



# 25/26 April 2020-Year A Third Sunday of Easter



**First Reading:** A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

2:14, 22-33

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, You will show us the path of life.

**Second Reading:** A Reading from the first letter of St Peter

1:17-21

**Gospel Acclamation:**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

Lord Jesus, make Your Word plain to us. Make our hearts burn with love when You speak.

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel:** The Gospel of Luke

24:13-35

**Dear Parishioners,**

**We celebrate Third Sunday of Easter**

## 1. Knowing Jesus

When Jesus was resurrected, many of those who saw him did not recognize him immediately. When Mary Magdalene encountered him at the empty tomb, she thought he was the gardener. At first, the disciples on the road to Emmaus thought that he was just a stranger who had caught up with them on the road.

Why did Jesus appear to his friends and disciples in an unfamiliar form after his resurrection? Why didn't he simply appear to his beloved people in the same human form he had before he died?

**Jesus was miraculously both greatly different from before and yet clearly the same person.**

Well, what would have happened if he had? Then there certainly would have been people who were convinced that he had not been resurrected, wouldn't there? They would have believed only that he had never died, or that he had been resuscitated after only seeming to die. So the testimony of those people who saw Jesus in some unfamiliar bodily form after his resurrection wards off one of the ways in which the Gospel message can be distorted. They are a witness against the falsehood that Jesus was not resurrected after real death.

But this is not the only falsehood that can do damage to the Gospel. Another destructive falsehood is the claim that Jesus only seemed to suffer on the cross. Certainly, there were people who argued that Jesus had never suffered or died at all. Those people recognized that there were many witnesses to the crucifixion of Jesus, but they claimed that the appearance of Jesus on the cross was just a cleverly crafted illusion. This is the heresy called "docetism." In effect, that heresy implies that God does not love human beings enough to suffer and die for them.

If Jesus had looked exactly the same in his resurrected state as he did before his death, it would surely have been much easier for this heretical view to have gained currency, wouldn't it?

So there were people who recognized the resurrected Jesus by something other than the familiar human form he had before his death. Mary Magdalene knew that it was him only when he said her name. The disciples recognized him only in the breaking of the bread. To all these people, Jesus was miraculously both greatly different from before and yet clearly the same person. In consequence, the truth of Jesus' death and resurrection were given a powerful witness. It was clear that he had died. It was evident that the cross was no illusion. And yet it was also manifest that he lived!

So the love that led Christ to the cross and death also lies behind his mode of resurrection. In this, too, he is the Truth, the Life, and the Way.

## **ST ANTHONY'S PARISH CHURCH** 105 ELEVENTH AVENUE AUSTRAL 2179

**Pastor:**

Fr. Robert Hayes PP RFD VF

**Secretary:** Cheryl McKell  
**House Manager:** Cathy Sanders

**Presbytery and Parish Office:**  
320 EDMONDSON AVENUE  
AUSTRAL

**Parish Office is open on:**  
Tuesday - Thursday  
Closed for lunch 12.30-1.30 pm.

**Phone:** 9606 0206; **Fax:** 9606 0153

**Email Address:**

stanthonysaustral@bigpond.com

**Web Address:**

www.stanthonysaustral.org

**Archdiocesan website:**

www.sydney.catholic.org.au

**Presbytery is closed on Mondays.**

**St Anthony of Padua Catholic  
College**

**School Principal:**

Mrs Lea De Angelis

**Phone:** 9606 8600

**Email:** info@stapaustral.catholic.edu.au

### Sacramental Life

**Celebration of the Eucharist:**

**Mass Schedule:**

Saturday - 5.30pm Vigil (Includes  
Children's Liturgy during School  
Term)

Sunday - 7.30am

Sunday - 9am (Includes Children's  
Liturgy during School Term)

Monday - No Mass

Tuesday - 9am

Wednesday - 9am

Thursday - 9am

Friday - 9.00am Mass and  
Adoration till 10am.

**Reconciliation: Saturday**

4.30 - 5.15pm

**Baptisms & Marriages:**

By appointment at Presbytery

**Anointing:** Every 2 months -  
check bulletin for dates

**Sick Calls:** Any time - day/night.

**Funeral Masses:** In co-operation  
with Funeral Directors.

## 2. Thank You

Our thanks go to Joe Cilia who bought his ride-on mower down to the Church and presbytery last Monday morning and did a great job in cleaning up the lawns. His effort saves us a commercial fee for a few weeks. Thanks Joe!



