



Easter Sunday & Octave Week

PRIEST ADMINISTRATOR: Fr Joe O'Shea

PARISH CENTRE: 7 Foote St Dromana 3936



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Office Hours: Tuesday & Friday 10am – 4.30pm

12th – 18th April 2020

Newsletter, Prayers & Reflections

*The Holy Scriptures
are our letters
from home*



● Corona Virus Crisis:

ALL PUBLIC liturgies, including celebrations of the Mass, are suspended until further notice. Please check the Melbourne website for information about Mass online <https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass> and other helpful information about COVID-19: www.cam.org.au/coronavirus

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

● **Easter:** All public ceremonies in the church are suspended.

Blessed Palms and Easter Water will be available once the COVID-19 Crisis is over.

● **Masses Privately etc:** Fr Joe will continue to say Masses privately through this time of suspension of Public Masses. Private Home Masses are **no longer allowed**. Mass Online is available for people to join together in spiritual communion. Details are available at cam.org.au Communion to the sick and homebound is no longer allowed. A **priest only** can take Communion to a dying person, i.e. administer Viaticum.

● **Reconciliation & Anointing:** These Sacraments are available on a one to one basis. Contact Fr Joe to arrange a time and place if you require these Sacraments.

In an Emergency Fr Joe may be contacted as above on ☎ (03) 9401 6314 or ☎ (03) 9401 6313

● **Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals:** Baptisms are to be postponed unless there is an urgent and grave pastoral need. Weddings are to be postponed where possible. If baptisms or weddings meet these criteria, only 5 persons may gather. Funerals can be celebrated if urgent with 10 or less persons. In all circumstances, health guidelines are to be adhered to.

✍ Archbishop Peter Comensoli

● **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 preferably 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 Dromana OLPH Church Account BSB 083 347 Acc No: 650781814

Please include your name or envelope number (if you have one) as the reference. All donations will be graciously received. We need finance to continue to pay the bills of our Parish. ✍ Fr Joe

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

FAMILY PRAYER at HOME – Easter Sunday 2020

Water is a sign of life, the life of Christ begun at our baptism. Easter Sunday, the Day of the Lord's Resurrection, is an opportunity to renew our baptismal faith.

Place a bowl of water on the table in front of you. **Pray together:** Lord, bless ✚ this water as our Easter water.

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen! **All:** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

➤ **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.**

1/ Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

Let the Sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' ℟

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. ℟

3/ The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. ℟

➤ **SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-4**

Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.

➤ **SEQUENCE:**

All: Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; and Christ, the undefiled, hath sinners to his Father reconciled. Death with life contended; combat strangely ended! Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign. Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way. The tomb the Living did enclose; I saw Christ's glory as he rose! The angels there attesting; shroud with grave-clothes resting. Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee. That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know. Victorious king, thy mercy show!

➤ **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with joy in the Lord.**

Alleluia!

➤ **GOSPEL: Matthew 28:1-10**

He has risen from the dead and now he is going before you to Galilee



Alleluia!
Alleluia!
He is Risen!
He is Risen!

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

(Perhaps parents could share the story of their children's baptism.)

Leader: Let us renew the promises of our baptism.

All: WE RENOUNCE Satan, and all his works, and all his empty promises. WE BELIEVE in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. WE BELIEVE in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead and is seated at the right hand of the Father. WE BELIEVE in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.

Leader: And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins, keep us by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord, for eternal life. **All:** Amen.

Blessing: Family members now take some of the Easter water and bless ✚ themselves with it.

Prayers of the Faithful: Make your own prayers of praise & thanks to God and for those who are sick or in need, for health workers, governments and those enforcing the laws, for safety through these days etc.. Ask God to protect them. You could pray the prayers of the *Oratio* of the Lectio Divina on p3.

Finish each prayer with: Lord, hear us. **All:** Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Let us pray the family prayer of all the baptised as Jesus taught us: **All:** Our Father ...

Leader: May God bless us and keep us safe.

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

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

Please pray for those who are sick especially:

Carl Rooney (Fr Joe's nephew), 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 those who died recently, and for Maria Conti whose anniversary occurs about this time, and for all who have died. May they rest in peace.

● **Sell Raffle Tickets:** We still have 80 Books of Tickets to sell. If we do not sell them, we will not recoup the costs to the Parish for participating in this Raffle. So, buy a ticket or take Books of Tickets to sell. See Fr Joe for tickets or the Parish office during office hours as above. Ticket butts can and 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

● **Project Compassion:** Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion. Please bring Project Compassion boxes or set of envelopes bring them home 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. Through your generosity you are helping to empower our most vulnerable neighbours worldwide to build a better future for their families and communities. If you have any questions please ring ☎ 03-9926 5706. For more details connect to [Caritas Australia COVID-19 Resource Hub | Caritas Australia](#)

Readings of next Sunday:

2nd Sunday of Easter, Yr A

1st Reading: Acts 2: 42 - 47

Resp. Psalm: Ps 117: 2-4. 13-15. 22-24

2nd Reading: 1st Peter 1: 3-9

Gospel: John 20: 19-31

WORD of God – are we Listening better ?

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

Lectio: Jesus has died on the cross. Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body and sealed it in his tomb, carved into rock, with a large stone. Mary of Magdala and the other Mary remained sitting in front of the tomb. The next day, the Sabbath, the Pharisees had Pilate secure the tomb with soldiers so there could be no stealing of the body. Jesus was truly dead. Would he be raised from the dead on the third day as he had said?

Read: Matthew 28: 1 – 10

After the Sabbath, and towards dawn on the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala and the other Mary went to visit the sepulchre. And all at once there was a violent earthquake, for the angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled away the stone and sat on it. His face was like lightning, his robe white as snow. The guards were so shaken, so frightened of him, that they were like dead men. But the angel spoke; and said to the women, 'There is no need for you to be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said he would. Come and see the place where he lay, then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has risen from the dead and now he is going before you to Galilee; it is there you will see him." Now I have told you. Filled with awe and great joy

the women came quickly away from the tomb and ran to tell the disciples.

And there, coming to meet them, was Jesus. 'Greetings' he said. And the women came up to him and falling down before him, clasped his feet. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers that they must leave for Galilee; they will see me there.'

Meditatio: Do I feel the Lord's closeness? Does the Lord feel distant to me; still 'locked up in the tomb'? What am I afraid of at the moment? How important is my faith to me? Jesus is risen, he has conquered death; does this inspire awe and joy for me? How do I give worship to God? Where have I found Jesus?

Oratio: Pray for joy this Easter despite the present crisis. Pray that hope not fear will shape our lives. Pray that the Lord's Resurrection will bring us through these dark times. Pray for the Lord's healing of the sick and of our world. Pray that we will recognize the Lord's presence when two or more gather (even on the phone or media) in his name. Pray that the Sacraments of Baptism & Confirmation will be Jesus' presence and power for us. Pray that the Sacrament of Marriage will strengthen the bonds of love in families. Pray that the Sacrament of Holy Orders will empower the ministry of bishops, priests and deacons. Pray that we will treasure more than ever the other sacraments when we can again gather to celebrate them.

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

After your prayer – Be joyful; the Risen Lord is with us till the end of time ! ✍Fr Joe

Coming Events in 2020

- **NO Masses & Services** during Covid-19 Crisis
- Easter Sunday – **Pray at Home**



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