



THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

19 APRIL 2026

FIRST READING

Acts 2:14, 22-33

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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.

RESP PSALM

Ps 15:1-2, 5, 7-11. R. v. 11

R. Lord, you will show us the path of life. (or 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.

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

1 Pet 1:17-21

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Lk 24:32

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

GOSPEL

Lk 24:13-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

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



The Parish of St Joseph's, Elsternwick & Holy Cross, Caulfield South
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PARISH PRIEST: Rev Fr Leenus Neetany SAC

Assistant Priest: Rev Fr Eugene San SAC
Permanent Deacon: Rev John Lam
Parish Coordinator: Joanna Lam

ST JOSEPH'S, ELSTERNWICK

71 Orrong Road, Elsternwick 3185

Mass

Wednesday and Friday 10:00am
Saturday 6:30pm, Sun 10:30am

Reconciliation

After weekday Mass and Saturday 6:00pm

HOLY CROSS, CAULFIELD SOUTH

707 Glen Huntly Road, Caulfield South 3162

Mass

Tuesday and Thursday 10:00am
Sunday 9:00am

Reconciliation

After weekday Mass

ST ANTHONY'S, GLEN HUNTLY

74, Grange Road, Glen Huntly 3163
In Residence: Fr Pat Jackson SAC, Br Lindsay Rust SAC

Mass

Monday - Saturday 9:15am
Saturday 6:00pm
Sunday 9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm

Reconciliation

30-mins before all Masses and Saturday 9:45am - 10:10am

Thanksgiving & Special Collections

Church: \$TBS Presbytery: \$TBA
Special Collection: -

Next Week's Roster

Lectors:

Saturday 6:30pm Youth & Young Adults
Sunday 9:00am A Powell 10:30am E Galero

Counters: M Beaumont & B Leong

Upcoming Week's Liturgical Calendar

Sat 25 Apr: Anzac Day
Sun 26 Apr: 3rd Sunday of Easter

Thanksgiving



Good Shepherd Sunday

Next Sunday we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday; the World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

You might know of a young person in the parish, in your family or an acquaintance whom you think would make a good priest or religious. Why not pray for them by name on a regular basis? Carry them with you 'spiritually' to Mass and place them on the altar at the offertory. Sometimes the Lord uses us as his instruments to encourage vocations.

Mother's Day Book

Our Mother's Day Book is placed on the altar-rail or table in front of Our Lady's statue in the church. Please write the names of mothers for whom you would like prayers to be offered on Mother's Day. There will be a special blessing for all mothers at the weekend Masses on 9 and 10 May.

In Reparation for and Healing From Abortion

25 April 9am and every 4th Saturday, St Patrick's Cathedral. Join us in prayer to the edge of the 150m Abortion Prayer Exclusion Zone (Wellington Pde, East Melbourne). Contact: Helpers of God's Precious Infants - 0407 090 367

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (cf. Ps 65:1-2)

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name, O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (Lk 24:35)

The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

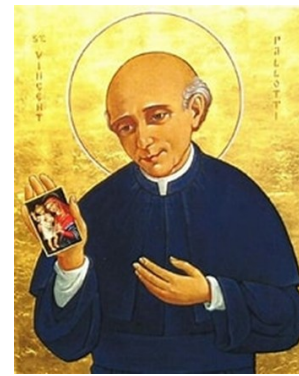
PLEASE PRAY FOR

Those who are ill*: -

**Names are published for a month, unless further requested.*

Recently Deceased: Betty Stevens

Death Anniversary: -



St Vincent Pallotti's Birthday

You are warmly invited to join us in celebrating the 231st birthday of St Vincent Pallotti.

Mass at 5:30pm on Tuesday, 21st April at St Anthony's Church, Glen Huntly. Following the Mass, there will be a light supper and friendly catching up time. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect, share stories, and celebrate this special occasion.

Please RSVP to pfn@uacpallottines.au by 20th April for catering purposes.

Youth & Young Adults Hosting Mass - 25th April



The Youth & Young Adults' Group will host the 6:30pm Saturday Vigil Mass on the 4th Saturday of every month at St Joseph's Church.

Mass will be preceded by **Adoration and Confessions** starting at 5:30pm at St Joseph's, Elsternwick. The Adoration is an initiative by the ACYF participants.

