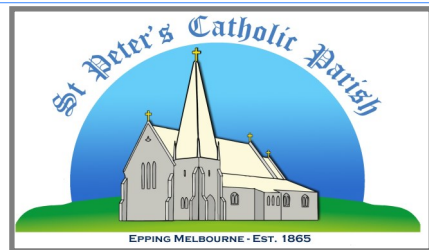


**2nd Sunday of Easter  
Year B  
Divine Mercy Sunday  
7th April, 2024**

The Parish of St. Peter's, Epping, Epping North and Wollert as a community of faith inspired by Love for God welcomes everyone who joins us as we worship together the same Lord in the same Tradition. Our vocation is to listen, share and live the Word of God actively.



**Parish Priest:** Fr Anh Nguyen  
**Assistant Priest:** Fr Tien Tran  
**Sacrament Co-Ordinator:** Sr Huyen Nguyen LHC  
**Sick & Homebound Co-Ordinator:** Sr Phuong Nguyen LHC  
**Parish Secretary:** Michelle Hood  
(Mon- 9-3pm, Tue-Wed 9.30am-3.30pm)  
**Office Admin:** Christine Paterson  
(Wed & Fri 10am-3pm)  
**Seminarian:** Rhys Lowther

**Parish Office and St Peter's Church:**

13 Davison St, Epping  
Ph: 9401 6300

Email: epping@cam.org.au

Web: www.cam.org.au/epping

Facebook: StPetersCatholicParishEpping

ABN:- 70 309 275 608

**WEEKEND MASSES**

**St Peter's** Saturday 9.15am, 6.30pm,  
Sunday 9am & 10.30am

**St Mary of the Cross:** Saturday 5.00pm

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

**St Peter's**

9.15am Tuesday - Friday

(Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament)

**St Mary of the Cross**

12 noon on Fridays during school terms only

**Baptism**

Baptism is celebrated on the Second and Fourth Sunday of each month at 12pm. A Baptism preparation class for parents of the child to be baptised is required.

**Reconciliation**

Saturday 9.45-10.30am following the 9.15am Mass

**Marriage**

By appointment and three month notice required. Please contact the parish office.

**Sacramental Programs for non-parish school children**

9401 6300

**Parish Schools / College**

St Peter's Catholic Primary School

32 Wedge Street, Epping

Principal: Angela Tonkin Ph: 9401 1157

St Mary of the Cross Mackillop

47 Farmhouse Boulevard, Epping North  
Principal: Claire Pitcher Ph: 8432 4500

Mary Glowrey Catholic Primary School

10 Baltrum Drive, Wollert

Principal: Tim Kelly Ph: 8579 6505

Carlo Acutis Catholic Primary School

Principal: Damian Howard

St Monica's College

400 Dalton Road, Epping

Principal: Brian Hanley Ph: 9409 8800

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL ASSISTANCE**  
Free Call 1800 305 330



**REFLECTION by Nick Brodie from Liturgy Help**

'In reality,' Pope Francis points out, 'Thomas is not the only one who struggles to

believe. In fact,' the Pope adds, 'he represents all of us a little bit.'

But Thomas does not only represent us with his explicitly articulated doubt. Rather, Thomas highlights our tendency to walk away. Thomas had absented himself from the community. Returning, he seems a touch transactional: Show me the proof, then I'll commit!

As Pope Francis highlights, Jesus answers Thomas' doubt 'in front of everyone, in the community.' It was, the Pope suggests, as if Jesus was telling Thomas that 'if you want to meet me, do not search far away; remain in our community, with the others, and don't go away. Pray with them. Break bread with them.' Be open to encounter, not closed to possibilities.

This, evidently, is a lesson for us too. Every Christian generation is called to find the Risen Christ together. We belong with each other, with Christ forming a mystical unity out of our diversity.

In this, the story of Thomas has another lesson for the Church. We Christians are called to be a welcoming people. 'Let us ask ourselves,' the Pope suggests, 'if in the name of Jesus' wounds, we are willing to open our arms to those who are wounded by life, excluding no one from God's mercy but welcoming everyone.'

After all, despite his attitude Thomas was still included and welcomed by the community whose testimony he doubted. Even more pointedly, Our Lord opens his exchange with the doubter with some clearly welcoming words: 'Peace be with you.'