## 3. ANZAC Day

If any families have photos of their ANZAC Day commemoration eg Standing outside their home or wreaths they made can you email the to the parish and we will share them in next weekends bulletin. Thank You.



## 4. Live Streaming Wollongong Mass

A. It seems that Wollongong Diocese does a live streaming of Sunday Mass with Bishop Mascord at 9am.

You can go to the Diocesan Website and click on the Mass icon.

## B. St Mary's Cathedral-Live Streaming

Sunday Mass at St Mary's Cathedral is live-streamed at the Solemn High Mass at 10.30am. This Mass is usually celebrated by Archbishop Fisher.

To connect with the Cathedral go to:  
<https://www.stmaryscathedral.org.au/>

Some Parishes are live-streaming and you can check them out at:



## 5. Supporting the Parish till Church Doors Open

I thank parishioners who are sending monies to support the parish during this shutdown period. Whatever parishioners can assist with is most appreciated.

Again, stay safe, and take care

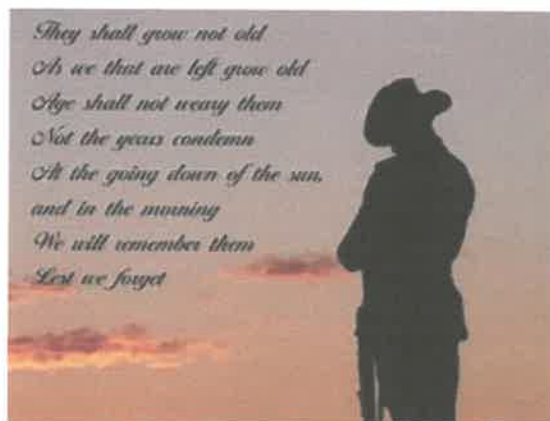
God Bless



Fr Bob



## **ANZAC DAY 2020**





## Remembering...

Lance Bomford, of the 2/40th Battalion which joined up with 2/2nd Independent Company in September 1942, wrote:

"Each of us had his native, called a "criado". They carried our packs so we were free with our guns, and without them we just couldn't have fought like we did. The natives would spot when the Japs were making a move and relay the message to us so we could set up ambushes. Even at the end when it was tough we were dependent on them to keep one jump ahead of the Japs.

It wasn't just the criados, there were lots who helped us. Early in December we got orders to move to the coast. It was a great feeling to be going home but it was a sad parting from the Timorese boys who'd done so much for us. Quite a few of us had tears in our eyes. I'd have loved to have taken my little fella back with me. He cried when the time came to leave. I gave him a note [praising him], what a good lad he was, gave him a few odds and ends. What happened to him Lord knows."

*(Taken from Michele Turner's book "Telling".*

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Please contact Teresa Calarco for more information:

Ph: 0415 123 807

E: [teresa@calarcolegal.com.au](mailto:teresa@calarcolegal.com.au)

## KID'S CORNER

**Q.** Why did the math book look so sad?

**A.** Because it had so many problems.



## Parish Hall for Hire

The Parish Hall has had a make-over, as those who have worked in it can testify.

The room has been painted, splash tiles around the sink area, a new oven and the cupboards have been repaired.

Parishioners are welcome to hire the hall for family celebrations, baptism parties, wedding anniversaries and birthday parties for children up to age 10.

Teenage parties may be an issue so the parish will NOT hire out to these events.

The cost of hire is: \$450 plus a bond of \$100 that will be returned as long as the Hall is left clean & tidy with no damages.

Anyone interested in hiring the hall should contact the parish secretary for the rental agreement and the hirer's responsibility using the hall.

## A Message from the Archdiocese of Sydney

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org). You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support and guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

## BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT MORNINGS

This service is for family and friends who grieve the loss of a loved one and the changes that loss makes in one's life.

Morning tea is provided in a relaxed and caring setting.

For further information contact:

Bereavement support Ph: 02 9646 6908 or email: [bereavementsupport@catholiccemeteries.com.au](mailto:bereavementsupport@catholiccemeteries.com.au)

If you or a friend are in need of such support please ring and attend the session.

**Sessions held:** Every Third Wednesday of the Month from 10am-1pm.



## POPE FRANCIS COLUMN



### Pope Francis: Creation is sacred gift deserving respect, care, pope says on Earth Day

Posted on April 22, 2020

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — Humanity has failed to take care of the earth and its inhabitants, sinning against God and his gift of creation, Pope Francis said.

