



'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.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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RADICAL TRANSFORMATION

As we bask in the light of resurrection, today we see two witnesses to the resurrection, and the transformation of lives.

The first reading is from the Acts of the Apostles, the second volume attributed to Luke, and it presents to us a changed way of living. Firstly, the whole group of believers are described as 'of one heart and soul' (v. 32). The apostles appear as testifying with great power to the resurrection and 'great grace was upon them all' (v. 33). The remarkable addition here is that they shared everything in common, sold property and distributed funds so no-one was in need (v. 34-35). This radical transformation of their way of life is not a defining feature of our communities today, even though adopted by many religious congregations throughout the Church's history. While not diminishing the great charitable works operating today, this way of life remains a challenge to us in a world where rich become richer and poor increase in number and poverty.

In juxtaposition to the Acts account, the Gospel outlines the appearance of Jesus among the apostles and the repetition of 'Peace be with you' (vv.19, 21). In this gathering behind closed doors, Jesus tells the apostles that he is sending them out. He breathes the Holy Spirit upon them, commissioning them. Eight days later in the same room Jesus arrives saying once again 'Peace be with you' (v. 26) and here is the experience of the doubting Thomas, forever recorded for anyone who might doubt that the resurrection happened and is real.

How will our lives be transformed by the resurrection?

FIRST READING

Acts 4: 32-35

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

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.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP 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 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 cornerstone. / 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.**

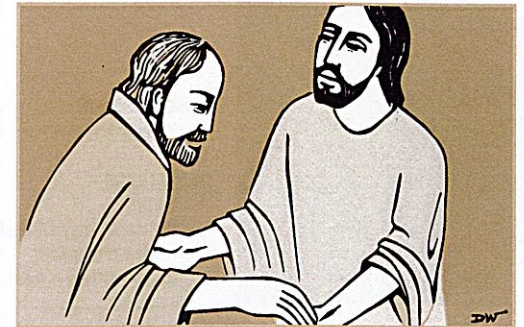
SECOND READING

1 Jn 5: 1-6

A reading from the first letter of St John

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.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 20: 29

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

GOSPEL

Jn 20: 19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

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.'

OUR LADY OF THE ANNUNCIATION PARISH PAGEWOOD

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Parish Administrator
Fr Daney Irudayadoss

CONFESSIONS:
Saturday 4:15 - 5:00 pm

DEVOTIONS

Rosary
after weekday Masses
Cenacle Prayers
Fridays 5:00pm - 6:00pm

MASS TIMINGS:

Monday 8:00 am; Tuesday 7:00 pm
Wednesday to Friday 8:00 am
Saturday 8:00 am and Vigil 5:30 pm
Sunday 8:00am & 10:00 am

Baptisms and Marriages: By appointment

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Wednesday after the 8:00 am Mass.

Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament
Saturday from 4:15pm to 5:00 pm
First Fridays from 11.30am to 12.15pm

Archdiocese of Sydney's Child Safeguarding Office: 9290 5810 safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org

Year B: Second Sunday of Easter (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) 7-04-2024

Entrance Antiphon: Receive the joy of your glory, giving thanks to God, who has called you into the heavenly kingdom, alleluia.

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

Prayer of Entrustment to the Divine Mercy: O Lord, our God. We place our trust in You, because you are mercy itself. We repent of our sins and turn to You for mercy. We trust You to provide for our every need, according to Your will. Help us to forgive others as You forgive us. We promise to be merciful by our deeds, words and prayers. Though we have fears because of human weakness, we rely on Your infinite goodness and mercy. We entrust to You the future of our planet, our Church, our nations, our families and all our needs. With loud cries we implore your mercy on us and on the whole world. Look upon us, created in your image and likeness. Form us in the Heart of Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit into the living images of mercy. May all come to know the depth of Your mercy and sing the praises of Your mercy forever. Amen.

