Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Entrance Antiphon **Cf Psalm 138:18,5-6**

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
Acts of the Apostles 10:34. 37-43

We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117:1-2. 16-17. 22-23. R. v.24

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians
Colossians 3:1-4

Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him. **The word of the Lord.**

Sequence

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise.

The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;

and Christ, the undefiled,

hath sinners to his Father reconciled.

Death with life contended: combat strangely ended!

Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.

Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way.

The tomb the Living did enclose;

I saw Christ's glory as he rose!

The angels there attesting;

shroud with grave-clothes resting.

Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee.

That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know.

Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Gospel Acclamation **1 Corinthians 5:7-8**

Alleluia, alleluia! Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord. **Alleluia!**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
John 20:1-9

The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.' So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Communion Antiphon **1 Corinthians 5:7-8**

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

St. Thomas More Parish, Belgrave

The Catholic Church in the Dandenong Ranges

P.O. Box 100, Belgrave, Victoria 3160
Phone: 97542141
Office Hours: 9.30am—2pm Tuesday to Friday
Internet: pol.org.au/belgrave

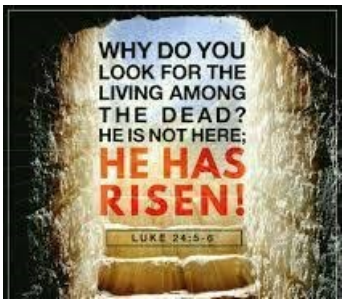
The Parish of St Thomas More *and the* ***Archdiocese of Melbourne*** *are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. May our message be that child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of every adult. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at:* ***www.catholic.org.au/responseandprevention***

Our Parish Vision Statement:

We are called to be a welcoming, compassionate community, empowered for our faith journey for active service……

Church Centres		St. Joseph's Church Emerald Cnr. Emerald-Monbulk & Cornish Roads	Sacred Heart Church Gembrook Main Road	St. Thomas More Church Belgrave 17 Terry Avenue, Belgrave	St. Paul's Church Monbulk 59 Moores Road
Mass Times	Weekend	Vigil Mass 6.00pm	9.00am	9.00am	11.00am
	Weekday			9.00am	

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord - 19th/20th April 2025



REFLECTION by Nick Brodie

The joy of Easter, Pope Francis reminds us, is a call 'to experience the risen Christ and to share the experience with others.' Like the women finding the tomb empty and telling the disciples, or Peter running to the tomb when he heard the news, we are called to respond to the message with action! We are meant to become bearers and sharers of hope: He is Risen!

As the Pope suggests, sometimes this means that we have 'to roll away the stone from the tomb where we may have enclosed the Lord.' We need to be open to being changed. 'A Christianity that seeks the Lord among the ruins of the past and encloses him in the tomb of habit', the Pope declares emphatically, 'is a Christianity without Easter.' Every year, therefore, we should take up anew this opportunity to follow our Lord with joyful hope. Each Easter is an opportunity to proclaim Christ Risen in our own time and place. 'Let us make Jesus,' the Pope says, 'rise again from all those tombs in which we have sealed him.' Let us embrace this Easter opportunity for 'encountering him today as the living God who desires to change us and to change our world.' Let us proclaim the Resurrection by what we do next.

https://www.liturgyhelp.com/calendar/date/2025Apr20/0/RefNickB

May the love of Christ fill your life with blessings this Easter and guide you throughout the year.

WE ARE A CHILD SAFETY PARISH AND WE BELIEVE IN CHILD SAFETY.

