



CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH, CRANEBROOK, NSW

The Net

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD - YEAR C 12TH AND 13TH OF APRIL 2025

We, the people of Corpus Christi, seek to grow in living Christ-centred mission, sharing our gifts to foster welcome, justice and community in today's world. A very warm welcome to anyone who is new to the parish.



HOLY WEEK AND EASTER MASS SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday 17th April, 7pm

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

A BEAUTIFUL CELEBRATION OF THE ORIGINS OF OUR EUCHARIST.

Good Friday 18th April, 10am

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Good Friday 18th April, 3pm

CELEBRATION OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

A MASS HONOURING THE GREAT SACRIFICE OF CHRIST.

Saturday 19th April, 7pm

THE EASTER VIGIL MASS IN THE HOLY NIGHT

THIS IS THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE CHURCH YEAR WHEN WE CELEBRATE THE GREATEST HOPE EVER GIVEN TO HUMANITY.

Sunday 20th April, 7.30am & 9.30am

SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION (EASTER SUNDAY)

A CONTINUATION OF THE CELEBRATION OF RESURRECTION WHEN THE NEW EASTER LIGHT AND EASTER WATER OF BAPTISM ARE USED TO HELP GIVE A BLESSING OF RENEWAL.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY VIGIL 6pm

SUNDAY 7.30am & 9.30am

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday & Wednesday at 6pm

Thursday & Friday at 9.10am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday evening from 5.15pm -

5.45pm in the Meeting Room

ADORATION AND DEVOTION

Second Friday of each month

(Healing Mass)

Fourth Friday of each month

(Anointing Mass)

CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH

Address: 86-92 Andromeda Drive

Cranebrook, NSW, 2749

Postal: PO Box 21

Cranebrook, NSW, 2749

Phone: 4730 1249

Email: parishteam@corpuschristi.org.au

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/

CorpusChristiParishCranebrook

Office Hours: 9:00 am - 3:30pm

(Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri)

PARISH TEAM:

Administrator - Fr Jessie Balorio

- jessie.balorio@parracatholic.org

- 0451 851 610 (*emergencies only*)

- Presbytery: 4729 1675

Mrs Sue Weekes — Secretarial Support

- sw@corpuschristi.org.au

Mrs Vanessa Sultana — Office Support

- cranebrook@parracatholic.org

SCHOOLS OF THE PARISH:

Corpus Christi Primary — ph 4726 2200

(Principal - Mrs Sarah O'Rourke)

Xavier College — ph 4777 0900

(Principal - Mr Michael Pate)

Commemoration of the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem

Luke 19: 28-40

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord

First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-7

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

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24. R. v.2

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

Second Reading

Philippians 2:6-11

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

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

Luke 22:14 – 23:56

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years.

Visit our website: www.corpuschristi.org.au

Parish News

Sacraments 2025



First Eucharist

The registration date for First Eucharist is

Wednesday 20th August, 2025 at 6.30pm

The sacrament of First Eucharist will take place on the following dates:

Saturday 6th September at 11am

Saturday 6th September at 6pm

Saturday 13th September at 11am

Sunday 14th September at 9.30am

Confirmation

The registration date for Confirmation is

Wednesday 7th of May, 2025 at 6.30pm

The sacrament of Confirmation (for children who received Penance and First Eucharist last year) will take place on the following date:

Saturday 14th June, 2025 at 9:30 am & 11:30 am

Baptisms and Weddings

Baptisms take place in our parish on the first and third Sundays of each month at 11am. Parents wishing to have their children Baptised are asked to contact the Parish Office to book the date of Baptism and to register for the Rite of Welcome and Information Meeting.

Wedding bookings are taken by request. Please contact the parish office to discuss available dates and to make a booking.

NEW MINISTRY ROSTER

Thank you to all who support our parish as a Liturgical Minister

We are about to get our information together to prepare a new roster to cover the period 3rd/4th April to 2nd/3rd August 2025.

