

or Mt 28:1-10

He has risen from the dead and now he is going before you to Galilee.

After the Sabbath, and towards dawn on the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala and the other Mary went to visit the sepulchre. And all at once there was a violent earthquake, for the angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled away the stone and sat on it. His face was like lightning, his robe white as snow. The guards were so shaken, so frightened of him, that they were like dead men.

But the angel spoke; and he said to the women, 'There is no need for you to be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said he would. Come and see the place where he lay, then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has risen from the dead and now he is going before you to Galilee; it is there you will see him." Now I have told you.' Filled with awe and great joy the women came quickly away from the tomb and ran to tell the disciples.

And there, coming to meet them, was Jesus. 'Greetings,' he said. And the women came up to him and, falling down before him, clasped his feet. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers that they must leave for Galilee; they will see me there.'

Reflection by Greg Sunter

On this, the most important celebration in the Christian calendar, it is a shame that the reading chosen for the Lectionary is something of a let down. Certainly, within the gospel reading we have the discovery of the empty tomb by Mary of Magdala; the disbelieving disciples running to find things exactly as Mary had described; and the dawning realisation of what Jesus had meant when he so frequently spoke about rising from the dead. However, if the editors of the Lectionary had chosen to also include the next nine verses of the gospel we would have also heard the magnificent encounter between Mary and the risen Lord, confirming that it was a woman, Mary Magdala, who was the first witness to Christ's resurrection. As it is, we never hear this account as part of the cycle of Sunday readings.

The discovery of the empty tomb – although so simply told – is an astounding event that completes the Paschal Mystery: the passion, death AND resurrection of Jesus. Whilst Christ's willingness to go to his death on the cross was an extraordinary statement of God's love for humankind, it is his rising again from death that offers all Christian people hope. It is the second disciple – the one whom Jesus loved – who is the first to grasp the meaning of what has happened inside the tomb. The gospel tells us that upon entering the tomb and seeing Jesus' burial cloths lying there, 'he saw and he believed'. Unlike the later encounters with the risen Lord, this disciple recognised the truth and significance of what he saw in the empty tomb. He didn't need to see the risen Lord to believe. Perhaps it is he that we today can best identify with. Not in a position to physically encounter the risen Christ, we are capable of seeing the signs of his resurrection and continuing presence in the world and choose to believe.

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The Living Word

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

9 April 2023

First Reading Acts 10:34, 37-43

We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117:1-2. 16-17. 22-23. R. v.24

**(R.) This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.**

or

(R.) Alleluia.

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.
Let the sons of Israel 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. (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. (R.)

Second Reading Col 3:1-4

Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

or: **1 Cor 5:6-8**

Throw away the old yeast, that you may be new dough.

You must know how even a small amount of yeast is enough to leaven all the dough, so get rid of all the old yeast, and make yourselves into a completely new batch of bread, unleavened as you are meant to be. Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast, then, by getting rid of all the old yeast of evil and wickedness, having only the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Gospel Acclamation 1 Cor 5:7-8

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with joy in the Lord.**

Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 20:1-9

The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.



Catholic Parish of St Mary Queen of Heaven Georges Hall

Administrator: Rev. Peter Krigovsky
Secretary: Mrs. Veronica Denning (Wednesday 9.30am—4pm)

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Website: <http://www.smgh.org.au> **Email:** parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com
Facebook: fb.me/smgh2 **Streaming:** <https://cutt.ly/StMarys>

St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Georges Hall

God and us Together

Principal: Mrs Monica Palmer **Website:** www.stmgeorgheshall.syd.catholic.edu.au
School Tel: 9727 0000 **School email:** info@stmgeorgheshall.catholic.edu.au

MASS TIMES (English):

Vigil Mass 5 pm (Saturday)
Sunday 8.00 am & 10.00 am
Weekdays: Tuesday 6pm
Mon. Wed. Thu. Fri. Sat. 9.00 am

VIETNAMESE MASS

Vigil Mass 6.30 pm (Saturday)
Sunday 5.30PM

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4.30pm-4.55pm
or anytime on request

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Friday after Mass 9am-10.30am

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Offered to those in need on
1st Wednesday at 9.00am Mass

Baptisms: Sunday 11.000am,
Bookings are necessary.

