

## 2nd Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy Sunday 27th - 28th April 2019

**First Reading:** Acts 5:12-16

*The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily.*

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

The Word of the Lord

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 117:2-4. 22-27. R. v.1

R/ Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

**Second Reading:** Rv 1:9-13, 17-19

*I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever.*

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle. When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

The Word of the Lord

**Gospel Acclamation:** Jn 20:29

**Alleluia, alleluia!** You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! **Alleluia!**

**Gospel:** Jn 20:19-31

*After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.*

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.



## Sacred Heart Parish Preston

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



### 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER - Year C DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY, 27th - 28th April 2019

#### “The Peace of the Lord Be With You!”

“Holy Week, culminating in our Easter celebration has once again come and gone. Participating in the liturgy has probably been a deeply moving and inspiring experience for many. But now life goes on as before, in a world that does not seem to have changed. The words of the Easter Preface, “the joy of the resurrection renews the whole world” don't seem to ring true as we are reminded of the loss of past wars and hear of ongoing acts of destruction, violence and discrimination still occurring in our time. We should not let a mood of despair or helplessness overwhelm us. That is not the way of the Gospel.

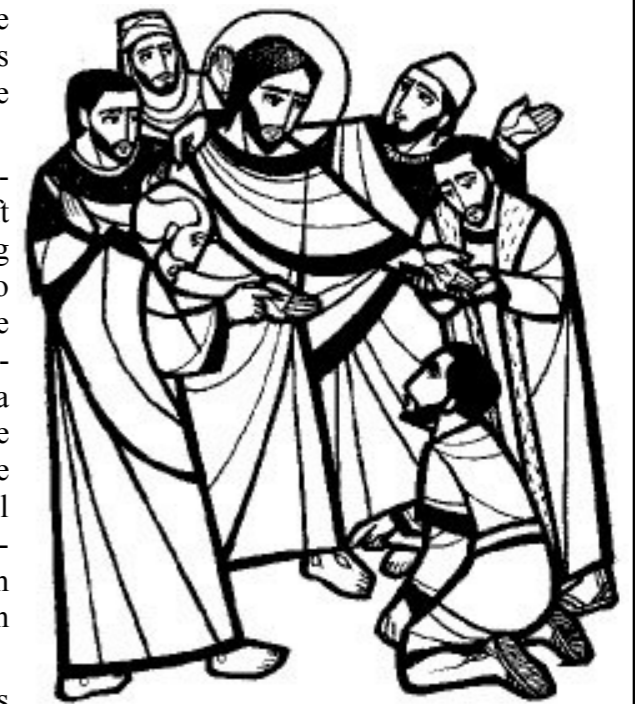
Today we hear of two appearances of Jesus following his death and burial. In the first appearance, the risen Lord brings “Shalom” – peace of heart and mind through forgiveness to a group of disciples who had locked themselves away in fear and shame since the horrific death of their leader. What a dramatic life changing situation it must have been when the One they had to abandon at His most vulnerable time became present to them without a word of reproach. “Shalom” – “Peace be with you” and breathed into them the Holy Spirit. Their faith restored, they are animated to accept Jesus' commissioning to share what they had received with others.

Today's liturgy celebrates Resurrection faith, derived from a shared experience of God's merciful and undying love in the midst human tragedy.

Resurrection faith awakens a sense of commitment to share the 'Jesus mission' to liberate, heal and restore friendship with God and each other.

Here we recall the appearance of Jesus to Thomas. We could drift through these Easter weeks repeating abstractly, “Happy are they who have not seen yet believed” or we might learn from Thomas traditionally dubbed a doubter, but in essence a forthright and honest person. To be able to recognise and touch the wounds of his beloved master was all he needed to awaken him to the power of the resurrection to transform human lives by sharing the mission of Jesus.

We should wish to see and be bearers of this power healing the wounds of our brothers and sisters; undoing oppression of violence and discrimination: bringing back into life those alienated by poverty, illness, despair and abuse. Thomas' recognition of his Lord and God in Jesus' wounds of suffering and death gives us every reason to believe in the impossible and to take up the challenge Jesus sets before us, ‘As the father has sent me so I'm sending you!’



