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Churches

St Joachim's Church

41 Yuletide Street

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St Agnes' Church

1227 Logan Road

Mt Gravatt

Parish Office Hours

Monday – Friday

8:30am – 4:00pm

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Facebook:

st joachim's & st agnes' parish

Parish Schools and College

St Agnes' School

07 3349 5130

St Joachim's School

07 3397 9087

Seton College

07 3291-5333

St Vincent de Paul Welfare

1800 846 643

Safeguarding Officer

Dot Lomax 0428 172 224

(Safeguarding purposes only)

2nd Sunday of Easter

Year A

18th/19th April, 2020

Peace be with you.....

I love to hear this greeting but at this moment I cannot see anyone to wish this to me in the church or to catch up for a cuppa. After the Crucifixion, the disciples had locked themselves in a room and were keeping a low profile. They didn't want to end up how Jesus had ended up.

The first scene in today's gospel has the disciples hiding behind closed doors 'for fear' of those who had handed Jesus over to be executed by the Roman authorities. See the current situation is something similar in our lives: lots of people have lost their job or are working from home, social life is banned, trying to balance the budget, etc. Jesus appears among the disciples, offers a greeting of peace, and tells them that he has been sent by God, his 'Father'. They receive from him the gift of the Holy Spirit. He sends them in turn to bring peace and to mediate the forgiveness of God through the power of the Spirit.

The story invites us as believers to place ourselves in the shoes of the earliest disciples. It invites us to receive the gift of the Spirit, to emerge from behind the doors that close us in on ourselves, and that prevent us from rising above the fear of punishments in the pursuit of justice and peace.

The second and third scenes in today's gospel focus on Thomas who was not with the other disciples when Jesus first appeared in their midst. Thomas is not exactly the trusting type. He seems to trust only his own first-hand experience. We all know people like Thomas. They test our patience because they seem to lack imagination. Then they make big statements when they come around to understanding what everyone else has known for a while.

If we think, however, that those who hear in the first place are any better than Thomas, we need to note that the doors are still closed eight days down the track! The simple fact of knowing has not dispelled the fears. Even those who do believe and trust need a bit of time to take the gospel message on board.

This Sunday we celebrate the feast of Divine Mercy, we remember that God's love is strong enough to conquer the greatest of all human fears: death, pandemic, security and joy itself. This confidence leads us to a renewed joy. Pope Francis said while standing under an awning in empty St Peter's Square in the Vatican "Like the disciples in the Gospel we were caught off guard by an unexpected, turbulent storm," "We have realised that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented, but at the same time important and needed, all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other," he said. So my dear friends be instruments of God's mercy into our families and communities filled with the resurrection experience and lead others to the Risen Lord.

Fr Jason

Readings: Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14, 22-33

1 Peter 1:17-21

Luke: 24:13-35

READINGS FOR SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

First Reading

Acts 2:42-47

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

Responsorial Psalm

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Second Reading 1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens.

Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which had been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold - only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire - and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;
happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

Gospel John 20:19-31

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 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.

Continuing on our faith journey during this time of isolation
Our faith will sustain us through challenging times

WE REMEMBER

We remember Doris Olsen, Eileen Campbell and Hazel Templeton. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

SUPPORT OF OUR PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

We would like to thank you for continuing your support of the Parish during these difficult times.

PARISH NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

There are a number of vacant spaces for advertising on the back page of our weekly newsletter. We are going to open these up to parishioners (or anyone you know who may be interested) for advertising on a casual basis. You might have a rental you would like to advertise, something to sell, a service to promote. If you would like to utilise this space please ring Dot at the Parish Office to arrange it.

LIVESTREAMING OF MASSES FROM ST STEPHEN'S CATHEDRAL

Watch Mass online at 8:00am Monday to Friday and 8:00am and 10:00:00am Sunday at www.archbne.org/bzw

MASS ON TV – CHANNEL 10

Mass for You at Home - Sunday at 6:00am.