Children first Sacraments:
Please contact Elaine Nehme
Email:
nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au

Parish site maintenance:
John Impala Phone TBA
Ivan Leskur Phone TBA

Parish Pastoral Council:
Bernie Freeburn, Veronica Den-
ning, Elaine Nehme, Zena Azar,
Paul Abdul Ahad, Natalie Goetz,
Monica Palmer, Linh Bui, Jan-
nette Samawi, Grace Mokdassi

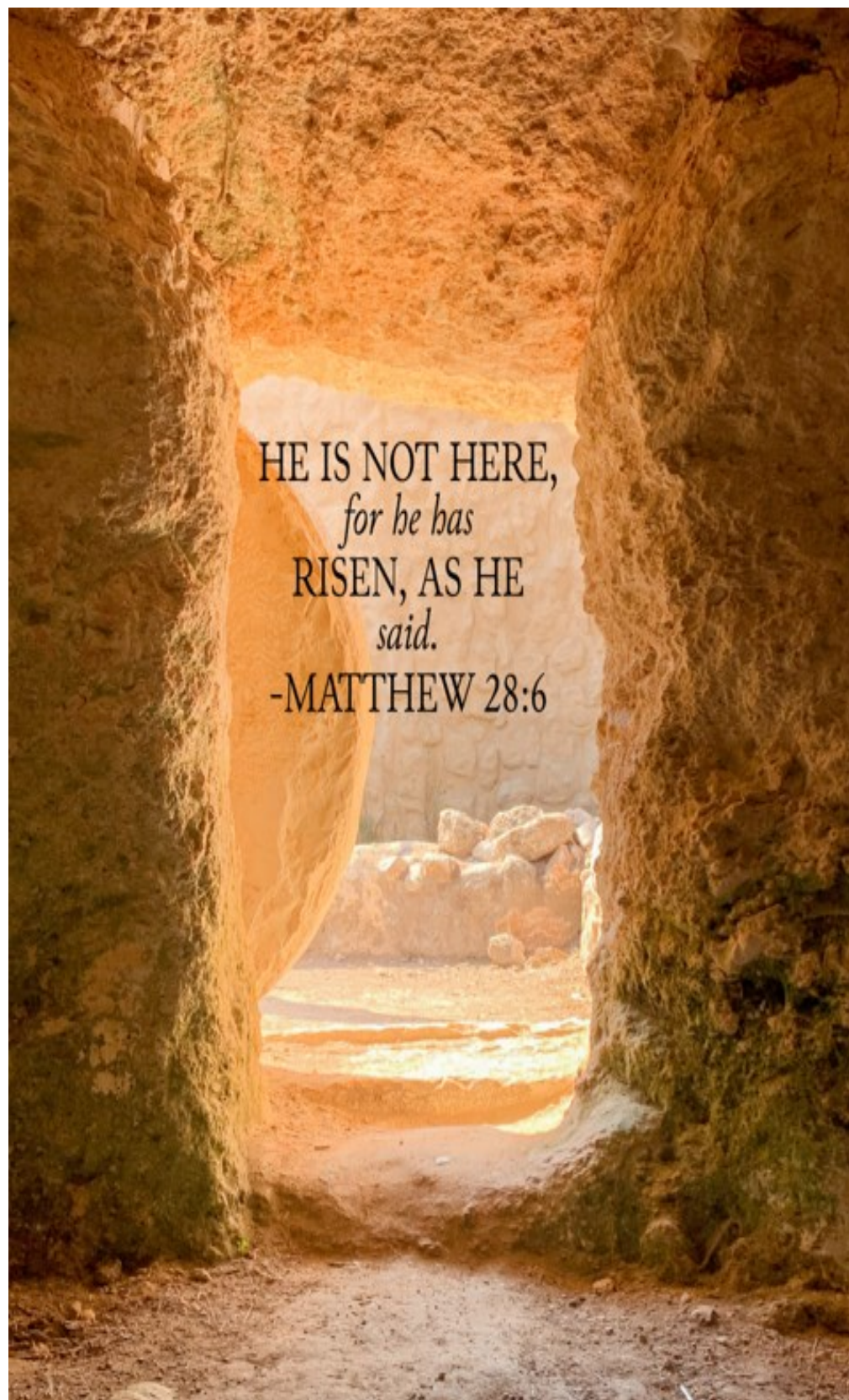
Finance Committee:
Bernie Freeburn, Michael Ander-
son, Ted Goetz, Veronica Denning,
Eileen Stevenson

Golden oldies: Lorraine Impala

St Vincent de Paul: Mary Scott

Music ministry: TBA

Youth Ministry: TBA



COVID-19 is still around, Please use sanitiser when you enter the church.

