

STS PETER & PAUL'S

CATHOLIC PARISH SOUTH MELBOURNE



Under the Pastoral care of the Capuchin Friars

4th April 2021

The Easter Sunday New Morning

The tomb was empty. In the early morning darkness of that first Easter, there was only confusion for Mary Magdalene and the other disciples. But as the daylight spread, they saw the dawning of a new creation.

At first they didn't understand the Scripture, today's Gospel tells us. We don't know which precise Scripture texts they were supposed to understand. Perhaps it was the sign of Jonah, who rose from the belly of the great fish after three days (see Jonah 1:17). Or maybe Hosea's prophecy of Israel's restoration from exile (see Hosea 6:2). Perhaps it was the psalmist who rejoiced that God had not abandoned him to the netherworld (see Psalm 16:9–10).

Whichever Scripture it was, as the disciples bent down into the tomb, they saw and they believed. What did they see? Burial shrouds in an empty tomb. The stone removed from the tomb. Seven times in nine verses we hear that word—"tomb."

What did they believe? That God had done what Jesus said He would do—raised Him up on the third day (see Mark 9:31; 10:34).

What they saw and believed they bore witness to, as today's First Reading tells us. Peter's speech is a summary of the gospels—from Jesus' baptism in the Jordan to His hanging on a tree (see Deuteronomy 21:22–23), to His rising from the dead.

We are children of the apostles, born into the new world of their witness. Our lives are now "hidden with Christ in God," as today's Epistle says. Like them, we gather in the morning on the first day of the week—to celebrate the Eucharist, the feast of the empty tomb.

We rejoice that the stones have been rolled away from our tombs, too. Each of us can shout, as we do in today's Psalm: "I shall not die, but live." They saw and believed. And we await the day they promised would come—when we, too, "will appear with Him in glory."

Scott Hahn

ABOUT OUR PARISH

Parish Priest:

Fr John Spiteri OFM Cap

Parish secretary:

Mon, Tues and Thurs

9:30am–3pm

Emerald Hill Mission (EHM)

CONTACT US:

Phone

9690 5895 (parish)

0409 417 412 (EHM)

Email

stspeterandpauls@gmail.com

Facebook

[@stspeterandpauls](https://www.facebook.com/stspeterandpauls)

Web

stspeterandpauls.com

MASS TIMES

Sunday 10am,

Saturday 6pm (Vigil)

Mon - Thu: 8am

Fri: 10am followed by
adoration

Saturday: 10am

Confession Times:

Sat 10:30am, 5:15pm

Happy Easter

Dear Parishioners,

“The Lord has Risen as he said.” Alleluia, Alleluia,

Easter Greetings to you.

This time last year the covid 19 lockdown had begun. The lockdown would me that we as a Catholic Parish could not prepare nor celebrate Holy Week, and Easter together. The whole world was thrown into complete disaster and there were no immediate answers to this terrible pandemic.

Today we are ending the sacred season of Lent as we enter into the Sacred Triduum, that is the Passion of Jesus leading to his death, burial and Resurrection. It is a great time for us to continue to walk the path of reflection on the way of the Lord. In the sacred season of Lent we were called to intensify our reading and meditating on the sacred Scriptures that we either heard proclaimed at Mass or read privately in our rooms...

Lent was the preparation time of going into our garden of Gethsemane to spend time with our Lord Jesus. Lent was also the time for us increase our penitential way of praying and living out the Gospel we heard proclaimed at Mass. This weekend we begin our celebration of the most intensive portion of our Lord’s life. He was arrested by the Temple Police, handed over to the Governor Pontius Pilate and edged on by the Jewish Sanhedrin Council, Pontius Pilate passed the sentence of death by Crucifixion upon Jesus.

After his trail at the hands of Pilate, Jesus was taken by the Roman soldiers, and scourged, crowned with thorns, mocked and finally made to carry his Cross to Calvary or Golgotha, where he would be crucified with two thieves. After Jesus died a soldier would pierce the heart of Jesus with a lance, to ensure he was dead. Then through the intervention of some of Jesus’s friends Pontius Pilate allowed them to take the body Jesus from the Cross and buried in the tomb of another person. The soldiers rolled the round stone across the entrance of the tomb to stop anyone from interfering with the body of Jesus or to steal it. To many of the members of the Sanhedrin that was the final solution of getting rid of this rabble-rouser, Jesus.

However, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ would not permit the sacred body of his Son, Jesus to experience corruption in the tomb. Jesus arose from the dead as the Scriptures foretold on the third day. When the women friends of Jesus and Mary his mother came early on the Sunday morning to complete the burial ceremonies of the Jewish Law. The women had an important question, “who would move the stone so they could get into the tomb?” When they arrived the tomb was open, the body of Jesus was missing. What happened to Jesus? He appeared to Mary and said to her, “Go tell the brothers they will see me in Galilee...” What about us, where shall we go to see the Risen Lord? We continue to celebrate the Holy Eucharist, where Jesus feeds us with his Risen Body, where we hear him speaking to us. We become the witnesses of the Resurrection of Jesus, to others not only having heard to Lord speaking to us but also the great privilege of Jesus giving himself to us through the Eucharist. Dear Parishioners let us rejoice that the Lord is truly with us and we can go and see the Lord each time we come to celebrate the Sacraments together. Alleluia, Alleluia, “He has Risen as he said.” Alleluia, Alleluia.

