

Second Sunday of Easter, Year B (Divine Mercy Sunday)

8 April 2018

First Reading Acts 4:32-35

The whole group was united, heart and soul.

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117:24. 15-18. 22-24. R. v.1

(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting

or

(R.) Alleluia.

1. Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' (R.)
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.
I was punished, I was punished by the
Lord,
but not doomed to die. (R.)
3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Jn 5:1-6

Anyone begotten by God has already overcome the world.

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is - keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world - our faith. Who can overcome the world?

Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God; Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness - since the Spirit is the truth.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!
You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe!
Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 20:19-31

After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.

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.



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

Today we consider the presence of the Risen Lord. Where is he found? Each of the readings offers an answer to this question. The Risen Christ is found in the community of believers who follow the example of Jesus. Even non-believers recognised something marvellously different about the Christian community, and they exclaimed: These Christians, see how they love one another.

The Risen Christ is found in those who accept the truth of the resurrection on the word of others. The word of God preached by others has often brought us out of darkness into light, from the strangeness of death to the birth of new life. The preaching of the disciples has been not only instructive, it has also been transformative.

The Risen Christ is found in the forgiveness of sin. Jesus made frightened disciples ministers of divine forgiveness. The Spirit reconciles sinners with God and, thereby, with the rest of the believing community. Forgiveness is a tangible sign of Christ's mystical presence.

The Risen Christ is found in the physical manifestation of Christ's own wounds, the wounds that he offered to be touched. Since the community is the body of Christ, we touch the wounds of Christ when we touch the wounds of the community, when we go out to the sick and infirm, the dispossessed and the violated. As shocking as these wounds may appear, they are really glorious, because the Risen Lord has identified with them and has made them his own.

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Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

Liturgy Times

SUNDAY:
8:30am, 10:00am.
Children's Liturgy during school term

TUESDAY: 8:30am Adoration, 9.15am Mass

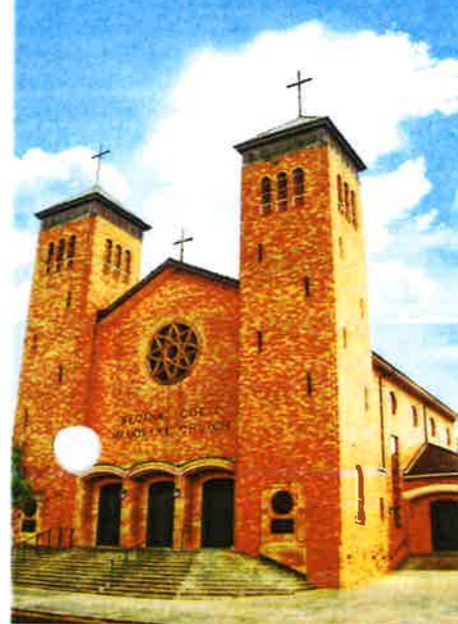
WEDNESDAY: 7:00am

THURSDAY: 9:15am

FRIDAY: 8:30am Adoration, 9.15am Mass

SATURDAY: 9:00am
(Adoration and Reconciliation after Mass)
5:00pm (Vigil Mass)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Saturday: 9:30-10:00am; 4:25-4:50pm



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Divine Mercy Sunday 8 April 2018

'A few ups and downs but survived, Alleluia!' This was the text message I sent to a priest friend of mine after the Easter Triduum ceremonies ended. A little childish, I know, but it aptly summarised my sentiment on Sunday afternoon once my immediate duties had been completed. Some things went better than I expected; other things consoled me with the knowledge that they could have gone worse. All in all, I cannot thank the Lord enough for everything, especially for sending great helpers at perfect moments.

So, now what? I remembered hearing about a new document ('*Placuit Deo*') on 'certain aspects of Christian salvation' which had recently been published by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. With the Triduum safely behind me, excuses for not having read it were quickly evaporating, and so this week I read what turned out to be an impressively brief church document. Around the same time I also heard that Pope Francis' new apostolic exhortation on 'Christian holiness' was within days of being published. I imagine that the two documents will have quite a lot in common, for which reason I am rather enthused because the first one has certainly grabbed my attention. I am eagerly waiting for the second one - the one from the pope himself.

