



3rd Week of Easter

PRIEST ADMINISTRATOR: Fr Joe O'Shea
PARISH CENTRE: 7 Foote St Dromana 3936

*The Holy Scriptures
are our letters
from home*



Please address ALL correspondence to:
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☎ (03) 9401 6314 website: <http://perpetualhelp.org.au>
e-mail: dromana@cam.org.au

Office Hours: Tuesday & Friday 10am – 4.30pm



26th April – 2nd May 2020

Newsletter, Prayers & Reflections

● **Happy & Holy & Safe EASTER Season to All !!** ✉ With Easter Blessings – Fr Joe

● **Keep in Touch:** See our website: <http://perpetualhelp.org.au>

► **COVID-19 Pandemic: ALL PUBLIC liturgies, including celebrations of the Mass, are suspended until further notice.**

Website <https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass> has Mass online; TV Mass 11am Sun. C31(44).

Information about COVID-19 is found at: www.cam.org.au/coronavirus

NOTE: The Sunday Obligation of the Faithful will not apply during this time of suspension.

● **Blessed Palms and Easter Water** will be available once the COVID-19 Crisis is over. Fr Joe continues to say Masses privately. **Only Fr Joe** can take Communion to a dying person, i.e. administer Viaticum. Contact Fr Joe for Reconciliation & Anointing on a one to one basis. Baptisms are to be postponed unless there is an urgent and grave pastoral need. Weddings are to be postponed where possible.

Contact Fr Joe ☎ (03) 9401 6314 or after hours: ☎ (03) 9401 6313

● **Support Your Parish:** We need to continue to support our Parish while we have no collections at Masses. Those who use sacrificial giving envelopes might consider dropping their envelopes off at the Parish Office (in the box by the presbytery door) or:

- Making a **direct deposit** payment through your bank to:

1st Collection (Fr Joe) OLPH Dromana Presbytery Account BSB 083 347 Acc No: 904378858

2nd Collection (Parish) Dromana OLPH Church Account BSB 083 347 Acc No: 650781814

Please include your name or envelope number (if you have one) as the reference.

Or • **Credit Card** via our new Payment Portal: [CDFpay for Our Lady of Perpetual Help](#)

All donations will be graciously received. **We need finance to continue to pay the bills of our Parish.**

● **Project Compassion:** Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion. Please bring Project Compassion boxes or set of envelopes to the parish office or put them in the box beside the office door or visit www.caritas.org.au to make a donation online.

If you have any questions please ring ☎ 03-9926 5706. For more details connect to:

<https://www.caritas.org.au/welcome/caritas-australia-resource-hub>

● **COVID-19 Appeal:** Caritas Australia is running an urgent appeal as a Project Compassion extra wave. The **COVID-19 Crisis Appeal** is asking for urgent donations to help those families living in poverty to access hygiene knowledge, health supplies, soap and clean water that will save their lives. The link below gives more detail of what Caritas Australia will be doing, and how to contribute to the appeal.

<https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/covid-19-crisis-appeal>

FAMILY PRAYER at HOME – 3rd Sunday of Easter 2020

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen! **All:** Alleluia! Christ is present in his Word!

Leader: May your people exult for ever, O God, in renewed youthfulness of spirit, so that, rejoicing now in the restored glory of our adoption, we may look forward in confident hope to the rejoicing of the day of resurrection. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **All:** Amen.

➤ **FIRST READING: Acts 2:14.22-33**

It was impossible for him to be held by the power of Hades.

➤ **RESPONSORIAL PSALM:**

℟ Lord, you will show us the path of life.

1/ Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you. I say to the Lord:
'You are my God.' O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;
it is you yourself who are my prize. **℟**

2/ I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,
who even at night directs my heart. I keep the Lord ever in my sight:
since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **℟**

3/ And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my body shall rest in safety.
For you will not leave my soul among the dead,
nor let your beloved know decay. **℟**

4/ You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand happiness for ever. **℟**

➤ **SECOND READING: 1st Peter 1:17-21**

The ransom that was paid to free you was the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ.

➤ **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

**Alleluia, alleluia! Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:
make our hearts burn with love when you speak. Alleluia!**



➤ **GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35**

They recognized him at the breaking of the bread.

Think about the readings. You can use *Lectio Divina* on p3 for reflection on the Gospel.

