



HOLY FAMILY COMMUNITY



UNDER THE CARE OF THE AUSTRALIAN JESUIT PROVINCE

254 Luxford Road, Emerton, N.S.W. 2770
2020/Issue 14

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12th April 2020

We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land this Church was built.

Parish Priest
Assistant Priest
Novice Master
Pastoral Associate
Site Manager
Secretary
Music Director

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*Churches are not being closed. Buildings are being closed.
You are the Church! You are to remain open!*



REFLECTION FROM THE PARISH PRIEST *Easter Sunday*

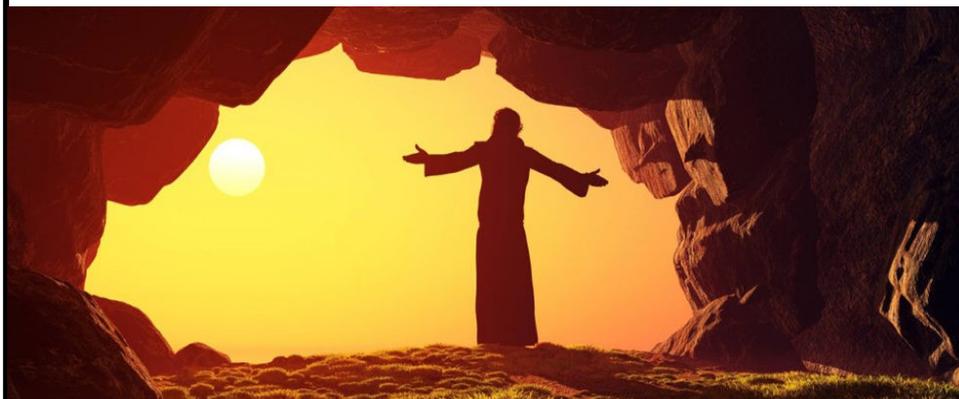
What a crazy month, and even a crazy Holy Week! Some are saying there are signs of the end times around us: bushfires, floods, COVID-19. This week has seen the release of Cardinal Pell from jail that is a moment of rejoicing for some and grieving for others. But the other devastation is that this is the third weekend where we are without the liturgy – and now without the Easter Triduum: the highest feast in our liturgical calendar.

While I am still free to say private Masses at home (which I offer for the needs of the parish), last weekend I joined with you in watching a Mass online. It felt very strange, like I was a spectator rather than a participant. And yet there was still a bond of connection with all the others viewing the same Mass. Yet not receiving the Eucharist on Sunday meant that I was not filled in the same way by God. In my later teenage years I went without Mass for a few months, and this corresponded to my life falling apart. I vowed then to commit to the Mass as a source of strength and companionship with God and the community. There were similar feelings for me in this experience on Sunday.

Easter is the festival where we begin by recognizing our weakness, our sinfulness. Within us is the capacity to turn from rejoicing to condemnation (as the crowds did from Palm Sunday to Good Friday). We can also be greedy and hurtful, especially in times of stress, where we look after ourselves at the expense of others. We also seek after as much power as we can gain so that we feel more secure, even if that means stretching the truth to suit our own story and advancement (as the Jewish Elders did to hold onto power, letting one man die instead of the whole people). Each of us has our weakness and sinfulness that betray our faith and keep us centred on ourselves rather than on God. Alone, we cannot overcome all these sins.

Thankfully, God has not left the story there – God sent his only son into the world, that we might be saved through him. Through the Easter mysteries we are restored to the family of God. We are invited back to recognize, again and again, that we really do love Jesus – and that he certainly loves us! We are invited to recognize Jesus in the breaking of bread (at whatever table we sit at) and recognize when our hearts are burning with the Word spoken to us.

Sitting around a table, alone or with our family this Easter weekend, can be Eucharist in a different form. We can still have the Easter light shine in our hearts.



We can still listen to the Word of God in our speech and in the voice of others telling of how God has always journeyed with us. We can still recognize and celebrate our common Baptism and fellowship with one another. We can still break bread together and be sent out into the world as heralds of mercy and love. May we find God in new and surprising ways this Easter season.

