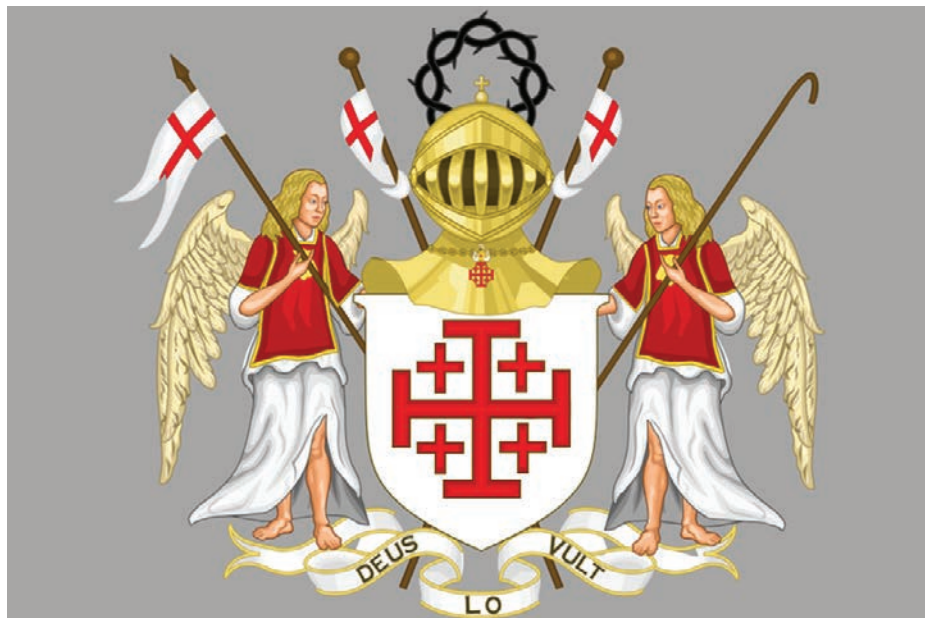
# St Joseph's Catholic Parish

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King  
of the Universe  
Year B, 24 November, 2024

Embracing the communities of  
Cherbourg, Goomeri, Murgon,  
Proston and Wondai



*Unity in diversity ... being one in Christ through Baptism!*



Coat of arms of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre (photo: Mathieu Chaine / CC BY-SA 3.0)

## What is the Jerusalem Cross?

The five elements of the Jerusalem Cross have been given different spiritual meanings over the centuries, but each reflects the way that the imagery of the cross is focused not on crusades or nationalism but on Christ.

### Facade in Rome of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem

The cross has been ubiquitous in Christian imagery. It appears in the artistic ornamentation of churches and Christian buildings, as a design on Bible covers and very often as a beautiful piece of jewellery worn to declare one's Christian faith. Visitors and pilgrims to Jerusalem will also often receive a tattoo of the cross at the completion of their pilgrimage.

Today, the Jerusalem Cross is still the main insignia of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem – the Custody of the Holy Land run by the Franciscan Order, and the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.

The Order of the Holy Sepulchre is a lay institution and Catholic order of knighthood placed under the protection of the Holy See that has as its main aim to deepen the faith among its members and to support the charitable and social works and institutions of the Church in the Holy Land.

### The meanings of the Jerusalem Cross

The five elements of the Jerusalem Cross – the cross potent and the four Greek crosses – have been given different spiritual meanings over the centuries, but each reflects the way that the imagery of the cross is focused on Christ.

One interpretation is that the five elements represent Christ's sacrifice on the cross through his five wounds: The smaller crosses depict the wounds on Christ's feet and hands, and the

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## Sunday Mass Times

Murgon		
WEEK	DAY	TIME
every	Sunday	8.00am
Wondai		
WEEK	DAY	TIME
every	Saturday	5.00pm
Proston		
WEEK	DAY	TIME
every	Saturday	9.00am
Goomeri		
WEEK	DAY	TIME
every	Sunday	6.00pm
Gayndah		
WEEK	DAY	TIME
every	1st, 3rd, 5th Sundays	10.30am
every	2nd, 4th Sundays	9.00am
Cherbourg		
WEEK	DAY	TIME
5	Sunday	4.00pm
Weekday Mass Times		
12 noon, Wednesday, Gayndah		
5.00pm, Wednesday, Wondai		
9.00am, 2nd, 4th Thursdays, School/Parish Mass, Murgon		
9.00am, 1st, 3rd Thursdays, Castra		
Holy Hour for Peace		
Wondai, 4.00pm to 5.00pm, Wednesday, before Mass		

## Today's readings

Daniel 7: 13-14; Apocalypse 1: 5-8;  
John 18: 33-37

*Response:*

The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.

