EASTER SUNDAY: YEAR C

## The Tidings

17TH APRIL 2022



Celebrating 50 years as a parish 1972-202



**RECENTLY DECEASED:** 

Joseph Bonnici

ANNIVERSARIES: 16th – 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2022

Jeff Goudie, John Spiteri, Paul Spiteri, Ted Sliwa Snr, Peter Herbert, Bill Coburn, Porfirio Alea, Thomas Dillon, Olympia Agcang, David Nauer, Annette Cutajar, W Van Orsouw, Anne Stewart, Barbara Hoenig, Jane Spillman, Gerard Coupe, Br. Charles Hennessy, Margery McComb, Charlie Cassar, Tim Gomez, Ronald Perez, Andrew Caruana.

PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Michael Moody
DEACON—Rev Chris Creo
PHONE: 9743 6515 FAX: 9747 8603

EMAIL: melton@cam.org.au
WEBSITE: pol.org.au/melton

PARISH YOUTUBE CHANNEL: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5INP-Z4aSc43NtsZo9kN2A

PARISH SECRTARY: Margaret Cassar
PARISH OFFICE — 10 Unitt St Melton
(if using Google Maps—20-22 Unitt St, Melton)
Office Hours — Tuesday - Friday 9am-3pm
POSTAL ADDRESS — PO BOX 96, Melton, 3337

SAFEGUARDING CO-DRDINATOR: Liz Coustley
Safeguarding Co-ordinator Phone— 0490 885 515
Safeguarding Co-ordinator Email— cso.melton@gmail.com

The Parish Office is not open Weekends or Public Holidays

#### PARISH OF MELTON SERVING THE AREAS OF:

Melton, Melton West, Aintree, Boonie Brook, Harkness, Grangefields, Kurunjang, Plumpton, Rockbank, & Toolern Vale

#### MASS TIMES

St Catherine of Siena Church

108 Bulmans Road, Melton West

Saturday 6pm | Sunday 9am, 11am & 5pm

#### SACRAMENT OF PENANCE:

Please contact the Parish Office.

St Dominic's Church

Church Street, Melton Wednesday –9.30am (school holidays only) Thursday & Friday -9.15am

#### INTRODUCTION—

CHRIST IS RISEN ALLELUIA! The empty tomb, and the neatly folded burial cloths, were signs that led the Beloved Disciple to believe that Jesus had risen from the dead. In the witness of the Apostles, and the faithfulness, courage and love of our fellow Christians, we too have powerful signs that Christ is risen and lives among us. Observing them, our faith cries out, 'Alleluia!'

#### EASTER MESSAGE FROM FR. MICHAEL—

With the Easter season now upon us, we once again reflect on the great gift that God has given to us through his son, Jesus Christ. This year I again invite you to enter the story of the Passion and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ using the reflection prompt— "Were you there?". I invite this reflection as each year the role you enter may be different and can be a catalyst to come closer to the person you are called to be. This year's Parish theme is HOPE. There is no better sign of this than this weekend. We have printed the reflection in this week's newsletter to help you contemplate the role you have assumed and what you want to be.

Thank you to all those that have spent many weeks preparing this year's lent and Easter liturgies and activities. Your role in the spiritual lives of us all is greatly appreciated.

I wish you all a happy, hopeful and blessed Easter. He is Risen! - Fr Michael





STEWARDSHIP: FOR THE
MONTH OF
FEBRUARY 2022
Weekly Pledged:
\$7,052.09
Weekly Amount Given:
\$6,108.10

#### PRIMETIMERS NEXT OUTING

Our next outing will be for lunch at the Melton Valley Golf Club, 2/30 Melton Valley Drive, Melton. Tuesday 26th April, for 12 o'clock. Seniors lunch available for \$18.00. RSVP by Friday 24th for catering and staffing purposes. Enquiries contact Ineke 0400120401 or ineke49@yahoo.com.

#### PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES

Please return your Project Compassion Boxes. A box will be placed in the Reconciliation Room for those that have participated in this year's Caritas Project Compassion Campaign. We thank you for your generosity!

#### IMAGE OF THE DIVINE MERCY

The image of the Divine Mercy will be on display in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel <u>next weekend</u>. This is an opportunity for private prayer and rosary.

#### WEDNESDAY MORNING MASS AT ST DOMINIC'S - 20TH APRIL

Please note that 9.30am Wednesday morning Mass will be held at St Dominic's Church during the School Holidays. All welcome!

#### PARISH OFFICE CLOSED NEXT WEEK

Please note that the Parish office will be closed next week and reopen Tuesday 26 April at 9.00am.

### **Easter Water**

PARISHIONERS ARE REMINDED TO BRING
THEIR OWN WATER BOTTLE TO THE EASTER
MASSES TO FILL WITH THE NEWLY BLESSED
HOLY WATER FROM THE FONT







# WERE YOU THERE? Refelection

Were you there? For five weeks now, we've been journeying through Lent to reach this one week in the year we call holy when we commemorate the passion death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Were you there? The old gospel spiritual asks that question.

St Ignatius Loyola asks a further question. He invites us to enter into this scene imaginatively to place ourselves in the context of this story and ask the question not only 'were you there?' but where are you there? Where do you find yourself in the story this year because I know as I reflect on the story for myself from year to year it changes. There are times when I find myself closer to the Lord and times when I find myself further away from the Lord. 'Were you there?" and "Where are you in this story as St Matthew tells it? Perhaps this year you find yourself identifying with Judas, selling his Lord for a mere thirty pieces of silver - betraying his friend. Perhaps this year has been a year of compromising your own values for the sake of lining your pockets.

Were you there? Perhaps you find yourself this year identifying with the Jewish High Priests. They are so bent on getting Jesus condemned to death that they are willing to accept compromised testimony that they know is not true for the sake of getting this man executed. It makes me wonder whether there are people in my own life that I've prejudged as this or that and I won't listen to the truth because I am not interested, I've already made up my mind about who they are and what they stand for.

Were you there? Perhaps you find yourself identifying with the slumbering apostles, oblivious to the suffering of their Lord a few feet away from them. Perhaps we find ourselves oblivious to the pain of family, friends and neighbours near at hand or far away because we isolate ourselves with food and drink and pleasure.

Were you there? Perhaps you find yourself identifying with the maddening crowd. Crying Hosanna one day and Crucify Him the next. Like a feather blown in the breeze, our values compromised by whatever is politically expedient. By whatever is convenient for the day.

Were you there? Perhaps you find yourself identifying with Pilate, ignoring the pleas of his wife so that he can hold onto his own position of power and privilege. Condemning an innocent man for the sake of his own political advancement. Have there been times this past year where you've done, where I've done what we know is wrong for the sake of advancing our own careers.

Were you there? Do you find yourself identifying with the soldiers pounding nails into his flesh not asking whether it is right or wrong? Simply following orders because it is your job.

Were you there? Perhaps you find yourself identifying with the friends of Jesus. With John the beloved disciple the only one of the twelve who dared to be seen in public standing beneath the Cross.

Were you there? Perhaps you find yourself this year identifying with the Magdalene pushing her way through the soldiers to be near to the man that freed her from seven demons.

Were you there? Perhaps you find yourself identifying with Joseph of Arimathea willing to be identified in public with a condemned man whom he knew to be just, providing a tomb for his burial.

Were you there? Perhaps you find yourself this year identifying with Mother Mary leaping beneath the Cross and eventually holding her dead son in her arms.

Whoever we find ourselves to be in this story its not too late to change the character we play for is that why we not remember this story year after year?

To become the people he calls us to be.