

Breaking Open the Word

THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

19 APRIL 2026

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.

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A SYNDODAL 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

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



ST PETER CHANEL CATHOLIC PARISH

Under the Pastoral Care of the Claretian Missionaries

848 Ballarat Road, Deer Park 3023

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Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9:00am - 3:00pm



ADORATION CHAPEL

"The Master is here and wants to see you" John 11:28

Adorers are needed for these hours:

Tuesday: 1am, 2am, 3am, 4am, 11pm

Friday: 4pm, 8pm

Saturday: 1pm

Contact: Lucy Sgro 0424056823

Thank you. The Claretian Fathers, Fr Mon, Fr Luis and Fr John would like to Thank all the organisers, those who supported and participated in the Celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday. May the Lord bless you and your families

Project Compassion Unite Against Poverty. Project compassion boxes are still available in the foyer of the church for those who are still willing to donate. All Project Compassion boxes Must be returned on 31 May 2026. Thank you for your donation.

St Peter Chanel Feast Day. Tuesday 28 April . **Triduum Prayers 25-27 April** during mass. On the Feast Day, 28 April, Refreshments and fellowship in the foyer after the 7pm Feast Day mass. Please bring a plate to share.

**Next Week: 26 April 2026
Fourth Sunday of Easter - A**

DEATH REMEMBRANCE: Joseph Grima, Emanuel Attard, Anton Englisch, Julia Tafani, Elli MirJam, Perthi Antero , Jari Tapio Riikonen, Kirsi Marilita Hyninen, Riikonen, Domenic Silvi, Roko, Anika Koprivanac, Stephen Stolnik, Henrika J Schroen, John H Schroen, Romeo Abella, Tess Abella Joven, Gilbert Castro, Lisa Oe Nheu, Axel Alzona, Frank Losoncz, Manicaro Vella & Farrugia, Magdalene Asango, Stanslaus Oriada, Robert Okema, Philomena Asango, Bosco Oluka, Augustine Orianda, Tony Cordina & family, Izzul Isaac, Akfredo Correia, Filomena Boavida, Da Silva family, Nicolas Caruana, Conni Micallef, Antonio & Luisa De Jesus, Jose Frias, Maria Pham, Nirmala, Julio Prinzi, Ernesto Fullante Sr, Antonio Rubenicia, Salud Orias, All Souls in Purgatory

RECENT DEATH: Adoracion Villegas Austria, Francesca Papaleo, Gaspar, Kem

SPECIAL INTENTION: Danny Diongson, Joel Selvarajan, Jevin Joe, Nobin Joe, Jessica

HEALING: Pauline Gatt, Tony & Agatha Saliba, Arlyn, Charlie & Helen Aquilina, Arlyn Lim, Grima family, Trinidad, Andres & Lourdes Pantli, Luzia, Fabian Koprivanac, Gauci family, Mckenzie family, Berna, Joan, Denrick, Echaku, David Rowles, Lucia Li, Alex Celestino, Plese family

THANKSGIVING: Ronald & Roland Descallar, Alawi Mustapha, Damian Gleeson, Tom & Lea Lapid, Juha's, Charlize Haberl, Aaron McGregor, Michelle Mathew Kochery, Tessie de Leon

THIS WEEK: 19 April 2026 - Third Sunday of Easter - A

	7:00pm	7:00am	8:30am	10:00am	12:00pm	6:00pm
Commentator 1st Reader 2nd Reader	Grace S L Della J Antonietta C	Alister R Susan C Aaron A	Perly C Rukmal M Gynn D	Julie Ann M Nonie G Greazh P	Flora S Toniette S Tami M	James J Zylee D Raphael V
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Charmaine R Marie E Rochelle R Ryson D	Alister R Stefan P	Teo C Hilda D S Ronald D Wynna D	Nelissa D Froilan M Joe M Lidia L	Diana T Marvin D Jacqueline R Vernon A	Maria Sulfaro Roland D Joe C Michael D
Altar Servers	George E	Tony Cilia	Adrian D A	Henry Fawaz	Raphael P Rev S Arielle Mary Ann	Jericho Jude Jherzielle
Choirs	MWF with LHIM Sisters	AHFI	MWF with LHIM Sisters	Emmaus	Lea Lapid	Exxemoz

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Commentator 1st Reader 2nd Reader	Della J Colleen D B Gregg S	Alister R Susan C J Mabalot	Hilda D S A Huang Lorraine B	Eva O Maria Mizzi Teresa Tan	Gloria T Marvin D Mel O	Driaa D Sophia P Samantha D G
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Joan S Paul M Grace S L Ernesto Co	Alister R Stefan P	Shirley T Roland D Cedric B M Alice	Roger S J Anna C Marlou S J Nonie G	Kurt D G R Jacqueline R Candida D S Diana T	Teo C Michael D Perly C Ric M
Altar Servers	George E	Tony Cilia	Adrian D A	Henry Fawaz	Raphael P Rev S Arielle Mary Ann	Jericho Jude Jherzielle
Choirs	Harmonco Filipino	AHFI	Butch Eleazar	CFCA	Exxemoz	MWF with LHIM Sisters

Parish Carpark School children are Back on Monday, 20th April 2026
Friendly reminder: The Parish/School Car Park is closed Monday to Friday between 9.30am to 2.30pm due to new Children's Safety Regulations introduced to Parish and School organisations.

Good Shepherd Sunday.

Next Sunday we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday – the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. During this coming week, perhaps you may like to make a prayer each day for more vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Perhaps there is a young person you may know to pray for by name this week. Let us pray for vocations.

English Prayer Group, ongoing "Life in The Spirit Seminar", for eight consecutive Thursdays. Started on 9th of April 2026, at 7.30 pm. All are welcome. No registration required. Contact Hilda on 0450 006 316.

Sacramental Classes

First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion And Confirmation for children attending State Schools. Will resume on Monday, 20 April 2026, 6:45 PM. SPC Primary Classroom. Thank you

Timorese Mass. Saturday, 25 April 3:00pm

Permanent Diaconate. Open to all Men between the ages of 30's - 50's on Saturday, 2 May 2026, at 10.00am in University of Divinity, Catholic

Theological College, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne. Contact: Email: Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au

A VOCATION VIEW

We can feel the Lord's call at the strangest places and times.
The call can haunt us and pursue us until we say,
"Lord, what will you have me do?"