

Resurrection of the Lord (Easter Sunday)

9 April 2023



*Readings for
this week:*

Acts 10:34, 37-43
Col 3:1-4 or 1Cor 5:6-8
John 20:1-9 or Matt 28:1-10



*Readings for
next Sunday:*

Acts 2:42-47
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31



Liturgical Jottings Incense Studs

What an intriguing title – what are incense studs? We see them every day in Church. They are the five brass or wax studs on the front of the Paschal candle placed in the form of a cross. The priest inserts them in the paschal candle as part of the blessing of the Candle at the paschal fire during the Easter Vigil. The studs contain grains of incense. While inserting the studs into the candle the priest prays: 1 By his holy 2 and glorious wounds, 3 may Christ the Lord 4 guard us 5 and protect us. Amen.

Venerable Bede, in 701, while visiting Rome witnessed the rite for the first time and wrote that the five grains of incense symbolise the five wounds Jesus received at his crucifixion.

EASTER GOSPEL

The accounts of the Resurrection according to John 20:1-9 or Matthew 28:1-10, Mark 16:1-7 or Luke 24:1-12 may be chosen for Easter Day or Luke 24:13-35 for Easter evening.

Looking at the Readings

In the three cycles of the Lectionary, the Mass of the Easter Day have a common first reading (Acts) and a choice of two for the second reading: Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6-8. However, a note in the Lectionary, give five choices for the Gospel (see bottom left column).

Compared to the preceding days of Holy Week and the Paschal Triduum, Easter morning is peaceful and uncluttered with the simple but profound message “The Lord is risen!” Peter gives this message to Cornelius and his household in the first reading. He elaborates: “Tell the people that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead... that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name. The Lord Jesus is revealed in glory. St Paul’s writes about the implication of “The Lord is Risen”: “You too will be revealed in all your glory with him.”

We have a lesson in the race to the empty tomb: Peter, who is given primary authority among the apostles, takes the lead but is overtaken by John, the apostle whom Jesus loved. But John waits for Peter’s arrival before entering the tomb, giving deference to Peter’s position. “In the Church, love always moves more quickly than ministry. It senses more quickly what needs to be done, and it throws itself into the work zealously. ... Love and ministry run well together.” (Hans Urs Balthasar)

Pope Francis on Easter

In his Easter message “To the Church and to the World”, Pope Francis announced that Jesus, the Crucified One, is risen, and he remembers victims of war, all those suffering around the world, and appeals ardently that the peace of Christ may enter our lives, our homes, and our countries. 17 Apr 2022

Easter Quote

“I believe in the Risen Christ like I believe in the sun – not because I can see it but by it I can see everything else.” – C.S. Lewis

Prayer of Easter

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

On the Lighter Side

I asked for some Easter jokes that did not contain Easter bunnies or Easter eggs. Here are two puns I received:

1. Every bunny loves some bunny on Easter.
2. Have an egg-citing, egg-static, egg-ceptional Easter.

© Diocese of Sandhurst 2023



	Those who are recently deceased and those who are grieving	
	For those whose anniversary occurs at this time	Gary Basile, Alessandro Minicozzi
	Our sick and their carers	May Turvey, Bill Work, Teresa Mutto, Vito Prinzi

DAY, TIME, DATE	COMMENTATOR	READER	GOSPEL PROCESSION	GIFT PRESENTATION	SPECIAL MINISTERS	SCREEN OPERATOR/ORGAN
Sat 6:00 pm 15 April	Carol Coulston	Peter Crombie	Shelia Gregg	Pat Anderson Doreen Corrigan	Not Required	Mary Gale
Sun 10:30 am 16 April	Rob Miller	Dean Filgate	Marg Normington	Barry & Jan Lowe	Ross Kelly	Debbie Worm Trish Warnett
Sun 10:30 am 23 April	Debbie Worm	Rob Miller	Mary Vraca	De Lai Family	Connie Serra	Mary Gale Trish Warnett
Sun 10:30 am 30 April	Mary Gale	Ross Kelly	Connie Serra	Marg Normington Nita Basile	Steve De Lai	Chior Trish Warnett

Two Week Mass Timetable Week commencing 10 April

Weekday Mass

Mon 10 th Apr	No Mass
Tue 11 th Apr	No Mass
Wed 12 th Apr	No Mass
Thur 13 th Apr	No Mass
Fri 14 th Apr	No Mass

Weekend Mass

Sat 15 th Apr	6:00 pm Mas
Sun 16 th Apr	10:30 am Mass

Weekday Mass

Mon 17 th Apr	No Mass
Tue 18 th Apr	No Mass
Wed 19 th Apr	9:15 am Liturgy
Thur 20 th Apr	No Mass
Fri 21 st Apr	9:15 am Liturgy

Weekend Mass

Sat 22 nd Apr	6:00 pm Mass
Sun 23 rd Apr	10:30 am Mass

Reconciliation 6th May

Easter Message from Fr John

Dear Parishioners

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support to me and our Parish.