To ensure our liturgical roster will best suit the needs of our volunteers, we kindly ask all who volunteer as acolytes, readers and commentators, data operators, Eucharistic ministers, children's liturgy facilitators or musicians to email the parish office at cranebrook@parracatholic.org and let us know of any unavailability or changes to your volunteering

Thank you for your ongoing support



SAVE THE DATES...

Please take note of the following dates for your diaries:

Fr Jessie's final weekend with us will be the weekend of the 10th and 11th of May.
Fr Abraham's Installation Mass and celebration will take place at our Vigil Mass on Saturday 17th of May.

More information about these events will be published next weekend.

What's on at Corpus Christi...



**Sunday
13th
April**

Parish Morning Tea

Our parish hosts a morning tea after our 9.30am Mass on the second Sunday of every month. Everyone is welcome. We warmly encourage you to invite your friends and family to join us both for Mass and morning tea

To support our parish with catering, you are most welcome to bring a plate to share or an optional gold coin donation can be made. We kindly ask that a list of ingredients is provided for any home prepared food to support anyone with food allergies

**Sunday 27th
April**

**Choir practice
(No Mass)**

Corpus Christi Youth Mass

Our youth Masses take place on the 3rd Sunday of Each Month at 5pm
Mass followed by refreshments.

Please note that parents are welcome to attend the Mass and registration is not necessary. For more information about our parish Youth Masses please contact the parish office or Kieran Faccin.

**Friday
2nd May**

'Young in Spirit' Seniors Group

Our seniors group meets on the last Friday morning of each month after 9.10am Mass in the Parish Office.

Please bring a small plate of food to share for morning tea.
New members are always welcome. Please complete our new members form in the foyer if you'd like to join

WITH THANKS...



Special thanks to Charlie Bonano who kindly donated all our palm leaves for our Palm Sunday celebrations. We appreciate the time and effort Charlie took to cut and deliver the leaves safely to the parish. We also thank Greg, David, Maria and any other volunteer who helped to cut up the palm leaves.

SUPPORTING THOSE IN NEED DURING LENT...

This year Xavier College is excited about partnering with Corpus Christi in supporting Jesuit Refugee Service Australia's FOODBANK.

The JRS Australia FOODBANK is a practical way of standing in solidarity with, and accompanying, refugees and asylum seekers to bring them real hope this LENT & in this Jubilee Year of Hope and uphold their human dignity. Just as God heard the cry of his people in our first reading from the book of Deuteronomy, we are called to hear the cries of refugees and asylum seekers by giving generously and lovingly this LENT.

We encourage everyone to give generously to this great cause. More information is available on page 7 of the bulletin or on posters around our church.

LET US OFFER GIFTS OF PRAYER

Recently Deceased:

Eleanor Albertyn, George Keane.

Anniversaries:

Charlie Vella, Grezzu Vella, Hermogenes Bravo, Peter Farrugia, Louis Simiana, Maximo Hervas, Frantz Ducasse

For those who are sick:

Ruta Pelenatino, Rose Zahra, Marlene Rodger, Fr Jerome Antogop



PARISH UPDATE

The parish will be closed the week following Easter from

Tuesday 22nd to Friday 25th of April

No Masses or Communion Services will take place during this time

PALM SUNDAY REFLECTION

by Fr Michael Tate
Lowly Prince of Peace



Jesus entered Jerusalem, not as a warrior in the tradition of King David as many had hoped for, but riding simply on a donkey. The disciples and the crowd applauded him, but they proved fickle in their support.

On the other hand, Jesus remained steadfast in his commitment to *non-violent* revolutionary change of the religious and political systems so as to establish the reign of God. Why did he renounce marshalling human and angelic warriors to further his cause?

First, Jesus embodied God-for-us, and God does not want the destruction of those he has created out of love. Second, Jesus had a premonition that an armed revolt would lead to the destruction of Jerusalem and the dispersal of the Jewish people (as occurred in 70AD).

