

Welcome to St. Patrick's Catholic Church Mortlake



ST PATRICK'S PARISH
MORTLAKE

HOLY WEEK
5-12 April 2020

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GOOD FRIDAY

This day is called "Good" because it reflects on love as much as loss. **Good Friday** is not mournful. While it does bring us face to face with suffering and death, it leads us into resurrection.

This day proclaims life even amid torture, suffering, powerlessness & death. Words are very powerful. You may like to read chapters 18-20 of St. John's Gospel.

We know the damage words can do and if we sit with the words, we can reflect on times in our lives that we physically, emotionally, psychologically experienced:

- **Betrayed** – who betrayed you, or did you betray someone?
- **Waited** – what did you wait for, news of a medical test, the birth of a child, a visit, fear to pass?
- **Arrested** – do you know someone; are you someone; have you witnessed someone being arrested?
- **Sentenced** – because of illness, loneliness, isolation, COVID19, because you have committed a crime?
- **Flogged** – does life beat you down, do you feel the weight of those around you, have you experienced DV?
- **Tormented** – what in life, tortures; plays on your mind and/or physical health, continues to draw you off the right path to be your best self?

- **Crowned** – titles, name calling, expectations to be everything to everybody – pierce us and drag us down.
- **Ridiculed** – by society, by neighbours, by the system, by friends, by family – who is your safe person?
- **Executed** – sometimes we must acknowledge the little deaths as well as the big deaths in our lives before we can rise with Jesus.

Today is a day we are invited to view our lives through the Stations of the Cross, a 14-step devotion on Good Friday.

You may like to follow the Stations on this link:
<https://youtu.be/ocJggopiKHw>

EASTER SUNDAY – HE IS TRULY RISEN!!!!

The grief and loss many of us are feeling because of the COVID10 requirements to self-isolate, isolate from our older community, family and friends, and from our many places of worship during this great Season is very real and painful.

But Easter is NOT cancelled. We can celebrate at home, whether we live alone, in a shared arrangement or as a family. You might like to light a candle representing the Light of Christ, read Scripture Passages contained herein or watch a live streamed Mass on-line or on tv. The Joy and Freedom of Easter cannot be contained.

Happy Easter 2020!!

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FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
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.'

The Word of the Lord.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Colossians – 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.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Cor 5:7-8

Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 117

(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.)

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to John – 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.

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GOSPEL (continued)

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.

The Gospel of the Lord

THE FREEDOM OF EASTER IS RECOGNISING CHRIST BY HIS WOUNDS – NOT HIS 'POWER'

Easter 2020 has offered us a very different period indeed to contemplate the Passion of Jesus Christ. We now walk through these most powerful and meaningful days in our faith as Christians, contemplating what this means to my daily lived reality. From: the embodiment of the Servant King at the Last Supper; to the confusion and mourning of Good Friday and Holy Saturday; to the joy of the Resurrection. Let us sit, pray and think what all of this confusion, activity and the myriad of the human emotions, means in my life.

At present, there are likely to be anxieties and tensions in our relationships, homes and workplaces. Physical tensions are real, and we pray they are not restrictive or oppressive on any one of us. We are to be mindful of this at this time. But, I need to constantly look towards the FREEDOM that is always being offered.

Freedom is not just about the physical condition we find ourselves in. Freedom is much deeper than that. Easter is the ultimate message of FREEDOM. Indeed, lyrics to one of the great old hymns states: *"Our Fathers chained in prisons dark, were still in heart and conscience FREE!!"*

Pope Francis has repeatedly said in various addresses that he wishes to see our Church not as an institution detached from the human reality, but rather as a 'field hospital', tending to the various needs of humanity. The Church is you and I. It is not a cold, nameless institution. The Church, (we), have to be in the thick of it, with health, social and charitable care, but even more deeply, the Church (we) must be a people that ask the deeper questions of our happiness, meaning and freedom. I need to examine myself and my society, to see where there are victims of crime or injustice, where fear, panic, populism and nationalism sit against truth, freedom, forgiveness and humility.

Seeing Christ in our world in this manner, the Church then needs to adapt and respond to these needs. We will recognise Christ by his wounds, not by any human power or prestige.

