



**2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER
YEAR B**

7 April 2024

LITURGY AND BULLETIN



OPENING PRAYER

Father, increase in our minds and hearts, the risen life we share with Christ and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you. Amen.

FIRST READING: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**Response: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
his love is everlasting.**

1. Let the sons of Israel say:

'His love has no end.'

Let the sons of Aaron say:

'His love has no end.'

Let those who fear the Lord 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.

I was punished, I was punished by the Lord,

but not doomed to die. (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.

This day was made by the Lord;

we rejoice and are glad. (R.)

Second Reading: A reading from the first letter of St John

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ
has been begotten by God;
and whoever loves the Father that begot him
loves the child whom he begets.
We can be sure that we love God's children
if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us;
this is what loving God is –
keeping his commandments;
and his commandments are not difficult,
because anyone who has been begotten by God
has already overcome the world;
this is the victory over the world –
our faith.
Who can overcome the world?
Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God;
Jesus Christ who came by water and blood,
not with water only,
but with water and blood;
with the Spirit as another witness –
since the Spirit is the truth.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.
Alleluia!

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 20:19-31

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.



REFLECTION

Dear Parishioners,

What has changed? Jesus has indeed died and risen from the dead. He himself has been transformed, but what about us?

Despite the joy of the disciples, the powers that had crucified Jesus were still abroad. He has ascended to the Father, but they were still where they always were. He had gone to glory, but they were locked in their old fears (Anthony Kelly, Meditations on Holy Week, 69).

It does seem remarkable that the 'doors were locked for fear of the Jews.' Perhaps the violence of Jesus' death still overwhelmed, tracing their lives with trauma and fear.

Jesus enters the fray with his peace. Was it the 'shalom' of normal Jewish greeting? Jesus had said:

My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled (John 14).

Difficulties and antagonism will always be our lot, but we receive a gift of peace beyond human reckoning:

The peace of his presence would continue, no matter how troubled the times would be. He had come 'that you may have peace. In the world you will face persecution. But take courage. I have conquered the world'(John 14). (Kelly, 70).

We encourage each other – in our parish life – to open ourselves to a peace unknown to the world.

Blessings this Easter Day, Father Tony.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Reader: That with faith in Christ, the Holy Church will ever bear witness to the spread of the Gospel. (pause) In your glory: **All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That national leaders will make decisions with respect for human life and dignity. (pause) In your glory: **All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That those who doubt their faith may find belief in Christ who was once dead, but now lives forever. (pause) In your glory: **All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That our parish community, without seeing Jesus, will continue to believe and acclaim the victory of Christ. (pause) In your glory: **All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That the sick will experience the divine healing of Christ, especially Patrick Thomas, Kerry Prothero, Dennis Dempsey, Penny Crawford, Patrick Hynes, Tony Riley, Jenny Bodman, Violet Davis, Ross Lawless, Helen Montgomery, Judy Nielson, Val Biggers and all who need our prayers. (pause) In your glory: **All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: That those who have died will share in the glory of Christ our Saviour, especially Florrie Coffey, Archbishop Francis Carroll and our own deceased relatives and friends. (pause) In your glory: **All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

CONCLUDING PRAYER

*Almighty God, may the Easter blessings we have received live forever in our minds and hearts.
Amen.*

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR: Father Tony Percy M. 0431 225 574

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SCHOOL PRINCIPAL: Marylou Gorham Ph. 4842 2413

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Tues: 9.30am – 3.30pm; Fridays: 9.30am – 12.30pm

Mass: Saturdays at 5.00pm.

Meditation: Thursdays in Presbytery at 10.30am

Social Justice Group: 7 May at 3pm in the Presbytery

Scripture: Tuesdays at 4pm in the Presbytery.

The St Bede's parish 'Call to Connect' women's Ministry warmly welcomes all women to a Mother's Day Breakfast. Let's come together to celebrate the gift of mothering, enjoy each other's company and pray for one another.

At: St Bede's school hall on Saturday 4th May 2024. 8am-9.30am

Cost: \$12. Sorry no refunds due to costs incurred. RSVP by Monday 29th April with exact cash to James' coffee window

Mother's Day

Readings for Mass: 2nd Sunday Easter: 1st: Acts 4:32-35. 2nd: 1 John 5:1-6. Gospel: John 20:19-31.

Next Sunday readings: 1st: Acts 3:13-15,17-19. 2nd: John: 2:1-5. Gospel: Luke 24:35-48.

Radio Church: Sundays at 6pm

Thank you to all who have contributed to Project Compassion. Please return your boxes now.

Ministries for our Mass:	6 April	13 April	20 April	
Welcomer:	Helen P	Cathy F	Geraldine	
Acolyte:	Felix when available			
Reader 1:	Cathy F	Tommy	Germaine	
Reader 2:	Michael	Bobbie	Wendy M-B	
Ministries of service:	30 Mar Easter	5 April	12 Apl	19 Apl
Altar Decorating:	All arrangers please	Helen P	Cathy F	Joy
Cleaning:	Helen P & Sarah	Pauline & Bobbie	Bronnie & Felix	
Counters: 1 st Sunday:	Pauline & Bobbie.	2 nd : Sunday: Wendy H		
3 rd Sunday:	Brenda	4 th : Phil Owen	5 th Helen Bopping	

Please advise if you are unable to fulfil your roster or get a substitute from the list on the reverse side of the roster, so alternative arrangements may be made.

Happy Easter season, Helen Hart

The Parish of St Bede's Braidwood acknowledges the Yuin people, the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for many thousands of years. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.