



must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The Easter mystagogical instruction continues. Today we reflect on life as a journey. This theme expresses well the fact that life is not static, but is a movement from one point to another. Actually, we do not so much make the journey as we join one that is already in progress. Nor are we alone on it. We have companions who share their encouragement and support, their talents and insight. Like the two disciples travelling to Emmaus, we have certain expectations which Jesus does not seem to fulfil. They did not realise that through his death he had accomplished everything. They did not realise that the Risen Lord himself was their travelling companion.

As with them, so with us. We may not see the extraordinary in the ordinary. We may not see the hand of God in our lives. Perhaps we need someone to interpret for us both the tradition and the events of life. Despite appearances, something is happening beneath what we are able to observe. God is at work beneath and within our lives. Once we realise who this unique travelling companion really is, our hearts too will burn within us, our eyes too will be opened, and we too will look at life with the assurance of faith. Easter faith will transform our disillusionment into missionary zeal. Some of us may be called upon to give public witness, as did Peter. Most will preach with the example of our lives. All can enter this mystery as we recognise him in the breaking of the bread.

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The Living Word

Third Sunday of Easter, Year A

23 April 2023

First Reading Acts 2:14, 22-33

It was impossible for him to be held by the power of Hades.

On the day of Pentecost, Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him:

I saw the Lord before me always,
for with him at my right hand nothing
can shake me.

So my heart was glad
and my tongue cried out with joy:
my body, too, will rest in the hope
that you will not abandon my soul to Hades
nor allow your holy one to experience corruption.
You have made known the way of life to me,
you will fill me with gladness through your presence.

'Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 15:1-2. 5. 7-11. R. v.11

(R.) Lord, you will show us the path of life.

or

(R.) Alleluia.

1. Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.
I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.
O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
it is you yourself who are my prize.' (R.)

2. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,
who even at night directs my heart.
I keep the Lord ever in my sight:
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. (R.)
3. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,
nor let your beloved know decay. (R.)
4. You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand happiness for ever. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Pt 1:17-21

The ransom that was paid to free you was the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ.

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason – so that you would have faith and hope in God.

Gospel Acclamation See Lk 24:32

Alleluia, alleluia!

*Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:
make our hearts burn with love when
you speak.*

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 24:13-35

They recognised him at the breaking of the bread.

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You



Catholic Parish of St Mary Queen of Heaven Georges Hall

Administrator: Rev. Peter Krigovsky
Secretary: Mrs. Veronica Dening (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

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Cry out with joy to God,
all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render
him glorious praise, alleluia.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The disciples recog-
nized Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

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

ANZAC DAY Tuesday 25 April
2023 Our local council is directing
those wishing to commemorate AN-
ZAC DAY 2023 to Kogarah RSL
Sub-Branch. The Address will be
given at Jubilee Oval Cenoptah,
Corner Park and English Streets.
Start 7.15am for 7.30am march.

ANZAC DAY MASS Tuesday 25
April will be at our usual Tuesday
time at 6pm offered for the repose of
souls of our veteran family mem-
bers. Parishioners are invited to
bring photos of loved ones who
were veterans to place in the reflec-
tion area on the sanctuary.

DEMPSEY AWARDS the Demp-
sey Medal is awarded annual by the
Archbishop of Sydney to members
of the Catholic clergy and laity.
The Dempsey medal seeks to en-
courage and to recognize outstand-
ing contributions and service, it is
primarily intended to recognize
those who have made an outstanding
contribution to their parish. A very
sincere **congratulations** to Vivienne
Moseley, Mary Newton and Maria
Rega who will be presented with the
Dempsey Award by the Archbishop
at a Mass at the Cathedral during
May. All three ladies have served in
many ministries, but particularly, as
organists for almost 50 years

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 bap-
tismal font, on the first come first
serve basis.

**PROJECT COMPASSION EN-
VELOPES 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 Cari-
tas 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.

