



Weekly Bulletin

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish

4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere

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SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday, 27 April 2025

**“GIVE IT AIR & LET THE SCAR ON YOUR SOUL REVEAL ITSELF,
BECAUSE, LIKE THE BODY, IT TOO WAS MADE TO HEAL ITSELF.”**

— CURTIS TYRONE JONES

Dear sisters and brothers,

Believe, you had a blessed Easter and a joyful family reunion! The 2nd Sunday of Easter is also known as the ‘Divine Mercy Sunday.’ Our Lord Jesus Christ appeared to Sr. Faustina in the 1930’s and promised that he would bestow his Divine Mercy to any sinner that totally repents his/her sins, no matter how grave and our Lord would not refuse any soul that seeks his mercy. Indeed, the Gospel reading leads us to discover the meaning of God’s mercy. I would like to reflect on the character of Thomas, normally labelled as ‘doubting Thomas.’ When Jesus appeared to the disciples for the first time after his resurrection, he was not there. No one really knows why Thomas was missing on that Sunday evening. Maybe he wanted to be alone with his own grief over the death of Jesus. But whatever the reason, he wasn’t there. Thomas was a complex man of courage and fear; of knowledge and ignorance; of faith and doubt. So, when the others reported on Jesus’ incredible appearance, ‘their mere say-so wasn’t enough.’ He couldn’t trust their word; he had to see and...he had to touch for himself.

Thank God for Thomas. He spoke up when the others were silent, when the others kept their doubts to themselves. His response was rational and logical. He was a proof-seeker who put conditions on his belief. Thomas takes the words right out of our mouths and gives voice to every doubt and every question that we have about our faith in Christ. We don’t find it any easier to live by faith than he did. Thomas gives us the chance to think about the demands we place on believing or not believing in the resurrection. Thank God for Thomas who stands in for all of us who want to see something for ourselves before we decide if it’s true. He was honest to admit that he had struggles to believe in the resurrection of Jesus. A week later, the story was different. He saw and he believed that Jesus had risen from the dead. The resurrection was the key message.

Thomas can be there for anyone who finds it almost impossible to make that leap of faith to believe in the resurrection. There may be many reasons for having such difficulty: Things like that just don’t happen.

- We live in an age of fantasy worlds, virtual reality, and sensational claims about products from toothpaste to healing crystals – why should this one be true?
- We all have memories of being hurt – of people letting us down, hopes being dashed.
- There’s fear of the unknown, what life would be like if we did believe, the demands such a belief might make of us and anxiety about what other people might think.

Thomas offers us the message that somehow if we hang on to Jesus, he will reveal himself and make us powerful and motivated to move on. It may not happen in a single moment as it did for Thomas, it may be a gradual growth in faith and conviction over a long period of time. However, it happens, conviction in the resurrection of Jesus can change us and our lives as surely as it changed the apostles all those years ago. The question is, will we allow that change and growth to happen in ourselves and other people?

Let’s hope so because a life lived in the light of the resurrection is a new and exciting life to be lived in all its fullness and with the risen Christ alongside saying: “My peace be with you”. Amen.

God’s blessings

Fr. Vince

This Sunday's Readings



Entrance Antiphon:

Receive the joy of your glory, giving thanks to God, who has called you into the heavenly kingdom, alleluia.

First reading: Acts 5:12-16

The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily.

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

Responsorial Psalm: 117:2-4, 22-27

R: 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**

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**

O Lord, grant us salvation;
O Lord, grant success.

Blessed in the name of the Lord
is he who comes.

We bless you from the house of the Lord;
the Lord God is our light. **R**

Second reading: Apocalypse 1:9-13, 17-19

I was dead, and now I am to live for ever and ever.

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.'

I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle.

When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One, I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy are 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 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.

Communion Antiphon:

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,
and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



THE JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless
cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both
humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever.
Amen.

Franciscus



Jubilee Celebration
Holy Mass of
Fr Vincent Savarimuthu
4th May 2025 at 10am

Followed by FELLOWSHIP LUNCH IN THE PARISH HALL: Please Bring a plate.

Volunteers Needed: For setting up the hall on Saturday 3/5/2025 at 10:30am

To volunteer please provide your name and contact details on the list at the back of the Church.

For any enquires please contact:

Nancy 0434 541 287

Barbara 0417 084 659

Lynn 0439 115 450



SACRAMENT OF
CONFIRMATION
Friday 23rd May 2025

(Enrolment forms for other Sacraments will be provided later in the year)

Let us pray for the...

Wellbeing & Health

Romualdo Soriano
Romenda McGregor
Pia Ylagan
Kaz Seremet

Recently Deceased

Pope Francis
Honorine Rosario
John Rodrigues
Robert Kairuz

Anniversaries

Robert Belford
Ignace Munso
Christine Raoul
Ernesto Velasquez Sr.

