

**Parish Priest****Fr Jason Antony MCBS****Office Staff****Adrian Prendergast****Dot Lomax****Pastoral Coordinators****Rachel Marchesini****Nick Kelly****Yolanda Apelt****Churches****St Joachim's Church****41 Yuletide Street****Holland Park****St Agnes' Church****1227 Logan Road****Mt Gravatt****Parish Office Hours****Monday – Friday****8:30am – 4:00pm****Parish Details****P O Box 281****1227 Logan Road****Mt Gravatt Qld 4122****Telephone: 07 3349 2280****E: hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au****Fax: 07 3349 1558****Pager: 07 3834 8507****Website:****www.hollandparkmtgravattcatholicparish.com.au****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)****3rd Sunday of Easter****Year A****25th/26th April, 2020****Christ is our companion**

Journey is always good either in the form of camping, pilgrimage, for exploring new places and even for exercises. Everyone may have a memorable journey in one form or other. When I was in the grade four I remember visiting my mum's family in high range (grandma and grandpa and aunties) which took around two and half hours journey from my home town. It was always hard to travel by bus, then walk about 5 km from the town, passing through different properties and meeting different people and resting in the shadow of the rock, it was an amazing experience.

Today in the gospel we see the disciples are travelling from Jerusalem to Emmaus. They encounter a stranger on the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus; however, the disciples do not know that the stranger is the risen Christ. Jesus appears mysteriously to the depressed and disillusioned disciples on the road to Emmaus on the afternoon of his Resurrection. This road is approximately 11 kilometres from Jerusalem. The disciples think that Jesus is a pilgrim who must have witnessed Jesus' Death. During the walk Jesus remains ignorant about the events of the past few days.

When Christ perceives that the two disciples are having difficulty believing in his resurrection, he rebukes their lack of faith. When the disciples arrive at Emmaus, they invite the stranger (Christ) to stay with them. Sitting at the table with the disciples, Christ takes bread, blesses it and breaks it, and gives it to the disciples. At this moment, the disciples immediately recognize him, but then he suddenly vanishes from their sight.

I remember a beautiful quote in my seminary's dining room which says 'Christ is the centre of our home, a guest at every meal and a silent listener to every conversation.' Our meal times are a great time to reopen our heart and minds together and to realize and give thanks for the little blessings we have received as a family. I have heard many children realize this time is a wonderful occasion to thank their parents and appreciate the value of this beautiful Southern land, in fact so many have sacrificed for our nation and we never forget it; so we say 'lest we forget' on this Anzac day.

We can look at the divine figure who walks among humanity unnoticed, the issue of hospitality and the treatment of strangers, the perception of Jesus by his disciples, the inability to perceive, or the messianic interpretation of scripture. Many times we could be thrown into the same situations. No mass, no social gathering, no visit to family and friends; it's a strange time but Christ is still present among us in different forms and situations waiting to be realised in our families and meals where we share the same love and serving. Again I heard from a parishioner: I am lucky because they ring me every day.

The disciples exhibit faith when they declare that Jesus was a "prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people" Yet, they also have a perceptible doubt. They perform good works by being hospitable to the stranger. They learn from the Lord. After the fact, the disciples reflect on their journey to Emmaus: "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" Despite all of this, the disciples do not arrive at a complete experience until they encounter Christ in the meal. The sudden disappearance of the Lord is an illustrative reminder of his spiritual presence among the church. But also among those who walk with Christ today on their own journeys to Emmaus filled with faith, doubt, and everything in between.

Every blessing,
Fr. Toston

Readings: Fourth Sunday of Easter**Acts 2:14, 36-41****1 Peter 2:20-25****John 10:1-10**

READINGS FOR SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

First Reading *Acts 2:14, 22-33*

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 witness 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

Lord, you will show us the path of life.

Second Reading *1 Peter 1:17-21*

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

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

Gospel *Luke: 24:13-35*

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 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 the 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.

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

WE REMEMBER

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

SUPPORT OF OUR PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM

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

PARISH NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

We have opened up space on the back page for parishioners to advertise on a casual basis. Keep an eye on it as something may appear that interests you. 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. Go to: <https://us11.campaign-archive.com/?e=&u=a32ed7282d05491fc0fb938aa&id=39eebcb99>

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ANZAC DAY MASS

Live-streamed from St Stephen's Cathedral Saturday 11.30am

In times of war and peace, Army Chaplains walk alongside our service personnel and bring church to them. On this ANZAC Day, and in the time of COVID-19, we also need to bring the church to people - in their own homes.



RSL Queensland

Pledge to "Light Up The Dawn" from your driveway, doorway or in your home at 6am on ANZAC Day.

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.

Visit Archdiocese of Brisbane on Facebook to read about small blessings other parishioners are experiencing.

CATHOLIC LEADER – COMMITTING TO ACCESS OF STORIES

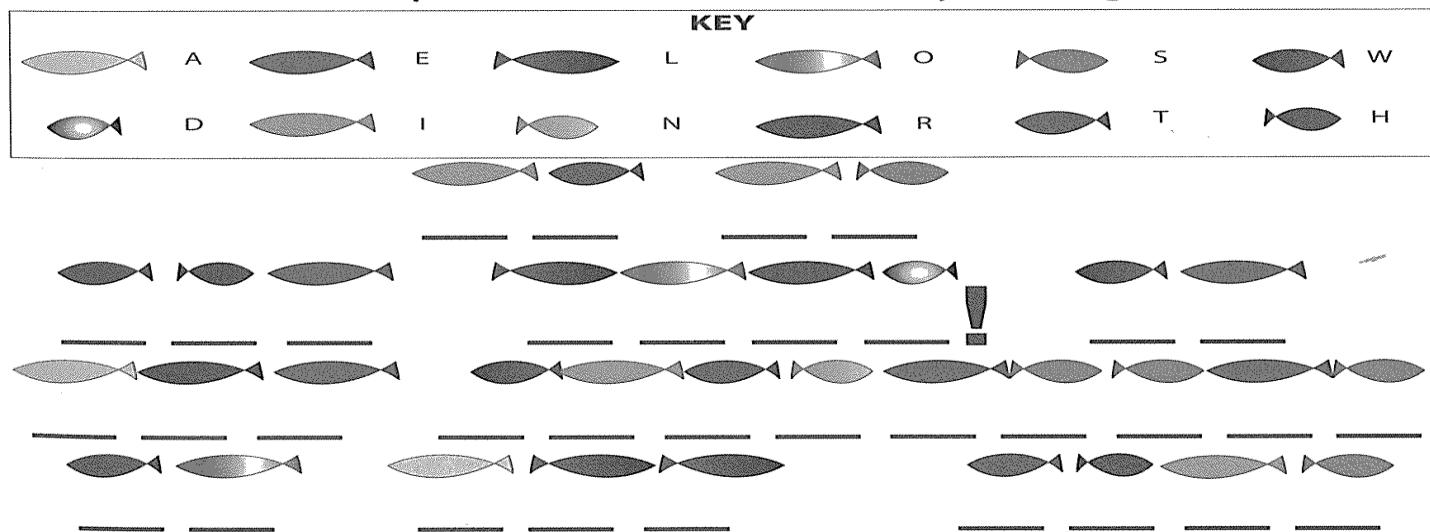
This digital newspaper is free to access until parishes reopen. Click on the link above or go to: www.catholicleader.com.au

- Bringing new life into a socially distanced world
- Easter spent at home like the "Passover in Egypt"
- Livestreamed Masses have been successful, but not meant to become future of church

For the souls of our young folk or not so young.

Find out what the disciples discovered about Jesus by breaking the code.

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