

# **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



#### **Pastoral Team:**

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# Regina Coeli Parish

**Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney** 

# Weekly Newsletter

2nd Sunday of Easter 11 April 2021



# Easter Vigil 2021

Easter Vigil 2021 might have lasted two hours but it was worth almost every minute of it! The beautiful ceremony (thanks to the choir, readers, servers, altar ladies, 7 new Catholics, etc.) was a timely reminder to all present why the Easter Vigil is known as the most solemn liturgy in the entire liturgical calendar of the Church. There were gentle movements from darkness to light, old to new, silence to praise, patient waiting to joyful exuberance, etc. Granted, it takes one who is willing to surrender themselves to a profound form of worship to be able to appreciate the reason for the Easter Vigil. My hope is that over the years more and more Catholics will come to experience the depth of rejoicing which the Easter Vigil makes possible for us.

Here is how one finely attuned person described Easter Vigil 2021:

Well, that was the most extraordinary night of celebration. How could we all not be swept up in the anticipation and the ultimate joy!! ...How completely uplifting to experience the church so full and bursting with music and colour and life!!! And so Covid delivered a most unexpected gift of grace. We have been held back for what seems like an eternity from a real and tangible 'hit' of our living faith. Last night was a freeing of body, mind and spirit that consumed every sense. Overwhelming!!

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# **The Week Ahead**

Sun 11 April 2nd Sunday 8.30am 10.00am No need to book for Mass Easter Mon 12 April No Mass Tue 13 April 9.15am Mass Wed 14 April 7am Mass Thu 15 April 9.15pm Mass Fri 16 April 9.15am Mass Sat 17 April 9.00am Mass 9:25-Adoration & Reconciliation 9:55am 4:15-Reconciliation 4:45pm Vigil Mass 5pm Sun 18 April 8.30am Mass 3rd Sunday 10.00am Mass Easter

#### **Recently Deceased**

Chris Byrne, Anna Madau, William Cheung

#### In Loving Memory

Spird & Josephine Bajada, Luigi Carvin, Giuseppe Graniero

Please remember those who are in ill health especially: Mildred Petit, Glen Chater, James Ybasco, Josh Venture, Carmen Bajada, Anne Kensey, Peter Peters, Monica Costa, Quang Vo, Matt Nugent, Ann Mc Dowell, Christopher McDowell, Damiano Serravalle, George Dagher, Mrs Saba, Josephina Algozzina, Pat Mortimer, Mrs Donald Burch, Mary Daniels, Geoff McDowell, Elena Mura, Mr TD (Terry) Wall, Kim Delaney, Lauren Sotano, Sam Hy, Georgia Brown, Luke Compton, Paul Camelotti.

Rosary Statue Mr & Mrs M. Inacio 7/207 Penshurst St Ph: 02 9534 4697



#### **Parish Secretary**

Mrs Margaret Doherty-Brady 9554 8155 Tues 8:30am-1:30pm Wed & Fri 10.30am—3.30pm

#### Sacramental Coordinator/ PSSO

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

#### **School Principal**

Mr Chris Egan Asst. Principal Mr Peter Busch

#### REC

Mrs Elizabeth Webster MUSIC MINISTRY
ALL WELCOME

The Sunday 8:30am choir which has been established for over 40 years is now seeking volunteers to continue the music ministry at mass.

If you play the piano/any other instrument or would like to sing please email Natasha nat\_demel@live.com.au or 0402785196



"Do not be afraid! You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen. He is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him" (Mark 16:6-7).

To go to Galilee means, first, to begin anew. For the disciples it meant going back to the place where the Lord first sought them out and called them to follow him. The place of their first encounter and the place of their first love. From that moment on, leaving their nets behind, they followed Jesus, listening to his preaching and witnessing the miracles he performed. Yet, though they were always with him, they did not fully understand him. Frequently they misunderstood his words and in the face of the cross they abandoned him and fled. Even so, the Risen Lord once more appears as the one who goes ahead of them to Galilee. He precedes them. He stands before them and constantly calls them to follow him. He says to them: "Let us start over from where we began. Let us begin anew. I want you to be with me again, in spite of everything". In this Galilee, we learn to be amazed by the Lord's infinite love, which opens new trails along the path of our defeats. This is how the Lord is: he creates new paths on the road of our defeats. This is how he is; and he invites us to Galilee to do this.

This is the first Easter message that I would offer you: it is always possible to begin anew, because there is always a new life that God can awaken in us in spite of all our failures. From the rubble of our hearts — and each one of us knows the rubble of our hearts — God can create a work of art; from the ruined remnants of our humanity, God can prepare a new history. He never ceases to go ahead of us: in the cross of suffering, desolation and death, and in the glory of a life that rises again, a history that changes, a hope that is reborn. In these dark months of the pandemic, let us listen to the Risen Lord as he invites us to begin anew and never lose hope.

- Pope Francis at Easter Vigil 2021 -

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'Nearly running out of holy communion' was a recurrent theme throughout Easter Triduum. The unexpectedly large gathering on Holy Thursday meant that the Blessed Sacrament reserved for Good Friday was most likely to be not enough. Breaking the consecrated hosts into small pieces and hoping (desperately) for the best allowed everyone to receive holy communion, almost miraculously. The danger of running out of holy communion resurfaced at the Easter Vigil and then at the 8:30am Mass on Easter Sunday, largely because the turnout continued to surpass what was expected. One thing we definitely ran out of was Easter Holy Water (in small bottles) which was well and truly gone by the end of the 8.30am Mass on Easter Sunday.

The whole meaning of Easter Triduum could be aptly captured in one word: MERCY. God became visible to us through the love revealed by Jesus Christ who suffered, died and then rose from the dead. Nothing makes God more clearly visible than that which defines his relationship with us, namely, love. And that love was shown to be none other than mercy, hence the reason why the Second Sunday of Easter is also known as Divine Mercy Sunday. St Pope John Paul II wrote:

'The present-day mentality, more perhaps than that of people in the past, seems opposed to a God of mercy, and in fact tends to exclude from life and to remove from the human heart the very idea of mercy. The word and the concept of "mercy" seem to cause uneasiness in man, who, thanks to the enormous development of science and technology, never before known in history, has become the master of the earth and has subdued and dominated it...In the light of the foregoing factors there appears the dichotomy of a world that is at once powerful and weak, capable of doing what is noble and what is base, disposed to freedom and slavery, progress and decline, brotherhood and hatred. Man is growing conscious that the forces he has unleashed are in his own hands and that it is up to him to control them or be enslaved by them...[humanity and the modern world] need mercy even though they often do not realise it.'

- Fr Peter -

# Happy 90th Birthday!







From 19 to 90: Joy was 19 when she moved into her new home in Beverly Hills on the very day of her wedding, She's been in the parish ever since. She has been a real cause of joy for the parish of Regina Coeli. This Easter is truly a season of JOY, for more reasons than one!

# **Online Giving**

It seems that the credit cards of some of our online givers have either expired or been cancelled. Please contact the parish office if you wish to continue online giving. Thank you!

## Second Sunday of Easter, Year B

#### 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 117:2-4, 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.)
- 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.)
- 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!

#### Gospel Jn 20:19-31

Alleluia!

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.'

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.'

'As the Father sent me,

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 stranglehold 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 the 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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