Celebrating Earth Day, which fell during the “Easter season of renewal, let us pledge to love and esteem the beautiful gift of the earth, our common home, and to care for all members of our human family,” he said during his livestreamed weekly general audience from the Vatican.

The pope dedicated his catechesis April 22 to a reflection on the human and Christian responsibility to care for the earth, humanity’s common home. The day marked the 50th Earth Day, which was established in 1970 to raise public awareness and concern for the environment and its impact on people’s health and all life. This year also marks the fifth anniversary of the pope’s encyclical, “Laudato Si’, on Care for Our Common Home.”

In his catechesis, the pope said Earth Day was “an occasion for renewing our commitment to love and care for our common home and for the weaker members of our human family.”

“As the tragic coronavirus pandemic has taught us, we can overcome global challenges only by showing solidarity with one another and embracing the most vulnerable in our midst,” he said.

As the Book of Genesis relates, he said, “we live in this common home as one human family in biodiversity with God’s other creatures,” and God has called on humanity to care for and respect his creation and “to offer love and compassion to our brothers and sisters, especially the most vulnerable among us, in imitation of God’s love for us, manifested in his son Jesus.”

God is good and always forgives, the pope said, however, “The earth never forgives: if we have despoiled the earth, the response will be very bad.”

“Because of our selfishness, we have failed in our responsibility to be guardians and stewards of the earth,” the pope said. “We have polluted and despoiled it, endangering our very lives.”

The pope expressed his deep appreciation for the many international and local movements and initiatives that have been created in an effort to raise awareness and stir people’s consciences and he said it will still be necessary “for our children to take to the streets to teach us the obvious: we have no future if we destroy the very environment that sustains us.”

“We have failed to care for the earth, our garden-home; we have failed to care for our brothers and sisters. We have sinned against the earth, against our neighbours and ultimately against the Creator, the benevolent father who provides for everyone and desires us to live in communion and flourish together,” he said.

It is imperative that people restore “a harmonious relationship” with the earth and with the rest of humanity, he said.

It requires a new way of looking at the earth, not as a “storehouse of resources for us to exploit,” but as a sacred gift for sustaining all of humanity.

The pope said so many natural tragedies “are the Earth’s response to our mistreatment.”

“If I ask the Lord now what he thinks, I don’t think he will tell me something very good. We are the ones who have ruined the work of the Lord!” the pope said.

“In today’s celebration of Earth Day, we are called to renew our sense of sacred respect for the earth, for it is not just our home but also God’s home. This should make us all the more aware that we stand on holy ground!” Pope Francis said.

An “ecological conversion,” which stems from a loving and respectful contemplation of the earth’s beauty and leads to concrete action is needed, he said.

Because the world and all its people are interdependent, the pope said, the whole international community must cooperate in the protection “of our common home.”

For this reason, the pope urged leaders to “guide the preparations for two important international conferences” — the COP15 on biological diversity to be held in Kunming, China, and the COP26 on climate change in Glasgow, Scotland, both of which have been postponed because of the coronavirus pandemic.

The pope said he supported the many forms of cooperative action on national and local levels.

“It will help if people at all levels of society come together to create a popular movement” from the grassroots, much the same way Earth Day was founded, he said.

The pope’s online audience was just one of countless contributions to Earth Day celebrations, which took to the digital landscape because of the global pandemic.



### THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A.

We find ourselves in the middle of this Easter season, now on the third Sunday after the Resurrection, and we have a beautiful narrative of how new life breaks into the midst of shattered hopes.

The gospel reading transports us back to Easter evening – “that same day” when Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary, and the other women discover the empty tomb and Peter confirms their news.

“That same day,” we meet two of Jesus’ disciples on the road from Jerusalem to a village called Emmaus. The two—one is named Cleopas, but not told the name of the other companion? —are discussing all that has happened: how Jesus had taught and healed; how that same Jesus was betrayed, flogged, and made a spectacle of shame; and how that same Jesus had breathed his last and was laid in a sealed tomb.

The report now is that his body is missing. How could this have happened? Had he been taken? What are we to do now? Where do we go from here?

“But we had hoped he was the one to redeem Israel, they say.” It’s much like the statement we are asking now regarding the lockdown. When can life return to normal? We are hoping soon!

The Emmaus Gospel story is one familiar to many of us, this side of the grave. Our lives are dotted with joys and sorrows, sickness and health, belief and disbelief. This is life here.