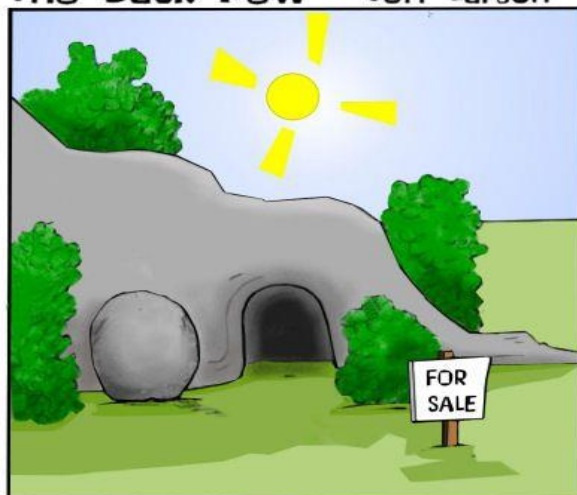
I commend the article below to us all for contemplation this Easter. As we move through these challenging times, we must see this as an opportunity to renew, adapt, re-engage and promote a Church that offers true freedom. This is the Easter message. May the freedom of Easter penetrate our hearts and fill us with courage and hope. Happy Easter 2020.

Fr. Tom

Christianity in a Time of Sickness

www.americamagazine.org/faith/2020/04/03/christianity-time-sickness

The Back Pew – Jeff Larson



FOR SALE – Single owner tomb. Only used three days, and still has that new tomb smell. Reason for sale.. resident was resurrected.

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PASTORAL HELP

In these times especially, please let the parish know if you, or anyone you know, needs assistance with food, a prepared meal, shopping or welfare. [Please call the Parish on 9743 1017 if you require ANY assistance.](tel:97431017)

Phone Buddy Network

Parishioners who may like to be part of a program can register. Parishioners will be paired up with one another and become 'Phone Buddies'. Buddies will then contact each other (via phone) a couple of times a week to have a chat, share a story, pray, etc. This is in order to help people stay connected during this period. If you would like to register, please call the parish on 9743 1017 or email parish@stpatsmortlake.org.au

PRAYING AT HOME

Let us pray with our families this Holy Week. You may like to read Chapters 18-20 of St. John's Gospel.

There is also the ability to watch daily Mass online, via the website:

- www.sydneycatholic.org/live-masses

Easter Free to Air TV Coverage

Channel 7 will be televising Archbishop Fisher's Good Friday liturgy at 3pm and Easter Sunday Mass at 10.30am from St. Mary's Cathedral.

Sunday Mass can also be viewed on **Channel 10** at 6am Sunday mornings.

Online Resources

Useful website for families with children:

- www.cathfamily.org

PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES

Lenten Project Compassion Boxes can be dropped off at the parish office on Tuesday and Friday's between 9am and 3pm or in the box in the parish hall on Saturday's 11/18 and 25 April, between 8am and 12 noon. Thank you.

PLANNED GIVING

For those of you who are able and wish to continue to assist the parish financially you can Direct Debit funds to St. Patrick's until this crisis is over.

BANK TRANSFER DETAILS

BSB: 062 784

Account Number: 5015 0001

Reference: Your name.

If you wish to contribute by way of your existing 'Planned Giving Envelopes', then those envelopes can be physically placed in the beige locked letterbox, located outside the Presbytery (35 Gale Street). Thank you.

LOCAL FRESH FRUIT & VEGGIES: Individuals wanting fresh fruit and vegetables can contact parishioner John Borger on 0418 119 569. John sells organic 'fruit and veggies' here in the St. Pat's parish hall every Saturday between 8am and 12 noon. For the aged and isolated, John is happy to take your order and arrange delivery of his seasonal fresh fruit and vegetables to you.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY: Alan Deans, Steven Windon; Magda Cassis; Sr Judith Clark; Nanette; George; Jill; Edward Azjan; Maryellen Partlin; Tony P; Marie; Loretta; Antonietta; Bill Young; Don Khoury. To have your petitions included, please phone Carmel Moliterno 9736 1718.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Samira Hanna; John Walker; George Cepak; Michael Geoghegan; Maureen Johnson; Raffaele Melizza (Italy); John McAnelly; Gerard Lopez; Dovilio Favero; Brian Clark.