



# St Patrick's Cathedral Newsletter



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St Patrick's, in communion with St Saviour's Primary School - Madonna Sleba (4637 1555)

St Saviour's College - Sharon Collins (4637 1600)

We acknowledge and respect the Traditional Owners of this place, the Jarowair and Giabal peoples.



## EASTER SUNDAY [Year A]

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2020

**First Reading:** Acts 10:34, 37-43 We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

**Responsorial Psalm:** This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad. [Psalm 117]

**Second Reading:** Philippians 2:6-11 He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high.

**Gospel Acclamation: ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;  
let us feast with joy in the Lord ALLELUIA!**

**Gospel:** John: 20:1-9 The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead!

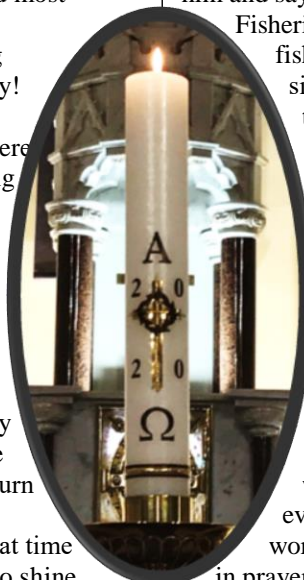
**I HAVE RISEN AND I AM WITH YOU STILL ALLELUIA!! TOO WONDERFUL THIS KNOWLEDGE ALLELLIA!**

**The Resurrection!** No scope for public and often raucous Easter celebrations this year! We have the opportunity therefore, to celebrate and explore quietly the meaning of the Dying and Rising of Jesus – an event in itself and an experience to be shared by all of us. *Death is NOT the end! Injustice and violence, abuse and bullying cannot and will not prevail! Unselfish faithful all-inclusive LOVING is THE WAY!* Yes, death is real but not unconquerable – in death life is changed not ended. And giving freely and generously of oneself, ultimately giving our lives for others, is the purpose behind all living. The resurrection of Jesus is not an isolated miracle of the past that confirms Jesus as the Son of God. It is for us all an everyday reality. We are in the midst of a world wide experience of illness, fear, dying, making all kinds of sacrifices ... all of these disturbing us. But what a reminder and what an opportunity the corona virus offers us! History has rarely experienced such a reminder of how intimately we are all bound together and how on the one hand we can tragically INFECT and BE INFECTED by one another: on the other hand INSPIRE and ENCOURAGE. I suggest that this can be a moment of CONVERSION for the whole world: to focus on what really matters. We have a unique opportunity to change our way of living. Please God we – that's all of us - are not looking forward to returning to the way of materialistic, competitive living that has taken over in recent decades: rather we've a God given chance to re-form with an emphasis on the sharing of all our gifts. To be ill is a gift: to be well is a gift. To be well off is a gift: to be poor is also a gift. To be young is a gift: to be old is also a gift. God is not to be found in the "dog eat dog" world of "the economy" but in the generous sharing of our own particular gifts and in the quietness now thrust upon us. Enjoy the Quiet.

*Faster Blessings from Fr. Hal*

We are all familiar, I hope, with the story of creation in the book of Genesis. Of the many remarkable things in that story, consider the last day of creation: We are told that on the seventh day, God rested from the work of creation. But what I find most remarkable, is that that day never comes to an end. All the other days conclude with the refrain "evening came and morning came..." Not so on the seventh day! Evening never arrives, the light of that day is never overcome. In God's presence there is no time, and there is no darkness – only the mesmerising beauty of being lost in communion with the creator. Sometimes, just sometimes, we catch a glimmer of God's timeless presence breaking into our busy little world which is so conscious of time, so often in a hurry. Well, "the one morning star who never sets" is right now breaking into our seemingly dark little world precisely at a moment when all that busyness and hurry is being peeled away for many people. This, my friends, is a grace-filled opportunity! Celebrate, to be sure. But during this Easter season, don't neglect to turn off the TV. Don't be afraid of the silence and the aloneness. It's there, in what seems like darkness, that time fades and the eternal beauty of true presence begins to shine. Christus Resurrexit! Christos Anesti! Christ is Risen!