According to *Placuit Deo*, there are two common errors (a.k.a. heresies) which are having detrimental effects on our faith communities: one has to do with mistaking salvation for 'self-realisation' at the neglect of the 'primacy of grace'; the other has to do with treating salvation as something merely interior, subjective and...secretly exclusive. I remember the first time I experienced Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament when, after initial struggles to stay awake, a profound truth about God had dawned on me. It was an experience I'll never forget. But in hindsight I can also see that with "great enlightenment" came great temptations of pride: a part of me felt withdrawn into myself and aloof from others, with secret desires to travel even further in the very same direction. Please don't get me wrong. Piety is absolutely essential, especially piety to do with the Eucharist. But if our piety is alienating us from our own humanity and from one another, then, we must be doing something wrong or at least not as well as possible. There is no need for us to panic though because learning by trial and error is how we all grow sometimes if not a lot of the times. But let's ensure that our piety is firmly anchored in concrete reality; in other words, let's stay grounded because, after all, God became 'flesh' and remained embodied even after rising from the dead. - Fr Peter -

The Week Ahead

Sun 15 Apr 3rd Sun Easter	8.30am 10.00am	Mass Mass
Mon 16 Apr Eastertide	9:00am	Funeral Mass Irene Hall
Tues 17 Apr Eastertide	8:30am 9.15am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass
Wed 18 Apr Eastertide	7.00am	Mass
Thurs 19 Apr Eastertide	9.15am	Mass
Fri 20 Apr Eastertide	9:15am	Mass
Sat 21 Apr Eastertide	9:00am 4:25pm 5.00pm	Mass Reconciliation Vigil Mass
Sun 22 Apr 4th Sun Easter	8.30am 10.00am	Mass Mass

Please pray for...

In Loving Memory

Irene Hall, Iris Smith, Sui Ngik Tiong, Steven Mortimer, Judith Partlin, Kate & Vicko Hrdalo, Joe Poolice, Mara & Ivan Puljic, Margherita Falsone, Matt Taglini, Donato Tozzi, Josephine Agius, Lambert Claudemans & Vicky Brown, Alfia Coco, Jimmy Simmons, Florence Mitchell, Nicola Kohen, John Souter, Gary Collins, Anna Motisi, Anna Puglia, Marie Therese Rierchy, John Trisley, Jim Campisi, Frederika Streiff & Buyung Elias, Christina Salim, Alexander Arifin, Agnes Arifin, Pauline Elias, Tony Tesoriero, Gino Morassut, Anna Maria Cicuto, Carmelo Algozzino, Joe Costa, Onofrio Tesoriero, Fintan Lawlor, Sam Xerri, Angelina Tozzi, Francis Son H Tran, Antonino Puglia, Adel Hakim, Giovanni Battiato, Alfia Laspina Giuseppa Leotta, Rosa Ferlito, Frank Meaney Snr., Frank Meaney Jnr, Lina Paolercio, Margaret Wilkie, Maria Dos Santos, Tereza Dos Santos, Manuel Vieira, Gloria Vieira, Bernard John Mortimer, Pat Smith, Ugo Buracchi, Dan Hall, Maria Mandich, Anthony Nguyen, Norm Farrell, Joyce Hansen, Rosario Bombaci, Bartolo Tesoriero, Stephen Xuereb, Marc David Sollazzo, Edmund Banfield, Anna & Joseph Pham, Peter Repole, Pat Simpson, Elaine Brooksby, Mary Meaney, Connie Fedele, Darren Seymour, Mark Phillips, Frances Spinella, Catherine Lin Siew Ngik, Chris Franchella, Neville Gittany, Gail Moore, Theresa Nguyen, Terzino Ventresca, Sandra Cesarano, Jason Connolly, Paul & Vienna-Marie Agius, Gabriella Pittino, Thomas Tran, Edward Cantwell, Carl John Sollazzo, Joseph Ovens, Thomas Mendes, Salvatore Licari,

Please remember those who are in ill health especially:

Lauren Sotano, Sam Hy, Mary Sortwell, Georgia Brown, Luke Compton, Paul Camelotti, Anne Thompson, Anne Maree Michels, Dr Slavica Markotic

Parish Secretary
Mrs Margaret Doherty-Brady
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8.30am-3.30pm

Sacramental Coordinator
Mrs Elizabeth Gooley
9554 8155
reginasacramental@gmail.com
Tuesday and Thursday
11.30am - 3.30pm

