



PARISHES IN PARTNERSHIP

St. Mary's Maffra [Newry & Dargo]

St. Michael's Heyfield-Cowwarr

Phone: 03 5147 1921 email: Maffra@cdsale.org.au

Office Hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs - 10am-4.00pm.

For Emergencies: St. Mary's Cathedral, Sale, Phone 5144 4100

Diocesan website: <https://www.cdsale.org.au/>



Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday – Year A – 8th and 9th April, 2023.

PARISH PRIEST:

Fr. Edwin Ogbuka
Email: edwinogbuka@gmail.com
0469 733 929

PARISH SECRETARY:

Willie Schoenmaekers
Email: marymaf@aussiebb.com.au

WEEKEND MASSES: Heyfield

Saturday Vigil: **6.00pm**
1st & 3rd Sunday Cowwarr: 11.00am

WEEKEND MASSES: Maffra

Sunday: 9.00am
2nd & 4th Sunday - Newry: 11.00am
5th Sunday – Dargo : 12.Noon

WEEKDAY MASSES HEYFIELD

Tuesday: 9.30am

MAFFRA

Tuesday Mass & Adoration 2.00pm
Wednesday to Saturday: 9.30am

RECONCILIATION:

MAFFRA

Any time by request

HEYFIELD:

Saturday: Before Mass 5.20pm
OR any other time by request

DAILY EXPOSITION: Maffra – Thursday,

Friday, Saturday – 8.20am – 9.20am
followed by Mass

EXPOSITION AND RECONCILIATION: Maffra

Wednesday: After 9.30am Mass

BAPTISMS:

During or After the Vigil / Sunday Mass

MARRIAGE:

At least six months' notice requested.

PARISH SCHOOLS

ST. MICHAEL'S HEYFIELD

Principal: Jenny Miller
Davis St. Heyfield - 3858
Phone: 5148 2514

ST. MARY'S MAFFRA

Principal: Julian Blackford
4-12 Duke St. Maffra - 3860
Phone: 5147 1334

Catholic Care: 1800 522 076

Safe Steps: 1800 015 188

Facebook: [facebook/dioceseofsale](https://www.facebook.com/dioceseofsale)

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY – APRIL 16

During the canonisation of St Faustina on 30 April 2000, St John Paul 11 announced to the world, the first Sunday after Easter (Octave Sunday – the 8th day of Easter) would be called Divine Mercy Sunday. It would be a day of celebration and enormous graces to those who seek God's forgiveness and mercy.

Contained in at least 14 passages of St Faustina's famous Diary Our Lord requested that a Feast of Mercy be established on that day.

Jesus asked Saint Faustina: "Gather all sinners from the entire world and immerse them in the abyss of My mercy . . . On the day of my feast, the Feast of Mercy, you will go through the whole world and bring fainting souls to the spring of My mercy. I shall heal and strengthen them." (Diary 699) and

"I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day, the very depths of My mercy are open. The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy." (Diary 699)

HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE FEAST OF MERCY

We should precede the feast by a nine-day novena of chaplets to the Divine Mercy, beginning on Good Friday (copies of the Novena of the Divine Mercy are available at the back of the church):

1. Celebrate the Feast on the first Sunday after Easter
2. Sincerely repent of all our sins
3. Place our complete trust in Jesus
4. Go to Confession on that Sunday or within seven days before or after the Feast
5. Receive Holy Communion on the day of the Feast
6. Venerate the Image of The Divine Mercy
7. Be merciful to others, through our actions, words and prayers on their behalf

OUR PARISHES WILL CELEBRATE THIS IMPORTANT FEAST DAY AS FOLLOWS:

ST MARY'S MAFFRA - **9am Holy Mass** including Blessing of Divine Mercy images. **2.30pm HOLY HOUR** including Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet, Confessions, blessing of Divine Mercy images, closing with Benediction.

ST MICHAEL'S HEYFIELD - **Divine Mercy observed within normal Mass schedule, normal Confession timers.**

Everyone is welcome. Details with other Victorian Parishes Divine Mercy Sunday Celebrations can be found on the Church pin board. For enquiries, please contact Marianne – 0407 353 750.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS:-

Parish Dinner Monday 1st May 2023, at the Sporting Club Maffra 6pm. **RSVP a Must, please ring 0411436227 for bookings.**

All Welcome!