There is a lot that happens behind the scenes and I want to acknowledge everyone who helps us, in so many different ways. This support is vital to ensure that we maintain a strong parish.

I pray that you and your loved ones have a very blessed Easter! When you come before the Lord, please pray for the unity of our parish and diocese. Know that I always pray for you, your loved ones and your intentions.

May the Risen Lord bless you all now and for ever.

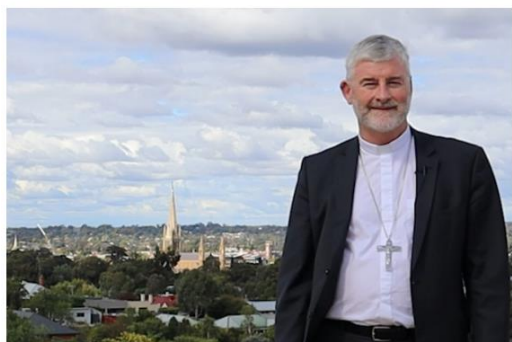
Fr John Paul Pasala

Thank you from Caritas

Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion 2023. If you still have your **Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week** or visit www.caritas.org.au to make your donation online. Through your generosity you are helping to empower communities with hope and helping those in great need shape a better future for themselves, their families and their communities. Lives change when we all give 100%. www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion #projectcompassion 1800 024 413

Acknowledgement to Country

We turn our hearts and minds to the people of the Yorta Yorta nation, who have occupied this country for thousands of years. We pay respect to their elders past, present and emerging, and commit to walking alongside First Nation Australians in truth, justice, and reconciliation.



An Easter Message from Bishop Shane Mackinlay

Hot cross buns have been available for a couple of months now, and Easter eggs appeared not long after them. They were both a long way ahead of Easter itself! But it's clear now that the season is turning and Easter is approaching. We're enjoying the very last flush of summer roses, while tree leaves are changing colour and preparing to drop from their branches. Evenings have become chilly, and the mornings are getting darker. Daylight savings has ended just in time!

The change of seasons is a reminder that we are constantly moving between light and darkness, flourishing and fading away, growth and decline, hope and disappointment. We experience that movement in our health, in our family lives, in the projects we invest in at work or at school, and in our relationships with those around us. Most dramatically, we are reminded of that movement in the contrast between our sadness when loved ones die and our joy at the birth of a new child.

'Easter is a spring festival – timed to fit the Northern hemisphere, of course! It celebrates that, no matter how deep the darkness or disappointment might be that we face in any particular struggle or suffering, the final word belongs to the new life opened to us by the faithful love of Jesus that we see on the cross. Jesus remained true to his commitment to the poor and suffering, whatever it might cost him personally; and the new life of his resurrection opened the joy and hope that God longs to share with us. As we commemorate Jesus' death and resurrection, we recall our own mission to live with the faithfulness and commitment that we see in him.

I wish each of you and your loved ones all the blessings of this year's Easter celebrations

Bishop Shane Mackinlay
Diocese of Sandhurst

Divine Mercy Sunday: April 16

St Brendan's Church

121 Knight Street, Shepparton

2:00-3:00pm Reconciliation

3:00pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy Benediction

3:00pm Mass

After Mass Veneration of Divine Mercy

Celebrant: Fr Jackson Saunders

Chrism Mass



On Tuesday (4th April) several parishioners made their way over to Sacred Heart Cathedral in Bendigo to attend the Chrism Mass. Bishop Shane was joined by Fr John and other priests from across the diocese to celebrate in this significant Mass. This ceremony has the particular purpose of the consecration of the Oil of Chrism and the blessing of the sacred oils which are used in Baptism and Anointing of the Sick and, it is also the occasion when our priests renew their priestly promises.

At the Chrism Mass, Bishop Shane blessed three oils the Oil of Catechumens (Baptism), Oil of the Infirm (Sick) and the Chrism Oil. Each of them is oil extracted from olives, but the Chrism is distinguished from the others by having balsam mixed with it. These oils will be used by Fr John throughout the year in the administration of the sacraments.

"The blessing of the Holy Chrism is different from that of the other oils: Here the bishop breathes over the vessel of chrism, a gesture which symbolizes both the Holy Spirit coming down to consecrate this oil and the life-giving, sanctifying nature of the character of the sacraments for which it is used. (Recall how our Lord "breathed" on the apostles on the night of Easter, saying, "Receive the Holy Spirit." (Jn 20:22).) The concelebrants at the Chrism Mass also extend their right hands toward the chrism as the bishop says the consecratory prayer, signifying that in union with their bishop they share "in the authority by which Christ Himself builds up and sanctifies and rules His Body," the Church (Vatican II, Decree on the Ministry and Life of Priests, No. 2).