**April is the month of the Blessed Sacrament**

**The Pope's Prayer intention for April**

**FOR THE ROLE OF WOMEN**

Let us pray that the dignity and worth of women be recognised in every culture, and for an end to the discrimination they face in various parts of the world.



**Prayers for the Sick:** Roni & Michael Donovan, Glen Arathoon, Gilbert L'Oiseau, Robbie Abdelnour, Olga Olypios, Mary Hill, Fr Brendon Dillon, Emma Anderson, Rachel Gormley, Mario Casha, Ronald Barker.

**Recent Death:**

**Anniversary:** Liam Curran, Lea St Guillaume, Liliane Guy, Christian Mootealoo, Allan Prew

**CHILD SAFETY STATEMENT**

*St Peter's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all our children, young people and vulnerable adults.*

*Children are to be supervised by a parent / guardian at all times in the church and when leaving the church for any reason.*



**Parish Baptisms**



Our Parish recognises the Aboriginal heritage of this country and acknowledges the Wurundjeri Willum Clan as the traditional owners of this place.

# 2nd Sunday of Easter, Year B, Divine Mercy Sunday

## 7th April, 2024

### Entrance Antiphon

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

### First Reading Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

### Responsorial Psalm

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

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. The Lord's right hand has triumphed;  
his right hand raised me up.  
I shall not die, I shall live  
and recount his deeds.  
I was punished, I was punished by the Lord,  
but not doomed to die. **(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 John 5:1-6

A reading from the first letter of St John

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is – keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world – our faith.

Who can overcome the world?

Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God; Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness – since the Spirit is the truth.

### 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

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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.



## TO CONTRIBUTE FINANCIALLY TO ST PETER'S PARISH

**1st Collection / Presbytery** Supports our Parish  
Priests and priests of the Archdiocese.

**Presbytery Acc:-**

**BSB 083 347 Acc. No. 65892 7670**

**Acc. Name:- EPPING CATHOLIC PARISH HOUSE**

**2nd Collection / Church** Supports our Parish

**Church Acc:-**

**BSB 083 347 Acc. No. 65880 7871**

**Acc. Name:- EPPING CATHOLIC PARISH CHURCH**

## NEW THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES

The new Thanksgiving envelopes have recently been available for current contributors.

We have some extra envelopes available, so if you would like to become a regular contributor to the parish, please contact the parish office on 9401-6300 and Michelle will be able to organize envelopes for you.

If you have not yet collected your envelopes they are available in the Church foyer.

## Parish Based Sacraments BOOKINGS ARE NOW CLOSED

## CHURCH CLEANERS NEEDED PLEASE

At present you may notice on the cleaning roster in the newssheet each week, that we have very few volunteers and therefore the same people are cleaning the church every 5 to 6 weeks. This is asking too much of these volunteers even though they are happy to volunteer their time but should be able to expect others to help.

The sisters do the flowers every week, any rubbish or old notices are cleared out of the church during the week, therefore the cleaners should only need to vacuum and dust.

We are looking to increase the number of parishioners on this roster. All you need is a WWCC and to leave your contact details at the parish office.



## The Annunciation of the Lord 8th April from "My Catholic Life"

The celebration of the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord recalls the historical event of the Angel Gabriel appearing to the Virgin Mary, as found in Luke 1:26-38. It also celebrates the Church's faith in the underlying reality that took place at that moment in time.

It celebrates the Incarnation, making this solemnity not only a Marian solemnity, but first and foremost a Christological one. Though Christmas commemorates

the birth of Christ, the Annunciation commemorates the Incarnation within the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Most certainly, this solemnity is also a Marian celebration. We celebrate the Virgin Mary's perfect "Yes" to the plan of the Father. We celebrate her humility, obedience, docility, and especially her motherhood of God and man.

This solemnity is also a celebration of the Father in Heaven because it reveals the beginning of the pinnacle of His perfect plan of salvation. That moment in time, the moment of the Incarnation, holds significance beyond comprehension. This moment was in the mind of the Father in Heaven from all eternity and took place in a hidden way, known only to this lowly and humble virgin.



## Divine Mercy Sunday BY LYDIA BORJA FROM "SIMPLY CATHOLIC"

Sister Mary Faustina Kowalska, born in 1905, was a cloistered nun of the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in Poland. On Feb. 22, 1931, Jesus first appeared to Sister Faustina.