The parish dinner is a monthly dinner who meet for fellowship as a parish community, they meet on the 1st Monday of every month. RSVP is essential.

Catholic Womens League Meeting. On Tuesday April 11th in our Presbytery dining room at 1.30pm.
New members very welcome.

Visiting the sick or house bound:

If you are able to help with this ministry, please contact the parish office, 51471921. We would love to hear from you and will help you prepare for the task.

School News

During School Holidays St Mary's Church will be closed if you are wanting to sit and pray quietly please call into the office and someone will open it up for you to do so.

A Principal position has opened for St Michael's Primary School Heyfield. If you are interested, the position is being advertised through the Diocese of Sale Catholic Education Ltd website; the Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd website; Teachers On Net; COMS; and SEEK. Closing date of application is Wednesday 26th April 2023.

No weekday Masses

Father will be away from 10th to 15th April but will be back Saturday for weekend Masses. Also Father is away for retreat from 17th to 21st April so no weekday Masses that week either only weekend Masses this means Saturday morning Masses will not be available either.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DEAD:-

Anniversaries:

Marianne Anderson, Chad Coridas, Dulcie Ripper, Gerald Harkin, Jean Moulton, Susan Phelan, Mary Penkara, Malcolm Hole, Therese Hunter, Peter Duggan, Jack Allman, Catherine McMahon, Bruno Furjan, Monica Justice, Myrtle Morgan, Karl Wozniak, Maria Topilnicki.

Frs Terry Hammond, Daniel (Dan) McMahon, Michael Nelan, Wilfred Pooley, Daniel Horan.

Care for the Sick: If you know of anyone who is unable to get to Mass and would like the Eucharist brought to them, please advise us on 5147 1921.

We pray for ALL who suffer (at present) in body, mind or spirit:

Linda Allman, Xavier Mills, Kevin Bennett, Marge Canny, Coral Justice, Julie Frew, Peter Smyth, Fr. Brian O'Connor, John Phelan, Lyn McLindin, Ann Martin, Gerry Gray, and all those who seek our prayers.

WE ARE A CHILD SAFE PARISH

Any children, young persons and vulnerable adults 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 one of our Parish Safeguarding Officers. Contact Via the Parish Office: 03 5147 1921.

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS
ST. MARY'S: Terry Donahoe
ST. MICHAEL'S: Ed O'Brien

WEEKLY COLLECTION

PRESBYTERY: \$ 709
ST. MARY'S PG: \$ 168
ST. MICHAEL'S PG: \$ 495

REFLECTION by Dianne Bergant CSA

Easter is the season of mystical catechesis, that instruction that unpacks the hidden mystery of the experience of the sacraments of initiation received or renewed at Easter. The readings of each Sunday concentrate on some aspect of this mystery. The central theme of this Sunday is newness of life in Christ. This newness is not without its historical context. It burst forth first in the resurrection of Christ, and then through the preaching of the first Christians.

The readings testify that if we die with Christ, we will appear with him in glory; if we cast out the old yeast, we will be fresh dough. And when this wondrous transformation takes place, everything is new; everything is fresh. To what newness are we called? To what must we die in order to rise transformed? What old yeast of corruption must be cast out in order that we might be fresh dough? At Easter we renew our baptismal vows. What is it that we really renounce? Ours is a world of violence, of prejudice, of indifference. Too often we harbour feelings of anger and resentment, of selfishness and disdain. Easter proclaims that Christ has died and has risen; with him we die to all of the wickedness in our lives and in our world, and we set our hearts on higher things, on sincerity and on truth.



As of Tuesday 21st March at St Mary's Maffra, Father will be celebrating Mass & Adoration every Tuesday at 2pm.

MAFFRA PARISH LITURGICAL ROSTER (APRIL)

LITURGY:	Sun. 16 th	Office
READER:	Sun. 16 th	Michael Dillon
COMMENTATOR:	Sun. 16 th	Julia Moulton
EXTRA ORDINARY MINISTER	Sun. 16 th	Sylvia Neaves
COMPUTER:	Sun. 16 th	Nick Munro
COLLECTORS:	Sun. 16 th	Kevin Kierce and Dick Moulton.
ALTAR SERVERS:	Sun. 16 th	N/A
FLORISTS:	Sun. 16 th	Trish Vardy & Aileen Romanin
SACRISTANS:	Sun. 16 th	Marianne & Chas Bagguley
HOLY VESSELS:	Month Of APRIL	Donna Sebastian