Third, Luke's Gospel recounts that as Jesus laboured up Mount Calvary he turned to some wailing women and said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, weep rather for yourselves and for your children.' He knew that they suffer grievously in armed uprising. This is seen in barbaric reality in our own time with women being tortured and raped in campaigns of terror, trafficked into sexual slavery, suffering the loss of sons, husband and lovers.

We could take a moment to pray that the Church of the 21st century, successor of the pacifist Church of the first three centuries, may enter on a new period of reflection on these issues, grappling with the desire to protect the innocent, yet always challenged by the man on a donkey, Divine Prince of Peace.

© Fr Michael Tate; mtate@bigpond.com

Parish Giving

Planned Giving/Parish Donations

Your gift to Planned Giving helps cover the running of the parish and also contributes towards outreach in our parish community and beyond.

If you would like to contribute directly, the parish bank details are:

BSB: 067 950
Acct No: 100000698
Acct Name: Cranebrook Parish

Please ensure you put your details in the reference section (ENVELOPE N# OR SURNAME)

Please contact the Parish Office if you

- ◇ are contributing to the Planned Giving Program via the envelope system and would like to change to credit card or direct debit;
- ◇ would like to join the Planned Giving Program.

Diocesan News

BISHOP'S GOOD SAMARITAN APPEAL

Thank You for Supporting our Catholic Care's chaplaincy services. Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains thank you for your kind-hearted generosity and support for people in hospital and prison who might otherwise feel abandoned. Our Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal will provide pastoral, spiritual, and sacramental support to people in times of darkness. If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit parracatholic.org/appeal or scan this



THANK YOU
for helping Catholic Care's chaplains bring comfort, faith and hope to people enduring pain and suffering.

"Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us." - Romans 5:5

To learn about the impact of your kindness, please visit:
parracatholic.org/appeal-thankyou

PROJECT COMPASSION

As Project Compassion 2025 draws to a close for another year, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your generous support throughout this Lenten Season.

This year, we shared the inspiring stories of 3 individuals whose lives have been transformed through your compassion and generosity.

But the work isn't done yet. There is still time to donate! Together, we can *Unite Against Poverty* and help transform lives this Lent.

**UNITE
AGAINST
POVERTY**
this Lent



Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion
Or by calling: 1800 024 413

SAFEGUARDING FACE-TO-FACE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

The next session of face-to-face Safeguarding Renewal Training will be held on Saturday 3 May at Holy Family Emerton for Cycle 2 (Module 4-5). More training opportunities will be available soon. Please register directly for this training or for other convenient dates and locations by clicking on the training event at: <https://parracatholic.org/connect/events/?series=safeguarding-training>. For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

The modules are available to complete online at <https://parracatholic.org/safeguarding/training/>
Cycle 1: (New staff/volunteers who have not completed any training within the Diocese)
Cycle 2: Renewal Training for staff/volunteers who completed Cycle 1 two years ago) For more information, please email: safeguardingtraining@parracatholic.org

The Living Word

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord - Year C

12th and 13th of April

Commemoration of the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord"

Luke 19: 28-40

²⁸ Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

²⁹ When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany

at the place called the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples,

³⁰ saying, 'Go into the village opposite, whereon entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat; untie it and bring it here.

³¹ If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" you shall say this, "The Lord has need of it".

³² So those who were sent went away and found it as he had told them.

³³ And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, 'Why are you untying the colt?'

³⁴ And they said, 'The Lord has need of it'.

³⁵ And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their garments on the colt they set Jesus upon it.

³⁶ And as he rode along, they spread their garments on the road.

³⁷ As he was now drawing near, at the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen,

³⁸ saying, 'Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!

³⁹ Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!' And some of the Pharisees in the multitude said to him, 'Teacher, rebuke your disciples'.

⁴⁰ He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out'.

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

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 ashamed.

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

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.

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

Luke 23:1-49

The elders of the people and the chief priests and scribes rose, and they brought Jesus before Pilate.