He was clothed in a white robe, with two rays of light emanating from His heart — one red and one white, representing the blood and water that came forth from His pierced side at His crucifixion. He requested that this image be painted with the signature, "Jesus, I trust in You," and promised that even the most hardened sinners who would revere this image would be saved. Our Lord told Faustina of His great desire that the first Sunday after Easter be dedicated as the "Feast of Mercy," and that this image of His mercy be known and venerated by the whole world.

Our Lord appeared to Sister Faustina — whom He called His "apostle of mercy" — many other times over the course of several years, each time speaking of His great mercy for all souls. At the direction of her confessor, Faustina documented all of her dialogues with Christ in what she called her "Diary: Divine Mercy in My Soul" (which received ecclesiastical approval from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith in 1979).

It is important to understand that this is not a new feast day in the Church. As explained in the congregation's document, Divine Mercy Sunday gives an additional name — a new "appellation" — to the day that is already a solemnity of the liturgical year — that is, the Second Sunday of Easter.

## SAFEGUARDING IN OUR PARISH

**All volunteers please check that your WWCC is current. If it has expired please apply for a new one.**

Date	Mass	Leader	Reader	Special Ministers	
13/4	5pm	Volunteer please	Noel Henrisson	Angela Vandenberg	
	6.30pm	Sherwin Moreno	Sheriz Moreno	Rosemary Cheung	
14/4	9am	Cassandra Martin	Leeni Joshua	Bernie Dias	
	10.30am	Julie Cowell	Cathy Gatt	Stella Galea	
Date	Cleaning	Team	Date	Cleaning	Team
6/4		Cyriac George, Anjith Abraham	20/4		Bessy Mathews, Nicholas Sceneay
13/4		Anthony Fakhry, Binoey John	27/4		Shenelle Toshack, Enza Francese



## Liturgy Readings of The Next Week

8/4 Monday: **The ANNUNCIATION of the LORD**  
Readings: Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38;

9/4 Tuesday: of the 2nd week of Easter  
Readings: Acts 4:32-37; Jn 3:7-15;

10/4 Wednesday: of the 2nd week of Easter  
Readings: Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21;

11/4 Thursday: **St Stanislaus**, bishop, martyr  
Readings: Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36;

12/4 Friday: of the 2nd week of Easter  
Readings: Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15;

13/4 Saturday: of the 2nd week of Easter  
Readings: Acts 6:1-7; Jn 6:16-21;

14/4 Sunday : **THIRD Sunday of Easter**  
Readings: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; 1 Jn 2:1-5;  
Lk 24:35-48;

## Regular Events / Meetings in the Parish

### Baptism Preparation-

Please contact the Parish office and speak to Sister Huyen to arrange Baptism & preparation meeting.

**Catholic Women's League** -Next meeting Monday 15th April @10am at St Monica's College

**Charismatic Prayer Group** 6.30pm—9.30pm Fridays  
**1st Friday** Rosary, Sacrament of Reconciliation & Praise followed by Mass- led by St.Peter's Youth  
**2nd & 4th Fridays** Rosary, Praise, worship & Talk.  
**3rd Friday** Rosary, Praise, worship & Adoration

**Finance Committee** - Next meeting - 9th July @ 7pm

**Legion of Mary** - 5.30pm Thursdays

**Bible Study:-** Monthly (4th Tuesday) Next 23rd April

**Liturgy Group** - Next meeting -

**Reach Out** - Communion to the Sick and Homebound – If you are a parishioner or have a family member finding it difficult to come to Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please call the Parish Office - 9401 6300 and speak to St Phuong

**RCIA** - completed for 2024

### Parish Based Sacramental Programs:-

Beginning in April.

**Reconciliation** on Tuesday evenings 7-8pm

**Holy Communion** on Wednesday Evenings 7-8pm

Beginning in May

**Confirmation** on Thursday evenings 7-8pm

**BOOKINGS HAVE NOW CLOSED FOR ALL THREE SACRAMENTS**

**St Vincent de Paul**—

**Third Tuesday** of the month at 7.30pm

**Syro Malabar** - Monday evenings in the church

## NOTICES FOR NEWSHEET

Items for the Parish Newsheet must be sent to the Parish Office by **12 Noon Wednesday.**  
**Contact 9401 6300 or email Epping@cam.org.au**

The newsheet is completed by noon on Wednesday and emailed to parishioners and the schools that afternoon.

If you would like the newsheet emailed to you please provide the office with your email details.

Please do not ring the parish office on a Saturday to ask to offer a Mass as the office is closed from 3pm Friday