

# OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER / A (OF DIVINE MERCY)

16 APRIL 2023

I AM SENDING YOU. When we gather for Eucharist each Sunday the risen Christ comes among us and offers us his gift of peace. Our celebration gives us joy and strengthens our faith. But we cannot stay inside the church with its doors locked. At the end of Mass we are sent out, commissioned to bring the love and mercy of Christ to all who continue to bear in their bodies the wounds of crucifixion.

they have been redeemed. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

**R. Amen.**

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING

Acts 2:42-47

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

*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.

**The word of the Lord.**

**R. Thanks be to God.**

### RESP PSALM

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

**R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting. (or Alleluia!)**

1. 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.**

2. 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 the tents of the just. **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

1 Pet 1:3-9

**A reading from the first letter of St Peter**

*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 spoiled 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 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.

**The word of the Lord.**

**R. Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 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

Jn 20:19-31

**P. The Lord be with you.**

**R. And with your spirit.**

**P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.**

**R. Glory to you, O Lord.**

*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.

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## HOMILY

### PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

*Or the Nicene Creed may be said.*

**I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / Aorn of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.**

### PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:*

**R. Blessed be God for ever.**

**P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.**

**R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his**

**name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

**P. Accept, O Lord, we pray, the oblations of your people (and those you have brought to new birth), that, renewed by confession of your name and by Baptism, they may attain unending happiness. Through Christ our Lord.**

**R. Amen.**

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

**P. The Lord be with you.**

**R. And with your spirit.**

**P. Lift up your hearts.**

**R. We lift them up to the Lord.**

**P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.**

**R. It is right and just.**

## PREFACE I OF EASTER

*After the Preface, we sing or say:*

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

## THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

**P. The mystery of faith,**

**All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.**

## COMMUNION RITE

**P. At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:**

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven ...**

**P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray...**

**All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.**

**P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said...**

**R. Amen.**

**P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.**

**R. And with your spirit.**

**P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.**

*All exchange a sign of peace.*

## LAMB OF GOD

**All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.**

**R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,**

**but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

cf. Jn 20:27

**Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,**

**and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**P. Grant, we pray, almighty God, that our reception of this paschal Sacrament may**

have a continuing effect in our minds and hearts. Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

## THE CONCLUDING RITES

**P. The Lord be with you.**

**R. And with your spirit.**

**P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.**

**R. Amen.**

**P. Go forth, the Mass is ended, alleluia, alleluia!**

**R. Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia!**

## BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

### FAITH: A PROMISE OF LIFE

How many times have you heard people relate stories and then say, aware that the story does not do justice to the experience, 'You had to be there'? When we read of those early days of the Church, when the community was so united in faith, love and prayer, we can find ourselves wishing to have been there. Imagine the disappointment of second-generation Christians who had missed out by only a few years! The story of Thomas' doubt, disbelief and disappointment would have been partly preserved to encourage such Christians. Decades later, they were invited to see that while they were not part of the original experience, their faith was all the more precious because it was not based on being an eyewitness. It also served as a reminder not to be too quick to idealise the early life of the Church; even then the road to mature faith was not an easy one.

Late in the first century, the first letter of Peter set out to build up the faith of a community that felt caught between the resurrection and Jesus' final return. Like us, they may have felt that they had missed out on something precious, but Peter reminds them that their faith is a tremendous gift and promise of the life that lies ahead. The road to a mature faith is not easy and there are problems to be encountered from both within and outside ourselves. These very struggles purify our hearts and prepare us for what is to come

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

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# HOLY NAME OF MARY PARISH RYDALMERE

Second Sunday of Easter / A (of Divine Mercy)  
16 April 2023

Church: 4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere  
Mail: 2 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere 2116  
Phone: (02) 9684 1541, 0432 950 895  
Email: admin@holymary.org.au  
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Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Lamont  
Ass. Priest: Fr. Yong Ho Jang (Fr. Pio)  
St Mary's School: Mr. Richard  
Blissenden  
St Patrick's Marist: Mr. Paul Ryan