They began their accusation by saying, 'We found this man inciting our people to revolt, opposing payment of tribute to Caesar, and claiming to be Christ, a king.' Pilate put to him this question, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' 'It is you who say it' he replied. Pilate then said to the chief priests and the crowd, 'I find no case against this man.' But they persisted, 'He is inflaming the people with his teaching all over Judaea; it has come all the way from Galilee, where he started, down to here.' When Pilate heard this, he asked if the man were a Galilean; and finding that he came under Herod's jurisdiction he passed him over to Herod who was also in Jerusalem at that time.

Herod was delighted to see Jesus; he had heard about him and had been wanting for a long time to set eyes on him; moreover, he was hoping to see some miracle worked by him. So he questioned him at some length; but without getting any reply. Meanwhile the chief priests and the scribes were there, violently pressing their accusations. Then Herod, together with his guards, treated him with contempt

Continued on next page...

and made fun of him; he put a rich cloak on him and sent him back to Pilate. And though Herod and Pilate had been enemies before, they were reconciled that same day.

Pilate then summoned the chief priests and the leading men and the people. 'You brought this man before me' he said 'as a political agitator. Now I have gone into the matter myself in your presence and found no case against the man in respect of all the charges you bring against him. Nor has Herod either, since he has sent him back to us. As you can see, the man has done nothing that deserves death, so I shall have him flogged and then let him go.' But as one man they howled, 'Away with him! Give us Barabbas!' (This man had been thrown into prison for causing a riot in the city and for murder.)

Pilate was anxious to set Jesus free and addressed them again, but they shouted back, 'Crucify him! Crucify him!' And for the third time he spoke to them, 'Why? What harm has this man done? I have found no case against him that deserves death, so I shall have him punished and then let him go.' But they kept on shouting at the top of their voices, demanding that he should be crucified. And their shouts were growing louder.

Pilate then gave his verdict: their demand was to be granted. He released the man they asked for, who had been imprisoned for rioting and murder, and handed Jesus over to them to deal with as they pleased.

As they were leading him away they seized on a man, Simon from Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and made him shoulder the cross and carry it behind Jesus. Large numbers of people followed him, and of women too, who mourned and lamented for him. But Jesus turned to them and said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep rather for yourselves and for your children. For the days will surely come when people will say, "Happy are those who are barren, the wombs that have never borne, the breasts that have never suckled!" Then they will begin to say to the mountains, "Fall on us!"; to the hills, "Cover us!" For if men use the green wood like this, what will happen when it is dry?' Now with him they were also leading out two other criminals to be executed.

When they reached the place called The Skull, they crucified him there and the two criminals also, one on the right, the other on the left. Jesus said, 'Father forgive them; they do not know what they are doing.' Then they cast lots to share out his clothing.

The people stayed there watching him. As for the leaders, they jeered at him. 'He saved others,' they said 'let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.' The soldiers mocked him too and when they approached to offer him vinegar they said, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals hanging there abused him. 'Are you not the Christ?' he said. 'Save yourself and us as well.' But the other spoke up and rebuked him. 'Have you no fear of God at all?' he said. 'You got the same sentence as he did, but in our case we deserved it; we are paying for what we did. But this man has done nothing wrong. Jesus,' he said 'remember me when you come into your kingdom.' 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied 'today you will be with me in paradise.'

It was now about the sixth hour and, with the sun eclipsed, a darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour. The veil of the Temple was torn right down the middle; and when Jesus had cried out in a loud voice, he said, 'Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.' With these words he breathed his last.

All kneel and pause a moment.

When the centurion saw what had taken place, he gave praise to God and said, 'This was a great and good man.' And when all

the people who had gathered for the spectacle saw what had happened, they went home beating their breasts.

All his friends stood at a distance; so also did the women who had accompanied him from Galilee, and they saw all this happen.