A BIG "THANK YOU!" to all who helped with preparation for Easter ceremonies. Singers, Readers, Acolytes, Altar Servers, Cleaners & countless number of others . May God reward you hundredfold.

EASTER HOLY WATER Our parish has obtained only a limited number of water bottles. If you have missed out, please bring your own in the coming days and help yourself from the container near the baptismal font, on the first come first serve basis.

PROJECT COMPASSION ENVELOPES AND BOXES Please bring them in the course of next few weekends and place them on the weekly collection plates together with your weekly offering. The money donated will be used by Caritas Australia for various of their charitable projects. Thank you.

GOOD FRIDAY HOLY LAND COLLECTION If you have missed out and would like to contribute, please use Good Friday envelopes at the back of the church. Thank you.

NO MASS ON FRIDAY 14TH APRIL Due to Fr. Peter's medical appointment, there will be no Mass. Instead, there will be a Communion Service with the readings for the day and Holy Communion. There will also be an adoration for one hour after the Communion Service.

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS are available for gluten sensitive persons. If you or your child would like to receive such host, please inform the celebrating priest prior to the commencement of the mass.

SILENCE IN THE CHURCH We all need silence especially in the modern world filled with noise. Many seek and hope to find it in the church as they immerse themselves in prayer. We may have all heard a complaint or two from our friends who tell us that they no longer attend their local church because it is very noisy. Let us remember that our church is also a House of God and a House of Prayer and let us observe silence before and after the Mass out of reverence for God and respect for others. If there is an urgent necessity to speak, please use low voice. Thank you

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM -The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on Saturday 20 May

2023 at 11.30am. by Bishop Terry Brady. Parents/guardians who missed information night and want to enroll their child in the sacrament please contact Elaine by email: nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au or the parish office: parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com

CHOIR MEMBERS NEEDED - At the Solemn Feast of Easter, It would be great to have as many enthusiastic voices as possible singing at the Easter Vigil. This is an invitation to all parishioners to join the choir for this celebration. No experience required, enthusiasm is appreciated. Please call Pat Falvy on [0425219660](tel:0425219660) if you have any questions.

PARISH WEBSITE - is updated on a weekly basis, if you have any feedback on content please email: grac-emokdassi@gmail.com

CAN YOU HELP? THE PALACE, our parish house and presbytery to be, is slowly getting ready for Fr. Peter to move in. Thanks to Mike Azar, It has been painted last week. Now it requires a thorough clean of cups and pots, cupboards and windows. Enough of work for half a dozen workers for few hours. Can come and work together or independently. Please see Fr. Peter or Veronica for more information. Thank you.

LODGING ACCOMODATION wanted by an elderly gentleman, independent, non-smoking, practicing Catholic. Any offers please see Fr. Peter

ALTAR SERVING MINISTRY any children who received their 1st Holy Communion are invited to apply. No prior experience needed. All training will be provided.

SAFEGUARDING OUR PARISH - Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding Office at 93905810 or Email: safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. **Our parish** has a folder (with Safeguarding information including quarterly newsletters) in the church – parishioners are welcome to view. A link to the Archdiocese's Child Safeguarding Policy is available from the homepage of our parish website and on display in the folder. Enquiries: Veronica via parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com.

Please Remember In Your Prayers Our Sick (please advise delisting)



Daniel Clarke, Warren Clarke, Azelia Donati, Eileen Ellery, Kerry Gibbons, Kathleen Gibson, Christine Hughes, Sue James, Roger Luck, Daniel Matesic, Phillip Nehme, David Sanders, Mary Strambio, Tony Strambio

Let us Pray For All Those Who Have Died



Rest In Peace

Josephine & Alojzy Pientka, Vicki Savvas, Peter & Anne, Robert Lawler, Jenny Tankard, Warren Ashley, Marian Pientka, Josephine & Thomas Pientka, Ross Graham, Bertha Smith, Kathleen Connors, Eva Faulkner, Rosina Sestito, Lorraine Haren, Vincent Toohey, Cec Bortolin, Sandra O'Neill, Mons Alexander Johnson, Ron Clayton, John Christa, Hermann Reinke

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.*