Fr Gregory



SCRIPTURE READINGS—YEAR A YEAR OF MATTHEW

EASTER TRIDUUM SERVICES

LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD



HOLY THURSDAY

FIRST READING: Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14

The Lord instructs Moses for the first Passover.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps 115:12-13, 15-18. R. cf. 1 Cor 10:16

R. Our blessing cup is a communion with the blood of Christ.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Until the Lord comes, every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim his death.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Jn 13:34

**Praise and honour to you,
Lord Jesus Christ!**

I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.

**Praise and honour to you,
Lord Jesus Christ!**

GOSPEL: John 13:1-15

To the end he showed love for them.



GOOD FRIDAY

FIRST READING: Isaiah 52:13- 53:12

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Ps 30:2,6,12-13,15-17,25. R. Lk 23:46

R. Father, I put my life in your hands.

SECOND READING: Hebrew 4:14-16; 5:7-9

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Philipians 2:8-9

**Glory and praise to you,
Lord Jesus Christ!**

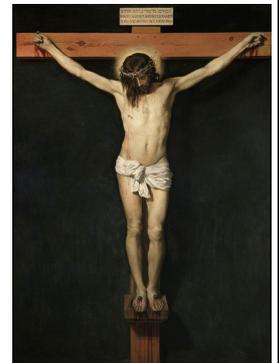
Christ became obedient for us even to death,
dying on the cross.

Therefore God raised him on high and gave
him a name above all other names.

**Glory and praise to you,
Lord Jesus Christ!**

GOSPEL: John 18:1- 19:42

The Passion narrative.



EASTER VIGIL

READINGS:

Genesis 1:1-2:2

The seven days of Creation.

Genesis 22: 1-18

God asks Abraham to sacrifice
his son, Isaac.

Exodus 14:15-15:1

The Egyptian army pursues the
Israelites, Moses parts the waters.

Isaiah 54: 5-14

The Lord's love for the people is
everlasting.

Isaiah 55: 1-11

The Lord calls and will make a
lasting covenant with you.

Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4

Follow the commands of the Lord
and you will live in peace.

Ezekiel 36:16-28

The Lord will cleanse you of your
sins.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

Ps 103:1-2,5-6,10,12-14,24,35 R.v30

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Ps 15:5,8-11. R.v1

R. Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.

Exodus 15:1-6,17-18. R.v1

Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.

Ps 29:2,4-6,11-13. R.v2

I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

Isaiah 12:2-6. R.v3

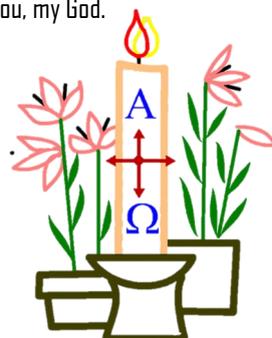
You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

Ps 18:8-11. R. Jn6:68

Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

Ps 41:3,5; 42Ps, 4. R. Ps 41:2

Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul longs
for you, my God.



EPISTLE

Romans 6:3-11

By our baptism, we are dead to sin
and alive in Christ.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

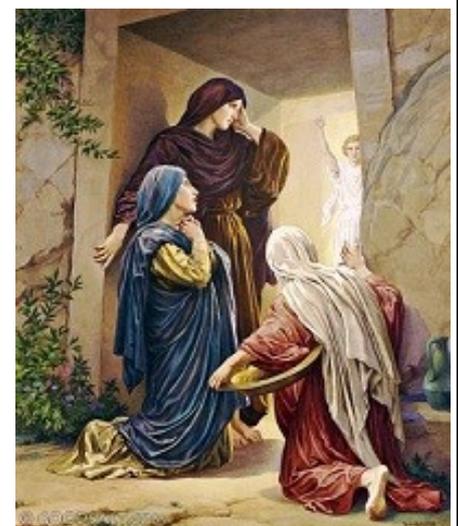
Ps 117:1-2,16-17,22-23

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL:

Mt 28:1-10

The women meet an angel at the
empty tomb.





