



Easter Faith

As the women made their way to Jesus' tomb on Easter morning they were faced with a major problem: 'Who would roll away the great stone that had been placed at the entrance to his tomb?' Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive?' He is not here; He has risen.' This was the marvellous message (Luke 24:6) announced to the women who went to Jesus' tomb on Easter morning.

Through the power of our risen Lord, we too can roll the stone away.

The resurrection of Jesus is meant to affect us also. And not just when we die. It is meant to affect us now. There is a sense in which we are meant to pass from death to life. How might this happen? There are experiences that can cause us to die before our time. We are dying before our time when we live in bitterness, loneliness, sadness and despair. At such times we are, in a sense, already in the tomb.

St Paul says: 'Clear out the old yeast so that you may become a fresh batch of dough.' This means that it is possible to walk out of the tomb of the past with courage and hope. The joy of the apostles is meant to be ours too.

To the early Christians Jesus was not some vague figure from the past. They believed that he was alive and present to them after his death, although in a radically different way. And that is the way believers regard Jesus to this day.

He is not a heroic figure, but a living person. He is not a memory, but a presence.

The Easter proclamation is not '*Christ rose from the dead.*' It is '*Christ is risen.*'

In other words, we speak of Christ not in the past tense but in the present tense.

Story

In 1564 Michelangelo made the following remarks to his fellow painters: 'Why do you keep filling gallery after gallery with endless pictures of the one ever reiterated theme of Christ in weakness, of Christ on the cross, of Christ dying? Why do you stop there as if the curtain is closed upon that horror? Keep the curtain open and with the cross in the foreground, let us see beyond it to the Easter dawn with its beams streaming upon the risen Christ, Christ alive, Christ ruling, Christ triumphant. For we should be announcing to the world that Christ has won, that evil is toppling, that the end is sure and that death is followed by victory.'

(continued on the back page)

PARISH NEWS

Divine Mercy Sunday



The Feast of Mercy - 07 April 2024.

"I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners.

On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy.

The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment.

On that day are open all the divine floodgates through which graces flow.
(Diary, 699).

There will be Adoration and Benediction in church from **2pm to 4pm**. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be prayed at 3pm. All welcome.

Daylight Saving

Please note that Daylight Saving ends **Sunday 07 April 2024**.

Legion of Mary

Active members attending Praesidium meetings and 2 hours of active work every week. **Auxiliary** members don't attend meetings but pray the rosary daily with the addition of Legion prayers. If you are interested in becoming an **active** or **auxiliary** member, please contact [Christian Malaitai](mailto:ChristianMalaitai@gmail.com) on [021 116 8275](tel:0211168275) or email cmalaitai@gmail.com

Sacramental Programme 2024

The Sacramental Programme will begin **Sunday 12 May 2024**. We invite all parents who are interested in enrolling their child(ren) to fill in a form available from the church foyer or apply online from our website (front page).

Important - All enrolment forms must be returned before or by **Monday 29 April 2024**. **No late enrolments will be accepted.**

DIOCESE NEWS

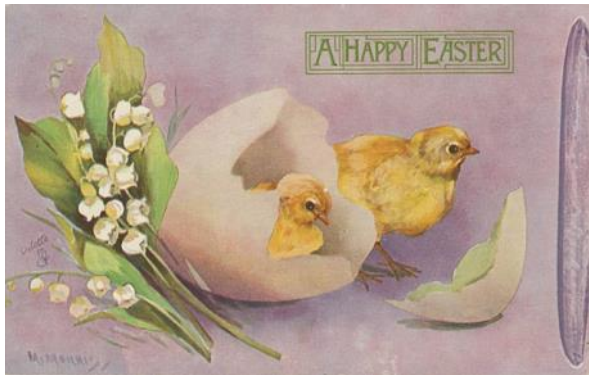
Legion of Mary - Senatus

The Legion of Mary will be holding their Annual Consecration to Our Lady as individuals and collective **Friday 05 April at Christ the King, Owairaka**. Acies will begin at 6.30pm with the rosary followed by Mass (celebrated by **Bishop Steve**), Consecration and Renewal at 7pm. All welcome.

Mass Times

Monday: 9am
Tues/Wed/Thurs 6.30pm
Wed: Novena 6pm
Friday: 9am
First Friday: 6.30pm
Saturday: 5pm Vigil
Sunday: 9am, 10.30am, 5pm

**Reconciliation by appointment.
Please contact the parish office.**



***“Come all the faithful, let us
worship God,***

***for through the Cross, joy has
come to all the world.***

***Ever blessing the Lord, we sing His
Resurrection,***

***for having endured the Cross for
us,***

He has destroyed death by death.”

Oxford Prayer Group

**If you wish to place a notice in our
parish newsletter, please email the
parish office by Wednesday.**

Please pray for our sick parishioners:

Violet Furtado, Yvonne Sommers, Mary Holmes, Kanesi Masae, Ethan Peter Lelo, Rosalen Ahearn, Saulius David Balsys, Kalameli Tauta, Joan Unkovich, Pauline Caffell, Louisa Baptist, Robert Shearman, Siufaga Maileoi Lili, Lee Dunn, Alex Soniega, Barbara Lynch, Fata Peter & Lenora Fuiava, Priscilla Fernandes, Nellie Lemusu-Kea, Aaron Ablan, Joy Rapcsak, Gerard Hoover.

Last Week's Collection:

House - \$ 1,858.40

Parish - \$ 3,214.90

Thank you for your generosity.

Readings For The Upcoming Week

Mon 01 Apr: Acts 2:14, 22-33

Mt 28:8-15 Ps 15:1-2, 5, 7-11

Tue 02 Apr: Acts 2:36-41

Jn 20:11-18 Ps 32:4-5, 18-20, 22

Wed 03 Apr: Acts 3:1-10

Lk 24:13-35 Ps 104:1-4, 6-9

Thu 04 Apr: Acts 3:11-26

Lk 24:35-48 Ps 8:2, 5-9

Fri 05 Apr: Acts 4:1-12

Jn 21:1-14 Ps 117:1-2, 4, 22-27

Sat 06 Apr: Acts 4:13-21

Mk 16:9-15 Ps 117:1, 14-21

Sun 07 Apr: Acts 4:32-35

1 Jn 5:1-6 Jn 20:19-31

Ps 117:2-4, 15-18, 22-24

(continued.....)

That is the tonic we need to keep us healthy. The trumpet blast to fire our blood and send us crowding in behind our Master, swinging happily upon our way, laughing and singing and recklessly unafraid, because the feel of victory is in the air and our hearts thrill to it.'

Flor McCarthy SDB



Young Adult Group

Next Session: resume on **Sunday 12 May** (after 5pm mass)

*Board Games & Movie Night: **Silence (2016) Saturday 20 April*** (hall).

It is about two Jesuit priests who travel to Japan to locate their mentor. All welcome. For more info, please visit the Parish website (Youth/Young Adults section) or follow our Social Media

[@ourladyoflourdesgleneden](https://www.instagram.com/ourladyoflourdesgleneden)

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