Prayer: Almighty and all-merciful God, lover of the human race, healer of all our wounds, in whom there is no shadow of death, save us in this time of crisis; grant wisdom and courage to our leaders; watch over all medical people as they tend the sick and work for a cure; stir in us a sense of solidarity beyond all isolation; if our doors are closed, let our hearts be open. By the power of your love destroy the virus of fear, that hope may never die and the light of Easter, the triumph of life, may shine upon us and the whole world. Through Jesus Christ, the Lord risen from the dead, who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Holy Mary, health of the sick, pray for us. St Joseph, guardian of us all, pray for us.

Leader: May our hearts burn within us as we find Jesus present in the Scriptures, so let us pray the prayer that Jesus taught us: **All:** Our Father ...

Leader: May God bless us and keep us safe on our journey through this time of Pandemic.

All: In the name of the Father, ✙ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

(Ecumenical prayer from the National Council of Churches. We have been invited to pray this prayer at 7pm each day.)

Gracious God, We give thanks anew for your providence and presence. We prayerfully seek your grace, amidst COVID-19 here and overseas. We pray for those in need of healing. We pray for your peace with those who are anxious or grieving. We pray you will continue to strengthen and sustain all those who are serving in response. We pray for your Holy Spirit's discernment amidst the many choices and decisions facing our national, community and medical leaders. We pray we each might see quickly what more we can do to help those who are vulnerable. This prayer for our nation in the family of nations, with all that is on our hearts, we gather now and pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

St Joseph, Protector of the Church, pray for us.

● **Sell Raffle Tickets:** Due to the current COVID -19 restrictions, the combined Churches raffle has been granted an extension. ☉ **Ticket Sales Closing Date: 11th September** ☉ **Draw Date: 26th September at 7.15 pm** ☉ **Publication of Winners Date: 30th September.**
 We still have over 80 Books of Tickets to sell. See Fr Joe for tickets or the Parish office during office hours. Ticket butts can & should be returned to the Parish office or the drop-off box beside the presbytery door ASAP. We need to make this Raffle a fundraiser for our Parish !! *Fr Joe*

Readings of next Sunday:

4th Sunday of Easter, Yr A

1st Reading: Acts Acts 2: 14. 36-41

Resp. Psalm: Ps 22

2nd Reading: 1st Peter 2: 20-25

Gospel: John 10: 1-10

WORD of God – are we Listening better ?

→ Use these notes to pray through **Lectio Divina** on the text of this Sunday's Gospel:

Lectio: In Luke's Gospel there is doubt and disbelief after the women who come to the tomb on the Sunday at dawn and find the empty tomb. Though they see two 'men' in dazzling clothes at the empty tomb who remind them that Jesus said he would die and rise again, their report to the 11 apostles was not believed. So two of the disciples go for a walk, away from Jerusalem, to nearby Emmaus. They have no expectation to see Jesus again.

Read: Luke 24: 13 – 35

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the

day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at the table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes it is true, The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

Meditatio: Have I ever walked away from my faith? Can I recognize the Lord's presence with me through my Baptism, Confirmation (and Marriage) in these times of the suspension of gatherings for Mass and Services? What matters am I talking about? Am I praying with others even through the media, cf **Mt 18:20** !? Am I taking time to reflect on the Scriptures – Jesus is present to me through his Word? The Eucharist/Mass (i.e. The Breaking of the Bread) is still being celebrated albeit in private. Reflect on how the graces of the Mass are flowing out to me especially through the other Sacraments; consider the image on p1. Does my gift of faith help me see beyond words/facts to God's presence and his care in my life?

Oratio: Pray for sight through faith to recognize Jesus' presence with us. Pray for those whose faith is being tested. Pray for a renewed love and understanding of the Eucharist (The Breaking). Pray for those who care for us and our community. Pray that we can gather again in Christ's name, at least in pairs. Pray for a love of the Scriptures.

Contemplatio – Dwell in stillness, simply aware of the boundless expanse of mercy that surrounds you.

After your prayer – Go for a walk with someone and pray together as you walk along. *Fr Joe*

* Please pray for those who are sick especially:

Carl Rooney (Fr Joe's nephew), John Jose, Raelene Watt, John Coughlin, Mike Henry, Denise Vidoni, Mark Burns, Jenny Brewer, Hank Morris, and all those who need our prayers. May they receive the Lord's comfort and strength.

(Because we respect your privacy – For people to be named on the list of the prayers for the sick: their names must first be submitted on an AUTHORIZATION FORM available from the Parish Office.)

✚ **Please pray for** Nan Linden, Maureen McGregor, Leading Senior Constable Lynette Taylor, Constable Glen Humphris, Senior Constable Kevin King and Constable Josh Prestney who died recently, and for Maria Dimech whose anniversary occurs about this time, and for all who have died. May they rest in peace.





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