SCRIPTURE READINGS—YEAR A YEAR OF MATTHEW

EASTER SUNDAY

LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD



FIRST READING: Acts 10:34,37-43

Peter recounts the deeds of Jesus.

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.

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.

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.

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: Colossians 3:1-4

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

OR

1 Corinthians 5: 6-8

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: 1 Corinthians 5:7-8

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

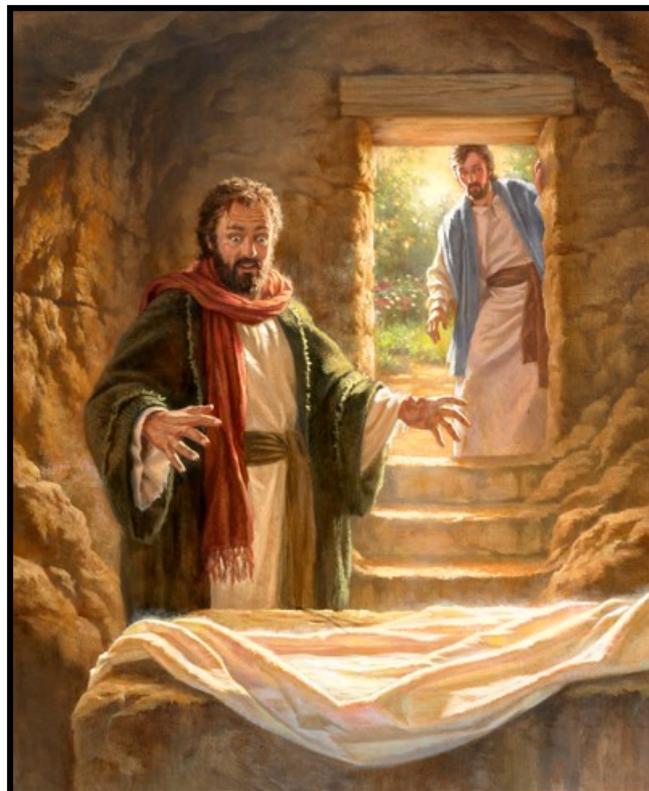
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: John 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 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.

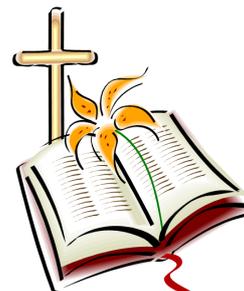


Find the full text for Readings at Mass via:

- www.universalis.com/Australia
- www.ewtn.com/catholicism/daily-readings

Or download any one of these apps on to your phone to access daily readings:

- iBreviary
- Catholic Daily Readings
- Laudate

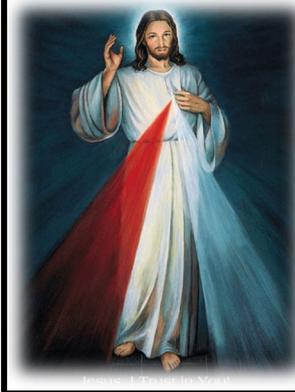


READINGS FOR SUNDAY 19th APRIL 2020 — SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

First Reading: Acts 2:42-47

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Gospel: John 20:19-31



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE MASS FOR YOU AT HOME

DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA

EASTER TRIDUUM MASSES

WITH BISHOP VINCENT LONG OFM CONV

HOLY THURSDAY
THURSDAY 9 APRIL 7.30PM
GOOD FRIDAY
FRIDAY 10 APRIL 3.00PM
EASTER VIGIL
SATURDAY 11 APRIL 7.30PM
EASTER SUNDAY
SUNDAY 12 APRIL 11.00AM



LIVE STREAM YouTube

www.facebook.com/parracatholic
www.youtube.com/user/ParramattaDiocese



Easter at St Mary's Cathedral *Live Stream Schedule*

Palm Sunday
5 April 2020

10:30 Mass
- *Live streamed*

Maundy Thursday
9 April 2020

6:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
- *Live streamed*

Good Friday
10 April 2020

10am Stations of the Cross
3pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord
- *Televised on Channel 7*

Holy Saturday
11 April 2020

6:30pm Easter Vigil
- *Live Streamed*

Easter Sunday
12 April 2020

10:30am Mass
- *Televised on Channel 7*

Livestream: www.sydneycatholic.org/holy-week-live/

1 Make an act of faith
Come up with your own prayer or use a traditional one to express to the Lord our faith in his real presence in the Eucharist.