We offer special prayers for:

The sick: Dea Maria Tjahjana, Helen Yu, Jorge Azar, Milagros F. Cannistraro, Sarah Cannistraro, Sevi Zachary Claveria, Marieta De Venecia, Speranza Dorigo, Lynette Drew, Sue Domancich, Vivian Felice, Jim Lisbona, Doris Magri, Celin Malkun, Javier Malkun, July Malkun, Nayade Malkun, Manuel Mantilla, Marija & Barclay Family, Owen McLoughlin, Felomina Moulic, Jay R. Moulic, Salvador Murillo, Yvonne Parry, Jessa Reina De Vera-Cruz, Thelma Soriano, Ann-Marie Stevens, Venus Tabayoyong, James Trewhella, Aurea Visperas, Alison Wilkinson, Jessica & Joseph Wilkinson, all our sick parishioners, sick members of our families and friends and all the sick in the world.

The deceased: Recently: Jack McCoy, Felicidad Yabut Delos Reyes

Anniversary: Teodoro Tecson (11th on 3/4), Julie Ortega (3rd on 7/4), Juana Cruz (29th on 12/4), Tony Yahya Elburba (1st on 11/4), Daniel Soriano (4/4), Adelaida Soraino (5/4), Wilfred Tsen
Others: Maria Vucetic, Miko Vucetic, Des Ebejer, Andrew Spiteri, Susan Lee, Jenny Chen, Vincenzo & Elena Sellaro; Gerace, Cosentino, Rizzo, Artese & Sellaro Families, Giovanni Family, John Wilkinson Patrick Cheong, Veronica Luo, the deceased members of our families and friends and all Souls in Purgatory.

We welcome to our parish community
Brooklyn Scott who will be baptised this weekend.
Congratulations to the parents Jacqueline & Justin.



Roster Apr 13/14	5.30pm	8am	10am
Lectors:	(reader needed) Monica Ribeiro	Bernadine Lavender Darren Lee	Frances Green Rosa Vunich

Church Cleaning & Preparation: Roster 13 April (second Saturday of the month)

Flowers Arranging: Bernadine Lavender
Vacuuming Church Floor: Tiago Santiago
Dusting & Tidying Pews: Nicy Kolencherry

Feast Days of the Week:

8 April – The Annunciation of the Lord: Mass at 8am
11 April – Saint Stanislaus

There will be NO MASSES on Tues 9th April, Wed 10th April and Thursday 11th April due to Sydney priests attending Live-in Clergy Conference.



Divine Mercy Sunday 7 April 2024: A plenary indulgence granted under the usual conditions (Sacramental Confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer for the intentions of Supreme Pontiff) to the faithful who, on the Second Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday, in any church or chapel, in a spirit that is completely detached from the affection for a sin, even a venial sin, take part in the prayers and devotions held in honour of Divine Mercy, or who, in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed or reserved in the tabernacle, recite the Our Father and the Creed, adding a devout prayer to the merciful Lord Jesus (e.g. Merciful Jesus, I trust in you!").

Divine Mercy Sunday at Botany Parish: Divine Mercy Mass will be celebrated at St Bernard's Parish Botany at 3pm. Reconciliation will be available there from 2:00-2:50pm. Refreshments will be served at the conclusion.

A volunteer is needed to read at Saturday Vigil 5.30pm masses: please contact the parish office if you can help. Thank you.

Good Friday Holy Land Appeal collection total was \$686.05. Thank you for your donations. The funds will be sent to The Holy Land Commissariat via Sydney Chancery

Project Compassion: A Total of \$1490 was collected. Thank you for your donations. The funds will be forwarded to Caritas Australia. Tax receipts will be issued in June 2024.

The First Collection taken after the Prayer of Faithful supports our Archdiocesan clergies' stipends and presbytery expenses. **The Second Collection which will be taken immediately after The First Collection** supports our church's liturgical and running expenses as well as repairs and maintenance. **Tap donations are divided equally to First & Second Collections.**

NO FOREIGN COINS Please: Please do not place any foreign coins and currency in any collections as they cause problems with our counting machine and the bank's.

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney: Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding and Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.

We acknowledge the Bidjagal and Gadagal People of the Eora Nation, traditional custodians of this land. We respect and honour Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders past, present and future. We acknowledge the stories, traditions and living cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples on this land and commit to building a brighter future together.