

St Christopher's Cathedral Parish, Canberra

(including St Peter Chanel's Church, Yarralumla)

Easter Sunday

— Year A

12 Apr 2020

Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn
Archbishop: Most Rev Christopher Prowse DD STD
Vicar General: Fr Tony Percy VG
Administrator: Fr Trenton van Reesch
Assistant Priest: Fr Norvin Dias



**Masses will be offered
without a congregation
present until further
notice.**

**Confessions by
appointment**

PARISH OFFICE

55 Franklin Street, Forrest ACT 2603 (02) 6239 9846 (bh) cathedral@cg.org.au www.cg.org.au/cathedral
Online Payments Link: <https://www.bpoint.com.au/payments/sccp>
Parish Secretary: Michelle O'Connor—Mon-Fri, 8.30am-12.15pm, 12.45pm-4.30pm (Working remotely)
Accounts Officer: Karina Widjaja—Friday, 8am-4pm (Working remotely)

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
Canberra Goulburn Archdiocese
Apostolic Administrator of Wagga Wagga Diocese

PARISH NEWS

PARISH MINISTRIES

Director of Music: Jaki Kane

RCIA—Fr Trenton van Reesch
Weekly on Thursdays, 6pm

School of Religion

Youth Minister—Chiara Catanzariti
Email: chiara.catanzariti@cg.org.au

Weekly Liturgical Calendar

Mon 13 Apr Mon. in Octave of Easter

Tue 14 Apr Tues. in Octave of Easter

Wed 15 Apr Wed. in Octave of Easter

Thu 16 Apr Thur. in Octave of Easter

Fri 17 Apr Fri. in Octave of Easter

Sat 18 Apr Sat. in Octave of Easter

Sun 19 Apr 2nd Sunday in Easter

Group gatherings in recess for the moment

Legion of Mary
Wednesday at 6.15pm
Haydon Hall

St Vincent de Paul
Assisting people in need and combatting social injustice in our community

Young Adults
Animating parish and Archdiocesan life through prayer and event participation
Thursday 6.30pm Rosary/Bible Sharing/Fellowship SCC
Geetanjali Rogers

Good Shepherd Prayer Group
Wednesday at 7pm SPC
Parish Room (Feb-Dec)

Christian Meditation
Saturday at 5pm SPC
"Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10)

Other Communities

Spanish Community
First Sunday of the month at 11.30am SPC

African Community
Second Sunday of the month at 11.45am SPC

Filipino Community
First Sunday bi-monthly at 5.00pm SPC

For details of any of the above, contact the Parish



In these days of Easter what we really rediscover is our Christian Identity - the Hope that Our God gives us is that not only is He with us in the midst of the confusion, uncertainty, isolation and darkness... but He reminds us that He has even destroyed the greatest enemy of all... death itself! What could we possibly still fear?

We have a God who changes Darkness into Light!

Despair into Hope!
and death... into Life Eternal!

A Happy, Holy, Reflective and Joyous Easter to All!

"The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay." - Matthew 28:5-6.

Young Adults - Young Adults (including bible study) are looking at moving online during this time – keep up with updates on our parish website.

Parish Phone Tree—If you know someone who would appreciate a friendly call (and we may not have their details), please forward their name and number to the parish office. If you would like to be phoned in these days as part of our 'phone tree' please also email the parish office.

Pastoral Visits—Our utmost concern at this time is **the pastoral and spiritual care of our parish family**. In these days where isolation has become the new norm, the pastoral arm of the Church must be more than ever front and centre. Those who do regular home visitations are encouraged to now consider phone calls, checking-in and assuring each other of thoughts and prayers.

Fr Norvin and I are continuing to visit the hospital and nursing homes upon request to minister to the sick, struggling and dying. Let us keep all those who need care and the sacraments in our prayers.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will not take Communion to sick persons until further notice. Keeping contact via phone and other means is highly recommended and I ask all EMHC to please do this with those they visit, if possible.

How to still contribute financially to St Christopher's Cathedral Parish

As our churches are not open for Masses due to Corona Virus, our weekend collections are not being taken up. If you would like to contribute to the First Collection, you can make a direct transfer from your bank account.

The First collection is for the support of clergy in the parish and beyond. Each priest in a parish draws a personal stipend from the first collection for living expenses, food and housekeeping. Funds are also directed to:

- Priests in parishes where the first collection is insufficient to meet their stipend
- The support of the Archbishop, Vicar General and Chancellor
- Priests in remote dioceses across Australia
- Clergy Retirement Foundation (in support of sick and retired clergy)

Account Name: CATHEDRAL
BSB: 062-786
Bank Account: 000029248
Reference: FORREST/ACT & SURNAME

The Second collection, which includes the planned giving program, is the main source of our parish income. The second collection funds are used for the day to day running of our parish. That is to pay for the repairs, wages, insurance, utilities and the many other expenses incurred to keep our parish functioning. If you would like to give towards the Parish expenses and are not currently registered for Planned Giving, please deposit into the following bank account:

Account Name: St Christopher's Cathedral
BSB: 062786
Bank Account: 000015080
Reference: - Planned Giving Number and Surname (only for current Planned Givers); or Donation (for donations by parishioner's not registered Planned Givers).

