



Diocese of Broken Bay

MANLY FRESHWATER PARISH

Mary Immaculate and St John the Baptist, Freshwater

SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

12th April 2020



AT MANLY FRESHWATER PARISH

HOLY THURSDAY 9 APRIL

6pm Mass of the Lord's Super

GOOD FRIDAY 10 APRIL

10am Stations of the Cross

3pm Passion of the Lord

LIVE STREAMING OF MASS

Manlyfreshwaterparish

Facebook and YouTube

Once you are at our Facebook Page, look for and click on video on the left side of the page (a personal facebook account is not required)

HOLY SATURDAY 11 APRIL

6pm Easter Vigil (1hour)

EASTER SUNDAY

9am Mass

My dear friends,

On behalf of Fr Paul, our Parish Team and myself, I wish you the happiest and holiest of Easter Greetings and Blessings.

Six weeks ago, on Ash Wednesday we set out together as a parish community on the journey of Lent. This 2020, Lent has been very different because of the difficult times we find ourselves in.

This Easter our companionship comes to completion. We are together in a whole new way. We are one in Christ Jesus. In Joy and Peace we exclaim "Alleluia" "Praise God".

As we complete this Lent, I think we should all be pleased with ourselves. There has always been a good community spirit in Manly Freshwater Parish, but these recent weeks have shown it's real strength, compassion and service.

Our marvellous Parish Team and volunteers have streamed online to you Sunday Mass and Friday Stations of the Cross, and emailed to you our Parish Bulletin as well as other resources. We are working on keeping in touch with parishioners who do not have access to computers and smart phones, through their families, friends, neighbours and volunteers. Your feedback and advice is most helpful.

I know that you are missing very much participating in Sunday Mass, other Liturgies, and being able to visit the Church. Fr Paul and I are missing seeing all of you in the Church. Celebrating Mass and the other Liturgies without your physical presence is very unsettling. Not being able to hand out Easter Eggs to the children will be tough for all of us. But, it's what we do prayerfully over the next few days – Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter that will remind us that Easter, the Death and Resurrection of the Lord is about our new life.

Lord, give us eyes to see that a new creation is begun, a new earth and a new heaven are proclaimed and a new beginning for humanity is announced in Your Sons Resurrection. May this new beginning begin in me and in each one of us.

Happy Easter

Fr David, Fr Paul and the Parish Team.

PARISH SOCIAL MEDIA

Parish Pastoral Council: Paul Pervan (Chair), Ian Press (Deputy Chair), Margaret Dent (Secretary), Ivica Covic; Laurie de Ambrosis; Joanne Druery; Robert Marshall; Michael McGrath

St Mary's Primary School 9977 2225 Principal: Paul McGuire

St John the Baptist Primary School 9939 6699 Principal: Judy Slattery

St Paul's Catholic College 9977 5111 Principal: Chris Browne

Stella Maris College 9977 5144 Principal: Elizabeth Carnegie

April 2020

Mon 13/4 – Octave of Easter

Tue 14/4 – Octave of Easter

Wed 15/4 – Octave of Easter

Thurs 16/4 – Octave of Easter

Fri 17/4 – Octave of Easter

Sat 18/4 – Octave of Easter

Sun 19/4 – Second Sunday of Easter

Year A

Acts 2:14,22-33; Mt 28:8-15

Acts 2:36-41; Jn 20:11-18

Acts 3:1-10; Lk 24:13-35

Acts 3:11-26; Lk 24:35-48

Acts 4:1-12; Jn 21:1-14

Acts 4:13-21; Mk 16:9-15

Acts 2:42-47; 1 Pet 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31

LET US PRAY FOR

12th April 2020

Recently Deceased: Louise Remond Elliott; Richard Newman
Anniversary:

Prayers for the sick in our parish: Eugenia Cavazzoni, Gavin Greenwood, Zacchaeus Emmanuel Joseph Ratnam; Mark Taylor; Kay Flenady; Leon Cochrane; Robina Dwyer; Ann Irvin; Prionsias Kearney; Brian Davies; Majella McLoughlin; Debbie Vernon; Desmond Connors; Lauren Hannahan; Rosalba Galuis; Vanessa Squirrel; Judith McKenzie; Jonathan Keil; Les Reilly; Wayne Smedley; Margaret Burrige; John Beninati

Visiting sick at home - If you, or if you know of anyone who are unwell and would like a home visit please contact the parish office 9977 5822 to organise for Communion or Anointing



Pope Francis

There are always times in life when we fall, each one of us is a sinner. But what matters is our attitude before God. We ask for the grace to persevere in service and, when we fall, the grace to weep as Peter wept.



Project Compassion 2020

Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 to help uplift vulnerable communities and support the rights of indigenous peoples around the world.

