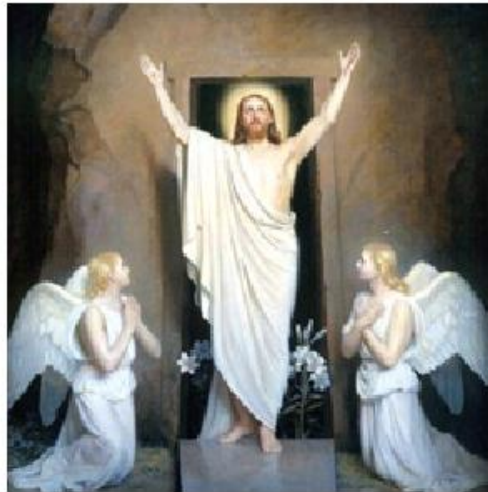


## HORNSBY CATHEDRAL PARISH

*Letter from Fr Peter de Souza*

*8 April 2020*



### **Promise of a new Life**

My dear Parishioners

Easter greetings to you and your families, and extended ones too!

The joyful message of Easter is that we are a “Resurrection people”. This means that we are not supposed to lie buried in our very own selves. Instead, we are expected to live a joyful life, constantly experiencing the living presence of the Risen Lord in all our day-to-day life. Our awareness of the all-pervading presence of the Risen Lord in and around us and our neighbours is a strong conviction of our own resurrection.

Pope Francis says: “We are called to be people of joyful hope, not prophets of doom. Through the resurrection of Jesus, we get an infusion of hope and joy, and an invitation to share them by our way of living.”

The Easter event, which is the Resurrection of His Son Jesus Christ, convinces us that God is at work in the world. We need to discern where God is moving in our lives and during the current pandemic to bring healing to the vulnerable, preventing of future illness, and join God’s arc of spirituality and healing.

This surely involves trusting faith and persevering prayer, unwavering hope and action. God is at work in the world, seeking healing and wholeness, inspiring physicians, researchers, nurses and other healthcare givers, first responders and compassionate friends. God’s work involves us. Our Resurrection response should be one that is of a human-Divine participation and collaboration.

It is important to pray, to trust, and to hope in God's grace and loving power to heal us and our situation. We are called to be responsible stewards of our personal lives and the lives of our fellow human beings. We are God's agents in healing the world. Passionate faith calls us to mission. Prayer calls us to action.

May the Risen Lord be a living experience to you, pervading every area of your life, blessing you, strengthening you, inspiring you, guiding you and supporting you and all of us on our journey of faith.

**Happy Easter! With Prayerful wishes from,  
Frs Peter, Vincent and Seminarian Roger**

**Notices for this week:**

**The Parish Office will be closed for Easter Holidays from 10 to 13 April 2020 inclusive.**

**Fr Vincent Nguyen** leaves us on 15th April 2020, to start his new appointment on 16th April 2020. Once again, in gratitude, we pray and thank God for his ministry among us.

**Fr Biju Mathew** will be with us on the weekend of 18th April 2020. Please make him feel welcome amidst us and please say a special prayer for both of them.

**A note of Gratitude** to all those Parishioners and non, who send us emails, letters and making phone calls of gratitude, during this time, thanking us for being what we can best be. In all honesty, we are trying our best, and thank you for appreciating that honesty, we bring forth.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** will be offered to our people, even though it is ***not possible to celebrate this Sacrament in the closed church***. Also note the official government regulation for physical distancing is important.

**Sacrament of Anointing** is available on request, and in an emergency, please feel free to call our emergency number 0458 351 843. ***Please make sure if your family member is in the Hospital or Nursing Home, it should go through the hospital or nursing home authorities.***

**Daily Mass at the Cathedral is now live streamed on YouTube. The link can be found on the parish website:** [www.bbcatholic.org.au/hornsby](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/hornsby)

**Prayer Resources for Catholics at home is available on the Diocesan website:** [www.bbcatholic.org.au/news-events/covid-19/prayer-resources](http://www.bbcatholic.org.au/news-events/covid-19/prayer-resources)

**Please remember in your prayers**, those who are sick, those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur during this time. May I request you to keep all those who are struck with the virus, those tested positive and those in isolation in your special prayers.

**Sacramental Program.** We are continuing our investigations on plans for our Sacramental program to continue. There are many of you who have enrolled for the upcoming Sacrament of Confirmation already. In the coming days we will be able give you clarity on the same. Please watch out for the news items.

**Holy Week Services from the Cathedral:**

*Live streamed on YouTube – link available via the parish website.*

*Please note, DO NOT come to the Cathedral during these times.*

*Thank you for your understanding.*

**Holy Thursday: 7.30pm**

**Good Friday: 10.00am Stations of the Cross**

**3.00pm Passion of Our Lord**

**Easter Vigil: 7.00pm**

**Easter Sunday: 8.30am**

**May I request that you stay tuned with us during these times. Your family Church is a continuation of our joint celebrations “gathering of families”, ‘The Body of Christ’.**

***If a Priest is needed in a matter of emergency, after hours or on the weekend, please call 0458 351 843.***