## MASS TIMES

<b>SUNDAY EUCHARIST:</b>	Saturday Vigil	5.30pm
	Sunday	7.30am & 10.00am
<b>WEEKDAY EUCHARIST:</b>	Tuesday - Saturday	9.15am
<b>RECONCILIATION:</b>	Saturday	4.30pm - 5.15pm
<b>EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT</b>	Exposition: Wednesday and Saturday	8.30am
	Exposition: Monday - Friday	7.00pm - 12.00am
<b>BAPTISMS:</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of month	11.30am

## Please Pray For

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Allan Greenfield, John George Nicholls, Roslyn Tippetts, - Terry Ferguson - Enea Menin.

### ANNIVERSARIES:

Jorge Timoteo, Francisca Matheson, Ronald O'Donohue, Faye Cavanagh, Helen Turner, Fr Geoffrey Francis Dickinson, Fr Terence Hogan, Irene Mac Dougall, Dorothy Okoye - Emanuel Sammut, Meilinda Iskandar, Teresa Lee, Judith Lee, Frank Fressard, Rodney Noble, Anita Blazevic, Robert Alan Parmeter, Theresa Mifsud, Jean O'Reilly, Giuseppina Zappala, Jan Endres, Moya Smyth, Umberto Bruzzese, Dominic Alvaro, Teresa Alvaro, Demetia Estrada Almero, Warren Magpantay, Charles Camilleri, Emilia Camilleri, Anthony Vella, Carmen Vella.

## Rosters – 22/23 April

### Cleaning Ministry:

### Computer Operators:

	Vigil 5.30pm	Anton Massillamany, Vartguess Markarian
	Sun. 7.30am	George Davidson
	Sun. 10.00am	Naom Younis
		Glenys Oxlee
		Joe Zammit
<b>Counters:</b>	Vigil 5.30pm	Romeo Urqueza, Yolanda Urqueza
<b>Lectors:</b>	Sun. 7.30am	Angela Finnane, Will Finnane
	Sun. 10.00am	Samuel Yu, Linda Tsang



## THANK YOU

A sincere thank-you to all our parishioners who participated in our beautiful Easter ceremonies. There are so many people to thank. Acolytes, lectors, members of the altar society, cleaners, collectors, extraordinary ministers of communion etc. A special thank-you to our choir members, especially Catherine Parker and John Gella. I'm sure the Lord will be pleased. Thank-you!

## MET FAITHLIFE SCRIPTURE COURSE:

Want to learn more about different ways to pray? Sign up for the FaithLIFE 3-night short course on "Prayer" with Br Barry Donaghue, brought to you by the Mission Enhancement Team (MET). **6:30PM to 8:30PM on three Tuesday: 2 + 9 + 16 May.** Downstairs at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown. RSVP via <https://pfparra.org.au/faithlife/>

## FAREWELL MESSAGE

Dear friends, I will be leaving the parish on Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> April after the 9.15am Mass. After 17 wonderful years as your parish priest, I will now take on a new mission. I would like to thank all of you for your friendship and support over the years. The outstanding contributions of so many parishioners towards the life of the parish is inspiring. Please pray for our deceased parishioners, who have been a part of my life as parish priest. My new address is: Sacred Heart Parish, 18 Inconstant St, Blackheath 2785; phone number: 4787 8540; email: blackheath@parracatholic.org. Thank-you all once again and may the Lord bless all of you now and always. *Fr Peter*

## FATHER CHADI IBRAHIM

I am pleased to announce that Fr Chadi Ibrahim has been appointed administrator of our parish for a period of 12 months. He will be celebrating the Masses here next Sunday. Welcome!

