

ST BERNARD'S PARISH P.O. Box 3220, Batehaven, 2536. Tel: 4472 4153 2 David Street, Batehaven E: batemansbay@cg.org.au Website: www.cg.org.au/ batemansbay Office Hours: 10am to 2pm Tuesday-Friday **Rev. Martins Aloga** Parish Priest Don Nguyen Parish Deacon Sr. Marie McAlister 0429383333 **Roslynne Trompp** Parish Secretary Mrs. Jo Wain, Principal St. Bernard's Prim. Sch. Mrs. Jacqui Heffernan, Principal, Carroll College Carroll College, Broulee

DAILY ONLINE MASS **RESOURCES:**

https:// www.catholicvoice org.au/massonline/

https://massonline.org/dailyholy-mass-liveonline/

https:// www.catholic.org. au/prayathome

"MASS FOR YOU AT HOME"

Channel 10 at 6.00am.

Sunday morning

SIGNIFICANCE OF EASTER

Easter is the greatest and the most important feast in the Church. It marks the birthday of our eternal hope. "Easter" literally means "the feast of fresh flowers." We celebrate it with pride and jubilation for three reasons:

1) The Resurrection of Christ is the basis of our Christian Faith. It is the greatest of the miracles, for it proves that Jesus is God. That is why St. Paul writes: "If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain; and your Faith is in vain" (I Cor 15:14). "Jesus is Lord, He is risen!" (Rom 10:9), was the central theme of the kerygma (or "preaching") of the apostles, because Jesus had prophesied His Resurrection as a sign of His Divinity: The founder of no other religion has an empty tomb as Jesus has.

2) Easter is the guarantee of our own resurrection. Jesus reassured Martha and Mary at the tomb of Lazarus: "I am the Resurrection and the life; whoever believes in Me will live even though he dies" (Jn 11:25-26).

3) Easter is a feast of hope and encouragement in a world full of pains, sorrows, tears, anxieties, fires, floods and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. It reminds us that life is worth living. It is our belief in the Real Presence of the Risen Jesus in our souls, in the Blessed Sacrament and in Heaven that gives meaning to our personal, as well as our communal prayer, with strength to fight against temptations, and freedom from unnecessary worries and fears. St. Patrick in his prayers noted: "Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ within me, never to part." He is always with us even in this time of solitude.

> May the empty tomb bring us hope this Easter and always. Happy Easter to one and to all.

Fr Martins

ARCHBISHOP CHRISTOPHER PROWSE - EASTER MESSAGE 2020 CORONA (CROWN) OF THORNS

Just a few months ago, none of us had heard of CORONAVIRUS. Now it is our uninvited Easter guest. It seems the whole world has become sick due to its global presence. We cannot get away from it. It has turned our world upside down. We are anxious and fearful. Even in supermarkets we appear to be suspicious of each other.

We are trying our best in our home isolation. The experience so far is one of mixed blessings. New routines are not easy to navigate on our own. Now whole families and others are to negotiate a new way of daily life for the next few months.

"Corona" is a Latin word meaning "crown". This pandemic has become a crown of thorns for us all. In the hours before his death, Jesus too knew of a crown of thorns. It became one of his terrible sufferings before his death on the Cross of Calvary.

Jesus suffers with us in our sufferings. This is the meaning of the key word compassion. The Easter message is clear: by suffering with the suffering Jesus we enter by Grace into the hope of Resurrection in Him. Doing this is not something of mere human initiative. We surrender to the Grace invitation of Jesus. The Risen Lord awaits our YES coming from our deepest selves. We do this as Church through, with and in Jesus. Mary and all the saints participate in this saving encounter. We are never alone.

This Easter will be celebrated in unprecedented circumstances. All our Churches are closed. Many, but not all, can participate via online platforms. It will be so new to us. Yet, this pandemic will eventually be contained. Hope insists on this.

We want, however, from the quasi-Monastic anchorage of our homes, to encounter Jesus more than ever. Our lives are in flux. Only Jesus remains forever. Alleluia!

Our new-found Easter faith insists that it be expressed in practical charity. We do all we can to help those struggling. We thank the medical professionals, cleaners and volunteers, emergency forces, priests and religious, lay faithful and all who give us particular leadership in our time of real need of human closeness and the caress of the Lord who rises in our midst.

Happy Easter and every blessing to you all!

Archbishop Christopher Prowse





We are in Holy Week

As we encounter this week let us embrace this time of stillness and quiet. Let us hold each other in thought and prayer as we meet our God revealed through Jesus in the daily Scripture.

The wisdom of the rhythm of the Readings for this most sacred of our weeks will perhaps be more poignant.

The Gospel of John on Holy Thursday calls us to show our love of God and one another through service. The reflection 'The Basin and the Towel' expresses this powerfully.

Reading the Passion on Good Friday touches deeply into our lives as followers of Christ...

What does the Passion of Jesus call us to in our world today?

Then....

Allelma.

CHRIST IS RISEN!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord! (1 Cor 5:7-8)

The Basin and the Towel

In an upstairs room, a parable Is just about to come alive. And while they bicker about who's best, towel. towel. Source: Musixmatch



batemansbay@cg.org.au or phone 4472 4153

2nd Collection Banking details 1st Collection

Remembering the Sick: Dennis Sheather, Mary Henderson, James Lee, George Fitzgerald, Declan Holmes, Diane Lanzon, Marion O'Grady, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, Dawn Robinson, Margaret Harris, Bill Giust, Allan Odlum, Luke Ward, Rosemary Cooley, Andrew Morton, Judy Betts, Ken Evendon, Janet Thornberry, Anica Bautovic, Glenda Gallagher, Joan, Robert Craddy, Angela Mylott, Jeanette Clarke and those in our local Nursing Homes and Hospital.

We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish Community: Des Jeffs, Louise Keeley, Peter Burum. Collette Winter

Anniversaries: Janice Marion, Terence Thomson, Franciscus Timmer, Leon Pallamountagne, Anica Hrstic , Elsie Waltham, Gregory Parsons, Robyn Albert