Let's Go Further, Together. You can donate through

www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413

Parish Priest: Fr David Taylor

Assistant Priest: Fr Paul Kim

Parish Secretaries: Jenny Beninati
Paula Martin

Pastoral Coordinator: Michelle Ellis

Administration Office:

After Hours Urgent Sick Calls:

0499 910 010

Presbytery: 9977 2100

manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au

www.bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater

Reconciliation: Manly Sat 10am – 11am

Manly Freshwater Parish promotes **SAFEGUARDING** which involves the implementation of proactive, common sense and practical ideas that ensure the safety of children and vulnerable adults in our community

Parish facebook:

facebook.com/manlyfreshwaterparish

YouTube: Manlyfreshwaterparish

Or bit.ly/2EIGEu7 or [frpaulkim](https://frpaulkim.com)

(one word with no space). You can view the YouTube videos thru the parish facebook, click on the link

Parish website:

bbcatholic.org.au/manlyfreshwater

Have You Considered Giving Your Weekly Offering Online



If you would like to continue supporting the Parish financially during these difficult times you may wish to use one of the following options:

Direct Deposit

Acc Name: Manly Freshwater Parish

Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank

Acc# 13958001

BSB - 062 784 Please include your name as reference or envelope number

Or

Credit Card – Contact the Parish Office by email and we will call you back

or through our website – on the front page Payments/donations

If you are currently giving by Credit Card the deduction will continue as usual.

We thank you for your continued support of Parish.



KEEP IN TOUCH

During this time we would like to keep in touch and offer support to our Parishioners.

Over the past weeks we have been able to email our bulletin out to over 1500 people which is great **BUT** we know that we have a large number of Parishioners who do not have access to a mobile phone or the internet.

If you have a neighbour or friend who has not received an email, it may be that we don't have their email address or that they don't have one.

Please ask them to call the office on 9977 5822 or email your details to Manlyfreshwaterparish@bbcatholic.org.au.

Each week we will be printing the Parish bulletin and leaving copies in the foyer of the Parish Centre and Church entrance at St Johns, Freshwater and they will be available for collection each day (including the weekends).

THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

Now available to everyone online at www.catholicweekly.com.au



Easter Services Televised

Channel 7 will broadcast direct from St Mary's Cathedral:

Our Lord's Passion Friday 3pm

Easter Sunday Mass 10.30am

Network 10 broadcasts Mass for You at Home each Sunday at 6am

Message from Most Rev Anthony Randazzo

"We journey together"

<https://youtu.be/XIHZVjo7e9k>



Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturdays 10am -11am in the Parish Centre at Manly.



Pray As You Go Start the day with a reflection on the day's Reading, with music, Scripture reading, and guided reflection. A simple way to connect with the

Church's liturgy and to bring God into your day. Approximately 15 minutes. <https://pray-as-you-go.org/> or download App on Apple or Android



CathFamily – Free access to CathKids until June 30 CathFamily is an Australian site offering family resources including activities, craft, recipes, games and seasonal rituals which are perfect for Lent. The CathKids section offers a weekly interactive experience on the Sunday reading, with a short animated video, questions to stimulate discussion, a simple activity and prayer. A great way to engage children each Sunday.

Laudate (App) This free App has a large number of resources at hand, including the day's Readings; the Liturgy of the Hours; the Rosary, Stations of the Cross, Prayers. Download for Apple and Android

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference information online about streamed Masses and prayers on ACBC website in coronavirus portal: www.catholic.org.au/coronavirus



Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Resources from the Diocese of Broken Bay,

An Experience of Holy Week and Easter at Home Our Holy Week and Easter Liturgies are full of symbol and ritual that engage all our senses. Unable to be physically present in our church buildings this year, this resource suggests ways that we can enter into these events meaningfully in our own homes.

To view online cut and past the following address

https://mcusercontent.com/466af249e088db70ab864d088/files/cfb3f17b-b42b-419d-97d0-83bd7a4d18d6/Easter_at_Home_Resource_for_Holy_Week.pdf

Connected in Christ

Connected in Christ is our weekly resource, allowing generations to remain connected even while physically separate. We hope that, in some small way, this resource will bring hope, joy and comfort to the people of Broken Bay as, together, we navigate our way through these unprecedented times.

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/news-events/covid-19/prayer-resources>

DIVINE MERCY -The Novena Chaplet commences on Good Friday.

The intentions for each day can be found at

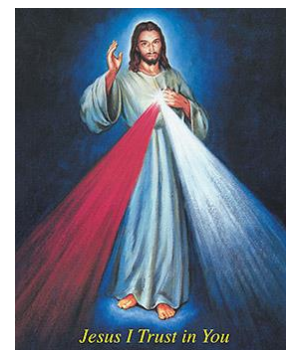
<https://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/novena>

HOW TO PRAY THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

Our Father, Hail Mary and Apostle's Creed

For each of the 5 decades (On each "Our Father" bead of the rosary, pray)

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.



(On each of the 10 "Hail Mary" beads, pray)

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Concluding prayer (3 times) Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

THURSDAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

First Reading *Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14 (JB)*

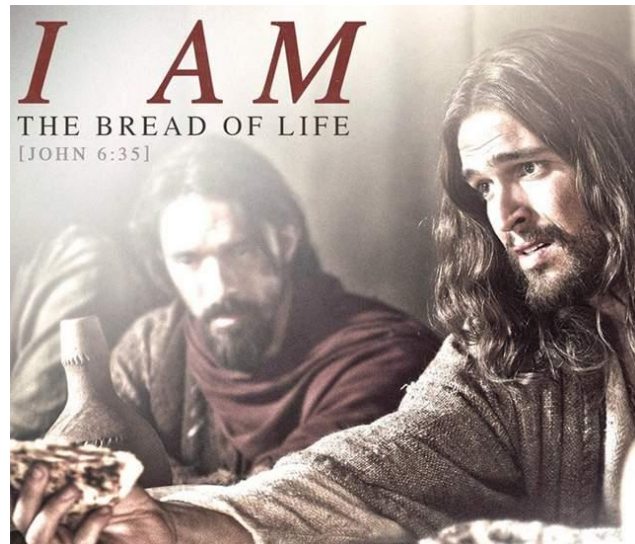
A reading from the Book of Exodus

The law for the Passover meal.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, 'This month is to be the first of all the others for you, the first month of your year. Speak to the whole community of Israel and say, "On the tenth day of this month each man must take an animal from the flock, one for each family; one animal for each household. If the household is too small to eat the animal, a man must join with his neighbour, the nearest to his house, as the number of persons requires. You must take into account what each can eat in deciding the number for the animal. It must be an animal without blemish, a male one year old; you may take it from either sheep or goats. You must keep it till the fourteenth day of the month when the whole assembly of the community of Israel shall slaughter it between the two evenings. Some of the blood must then be taken and put on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses where it is eaten. That night, the flesh is to be eaten, roasted over the fire; it must be eaten with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. You shall eat like this: with a girdle round your waist, sandals on your feet, a staff in your hand. You shall eat it hastily: it is a passover in honour of the Lord. That night, I will go through the land of Egypt and strike down all the first-born in the land of Egypt, man and beast alike, and I shall deal out punishment to all the gods of Egypt, I am the Lord. The blood shall serve to mark the houses that you live in. When I see the blood I will pass over you and you shall escape the destroying plague when I strike the land of Egypt. This day is to be a day of remembrance for you, and you must celebrate it as a feast in the Lord's honour. For all generations you are to declare it a day of festival, for ever."

The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God



Responsorial Psalm *Ps 115:12-13, 15-18 (JB)*

R. Our blessing-cup is a communion with the blood of Christ.

How can I repay the Lord for his goodness to me? The cup of salvation I will raise; I will call on the Lord's name. R.

O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful. Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; you have loosened my bonds. R.

A thanksgiving sacrifice I make: I will call on the Lord's name. My vows to the Lord I will fulfil before all his people. R.

Second Reading *1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (JB)*

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Until the Lord comes, every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim his death.

This is what I received from the Lord, and in turn passed on to you: that on the same night that he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread, and thanked God for it and broke it, and he said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this as a memorial of me.' In the same way he took the cup after supper, and said, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this as a memorial of me.' Until the Lord comes, therefore, every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are proclaiming his death.

The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

John 13:34 (JB)

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.
Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel

John 13:1-15 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
To the end he showed his love for them.

It was before the festival of the Passover, and Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to pass from this world to the Father. He had always loved those who were his in the world, but now he showed how perfect his love was.

They were at supper, and the devil had already put it into the mind of Judas Iscariot, son of Simon, to betray him. Jesus knew the hour that the Father had put everything into his hands, and that he had come from God and was returning to God, and he got up from table, removed his outer garment and, taking a towel, wrapped it round his waist; he then poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel he was wearing.

He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, 'Lord, are you going to wash my feet?' Jesus answered, 'At the moment you do not know what I am doing, but later you will understand.' 'Never!' said Peter 'You shall never wash my feet.' Jesus replied, 'If I do not wash you, you can have nothing in common with me.' 'Then, Lord,' said Simon Peter 'not only my feet, but my hands and my head as well!' Jesus said, 'No one who has taken a bath needs washing, he is clean all over. You too are clean, though not all of you are.' He knew who was going to betray him, that was why he said, 'though not all of you are.'

When he had washed their feet and put on his clothes again he went back to the table. 'Do you understand' he said 'what I have done to you? You call me Master and Lord, and rightly; so I am. If I, then, the Lord and Master, have washed your feet, you should wash each other's feet. I have given you an example so that you may copy what I have done to you.'
The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

HOLY THURSDAY REFLECTION

This day will be a day of remembrance for you, which your future generations will celebrate with pilgrimage to the Lord, you will celebrate it as a stature forever. EXODUS 12:14

In the Last Supper scene described in John's Gospel, the beloved disciple reclines with his head against Jesus' breast, able to hear his heartbeat. The beloved disciple, then, is the one who is attuned to the heartbeat of God and is looking out at the world from the vantage point.

In Luke's Gospel, Jesus admits that sometimes darkness seems to overpower grace and God seems powerless. Sometimes darkness just has its hour! Jesus' death was one of those hours, and the beloved disciple, like our Lord's mother, could do nothing but stand helpless inside and beneath that darkness and injustice. There was nothing to be done but to stand inside the helplessness.

By standing there, the beloved disciple also stands in solidarity with the millions of poor and victimised all over the world who can do nothing against their plight. When one stands in helplessness, when there's nothing possible to be done, one gives silent voice to human finitude, the deepest prayer possible at that moment.

Who is the beloved disciple? The beloved disciple is any person, woman, man or child-who is intimate enough with Jesus to be attuned to the heartbeat of God and who then sees the world from that place of intimacy, prays from that place of intimacy, and sets off in love to seek the risen Lord and grasp the meaning of his empty tomb.

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FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

First Reading *Isaiah 52:13 - 53:12 (JB)*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

He surrendered himself to death, while bearing the faults of many.

