

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

Easter is the season of mystagogical catechesis, that instruction that unpacks the hidden mystery of the experience of the sacraments of initiation received or renewed at Easter. The readings of each Sunday concentrate on some aspect of this mystery. The central theme of this Sunday is newness of life in Christ. This newness is not without its historical context. It burst forth first in the resurrection of Christ, and then through the preaching of the first Christians.

The readings testify that if we die with Christ, we will appear with him in glory; if we cast out the old yeast, we will be fresh dough. And when this wondrous transformation takes place, everything is new; everything is fresh. To what newness are we called? To what must we die in order to rise transformed? What old yeast of corruption must be cast out in order that we might be fresh dough? At Easter we renew our baptismal vows. What is it that we really renounce? Ours is a world of violence, of prejudice, of indifference. Too often we harbour feelings of anger and resentment, of selfishness and disdain. Easter proclaims that Christ has died and has risen; with him we die to all of the wickedness in our lives and in our world, and we set our hearts on higher things, on sincerity and on truth.

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The Living Word

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

31 March 2024

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.

or at Evening Mass: 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 must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there



Catholic Parish of St Mary Queen of Heaven Georges Hall

Parish Priest: Rev. Peter Krigovsky
Secretary: Mrs. Zenna Azar (Tues 9.30am—5.30pm)
Address: 15 Georges Cres, Georges Hall NSW 2198 **Telephone:** 9727 3759
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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.stmgeorghall.syd.catholic.edu.au
School Tel: 02 9727 0000 **School email:** info@stmgeorghall.catholic.edu.au

MASS TIMES (English):
 Vigil Mass 5:00pm (Saturday)
 Sunday 8:00am & 10:00am
 Weekdays:
 Mon. Tue. Thu. Fri. Sat. 9:00am
 Wednesday 6:00pm

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**
 Wednesday 5.00pm—6.00pm
 Friday after Mass 9am-10.30am

**SACRAMENT OF THE
 ANOINTING OF THE SICK**
 Offered to those in need on
 1st Tuesday at 9.00am Mass

Baptisms: Sunday 11.00am
 Bookings are necessary

Parish Pastoral Council:
 Michael Anderson, Veronica
 Dening, Elaine Nehme, Zenna Azar,
 Paul Abdul Ahad, Natalie Goetz,
 Monica Palmer, Linh Bui, Jannette
 Samawi, Grace Mokdassi

Finance Committee:
 Michael Anderson, Ted Goetz,
 Veronica Dening, Eileen Stevenson

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

Golden Oldies: Lorraine Impala

St Vincent de Paul: Mary Scott

**Special Religious Education
 (SRE) Catechist Coordinator:**
 Zenna Azar

Music Ministry: Vivienne Mosely

Youth Ministry: Grace Mokdassi

Childrens Liturgy: Nancy Khalil

Childrens' Choir:
 Natalie Showah, Jicy Kasparian



Alleluia! He Is Risen!

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

ADDITIONAL NOTICES If you are interested in any diocesan events, please collect a copy of the additional bulletin at the back of the church.

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

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 COLLECTION. The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land took place on Good Friday. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land as well as support and maintenance of Christian Places. If you have missed this collection and would like to contribute, the donation envelopes are still available from the back of the church. Simply place on any collection plate with your weekly offering. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Please also pray that peace and harmony will become a reality in the birthplace of Jesus, the 'Prince of Peace'.

ST MARY QUEEN OF HEAVEN'S ANNIVERSARIES

Did you know that In November 1973 Cardinal Freeman appointed Father John O'Keefe as the first resident

Parish Priest. Did you know that the present church was blessed and opened by Archbishop Clancy on 27 May 1984.

We are so blessed to be a part of this beautiful community and it is fitting that we celebrate these milestones. We are planning to celebrate both anniversaries together on Sunday 16 June 2024. Parishioners are invited to share their memories – if you have a captivating memory or photograph please write about the memory and forward it and/or photos to parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com We are also looking for a small group of parishioners to coordinate the celebration. If you can offer your time and energy to this project, please speak to Father Peter or email parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2024 KEY DATES

RECONCILIATION: (for children in Year 3 & above)
 Wednesday, 3rd April 2024
 Thursday, 4th April 2024
 Friday, 5th April 2024

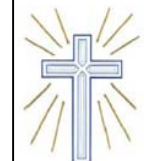
SAFEGUARDING OUR PARISH - Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding Office at 02 9390 5810 or Email: safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. **Our parish** has a folder with Safeguarding information in the church for parishioners to view. Check out the latest safeguarding newsletter. 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 email: parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com
Check out the latest Safeguarding newsletter-in the folder

Date/Mass	Greeters	Commentator	Proclaimers	Extraordinary Ministers	Acolytes	Altar Servers	Altar Servers
April 6/7 - Second Sunday of Easter, Year B							
5.00 pm Sat	Lorraine Impala	Brian Kurrle	Abraham Family	Barbara Kains Pauline Tonkli	Laurie Simpson	Charlie Delfino Andrew Trostel	Gabriel Azar Adrian Trostel
8.00 am Sun		Danuta Maka	Carmen Heredia	Goetz Family	Mike Anderson	Lucas Ross Daniela Lukunic	Harry Ross Elizabeth Tobaji
10.00 am Sun		Maurice Gili	Rosemary Lim	Gill Cramp Maurice Gili	Andrew Driessen	William Amicucci Tiana Daou	Eliana Mardini Brandon Daou
April 13/14 - Third Sunday of Easter, Year B							
5.00 pm Sat	Chris Lockart	Zenna Azar	Brian Kurrle	Eileen Stevenson Barbara Kains	Chaben Azar	Charlie Delfino Zoe Azar	Anthony Torbay
8.00 am Sun		Carmen Heredia	Coorey Family	Jenny Freeburn Veronica Dening	Bernie Freeburn	Nicholas Coorey Daniela Lukunic	Gabriele Serratore Elizabeth Tobaji
10.00 am Sun		Cramp Family	Alex Driessen	Maurice Gili Alex Driessen	Andrew Driessen	James Ghanem Marcus Kasparian	Isabella Maamari Abie Khalil



Please Remember In Your Prayers Our Sick

Judith Van Baardwyk, Cornelius Van Baardwyk, Diane Small, Jayden Turk, Joseph Akkary, Daniel Clarke, Warren Clarke, Azelia Donati, Eileen Ellery, Paul Evans, Kerry Gibbons, Christine Hughes, Sue James, Daniel Matesic, Phillip Nehme, Robert Sanders, John Smallwood, Tony Strambio



Let us Pray For All Those Who Have Died

Teresa, Maria, John the Baptist1, John the Baptist2, Eddie Counihan, Tom Counihan, George Stevenson, Robert Lawler, Ancrea, Trevor Newton, Ross Graham, Lise Goetz, Max Graham, Hillary + Rita + their sons, Nabill + Bahia + Elias + Eilie Maroun, Norma Younane, Raemanos + Wadia Nehme, Youssef + Martha + Chalitta + Is-setteye Tannous, Marina Safer, Halina Donarska, Ennio Fattore, Elizabeth Gieseman, Ryan Lynch,

Rest In Peace

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