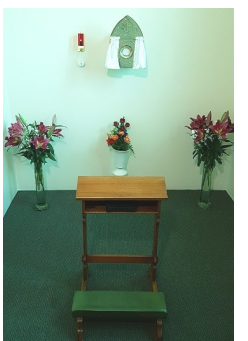
Light supper and fellowship after Mass at St Joseph's Presbytery, followed by a discussion on "**Defending Our Catholic Faith**".

Please encourage young people of our 2 Parishes to attend.

Perpetual Adoration Chapel

The Adoration Chapel was built in 2018 to commemorate the Centenary Celebration of St Joseph's Church. The Chapel can be accessed 24/7 with a security tag.

Contact the Parish Office to apply. A refundable deposit will be required. Concessions available on application.



Middle East Emergency Appeal: 2 - 3 May



Aid to the Church in Need is calling for urgent prayer and support for Christian communities affected by war in the Middle East.

Your help will provide emergency food packages, support parishes sheltering displaced families, keep schools running, and supply vital medical and pastoral care.

Please visit: www.rebrand.ly/EmergencyAppeal or scan the QR code.



The Secret of The Holy Face

AUSTRALIAN TOUR



Sunday 26th April
Blackburn North,
Melbourne



Sunday 26th April
Mill Park, Melbourne



Monday 27th April
Caroline Springs,
Melbourne

WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD MAKE A DONATION AT THE END OF THE TALKS.

“JOIN THE RANKS OF SAINT THERESE AND OTHER SAINTS IN THE ARCHCONFRATERNITY OF THE HOLY FACE AND CONTEMPLATE HIS FACE TO HELP RESTORE CHRISTENDOM”

Pray with the Pope

Pray with the Pope is a global initiative of the Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network where the Holy Father shares his monthly prayer intention, an invitation to pray and mobilize for the challenges facing humanity and the mission of the Church, through The Pope Video and The Pope Audio. It helps anyone, anywhere, take a moment to pray with the Pope and stay connected to the Church’s mission. To sign up: <https://www.popesprayer.va/praywiththepope/>



YOUNG MEN OF GOD MOVEMENT

CONFERENCE 2026

POWER

GO DEEPER, GO STRONGER, GO FURTHER

A men's weekend getaway to power-up mid year, deepen in faith, strengthen brotherhood, and grow in leadership. A power-packed line up of inspiring speakers, fellowship and food. Give God permission to lead you on the path of authentic, Christ-centered living.

He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.
Isaiah 40:29



17-19 JULY
BELGRAVE HEIGHTS CONVENTION CENTRE, MELBOURNE
RESIDENTIAL RETREAT (FRIDAY 6:00 PM TO SUNDAY 3:00 PM)

REGISTER SOON
EARLY BIRD \$250 (TILL 12TH APRIL)
STANDARD \$300
PRIESTS/RELIGIOUS \$200

OPEN TO ALL MEN 18 AND ABOVE

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0426897764 - FR. TERRENCE
0406727276 - BR. AARON



Third Sunday of Easter

Dear brothers and sisters in the Risen Lord,
This Sunday’s Gospel about the two disciples walking down to Emmaus is a story worth repeating again and again. Their journey was made a memorable by a “stranger” who joined them and talked with them as they travelled along. The stranger was none other than the Risen Lord himself, though the disciples were kept from recognising him until much later.



Our lives are also often compared to a journey. From the time we are born until the time we are gone, we are on a pilgrim journey. Today’s Gospel reminds us that even when we feel ‘left alone’ we are not really alone. It was a heart-felt experience for those two disciples to realise in the end, that God himself walked with them through their entire journey.
We may well remember the good old hymn, “No man is an Island”, because God is with us. The two disciples were going away from Jerusalem because of their Master’s death. The news about the resurrection they disbelieved. They felt disappointed, disillusioned, defeated, discouraged, devastated, depressed, dispirited and in despair and doubt; yet it turned out to be one of the most wonderful walks in history! All because the Lord walked with them, even though unrecognized as he walked along! Only much later they were to realise also that their hearts were burning within them as the “stranger” talked to them.

