

Breaking Open the Word

his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.
'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him;

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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THE GIFT OF PEACE

Today is the extension of Easter Sunday. It is such an important and central feast in our Liturgical calendar that we celebrate it for a whole week, and Easter itself, over six weeks. Today's Gospel from John is the appearance of the Risen Jesus to his frightened disciples. They have locked themselves in a room for fear of the religious authorities, that what happened to Jesus might also happen to them. To their surprise, the Risen One stands in their midst.

Three things now take place. First, Jesus speaks. His first words are 'Peace be with you.' These words gifted to John's audience are also gifted to us: the gift of peace, of 'shalom', heals all division. Second, Jesus sends his frightened disciples, now filled with joy, John notes, on mission. Their mission is the same as that of Jesus, 'As the Father sent me, so I send you.' And third, he breathes on the disciples. Jesus' breath, the symbolic presence of God's life and Holy Spirit, empowers the disciples to accomplish their Easter mission.

The final part of the Gospel is taken up with Thomas, his incredulity at the presence of the Risen Jesus reported to him by the others. When he is finally reconnected to the community of disciples—and this is the point of the story—Thomas, too, comes to Easter faith, declaring Jesus, 'My Lord and my God'. This beautiful Gospel underscores for us the presence of the Risen One amid our fears, his empowering of us, and our need to be always connected to our discipleship communities.

Fr Michael Trainor

THE SAVING WORD

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY) / A

12 APRIL 2026

FIRST READING

Acts 2:42-47

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

'The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.'

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 117:2-4, 13-15, 22-24

R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting. (or Alleluia!)

1. Let the sons of Israel say: / 'His love has no end.' / Let the sons of Aaron say: / 'His love has no end.' / Let those who fear the Lord say: / 'His love has no end.' **R.**

2. I was thrust, thrust down and falling / but the Lord was my helper. / The Lord is my strength and my song; / he was my saviour. / There are shouts of joy and victory / in the tents of the just. **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. / This day was made by the Lord; / we rejoice and are glad. **R.**

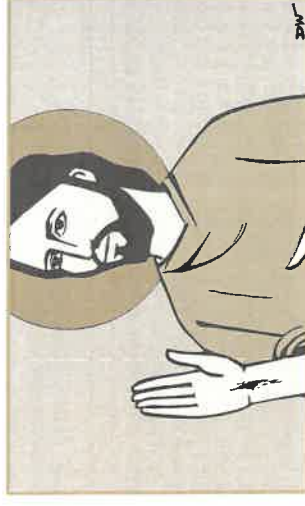
SECOND READING

1 Pet 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

'He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.'

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and



the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which had been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

In 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia! / You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; / happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

In 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

'After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.'

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them



ST PETER CHANEL CATHOLIC PARISH

Under the Pastoral Care of the Claretian Missionaries

848 Ballarat Road, Deer Park 3023

Parish Priest: Fr. Felimon Libot, CMF

Asst. Priests: Fr. John Pham, CMF; Fr. Luis F. Rey, CMF

Parish Secretary - Rosemarie Mendoza

Bookkeeper - Rosa Milan

Tel: 93633132 Email: deerpark@cam.org.au

Website: www.cam.org.au/deerpark

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

Wednesday: 3pm

Friday: 4pm, 8pm

Contact: Lucy Sgro 0424056823

Welcome. We welcome visitors in our Parish specially those who celebrated the Eucharist with the St Peter Chanel Parish community for the first time.

Holy Thursday collection: \$2,138.45 (Project Compassion) Note: Project Compassion boxes not yet counted.

Good Friday collection: \$1,743.60 (Collection for Holy Places)

EFTPOS facility available in the foyer the church for those who wish to generously donate to the church. We thank you for your generosity and support. May God bless you and your family.

Work With Children Check (WWCC)

A friendly reminder to all new volunteers to please apply for WWCC immediately. And for those whose WWCC have expired, please renew your WWCC. Thank you

A VOCATION VIEW

It is only through people like you that others will be able to say: "We have seen the Lord." With the resurrection to empower you and with Jesus to lure you, you too can inspire others who have not seen to believe.

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. If any are interested, you can simply turn up. An email to Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au with full name and parish, would be welcomed, but if you forget, then just turn up on Saturday morning.
Pope Francis in his book, "Let us Dream" wrote, "Permanent deacons are vital to reflecting a domestic Church that finds its greatness in the Word and in service" (p91.)

