



**The Liberal Catholic Church**  
*Province of Australia*

**The Rt Rev. Graham Preston**  
*Archbishop of the Province*

11 Oak Street, Victoria Point, Qld. 4165  
Ph: (07) 3207 9500  
Email: [bp.graham.preston@liberalcatholicchurch.org.au](mailto:bp.graham.preston@liberalcatholicchurch.org.au)



**LENT 2018**

Today is Ash Wednesday, the day on which some people burn last year's palm (from Palm Sunday) and mark their foreheads with the ash.

Yesterday was Shrove Tuesday or Pancake Tuesday. In some parts of the world this was the day those foods forbidden during Lent were used up – sometimes in pancakes. In other parts the day was called *Mardi Gras* – Fat Tuesday – or *Carnival* – farewell to meat, the eating of which was banned during Lent.

The idea of giving something up for Lent resonates with people around the Christian world, but if it is in our best interests healthwise, why not give it up altogether? I should give up sugar in tea and coffee, better still still give up tea and coffee altogether.

Lent is a period of preparation for the most important festival in the Church Calendar – Easter, when we celebrate the glorious resurrection and triumphant ascension of Jesus the Christ.

The ecclesiastic colour is violet, with the exception of the fourth Sunday in Lent, when Rose may be worn.

Palm Sunday marks the commencement of Holy Week and each of the days has a special intent: Palm Sunday marks the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. Monday is a day of dedication and purification. Tuesday is a day of challenge and teaching. Wednesday is the day of betrayal and final decision. Maundy Thursday honours the institution of the Holy Eucharist and Good Friday commemorates the Crucifixion. (See pp 75 -77 of our Liturgy.) In earlier times Easter Saturday was the preferred day on which to be baptised. Then those newly baptised were full members of the Church and no longer were compelled to depart after the reading of the Gospel. (This was the day on which I received the baptism of fire but that is another story!)

Love and blessings