Jesus is still here. He’s the unseen "stranger" who is with us; listening to us and talking with us. If we are willing to hear his voice, he will reveal himself to us. He wants us to talk to him, not because he does not know anything about what is going on, but because he loves to hear from us.
The Gospel tells us that, "As they approached the village to which they were going, the “stranger”, Jesus seemed as if he was going further." The disciples then showed their concern for the safety of the stranger, and invited him to stay with them. This concern for their fellow traveler in turn was helpful for themselves. It was now that the stranger breaks the bread and they in turn recognises their Lord and Master as they shared in the Eucharist.
Like the two disciples, let’s also invite Jesus to come and stay with us, for “its nearly evening” for u. It’s getting dark, do not walk alone; walk with Jesus.
Our life will never be the same again!
Fr Leenus.

God was talking to one of his angels: “Do you know what I have just done? I have just created a 24-hour period of alternating light and darkness on Earth. Isn’t that good?”
The angel says, “Yes, but what will you do now?”
God says, “I think I’ll call it a day.”

Permanent Diaconate Information Session

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and the 50s, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. It is an ordained ministry of service.
This info session is open to everyone interested in learning more about the permanent diaconate. Wives most welcome. If you are interested email Deacon Kevin Pattison, Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au with your full name and parish, but if you forget, then just turn up on Saturday morning. All are welcome.
Event Date: **Saturday 2 May 2026 10.00am–11.30am**
Venue: **Catholic Theological College, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne**



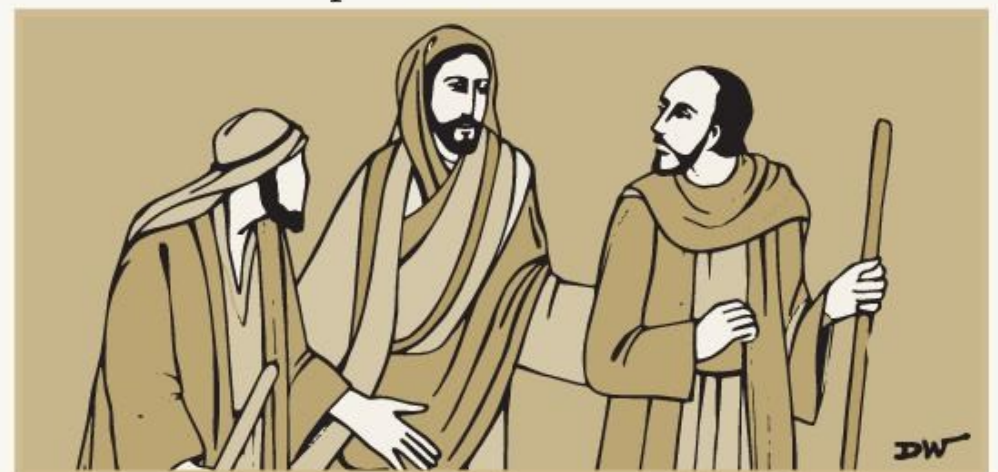
Breaking Open the Word

A SYDNODAL JOURNEY

Last Sunday we encountered the Risen Jesus breathing his gift of peace and Spirit on to his fearful disciples. As we continue our celebration of Easter, our attention turns to Luke's story of the Risen Jesus accompanying two frightened disciples on their journey towards a small village, Emmaus, several kilometres from Jerusalem. For Luke, Jerusalem is the centre and birthplace of discipleship. The two are walking away from Jerusalem, their conviction of Jesus' rescue of them shattered by the events that have unfolded, especially his crucifixion by the political and religious leaders. Unbeknown to them, the Risen Jesus walks with them on their journey and asks them what they are talking about. They are confused by the story being circulated about the emptiness of Jesus' tomb.

This is such a rich story and space prevents its detailed examination. What is clear is that this is the Gospel for the synodal journey of the Church: The Risen One walks with us in the midst of our confusions and struggles, wanting to listen to us, as we each tell our stories. And, just as the two struggling disciples come to recognise Jesus in the 'breaking of bread' (Luke's favourite expression for the Eucharist), we, too, come to realise the presence of the Risen Jesus in our weekly celebration of our local Eucharist.

This realisation for the two at Emmaus empowers them to return to Jerusalem, take up again the mission of discipleship, and reconnect to those assembled. What happens next provides the impetus for Luke's second volume, the Acts of the Apostles and the story of the spread of the Good News throughout the Roman Empire.



Fr Michael Trainor

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.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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