See, my servant will prosper, he shall be lifted up, exalted, rise to great heights. As the crowds were appalled on seeing him - so disfigured did he look that he seemed no longer human - so will the crowds be astonished at him, and kings stand speechless before him; for they shall see something never told and witness something never heard before: 'Who could believe what we have heard, and to whom has the power of the Lord been revealed?' Like a sapling he grew up in front of us, like a root in arid ground. Without beauty, without majesty (we saw him), no looks to attract our eyes; a thing despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and familiar with suffering, a man to make people screen their faces; he was despised and we took no account of him. And yet ours were the sufferings he bore, ours the sorrows he carried. But we, we thought of him as someone punished, struck by God, and brought low. Yet he was pierced through for our faults, crushed for our sins. On him lies a punishment that brings us peace, and through his wounds we are healed. We had all gone astray like sheep, each taking his own way, and the Lord burdened him with the sins of all of us. Harshly dealt with, he bore it humbly, he never opened his mouth, like a lamb that is led to the slaughter-house, like a sheep that is dumb before its shearers, never opening its mouth. By force and by law he was taken; would anyone plead his cause? Yes, he was torn away from the land of the living, for our faults struck down in death. They gave him a grave with the wicked, a tomb with the rich, though he had done no wrong and there had been no perjury in his mouth. The Lord has been pleased to crush him with suffering. If he offers his life in atonement, he shall see his heirs, he shall have a long life and through him what the Lord wishes will be done. His soul's anguish over he shall see the light and be content. By his sufferings shall my servant justify many, taking their faults on himself. Hence I will grant whole hordes for his tribute,

he shall divide the spoil with the mighty, for surrendering himself to death and letting himself be taken for a sinner, while he was bearing the faults of many and praying all the time for sinners.

The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 30:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25

R. Father, I put my life in your hands.

In you, O Lord, I take refuge. Let me never be put to shame. In your justice, set me free. Into your hands I commend my spirit. It is you who will redeem me, Lord. R.

In the face of all my foes I am a reproach, an object of scorn to my neighbours and of fear to my friends. R.

Those who see me in the street run far away from me. I am like a dead man, forgotten in men's hearts, like a thing thrown away. R.

But as for me, I trust in you, Lord, I say: 'You are my God.' My life is in your hands, deliver me from the hands of those who hate me. R.

Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your love. Be strong, let your heart take courage, all who hope in the Lord. R.

Second Reading *Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9 (JB)*

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

He learned obedience and became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

Since in Jesus, the Son of God, we have the supreme high priest who has gone through to the highest heaven, we must never let go of the faith that we have professed. For it is not as if we had a high priest who was incapable of feeling our weaknesses with us; but we have one who has been tempted in every way that we are, though he is without sin. Let us be confident, then, in approaching the throne of grace, that we shall have mercy from him and find grace, when we are in need of help.

During his life on earth, he offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of

death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was a Son, he learnt to obey through suffering, but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation. The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation *Philippians 2:8-9 (JB)*

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
Christ became obedient for us even to death, dying on the cross. Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel *John 18:1 - 19:42 (JB)*

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

(N. Narrator, J. Jesus, O. Other single speaker, C. Crowd or more than one other speaker.)

N Jesus left with his disciples and crossed the Kedron valley. There was a garden there, and he went into it with his disciples. Judas the traitor knew the place well, since Jesus had often met his disciples there, and he brought the cohort to this place together with a detachment of guards sent by the chief priests and the Pharisees, all with lanterns and torches and weapons. Knowing everything that was going to happen to him, Jesus then came forward and said,

J Who are you looking for?

N They answered,

C Jesus the Nazarene.

N He said,

J I am he.

N Now Judas the traitor was standing among them. When Jesus said, 'I am he', they moved back and fell to the ground. He asked them a second time,

J Who are you looking for?

N They said,

C Jesus the Nazarene.

N Jesus replied,

J I have told you that I am he. If I am the one you are looking for, let these others go.

N This was to fulfil the words he had spoken: 'Not one of those you gave me have I lost'.

Simon Peter, who carried a sword, drew it and wounded the high priest's servant, cutting off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter,

J Put your sword back in its scabbard; am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?

N The cohort and its captain and the Jewish guards seized Jesus and bound him. They took him first to Annas, because Annas was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. It was Caiaphas who had suggested to the Jews, 'It is better for one man to die for the people'.

Simon Peter, with another disciple, followed Jesus. This disciple, who was known to the high priest, went with Jesus into the high priest's palace, but Peter stayed outside the door. So the other disciple, the one known to the high priest, went out, spoke to the woman who was keeping the door and brought Peter in. The maid on duty at the door said to Peter,

O Aren't you another of that man's disciples?

N He answered,

O I am not.

N Now it was cold, and the servants and guards had lit a charcoal fire and were standing there warming themselves; so Peter stood there too, warming himself with the others.

The high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. Jesus answered,

J I have spoken openly for all the world to hear; I have always taught in the synagogue and in the Temple where all the Jews meet together: I have said nothing in secret. But why ask me? Ask my hearers what I taught: they know what I said.

N At these words, one of the guards standing by gave Jesus a slap in the face, saying,

O Is that the way to answer the high priest?

N Jesus replied,

J If there is something wrong in what I said, point it out; but if there is no offense in it, why do you strike me?