Parish Priest: **Fr. Anthony Cruz MC**
Anthony.cruz@cam.org.au
Phone: ***87518112.***

Parish Secretary: **Mirani Perera**
Parish Office: **97542141**
Sacraments : **belgrave@cam.org.au**

Child Safety Contacts: **Jeanette Wicks 97542759**
Monica Rayner

Parish Pastoral Council:
Chairperson **Evie**
Monbulk: **Sue Luxford**
Belgrave: **David Paton and Bill Farrell**
Gembrook:

St. Thomas More's Primary, Belgrave
Principal: Declan McDermott
Phone: 9754-4444
Email: principal@smbelgrave.catholic.edu.au

St. Paul's Primary School, Monbulk
Principal: Nick Frederiksen
Phone: 9756 7201
Email: nfrederiksen@spmonbulk.catholic.edu.au

Mater Christi College - Belgrave
Principal: Ms Maria Haggett
Phone: 9754 6611 **Email:** mcc@materchristi.edu.au

St Joseph's College - Ferntree Gully
Principal: Ms Cathy Livingston
Phone: 9758 2000 **Email:** info@stjosephs.com.au

Mount Lilydale Mercy College - Lilydale
Principal: **Philip Morison**
Phone: (03) 9735 4022 **E mail:** pmorison@mlmc.vic.edu.au

REMEMBRANCE IN OUR PRAYERS:

Recent deaths: Cheryl Graham.

Many people across the world who have died due to wars, civil restlessness and natural calamities. May their souls rest in peace.

Anniversaries: Vera May Berry ,Fr Bob Maguire, Inese Philomina, Carl Galloway, Louise Sullivan, Gerald Santiago, Rosa & Guiseppe Frazetto, Evelyn (Lauris) Fraser, Frank Carville.

Prayers for the Sick: We pray for all who are ill, but especially the following people: Elisabeth Drake, Faye & Colin Brown, , Patricia Grant, Kate Joy star, John Kuyper , Flynn Kroeger, Verity Loke, Helen Bye, Anne Radocaj, Simon Kuyper, John Barber, Dimuthu, Juhyeon Kim, Peter Hicks, Margaret Campion, Cameron DiCasio, Ewa Wallis, Jane Schellenbach, Rebecca Jane Atkinson, Daniel, Mason, Hero, Helen Smith, Irene, Debbie Owens, Don Kempster, Justin, Tom Fergus, Josie Walsh, B. O'Connor, Ingyin Collins, David Bourke, Brendan, Martin Fergus, Margaret, Maureen, Patricia Gilchrist, Stephen Mc., Cheryl McInnes, Kate Arnott, Julian Neesham, Fa Perisipi, John Reid, Margaret Sheanon, Dianne Zidek, Mark Pickthall, Terry Schubert, Neil Weatherill, Margaret Herbert, Rob Zwagerman, Joshua McQuade, Lanie Brereton, Sandra Dowling, Francesca, Neil Holland, Maureen Hughes, Marilyn Ward, Isabelle Henry, Phillis Willoughby.

- **Sick List: If you are aware that any names on the sick list need to be removed, please contact the Parish Office on 97542141.**

Belgrave church reading roster 27th April

Maureen Coyne and Patrick Coyne

Church cleaning - 27th April

John and Sally Anne Faragher and family

For details relating to Baptisms, Marriages & Anointing of the Sick, please contact the parish office.

ANZAC DAY - 25th April

Next Sunday Readings

First Reading	Acts of the Apostles 5:12-16
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 117:2-4. 22-27.
Second Reading	Revelation 1:9-13, 17-19
Gospel	John 20:19-31

Project Compassion Sunday
Easter Sunday
20th April 2025

Happy Easter from all of us here at Caritas Australia!

As we celebrate this season of hope and renewal, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your support through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion this Lent.

As we reflect on the Easter message of love, compassion, and new beginnings, we are reminded of the incredible impact your contributions make. Together, we are building a world where no one is left behind.

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2025 Lenten appeal.

UNITE AGAINST POVERTY this Lent

Please donate today.
You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.
Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion
Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Photo credit: Arlette Bashizi/ Caritas Australia

The Pope's Monthly Intentions for April 2025

For the use of the new technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

WEEKLY THANKSGIVING

13th April

Presbytery Collection: $ 870.90

Thanksgiving Collection: $ 841.70

1st Collection is for the Presbytery – Fr Anthony Cruz (car capital, food expenses etc.), mass supply priests & retired priests of the Archdiocese.

2nd Collection is Thanksgiving for the Church's running expenses.

