TODAY'S GOSPEL BEGINS in an atmosphere of fear. It is Easter Sunday, two days after the death of Jesus. The disciples are inside the house, with the doors firmly locked, because they are terrified that, as companions of Jesus, they too will be liable to arrest and punishment. The words of assurance they had been given earlier are all forgotten.

Suddenly, there is Jesus standing in their midst. The very fact that he can be present in spite of the locked doors indicates that he is not the same as before, that he is present in a new way.

"Peace with you!" is his greeting. It is the normal Jewish greeting of "Shalom". But, coming from Jesus, the Prince of Peace, to this group of frightened people, it has special meaning. And, in the Greek, there is no verb so it can be taken either as a wish or a statement of fact – where Jesus is truly present to us, there is peace.

He shows them his hands and side. He is not just a disembodied ghost but the same Jesus who died on the cross – and yet there are differences.

The disciples' fear is gradually transformed into an unspeakable joy at the return of their Master. He continues to speak to them. Repeating his greeting of peace, he proceeds to give them their mission. There is no critical word of their failure to stand by him in his final moments. "As the Father sent me, so am I sending you."

Then he breathed on them. The breath of life, reminiscent of God breathing on the dust of the earth and creating human life in the first man. It is also the breath of the Spirit, the Spirit of the Father and of the Son: "Receive the Holy Spirit."

Then comes their mission: "For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained." Is that all he gave them to do? It does not seem much. What about all the other things the Gospel talks about? And yet, it is all there in those words.

There is no full forgiveness of sin without reconciliation. Their task is to bring about the reconciliation of all with their God, with their brothers and sisters and with the whole of creation.

That is their primary mission, to which all their other efforts and teaching will be subordinated. To restore right relationships between God and his people and among the people themselves. That is a pretty big programme.

In practice, it involves a lot more than just saying words of forgiveness. It involves much more than "going to confession" and being absolved by a priest. It involves working to create a whole society based on right relationships with God, between people and with the rest of the creation. It is the making of the Kingdom of God. That is a pretty big programme.

Sacred Space

OLIVERIAN

ST OLIVER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, PASCOE VALE

ADMINISTRATOR Fr Michael Kong Pastoral Associate Marthese Temming School Principal Delfina Pieri

Presbytery: 1 Landells Road, Pascoe Vale 3044 Telephone: 9354 3015

email: pascoevale@cam.org.au
website: https://stolivers.org.au/

School: Landells Road, PO Box 667, Pascoe Vale 3044 Telephone: 9354 5411

Parish Office Hours: 9am – 3pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

MASS TIMES

Saturday 6.00 pm (Vigil for Sunday)

Sunday 8.45 am & 10.30 am

Wednesday 9.15 am Thursday 7.00 pm

You can register through the parish website https://stolivers.org.au/

& Click "Join Sunday Mass"

Confessions Saturday 10—10.30 am (Held outside at back of church

between church and presbytery)

Baptisms 2nd Saturday of the month (by appointment)

Marriages By appointment with at least 6 months notice

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Monday Christian Meditation 7-8 pm Parish Centre (starting after Easter) (contact Chris Rowland 0411 440 746)

Tuesday Italian Ladies Prayer Group 10.30 am Meeting Room (starting after Easter)

Charismatic Prayer Group 7.30 pm Church

Wednesday Drop-In Centre 1 - 3 pm Church/Parish Centre

Thursday St Vincent de Paul 5.30 pm Meeting Room (last Thursday of the month)

FROM ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

SUNDAY 11AM: Live Streamed and C31 Televised (Channel 44 on Digital TV)

6AM: Channel 10 - "Mass for You at Home"

MONDAY - FRIDAY 1PM : Live Streamed. (Link below)

SATURDAY 8.00AM: Live Streamed. (*Link below*)

http://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass and https://www.youtube.com/user/archmelb

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER - 10/11 APRIL 2021

Entrance Antiphon: Receive the joy of your glory, giving thanks to God, who

has called you into the heavenly kingdom, alleluia.

Response to the Psalm: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,

his love is everlasting.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,

and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

Please remember in your prayers the following:

Those who have died: Amparo McErvale, Eulogio A. Pacis Jr, Carina Bernardo

Anniversaries: Eva Manetta

Those who are ill: Gina, Scerri, Maria Coreno, Monica Wickerson, Joe Grech,

Pasquale Buonomo, Sofia Ruggiero, Karen Hardy, Eileen Squires, Lamberto, Adelaida & Luisa Cruz,

Vicenta Santos

10/11 April 17/18 April

READERS:

Sat 6 pm L. Teoh [L], M. Lynch [R] A. Borelli [L], J. Pertile [R]

Sun 8.45 am F. Minutolo T. Baltatzis

10.30 am S. Bennardo [L], R. Polastri [R] R.Robles-McColl[L], M.Temming[R]

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Sat 6 pm P. Saliba L. Bellio
Sun 8.45 am M. Carabott V. Ricevuto
10.30 am A. Cocomello C. Steere

At St Oliver's parish we aim to create a child-safe and child-friendly environment. Privacy: In 2001 the Commonwealth and Victorian governments introduced legislation that deals with the manner in which public and private sector organisations may record, use, store and disclose information, including health information collected from individuals. This Parish is committed to upholding and implementing the Privacy Principles set out in the legislation.

Project compassion

Please return the project compassion box. You can place it in the box provided at the altar steps on the right side of church or drop off at the parish office on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday between 9am and 3pm.

Holy Land collection

We have gathered \$1,070 for Holy Land collection on Good Friday.

Thank you very much for your generosity.

Divine Mercy Sunday



In the Jubilee Year 2000, <u>Pope John Paul II</u> proclaimed that from that year forward the Second Sunday of Easter would be celebrated as Divine Mercy Sunday. This was proclaimed at the Canonization Mass of St. Faustina Kawalska, who worked throughout her life to make all aware of the merciful love of God. St. Faustina (1905–1938) was born and raised in a vocation to religious life, she was accepted by the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. As a member of the Congregation, she worked as a cook, gardener, and porter. In her spiritual life, her contemplation on the Mercy of God led her to develop a childlike trust in God and deep love for her neighbour.

Please continue to support St Oliver's Parish and Fr Michael. The link: <u>https://bit.ly/CDFpayPascoeVale</u>

We are very grateful for your support at this challenging time.

COVID19 INSTRUCTIONS

People must carry a fitted face covering at all times. Fitted face coverings are no longer mandatory indoors or outdoors, but should be worn by participants (unless they have a lawful exemption or are children under 12 years of age) if a distance of 1.5m cannot be maintained.

Please come 10 to 15 minutes before Mass. Doors will close when Mass starts.

Please visit our website for the newest update from the Archdiocese regarding liturgical guidelines: https://stolivers.org.au/