



Welcome to St. Gerard's parish, where we foster the wellbeing and safety of all children and adults at risk. Since we take the safety of our young and vulnerable parishioners seriously, we have a zero tolerance policy when it comes to abuse. All parishioners have the right to feel safe and welcome.

If you have any concerns, visit <https://www.stgerards.org.au/child-safety-professional-standards/> or see the Safeguarding Officer. *"Child Safety is Everyone's Responsibility"*

Second Sunday of Easter - Divine Mercy Sunday - April 24, 2022

Entrance Antiphon: Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in Him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

First Reading - Acts 5:12-16

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

Responsorial Psalm: Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love is everlasting.

Second Reading - Revelation 1:9-13, 17-19

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle. When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One, I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* You believe in Me, Thomas, because you have seen Me; happy those who have not seen Me, but still believe. *Alleluia!*

Gospel Reading - John 20:19-31

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

Communion Antiphon: Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

Daily Antiphons - Monday, April 25 to Saturday, April 30, 2022 (Year C)

Monday of the Second Week of Easter - Anzac Day - April 25, 2022

Entrance Antiphon: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. Let them rest from their labours, for their good deeds go with them.

Responsorial Psalm: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Happy are those who have died in the Lord; let them rest from their labours for their good deeds go with them. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Greater love has no one than to lay down his life for his friends, says the Lord.

Tuesday of the Second Week of Easter - Saint Mark - April 26, 2022

Entrance Antiphon: Go into all the world, and proclaim the Gospel to every creature, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* We preach a Christ who was crucified; He is the power and the wisdom of God. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, says the Lord, alleluia.

Wednesday of the Second Week of Easter - April 27, 2022

Entrance Antiphon: I will praise You, Lord, among the nations; I will tell of Your name to my kin, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* God loved the world so much, He gave us His only Son, that all who believe in Him might have eternal life. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord, and have appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, alleluia.

Thursday of the Second Week of Easter - Saint Peter Chanel - April 28, 2022

Entrance Antiphon: Perpetual light will shine on Your Saints, O Lord, and life without end for ever, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* You believe in Me, Thomas, because you have seen Me; happy are those who have not seen Me, but still believe. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit, alleluia.

Friday of the Second Week of Easter - Saint Catherine of Siena - April 29

Entrance Antiphon: Here is a wise virgin, from among the number of the prudent, who went forth with lighted lamp to meet Christ, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: One thing I seek: to dwell in the house of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: If we walk in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of His Son Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin, alleluia.

Saturday of the Second Week of Easter - April 30, 2022

Entrance Antiphon: O chosen people, proclaim the mighty works of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, let Your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in You.

Gospel Acclamation: *Alleluia, alleluia!* Christ is risen, the Lord of all creation; He has shown pity on all people. *Alleluia!*

Communion Antiphon: Father, I wish that, where I am, those You gave me may also be with me, that they may see the glory that You gave me, alleluia.

MASS and INTENTIONS

Second Sunday of Easter - Saturday, April 23

Vigil Mass 5:30pm Vido, Tirant & Fitch Family
(Remembrance)

Mass 7:00pm Maronite Community

Second Sunday of Easter - April 24

Mass 8:30am Joaquim & Maria de Jesus Afonso
(Remembrance)

Mass 10:30am **Baptism Welcome Rite -
Congratulations to baby
Layla Victoria Dayanghirang**

Mass Intentions: Private Intention of Thanksgiving
and Ronald John Cadle & Alma Cadle
(First Anniversary of Death &
Remembrance)

Mass 5:30pm Steven Dickson
(For his healing)
and Hyacinth Ullrich
(Birthday Remembrance)

Monday, April 25 - Anzac Day

Mass 9:15am Healing for Mila

Tuesday, April 26 - Saint Mark

Mass 9:15am Branca Palat
(Thanksgiving)

Wednesday, April 27

Mass 9:15am Healing for Mila

Thursday, April 28 - Saint Peter Chanel

Mass 9:15am Deceased members of D'Rozario
Family

Friday, April 29 - Saint Catherine of Siena

Mass 9:15am Harold & Lorna Taylor
(Birthday Remembrance)

Saturday, April 30

Mass 9:15am Healing for Mila

Please remember to pray for...