+++

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DIRECT DONATION TO THE PARISH:

Account Name: St Thomas More's Parish

Church Account

BSB 083347 Account: 672146192

Account Name: St Thomas More's Parish

Presbytery Account

BSB 083347 Account: 669831148

*Deposit reference: Name/Thanksgiving number *e.g. Tom Smith/32*

Divine Mercy Sunday - 27th April

14 Amazing Promises Jesus Made to Those who Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet: How often do you pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet? It's very powerful! The Divine Mercy Chaplet was presented to Saint Faustina in 1935 during a private revelation. Jesus asks that we meditate upon His Passion at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The Divine Mercy Chaplet is an especially powerful way to do so.

Reasons to Pray

Our Lord also made promises to those who pray his Divine Mercy Chaplet. How amazing! Here are the 14 promises Jesus made to those who pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet:

(1) "I promise that the soul that will venerate this image (of Divine Mercy) will not perish. I also promise victory over one's enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. I Myself will defend it as My own glory." (Diary of Saint Faustina, 48)

(2) "The two rays denote Blood and Water... These two rays issued from the very depths of My tender mercy when My agonized Heart was opened by a lance on the Cross. These rays shield souls from the wrath of My Father... I desire that the first Sunday after Easter be the Feast of Mercy... whoever approaches the Fount of Life on this day will be granted complete remission of sins and punishment. Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My mercy." (Diary of Saint Faustina, 299-300)

(3) "I desire that the Feast of Mercy... be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter... The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion (in a state of grace on this day) shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment." (Diary of Saint Faustina, 699)

(4) "Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death." (Diary of Saint Faustina, 687)

(5) "Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation. Even if there were a sinner most hardened, if he were to recite this chaplet only once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy... I desire to grant unimaginable graces to those souls who trust in My mercy." (Diary of Saint Faustina, 687)

(6)"The souls that say this chaplet will be embraced by My mercy during their lifetime and especially at the hour of their death." (Diary of Saint Faustina, 754)

(7) "Souls who spread the honor of My mercy... at the hour of death I will not be a Judge for them, but the Merciful Savior." (Diary of Saint Faustina, 1075)

(8) "The prayer most pleasing to Me is prayer for the conversion for sinners. Know, my daughter, that this prayer is always heard and answered." (Diary of Saint Faustina, 1397)

(9) "My mercy is greater than your sins and those of the entire world." (Diary of Saint Faustina, 1485)

(10) "To priests who proclaim and extol My mercy, I will give wondrous power; I will anoint their words and touch the hearts of those to whom they will speak." (Diary of Saint Faustina, 1521)

(11) "Through this chaplet, you will obtain everything, if what you ask for is compatible with My will." (Diary of Saint Faustina, 1731)

(12) "When hardened sinners say it, I will fill their souls with peace, and the hour of their death will be a happy one." (Diary of Saint Faustina, 1541)

(13) "When they say this chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person, not as a just Judge but as a merciful Savior." (Diary of Saint Faustina, 1541)

(14) "At three o'clock, implore My mercy, especially for sinners; and, if only for a brief moment, immerse yourself in My Passion, particularly in My abandonment at the moment of agony... I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in virtue of My Passion." (Diary of Saint Faustina, 1320)

Mother's Day Raffle: Drawn at Morning Tea on Mother's Day, May 11th

Besides a special morning tea for mothers and their families at St Thomas More's on Mother's Day, there is a Raffle to be drawn at the event. Prizes include:

1A huge Hamper of special foodstuffs, wine, vouches and pampering items

2A selection of handmade soaps and candles

3A box of fresh Fruit and Vegetables.

Donations of items for this hamper are most welcome and can be left in a basket in the foyer at St Thomas More's or passed on from the Mass managers. You are also invited to take a book of 10 Tickets @ $5.00 each, to sell. All proceeds from the raffle and craft and food stalls will be donated to the Parish. These tickets will be available in all churches in the Parish.

Enquiries:

Marianne Kuyper: 0408 316129

Maureen Coyne: 0431483963