

BIRTHDAY: A very Happy Birthday to our dear Jan Morris who celebrates her special day on St George's feast day, 23 April. We hope you have a lovely day Jan!

RECONCILIATION: Children from St Mary's receiving the sacrament of Reconciliation on Thursday, 10 April. It was a lovely evening; thank you to the children, their parents and families, Carla Durnan, Jess Afflick, Alyssa Ziegler and Father George.



We wish all our parishioners, visitors and friends a very Happy Easter filled with the Peace and Joy of the Risen Lord.
HAPPY EASTER



Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn

Archbishop Prowse 2025 Easter Message

2025 is known in the Catholic Church as a "Jubilee Year of Pilgrims of Hope".

Our Easter pilgrimage of hope continues "in a synodal way" as we reflect on the great blessings of this holy season. Having embraced the spiritual practices of Lent, we are now called to live fully in the joy and renewal of Easter.

The path forward begins with responding communally to the **GREAT COMMANDMENT** (Matt. 22/37-40). Easter reminds us of the transformative power of loving God and our neighbour with pure hearts, free from hatred and division. We must foster prayerful silences, embrace repentance, and engage in meaningful dialogue, even with those we disagree with. By discerning common ground through the Holy Spirit, we embody the essence of being "synodal"—walking together in faith.

Equally important is our communal response to the **GREAT COMMISSION** (Matthew 28/19-20). The joy of Easter propels us to share the Good News and welcome others into the living body of Christ through Baptism. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we become "fishers of people" (Mark 1/18), intentionally reaching out with open hearts to bring others closer to Jesus and His Church. Synodality reminds us that this evangelisation involves encounter, conversion, and the sharing of our God-given gifts. It is a shared responsibility that calls all of us to be missionary disciples.

As we move forward as a community, let's focus on becoming a vibrant, Trinitarian Church. By balancing sound governance with relational spirituality, we can create an evangelising Church alive with the Spirit. We should discern our individual and communal charisms while sharing responsibility for our mission.

Easter is a time for renewal and action. Simple acts of prayer, kindness, and deep listening enable us to embody a synodal spirit. Choosing to listen, discern, and pray for others reflects the joy and renewal of Easter.

One critical issue facing our communities this Easter is mental health. With the challenges brought about by the breakdown of family life, growing individualism, and the prevalence of narcissistic behaviours, this issue continues to affect many. Yet, in the midst of this suffering, we see acts of quiet courage and resilience. The Risen Christ is closest to those who endure such trials, and we, as disciples, are called to be present to them in love and compassion.

Easter is a season of hope, one that calls us to be "Pilgrims of Hope" in every sense. Let us walk together, renewed in faith, as we respond to the GREAT COMMANDMENT by loving purely and the GREAT COMMISSION by evangelising joyfully. May we build a Church that reflects the glory of the Resurrection and brings hope to the world.

Archbishop Christopher Prowse

SACRED HEART PARISH MORUYA



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Web: <http://cg.org.au/Moruya>
Priest: Fr George Azhakath
Secretary: Mrs Vickie Moore
Parish Office hours: Wed and Fri 9:00am—2:00pm



Mass Times:
Moruya: Sat: Vigil 5:00pm Sun: 10:00am

Tue: 5:00pm, Wed, Thu & Fri: 9:15am/1st Saturday of the month 9:15am

Tuross: Sun: 8:00am Bodalla: 4th Sunday of the month 3:00pm/2nd Thursday of the month 9:00am

Reconciliation: Every Saturday @ Moruya 4:30pm-4:50pm before Vigil Mass

1st Saturday of the month @ Moruya 8:15am-9:00am

Devotions: Daily Rosary and Saturdays 9:30am **Adoration:** All Fridays after 9:15am Mass

Schools: St Mary's Moruya 4474 2817 Principal: Jo Wain / Carroll College Broulee 4471 5600 Principal: Jacqui Heffernan

Caring Groups: Tuross Head: 0497 315 534 Moruya: 0431 354 993

The Resurrection of Our Lord

- YEAR C -

20 April 2025

Easter Sunday

The Lord has risen indeed, Alleluia!