IN THESE COMING WEEKS AND MONTHS PLEASE STAY UP TO DATE ON OUR PARISH WEBSITE <http://cg.org.au/cathedral/Home.aspx>

OTHER NEWS

An Easter Encounter:

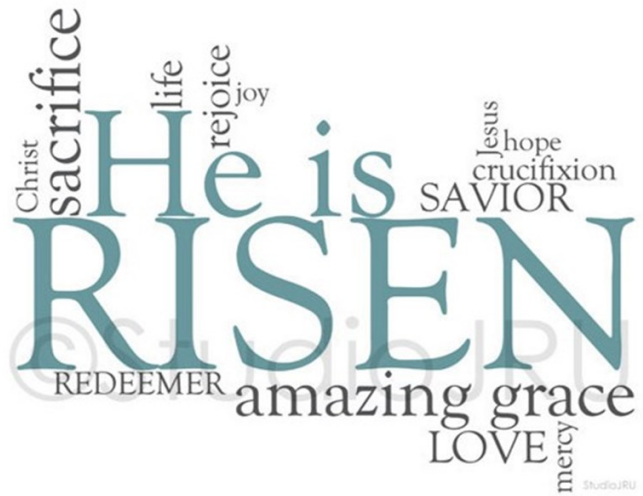
The **Encounter: Way of the Cross** is a guided series of testimonies, scriptures, reflections and prayers that follow the final encounters of Jesus.

The Way of the Cross is the journey of Jesus. It is also our journey. As you undertake this journey, be open to encountering Jesus in a new way this Easter.

Join Archbishop Christopher, along with Youth Ministers within the Archdiocese. These testimonies have been tailored to **children and families** or **youth and adults** and are available at <https://www.cg youth.org.au/>



	Thank You 12 April 2020	
Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion 2020. Please hold onto your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home until churches are open again or visit www.caritas.org.au to make your donation online. Through your generosity you will be empowering the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and share their strengths with their communities to lift themselves out of poverty. www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion #projectcompassion 1800 024 413		



Links to the Wider Church

Sacred Space – Daily Prayer online with the Pope: <https://www.sacredspace.ie/apostleship>
Vatican News: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html>

Please visit www.catholicvoice.org.au for more resources, prayers and news.

'Spiritual Communion'

Saints often made an act of spiritual communion when they couldn't receive the Eucharist at Mass.

For various reasons we may be prevented from receiving the Eucharist in the Mass. In these cases the Church encourages us to make an act of "spiritual communion," where we unite ourselves to God through prayer. It is a beautiful way to express to God our desire to be united with him when we are unable to complete that union in the reception of Holy Communion.

Countless saints incorporated this type of prayer into their daily lives. Making an act of spiritual communion for them was an essential part of life and drew them closer to God, daily.

St. Josemaria Escriva encouraged everyone to make a spiritual communion as often as they could, "What a source of grace there is in spiritual communion! Practice it frequently and you'll have greater presence of God and closer union with him in all your actions."

Padre Pio also had a habit of making a spiritual communion throughout the day outside of the celebration of Mass. He desired to be always united with Jesus Christ in everything he did.

Below is a traditional prayer of spiritual communion that many saints have prayed over centuries. It can be prayed if you find yourself at Home or at work, in the car or in bed, wherever you are - lifting up your thoughts to God, pray it often in these days!

The ultimate goal of our lives should be communion with God and an act of spiritual communion can help a person draw closer to that goal.



*My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.*

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

The Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

	Tap & Go PayWave Machine to contribute to the Church collections without the necessity of carrying cash. Please PayWave your card at the pre-set Tap N Go machine located in the Church Foyer when you exit the church. Please contact the Parish Office with any questions.
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We pray for...

Those who are ill: Arianna Vignale, Anna Vincent, Lucy Duncan, Stella Lazar, Rod Duncan, Anthony, Lisette D'Cruze, David Kibbey, Jacqueline Khin, Katarina Kish, Mary Brennan

Anniversaries of death: Chris Nebauer, Peter Ryan, Francesco & Francesca Barbaro, Natalina Servello, Anne Lynch, Tim Ayers, Patrick Develin, Vince Gallagher, Madeline Nogrady, Fr John Butz, Brian O'Donovan, Catherine Nancarrow, Bruno Pini, Giustina Cadona, Ingrid Kemp, John Keating,

Recently Deceased: Peter Becker, Regina Paredes, Hilda Quinones, Shirley Evans, Josip Persic, Don Furner, Henry Tabisz, Mary-Anne McGrath, Rod Frazer, 4 children killed at Oatlands, Roberto Emilio, Bruce Kennedy, Ronald D'Cruze, Brian Kelly, Betty O'Neill, Patricia Smith, David Cusack, Anica Soldo, John Gallagher, David Askew, Andrew Italiano, Stanley Marris, Patricia Brennan,

Readings of the Day – Easter Sunday —Year A

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: *I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Alleluia, alleluia! Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord. Alleluia!*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: *Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.*

First Reading

Acts 10:34. 37-43

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.'

Second Reading

Col 3:1-4

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.

Sequence

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; and Christ, the undefiled, hath sinners to his Father reconciled. Death with life contended: combat strangely ended! Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign. Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way. The tomb the Living did enclose; I saw Christ's glory as he rose! The angels there attesting; shroud with grave-clothes resting. Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee. That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know. Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Gospel Reading

Jn 20:1-9

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.