The tradition of the Chrism Mass is rooted in the early Church as noted in the Gelasian Sacramentary (named after Pope Gelasius 1, d. 496), but was later absorbed into the Holy Thursday evening Mass; Pope Pius XII issued a new Ordinal for Holy Week, which reinstituted a special Mass of the chrism distinct from the evening Mass."

This was a beautiful Mass, Bishop Shane thanked us all for coming and supporting our Priests in the renewal of their priestly vows. Following the Mass everyone gather on the lawns outside the cathedral to share in light refreshments. Next year we hope to see many more parishioners make the journey to Bendigo.

Themes for Easter

<https://young-catholics.com>

The Easter readings focus on the goodness, power, and saving work of God throughout history, culminating in the ultimate victory of Jesus over sin and death through his Resurrection. They also emphasize the importance of faith and trust in God, dying to sin and being raised to new life through baptism, and seeking heavenly things rather than earthly ones.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ: The Gospel reading proclaims the central event of the Christian faith, the Resurrection of Jesus, which brings hope of new life and triumph over death.

Death is not the final word: The Resurrection of Jesus assures us that death does not have the final say, and that new life is possible.

God never abandons us: Even in the midst of suffering and death, God remains with us and offers us hope and comfort.

New life from death: Through Jesus' Resurrection, new life is possible, even in the face of death and despair.

How Easter must change our hearts: Easter challenges us to let go of sin and selfishness, and to embrace the new life and hope that Jesus offers. In summary, these themes emphasize the transformative power of the Resurrection, which offers hope, new life, and the assurance that God never abandons us. They also challenge us to let go of sin and selfishness, and to allow Easter to change our hearts and transform our lives.

Thoughts on Easter Year A

God Is Always at Work

Easter is the most important feast in the Catholic liturgical calendar, as it celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Through his death and Resurrection, Jesus has triumphed over sin and death, and offers us the hope of new life and salvation.

The readings for Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday remind us of God's goodness, power, and saving work throughout history. From the Creation Story to the Exodus from Egypt, God has been at work, leading his people to freedom and new life. In the Epistle reading, St. Paul exhorts us to die to sin and live for God, emphasizing the importance of baptism and faith in Jesus. And in the Gospel reading, we hear the amazing news of Jesus' Resurrection, which brings hope and new life to all who believe.

A Message of Hope

This message of hope is especially important in our world today, where there is so much suffering, pain, and despair. We are all touched by the effects of sin and death, whether in our own lives or in the lives of those around us. But the Resurrection of Jesus offers us a way out of this darkness. It reminds us that death is not the final word, and that God never abandons us, even in our darkest moments.

As we celebrate Easter, we are called to let go of sin and selfishness, and to embrace the new life and hope that Jesus offers. We are called to let Easter change our hearts and transform our lives, so that we may become more fully the people that God created us

to be. We are called to be bearers of hope and agents of new life, bringing the light of Christ to a world that is so often shrouded in darkness.

Meaning through Faith

Luke's writings in the Bible remind us that God sent his Son to free us from sin and death and to live without fear. This message is just as important today as it was in the time of the early Christians. Sometimes, religion can become focused on ceremony and lose its true meaning. The Resurrection of Jesus is a powerful reminder of the transformative power of our faith.

The message of the empty tomb was initially confusing to the disciples. They couldn't understand where the body had gone and what had happened. However, when they were reminded of Jesus' words, the message began to make sense to them. Similarly, the experiences of our lives can sometimes be confusing and difficult to interpret without faith. We need to remember that, through the Resurrection, God has the power to transform our lives.

The early disciples were so energized by the shock of the Resurrection that nothing, not even death or persecution, could stop them from spreading the Good News. We too, as Christians, must be willing to hear the message of transformation and then spread it to others. We should not keep the Good News to ourselves, but share it with others so that they too can experience the joy and hope that comes from knowing Jesus.

Rejoice and Be Glad

So let us rejoice and be glad this Easter, as we celebrate the triumph of Jesus over sin and death. Let us give thanks to God for the gift of new life, and let us renew our commitment to follow Jesus, the risen Lord, wherever he may lead us. May the hope and joy of Easter fill our hearts and our lives, now and always.

Reflection Questions for Easter

- In what ways does the risen Christ appear in your life?
- What does the Resurrection mean to you personally?
- How has the message of Easter transformed your life?
- What areas of your life need transformation through the Resurrection?
- How can you share the message of the Resurrection with others effectively?
- How has the Resurrection brought you hope during difficult times?
- What steps can you take to deepen your faith in the Resurrection?
- In what ways can you live without fear, trusting in God's presence in your life?
- How can you be a source of new life and hope for those around you?
- How can you keep the joy of Easter alive in your heart all year round?
- Where do you turn for guidance and clarity when life becomes confusing?
- What practical ways can you spread the Good News of the Resurrection in your daily life?