

**Sunday 24th April 2022**

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Steven Rigo **Assistant Priests:** Fr. Tao Pham & Fr. Martin Tanti

**Parish Pastoral Associates:** Jacinta Bright & Sr. Margaret Sapsford

**The Partnered Parishes of:**

**St. Mary's**

204 Grimshaw St.,  
Greensborough, 3088

**Parish:** 9435 1543 **Presbytery:** 7036 9329

**Email:** [Greensborough@cam.org.au](mailto:Greensborough@cam.org.au)

**Website:** [www.cam1.org.au/greensborough](http://www.cam1.org.au/greensborough)

**Secretaries:** Francesca Olofsson & Sharon Prosser

**Mass Times**

**Tuesday to Friday:** Mass 9.15am

**Saturday:** Vigil Mass 6.30pm

**Sunday:** Mass 8.00am, 10.00am & 5.00pm

**Reconciliation Times**

**Saturday:** 9.00am-10.00am & 5.45pm-6.15pm  
before evening Mass

**Parish School Principal**

Mrs. Marisa Matthys **Ph:** 9433 4000 **or Email**  
[principal@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@smgreensborough.catholic.edu.au)

**Sacred Heart & St Peter's**

25 Gipson Street,  
Diamond Creek 3089

**Parish:** 9401 6361

**Email:** [DiamondCreek@cam.org.au](mailto:DiamondCreek@cam.org.au)

**Website:** [www.pol.org.au/diamondcreek](http://www.pol.org.au/diamondcreek)

**Secretary:** Pat Guatta

**Mass Times**

**Wednesday & Friday:** Mass 9.15am

**St Peter's:** 1st & 3rd Saturday 7.15pm

**Sunday:** Mass 9.00am

**Reconciliation Times**

**Friday:** 9.45am to 10.15am

**Parish School Principal**

Mr. Jim O'Sullivan **Ph:** 9438 1590 **or Email**  
[principal@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@shdiamondcreek.catholic.edu.au)

**St. Thomas the Apostle**

251 Diamond Creek Road,  
Greensborough Nth 3088

**Parish:** 9434 7373

**Email:** [greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au](mailto:greensboroughnorth@cam.org.au)

**Website:** [www.pol.org.au/greensboroughnorth](http://www.pol.org.au/greensboroughnorth)

**Secretary:** Lisa Leahy

**Mass Times**

**Tuesday & Thursday:** Mass 9.15am

**Saturday:** Vigil Mass 6.00pm

**Sunday:** Mass 10.30am

**Reconciliation Times**

**Saturday:** 9.30am to 10.00am

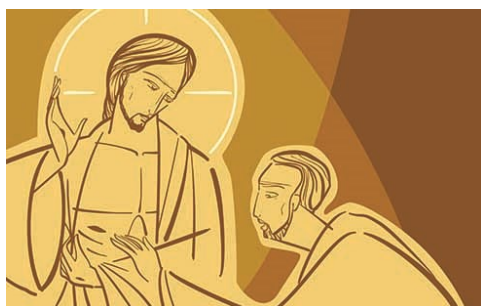
**Parish School Principal**

Mr David Delaney **Ph:** 9434 4565 **or Email**  
[principal@stgreensboroughnth.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@stgreensboroughnth.catholic.edu.au)

**THE CELEBRATION OF MASS IN OUR PARISHES**

**Mass at Home: St Patrick's Cathedral:** On Channel 31, 44 on Digital TV, for Sunday Mass at 11.00am

**Mass for You at Home - Diocese of Wollongong:** Sundays on Channel 10 at 6am, Foxtel Channel 173 at 10am, and online at  
[www.massforyou.com.au](http://www.massforyou.com.au)



Jesus stands alongside us, tenderly drawing us out from doubt and disbelief.

**Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) Year C,  
24 April 2022.**

**Fr Brendan Byrne SJ**

<https://www.australiancatholics.com.au/article/scripture-reflection---peace-be-with-you>

**Sacred Heart, St Mary's & St Thomas the Apostle are all members of the Diamond Valley Deanery.**



[www.diamondvalleydeanery.org.au](http://www.diamondvalleydeanery.org.au)

**Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne**

[www.cam.org.au](http://www.cam.org.au)



**Our Partnered Parishes respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri people who are the traditional custodians of this land  
and we pay respect to the Elders past and present.**

## The Full Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius, Loyola

My name is Steve Nash. I am one of the RE Learning Consultants in the Eastern Region of Melbourne.

Alongside my work, I am in a process/course to become a spiritual director. As part of the course there is a practical element which involves doing the Exercises of St Ignatius with two people. Hence, I am looking for two people who would like to go through the process of the exercises with me.

There will be a cost only in order to help allay the cost of the supervisor (\$25.00 per session but if that is too much we can work something out). I am looking for people who are interested in doing the exercises but people I don't have any formal professional contact with: so teachers or staff in schools that I work in would be OK, REL's would not. REL's in schools I don't work in would be OK. If you or someone you know would be interested pass my details on to them:

Steve Nash

[snash@macs.vic.edu.au](mailto:snash@macs.vic.edu.au)

0416 137 890

*The Spiritual Exercises are a compilation of meditations, prayers, and contemplative practices developed by St. Ignatius Loyola to help people deepen their relationship with God. For centuries the Exercises were most commonly given as a "long retreat" of about 30 days in solitude and silence. In recent years, there has been a renewed emphasis on the Spiritual Exercises as a program for laypeople. The most common way of going through the Exercises now is a "retreat in daily life," which involves program of daily prayer and meetings with a spiritual director. The Exercises have also been adapted in many other ways to meet the needs of modern people.*

The Full Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius is a Retreat in Daily Life over 30-35 weeks. The prayer for the Exercises asks an hour of you each day and a 45 minute visit to your spiritual director once a week (which could be in person or online).

As your spiritual director, I am in a process of formation as a Giver of the full Spiritual Exercises in the Heart Wisdom Program at Kardina Formation P/L, Melbourne, AUSTRALIA, and therefore I will be supervised. That simply means I will discuss the process with a supervising spiritual director.

Best regards

Steve

### **Part 2: The Eucharist, The Source and Summit of Catholic Spirituality -Rev. Dr Elio Capra**

What is the meaning of the words and actions of the Eucharist? What are the links between the Eucharist and everyday life. By popular demand Fr. Elio will return on **Wednesday 27th April at 7:00 pm** to complete this 2 part series. Please attend in person as this event will not be recorded.

To view Part 1 of this series please click on the link <https://youtu.be/yD8apJsNUb4>

For registration and booking please call Jo on 0411 045 572 or Michelle on 0432316777.

### **Scripture Study: Would you like to join our weekly scripture group on Zoom?**

We are commencing a 6 week study on **The Letters to the Hebrews**, starting from **Thursday 19th May 2022**.

This study reviews the history of Israel and points us to Jesus Christ who fulfils and surpasses all the hopes expressed in the Old Testament. This study reminds us of the great heroes of faith found in the Old Testament and urges us to imitate their faithful endurance. For more information and enrolling please contact Michelle on 0432316777 [mtdsouza@optusnet.com.au](mailto:mtdsouza@optusnet.com.au)

### **PROJECT COMPASSION 2022**

Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!

Thank you for your continued support for Project Compassion – past, present and future. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations.

Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2022 Lenten appeal.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting [lent.caritas.org.au](http://lent.caritas.org.au), or by calling 1800 024 413.



## PARTNERED PARISHES NEWS CONTINUED

**LEST WE FORGET - ANZAC Day**, celebrated on **April 25th** in both Australia and New Zealand, is the day we remember soldiers of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZACS) who landed and fought on the Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey early on the morning of April 25 1915 during the First World War (1914-1918).