HEYFIELD PARISH LITURGICAL ROSTER (APRIL]

READER:	Sat. 15 th	Joe Pittari
FLORISTS:	Sat. 15 th	Heather Higgins
ALTAR LINEN –	MONTH OF APRIL	Heather Higgins

ST BRIGID'S COWWARR (APRIL)

READER	Sun. 16 th	N/A
CHURCH CLEANING	MONTH OF APRIL	Helen Palma & Josie Vitale

PERSONAL ORDINARIATE MASSES

COWWARR: ST BRIGIDS'

MONDAY: 9.00AM

TUESDAY: 6.00PM

WEDNESDAY: 10.00AM

THURSDAY: 10.00AM

FRIDAY: 6.00PM

SATURDAY: 10.00AM

SUNDAY: 9.30AM

MIRBOO NORTH: ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 2ND

SUNDAY OF THE MONTH: 4.00PM

4TH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH: 4.00PM

CONFESSION: BEFORE EACH MASS

ANY ENQUIRES PLEASE CONTACT:

FR KEN CLARK EV

GIPPSLAND ORDINARIATE

13 CHURCH STREET

COWWARR, VIC 3857

TEL: 0403383873

BLOG:

[HTTPS://GIPPSLANDORDINARIATE.WORDPRESS.COM](https://gippslandordinariate.wordpress.com)

EASTER:

6TH APRIL: MAUNDY THURSDAY:

- 1.00PM: 24 HOUR ADORATION/VIGIL STARTS:
- 7.30PM: MASS OF THE LAST SUPPER
- ADORATION CONTINUES AFTER MASS

7TH APRIL: GOOD FRIDAY: COWWARR

- 12.00AM ADORATION/VIGIL CONTINUES
- 10.00AM: STATIONS OF THE CROSS:
- VIGIL CONTINUES AFTER STATIONS
- 2.00PM: GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY & MASS OF THE PRE-SANCTIFIED

8TH APRIL EASTER VIGIL (LUCERNARIUM & EXULTET, READINGS, BAPTISMAL RENEWAL, MASS)

- 11.00PM START

9TH APRIL: EASTER DURING THE DAY:

• 9.30AM: COWWARR

16TH APRIL: DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY:

• 1.30PM: MASS: DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS:

• 2.30PM – 3.30PM: COWWARR (EXPOSITION, ADORATION, CONFESSION, DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET, BENEDICTION)

Holy Land Commissariat

The annual collection for the support of the Church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday, April 7th. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment and housing. Parishes, schools, orphanages and medical centres throughout the Holy Land also rely on assistance from this collection. It is also used to maintain over 70 Churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. There will be a collection for this on Good Friday during Service please give generously.

Thank You!

For those of you who would like to pay electronically please contact the office for further information, or email me. If you would like to pay via Credit Card also contact the office



Dear Friends in Christ,

Last Sunday we began our entry into Holy Week by our ritual procession to commemorate Jesus' glorious final journey into the city of Jerusalem. We walked with Jesus in order to remember that he always walks with us. We listened and participated in the reading of the Passion according to Saint Matthew reflecting on the many characters whose interaction with Jesus led him to die on a cross and to abandon himself to the will of the Father in his great outpouring of love in the embrace of the wood of the cross. The haunting cry, '*Eli, Eli, sabachthani – my God, my God, why have you deserted me?*' joins with the chorus of women, men and children who throughout the centuries have cried in similar ways under the burden of violence, oppression, marginalisation, illness, fear and in so many ways beside. These final words of Jesus in Matthew's Gospel remind us of his identification with us, and at the same time the profound trust he placed in the Father to hear his cry. As St Paul so beautifully reflects, 'His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave...even to accepting death on a cross' (Phil 2: 6-8).

So dear friends, we enter this Holy Week mindful of the closeness of Jesus who walks with us. We know his death on the cross and been laid in the tomb are not the last word for God raised him on high.

We will wash feet, we will remember the Last Supper as our living memorial of Jesus' presence to us in his Body and Blood, and we will gather to venerate the cross on Good Friday and as we do we bow before him, the one who bows toward us with a loving gaze of hope in our despair, comfort in our sorrow, joy in our sadness, and ultimately with the promise of eternal life in our dying. We will celebrate the never-ending joy of Easter and Jesus' constant presence to us wherever we are.