English Prayer Group, is conducting "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

Positions vacant. Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced people. Further details can be found on either the Archdiocese at: <https://www.melbournecatholic.org.au/job-vacancies>

**Next Week: 19 April 2026
Third Sunday of Easter - A**

DEATH REMEMBRANCE: Joseph Grima, Peter Walsh, Roko Koprivanac, Wafa Hijazeen, Joseph Portelli, John Bosco Oluka, Francis Oriada, Robert Okema, Fastine Rauwala, Marcos Ariaga, Fr Benedict Camilleri, Philomena Asango, Veronica Algo, Magdalene Asango, Stanslawa Oriada, Donald Abela, Paul Bajada, Jamie Gibson, Anthony Cini, Robert Camilleri, Carmen, Frank, Jose Gauci, Florence Dolan-Laus, Thomas & Elizabeth Meyn, Toni, Marianne & Guzi Vella, Mike & Margaret Agius, Maria Teresa Mercuri, Izul Isaac, Joselito & Ernesto, Danilo Celestino, Samuel, Felino Oconer, Elizabeth Juhasz, Mary Camilleri, Nicanor San Lorenzo, Maria Uyen, Goan Kim, Debbie Nunns, Brian Kelly/Victor Anthony Fernandez, Italia Taguatama, Stella Cini, John Xerri, Neslyn, Brian Hughes, Peggy Ventura, Joseph Cini, Deceased members of Bout & De Couto families, Rosina Saporito, Vittoria Zema, All Souls in Purgatory

RECENT DEATH: Maria Canturi, Teresa Rittano, Epifanio Farrugia, Victoria Isabel Sabellena

SPECIAL INTENTION: Anna Losonczi, Jeremy Orchard, Peter & James Aquilina, Eddie Tuñacao, Susan Catayong, Jerin Joe, Nobin Joe, Cristina & Carmine, Elroy & Enrick

HEALING: Pauline Gatt, Tony & Agatha Saliba, Arlyn, Charlie & Helen Aquilina, Arlyn Lim, Nina Narran Luzia, Fabian Koprivanac, Joon Cynthia Okol

THANKSGIVING: Febronie & Faustin (Wedding Anniversary), Emelito Reyes, Rey Murillo, Lei Gaffud, Maria Rose Barillo, Marlon, Marvi Barillo, Joshua Hellard, Vivian & Arun, Alzira & family, Chema

THIS WEEK: 12 April 2026 - Second Sunday of Easter - A

	7:00pm	7:00am	8:30am	10:00am	12:00pm	6:00pm
Commentator	Carina F	Alister R	Hilda D S	Roger S J	Vernon A	F Raymond
1st Reader	M Lobo	Aaron A	Kathleen T	Rency C	RJ Baculo	A Julian
2nd Reader	Jennifer S	Susan C	Wynna D	Marilou S J	Kirk D G R	C Vallescas
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Joan S Ernesto Co Antonietta C Nick S L	Alister R	Ferdinand T Ronald D Hilda D S Marceline A	Don C Cathryn D Anna C Nonie G	Toniette S Candida D S Emman C Tami M	Diana T Roland D Gloria T Ric M
Altar Servers	George E	Tony Cilia	Adrian D A	Henry Fawaz	Raphael P Rey S Arielle Mary Ann	Jericho Jude Jherizelle
Choirs	Eucharistic Choir	AHFI	Holy Redeemer	MWF with LIHM Sisters	Lea Lapid	CFCA

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

	7:00pm	7:00am	8:30am	10:00am	12:00pm	6:00pm
Commentator	Grace S L	Alister R	Perly C	Julie Ann M	Flora S	J Janea
1st Reader	Delia J	Susan C	Rukmal M	Nonie G	Toniette S	Zylee D
2nd Reader	Antonietta C	Aaron A	Gynn D	Greah P	Tami M	Elyza B
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Charmaine R Delia J Rego ?? Dantas ??	Alister R Stefan P	Teo C Loirenz N Ronald D Wynna D	Nelissa D Frolan 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 Rey S Arielle Mary Ann	Jericho Jude Jherizelle
Choirs	—	AHFI	MWF with LIHM Sisters	Emmaus	Lea Lapid	Exemmoz