N Then Annas sent him, still bound, to Caiaphas, the high priest.

As Simon Peter stood there warming himself, someone said to him,

O Aren't you another of his disciples?

N He denied it saying,

O I am not.

N One of the high priest's servants, a relation of the man whose ear Peter had cut off, said,

O Didn't I see you in the garden with him?

N Again Peter denied it; and at once a cock crew.

They then led Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the Praetorium. It was now morning. They did not go into the Praetorium themselves or they would be defiled and unable to eat the passover. So Pilate came outside to them and said,

O What charge do you bring against this man?

N They replied,

C If he were not a criminal, we should not be handing him over to you.

N Pilate said,

O Take him yourselves, and try him by your own Law.

N The Jews answered,

C We are not allowed to put a man to death.

N This was to fulfil the words Jesus had spoken indicating the way he was going to die.

So Pilate went back into the Praetorium and called Jesus to him, and asked,

O Are you the king of the Jews?

N Jesus replied,

J Do you ask this of your own accord, or have others spoken to you about me?

N Pilate answered,

O Am I a Jew? It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me: what have you done?

N Jesus replied,

J Mine is not a kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent me being surrendered to the Jews. But my kingdom is not of this kind.

N Pilate said,

O So you are a king then?

N Jesus answered,

J It is you who say it. Yes, I am a king. I was born for this, I came into the world for this; to bear witness to the truth, and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.

N Pilate said,

O Truth? What is that?

N And with that he went out again to the Jews and said,

O I find no case against him. But according to a custom of yours I should release one prisoner at the Passover; would you like me, then, to release the king of the Jews?

N At this they shouted:

C Not this man, but Barabbas.

N Barabbas was a brigand.

N Pilate then had Jesus taken away and scourged; and after this, the soldiers twisted some thorns into a crown and put it on his head, and dressed him in a purple robe. They kept coming up to him and saying,

C Hail, king of the Jews!

N And they slapped him in the face.

Pilate came outside and said to them,

C Look, I am going to bring him out to you to let you see that I find no case.

N Jesus then came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said,

O Here is the man.

N When they saw him the chief priests and the guards shouted,

C Crucify him! Crucify him!

N Pilate said,

O Take him yourselves and crucify him: I can find no case against him.

N The Jews replied,

C We have a Law, and according to the Law he ought to die, because he has claimed to be the son of God.

N When Pilate heard them say this his fears increased. Re-entering the Praetorium, he said to Jesus,

O Where do you come from?

N But Jesus made no answer. Pilate then said to him,

O Are you refusing to speak to me? Surely you know I have power to release you and I have power to crucify you?

N Jesus replied,

J You would have no power over me if it had not been given you from above; that is why the one who handed me over to you has the greater guilt.

N From that moment Pilate was anxious to set him free, but the Jews shouted,

C If you set him free you are no friend of Caesar's; anyone who makes himself king is defying Caesar.

N Hearing these words, Pilate had Jesus brought out, and seated himself on the chair of judgement at a place called the Pavement, in Hebrew Gabbatha. It was Passover Preparation Day, about the sixth hour. Pilate said to the Jews,

O Here is your king.

N They said,

C Take him away, take him away. Crucify him!

N Pilate said,

O Do you want me to crucify your king?

N The chief priests answered,

C We have no king except Caesar.

N So in the end Pilate handed him over to them to be crucified.

They then took charge of Jesus, and carrying his own cross he went out of the city to the place of the skull, or, as it was called in Hebrew, Golgotha, where they crucified him with two others, one on either side with Jesus in the middle. Pilate wrote out a notice and had it fixed to the cross; it ran: 'Jesus the Nazarene, King of the Jews'. This notice was read by many of the Jews, because the place where Jesus was crucified was not far from the city, and the writing was in Hebrew, Latin and Greek. So the Jewish chief priests said to Pilate,

C You should not write 'King of the Jews', but 'This man said: I am King of the Jews'.

N Pilate answered,

O What I have written, I have written.

N When the soldiers had finished crucifying Jesus they took his clothing and divided it into four shares, one for each soldier. His undergarment was seamless, woven in one piece from neck to hem; so they said to one another,

C Instead of tearing it, let's throw dice to decide who is to have it.

N In this way the words of scripture were fulfilled:

They shared out my clothing among them. They cast lots for my clothes. This is exactly what the soldiers did.

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. Seeing his mother and the disciple he loved standing near her, Jesus said to his mother,

J Woman, this is your son.

N Then to the disciple he said,

J This is your mother.

N And from that moment the disciple made a place for her in his home.

After this, Jesus knew that everything had now been completed, and to fulfil the scripture perfectly he said:

J I am thirsty.

N A jar full of vinegar stood there, so putting a sponge soaked in vinegar on a hyssop stick they held it up to his mouth. After Jesus had taken the vinegar he said,

J It is accomplished;

N And bowing his head he gave up the spirit.

All kneel and pause a moment.

N It was Preparation Day, and to prevent the bodies remaining on the cross during the sabbath - since the sabbath was a day of special solemnity - the Jews asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken away. Consequently the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with him and then the other. When they came to Jesus, they found that he was already dead, and so instead of breaking his legs one of the soldiers pierced his side with a lance; and immediately there came out blood and water. This is the evidence of one who saw it - trustworthy evidence, and he knows he speaks the truth - and he gives it so that you may believe as well.