Pope Francis' invites the Church throughout the world now to walk together in a way that no-one is left behind. He calls the disciples of Jesus to listen deeply to the reality of the questions of peoples' lives and to accompany them in ways which lead to hope, purpose and conversion which leads to the renewal of the Church led by the Holy Spirit. May our celebration of the Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Day) ignite in us the flame of faith. This is an exciting time for the Diocese of Sale as we take deliberate and intentional steps journeying together as disciples of Jesus Christ.

May the joy of Easter flow throughout our diocese in the hearts of our clergy, religious, families and all those who have been claimed by Jesus the Christ, risen from the dead in history and for history.

May Jesus who shattered the darkness of sin and death lead us by his light, truth and love.

*Bishop Greg Bennet Catholic Bishop of
Sale Easter 2023*

MOST REVEREND GREGORY BENNET BISHOP OF SALE
Sion House, 6Witton St (PO Box 1410), Warragul, Vic 3820, Australia **P** +612 5622 6690
E bishop@sale.catholic.org.au www.cdsale.org.au



On 23rd March Bishop Greg Bennet, Bishop of Sale, received a further appointment as a Member of the Dicastery for the Clergy from His Holiness, Pope Francis.

Bishop Greg said that, in the days prior to the announcement, he had received a telephone call from His Eminence Lazarus You Heung-sik, Prefect of the Dicastery, advising him of the Holy Father's appointment. "It was a very encouraging and warm fraternal conversation" said Bishop Greg.

The Dicastery for Clergy is responsible for overseeing matters regarding diocesan priests and deacons (those not belonging to religious orders) and seminaries. The Dicastery focuses its efforts on the ongoing formation of clergy by providing guidance to Bishops in their ongoing care, formation and education of clergy. The Dicastery provides the oversight by the Holy See in the training of candidates for Holy Orders in seminaries throughout the world by norms which establish seminaries and guide seminary formation to ensure seminarians receive a solid human, spiritual, intellectual and pastoral formation in preparation for ordination. As important is connection between seminary formation and life-long formation.

Bishop Greg said he was both surprised and humbled by the appointment: "It is a great honour to be appointed by Pope Francis as a Member of the Dicastery. I look forward to making my contribution to those important discussions and directions regarding seminary formation and the ongoing formation of clergy. The Church needs seminarians and clergy who can truly embrace the call of Jesus Christ, and who are well formed for their mission of service to proclaim the Good News to our sisters and brothers. At the heart of this is the capacity to be formed after the heart of the Good Shepherd himself and to allow our personal relationship with him to shape us in every way – this is a life-long call. The mission of the Dicastery is pivotal to the Church and exciting in many ways. Much of my previous study and priesthood have been directed to the care of clergy and their ongoing formation; I shall bring this experience to this appointment."

When asked about the time commitment beyond his current responsibility as Bishop of Sale, he replied: "I understand my engagement as a Member of the Dicastery will be undertaken remotely, however on some occasions, I may be required to attend in person. My poor Personal Assistant will need to manage my diary and me even more!"

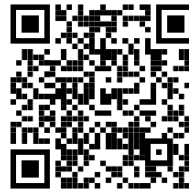
Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!



Thank you for your continued support for Project Compassion – past, present and future. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations.

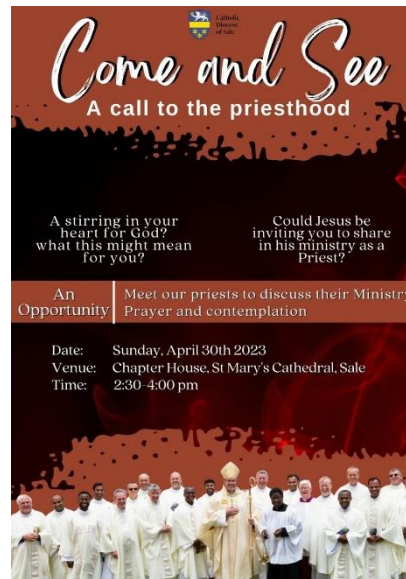
Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2023 Lenten appeal. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.