**We remember their bravery and sacrifice, many of them never returning home from the war.**



*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.*

*From Laurence Binyon's poem, For the Fallen (1914)*

***We all have questions about faith, life and meaning, and we all deserve a safe space to ask them. Alpha is that space.***

Exciting news!! We are planning to bring **Alpha** to our Partnered Parishes community, in particular, the parents of children attending our three primary schools. In preparation for this, we are inviting expressions of interest for positions on the **Alpha Leadership Team**. The only 'qualifications' you need are your love for our Lord Jesus and a desire to bring people together to explore the big questions in life.



If you are interested, please email [AlphaVic3088@gmail.com](mailto:AlphaVic3088@gmail.com) or call Trevor on 0435 823 002.

To learn more about Alpha, visit <https://www.alpha.org.au/try>

### **MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR HEALTH & AGED CARE WORKERS**

**Sunday 1st May, 11am · St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne**

The last two years have impacted all of us, but especially on members of the aged- and health-care service sectors. This Mass will be offered in thanksgiving for their ongoing care and **those working in these sectors are especially invited to attend.**

### **MASS TO COMMEMORATE THOSE WHO HAVE DIED DURING THE COVID PANDEMIC**

**Sunday 22nd May, 11am · St Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne**

In recognition of the significant impact of COVID in our families and communities, Archbishop Comensoli will celebrate a memorial Mass for all those who have died during the COVID pandemic and could not be mourned properly due to pandemic restrictions. Parishes and individuals are invited to submit the name(s) of those you would like remembered during the Mass by visiting the Holy Souls Chapel (inside St Patrick's Cathedral) during May or online <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GZKP7QF>. The names will be placed in a basket at the base of the altar, to be prayed for during all Masses over the weekend of 21-22 May.

Parishes are also encouraged to mark this event during their Masses on the week-end of 21-22 May, focussing prayerfully on those who have died during this time of the COVID pandemic. Further resources, including prayers and liturgical inclusions for parishes can be found here: <https://summit.melbournecatholic.org/libraries/2022/emerging-out-of-covidtwo-special-masses-for-the-community/>



**Psst... I'm Paul, I have a secret!**

Discover how God used Paul's background & passion to spread the Gospel. A noon day encounter resulted in a radical re-set for the former Pharisee. Paul took off like an athlete running a marathon, it soon became an obstacle course and then required a relay team to reach the finishing line, where we will find...

#### **THE SECRET OF PAUL**

It will be revealed on ZOOM over 6 Tuesdays

19 & 26 April, 3, 10, 17, 24 May

7.30 - 9.30pm Aus EST

Book before Mon 18 April at:

<https://www.trybooking.com/BYFZL>

Overseas participants use code: OVASEA

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SACRED HEART & ST PETER'S



**Baptisms:** we pray for Harper, Jack, Willow, Jobe, George, Darcy, Tyler and Darcy who will be welcomed into the Sacred Heart community in April.

**Caritas Project Compassion:** Thank you for your generous donations to Project Compassion. Please return money boxes so receipts can be issued.

**Joan Chittister osb.** Joan is an American Benedictine, a Practical Theologian, and she embodies the voice of wisdom and experience. A parishioner has donated **2 free tickets** to hear Joan speak on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May 7pm-9pm at Melbourne Town Hall. Contact the Parish Office.

**ANZAC Day:** Diamond Creek RSL will hold a Service at the Cenotaph 10.30am on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April, where Combined Churches of Diamond Creek (St John's Anglican, Wensley Street Uniting Church and Sacred Heart) will lay a wreath.

An invitation is extended to join the **Senior Moments** for 12pm lunch on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May at Diamond Creek Tavern. Please leave your names at the Parish Office for bookings.

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 12pm Lunch and Games in the Parish Centre.

**Funeral Ministry:** Please consider joining our Funeral Ministry Team Roster. Participants assist our Priests when meeting with families to organize funerals. They also help to set up the church, support and welcome the family on the day of the Funeral. Please talk to Frank Ledda or contact the Office for more information.