2 Make an act of love
Say a prayer that expresses your love and gratitude to the Lord. Thank Him for his infinite love as well.

4 steps for Spiritual Communion



3 Express your desire to receive him
As you are not able to physically receive the Lord, express your desire to receive Him in your heart.

4 Invite Jesus to come into your heart
With a humble and contrite heart we ask the Lord to come to us just as He would if we were able to receive the sacrament.

During this time of lock-down, you may still receive the Eucharist. Someone from your family will need to come to the Parish and collect consecrated hosts in a suitable container (preferably a pyx) and handle this with the necessary sacredness. We would prefer if you came regularly rather than take home large amounts.

Contact Fr Gregory on 0487 778 154 over the Easter break if you need any assistance.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the Holy Eucharist. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment 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.

O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine, all praise and all thanksgiving be every moment Thine! (3 times)

In an ever changing world, the Holy Eucharist is a constant reminder of the great reality of God's changeless love.

- Mother Teresa



Let's continue the spirit of

Holy Week...

On Palm Sunday, we joined Christians around the world, by hanging palms on our doors... here were some of our families:

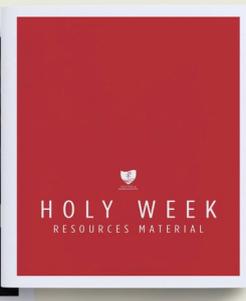


We are being encouraged to continue this spirit by:

- ◆ Hanging a crucifix on your door OR wall on Good Friday to remember Jesus' Passion.
- ◆ Lighting a candle at home during the celebration of the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday.

Continue to share your pictures with us via our Facebook page: [Holy Family Parish Mt Druitt](#) Hashtag: #HFMDHOLYWEEK #WEARECHURCH

HOLY WEEK RESOURCES & FAMILY ACTIVITIES



To download the resources, visit: www.parracatholic.org/covid19



PARISH COLLECTIONS

- Some of you have been asking about your contributions towards the Planned Giving Envelope scheme. We thank you for your continued support and suggest that you either:
 - hold on to your envelopes until things return to normal;
 - drop your envelopes into the office (as per necessary)
 - consider making a direct transfer to the parish account, referencing your envelope number and last name. The details are:

Commonwealth Bank

**Acc Name: Mount Druitt Catholic Church
BSB: 067 950 Acc No.: 00446**

- If you would like to make a donation towards the Diocesan Priests' Pastoral Revenue, i.e. 1st Collection, you can do so via:

**Acc Name: Parramatta Diocesan Clergy
BSB: 067 950 Acc No.: 00004265
Make sure to Reference: 6024 Donation**

- For your Project Compassion boxes/ envelopes, please use the same process as the Planned Giving envelopes mentioned above.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Office. We are thinking of and praying for you all, and look forward to the time we can gather again as Communion.

Easter Offerings

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD
Ephesians 5:1-2
Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.
Your gift supports our parish to share Christ's message of love and salvation with all
[Visit parracatholic.org/easter-offerings](http://parracatholic.org/easter-offerings)

May the joy of the Lord's Resurrection be with you and your whole family!
Happy Easter!

EASTER SUNDAY

Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!

Thank you for supporting us this year as we demonstrate how love and compassion for our global community can transform lives. You will be helping to empower the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and share their strengths with their communities to lift themselves out of poverty.

When we **Go Further Together** in love and compassion, the whole world thrives.

Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2020 Lenten appeal.

www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion #projectcompassion 1800 024 413

PROJECT COMPASSION GO FURTHER TOGETHER



PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY TO PROJECT COMPASSION
www.caritas.org.au 1800 024 413 #projectcompassion
 Caritas AUSTRALIA End poverty. Transform lives. Lift up dignity.