PARISH ROSTERS

3/4 May 2025

	<u>Computer Operators</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>	<u>EMHC</u>	<u>Counters</u>	<u>Cleaning Ministry</u>	<u>Altar Society</u>
Sat Vigil 5.30pm	Mark Salter	Sue Farrugia Len Farrugia	Harriet S	Sr Maureen Sue Farrar	Kathleen Burrows	Thess Davidson & Family	Maria Greenfield Lily Hon
Sun 8.00am	Pamela McKay	Angela Finnane Will Finnane	Daniela M Tara C	Lina Flores Helen Wong	Lynette Rodrigues Dominic Rodrigues		
Sun 10.00am	Anne Fernando	Sam Markarian Marco Tapiador	Avril L	Lynette Rodrigues Dominic Rodrigues	Children's Liturgy	Sunday 4/05/2025 at 10am	

10/11 May 2025

	<u>Computer Operators</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>	<u>EMHC</u>	<u>Counters</u>	<u>Cleaning Ministry</u>	<u>Altar Society</u>
Sat Vigil 5.30pm	Eric Flores	Anne-Marie Hewkins Sr Maureen	Cristian A Jemma L	Diane O'Shea Michelle Acharya	Kathleen Burrows	Anton & Anne Fernando	Pam McKay Annabel Manlutac Gail Dick
Sun 8.00am	Naom Younis	Rozz Morris Michael Clark	Jenson M Judah M	Barbara Rosario Helen Wong	Lawrence Tsang		
Sun 10.00am	Vincent Austria	Linda Tsang George Lattouf	Theo M Tashnie W Tashen W	Evelyn Artiaga Elaine Gade	Lawn and Garden	Richard Corney	

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Join Us for Our Monthly Parish Lunch!

Dear Parishioners,

We're excited to invite you to our Monthly Parish Lunch! This is a wonderful opportunity to gather once a month to enjoy great company and good food. Each one pays for their own meal and drinks.

When: Sunday 18 May 11am for 11:30am

Where: The Family Inn

Everyone is welcome—bring your family and friends! This initiative aims to foster fellowship and strengthen our community ties.

For more details and/or to RSVP contact Allison on 0411 013 032.

Looking forward to seeing everyone there!

If you would like to attend our next lunch, you are invited to write your name on the sheet located at the back of the church, this is to assist Allison with the booking reservation.

FaithLIFE Theology Short Course:

Wednesdays in May

Considering learning about theology?
Interested in faith seek understanding?

Looking to learn more about the
Jubilee Year of Hope?

Sign up now for the 3-session FaithLIFE Theology short course with Alison Ryan from MET on Wednesdays 7 + 14 + 21 May:

For more information, or to register please head to our website: parracatholic.org/faithlife



GROUP

We are working to engage young people aged between 12 and 35 to join our group.

We encourage our youth to come onboard.

If you would like to join us, we invite you to write your contact details on our Youth Group Register located at the back of the church.

The next Youth Group Meeting will be announced shortly.

For more details please contact:

Nazli Guler on 0426 243 016

Thank You for Supporting our Bishop's Good Samaritan Appeal Catholic Care's chaplaincy services.

Catholic Care Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains thank you for your kind-hearted generosity and support for people in hospital and prison who might otherwise feel abandoned.

All donations received will provide pastoral, spiritual, and sacramental support to people in times of darkness.



If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit parracatholic.org/appeal. Thank you.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tue - Wed - Thu - Fri - Sat 9:15 am

Novena to our Lady of Perpetual Succour

Every Wednesday 7:00pm

ROSARY at 3:00pm on the last Saturday of every month at Ermington Shopping Centre (near the Post Office).

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday (Vigil) 5:30 pm

Sunday 8:00 am & 10:00 am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 8:30 am - 9:00 am

ADORATION (EXPOSITION)

Saturday 8:30 am

BAPTISM

1st & 3rd Sunday of the Month 11:30 am

PARISH TEAM

Fr. Vincent Savarimuthu
Parish Priest

Maritza Graciela
Parish Secretary
Tue/Wed/Thur/Fri
9:30am to 5:30pm

Deacon Leon
Finance Secretary
Thur
10am to 2pm

Sacramental Coordinator	Lynette Rodrigues
Catechists Coordinator	Diane O'Shea
Childrens Liturgy Coordinator	Allison Markarian
Lectors Coordinator	Glenys Oxlee
Senior Server Coordinator	Anton Massillamany
Finance Chairman	Ron Della Vedova
St Vincent De Paul President	Ron Della Vedova
Rydalmen Coordinator	Mark Bannister
Social Celebrations Coordinator	Nancy Grugan
Parish Pastoral Council Chair	Allison Markarian

PARISH SCHOOLS

St. Mary's Primary School
1 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere NSW 2116
Ph: (02) 8844 5700
Email: StMarysRydal@parra.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Mr. Richard Blissenden

St. Patrick's Marist College
171 Kirby Street, Dundas NSW 2117
Ph: (02) 8841 7900
Email: stpatsdundas@parra.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Mr. Paul Ryan