Because all this happened to fulfil the words of scripture:

Not one bone of his will be broken, and again, in another place scripture says: They will look on the one whom they have pierced.

After this, Joseph of Arimathaea, who was a disciple of Jesus though a secret one because he was afraid of the Jews asked Pilate to let him remove the body of Jesus. Pilate gave permission, so they came and took it away. Nicodemus came as well the same one who had first come to Jesus at night-time and he brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. They took the body of Jesus and wrapped it with the spices in linen cloths, following the Jewish burial custom. At the place where he had been crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been buried. Since it was the Jewish Day of Preparation and the tomb was near at hand, they laid Jesus there.

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

GOOD FRIDAY REFLECTION

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has similarly been tested in every way, yet without sin. HEBREWS 4:15

Nothing pushes us to the depths of heart and soul as does humiliation. Just ask yourself these questions: What has given me character?

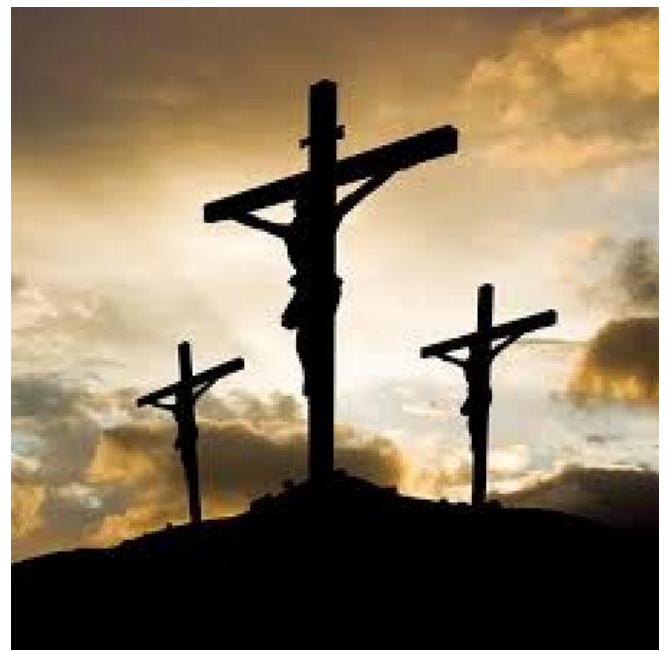
What has given me depth as a person?

What has given me deeper understanding? I suspect that the answer in every case will be something you'd be ashamed to talk about, some stinging humiliation whose pain and shame pushes you to a deeper place.

Drinking the cup of humiliation, accepting the cross is - according to Jesus and according to what's most honest in our own experience - what can bring us genuine glory, namely depth of heart, depth of soul and depth of understanding and compassion.

Like Jesus, we will all suffer humiliation in life, we will all drink the cup, and it will make us deep. But then we have a critical choice. Will this humiliation make us deep in compassion and understanding or will it make us deep in anger and bitterness? That's the ultimate moral choice we face in life - not just at the hour of death but countless times. Good Friday, and what it asks of us, confronts us daily.

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EASTER VIGIL OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

First Reading *Genesis 1:1 - 2:2 (JB)*

A reading from the book of Genesis

God saw all he had made, and indeed it was good.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was a formless void, there was darkness over the deep, and God's spirit hovered over the water. God said, 'Let there be light', and there was light. God saw that light was good, and God divided light from darkness. God called light 'day', and darkness he called 'night'. Evening came and morning came: the first day. God said, 'Let there be a vault in the waters to divide the waters in two.' And so it was. God made the vault, and it divided the waters above the vault from the waters under the vault. God called the vault 'heaven'. Evening came and morning came: the second day. God said, 'Let the waters under heaven come together into a single mass, and let dry land appear.' And so it was. God called the dry land 'earth' and the mass of waters 'seas', and God saw that it was good. God said, 'Let the earth produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants, and fruit trees bearing fruit with their seed inside, on the earth.' And so it was. The earth produced vegetation: plants bearing seed in their several kinds, and trees bearing fruit with their seed inside in their several kinds. God saw that it was good. Evening came and morning came; the third day. God said, 'Let there be lights in the vault of heaven to divide day from night, and let them indicate festivals, days and years. Let them be lights in the vault of heaven to shine on the earth.' And so it was. God made the two great lights: the greater light to govern the day, the smaller light to govern the night, and the stars. God set them in the vault of heaven to shine on the earth, to govern the day and the night and to divide light from darkness. God saw that it was good. Evening came and morning came: the fourth day. God said, 'Let the waters teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth within the vault of heaven.' And so it was. God created great sea-serpents and every kind of living creature with which the waters teem, and every kind of winged creature. God saw that it was good. God

blessed them, saying 'Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the waters of the seas; and let the birds multiply upon the earth.' Evening came and morning came: the fifth day. God said, 'Let the earth produce every kind of living creature: cattle, reptiles, and every kind of wild beast.' And so it was. God made every kind of wild beast, every kind of cattle, and every kind of land reptile. God saw that it was good. God said, 'Let us make man in our own image, in the likeness of ourselves, and let them be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven, the cattle, all the wild beasts and all the reptiles that crawl upon the earth.' God created man in the image of himself, in the image of God he created him, male and female he created them. God blessed them, saying to them, 'Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth and conquer it. Be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven and all living animals on the earth.' God said, 'See, I give you all the seed-bearing plants; this shall be your food. To all wild beasts, all birds of heaven and all living reptiles on the earth I give all the foliage of plants for food.' And so it was. God saw all he had made, and indeed it was very good. Evening came and morning came: the sixth day. Thus heaven and earth were completed with all their array. On the seventh day God completed the work he had been doing. He rested on the seventh day after all the work he had been doing.