Communion Antiphon

Matthew 26:42

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

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REFLECTION by Greg Sunter

Gospel Reflection

Christianity is a faith of paradox: leadership through service; greatness through humility; and life through death. The greatest paradox of all is the paradox of the cross. The death of Jesus through the most humiliating form of capital punishment in history would appear to be exactly what the Jewish authorities hoped it would be: the end of the Jesus movement. The ignoble death of a group's leader through public execution is usually enough to bring about the end of any movement. However, Christians know that the death of Jesus is not the end of the story.

His resurrection, that we celebrate at Easter next weekend, is the twist in the tale that means the death of Jesus, rather than being a point of despair, in fact becomes a moment of hope. This difference of expectation is captured in the Lukan account of the crucifixion by the two criminals with whom Jesus is crucified. One joins in the mockery of Jesus, whilst the other recognises the innocence of Jesus and has faith that Jesus will enter into his kingdom. This second criminal acts as an example for all people of faith. He reminds us that those with faith still have to face death and still have to face up to the consequences of their actions, and yet the way we approach death should not be with despair, but rather with hope and confidence that we will share in Christ's resurrection.

The reading of the Passion narrative leaves us up in the air. It leaves us in a better position than the disciples at the time. They were downcast by what they felt was the defeat of Jesus, but we know the end of the story! We know that out of this darkness will come light and hope!

Learning moments

Having read or listened to the Passion narrative, simply sit in silence for a short time and reflect on it.

Divide the Passion narrative into phases or 'movements' and suggest appropriate symbols, images or actions that capture the essence of each movement of the story.



Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for

April

For the use of the new technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

Children's Worksheet

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD - YEAR C

Luke 19: 28-40

My name is

Hosanna! Hosanna!



A crowd of people came to see Jesus as he entered Jerusalem on the back of a donkey. Draw yourself amongst a crowd of people waving palm fronds at Jesus.



Draw or write what happened on each of these special days during Holy Week.



Palm Sunday



Holy Thursday



Good Friday



Easter Sunday

JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE AUSTRALIA **FOODBANK**

During these unprecedented times, refugees and people seeking asylum need your help more than ever.

Non-perishable food, toiletries and financial donations are desperately needed and appreciated to support the 150 families who access our Foodbank each week.

FOOD ITEMS:


- Basmati Rice (1kg & 5kg)
- Cooking Oil
- Long Life milk
- Tinned Tuna in Oil (185g & 425g)
- Canned tomatoes, 400g
- Salt
- Sugar (500g and 1kg)
- instant coffee
- Tea bags (black, 100 pck)
- Canned Coconut Milk & Condensed Milk (400ml)
- Biscuits & Muesli Bars
- Dry Chickpeas, Red & Yellow Split Lentils (1kg & 375g)

ESSENTIALS:

- Nappies (large sizes)
- Toothpaste & Toothbrushes
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Sanitary Pads & Napkins
- Razors & Shaving Foam
- Deodorant (Male & Female)
- Soap
- Laundry Detergent
- Dishwashing Detergent

Woolies and Coles Gift Vouchers also enable families to choose the items they need most.

**EMAIL FOODBANK@JRS.ORG.AU &
SCHOOLS@JRS.ORG.AU FOR MORE INFORMATION**



*Outdoor Stations of the Cross for
Cancer Patients, Survivors
and Families Who Lost
Loved Ones to Cancer*

*on
April 11 at 7PM*

It is finished

St. Nicholas of Myra Catholic Parish, 326 High St Penrith NSW 2750

Join us as we carry the BIG wooden cross. Bring a small cross/candle along with the names of loved ones lost due to cancer to be prayed for.



Grace & Truth

An evening of prayer, formation, and fellowship

**St Mary's Cathedral, 5-9PM
WEDNESDAY, 30 APRIL 2025**

Sr Elena Marie, OP

Virtue, vocation and self-gift as keys to human flourishing:
Insights from theology, philosophy, and psychology

Fr James Baxter, OP

The virtue of charity as human and divine friendship



**Register now:
<https://www.trybooking.com/CZZFZ>**



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who support our parish throughout the year.*


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We invite members of the parish to take advantage of our legal services specialising in:

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