

Second Sunday of Easter

Year B

Sunday 7th April 2024

First Reading **Acts of the Apostles 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

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.

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 John 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 **John 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 **John 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.'

'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



St. Mary's Parish Cowes Three Churches—One Parish

St Mary's—Cowes

Our Lady Star of the Sea—San Remo

St. Joseph's—Bass

Parish Priest: Father Manny Lomagno

Parish Secretary: Kerry Laughton-McConnon

6 Cowes Rhyll Road Cowes 3922 PO Box 878 Cowes 3922 Telephone 59 525 418 Email cowes@cdsale.org.au

Office Hours: Wednesday 9.30am –2.30pm Parish Safeguard Officer: Brendan Marrinon.

Mass/Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion Times

Star of the Sea—San Remo

Tuesday 9.15am Mercy Prayer followed by the Rosary & Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion 10am

St Joseph's—Bass

Mass Sunday 11 am

Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion—Wed 9am

Adoration & Prayer Wed 9.30am-10am & 7-8pm

St Mary's—Cowes Mass Sunday 9am

Monday 9am Solemnity The Annunciation of the Lord

Wednesday & Friday Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion

Sunday 9am

Reconciliation 10am to 11am



REFLECTION

by Fr Michael Tate

Thomas the Doubter seeing the wounds

The true believers in the Risen Christ kept Thomas the Doubter within their circle, rather than expelling him. This gave him a further opportunity to experience the very Real Presence of the Risen Lord and his gift of peace. Companionable patience is our best response to those struggling with belief in even fundamental tenets of the faith.

Thomas saw that the wounds of Christ were still present, not obliterated. Does this suggest that our redeemed bodies will bear the marks of the wounds unjustly inflicted on us? However, they will not be disabling to our personality because they will be incorporated into the resurrection life of Christ. Incredibly, our self-inflicted wounds, i.e. our sins, will be obliterated in the mercy of God.

Pope Francis emphasises that it was in responding to the invitation to touch the wounds of Christ that Thomas understood Christ's true identity, exclaiming: 'My Lord and my God'. It is only by touching the wounds of Christ in many different people in many different situations that we can authentically make the same act of faith.

We could take a moment to pray for the strength to touch the wounds of Christ in others, 'the least'. And we could pray that, wounded as we may be by the vagaries and injustices of life, we may be liberated from their evil effects as the Risen Lord adopts our wounds as his own.

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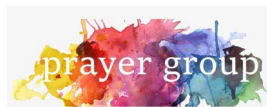


Bible Studies will be on Wednesday, 10th April 10:a.m. New participants are most welcome. For further information ring Nicholas on 0409 582 012



San Remo Prayer Group on Monday 15th April at 7pm.

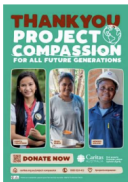
Contact Wendy Power 56 782271.



Good Friday Appeal: Sincere thanks for your generous response on Good Friday. The amount received was \$1,200



Thank You!



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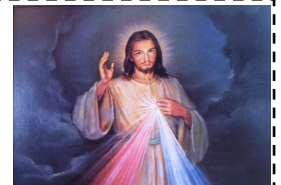
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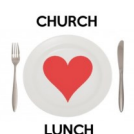
We are a child safe parish. Any children, young persons and adults at risk have a right to feel safe and be safe. If you are concerned about any form of abuse, or believe that someone is at significant risk, you should immediately raise your concerns with our Parish Safety Officer. He can be contacted through the Parish Office. Ph 03 59 525 418

Divine Mercy

This weekend is Divine Mercy Sunday. Prayers (chaplet) will be held at Our Lady Star of the Sea, San Remo at 3pm. All Welcome



The next parish lunch will be held at 12 noon, on Friday, April 12, at the RSL in Cowes. Bookings close on Monday, April 8, at 12 noon. If you would like to attend please fill in the form at the back of St Marys or ring Sue on 0438 304 082.



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