**HOW DO WE REMEMBER
OUR DECEASED LOVED
ONES** A Christian remembrance
differs from the secular one. As
Christians we pray for our loved
ones or continuing in the Jewish tra-
dition we offer a sacrifice for the
forgiveness of sins and salvation of
souls of the deceased. The highest
form of prayer and sacrifice for our
loved ones is the Prayer and the
Sacrifice of the Holy Mass, which
as members of the Common priest-
hood we can offer ourselves by at-
tending a Mass or we can ask the
priest to offer the Mass (Mass offer-

ing) for our loved ones. The difference between the
two is that priest acts in "*persona Christi*", in the per-
son of Christ., so by asking the priest for a Mass Of-
fering we are asking for Christ's prayers and Christ's
merits of his Sacrifice rather than our own. However
both have great value and the personal prayer and at-
tendance of the Mass should be offered often privately
for our deceased loved ones and should also accompa-
ny the priest's Mass Offering if we have requested
one. Fr. Peter will provide a more thorough explana-
tion on Mass Offerings and Mass Intentions in a book-
let which will be available with the Mass Offering en-
velopes at the back of the church (currently at the en-
trance to sacristy).

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

2023 SACRAMENTAL DATES

Reconciliation

Information Night—Wednesday 21 June @ 7pm
Commitment Weekend - any Mass 24/25 June
Sacrament - Wed 16/8, Thurs 17/8, Fri 18/8

First Holy Communion

Information Night - Wednesday 13 September @ 7pm
Commitment Weekend - any Mass 16/17 September
Sacrament - Sunday 05 November @ 11.30am
- Sunday 12 November @ 11.30am

All enquiries: email: nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au or
the parish office: parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com

PRESBYTERY RESTORED Fr. Peter officially
moved to "The Palace" this weekend. Thank you to all
who helped with cleaning, moving and restoration
work. May God reward you hundredfold. A special
thank you to Joe and Charlie Maroun who donated and
installed blinds for all windows. A thanksgiving
Masses have been offered for all the volunteers and
the Maroun family.

"THE PALACE" FURNITURE In the process of
consolidation there are few furniture items that need a

new home. TV cabinet (just furniture, no TV), brand
new Single bed + mattress (unopened in original pack-
aging) + bedside drawer chest, washing machine, mi-
crowave, armchair, two antique chairs, table with 3
drawers 40x157 cm, 3x bookshelves, storage cabinet
open on front and back. If you are interested in any of
the items please see Fr. Peter.

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS are available for gluten sen-
sitive persons. If you or your child would like to re-
ceive 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 com-
plaint 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 si-
lence before and after the Mass out of reverence for
God and respect for others. If there is an urgent neces-
sity to speak, please use low voice. Thank you

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

ALTAR SERVING MINISTRY any children who re-
ceived their 1st Holy Communion are invited to apply.
No prior experience needed. All training will be provid-
ed.

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. Alterna-
tively, you can contact the Safeguarding Office at
93905810 or Email: safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. The Archdiocese has a le-
gal obligation to report crimes to the police.
Our parish has a folder (with Safeguarding infor-
mation 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, Barbara Kains, Roger Luck, Daniel Matesic, Phillip Nehme, David
Sanders, Mary Strambio, Tony Strambio

Let us Pray For All Those Who Have Died



Rest In Peace

Umberto & Victoria Busuttill, Samir & Saba Jnr, Saba & Jamal Kairousz, Caterina & Giuseppe
Turcato, Mato Stipich, Xavier Mayers, Josephine & Alojzy Pientka, Vicki Savvas, Peter & Anne,
Robert Lawler, Jenny Tankard, Warren Ashley, Marian Pientka, Josephine & Thomas Pientka,
Ross Graham, Bertha Smith, William Hancock, William Moran, Monica Sciburda, Paul Cun-
neen, Mary Baldi, Irene Best, Reno Caruana

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