



Second Sunday of Easter Yr A 19th April 2020

Our Mission: We follow the words of our patron, St John Vianney, who said "He is here". We recognise Christ is in the Word, the Eucharist, and in us, His people with a special reverence for Him in the poor and marginalised. We are called to make Christ present through our prayer and charity. We seek to grow in our spiritual lives and create a community where everyone is welcome; the young and old, together to experience the loving presence of God. We believe He is here amongst us and we joyfully go out to make Him present to all.

(This Parish is Child Safety Aware and also complies with Australian Privacy Laws)



My Lord and my God....

Christians worldwide celebrated an Easter like no other. Our hearts are still filled with Easter joy! Easter is a reminder and encouragement that God in Christ continues to love and care for the whole world, overcoming death with life, conquering fear and uncertainty with hope. The Easter message also conveys that our God is a loving God, the source of life, not death. The Lord Himself has power to revive our courage and our faith. No locked doors, nor even our current pandemic situation, can keep Him out.

This weekend we continue to celebrate the victory of the Cross and Resurrection. Every year on the Sunday after Easter, the greatest celebration of faith, we encounter the gospel's most famous story of doubt: the story of Thomas, who demands proof before he will believe. The risen Lord appeared to the apostles, who were gathered together in one place. The fact that they were gathered in one place is not without significance; for it is there that the Lord chose to appear to them. One of them, as we shall see, was not in the gathering and thus missed the blessing of seeing and experiencing the risen Lord. It might be said that Thomas, the absent apostle, missed His blessing.

Jesus is found in His Church, among those who have gathered. There is surely joy to be found in a personal relationship with Jesus, but the Lord also announced a special presence whenever two or

three are gathered in His name. This Gospel has a lot to say to us about the benefit of gathering together to find the Lord's blessing in the community of the Church, in His Word, and in the Sacraments. In every Mass, the Lord strengthens us. I am powerfully aware that every Mass I celebrate, is a source of powerful blessings for me. Not only does God instruct us with His Word and feed us with His Body and Blood, He also helps form us through the presence and participation of others.

This Sunday, we mark Divine Mercy Sunday, when we embrace the power and beauty of God's forgiveness. It is the Sunday in which we are reminded of God's tender mercies – when we strive, more than ever, to let Him break through the locked doors of our hearts. This Mercy Sunday means that there is a whole new moment in our lives. Risen from the dead, Jesus is now walking with us – just as He walked with those first apostles. And He is showing us the path of mercy, the path of compassion. Let us pray to be more open to God's tender mercies that we might respond with the joy of Easter discovery, and with the wonder and conviction of St. Thomas: "My Lord and my God." Blessings, Fr. Dantus Thottathil.

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

As you start and end the day,
be thankful
for every little thing
in your life.
You will realize
how blessed you
really are.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK: Karen Booker, Michael Gibbings, Mary Schmidt, Joyce Starkey, Pat Wilson, Sandra Wilson, Maddie Bell, Teresa Geraghty, Mary Forrester, Krystyna Kelly, Sheila Petersen, Richard Pook, Violet Maureen Phillips, Ash Dean, Dennis Patterson, Carmen Phairs, Irene Gavril, Rosa Maria Santos, Dawn O'Sullivan, Leon and Roz Thomas, Maura Poots, Angela Geraghty, Hugo Callan, Joan Francis, Angela de Weger, Terry Coles, Margaret Brennan, Ted Chapman, Leslee O'Connell, Sally Maletz, Katherine Pickering, Helena Duimpies, Stacie Stonier, Val Steeden

For a name to be included in the 'Prayer for our Sick' list, the Privacy Act now requires the personal permission of the nominee or a close relative.

ANNIVERSARIES: Sr Dominic (Margaret) Burke, Margaret Bourke, Phillip Bright, Sr Veronica Casey, Margaret Coughlan, John Fens, Paola Grima, Colette Hinchy, Kathleen Hodge, Kenneth Leather, Agnes Marano, Hugh Massie, Philip McCudden, John McMahan, Peggy Nunn, Sr Raphael O'Connor, Joseph O'Malley, Sr Mary-Ellen Perry, Marian Rybarczyk, Leslie Shead, June Sheppard, Florence Tarrant, Lawrence Thatcher, James Treacy, Bronislawa Wojtasik.

Pastor: Fr Dantus Thottathil MCBS

Associate Pastor: Fr Prem Rethnamony

(email: thottathild@bne.catholic.net.au)

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Website: manlycatholicparish.org.au

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Les Sellwood (Chairperson) Joshua Walsh (Secretary), Bruce Corrie, Helen McNamara, Paola Nunez, Maria Jones, Pam Chapman and Julia McLean.

This Parish is Child Safety Aware and also complies with Australian Privacy Laws. A copy of the Child Safety and Protection of Vulnerable Adults policy is situated in the foyer of the church.

Archdiocesan Safeguarding Officer for Manly is Les Sellwood: 0401 235 739

STOPLINE Contact: AOB@stopleveline.com.au

Entrance Antiphon:

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure,
spiritual milk,
that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

First Reading: Acts 2:42-47

The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 117:2-4, 13-15, 22-24

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

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.**

I was thrust, thrust down and falling
but the Lord was my helper.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.
There are shouts of joy and victory
in tents of the just. **R.**

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 be glad. **R.**

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which had been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold - only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire - and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled

with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation: John 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Gospel: John 20:19-31

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 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.

The Prayers of the Faithful:

That we begin within our hearts to promote peace through the practice of forgiveness, we pray to the Lord:

Lord hear us. Lord hear our prayer.

That our homes will be safe and loving place of peace not violence, we pray to the Lord:

Lord hear us. Lord hear our prayer.

That we promote justice as the foundation of peace, we pray to the Lord:

Lord hear us. Lord hear our prayer.

That our compassion for the poor will lead us to perform acts of justice and compassion, we pray to the Lord:

Lord hear us. Lord hear our prayer.

Announcements:

- Until further notice all masses have been cancelled.
- The parish office will only be open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 9am and 2:30pm
- *In the event of an emergency, please contact Fr Dantus on 3396 0742.*
- Masses can now be streamed from the Cathedral at archbne.org/bzw on Sundays at 8:00am or 10:00am and weekdays at 8:00am.
- The Catholic Leader can now be accessed online for free from <https://catholicleader.com.au/digital-newspaper-covid19>
- Our website now contains resources for you to use at home during this time. These resources and our weekly newsletter can be accessed from: <http://www.manlycatholicparish.org.au/>
- During this time we are providing the newsletter and other weekly resources to parishioners via email. If you wish to receive the newsletter via email. Please email your details to: manly@bne.catholic.net.au