

# Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord - Year A, 12th April 2020

**First Reading:** Acts of the Apostles 10:34, 37-43

*We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.*

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: "You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.

The Word of the Lord

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 117:1-2,16-17,22-23. R. v.24

**R/** This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

**Second Reading:** Colossians 3:1-4

*Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.*

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed - and he is your life - you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

The Word of the Lord

**Gospel Acclamation:** 1 Cor 5:7-8

**Alleluia, alleluia!** Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord. **Alleluia!**

**Gospel:** Lk 24: 13-35

*They recognised him at the breaking of the bread.*

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

The Gospel of the Lord



## Sacred Heart Parish Preston

322 Bell St, Preston 3072

**Parish Contacts:** Phone: (03) 9480 3398 Or (03) 9484 2124  
Email: preston@cam.org.au Website: www.sacredheartpreston.com.au



### EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD 12th April 2020, Year A

## Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Easter is the greatest and the most important feast in the Church. It marks the birthday of our eternal hope. We are celebrating Christ's victory over the grave, the gift of eternal life for all who believe in Him.

Resurrection is Good News, but at the same time, it's sometimes painful because it involves death. Before the power of the Resurrection can take hold in our own lives, we're called to die to sin, to die to self. We may even have to die to our own dreams, so that God can do what He wants to do with our lives. Resurrection is about seeing our world in a new way. Early that Easter morning, Mary did not find what she was looking for, the dead body of Jesus. But she found something better than she could have imagined: The Risen Jesus. Sometimes, the things we think we want most are not granted to us. What we get instead is an experience of God's new ways of working in the world. That's the power of the Resurrection. When those moments come, we must spread the news--just as Mary did: We have seen the Lord!

Easter, the feast of the Resurrection, gives us the joyful message that we are a "Resurrection people." This means that we are not supposed to lie buried in the tomb of our sins, evil habits, and dangerous addictions. It gives us the Good News that no tomb can hold us down anymore - not the tomb of despair, discouragement, doubt or death itself. Instead, we are expected to live a joyful and peaceful life, constantly experiencing the real presence of the Risen Lord in all the events of our lives. "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad".

The living presence of the Risen Lord gives us lasting peace and joy in the face of the boredom, suffering, pain, tensions of our day-to-day life and in the face of the present pandemic. "Peace be with you!" was Jesus' salutation to his disciples at all post-Resurrection appearances. For the true Christian, every day must be an Easter Day lived joyfully in the close company of the Risen Lord. We are called to be transparent Christians, showing others, through our lives of love, mercy, compassion and self-sacrificing service, that the Risen Jesus is living in our hearts.

Fr. Antony Kadavil

#### Office Hours:

Tues to Fri: 10.00am - 12.30pm

#### Parish Priest:

Fr Jan Szweda, SVD

#### Priest in Residence:

Fr Ennio Mantovani SVD

**Parish Office:** Cristina Agius

**School Principal:** Mark Tierney

**School Phone:** 9487 1001

#### Sacrament Co-ordinator:

Ylenia Useli

shpcatechists@gmail.com

#### Child Safety Officers:

Kay Dufty: 0431 376 212 and

Robert Dullard: 0433 401 958

#### Child Safety Committee:

Robert Dullard (Chair)

#### Parish Council Members:

Catherine Zanatta (chairperson),

Kay Dufty (secretary), Tony Eley,

Gerard Grant, Ophelia Swai,

Anisasio (Pauline) Veamatahau,

Mark Tierney, Ben Fortuna, Solo-

mon Konchakara, Natalie Baran

#### Parish Finance Committee:

Peter Constable (Chair)

0425 779 831

#### St. Vincent de Paul Society:

Pauline O'Day (President)

Ph: 9484 2445

#### Online Masses

##### St. Patrick's Cathedral

Live Streaming at:

[https://  
melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass](https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass)

