



THE SAVING WORD

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) / B

7 APRIL 2024

FIRST READING

Acts 4: 32-35

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The whole group was united, heart and soul.

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 117: 2-4, 15-18, 22-24. R. v. 1

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. The Lord's right hand has triumphed; / his right hand raised me up. / I shall not die, I shall live / and recount his deeds. / I was punished, I was punished by the Lord, / but not doomed to die. **R.**

3. The stone which the builders rejected / has become the cornerstone. / 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 Jn 5: 1-6

A reading from the first letter of St John

Anyone begotten by God has already overcome the world.

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what



he has commanded us; this is what loving God is – keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world – our faith. Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God; Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness – since the Spirit is the truth.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 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

Jn 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 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.'



OUR LADY of MT CARMEL PARISH BULLETIN

2nd Sunday Easter (Diving Mercy Sunday) - 7 April 2024 - Year B

OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL PARISH HILTON

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OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 9am – 3pm

Thursday: 9am – 12.30pm

MINISTRY TEAM

Parish Secretary: Tereza Camacho

Safeguarding Officer:

Brigette Liddelow 0432 908 980

Avila Retirement Village Secretary:

Judy Rowlands 0448 205 283

OLMC Primary School Principal:

Jayson Peacock 9269 2000

OLMC Primary School RE: Tracey Marsden

Seton Catholic College Website: <http://www.seton.wa.edu.au/olmc-parish>

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

REFLECTION for 2ND SUNDAY EASTER –

Obstacles: I was late for an appointment recently and as you might well imagine it meant I was very well tempted to put my foot down on the accelerator, “foot to the floor” as they say. Time was ticking by but as it happened, I could not put my foot down on the accelerator because the car in front of me was going so slowly. Now I know you will find hard to imagine there I was drumming away on the steering wheel of the car thinking “Oh please move, please, please move, please go faster”. The time was going by but of course the car in front wasn’t going any faster despite my wishes. I was stuck! I could not go around it, so I had no alternative but to stay behind this car and suffer the driver who was oblivious of me; one who neither engaged the use of the car rear vision mirror, the accelerator or indicator signals. I even thought I was part of a funeral procession. A bit further up the road what do you think I see, a police car! Now you can put two and two together. Had I not been stuck behind that car I would have been caught for speeding, issued a fine and possible demerit points. It would have been my own fault completely and utterly. But that didn’t happen because someone in front of me was an obstacle, that someone in front of me was an obstacle to what I wanted to do. How many times does that sort of thing happen to you and I? Not just on the road but how many times is somebody in our life an obstacle? How many times are they impossible to get

around? How many times do situations turn up and there are obstacles? Things that we cannot do anything about, and we are stuck? We can either rant and rave and carry on just as I was tempted to do. Or we can say “Here it is. This is what the Father has allowed in my life now. Might not like it but here is God caring for me. I don’t know what God is saving me from. I don’t know what God is doing but I know that I am in God’s care. I know that God again is looking after me. It made a difference to me when I stopped and thought about it. Well, it certainly made a difference since. Now when things come that I can’t do anything about, now instead of railing, raving and carrying on I am more inclined to say “All ok that is what the Father has allowed. I’ll stay behind this figurative car. This week what is it that the Father will allow in your life? Don’t go looking for the big things they are all in the little things. What is it the Father has allowed? When the time comes for the big things, you’ll be amazed at the peace that you will be able to bring to the situation. Our Father, our dear Father you are so much in our life. He is not setting out to make things tough. He is setting out to set us on the right road.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN –

SAFEGUARDING: Dear Parishioners, I have been advised by the Archbishop’s Office and the Authority that an audit of Parish records pertaining to the compliance of Safeguarding, Working With Children Regulations will be conducted very shortly. In spite of my numerous public appeals via the Parish Bulletin, many of our volunteers who serve the Parish, working generously in the name of the Church have yet to renew their Working with Children Card. Possibly there is a lack of understanding to the scope of who requires to comply to the mandatory regulations. I offer you

the following argument and scenario “As a volunteer in my parish I don’t have anything to do with children directly or indirectly. My sole service to my fellow parishioners is to man the ‘power point’ at Mass. The parishioner may not have direct contact with children but as a child or a minor may be present in the congregation at any time, the volunteer is required to have the mandatory clearance i.e. a current Working with Children Card in order to enable them offer service. Other examples. I am a Lector / Welcomer at Mass (i.e. Reader / Commentator), I am involved in the Music ministry. Do I need a WWC card? Yes, you are required. Again, I am an Extra Ordinary Minister of the Eucharist. I serve the celebrant and parishioners who present themselves to receive Holy Communion at Mass. I also go out to the “shut ins” in their private residences and or the aged care facilities and take them Holy Communion. The volunteer is required to have a current WWC card. Please Note, All paid employees of the Parish are required to hold both a current National Police Clearance and a W.W.C. card. Alas these are the times we live in. The Church wishes to protect its generous people and those who come in faith and trust to the Church. The Archdiocese up holds and supports fully the civil Authority’s laws in this matter. We all wish to keep our churches and places of Education safe for minors and all people. If you have overlooked the renewal of your W.W.C. card please do so with great haste. Please have your renewals processed before the 30th April 2024. Noncompliance will be viewed and dealt severely by the Authority. Penalty include \$60,000 fine or up to 5 years imprisonment.



