

Welcome to
St. Patrick's Catholic
Church Mortlake



3rd Sunday of
Easter
26 April 2020

ST PATRICK'S PARISH
MORTLAKE

Parish Administrator: Fr. Tom Stevens
Parish Secretary: Brenda Johnston
Address: 33 Gale Street
Mortlake NSW 2137

Parish Office: Open Tuesdays & Fridays (9am-3pm)
Phone: (02) 9743 1017
Email: parish@stpatismortlake.org.au
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EASTER TO PENTECOST PRAYER GROUP SESSIONS ON ZOOM

You are invited to participate from your home in the Scripture/Prayer sessions between Easter and Pentecost. The sessions can be emailed to you each week preceding the following Sunday. You can join at any time along the programme, even if you need to miss intermittent weeks.

We can join together via Zoom to participate in the prayerful listening to the Gospel or simply receive the emailed session and pray through it, without zoom connection.

The emails will be sent on Mondays and the sessions via Zoon will be on Tuesday evenings at 7pm.

*If you are interested please phone
Susan Neylan on 0400 195 350 or email
thejourney.smn@gmail.com*

PARISH 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; being a 'phone buddy' to check in on each other; or general welfare.

Please call the Parish on 9743 1017
if you require ANY assistance or email:
parish@stpatismortlake.org.au

PARISH HISTORY BOOK – 125 Years

Thank you to old and new parishioners who have submitted ideas, information, and photos. The parish history is coming along nicely. It will be a wonderful tribute to past generations, to the sisters, and the priests as well as to the current parish. So our researcher can bring it all together and complete the book on time for the November launch, we have set a deadline of **30 April** for any remaining contributions and suggestions.

Please email damiangleeson64@gmail.com or drop in any old photos etc. into the parish office by this date. Unfortunately, items received after this time are unlikely to be able to be considered.

Thank you



EASTER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
By Harry, Annabelle & Charles Cahill

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FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
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.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (continued)

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

A reading from the first letter of St Peter
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.

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 15:1-2, 5, 7-11.

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.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Luke 24:32

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

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GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Luke – 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 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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

THE ANZAC SPIRIT & OUR SEARCH FOR JESUS IS ALIVE

This weekend we commemorate Anzac Day. It is a timely reminder of the importance of service, duty and honour. It is not glorifying war – but giving thanks for the effort of those Australian men and women who gave so much for our freedom.

Did those young men and women who served our country so heroically, maybe perhaps even naively, understand the fullness of what they were doing? Perhaps not. But serve they did – just as countless men and women are serving humanity at the current time in the face of fear and uncertainty.

So too, in today's Gospel, the disciples encounter Jesus on the road to Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, the epicentre of fear for Christ's followers following his death. Yet, they do not recognise Jesus along the pathway. They only recognise him later at the breaking of the bread. The question really is not – *'How do I react when I recognise Jesus?'* Rather, the question we need to ask ourselves is – *'Why didn't I recognise Jesus along the road to Emmaus at first instance?'*

To ask myself - *'How many times have I in fact walked next to a Christ along the road, in my own life, and I have not recognised him?'*

Our service women and men, our medics, our first responders, our essential food providers – are all encountering the Christ when we do this in service to the other. Then we *"Do This In Memory of Me."* Service, commitment, humility.

Fr. Tom

CHILDRENS DRAWINGS/ PRAYERS & POEMS FOR CHURCH WINDOW

If any parishioner (young or older!), has taken to drawing pictures, composing prayers or poems during this time, feel free to slide the images under the glass entrance doors of the Church foyer (narthex). Fr. Tom will be sure to put the drawings/ prayers up in the Church window for passers-by to see and appreciate our community talent.

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PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY: Patrick Casey (Ireland); Fr Peter Morrissey (former parish priest of St Pats 1997-2003, now 92 yo); 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 see one of the group or phone Carmel Moliterno 9736 1718.

RECENTLY DECEASED & ANNIVERSARIES: Andrew Deans; Audrey Vertannes; Jennifer McAfee; Gary Traill; Samira Hanna; John Walker; George Cepak; Michael Geoghegan; Raffaele Melizza (Italy); Maureen Johnson; John McAnelly; Gerard Lopez; Dovilio Favero; Brian Clark; Frances Gleeson (4 yrs); Renzo Trinco (1st Anniversary).

DONATIONS & PLANNED GIVING

For those of you who are able and wish to continue to assist the parish financially, either through donations or the planned giving programme, you can Direct Debit funds to St. Patrick's through the website: <https://www.bpoint.com.au/payments/mortlakeparish>

Or, by direct debit: **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 St).
Thank you.

BABIES RECENTLY BORN:

- Eleanor Amy Davoren (grand-daughter to Judy and David Davoren);
- Koa Hunt (Fr. Tom's great nephew);
- Sophia Rose Capra.

PROJECT COMPASSION

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 25 April, between 8am and 12 noon. **Thank you.**

PRAYER RESOURCES AND MENTAL HEALTH ASSISTANCE

I commend the below resources as a means of keeping ourselves healthy – spiritually; mentally and physically:

- www.sydneycatholic.org/live-masses;
- <https://litedliturgybrisbane.weebly.com/family-prayer-week-by-week.html/>
- <https://www.catholicweekly.com.au/>
- **Black Dog Institute:** <https://blackdoginstitute.org.au/coronavirus-anxiety-resources>
- **The Brave Program:** <https://brave4you.psy.uq.edu.au/child-program>
This is a free online anxiety program for parents and children (3-17yo)

'MIGHT AND POWER' (RIP) was a Catholic horse! *From Monsignor Brian Rayner, Gympie parish. True story*

"On one of my few visits to Randwick Racecourse, while chatting to Nick Moraitis, owner of 'Might & Power', he told me how he named this famous gelding (out of Benediction I believe) in 1993. While attending Mass at Star of the Sea at Miranda for a grand child's First Communion or Confirmation, while still uncertain what to call his new horse, at the Holy, Holy, he told his wife he had just decided on the name. Hearing the words, "***God of Power and Might***", it was the inspiration of '***Might & Power***'. God certainly blessed Nick and his great horse."

Might and Power died on 11 April – he was a fine example of God's beauty and power in the thoroughbred!!!