Monday-Friday: 1pm

Easter Vigil: 7.30pm

Easter Sunday: 11am

Recorded masses can also be  
viewed at:

[www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass](http://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass)

Or: <http://bit.ly/MassOnDemand>

#### TV Mass

**Channel 44:** From St. Patrick's  
Cathedral

Easter Vigil: 7.30pm

Easter Sunday: 11am

#### YouTube:

[The Divine Mercy Chaplet](#)



## AN EASTER CALLING TO US BY NAME

**Most Rev Peter A Comensoli  
Archbishop of Melbourne**

What a strange and unsettling storm we are living through! Our lives have become a see-saw between physical isolation and online overload. We come to this year's Easter festivities having been tested in unprecedented ways. What might we draw from that first Easter that can sustain and renew us? Let me offer you the name of Mary of Magdala.

The first to see the resurrected Jesus at Easter dawn was Mary. She was the first to see him; the first to recognise him; the first to be named by him; and the first to be sent by him. Mary rightly is the first apostle, the one called and sent to proclaim Jesus Christ, risen from the dead. Yet, all of this happened quietly, and away from the public gaze that had marked the suffering and death of the world's Saviour. Jesus did not return to his people in a blaze of publicity; but quietly, gently, personally – he called Mary by name.

It is worth honouring Mary Magdalene at this strange and disorienting Easter of 2020, when none of our customary ways of marking these Greatest of Days can occur. For in the tender meeting of Jesus with Mary we have a sure sign of how we might make our way through these days of suffering.

Jesus Christ did not rise from the dead so as to show the world something marvellous and clever. His rising instead showed that suffering and death would no longer have the last word. Rather, that first word spoken to Mary and then repeated through the generations is a name, bearing hope and life for each whose name is called. Easter is a word that re-created the world.

Christians have not been able to gather physically to participate in the Easter Ceremonies this year. Friends and family have not been free to socialise together. No shared leisure; no common activities; no sport. There are no public ways to mark this religious festival. Yet, that first word Jesus spoke at his resurrection – a name on the lips of God – he is now speaking into this storm that has engulfed us. Overwhelmed, disoriented and fearful as we might feel, a calm, clear and tender voice is calling our name.

It is not a voice to magically whisk us away to comfort and security, nor a voice that pretends there is no storm to ride through. It is, rather, the voice of the Risen One, who has known suffering and death, and has tamed their power to overwhelm us. He stands with each of us, so that we need not stand alone. He calls each of us, so that we have a sure compass point. He walks with each of us to show the way through.

Death does not have the last word any longer, even though it's threat remains. Our lives – held in the heart of God and carried through death to life by his Son – have not been forgotten. We are remembered by God; he calls each of us by name.

And as Jesus is calling us, he is also sending us to speak words of care, support and comfort into the lives of those around us, and into our #HomeChurch. He is the voice that speaks through those we are close to at this time – our children we are caring for, our leaders protecting the people, our healthcare workers serving in danger, our spouses and loved ones.

As we remember this Easter that the first word of the risen Jesus was the name 'Mary', may we hear our own names echo in that call. Let us hold onto this anchor in the storm we are currently living through. To borrow a colloquial phrase, Christ has our back, and we will be OK with him.

Happy Easter.



## GENERAL GUIDELINES COVID-19 - Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

The following Guidelines are approved by Most Rev Peter A Comensoli, Archbishop of Melbourne, to assist Clergy and Faithful with questions pertaining to specific areas of liturgy and ministry in the Archdiocese of Melbourne during this time of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Chrism Mass**

The Chrism Mass will be rescheduled to a later date following the end of the present crisis.

If possible, the Mass of the Oils might be the first expression of our whole Church when we can physically gather once again as a People.

### **Good Friday**

Public celebration of the Stations of the Cross is not permitted. The Priest is to celebrate the afternoon Celebration of the Passion of the Lord – without the faithful.