**Office Hours:**  
Tues to Fri: 10.00am - 12.30pm

**Parish Priest:**  
Fr Jan Szweda, SVD  
**Priests in Residence:**  
Fr Ennio Mantovani SVD  
Fr Phuong Vu SVD, La Trobe  
University Chaplain  
**Parish Office:** Cristina Agius  
**School Principal:** Mark Tierney  
**School Phone:** 9484 3514

**Sacrament Co-ordinator:**  
Judeline Wadhvani

**Child Safety Officer:**  
Judeline Wadhvani  
M: 0490660787  
judeline.wadhvani@gmail.com

**Parish Council Members:**  
Catherine Zanatta (chairperson),  
Kay Dufty (secretary), Gerard  
Grant, Ophelia Swai, Anisasio  
(Pauline) Veamatahau, Mark  
Tierney, Fr Jan Szweda SVD

**St. Vincent de Paul Society:**  
Pauline O'Day (President)  
Ph: 9484 2445

#### Parish Mass Schedule

**Weekend Masses:**  
**Saturday:** 6:00pm  
**Sunday:** 9:00am (Italian),  
10:30 am, 6:00 pm

**Weekday Masses:**  
**Monday to Friday:** 9.10am

**Healing Mass:** 1st Thursday of  
the month at 1.30pm

**Devotional Practices:**

**Adoration of the Blessed  
Sacrament:** Wednesday after  
9.10am Mass

**Holy Rosary:** Thursday  
(English) & Friday (Italian) after  
9.10am Mass

**Legion of Mary:** Thursday  
7.30pm, in the Presbytery

**Reconciliation:**  
Weekdays: 30 minutes before  
Mass or by appointment

**Baptisms & Weddings:**  
By appointment only

**Divine Mercy Sunday**



Since the year 2000, the Church has concluded the Octave of Easter by celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday. This great solemnity calls the faithful to rejoice in the merciful love of God as it is most profoundly manifested in the Paschal Mystery of Jesus Christ. Simply speaking, the "Divine Mercy" is another name for the revelation of this magnificent love of God, which culminates in the life, death and resurrection of Christ. Christians have long known and praised this abundant mercy. In this sense, devotion to the Divine Mercy is not new. Less than a century ago, however, Christians were challenged by God himself to a renewed awareness and trust in His mercy, which has begun to fan the old flame of devotion into a more ardent veneration. Our Lord spoke to a young Polish nun, Faustina, giving her a timeless reminder for all of humanity: "Humankind will not have peace," He said, "until it turns with trust to my mercy. ... Proclaim that mercy is the greatest attribute of God." The feast of Divine Mercy is not only a beautiful reminder of the love of God, but also a challenge to a deeper understanding of who He is, and who we are in relation to Him. At the Mass for Faustina's canonisation, Pope John Paul prayed for her intercession. We should join him in this prayer: "Divine Mercy reaches human beings from the Heart of Christ crucified. ... Today, fixing our gaze with you [Faustina] on the face of the Risen Christ, let us make our own your prayer of trusting abandonment and say with firm hope: 'Jesus, I trust in You!'"

**Welcome!**

This weekend through Baptism we welcome: **Oliver Antonio Napoli** into our Parish family



**Sacred Heart Primary School Enrolments**

Enrolments for the 2020 school year are open. For a school tour, contact the school principal on 9487 1001 or via the school website: <http://ww.shpreston.catholic.edu.au>

**The Month of May: Our Mother's Month**

Soon we will celebrate the Mother's Day. It has taken on a bit of a consumeristic character, as we rush out to buy flowers for our wives and mothers. However, even the secular showering of gifts on mothers points to our innate understanding that motherhood is a precious gift to be appreciated and honoured.



In the church, May is also the month of motherhood. It is the month in which we celebrate the motherhood of Mary. Mary, who by becoming the Mother of Jesus, the Son of God, assumed a special role in our lives and became a mother to us all. Through our relationship with Jesus we have become adopted sons and daughters of the Father (Ephesians 1:5) making us the brothers and sisters of Christ. Hence, His mother has also become our mother by this adoption. And this adoptive motherhood is true motherhood in which we were conceived in her heart rather than her womb. We honour her as our mother because we are the recipients of her full motherly love.

**Mass for Expectant Mothers**

The Life, Marriage & Family Office warmly invites all expectant mothers and their families to the Mass for Expectant Mothers. The Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Peter A. Comensoli at St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June at 11.00am. Registrations can be made online at: [www.cam.org.au/lifemarriagefamily](http://www.cam.org.au/lifemarriagefamily) or alternatively by contacting: 9287 5587 or [lmf@cam.org.au](mailto:lmf@cam.org.au). Please note that registration closes on Friday 24 May. Expectant mothers who register will receive a small token of recognition.