*Fr Thomas Duncan*



Surprise, Surprise, I have a joke that I usually tell at Easter time! It is about the man who is out fishing on the banks of the river and beside him is a bucket full of fish. Another man comes and stands beside him and says, "Good afternoon, I am from the

Fisheries Department and I have to inform you that you are fishing out of season and some of these fish are under sized!" The man says, "No, you don't understand – these are my pet fish, each Sunday I bring them down here for a swim and I whistle them back and then take them back home to their pond" The Fisheries Inspector is taken back and says, "I'd like to see that" So the man throws the fish into the water and waits. After a while the Fisheries Inspector says, "Well are you going to whistle those fish back?" To which the man answers, "What fish?" (No Fish – No Evidence!) So it is with the resurrection – nothing but an empty tomb! No evidence that anything had taken place, just a few rags lying on the ground. *Where is the evidence?* WE are the evidence – the way we live our lives, the way we forgive, the way we care for others – this is the evidence of the resurrection and that Christ lives in the world today. In these difficult times, let us keep each other in prayer and thoughtful actions. Let us show everyone that the resurrection is not an empty tomb, but something brimming with life and that something is YOU! God Bless,

*Fr. Michael*

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Val Legaze , Audrey Ethel Rielly, Michael Cuskelly, Irene Long and those who have died from Covid 19 in Australia and beyond. *May perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace.*

✠ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Marjorie Mullins, May O'Neill.

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially** Fr. Don Murray, Christine [Faus] Barron, Hughie Boyce, Greta Berge, Matt Vlietstra, Jean Denison, Jo Tuite, Dr Peter Reiter, Elijah Rolls, Hayden Smith, Rita Berry, Juanita Umipig, Maria Brown, Patricia Whyte (nee Stark), Margaret Walker, Rita Blacker, Kristina Dawidowicz, Nora Machin, Mary Allen, George Pardon, Tina Hobson, Bev Boundy, Roslyn Pardon [nee Kearney], Joanne Essey [Sydney], Braxton Rayner, Kate Gibbs, Max Shearer, Saturnino Bustamante, Hannah Marie Marasigan, Stephanie Shine, Andrew Supple, Mary-Ann Hine, Kathy Allan, John Morgan, Patricia McCracken, Reggie James, Morgan O'Brien, Teresita Pamulaklakin, and all those suffering the effects of Covid-19.



### **A little more to ponder.....**

Over these weeks of being restricted in movement due to Covid19, like many it has given me more time to reflect. It's interesting what comes to the mind when you have some quiet time. There are always plenty of memories, and some surprising ones that pop into our thoughts – well at least that is what I have experienced! So yesterday I was remembering the last time I visited my family home in Roma. My sister Mary still lives there at

the moment. I was remembering particularly standing in the dining room located at the end of the hallway from the front door. There was silence and a sense of emptiness. I was remembering the noise that used to emanate from this room – the Sunday lunches, the Christmas dinners, the birthday parties, the evening meals, farewells and so on.... Although, the last thing you wanted to hear at any meal was my father who always sat at the head of the table, say, “Son, you better come up here and sit with me, NOW!” Which meant of course if you carried on with anything you got a quick clip under the ears.

Then my eyes were drawn to the picture of the last supper that has always been above the entrance to the room. A presence at every meal and every occasion. A silent blessing to everyone who entered the room, like the Last Supper, to be part of this rag tagged bunch with complex lives, and joys and disappointments, sadness and success.

Even as I stood there, I could hear the echo of happy memories of those times together as a family. They seemed so distant and yet as close as my heart. So as I stood I felt the contrast between this room then and now.

It made me think of the busy time of the last supper that was noisy and full of lively conversation. Then the silence and emptiness of the tomb. And I thought did the tomb of Christ echo with memories of his compassionate and loving life? When I think back to those many times in that dining room, now empty, it brings a tear to my eyes, as I remember the presence of the people that are no longer here with me. Years ago Archbishop John Bathersby sent a card to one of the parishioners after her husband had died and wrote something quite mysterious – “Now that your husband has died, he is closer to you than ever”. It has always made me wonder. It reminded me that whilst I cannot be physically close to people, - alive or dead – they are as close as my memories and feelings for them.

As we live in isolation, let us open our hearts to the wonderful memories of people that bring us joy and beauty. Let us keep them close and, like the disciples live in their presence and the presence of Christ. Let us remember that we are always in the mind of God – not only for now – but forever.

The gift of Easter resurrection - ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

May God bless your Easter journey, *Fr. Michael and Rosie.*





Well at St Patrick's we have not been sitting on our hands during this enforced quiet time!

The pipe organ console and some other parts have been sent for full restoration. Simon Pierce, the organ specialist has assured me that it will be back by the end of June! So that will keep a number of brides happy!

The floor levelling and watering system under the Cathedral has now been completed, so there is a constant moisture level present. This will allow the foundations to settle and prevent any further cracks appearing in the walls.

And we have also installed a new sound system throughout the Cathedral which will improve the sound quality immensely! As you can see we also have a new sound desk which will house the new mixer for all the microphones in use, and the laptop for power points!

So we have not wasted this time!! Thank you to all involved in helping this progress to occur!