The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 103:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12-14, 24, 35 (JB)

**R. Lord, send out your Spirit,
and renew the face of the earth.**

Bless the Lord, my soul! Lord God, how great you are, clothed in majesty and glory, wrapped in light as in a robe! R.

You founded the earth on its base, to stand firm from age to age. You wrapped it with the ocean like a cloak: the waters stood higher than the mountains. R.

You make springs gush forth in the valleys: they flow in between the hills. On their banks dwell the birds of heaven; from the branches they sing their song. R.

From your dwelling you water the hills; earth drinks its fill of your gift. You make the grass grow for the cattle and the plants to serve man's needs. R.

How many are your works, O Lord! In wisdom you have made them all. The earth is full of your riches. Bless the Lord, my soul! R.

Second Reading (3rd Reading in Lectionary) *Exodus 14:15 - 15:1 (JB)*

A reading from the Book of Exodus

Tell the children of Israel to march on, to walk through the sea on dry ground.

The Lord said to Moses, 'Why do you cry to me so? Tell the sons of Israel to march on. For yourself, raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea and part it for the sons of Israel to walk through the sea on dry ground. I for my part will make the heart of the Egyptians so stubborn that they will follow them. So shall I win myself glory at the expense of Pharaoh, of all his army, his chariots, his horsemen. And when I have won glory for myself, at the expense of Pharaoh and his chariots and his army, the Egyptians will learn that I am the Lord.' Then the angel of the Lord, who marched at the front of the army of Israel, changed station and moved to their rear. The pillar of cloud changed station from the front to the rear of them, and remained there. It came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. The cloud was dark, and the night passed without the armies drawing any closer the whole night long. Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove back the sea with a strong easterly wind all night, and he made dry land of the sea. The waters parted and the sons of Israel went on dry ground right into the sea, walls of water to right and to left of them. The Egyptians gave chase: after them they went, right into the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots and his horsemen. In the morning watch, the Lord looked down on the army of the Egyptians from the pillar of fire and of cloud, and threw the army into confusion. He so clogged their chariot wheels that they could scarcely make headway. 'Let us flee from the Israelites,' the Egyptians cried, 'the Lord is fighting for them against the Egyptians!' 'Stretch out your hand over the sea,' the Lord said to Moses, 'that the waters may flow back

on the Egyptians and their chariots and their horsemen.' Moses stretched out his hand over the sea and, as day broke, the sea returned to its bed. The fleeing Egyptians marched right into it and the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the very middle of the sea. The returning waters overwhelmed the chariots and the horsemen of Pharaoh's whole army, which had followed the Israelites into the sea; not a single one of them was left. But the sons of Israel had marched through the sea on dry ground, walls of water to right and to left of them. That day, the Lord rescued Israel from the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. Israel witnessed the great act that the Lord had performed against the Egyptians, and the people venerated the Lord; they put their faith in the Lord and in Moses, his servant. It was then that Moses and the sons of Israel sang this song in honour of the Lord:

The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Psalm after the Second Reading

Exodus 15:1-6, 17-18 (JB)

**R. Let us sing to the Lord;
he has covered himself in glory.**

I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph! Horse and rider has thrown into the sea! The Lord is my strength, my song, my salvation. This is my God and I extol him, my father's God and I give him praise. R.

The Lord is a warrior! The Lord is his name. The chariots of Pharaoh he hurled into the sea, the flower of his army is drowned in the sea. The deeps hide them; they sank like a stone. R.

Your right hand, Lord, glorious in its power, your right hand, Lord, has shattered the enemy. In the greatness of your glory you crushed the foe. R.

You will lead your people and plant them on your mountain, the place, O Lord, where you have made your home, the sanctuary, Lord, which your hands have made. The Lord will reign for ever and ever. R.

Epistle *Romans 6:3-11 (JB)*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Christ, having been raised from the dead, will never die again.

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life. If in union with Christ we have imitated his death, we shall also imitate him in his resurrection. We must realise that our former selves have been crucified with him to destroy this sinful body and to free us from the slavery of sin. When a man dies, of course, he has finished with sin. But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation Ps 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

R. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

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.' R.

The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up. I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. R.

The stone which the builders rejected .has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. R.