The beauty we experience week in and week out in the scriptures is that the living God, Our Risen Lord, meets us on the road of life. Jesus, as the Holy Father says, is walking with us during this time of the virus pandemic. He hasn’t abandoned us.

He is with the sick and suffering and He welcomes those loved ones of families around the world and the 74 in our country who have died, into His embrace.

We may wonder if the Risen Jesus is listening to our prayers at the moment as we pray for the discovery of a vaccine to heal our world and to save those sick in hospital or at home.

He is with doctors, nurses and health care workers who are helping the sick and vulnerable around the world. He is with Priests, Brothers and Sisters who are helping communities in poorer nations as they battle to help their communities against this virus.

But Jesus is here still and hears the two disciples as He hears each one of us. Jesus listens to their stories of disappointment and Jesus listens to ours too.

As we read the post-resurrection gospel stories it takes time for things to register. Remember that well-known story of Mary Magdalene confusing the Risen Christ for a gardener. Remember the disciples thought Jesus was a ghost when they were out fishing back in Galilee.

To show He isn’t a ghost He eats some fish, something no ghost can do.

If the Emmaus Gospel story teaches us anything, it is that God has a preferential option for brokenness, which we see repeatedly in the life, death, and ministry of Jesus.

Jesus seems to move towards people who are open to His word, either by sickness or loss or disappointment. It is in the cracks of our humanity that divine, resurrected life shines brightest.

And when all the scriptures have been unpacked and interpreted, when all the loose ends have been tied up, a meal, the Breaking of the Bread, the Eucharist reinforces the point: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia Alleluia.

**Leader: We turn to our God in prayer that God will hear and come to us all as we pray:**

1. We pray for Pope Francis as he continues to bring faith and hope to a broken world during this pandemic. Lord hear us.  
**Response:** Lord hear our prayer.
  
2. We pray for wisdom that as we bring our lives, experiences, and relationships to the Word of God that they may help us recognize that Christ is with us in every aspect of life. Lord hear us. **Response**
  
3. We pray as families and individually for a deepening of our love and hunger for the Word of God: that through reading and praying the scriptures, our hearts may be set on fire, and our commitment to God grow more daily. Lord hear us. **Response**
  
4. We pray for a deeper appreciation of the gift of the Eucharist during this lockdown period that we may be strengthened each week as we celebrate God's love in the liturgy and come to recognize Jesus more readily in our lives. Lord hear us. **Response**
  
5. We pray for all government leaders: that God will guide them in developing safe and prudent methods for the reopening of society as the pandemic wanes. Lord hear us. **Response**
  
6. We pray for all healthcare workers and first responders that God will renew their strength, guide them in their work, and protect them and their families from all harm. Lord hear us. **Response**
  
7. We pray for all who are ill, particularly those with Covid-19: that God's healing love will relieve their pain, strengthen their minds and bodies, and restore them to full health. Lord hear us. **Response**
  
8. We pause and offer our own prayers to our loving God. Lord hear us. **Response**

**Leader: God of love and mercy turn your ear to the prayers of a broken and suffering world and heal us in both mind and body and heart. We ask this in Jesus name. Amen**

## JUST A FEW FUNNIES TO HELP KEEP US SANE



This morning at the post office, while I was in line, two people with masks entered.

### TOTAL PANIC!

Then they said: "This is a robbery" ... and we all calmed down ...



"Don't think of it as getting a flu shot. Think of it as installing virus protection software."

## WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

In your love and concern, please pray for:-

Recently Deceased:

Anniversaries: Domenico Antonio Campisi, Ernest "Rusty" Rust, Kevin Hayes, Lionel Ward.

Also for: Charlie Vella, Josef Sukkar, Antaneus Sukkar, Farieda Sukkar.

We remember those who are sick in the community that the Lord will be their comforter and healer as we pray for:

Ian & Shirley Farrell, Ken O'Leary, Paul Farnsworth, Marie Gough, Michael Jasenko, Tomislav Juric, James Dimech, Jean Poles, Margarita Vartuli.



Remember man  
that you are  
dust and into  
dust you shall  
return.

## READ THE DIGITAL EDITION OF THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

*The Catholic Weekly* has temporarily transitioned to a digital presence only due to the government's decision to close all Churches during the COVID-19 pandemic.

I am pleased to inform you that has been adapted extremely well and they are continuing to produce the paper in a **digital form** making it available to everyone online at [www.catholicweekly.com.au](http://www.catholicweekly.com.au)

### **What is a digital edition?**

It is the current paper delivered on our website and which is formatted identically to the print edition.

