

Dear Friends and Parishioners,

The Peace and Joy of the Risen Lord be with you all.

We Capuchin Friars of South Melbourne, wish you all a Holy and Happy Easter.

This most special of all Mornings I offered the Easter Sunday Mass, accompanied by Br. Michael for you dear Friends and Parishioners, and for all your intentions that the Risen Lord will bestow upon you his Risen Presence and nourish you spiritually through the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

Today dear Friends we celebrate Our Lord's Presence in and for our times. Yes, we remember the Sacred Scriptures that give witness to what the Prophets and Apostles preached and wrote about the Messiah who was to come to save his people. Well he came exactly as was promised by God the Father and moreover, by the Lord's life, sufferings death and his Resurrection. Today we hear once again the witness of Mary of Magdala, the first to see the Risen Lord. We hear from Peter and John who saw the empty tomb, the silent witness, they went in and they remembered and believed in what the Lord said.

Today dear Friends as we celebrate our Lord's Resurrection we are the new witnesses of this Stupendous and unrepeatable event. The Risen Lord has called and commissioned us to give witness with joy and courage to all our brothers and sisters, in our world smitten with this deadly disease. To continue to believe even if this deadly disease tells us otherwise. How by our turning our belief into words of love and action that bear out the One in whom we believe. We say 'yes we have not seen but we believe.' Yes, we believe in the testimony of faith of our first witnesses who tell us they saw, and they believed. They saw and heard the Risen Lord saying to them, "Peace be with you... Thomas come place your fingers in my side, look and believe." Yes, we have not seen but believe in these witnesses who say to us, "He is Risen as he said..." He is here for us today to bless us in our needs and to fill our poor and anxious hearts with his Peace and Joy.

Alleluia, Alleluia,

He is Risen as he said. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Fr. John Spiteri OFMCAP. Adm.