

# The Living Word

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

12 April 2020

## First Reading Acts 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.'

## 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.  
or

(R.) Alleluia.

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,  
for his love has no end.  
Let the sons of Israel say:  
'His love has no end.' (R.)
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed;  
his right hand raised me up.  
I shall not die, I shall live  
and recount his deeds. (R.)
3. The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.  
This is the work of the Lord,  
a marvel in our eyes. (R.)

## Second Reading Col 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.

## or: 1 Cor 5:6-8

Throw away the old yeast, that you may be new dough.

You must know how even a small amount of yeast is enough to leaven all the dough, so get rid of all the old yeast, and make yourselves into a completely new batch of bread, unleavened as you are meant to be. Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast, then, by getting rid of all the old yeast of evil and wickedness, having only the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

## Gospel Acclamation 1 Cor 5:7-8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;  
let us feast with joy in the Lord.

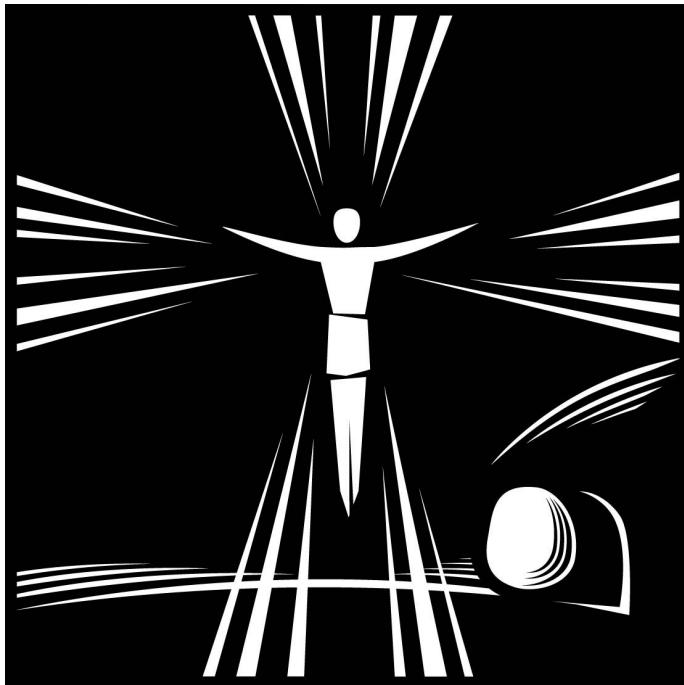
Alleluia!

## Gospel Jn 20:1-9

The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.



### **or Mt 28:1-10**

*He has risen from the dead and now he is going before you to Galilee.*

After the Sabbath, and towards dawn on the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala and the other Mary went to visit the sepulchre. And all at once there was a violent earthquake, for the angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled away the stone and sat on it. His face was like lightning, his robe white as snow. The guards were so shaken, so frightened of him, that they were like dead men.

But the angel spoke; and he said to the women, ‘There is no need for you to be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said he would. Come and see the place where he lay, then go quickly and tell his disciples, “He has risen from the dead and now he is going before you to Galilee; it is there you will see him.” Now I have told you.’ Filled with awe and great joy the women came quickly away from the tomb and ran to tell the disciples.

And there, coming to meet them, was Jesus. ‘Greetings,’ he said. And the women came up to him and, falling down before him, clasped his feet. Then Jesus said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers that they must leave for Galilee; they will see me there.’

### **Reflection by Fr Michael Tate**

Women go to the tomb as dawn is breaking. The Power of Darkness which had Jesus unjustly sentenced, cruelly tortured and buried in the pitch blackness of the tomb, is conquered by the Son-Rise of all sun rises flooding our world and the whole of human history with Divine Light and Energy.

This is the heart of our faith as Catholic Christians, which we celebrate with bon-fire (good fire) in darkness at the Easter Vigil. From that earthly element we light the Easter candle and the Exsultet is sung: ‘Be glad, let earth be glad as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King.’

The resurrection itself is nowhere described in the gospels, but we do have appearances of the Risen Lord Jesus. The first appearance was to a woman, Mary of Magdala. A title given to her by the early church was ‘Apostle to the Apostles’ because she was the bearer of the message which the male disciples initially did not believe. But eventually they too believed that Death had been done to death because the Son had risen.

Christ’s body was transfigured by the energy of Divine Love and we can, by grace, participate in that resurrection life of Our Lord. A glorious destiny awaits us, as indeed it awaits the whole cosmos as it is to be transformed by that resurrection life recreating the whole of creation.

We could take a moment to pray that we, along with all that matters, are graced with the life-giving energy of the Risen Son and that we may join Mary of Magdala in spreading the Good News of Christ’s victory over death. Alleluia!