**Parish Pastoral Council:** suggestion box in back of Church. Email address: [ppcdiamondcreek@gmail.com](mailto:ppcdiamondcreek@gmail.com)

***Our prayers have been asked for sick parishioners and friends that they may be healed & comforted during this time:***

Mario Molinaro, Catherine Leonard, Peter Mejak, Joan Moran, Tony Ledda, Margaret Holland, Bridie Burke, Mary Rafferty, Thomas Keenan, Bernadette Hobbs, Mervyn Bourke, John Downey

***We pray for those who have died and all those whose Anniversaries occur in the month of April that they may enter Joyfully into God's Kingdom:***

Frank Laffy, Gino Ongarello, Karen Ongarello, Frank Nihill, Grace Leonard, Freda Kennedy, Alan Ridsdale, Jane Coyle, Elaine Chapman.

**Rosters:**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April Sacred Heart 9am**

**Reader:** T. Jenkins    **Commentator:** C.Fernando    **Eucharistic Ministers:** A. Schellens, R. Belli

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST THOMAS



**Parental Supervision:** With the return of families at our Masses and as our toilets are out of view, parental supervision of your children is required while using the facilities.

**Baptisms:** We pray for Patrick who will be baptised this weekend.

**Mothers Day Slideshow:** I am looking for photos you might like to have included in the slideshow at the Mother's Day Masses on the 7th & 8th May.

If you have any you would like to share, please email to me at [sueandkevinmcmahon@bigpond.com](mailto:sueandkevinmcmahon@bigpond.com)

***Our prayers have been asked for sick parishioners and friends that they may be healed & comforted during this time:***

Peg Wilcox, Dawn Ellis, Miran Kasalo,

***We pray for those who have died including Rosa Alvaro (Joe Alvaro's sister) and all those whose Anniversaries occur in the month of April that they may enter Joyfully into God's Kingdom:***

Mary Cho Nguyen, Prisca Rosario, Osvaldo Porcaro, Lina Betuna, Margaret Mc Carthy, Dino Bianchin, Bill Schultz, Brian Brown, Alessandro Sacchetta, Reg Cummins, Pat Hart, Iris Hartley, Joy Joseph, Roy Kilkenny, Anastasis Rendina, Sylvester Ellul, Rod Nettleton, Kathleen Jordan, Maria de Bartolo, Elaine Chapman, Shirley Bourke, Maria del Popolo

**Rosters for Weekend 30th April & 1st May**

**Saturday 6.00pm**

**Reader:** S. McMahon    **Commentator:** E. Sacchetta    **Eucharistic Ministers:** D. Haesler, M. Bedford, T. Holland

**Set Up:** J. De Carlo

**Sunday 10.30am**

**Reader:** M. Kenny    **Commentator:** B. Iacobucci    **Eucharistic Ministers:** B. Riordan, C. Riordan, A. Kerr

**Set Up:** C. & B. Riordan

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S

*Vision Statement "To be a vibrant Christian community engaging with the world"*



### PLEASE NOTE NEW PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Francesca and Sharon will provide for our **secretarial needs on Tuesdays 9am-5pm and Thursdays and Fridays 10am-4pm** and Jacinta's **days will be Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9am-5pm**.

Please continue to send any bulletin contributions to Francesca and Sharon at [greensborough@cam.org.au](mailto:greensborough@cam.org.au) by 2pm Wednesday to ensure inclusion in the weekend combined bulletin.

**TIME AND TALENT – HELP NEEDED** Dear parishioners, please consider volunteering some time towards one of our parish ministries. COVID, ageing and illness have left our ministries quite depleted. A Time and Talent Sheet outlining the various ministries is once again attached to St Mary's newsletter.

**INDIVIDUAL RECONCILIATION** will recommence at St Mary's on Saturday mornings from 9.00 to 10.00am and evenings from 5.45 to 6.15pm from 23 April.

**WINTER WARMERS SALE 30th April/1st May** in the Gathering Space after masses. Enquiries Maureen 9435 5906 Lucy 9435 6990.