**Coming Soon to Sacred Heart Parish Children's Liturgy of the Word**



**children's Liturgy**

Sacred Heart Parish is planning to start a Children's Liturgy during regular Mass times and would like to hear from parents of children aged 4-12 years who may be interested in enrolling their children. The Liturgy of the Word is a prayerful celebration of God's Word, reading from a Children's Bible and reflecting on the way we live our lives in the light of God's Word. If you would like to be kept informed of developments, please fill out the expression of interest register in the Church foyer or contact Natalie on 0422 718 681.

*Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14*

**Church in Australia deeply saddened by Sri Lankan attacks**

Australian Catholic Bishops have expressed shock at the attacks in Sri Lanka that have left many dead, including Catholics attending Easter celebrations. Archbishop Peter Comensoli wrote: "Prayer for the people of Sri Lanka at this devastating time. Especially, I carry in my heart the Christians who had come peacefully and with joy to celebrate their faith in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. May those who have died receive the gift of eternal life".

**Christian Leadership Lecture Series: Forming Disciples for Mission – A Scriptural Lens**

Wednesdays 8, 15, 22 and 29 May, 7pm–8.30pm (registration and light refreshments from 6.30pm) Mercy Lecture Theatre, Australian Catholic University, 115 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy  
This four-week series is for parish leaders and all those interested in exploring what Christian leadership looks and feels like in the context of 21st century Australia. This year's series will focus on scripture, offering participants a survey of key books, themes and figures from our biblical tradition. Guided by some of the country's leading biblical scholars, participants will explore a range of topics from creation through to the prophetic movement, the Lukan narrative and key figures in the formation of the early Church. Guest speakers include: Dr Mary Coloe pbvm, Rev. Assoc. Prof. Mark O'Brien OP, Rev. Dr Chris Monaghan CP and Dr Rosemary Cavanaugh.  
Cost: Individuals \$50 for all sessions or \$20 per session; group rate (5–10 people): \$200 for all sessions.  
Registrations: by 1<sup>st</sup> May at [www.trybooking.com/BBRXJ](http://www.trybooking.com/BBRXJ)

**Dates to Remember**

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May:** 1.30pm  
Mass with Anointing of the Sick

**Last Week's Collection: 21/04/19**

1st Collection for our Church: \$2739.50  
2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$1075.65  
Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land: \$886.65  
*Thank you for your kind generosity!*



**PLEASE TAKE THE BULLETIN HOME**



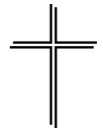
**WE PRAY FOR:**

The elderly and the sick  
*Peter Bourke, Brian Donnellon, Irene Navascues, Dale O'Keefe, Veronica Parkes, Rosie Poter, Lidia Razzi, Raul Reinal & Fr Jan Szweda*



Those who have died  
*Giovanni Maiolo & Giuseppa Maiolo*

O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.



**OZ ROSARY AROUND AUSTRALIA**

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May**  
Last year on 13<sup>th</sup> May, over 250 locations participated in Oz Rosary under the patronage of Bishop David Cremin. Bishop Cremin will continue as our patron this year at a similar event over the weekend of Friday 24 to Sunday 26 May—the weekend of the feast day of Australia's patron, Our Lady Help of Christians. Participation is encouraged anytime over the weekend, which provides some flexibility for people. This year we pray especially for our political leaders and the spiritual leaders of our Church—our cardinals, bishops and priests. Our continued prayers are also for youth and families. It would be wonderful if we could also participate in a 54-day Novena leading up to the event, starting on 1 April.  
**Download Flyer:** <https://bit.ly/2Cj4Lib>  
**Enquiries:** Jane Chifley on 0476 535 595 or [ozrosary53@gmail.com](mailto:ozrosary53@gmail.com)

**Cleaning Roster: Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

**Shantha/Cory**  
Thank you for your help!



**Roster for weekend of 4<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

	Readers	Ministers	Projector
<b>Sat 6.00pm</b>	Renato Tonini Celia Lemos	Charlotte Bainy Mary Harb	Rohan Lemos
<b>Sun 9.00am (Italian)</b>	Mancini L.	Santini G. Pavan M.	O'Neil A.
<b>Sun 10.30am</b>	Moira O'Brien Jessy Thambiraj	Pauline Veamatahau Alan Castles	Jessy Thambiraj
<b>Sun 6.00pm</b>	John Plum Robert Dullard	Benedicta Arhatari	Jessica Suppiah