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MASS TIMES WEEKENDS: Saturday Vigil 6pm, Sunday 7.30am & 9am.
MASS TIMES WEEKDAYS: Tuesday 9am, Wednesday 9am, Thursday 9am, Friday 9am & Saturday 9am.
RECONCILIATION - Saturday's during FEBRUARY: 5.15-5.45pm or by appointment.
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Wednesday 5.30 – 6.30pm & Friday 9.30 – 10.30am.

PLEASE PRAY FOR SICK PARISHIONERS: Christine Rhow, Veronica, Maria, Consiglia Ciavatta, Irwin Beachell, Isabella Da Cunha, Martin, Norma Elliott, Rudi Tassell, Steven, Davina, Elisabetta Paddon, Dermot McKernon, Edward Fortune, Beatrice Fernandez, Lisa Bubb, Romilda Marinelli, Aaron LoCicero, Jacqueline Paul, Lou Collova, Anne & Justine Tonti, Greenville Paul, Christine Schwarten Henry, Fr Joseph Angelo, Fr Anibal Da Cunha, Peter Scanlan, June McGinnity, John Brackovich.

CONDOLENCES: Our deepest sympathy and prayers are extended to the Jurica Family on the death of Anna Jurica on Holy Thursday morning. Anna was a long-time parishioner at Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

PRIEST TEMPORARY OFFICE: Fr Michael's office is temporarily in the Meeting Room while tradespeople are working through the Presbytery.

"TIME TO CONSIDER THE PRIESTHOOD": St Charles Seminary in Guildford is holding their annual

Vocations Open Day on Sunday, 5th **May 2024**, calling all interested males from the age of 17yrs and older, who are thinking about a vocation to the Priesthood, to come along and **'look and see'**. Details may be found on the flyer on the notice board or St Charles Seminary website: www.stcharlesseminary.perthcatholic.org.au or call (08) 9279-1310 to register for the day... **"Jesus has a specific task in life for each and every one of us. Each one of us is hand-picked, called by name by Jesus. There is no-one among us who does not have a divine vocation! Some are called audibly by God, but the usual kind of call is internal, through the inner working of the Spirit"** – Homily by Pope St John Paul II.

THANK YOU: Caritas Australia would like to **THANK YOU** for supporting Project Compassion 2024. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit caritas.org.au/project-compassion and donate online. **Your generosity will empower the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and lift themselves out of poverty.** Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, **for all future generations...** You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

HOLY TRINITY CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP: Monday night's 7-9pm. All welcome ...

MASS INTENTIONS

Divine Mercy Sunday – 7 April

6pm Mass: For the People
7.30am Mass: Ron Bacich (1st Ann), Andrew De Sousa (RIP), Salome & Jose Goncalves (RIP)
9am Mass: Stephen Randall (RIP), Holy Father Honour, Jose Manuel Gomes Serrao (RIP), Nina & Angelo Bertone (RIP) & Family (Intentions)
3-4pm: Holy Hour

Monday 8 April

9.30am: Rosary and
10am Funeral Mass: Anna Jurica

Tuesday 9 April

9am Mass: Maria & Martin De Sousa (RIP) & Michael McIntosh (RIP)

Wednesday 10 April

9am Mass: John Randall (RIP)

Thursday 11 April

9am Mass: For the People

Friday 12 April

9am Mass: Most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ Honour

Saturday 13 April

9am Mass: Maria & Martin De Sousa (RIP) & Michael McIntosh (RIP)

Divine Mercy Sunday – 14 April

6pm Mass: For the People
7.30am Mass: Jose Reis Goncalves (RIP), Andrew De Sousa (RIP)
9am Mass: Holy Trinity Honour & Jose Reis Goncalves (RIP & Bday)



'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.

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Breaking Open the Word

RADICAL TRANSFORMATION

As we bask in the light of resurrection, today we see two witnesses to the resurrection, and the transformation of lives.

The first reading is from the Acts of the Apostles, the second volume attributed to Luke, and it presents to us a changed way of living. Firstly, the whole group of believers are described as 'of one heart and soul' (v. 32). The apostles appear as testifying with great power to the resurrection and 'great grace was upon them all' (v. 33). The remarkable addition here is that they shared everything in common, sold property and distributed funds so no-one was in need (v. 34-35). This radical transformation of their way of life is not a defining feature of our communities today, even though adopted by many religious congregations throughout the Church's history. While not diminishing the great charitable works operating today, this way of life remains a challenge to us in a world where rich become richer and poor increase in number and poverty.

In juxtaposition to the Acts account, the Gospel outlines the appearance of Jesus among the apostles and the repetition of 'Peace be with you' (vv.19, 21). In this gathering behind closed doors, Jesus tells the apostles that he is sending them out. He breathes the Holy Spirit upon them, commissioning them. Eight days later in the same room Jesus arrives saying once again 'Peace be with you' (v. 26) and here is the experience of the doubting Thomas, forever recorded for anyone who might doubt that the resurrection happened and is real.

How will our lives be transformed by the resurrection?

Dr Rosemary Canavan