Fr John.



The Tribunal of Mercy

In Poland 1937, Jesus asked St. Faustina Kowalska, "Write, speak of My mercy. Tell souls where they are to look for solace; that is, in the TRIBUNAL OF MERCY [the Sacrament of Reconciliation]. There the greatest miracles take place [and] are incessantly repeated. To avail oneself of this miracle, it is not necessary to go on a great pilgrimage or to carry out some external ceremony; it suffices to come with faith to the feet of My representative and to reveal to him one's misery, and the miracle of Divine Mercy will be fully demonstrated. Were a soul like a decaying corpse so that from a human standpoint, there would be no [hope of] restoration and everything would already be lost, it is not so with God.

The miracle of Divine Mercy restores that soul in full." (*Diary of St. Faustina 1148*)

"Daughter, when you go to confession, to this fountain of My mercy, the Blood and Water which came forth from My Heart always flows down upon your soul and ennoble it. Every time you go to confession, immerse yourself entirely in My mercy, with great trust, so that I may pour the bounty of My grace upon your soul. When you approach the confessional, know this, that I Myself am waiting there for you. I am only hidden by the priest, but I Myself act in your soul.

Here the misery of the soul meets the God of mercy." (*Diary of St. Faustina 1602*)

Source: *Divine Mercy Publication*

Happy Easter

The Capuchin Friars would like to thank you for your generosity and continues support.

We wish you and your loved ones God's special blessings for a holy and peace filled Easter.

*Br Michael
Guardian*

Please remember in your prayers and Masses the following people who are ill:
 Sr Annunciata, Valda Hogan, Flo O'Hara, Sr Joyce Stewart, Peter Wood, Vandersman Family, Joanne Kilmer, Liliana Bobadilla, Ruby Roxa, Eunice Costa, Richard Fennessy, Giovanna Santarossa, James Burnes, James Atkins, Jeff Martin, Naomi McSweeney, Miles Buntleski, Maria Cimino, Teresa Sheehan, Bob White, Joseph Barbara, Helen Keighery.



Easter Sunday

Entrance Antiphon: I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me, the knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

1st Reading – Acts 10:34,37-43

Peter's personal testimony about the Resurrection; God has chosen special men as witnesses of the Risen Christ and their task is to spread the Good News.

Responsorial Psalm

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

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.'

The Lord's right hand has triumphed; His right hand raised me up. I shall not die, I shall live and recount His deeds.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

2nd Reading – Colossians 3:1-4

Through our baptism we share constantly and closely with the life of Christ. Our lives should be in keeping with the dignity this bestows on us.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

Gospel – John 20:1-9

First to come to the tomb, Mary Magdalene finds it empty. She was chosen to be the first messenger of the good news of Christ's Resurrection.

Next week's readings: 1 Acts 4:32-35
 2 1 John 5:1-6
 Gospel John 20:19-31

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

We pray together:

We pray for Christ's church, that we may have a living faith in His Resurrection.

We pray for the world-wide human family, that a new era of peace will dawn across the face of the earth.

We pray for communities overwhelmed by floods while still recovering from bushfire devastation, that they will receive the immediate and on-going assistance they need.

We pray for the newly baptised, that the Easter sacraments they have received will bear fruit in lives of generous love.

We pray for all involved in vaccination programmes here and overseas, that their tireless efforts will save many lives and bring the pandemic under control.

We pray for all who are returning to Christ, for the courage to live a new life.

We remember with compassion our family and friends who have gone before us. Hold them in your keeping, especially those who have died recently Eva Lee and those whose anniversaries occur about this time Zoran Romic, Fr Neale Wilson, Fr Gerry Briglia, Jock Sinclair, Ellen Kennedy, Gladys Browhill, Thelma & Jim Rodda, Eileen & Percy Dunn, Val Dunn, Patricia Ryan, Mabel & David Dewar, Irena Sibley, Dianne South, Luke O'Keeffe, Father Robert Coghlan.

Collections : March 27/28, 2021
 1st Collection: \$1110
 2nd Collection: \$710
 Online per week (Feb): \$1,300
 1st Collection goes to the Friars
 2nd collection for the running costs of the Parish.
 EFT Donations:
 Account Name: Parish SS Peter & Paul
 BSB: 083 155
 Account number: 515577466

	Readers	E.M.E	Hospitality	Floral Arrangement
Sat 03	Andy, Olwen, Angela			Priska & Ann T
Sun 04	Merlyn & Ann T	Carmel		
Sat 10	Adrian			Gerardine F & Sue
Sun 11	Janet & Geraldine C	Merlyn		