[mtate@bigpond.com](mailto:mtate@bigpond.com)

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**Facebook pages:** - Joshy Kurien (**LIVE**)  
- Mary Queen of Apostles Parish  
- St Marys Crookwell

**YOUTUBE: Mary Queen of Apostles Catholic Parish**

**Recently Deceased:**

Keith McLaughlin, Aileen O'Donoghue, Colleen Sieler, Jean Reardon, Gina Pincott, Peter Koning, Harry Reher, Val Flanagan, Aileen Giles, Flo Cooper, Gabrielle Zabel, Laurence Squires, John Maynard

**Anniversaries:**

Pauline Brown, Mary Liddle, Sr Marietta Drew rsj,  
Terry Thistleton, Joyce Hart,

**Prayer List:**

Mary Douven, Pauline Taylor, Dawn Cummins, Ian Clune, Robyn Smart, Terry Druett, Marianne Barling, Patrick McCormack, Michelle O'Regan, Dorothy Kennedy, Pauline Taylor Penny Zwarenkant NZ (Victoria Gray's Sister) Russell Lynham, Gypsy Eldridge, Noel Plumb, Ken Anderson, Nita Price, Glenda Smith, Robyn Smart, For the elderly who are sick, For all who help and care for us

For all who support and pray for us

**Intentions:** Sr Ann Steenbergen, Joseph Conroy & Carlota Cunha, For all our St. Mary's Parish and Goulburn Mission and for all our families, extended families and friends. For Fr Joshy, Fr Alex , Sr Rosemary, Janet Haynes, Sharon Cashman

**Dear sisters & brothers in the Risen Lord,**  
**"Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!"**

This ancient greeting sums up what we celebrate this Easter Sunday, the joy of Christ risen and alive in our midst. Easter brings so many promises of God to us: life is stronger than death, love can overcome hate, goodness ultimately triumphs over evil and eternity and glory with God in heaven are our destiny.



The world is struggling with the COVID 19 pandemic. But despite the dreadful effect of coronavirus, we have been rediscovering the value of relationships by helping and caring for one another and nurture the goodness of humanity as nations, communities, families and neighbours. In the midst of this darkness, a ray of hope is breaking through. That's Easter. The Resurrection of Christ is the foundation of our Christian faith. We are Easter people. Many of you converted your homes and hearts to build a domestic Church for your family so you can pray and celebrate your faith together.

To everyone I pray that the love, light and joy of the Risen Lord may fill your hearts and homes always.

May His presence give you hope, His wisdom bring you comfort and may His blessing grant you peace.

*Christ is risen, Alleluia, Alleluia!*

**Happy Easter!**      **Father Joshy**

**keep in touch... If you haven't given you email address to the parish** - Please send an email to [Goulburn@cg.org.au](mailto:Goulburn@cg.org.au).  
Bulletins and updates from Fr Joshy and the Archbishop will be sent to your Emails. **Please spread the word.**

### EASTER MESSAGE 2020 - CORONA (CROWN) OF THORNS

Just a few months ago, none of us had heard of CORONAVIRUS. Now it is our uninvited Easter guest.

It seems the whole world has become sick due to its global presence.

We cannot get away from it. It has turned our world upside down. We are anxious and fearful. Even in supermarkets we appear to be suspicious of each other.

We are trying our best in our home isolation. The experience so far is one of mixed blessings. New routines are not easy to navigate on our own. Now whole families and others are to negotiate a new way of daily life for the next few months.

"Corona" is a Latin word meaning "crown". This pandemic has become a crown of thorns for us all.

In the hours before his death, Jesus too knew of a crown of thorns. It became one of his terrible sufferings before his death on the Cross of Calvary.

Jesus suffers with us in our sufferings. This is the meaning of the key word compassion.

The Easter message is clear: by suffering with the suffering Jesus we enter by Grace into the hope of Resurrection in Him. Doing this is not something of mere human initiative. We surrender to the Grace invitation of Jesus. The Risen Lord awaits our YES coming from our deepest selves. We do this as Church through, with and in Jesus. Mary and all the saints participate in this saving encounter. We are never alone.

This Easter will be celebrated in unprecedented circumstances. All our Churches are closed. Many, but not all, can participate via online platforms. It will be so new to us. Yet, this pandemic will eventually be contained. Hope insists on this.

We want, however, from the quasi-Monastic anchorage of our homes, to encounter Jesus more than ever. Our lives are in flux. Only Jesus remains forever. Alleluia!

Our new found Easter faith insists that it be expressed in practical charity. We do all we can to help those struggling. We thank the medical professionals, cleaners and volunteers, emergency forces, priests and religious, lay faithful and all who give us particular leadership in our time of real need of human closeness and the caress of the Lord who rises in our midst.

Happy Easter and every blessing to you all!

**Archbishop Christopher Prowse**

Canberra Goulburn Archdiocese

Apostolic Administrator of Wagga Wagga Diocese.