## The Chain of Mary Association Inc

The Chain of Mary Association Inc One Decade Rosary Booklets.

Please feel free to take the Chain of Mary one decade Rosary booklet and pray it each day with faith and devotion. Ask for any grace you need and Mother Mary will listen to you. Write your name and intentions in the book provided on the table at the back of the church and once a week Mass will be offered for you and your intentions.

For any enquiries please call  
Sr-in-Christ Rosa  
Ph: 96067571



## We continue to need your support

We understand the difficulty some families are facing, however if you are able to continue your support of the parish this would be greatly appreciated as we still have much work to continue within our community and Church at this time, especially with those in need and the vulnerable of society.

Perhaps you might consider replacing the envelope contributions with a new direct debit at this time- either weekly, monthly or as a once only. Please contact our office and speak to Cheryl. Any assistance parishioners can give during the shut-down of the Church will be greatly appreciated.

We thank you for your support of the Church and your Faith Community.

### Direct Debit:

**Account Name:** St Anthony's Austral Church Account

**BSB:** 062 784

**Account No:** 0492 5002



## PARISH CENSUS FORM (PCF)

Have you filled in a PCF which can be found on the table behind the pews.

Why? It's important that we have your details if we need to contact you.

Please fill in the Census Form found on the table behind the pews and leave in the Census Box.

## Using the Parish Toilets

A bin has been placed in the Ladies toilets for soiled nappies and sanitary napkins.

**Please** use the bags provided and the bin.

Please **DO NOT** throw them in the toilet, we have had to get the plumber out too many times, and this is a big cost to the parish.





## **Library in Alexandria, Egypt Offers Online Lessons on St. Corona Patroness Invoked in Times Affected by Epidemics and Infectious Diseases**

APRIL 21, 2020

In times of the coronavirus pandemic, the Coptic Studies Centre of the Library of Alexandria of Egypt announced the continuation of its activities during the month of April through an online conference on St. Corona, a saint known as patroness to be invoked in times affected by epidemics and infectious diseases, reported Fides News Agency. Professor Ezzat Salib, an expert on Coptic heritage at the Egyptian Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities will hold the conference, which will be broadcast for the first time on Friday, April 17, at 8 pm on the Facebook page of the Library – report the Egyptian media.

St. Corona martyr is also included in the Roman Martyrology together with the figure of Victor. The two holy martyrs are celebrated in ancient Latin, Greek and Coptic calendars and martyrologists, and the hagiographic studies that concern them provide different indications regarding the city of their martyrdom. According to the Greek "Passio", the two saints were martyred in Damascus, while Coptic sources indicate that their martyrdom occurred in Antioch, and the Latin ones indicate Alexandria of Egypt or some places in Sicily as the place of their martyrdom.

According to the "Illustrious Certamen", text written by a deacon of the Church of Antioch in the fourth century, Victor was a Christian soldier from Cilicia. During the persecution of Marcus Aurelius, he was denounced and subjected to torture. While he suffered, while remaining steadfast in faith, the very young bride of one of his comrades in arms, called Corona (Latin equivalent of the name Stefanie), encouraged him to confess his faith in Christ. For this reason she was also arrested and subjected to an atrocious torture: she was tied to the tops of two palm trees, which had been pulled down to the ground. Then the ropes holding the trees bent were cut. The trees sprang back away from each other to an upright position. The force was so great that Corona's body was ripped apart.

The relics of Corona and Victor are kept in Anzù di Feltre (Veneto, province of Belluno), in the sanctuary dedicated to them. The Saint is also venerated in Bavaria and Austria as protector of treasure hunters and patroness to be invoked in case of epidemic and contagion from infectious diseases.



# PROJECT COMPASSION

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## GO FURTHER TOGETHER

### **THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING PROJECT COMPASSION 2020**

COVID-19 is affecting all of us. In these challenging times, your kindness and solidarity can make a world of difference to the lives of the most vulnerable. Your support is life saving.

### **DO YOU HAVE PC BOXES AND CASH TO HAND IN?**

We know that many of you may not be able to hand in your PC Boxes, or cash, to parishes or schools at this time.

Did you know that you can go online at "[lent.caritas.org.au](http://lent.caritas.org.au)" and securely donate with your credit card, or you can send a cheque to Caritas Australia, GPO Box 9830 Sydney NSW 2001.

Alternatively, if you require assistance with your PC Box or cash, please call our friendly team on 1800 024 413.