

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 Exultet 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!

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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.



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Fr Anthony Casamento CSMA

SUNDAY MASS: Suspended indefinitely. Check website for streamed Masses.

WEEKDAY MASS: Suspended indefinitely. Check website for streamed Masses.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: 9:00am to 3:00pm Mon – Fri

ST VINCENT DE PAUL REGIONAL HELP CENTRE: 9809 2757

Next Week: 2nd Easter (Divine Mercy) (A) Acts 2:42-47; 1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31.

Fr Stan writes ...

Dear Holy Spirit family,

In the Easter Gospel we hear about how the disciples found the tomb empty three days after Jesus' death. We are also told that they do not yet understand the Scriptures or that Jesus had been raised from the dead. That understanding gradually unfolded for the disciples as they began to experience the risen Lord. Similarly, our understanding of Jesus' Resurrection unfolds for us throughout our lives. In the weeks ahead, we will hear how the first disciples moved from confusion, doubt, and scepticism to faith. Their experience can teach us how we too might receive this gift of faith from God.

The Easter Gospel often has me wondering if we had been among the first disciples who heard that the stone had been removed from Jesus' tomb and that Jesus' body was no longer there, what would we have thought? What did Mary of Magdala, Simon Peter, and the disciple whom Jesus loved think had happened? Remember, this experience is the first indication Jesus' disciples have that he is risen. In the weeks ahead, the Gospel readings from our liturgy will show us how the disciples came to believe in Jesus' Resurrection through his appearances to them.

Our Easter faith is based on their witness to both the empty tomb and their continuing relationship with Jesus—in his appearances and in his gift of the Holy Spirit.



In this time of pandemic, when we feel so isolated and uncertain, we need to magnify the Easter message of hope. 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 is our destiny. I pray that Jesus may live in all our hearts, that we may always embrace Him with love and gratitude.

Fr Stan, Fr George, Fr Anthony and Parish Staff,
wish you and your families and loved ones, a

blessed and hope-filled Easter.

Alleluia! Christ Is Risen!



He Is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!



Saint Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle; be our
safeguard against the wickedness
and snares of the devil, may God
rebuke him we humbly pray; and
do you, O Prince of the heavenly
host, by the power of God, cast
into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world
seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Collection for Holy Land postponed

The traditional collection on Good Friday to assist Catholic communities in the Holy Land has been postponed until later this year. The Development and Fundraising Office will send out information to parishes once a new date is determined for this appeal

THANK YOU to those who have donated online through our parish website www.holyspiritnorthyde.org.au and to those that have dropped off their contribution at the parish office. You can well imagine that running expenses occur every day as well the ongoing upkeep of our priests, regardless of whether the faithful come to Mass or not. So, again, **THANK YOU!**



Devotions on Divine Mercy Sunday, 19th April, will be live streamed from our parish at 3:00pm.

www.holyspiritnorthyde.org.au

The Flame Café

is open for take away – 6:30am to 3:00pm

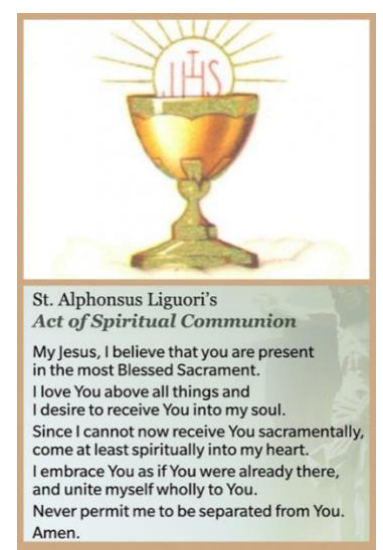
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PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF: Georg Hägler recently deceased in Germany.

Also, Frank & Edgar Falzon, Maria & Nino Rossi, Ignazio (Jim) Torrisi, Walter Gaspari, Charlie & Melina Bietola, Dr Raphael Panetta, Rosina & Michele Panetta, Rosa & Raffaele Fazzolari, Vincenzo & Caterina Cincotta, Mary & Sam Bietola, Frank Ientile, Maria Ientile, John, Annarita, Antonio Ientile, Natale Papandrea, Papandrea, Ientile, Cessario families, Angelo Fazzolari & Fazzolari family, Fortunato & Rosa Galluzzo & Galluzzo family, Rosina, Giuseppe, Salvatore & Bruno Panetta, Luigi, Rosina, Pasquale & Santa Genova, Mario & Dirce Gualdi, Antonino & Tindara Caravello, Alberto Tanzini, Vincenzo Surace, Antonio & Angelina Rando, Giuseppe & Maria Caterina Pupo, Baby Cove Rose Pupo, Emmanuela Delia, Angelo, Carmela & Paul Scicluna, Gregory Zammit, Christopher Cissie, Pauline Zahra, Lina Maria & Joe Mallia, Denis Wonderley, Marie & Jim Hyde and the deceased members of the Zammit and Zahra families.



St. Alphonsus Liguori's
Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present
in the most Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things and
I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there,
and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.