Book keeper
Mrs Maria Awad

Business Manager
Mr Peter Crawford

School Principal
Mr Chris Egan
Asst. Principal
Mr Peter Busch

REC
Mrs Elizabeth Webster

"Jesus, I trust in you". This prayer, dear to so many of the devout, clearly expresses the attitude with which we too would like to abandon ourselves trustfully in your hands, O Lord, our only Saviour. You are burning with the desire to be loved and those in tune with the sentiments of your heart learn how to build the new civilization of love. A simple act of abandonment is enough to overcome the barriers of darkness and sorrow, of doubt and desperation. The rays of your divine mercy restore hope, in a special way, to those who feel overwhelmed by the burden of sin. Mary, Mother of Mercy, help us always to have this trust in your Son, our Redeemer. Help us too, St Faustina, whom we remember today with special affection. Fixing our weak gaze on the divine Saviour's face, we would like to repeat with you: "Jesus, I trust in you". Now and for ev

Piety Stall

On sale now in the Piety Stall;

Greeting Cards – Mass Offering Cards, Sympathy Cards, Baptism & Christening Cards, Thank You Cards, Birthday Cards, Wedding & Anniversary Cards, Thinking of You. Cards

The Piety Stall is open after all weekend Masses and is located in the main foyer of the church.

When the time comes and we cannot pray, it is very simple: let Jesus pray in us to the Father in the silence of our hearts. If we cannot speak, He will speak. If we cannot pray, He will pray. So let us give Him our inability and our nothingness.

- St Mother Teresa

Rosary Statue

Mr & Mrs B Kelly

16 Tallawalla Street
Ph: 9150 7172



[We cannot] claim to say where God is not, because God is mysteriously present in the life of every person, in a way that he himself chooses, and we cannot exclude this by our presumed certainties. Even when someone's life appears completely wrecked, even when we see it devastated by vices or addictions, God is present there. If we let ourselves be guided by the Spirit rather than our own preconceptions, we can and must try to find the Lord in every human life. This is part of the mystery that a gnostic mentality cannot accept, since it is beyond its control.' Pope Francis in *Gaudete et Exsultate*.

Join Pope Francis in Panama for the 34th World Youth Day in January 2019

Sydney Catholic Youth are inviting you on the pilgrimage of a lifetime to Panama where you will celebrate Mass with Pope Francis and millions of young Catholics from around the world.

Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP will lead the Sydney pilgrimage departing on 15 January 2019 which will travel from Sydney to Washington DC, then to WYD Panama with the optional extension to travel to Mexico City. Register your interest and find out more by visiting the website www.sydneycatholicyouth.org/wyd

One Million Rosaries For Unborn Babies, May 4, 5 and 6 2018.

The 2018 **One Million Rosaries for Unborn Babies** is scheduled for **4, 5 and 6 May**. Persons participating in this multi-national pro-life prayer event will pray at least one Rosary for an end to abortion. For details and to register go to: <http://www.saintmichaelthearchangelorganization.org/>

CatholicCare Sydney

Are you leaving school with 'School Leaver Employment Support' or 'Finding and Keeping a Job' in your NDIS plan? Our team can help you make a successful transition from school to a career. For more information call our friendly CCareline team on **13 18 19** or email us connect@catholiccare.org

God's Design For Marriage Celebrating 50 years of Humane Vitae

On Tuesday 5 June at 7.30pm Director of Life Marriage and Family Centre, Chris Gordon, will speak to us on this topic in the parish hall.

What did God intend for human sexuality? What do we learn from the Genesis account of the original pair? How have couples responded to the call in Paul VI's seminal encyclical *Humane Vitae* to be open to life? How can we change our cultural attitudes around sex, the transmission of life, marriage, providence and babies?

All welcome. Plenty of time for questions.

St Bernadette's Parish—Carlton

These interesting and thought provoking talks continue at St Bernadette's parish in Carlton.

Details of the full programme including those of the speakers can be found in the brochures available at the Church and on the Church notice boards. Please feel free to take one.

A report on the first talk by Archbishop Fisher can be found in the Catholic Weekly (25th February) or on the Archdiocesan website. All are welcome.

Further information can be obtained by email from admin@carltonparish.org.au.

Healing after Abortion : Jessica Lockhart

Rachel's Vineyard, Sydney is hosting a workshop with Jessica Lockhart, author of *The Woman at the Tomb, Abortion and Redemption*. Come to Rachel's Vineyard Retreat ministry to hear about spiritual and emotional healing after an abortion. All welcome - priests, pastoral carers, parish teams, professional health practitioners and those suffering post abortion stress in their own life.

Date: Saturday 12 May, 10am - 3.30pm

Venue: Good Samaritan Centre, 2 Avenue Rd. Glebe.

Free - Limited numbers, RSVP essential for catering
Details: www.rachelsvineyard.org.au
Email: info@rachelsvineyard.org.au or Phone: 0400 092 555