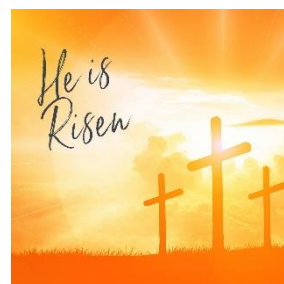
Please bring back the Project Compassion Boxes and envelopes this weekend. Thank you for your kind generosity

Come and See



Bishop Greg invites young men (+18yrs) of our Parishes of the Diocese of Sale to come to St Mary's Cathedral on Good Shepherd Sunday, April 30th, 2.30pm – 4pm, especially those who may have a call from God to life as a priest, or to simply meet Bishop Greg and other priests. It will be an opportunity to meet those living the priestly life, to pray with them and ask questions.

*HAPPY EASTER FROM FATHER EDWIN,
BARBARA, CHRISTA, ANGIE AND WILLIE.
HAVE A SAFE AND JOYFUL EASTER*



EASTER VIGIL MASS READINGS

FIRST READING: Gen 22:1-18

Abraham's sacrifice of Isaac.

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham,' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.' Rising early next morning Abraham saddled his ass and took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. He chopped wood for the burnt offering and started on his journey to the place God had pointed out to him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. Then Abraham said to his servants, 'Stay here with the donkey. The boy and I will go over there; we will worship and come back to you.'

Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering, loaded it on Isaac, and carried in his own hands the fire and the knife. Then the two of them set out together. Isaac spoke to his father Abraham, 'Father' he said. 'Yes, my son' he replied. 'Look,' he said 'here are the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?' Abraham answered, 'My son, God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering.' Then the two of them went on together.

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I now you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son. Abraham called this place 'The Lord provides', and hence the saying today: On the mountain the Lord provides.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

(R.) Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.

1. O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup; it is you yourself who are my prize. I keep the Lord ever in my sight: since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **(R.)**

2. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; even my body shall rest in safety. For you will not leave my soul among the dead, nor let your beloved know decay. **(R.)**

3. You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy

in your presence, at your right hand happiness for ever. **(R.)**

SECOND READING: Ex 14:15 – 15:1

Tell the children of Israel to march on, to walk through the sea on dry ground.

The Lord said to Moses, 'Why do you cry to me so? Tell the sons of Israel to march on. For yourself, raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea and part it for the sons of Israel to walk through the sea on dry ground. I for my part will make the heart of the Egyptians so stubborn that they will follow them. So shall I win myself glory at the expense of Pharaoh, of all his army, his chariots, his horsemen. And when I have won glory for myself, at the expense of Pharaoh and his chariots and his army, the Egyptians will learn that I am the Lord.'

Then the angel of the Lord, who marched at the front of the army of Israel, changed station and moved to their rear. The pillar of cloud changed station from the front to the rear of them, and remained there. It came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. The cloud was dark, and the night passed without the armies drawing any closer the whole night long. Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove back the sea with a strong easterly wind all night, and he made dry land of the sea. The waters parted and the sons of Israel went on dry ground right into the sea, walls of water to right and to left of them. The Egyptians gave chase: after them they went, right into the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his own horsemen. In the morning watch, the Lord looked down on the army of the Egyptians from the pillar of fire and cloud, and threw the army into confusion. He so clogged their chariot wheels that they could scarcely make headway. 'Let us flee from the Israelites,' the Egyptians cried 'the Lord is fighting for them against the Egyptians!' 'Stretch out your hand over the sea,' the Lord said to Moses 'that the waters may flow back on the Egyptians and their chariots and their horsemen.' Moses stretched out his hand over the sea and, as day broke, the sea returned to its bed. The fleeing Egyptians marched right into it, and the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the very middle of the sea. The returning waters overwhelmed the chariots and the horsemen of Pharaoh's whole army, which had followed the Israelites into the sea; not a single one of them was left. But the sons of Israel had marched through the sea on dry ground, walls of water to right and to left of them. That day, the Lord rescued Israel from the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. Israel witnessed the great act that the Lord had performed against the Egyptians, and the people venerated the Lord; they put their faith in the Lord and in Moses, his servant.

It was then that Moses and the sons of Israel sang this song in honour of the Lord:

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

(R.) Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.

