



SECOND SUNDAY EASTER YEAR B 11 April 2021 Liturgy and Bulletin

OPENING PRAYER

*God of mercy,
as we celebrate Christ's resurrection
increase our awareness of our blessings,
and renew your gift of life within us.
Amen.*

FIRST READING: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The whole group was united, heart and soul.

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 children 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!
You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;
happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe!
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.

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 by Greg Sunter - Have you thought? Those who have not seen

Jesus says to Thomas, 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' That's us! Jesus' words in the gospel are meant for people like us living today. We are not in the position of Thomas and the other disciples who were able to see the risen Lord face to face and so convince themselves of his rising. The gospel recognises that to believe in the resurrection without that physical, personal encounter with Jesus is to be celebrated even more. Happy are we – blessed are we – who have not seen and yet still believe!

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, especially concerning the Covid pandemic. (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 James Clarke, Tony Riley, Rupert Ermert, Val Biggers and Celia Roach. (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 those who have died on the roads this holiday period and our own deceased relatives and friends.

(pause) In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

CONCLUDING BLESSING

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

Hello St Bede's Parishioners,

The Easter celebrations were all well attended. Father Mick conducted Holy Thursday Mass of the Last Supper and the Easter Vigil Mass. At the Thursday Mass we all sat around a long table to celebrate the Mass and the washing of the feet. All those who were there commented on what a special service it was. The Easter Vigil was well attended and enjoyed by all. One Good Friday Brian led the Stations and at 3pm the Passion was read by three women. This was applauded by Mick at the Vigil Mass. Social distancing, hygiene requirements and recording attendance procedures are still being observed. **Please try to arrive in good time** as all these regulations and requirements will take time. The protocols are being slowly relaxed but singing unfortunately is now only allowed with physical distancing impossible for us to manage ie. 1.5m between each other (choir) and 5 metres from all other people. Protocols on noticeboard.

Weekday Masses: Tuesday 13th April at 10.00am.

Meditation: Thursdays at 10.30am in the Presbytery.

Adoration: has been suspended until Father Mick is in the parish and times can be discussed.

Araluen Stations of the Cross: 3.00pm First Friday of every month. All welcome.

Social Justice Meeting: Sunday 11 April in the church at 10.30am.

Anzac Day Ecumenical Service: Sunday 25 April at 9.30am in the church, followed by a cuppa and Anzac biscuits.

Finance Committee meeting: 5.30pm on Tuesday 20th April in the Presbytery.

PPC meeting: 27th April, following the 10am Mass in the Church.

Holy Land Good Friday Collection: \$340.50. Thank you to all who gave to the support of the Holy Lands.

Project Compassion boxes please return as soon as you can, so funds can be sent overseas.

Cleaners: Pauline still needs an offsider. Can you help?

16 April: _____ and Pauline. **30 April:** Margaret and Barbara. **14 May:** Helen P and Judith.

Please note the ceremonies happening in the church when cleaning will be required beforehand will be advised at the beginning of the newsletter.



Readings for next week:

Third Sunday of Easter: 1st: Acts 3:13-15,17-19.2nd: 1 Jn 2:1-5. Gospel: Luke 24:35-48.

Ministry Rosters for our Masses

Date	Acolyte	Welcomer	Readers	PowerPoint
10 April	Felix	Helen P	Michael/Cathy F	Helen H
17 April	James	Cathy F	Rod/Bobbie	Helen H
24 April	Geoff	Geraldine	Wendy H/Germaine	Helen H
1 May	Felix	Helen P	Wendy M-B/Ann	Helen H

Please let me know as soon as possible if you won't be attending, so other arrangements can be made.

COVID-19 Links for information: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19>

Mass Online Link: <https://catholicvoice.org.au/mass-online>

Take care and keep safe,
Helen Hart