*A Warm  
Welcome to Our  
New Priest*

## RECONCILIATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION ENROLMENTS

The Enrolment Forms, for children in Year 3 and above, for the Sacraments of Penance (Reconciliation) and Holy Communion are available in the Church. The enrolment dates are:



### Sacrament of Penance – Reconciliation

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – Vigil Mass 5.30pm  
Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – 10.00am Mass

### First Holy Communion

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – Vigil

Mass 5.30pm

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – 10.00am Mass



Eucharist

## CCD ST MATTHEW'S GOSPEL SERIES: STARTING 28 APRIL

CCD is hosting Dr Laurie Woods presenting A Study of St Matthew's Gospel - **April 28; May 5, 12, 19 & 26.** 10 am to 2pm at Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. To book please email Maree Collis [ccd.training@parracatholic.org](mailto:ccd.training@parracatholic.org)

## FAITH IN MARRIAGE SEMINAR

The annual Diocesan Faith in Marriage Seminar returns in 2023 with Chris Padgett, American Speaker, Musician, Author and Professor of Theology. This free event will be held on **Friday 19 May at 7:30pm** at St Paul the Apostle Church, 40 Buckleys Road, Winston Hills. Please register your attendance at [marriage@parracatholic.org](mailto:marriage@parracatholic.org)

## TOONGABBIE PARISH IS HIRING! PARISH SECRETARY AND BOOKKEEPER

St Anthony of Padua Parish, Toongabbie, is looking for a Parish Secretary and Bookkeeper. This is a permanent part-time position with 30 hours per week worked over five days. Please forward applications and resumes to the Parish secretary at [secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au](mailto:secretary@stanthonyschurch.org.au) by **18 April 2023.** If you would like more information regarding this position, please contact the office on (02) 9631 3316.

## MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES IN 2023

Getting married in 2023? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare. Visit [www.parracatholic.org/pmp](http://www.parracatholic.org/pmp) to view weekend course dates in the New Year, to book and pay. An online preparation called *SmartLoving* can also be booked via the website. For more information, email [met@parracatholic.org](mailto:met@parracatholic.org) or phone Karin on 0419 242 435 or Marisa on 0412 280 017.

## RYDALMEN

Our men's group next gathers on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April at 7.15pm for 7.30pm start in the Parish meeting room. Contact details: [shane.young@ozemail.com.au](mailto:shane.young@ozemail.com.au), 0432 815 165.



## FR PETER'S FAREWELL

If you wish to attend Fr Peter's farewell lunch, please complete the attached form and return it in an envelope marked "Fr's Peter's lunch" with **CASH PAYMENT ONLY** to collectors after Masses on the weekends of Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April to Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May **OR** it can be handed in at the Presbytery **OR** be dropped in the locked Presbytery mailbox until 14<sup>th</sup> May. Lunch will consist of 3 roast meats, jacket potatoes & salads, with choice of dessert. Price covers a donation towards a gift. Drinks are not covered in the cost of lunch, so please **BYO drinks & glasses/cups.** A book for brief farewell messages is available to sign from this weekend at the door of the church. Enquiries: Glenys Oxlee 0488 228 633

## BREAKFAST CLUB: 22 APRIL 2023

- 8.30AM

Young adults aged 18-35 - You are invited for a breakfast feast. Join other young adults for faith, fellowship, food and fun!

Venue: 4 Albion St, Dundas.

RSVP: Sulyn Leslie 0408 966 632



## LAWN MOWING, WEEDING & PRUNING

Lawn mowing, weeding & pruning reasonable rate and discounts for Senior Citizens. Please contact John – 0426 864 839

## FEAST OF THE WEEK

Friday, 21 April – Saint Anselm

St Anselm was an abbot, bishop, philosopher, and theologian. Born in Aosta, Italy, Anselm spent his life in France, as abbot at Bec in Burgundy, and in England as archbishop of Canterbury. He courageously defended the Church's interests against the English civil power. Although Anselm moved in the circles of kings and nobles, the young men under his care were his first concern. "Every soul requires its suitable food", he wrote. "The weak and tender in God's service need milk, the milk of babes, gentleness from others, kindness, mercy, cheerful encouragement, loving forbearance." Anselm died in Canterbury in 1109. His erudite writings earned him the title Doctor of the Church.