Our sick: Neil Biggins, Giovanna McKercher, Hercules Pillay, Kateri Byrnes, Victoria Briglia, Karen Daniells, Brian Edwards, Peter Shaw-Dennis, Rosemary Zaher, Allan Welsh, Anton Jayamaha, Kusum & Dinuk Wickremasinghe, Carl De Rozario, Joseph Irudairaj, Cedric & Deborah Rowland, Michelle Bugone, Claris, Doreen Oliver, Antonette Vettivelu, Suzette Savrimoothoo, Kathleen James, Marie Blandin de Chalain, Melvina Extross, Clita Martinelli, Lalitha Kurup, Sarkis Dib, Alessandro Zaia, David Giacotto, Mila, Steven Dickson, Josie Surace

The recently deceased: Simone Valadon, Cynthia Woods, Alister Hendrickze, Florence Phillips

Anniversaries/Remembrances: Joseph

Please Note:

If you are *unable* to read on allocated dates, please contact the office ASAP on 9792 4422. Thank you.

Church Cleaning

Saturday, 30th April

Legion of Mary

Saturday, 7th May

Gonsalves Family,
M. Ferdinands, L. Harper

Reading Roster

Saturday, April 30th - Vigil Mass

5:30pm J. D'Souza

Sunday, May 1st

8:30am V. Noble

10:30am S. Moses

5:30pm A. Miranda

Saturday, May 7th - Vigil Mass

5:30pm C. Fernando

Sunday, May 8th

8:30am I. Mulipola

10:30am D. Naidoo, Snr

5:30pm M. Yallapa

PARISH NEWS, NOTICES AND REFLECTION

Office Closure

The office will be closed on Monday, 25th April, Anzac Day, and will resume usual hours and days from Tuesday, 26th April.

A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia:

For 75 years, the support of Christian refugees has been a major pillar of the work of *Aid to the Church in Need* (ACN). Today ACN is supporting displaced Catholic families by attending to basic needs such as food and medicine, but these families also hunger for the healing power of the sacraments and the pastoral support of the Church. As such, the help we provide is not only material. Our support of priests, sisters, and catechists all work to build up the faith and to offer help and consolation to those in desperate need. Can you give hope to Christian refugees today?

Audition for an Australian grown Catholic Musical

Auditions are beginning for a musical that has gone around Australia & overseas or help backstage show coming in November. A great opportunity to develop your skills in performing arts. Also, learn how to act, sing or help backstage with FREE Classes Drama & singing Classes. Location in Burwood & Chelsea area. For more info cogtheatre.org or call Geraldine on 0413 398 528.

Breath of New Life: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Second Sunday of Easter

The prophet Daniel in a vision saw "One like the Son of Man" receive everlasting kingship (see Daniel 7:9-14). John is taken to heaven in today's Second Reading where he sees Daniel's prophecy fulfilled in Jesus, who appears as "One like a Son of Man."

Jesus is clad in the robe of a High Priest (see Exodus 28:4; Wisdom 18:24) and wearing the gold sash of a king (see 1 Maccabees 10:89). He has been exalted by the right hand of the Lord, as we sing in today's Psalm.

His risen body, which the Apostles touch in today's Gospel, has been made a life giving Spirit (see 1 Corinthians 15:45).

As the Father anointed Him with the Spirit and power (see Acts 10:38), Jesus pours out that Spirit on the Apostles, sending them into the world "as the Father has sent Me." Jesus "breathes" the Spirit of His divine life into the Apostles – as God blew the "breath of life" into Adam (see Genesis 2:7), as Elijah's prayer returned "the life breath" to the dead child (see 1 Kings 17:21-23), and as the Spirit breathed new life into the slain in the valley of bones (see Ezekiel 37:9-10).

His creative breath unites the Apostles – His Church – to His body, and empowers them to breathe His life into a dying world, to make it a new creation.

In today's Gospel and First Reading, we see the Apostles fulfilling this mission with powers only God possesses – the power to forgive sins and to work "signs and wonders," a biblical expression only used to describe the mighty works of God (see Exodus 7:3; 11:10; Acts 7:36).

Thomas and the others saw "many other signs" after Jesus was raised from the dead. They saw and they believed.

They have been given His life, which continues in the Church's Word and sacraments, so that we who have not seen might inherit His blessings and "have life in His name."