Easter is the greatest and the most important feast in the Church. "Easter literally means *"the feast of fresh flowers"*. We celebrate Easter with pride and jubilation for three reasons:

The resurrection of Christ is the basis of our Christian faith: It is the greatest of miracles—it proves that Jesus is God. Without the Resurrection, Jesus would have remained for ever a good person who met a tragic end. People would remember some of his teachings and a handful of people might try to live according to them. All the basic doctrines of Christianity are founded on the truth of the Resurrection. "*Jesus is Lord, he is risen*" (Rom 10:9) was the central theme of the kerygma (or "preaching") of the apostles. There is a story of two women who stood before Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. One asked, "Why can't we build structures like this anymore?" Her friend answered "The people who built this had faith. Today we have only opinions. And you can't build a cathedral with opinions".



Easter is the guarantee of our own resurrection: Jesus assured Martha at the tomb of Lazarus: "*I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me will live even though he dies*" (Jn 11/25) Christ will raise us up on the last day, but it is also true, in a sense, that we have already risen with Christ. By virtue of the Holy Spirit, Christian life is already a participation in the death and Resurrection of Christ (Catechism of the Catholic Church #1002, #1003 p. 261).

Easter is a feast which gives us hope and encouragement in this world of pain, sorrows and tears: It reminds us that life is worth living. It is our belief in the real presence of the risen Jesus that gives meaning to our personal, as well as to our common, prayers. Our trust in the all-pervading presence of the risen Lord gives us strength to fight against temptations, and freedom from unnecessary worries and fears. The prayer of St Patrick, the Apostle of Ireland reads "*Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ within me, never to part*".

Prayer after Communion: Lord, we thank you for coming into our hearts in Communion. We believe you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. You are our life and our hope. Draw us more deeply to yourself and transform our hearts through your abiding love. May we come to know Sunday as a special day of faith, the day of our Risen Lord. May our celebration of the Eucharist on Sunday consecrate this day to you.

O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine, All Praise and All Thanksgiving be every moment Thine

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading 10:34, 37-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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.'

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

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.

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

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

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.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

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

P: The Lord be with you

All And with your spirit

P: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

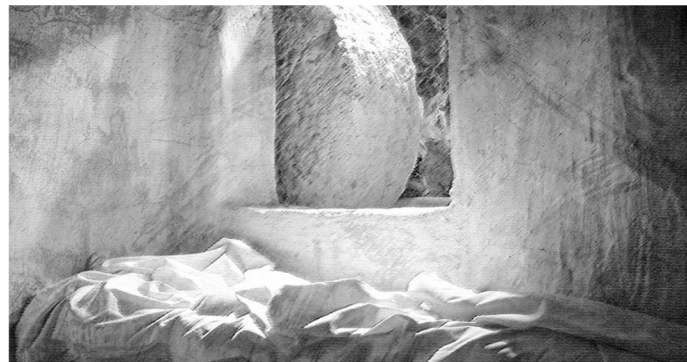
All: Glory to you O Lord

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.

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ



THE WORD AND LIFE this week ...

1) We are to be resurrection people: Easter, the feast of the resurrection, gives us the joyful message that we are a "resurrection people". This means that we are not supposed to live buried in the tomb of our sins, evil habits and dangerous addictions. It gives us the good news that no tomb can hold us down anymore—not the tomb of despair, discouragement or doubt, nor that of death. Instead, we are expected to live a joyful and peaceful life, constantly experiencing the real presence of the resurrected Lord in all the events of our lives.