**Summary of Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> of April 2022**—Our meeting commenced with an opening prayer led by Jacinta, involving reflection upon the cross, and how it symbolises new beginnings arising from chaos. Following this, Mark provided an update on the most recent School Advisory Council meeting, which occurred on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March. The main points were; the prep and year 6 buddy picnic which occurred recently, the whole school Ash Wednesday service went ahead, fire carriers were commissioned, and the school audit which occurred on the 30<sup>th</sup> of March. We then discussed some interviews that Jacinta has conducted of individuals who do not attend mass, following our Partnered Parishes PPC Formation Day we were presented with similar interviews. It is important to note that the purpose of this is to listen, and understand different peoples perspectives, rather than solely trying to get them to attend mass. Jacinta and Fr Steve have sent a letter to all three schools of the Partnered Parishes so that teachers can contribute anonymously to this initiative. After this, we discussed the Safeguarding of Children and Young people initiative, with another meeting to be held, to ensure all groups are informed of the requirements. Furthermore, different ways of informing the community of this initiative were discussed, like a regular message within the Parish newsletter. Steve Hodgson then provided some information regarding the finance committee, with a letter being released to inform members of the community about the Parish's financial situation. Jacinta discussed the Prep Parent Connection Nights which occurred recently, which proved a great opportunity for parents to meet one another and facilitate conversation. Fr Steve briefed the group of the recent meeting with both Eltham and Montmorency Parishes, regarding the merging of our Parishes. Both seemed open to join, and there will be later discussions regarding the potential merge. The Partnered Parishes Plenary met with the Archdiocese counselor, and discussed potential initiatives to acknowledge victims of sexual abuse within the church. The meeting ended with discussion regarding the PPC at both Sacred Heart and St Thomas moving ahead.

As part of its election statement, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference said the country had an obligation to take more refugees from Afghanistan because of the support shown to Australian military forces.

"The situation in Afghanistan demands a special intake of at least 20,000 additional places," the statement says.

"We have a moral duty towards those who supported Australian military forces as interpreters or in other capacities."

The statement also calls for a special intake of Ukrainian refugees, saying they require "similar mercy".

"Refugees and asylum-seekers fleeing persecution, violence or life-threatening poverty, and people who have been displaced by climate change, are our sisters and brothers."

The bishops called for a wider reassessment of refugee policies, saying the people fleeing violence or persecution have a "moral claim on our assistance, whether they fit legal definitions of a refugee or not".

St Mary's Social Justice Group

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST MARY'S CONTINUED

**ST MARY'S FUNERAL MINISTRY TEAM** is **urgently seeking new members** capable of preparing and/or running the audio-visual presentations at funerals. Please contact the parish office for more information on 9435 1543 or email [greensborough@cam.org.au](mailto:greensborough@cam.org.au)  
Thank you

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** For many years a group of volunteers have catered after funerals at St Mary's. We would like to re-organise this group. If you would like to help and need details please contact Judy Newell 9435 4506.

**FACE MASKS** Whilst not mandatory, the Chief Health Officer currently recommends masks to be worn indoors, and the Archdiocese reminds parishes that this is especially applicable to larger gatherings.

**St Mary's Prayer Shawl Group** Meets in the Gathering Space 10am - 12pm on Mondays. Enq: Maureen Leahy—0407 687 517; Anne Fleming— 0409 234 326 .

**HELP WITH TRANSPORT TO MASS:** A parishioner who is unable to get to Mass would greatly appreciate if anyone would be available to take them to 10.00am Mass on Sundays. If you are able to help could you please contact the Parish Office 94351543.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR

**Special Prayers** are asked for Bridget and Glenn's baby during the pregnancy.

**April Baptisms:** Afeefa Mohammed, Alex Magaton, Alexa Amore,

**Our prayers have been asked for sick parishioners & friends that they may be healed & comforted during this time:**

Peter Mejak, Pat Garrard, Michael Mc Aleer, Helen Sinnott, Barbara Fernandez

**Recently Deceased:**

**We Pray for those whose Anniversaries occur this week, may they enter joyfully into God's Kingdom:**

Sally Maskell, Lucy Boyd, Ted Moylan, Marjorie Howard, Rhonda Wilton, Doug Risson, Noel Devoy, Jenni Nailer, Max Parker, Pearl & Glenn Davis, Ruby Redmond, Rhonda Wilton, Margaret O'Malley, Reg Coyle Snr., Max O'Brien, Benjamin Potter, Gabriel Noel, Damian McDonald, John Archer, Heath Barratt, Kevin Manning, Daniel Rodgers, Joseph Monagle, Christopher Konda, Ada Ramos, Lenard Wright, Terry Hunniford, Hilda Schichmann, E.T. Mathew, Florizel Capuli, Lynda Furlong, Port Arthur Massacre, Honora Livy, Nellie Turner, Francesco Terminelli, Mary Lewes, Lindsay Nolan, William Jowett, Mary Louise Dixon, Joan King, Hugh Boyd, Joan Wright, Julian Hutchinson, Sr. Agnes Scully, Kathleen Kirby, Leo Kelly, Kevin Doyle, Pilar Sanchez, Jim Mackie, Rosie Williams, Jessica Meyer, Adelaide Steele, Sofio Vallejo, Iris Andersson, Eleanor King, Ramon Peña Sr., Betty Nechwatal

## ARCHDIOCESE AND COMMUNITY NEWS

**CARITAS APPEAL FOR UKRAINE:** Caritas is having an emergency appeal for Ukraine, if you wish to donate please use this link: <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/ukraine>



**'PONDERING GRIEF':** Saturday 30 April 2022, 10am-3.30pm. Facilitated by qualified Counsellor/ Supervisor/ Educator Linda Espie this reflection day offers an invitation to reflect on and honour our inner life of change and transition. With creativity, space and gentle guiding support, this workshop offers a sacred place for the breadth of human experiencing and spirit to guide individual exploration. Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation, Rear 41 Stanhope St, Malvern.  
Cost \$80 (Materials provided, BYO lunch).

Book and pay via [www.heartoflife.melbourne](http://www.heartoflife.melbourne), or email [info@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:info@heartoflife.melbourne) or tel 9890 1101.

**CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE:** Is offering a Series of short sessions: online via Zoom Engaging Your Faith

Choose one, choose all, choose what interests you and all for just \$25 per session, running from 3rd to 28th May 2022

Booking, payment and further information: [ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith/](http://ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith/)

**ACU CENTRE FOR LITURGY:** The ACU Centre for Liturgy is offering a new online training program for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, supported by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. Classes start April 27. For further information see our website: <http://www.acu.edu.au/centreforliturgy/pastoral-training> or contact the Centre on (02)9701 4751 or [CentreforLiturgy@acu.edu.au](mailto:CentreforLiturgy@acu.edu.au)

When Jesus appears to the disciples, in the reading from John, he meets them where they are – in material reality. The experience of the divine is mediated through the familiar things of this world: Jesus shows them the marks of crucifixion on his body and he breathes the Holy Spirit into them. This is a sensual experience. Thomas, however, is being too concrete and at first he refuses to move beyond the sensual so Jesus allows him a visual and tactile experience, but a leap of intuitive faith is expected of Thomas in the end.



## Second Sunday of Easter, Year C

24 April 2022

### 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

**Ps 117:2-4. 22-27. R. v.1**

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

**(R.) Alleluia.**

- 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 true God is our light. (R.)

### Second Reading Rv 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 lamp-stands 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 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

*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.



### Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Doubt and questioning are a normal and proper part of being human. We should allow for this within the community of the Church. A point may come where a person may no longer remain in the Church with any integrity. But a dismissive, excluding Church is not the Church of this gospel story.

Within the companionship of the Church a doubter may hear the words: 'Peace be with you.' What sort of peace? It is that inner assurance that, in the midst of all the tribulations and the turmoil and the myriad precursor deaths which we suffer on all sorts of levels, the Conqueror of Death wants to be with us.

How can the Risen Lord be with us? In Holy Communion, and in those counted as least in the world. According to Matthew 25, He *is* those without the necessities of life: food, shelter, medical care, comfort in distress.

We could pause for a moment to savour that Peace which comes from faith in the Conqueror of Death and in his Real Presence in Holy Communion and in those in dire need.

mtate@bigpond.com