

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
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 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.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/: Lord, you will show us the path
of life.

SECOND READING

A reading from the First Letter of St 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 READING

Luke 24:13-3

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.'

(...continued overleaf)



Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, Cheltenham

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Parish Priest: Fr Alan Fox

Pastoral Associates: Frances North, Christine Dunne

Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Year A

25th / 26th April, 2020



Focus on the Readings...

Much of Luke's Gospel is taken up by the account of Jesus' journey to Jerusalem to the cross. In this gospel, the two disciples have turned their backs on that event and are journeying away from the salvation that was won by Jesus there. All they can see is the confusion and disappointment of their failed hopes and expectations. They thought that Jesus was the Messiah, but he died an ignoble death on the cross! They do not even recognise him as he walks beside them. They thought they knew what sort of Messiah he was. But Jesus does not abandon them. He continues his instruction of the disciples through the Scriptures, and their hearts burn within them. They continue to be open to hearing the truth and their doubts are overcome. They finally come to recognise that Jesus is present with them in the breaking of the bread.

Third Sunday - Year A
25th / 26th April, 2020

PARISH PRIEST:
Fr Alan Fox 9583 6161
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PSYCHOLOGIST:
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PARISH OFFICE: 9583 6161
Monday to Friday 9 am – 3.30 pm
Secretary: Lisa Harris
Bookkeeper: Ann Fitzgerald
Email: Cheltenham@cam.org.au

PARISH SCHOOL:
Our Lady of the Assumption 9584 9488
Principal: Mr Richard Jacques

SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

MASS TIMES:

Saturday 6:30 pm
Sunday 9:00 am, 11:00 am
Tuesday 6.00 pm
Wednesday 9.15 am
Thursday, Friday 9.15 am
Saturday 9.00 am

COMMUNION SERVICE:
Monday 9.15 am

RECONCILIATION:
Saturdays: 9.30am & 6pm

BAPTISMS:

Either during a weekend Mass or at 12.30pm on the 2nd Sunday of the month. 6 weeks' notice required. Please refer to our Guidelines for Infant Baptism and Application Form available on our parish website.

WEDDINGS:

By appointment, 6 months' notice required. Saturdays or weekdays (not Sundays). Contact the Parish Office: 9583 6161

PRAYING FOR:

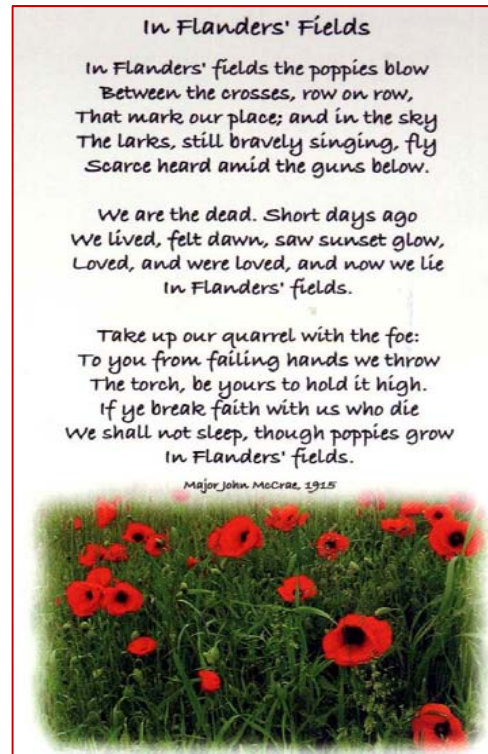
Greg Philip, Mary Bennett,
Kevin Tucker...*and all who died recently.*

We also remember:

John Goulding, Peter Renkin... *and all whose anniversaries occur around this time.*

ACCESS TO PERSONAL & FAMILY PRAYERS:

In this time of crisis, the website liturgyhelp.com is providing Australian Catholics with access to a range of resources for personal and family prayer. In particular, the hope is that Catholics in social isolation can gain a sense of prayerful solidarity with their local school and parish communities and the whole Body of Christ. You're welcome to print resources and pass them on to your friends, family and community, particularly those who do not have access to the internet. Simply go to: liturgyhelp.com/aus/pray



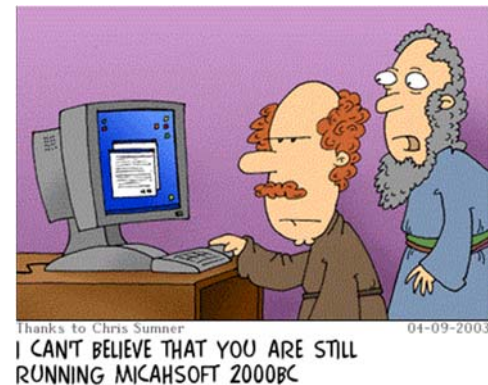
Prayer for the World
Facing the Challenge of COVID-19

Dear God,
who hears the cries of all in our world.
You invite us to trust in your gift of unconditional love.
Stay with us in this time.
Give strength to those who are ill and work through the hands and hearts of those who serve.
Be with us as we pray at home, unable to access the communities that have carried us for so long.
In every heart you have given the capacity to love as Jesus loved.
Let us share this love today. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS for Daily Mass (Australian Liturgical Calendar) head to: <http://www.universalis.com/Australia/1000/mass.htm> Navigate the daily Scripture readings for the week ahead using the right-hand column.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: to Josie Jouaneau who turned 100 on the 17th April. What a wonderful milestone. Many blessings to you Josie.

COUNSELLING: All counselling will now be over the phone or video consultations due to COVID-19. If you would like to schedule an appointment, please contact AnneMaree directly on: 0403 284 536, and leave a message indicating you are a parishioner.



Gospel Reading continued from overleaf...

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.

*Dear God,
We rejoice and give thanks for earthworms, bees, ladybirds and broody hens; for humans tending their gardens, talking to animals, cleaning their homes and singing to themselves; for the rising of the sap, the fragrance of growth, the invention of the wheelbarrow and the existence of the teapot, we give thanks.
We celebrate and give thanks. Amen*

- Michael Leunig