SHALOM MEDIA

Livestreaming daily mass from around the globe. Using Google Chrome search for the following link: <https://shalomworld.org/watchlive/?region=masslive>

Unfortunately this does not appear to work on Internet Explorer.

TWO MINUTE HOMILY

Each week there is a 2 Minute Homily, presented by one of our archdiocesan priests: <https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/>

EVANGELISATION BRISBANE – DAILY REFLECTIONS

A theological reflection on the gospel of the day, intended to help us consider what our faith is calling us to as we travel through Eastertide and beyond during this challenging time.

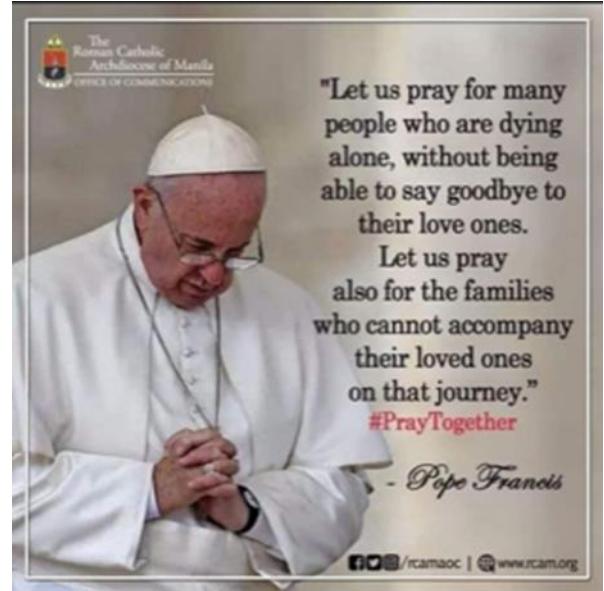
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CATHOLIC LEADER

This digital newspaper will be free for readers to access until parishes reopen. It is our commitment to ensure that everybody has access to stories of connection, inspiration, and faith. Click on the link above or go to: www.catholicleader.com.au



AN INITIATIVE OF THE ARCHDIOCESE

Small blessings make a big difference.

During difficult times, hope is important. You can spread hope by joining our 'Small Blessings' campaign.

Think about the small blessings you have experienced or the ways you've been a blessing to someone and share them to inspire others at www.smallblessings.com.au.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Closed doors and locked-in fears are no barriers for Jesus. He enters our homes and hearts to bring us peace. Just as he did for the disciples, Jesus sends us out to build communities of love and forgiveness.

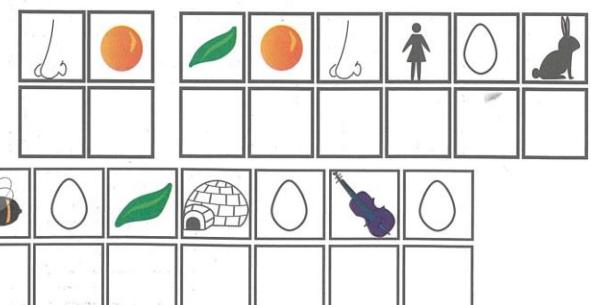
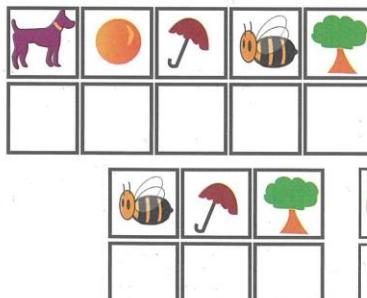
COLLEGE 'WINDOWS' TOUR UPDATE - CLAIRVAUX MACKILLOP

Due to the recent health warnings from the Australian Govt regarding COVID-19, Clairvaux MacKillop College will be cancelling 'Windows' Day Tours scheduled for Wednesday 6th May, Friday 5th June and Friday 31st July from 9am – 11am. The College Leadership Team is working on new dates for later in the year and once these are confirmed, an email will be sent with details on how to register.

Thank you for your understanding regarding this matter and we look forward to welcoming you to the College campus soon.

For the soul of our young folk

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Councillor for Holland Park
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