*Gospel Acclamation:*

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our father; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Alleluia!

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main cross represents the piercing of his side by the Centurion's spear.

Another version proposes that the four smaller crosses represent the Four Evangelists – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John – while the fifth cross is for Christ. Part of that interpretation is that the four crosses show the way that the Evangelists helped spread the Gospel to the four corners of the world.

Anyone can wear a medallion of the Jerusalem Cross or tattoo themselves with it. But whether we wear it around our necks or place it upon our bodies, we should have as our only purpose to revere and embrace what it represents. Pope Benedict XVI said it well in 2009 when he visited the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem:

"This holy place, where God's power was revealed in weakness, and human sufferings were transfigured by divine glory, invites us to look once again with the eyes of faith upon the face of the crucified and risen Lord. Contemplating his glorified flesh, completely transfigured by the Spirit, may we come to realise more fully that even now, through baptism, 'we bear in our bodies the death of Jesus, that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our own mortal flesh' (2 Corinthians 4:10-11). Even now, the grace of the Resurrection is at work within us! May our contemplation of this mystery spur our efforts, both as individuals and as members of the ecclesial community, to grow in the life of the Spirit through conversion, penance and prayer. May it help us to overcome, by the power of that same Spirit, every conflict and tension born of the flesh, and to remove every obstacle, both within and without, standing in the way of our common witness to Christ and the reconciling power of his love."

*(Matthew Bunson is vice president and editorial director of EWTN News)*



## Michelle, my faith journey

The grace of God, led me to be a Christian, the following is my Faith Journey:

When I was six, I heard from the Creator of heaven and earth, and the school warden said, "It is strange for man to worship the wood he carved, and not to the God who made the wood, who not only made the wood, but also the Lord who created the heavens and the earth." That night, I didn't know who He was, but I prayed to the Creator of heaven and earth, saying, "I believe You are the true God, and I believe in You."

After six years, I did not have the opportunity to return to church, and the knowledge of God is that when I was sad and afraid, I would cry out, "Creator of heaven and earth, help me." Then my heart turned to calm and peace, but still don't know who this Lord is?

When I was in grade 7, I won the third place in a Chinese recitation, and the school supervisor gave me a bible as a reward. When I got the Bible that week, it was strange, I was very curious, and I really wanted to find a place to vent, or go to any place where I could relieve my boredom.

I had a neighbour who was older than me, and when I saw that she had activities every Sunday, I asked her, "Lan, can you take me to play?" She replied, "Every Sunday, I'm not going to play, just to church".

That time, I was 13 years old, and I began to go to the church with my neighbour, but I didn't know who the Lord Jesus was. I only knew that when I returned to church, the doubts in my heart gradually disappeared.

Two years after, a good friend said, "On April 21, I'll be baptised." Because of



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my appreciation of her good character, I immediately said, "I will get baptised with you."

After attending a few "information classes", I probably knew that it was to confess Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour, and to be baptised was to confess to the Lord that He was my Redeemer and the Lord of my life.

In this way, I was baptised on 21 April, 1975, but the foundation of my faith was not solid, on the other hand, because of baptism, I could partake in the Eucharist in the church. On one occasion when I partook of the Eucharist and bowed my head in silent prayer, the Lord Jesus Christ appeared to me, saying, "Mei, I was crucified to save you from your sins, not only for you, but I was also crucified for the salvation of the world." At that time, I cried, that night, I came home and found the toolbox, there was a little nail, and I did not dare to nail it into my hand like Jesus Christ, but when my tail finger was vigorously nailed down, and when I was about to bleed, I knelt down and prayed with tears, saying, "Lord! Thou art the Creator of heaven and earth, and if it were not for the love of the world, why would Thou be willing to humble yourself and become the likeness of man, and then take up the cross for the world and save the world by the most humiliating of all means." In this way, for the first time in my life, I experienced God's love and confessed that He was Lord in my own prayers.

After the private prayer, I thanked God to guide me, to lead me, to use me and let me serve HIM in church and proclaimed HIM often in my Christian life.