2) We need to seek our peace and joy in the Risen Jesus: The living presence of the resurrected Lord gives us lasting peace and celestial joy in the face of the boredom, suffering, pain and tensions of our day-to-day life. "*Peace be with you*" was a salutation to his disciples at all post-resurrection appearances. For the true Christian, every day must be an Easter Day lived joyfully in the close company of the Risen Lord.

3) We are to be transparent Christians: We are called to be transparent Christians, showing others, through our lives of love, mercy, compassion and self-sacrificing service, that the risen Jesus is living in our hearts.

4) We need to live new, disciplined lives in the Risen Jesus: Our awareness of the all-pervading presence of the risen Lord in and around us, and the strong conviction of our own coming resurrection, help us control our thoughts, desires, words and behaviour. This salutary thought inspires us to honour our bodies, keeping them holy, pure and free from evil habits and addictions. Our conviction about the presence of the risen Lord in our neighbours, and in all those with whom we come into contact, should encourage us to respect them, and to render them loving, humble and selfless service.

5) We need to remember Easter in our Good Fridays: Easter reminds us that every Good Friday in our lives will have an Easter Sunday, and that Jesus will let us share the power of his resurrection. Each time we display our love of others, we share in the resurrection. Each time we face betrayal of trust, we share in the resurrection of Jesus. Each time we fail in our attempts to ward off temptations but keep on trying to overcome them—we share in the resurrection. Each time we continue to hope—even when our hope seems unanswered—we share in the power of Jesus's resurrection. In short, the message of Easter is that nothing can destroy us—not pain, sin, rejection nor death—because Christ has conquered all these, and we too can conquer them if we put our faith in Him.

6) We are to be bearers of the Good News of resurrection power: Resurrection is good news, but at the same time, it is sometimes painful because it involves death. Before the power of the resurrection can take hold in our lives, we are called to die in sin, to die to self. We may even have to die to our own dreams, so that God can do what He wants to do with our lives. Resurrection is about seeing our world in a new way. Early that Easter morning, Mary did not find what she was looking for, the dead body of Jesus. But she found something better than she could have imagined: the risen Jesus. Sometimes, the things we think we want most are not granted to us. What we get instead is an experience of God's new ways of working in the world. That's the power of the resurrection. When those moments come, we must spread the news—just as Mary did: *We have seen the Lord!*

NOTICES FROM THE PARISH

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND: We continue to extend our support to those at Banksia Village, IRT Moruya, the sick members of our Parish and all those in need of our prayers: Kathleen, Gerry and Dianne Ebbelaar, Kylie Leplaw, Andy McCosker, Bala Stankovich, Clare Broekhuysse, Jan Morris, Christopher Morris, Lee Maat, Kirk Dowling, Rosemary Patyus, Kay Morton, Sue and Rod McDonald, Hans Brosch, Father Giles Setter OFM, John Nader, Mark Wales, Jenny Hopkins, Tammy Whiteman, Clair Holmes, Patricia Murphy, Barbara Kirk, Janice Setter, Pauline de Grave, Paul Ryan, Rita Marion, Viola Collaran, John Munce, Sylvia Heffernan, Leo Kop, Rae and Peter Fishlock.

A Gift to your Church in Your Will Making a gift to the Sacred Heart Parish, Moruya is a meaningful gift and legacy to your faith community, a gift that will be remembered forever... To make a bequest, you should consult your solicitor or trustee company. It may be sufficient to make an addition or amendment to an existing will by adding a codicil. If you would like to assist your Parish for its upkeep and maintenance, by making a bequest, we recommend the following clause: "*I give, devise and bequeath [the sum of...] OR [my property known as...] OR [...% of my estate] free of all duties and taxes to the Trustees of the Roman Catholic Sacred Heart Church, Moruya (ABN 23357238651) to be applied as the trustees see fit at the time and I declare that a receipt for the same signed by the Trustees of Sacred Heart Parish, shall be sufficient to discharge from my Executor.*" Please email the Parish Office moruya@cg.org.au or phone the Parish Office 4474 2024.