### **Easter Vigil**

The Priest is to celebrate the Easter Vigil– without the faithful. The preparation and lighting of the fire is to be omitted. The Paschal Candle is lit and the Easter Proclamation (Exsultet) follows.

### **Easter Sunday**

Easter Masses can be celebrated without the faithful.

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli  
Archbishop of Melbourne

## First Assembly of Plenary Council Postponed

In response to the dramatic changes caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the bishops of Australia have made the “difficult, but necessary” decision to postpone the first assembly of the Plenary Council.

Changes in the ways people live, work and communicate due to the pandemic led the Bishops Commission for the Plenary Council to consult with the advisory and planning teams, as well as the wider Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

The decision was made to postpone the assembly scheduled for October this year.

Plenary Council president Archbishop Timothy Costello SDB said in a time of such upheaval, including severe restrictions on travel and group meetings, the postponement was unavoidable.

“Even though it is possible Australia may have moved through the worst of this health crisis by October, our capacity to adequately continue the process of discernment and formation – for everyone in the Church and in particular for the delegates – is severely compromised,” he said.

Archbishop Costello said the Church's focus at the moment, and for the foreseeable future, is ensuring people continue to be cared for pastorally, spiritually and emotionally during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The bishops will consider proposals for an alternative timeline for the Council's two assemblies at their biannual meeting in May.

## Novena to the Divine Mercy

According to Faustina's Diary, Jesus himself in a vision asked that the Divine Mercy Novena be prayed as a preparation for the Feast of the Divine Mercy, celebrated each year on first Sunday after Easter. The Novena should begin on Good Friday.

[Pray the Novena](#)

## Supporting your Parish

For many of you it may be a time of financial restraint. But if anyone wishes to continue to financially support our Sacred Heart Parish you can continue your contribution by direct deposit as follows:

Bank: NAB

Account Name: Sacred Heart Parish Preston

BSB: 083-347

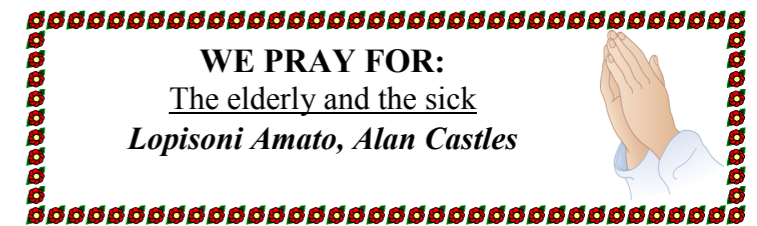
Account Number: 658787823

*(For those who contribute through Thanksgiving envelopes please use your envelope number or name as the description). Thank you*

## Collections

1st Collection: \$20.00

*Thank you for your kind generosity!*



**WE PRAY FOR:**  
The elderly and the sick  
*Lopisoni Amato, Alan Castles*

## A Prayer to St Joseph

You were receptive to God working in your life. Help us by your prayers at the time of trial.

You kept Jesus and Mary under your watchful care: may your prayers assist our local Church to respond to those in need.

You taught the Christ Child your trade and prayers: help us to follow his example of love.

You were part of God's plan for all humanity: assist us to be vigilant and responsible this day.

You spent your life in service: May we be mindful of others, particularly the elderly and vulnerable, caring for them in these difficult days.

You trusted in the clear primacy of God over all history and every situation: help us grow in faith and pray to the Father, *thy will be done.*

Amen



**Please click below for**

[A Coronavirus Prayer...by Karen Weber](#)

**Enjoy this weekly Catholic Radio Reflection:**

<https://www.dow.org.au/media-resources/journey-radio/>

## Sacred Heart Parish Prayer

**Loving God, we honour the heart of Jesus, your beloved Son. We remember how he opened his heart in love to all people. Open our own heart to receive the gifts that continue to flow so richly from the heart of Christ, who lives with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.**  
**Amen.**