



Mary Immaculate Church, Waverley

PARISH OF ST CHARLES BORROMEO BULLETIN

TAKE THIS HOME

Waverley Parish will be a sign of God's love for all people by being a welcoming and caring community which embraces the Gospel of Jesus in the spirit of St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi. We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand. We walk on a land once occupied by the Gadigal people of the Eora nation. May we continue to love and respect the land as they have.

EASTER SUNDAY - YEAR A

11 - 12 APRIL 2020



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.

FIRST READING: ACTS 10:34, 37-43

Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius. "You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ- he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. "We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. "He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

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.'

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds.

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.



SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 5:6-8

Do you not know that a little yeast leavens the whole batch of dough? Clean out the old yeast so that you may be a new batch, as you really are unleavened. For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us celebrate the festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

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

GOSPEL: JOHN 20:1-9

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

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.

HE IS RISEN

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Ms Gabrielle Smith

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Easter Triduum (which means 'three days'), lasting from Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday evening, is the climax of the church's year.
- Holy Thursday is sometimes known as Maundy Thursday, a corruption of the Latin word for 'commandment', *mandatum*. This is to commemorate the 'new commandment' that Jesus gave his followers at the Last Supper: 'Love one another as I have loved you.'
- Good Friday and Easter Saturday are the only days of the year on which Mass is not celebrated.

A WORD FROM FR BERNIE

I wonder what does going to Mass really mean for us. So often I hear the phrase from priests and people I'm going to "say" Mass; or (for older people) I'm going to "hear" Mass; or I'm going to get the Eucharist; (from some of our younger people) I'm going to "get" the "bread"! This weekend for the first time ever, for many of us, we will not be able to share and gather in prayer around the Table of the Eucharist, in the Church for the great liturgy of the Easter Triduum. This will be a huge challenge for so many of us. But the fact that many regular Mass-goers around the world will be struggling the same way may actually help us to broaden our understanding of the Eucharist and deepen our spirituality.

I found this great reflection on the LiturgyBrisbane website from **Thomas O'Loughlin**, a Catholic priest of the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton (England) and Professor of Historical Theology at the University of Nottingham. It was originally printed in La Croix International. I have taken some selected passages for you to reflect upon.

Object or action?

The language we use is the giveaway. We talk about "getting Mass" and "attending a Mass," and of "getting communion" and "taking communion." The image is that the Eucharist is "out there," and then we somehow obtain it or make it our own. But the word "Eucharist" relates to a verb. It is something we, the whole People of God, do. It is **our activity of thanking God the Father as a gathered community**. And we offer this praise and thanks through Christ our Lord. The focus is on thanking the Father. Access to the Father is provided to us in the Spirit through Jesus Christ. It is our basic activity as Christians, not some "thing" that the priest does for us or makes for us. So if we cannot gather because of COVID-19, can we still offer thanks to the Father through Christ?

1. Jesus is present with us

Many Catholics treat church buildings as if they were pagan temples, as if God is only "in there." But God's presence is everywhere and the risen Christ is not limited by space. This presence of the risen Jesus among the community was captured in this saying preserved in Matthew's gospel: "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them" (Mt 18:20). They might be two people in a house, or two people linked by phone or Skype. "Wherever the things of the Lord are spoken about, there the Lord is present" (Didache - a first-century new disciples' guide).

2. My room is basic place of prayer

We sometimes think that we are only commanded to pray in a church building. We have grown up with the idea of Mass on Sunday as a regulation. But it is always sobering to recall this instruction by Jesus: "And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the gatherings and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you" (Mt 6:5-6). We are now being told to stay off the streets, out of the churches and away from people. So we can rediscover shutting the door and praying alone – knowing that the Father will listen to our prayers.

3. Centre and summit

We describe the Eucharist as the centre and summit of our Christian lives, but often it is the sole part of our religious lives. This crisis calls on us to build up the surrounding foothills by caring for one another and thanking God at home, as well as in the church. If we are not thankful for the meals we share at home, we are hardly ready to be thankful at the Great Thanksgiving that we call the Eucharist.

4. Every table is a sacred place

Jesus encountered people and taught at their tables. Every table is a place where we can encounter the Lord in those with us, so let's start recalling that whenever we eat, we should be thankful. We should be thankful for the food (grace before meals) and for enjoying it and the pleasure of being together (grace after meals).

Let's discover what it means to be Church

We will not be gathered as large groups for some time. Let's use this experience to rediscover that **we are the Church**; that the Church is not a building. **Let us remember that we must be Eucharistic every day**, but especially at meals; that the Eucharist is not an object we get, take, receive or attend. And let us never forget that the Risen One is with us, interceding for us with the Father during these worrying times.

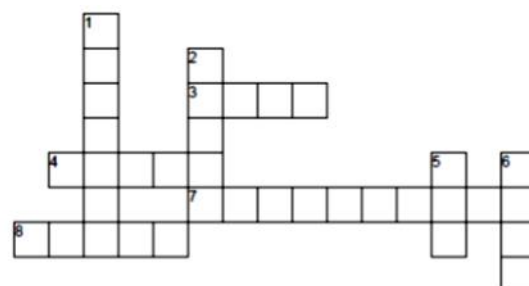
I wish you every blessing for this Easter weekend, and let us all continue to pray for healing, strength and peace for our world. Fr Bernie.

KIDS CORNER**ACROSS**

- A place where someone is buried
- "He is not here; he has _____, just as he said." Matthew 28:6
- A shaking or trembling of the earth
- A heavenly being that serves as a messenger for God

DOWN

- The first or early part of a day
- A hard solid substance found in the ground which is often used for building
- A period of twenty-four hours
- A period of seven days



STONE	MORNING	WEEK	EARTHQUAKE
RISEN	ANGEL	DAY	TOMB