1. I will sing to the Lord, glorious his triumph!

Horse and rider he has thrown into the sea!
The Lord is my strength, my song, my salvation.
This is my God and I extol him, my father's God and
I give him praise. **(R.)**

2. The Lord is a warrior! The Lord is his name.
The chariots of Pharaoh he hurled into the sea,
the flower of his army is drowned in the sea.
The deeps hide them; they sank like a stone. **(R.)**

3. Your right hand, Lord, glorious in its power, your
right hand, Lord, has shattered the enemy. In the
greatness of your glory you crushed the foe. **(R.)**

4. You will lead your people and plant them on your
mountain, the place, O Lord, where you have made
your home, the sanctuary, Lord, which your hands
have made. The Lord will reign for ever and ever. **(R.)**

THIRD READING: Is 55:1-11

**Come to me and your soul will live. With you I will
make an everlasting covenant.**

Thus says the Lord: Oh, come to the water all you
who are thirsty; though you have no money, come!
Buy corn without money, and eat, and, at no cost,
wine and milk. Why spend money on what is not
bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy? Listen,
listen to me, and you will have good things to eat
and rich food to enjoy. Pay attention, come to me;
listen, and your soul will live. With you I will make an
everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to
David. See, I have made of you a witness to the
peoples, a leader and a master of the nations.
See, you will summon a nation you never knew,
those unknown will come hurrying to you, for the sake
of the Lord your God, of the Holy One of Israel who
will glorify you. Seek the Lord while he is still to be
found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked
man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let
him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to
our God who is rich in forgiving;
for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not
your ways – it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the
heavens are as high above earth as my ways are
above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.
Yes, as the rain and the snow come down from the
heavens and do not return without watering the earth,
making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for
the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that
goes from my mouth does not return to me empty,
without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it
was sent to do.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

**(R.) You will draw water joyfully from the springs
of salvation.**

1. Truly God is my salvation, I trust, I shall not fear.
For the Lord is my strength, my song, he became my
saviour. With joy you will draw water from the wells
of salvation. **(R.)**

2. Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples,
declare the greatness of his name. **(R.)**

3. Sing a psalm to the Lord for he has done glorious
deeds, People of Zion, sing and shout for joy make
them known to all the earth! for great in your midst is

the Holy One of Israel. **(R.)**

EPISTLE: Rom 6:3-11

**Christ, having been raised from the dead, will never
die again.**

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were
baptised in his death; in other words, when we were
baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined
him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the
dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new
life.

If in union with Christ we have imitated his death, we
shall also imitate him in his resurrection. We must
realise that our former selves have been crucified
with him to destroy this sinful body and to free us from
the slavery of sin. When a man dies, of course, he
has finished with sin.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall
return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having
been raised from the dead will never die again. Death
has no power over him any more. When he died, he
died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with
God; and in that way, you too must consider
yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in
Christ Jesus.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION SUNG EASTER VIGIL
(R.) Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

GOSPEL Mt 28:1-10

**He has risen from the dead and now he is going
before you to Galilee.**

After the Sabbath, and towards dawn on the first day
of the week, Mary of Magdala and the other Mary
went to visit the sepulchre. And all at once there was
a violent earthquake, for the angel of the Lord,
descending from heaven, came and rolled away the
stone and sat on it. His face was like lightning, his
robe white as snow. The guards were so shaken, so
frightened of him, that they were like dead men. But
the angel spoke; and he said to the women, 'There is
no need for you to be afraid. I know you are looking
for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here, for he
has risen, as he said he would. Come and see the
place where he lay, then go quickly and tell his
disciples, "He has risen from the dead and now he is
going before you to Galilee; it is there you will see
him." Now I have told you.' Filled with awe and great
joy the women came quickly away from the tomb and
ran to tell the disciples.

And there, coming to meet them, was Jesus.
'Greetings,' he said. And the women came up to him
and, falling down before him, clasped his feet. Then
Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my
brothers that they must leave for Galilee; they will see
me there.'

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed; therefore let
us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity
and truth, alleluia.



Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia.
You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia.
Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia,
alleluia.

FIRST READING: Acts 10:34. 37-43

We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

(R.) This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end. Let the sons of Israel 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. **(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. **(R.)**

SECOND READING: Col 3:1-4

Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

SEQUENCE:

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; and Christ, the undefiled, hath sinners to his Father reconciled. Death with life contended: combat strangely ended! Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign. Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way. The tomb the Living did enclose; I saw Christ's glory as he rose! The angels there attesting; shroud with grave-clothes resting.

Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee. That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know. Victorious king, thy mercy show!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia!

GOSPEL: Jn 20:1-9

The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.



NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS: SUNDAY MASS

First Reading: Acts 2:42-47

Second Reading: 1 Pt 1:3-9

Gospel: Jn 20:19-31