Gospel Matthew 28:1-10 (JB)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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

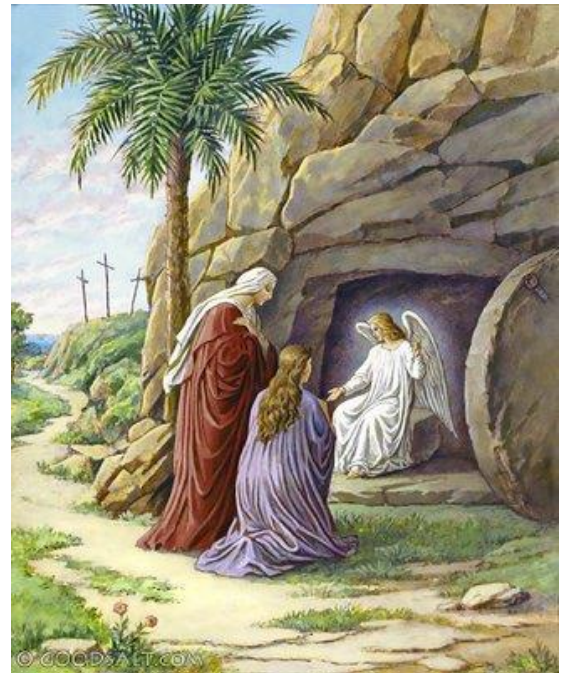
After the sabbath, and towards dawn on the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala and the other Mary went to visit the sepulchre. And all at once there was a violent earthquake, for the angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled away the stone and sat on it.

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 he 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.'

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ



EASTER REFLECTION

Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay” MATTHEW 28:5-6

For Christians, Jesus' resurrection is the most monumental event, in our faith and otherwise, in history. To not understand the resurrection as the real physical transformation of a once-dead corpse is to rob it of its important meaning and perhaps of the deepest root of its credibility. There needs to be an empty tomb and a dead body returned to life. Why?

Not as some kind of miracle miracle proof, but because of the Incarnation. To believe in the Incarnation is to believe that God was born into real physical flesh, lived in real physical flesh, died in real physical flesh, and rose in real physical flesh. To believe that the resurrection was only an event in the faith consciousness of the disciples - however real, rich and radical that might be imagined - is to rob the Incarnation of its radical physical character and to fall into the kind of dualism that values spirit and denigrates the physical.

I believe that Jesus was literally raised from the dead. I also believe that this event was, as the rich insights within contemporary theology point out, highly spiritual; an event of faith, of changed consciousness, or new hope empowering a new charity and new forgiveness. But it was also an event of changed atoms and of a changed dead body. It was radically physical, just as are all events that are part of the Incarnation, wherein God takes on real flesh. *Ron Rolheiser, OMI, ©2020 Liquori Publications*

SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

First Reading *Acts 10:34, 37-43 (JB)*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.' Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we

have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

**R. This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.**

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.' R.

The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up. I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. R.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. R.

Second Reading *Colossians 3:1-4 (JB)*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

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

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed - and he is your life - you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation *1 Corinthians 5:7-8*

Sequence

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!

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

Gospel

John 20:1-9 (JB)

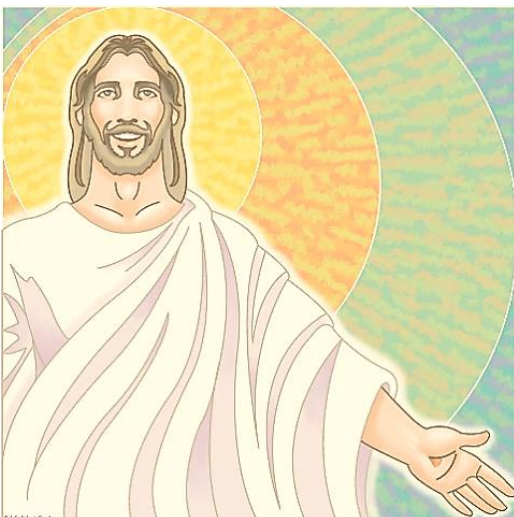
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ



REFLECTION

On this Easter morning, we stand with the first believers at the empty tomb, full of wonder and awe at the enormity of what has taken place. Today we can trust that our whole life lies with Christ.

In the **First Reading**, we hear Peter addressing a group of Gentiles within the household of the centurion Cornelius. His speech is compelling: God wants the salvation of all peoples.

The Psalmist joyfully foresees the resurrection of Jesus and recognises it as the work of God Himself.

St Paul, in contrasting earthly and heavenly realities, urges the Colossians to set their gaze on heaven, where Christ is seated. Now we have been brought back to true life with Christ, we will share in his glory when he is revealed.

(Second Reading)

The **Gospel** records how Peter and his unnamed companion slowly come to realize that Jesus has risen from the dead. This disciple, 'the one Jesus loved', symbolises where all faithful Christians are invited to be: in a loving, intimate relationship with Christ.

On this Easter Day, we may want to pray to recognise the dignity that belongs to us as Christians. We ask also for the grace we need to live out that dignity in practice, even when our daily lives have been unexpectedly upset in times of uncertainty and confusion.

Pathways to God 2020

Ecumenical Prayer for Covid-19 Pandemic

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

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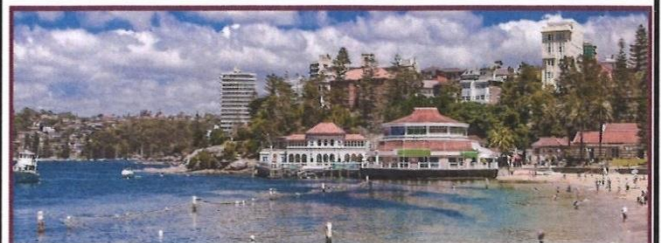
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