St Gerard Majella 146 Maundrell Terrace, Chermside West St Paschal Baylon
30 Warraba Ave, Wavell Heights

SUNDAY 16th April 2023 Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) Year A

Dear Parishioners, Friends and Visitors,

As humans, we are by nature social beings, and as social beings, we always struggle when our capacity to move about and live life freely is inhibited. This is why when Covid-19 broke out and we had to experience quarantine, self-isolation and lockdown, our nature as social beings was impacted and we struggled. Even the most highly introverted people wrestled with prolonged isolation.



The negative impacts of the effects of Covid-19 were largely unprecedented. Many psychologists and health experts remarked that isolation not only numbed the human brain with boredom, but it also led to depression and anxiety. While we may have found experiences of isolation, quarantine or lockdown antithetical to our nature as social beings, they were also the realities of life we had to face in the midst of an outbreak of a dangerous virus.

In the gospel of this second Sunday of Easter, also known as Divine Mercy Sunday, we see the early disciples of Christ experiencing self-imposed isolation and self-quarantine. Since the events of Good Friday, these folks appeared to have been suffering from a severe dose of depression and anxiety. While they may have continued to meet in the Upper Room where the Last Supper had taken place, it appeared they had been living in fear. In their apprehension and anxiety, they must have listened for every step on the stair and every knock on the door. They shut themselves in for their own self-protection. This was a sign of a people who were going through some form of psychological pain and mental agony.

They were still gripped by fear when the Risen Lord made a sudden visit to them. He appeared and greeted them with the normal eastern greeting- "Peace be with you." This was more than a greeting. "Peace be with you" was a prayer for the disciples. It was as if the Risen Lord said to them, 'may you be healed and saved from the psychological pain and mental anguish you have been suffering since my death on Good Friday.' At the time of this visit to the fear-stricken disciples, Thomas one of the apostles was not present. And when he was told by the others about the visit of the Risen Lord, Thomas refused to believe. He wanted to 'see, touch and feel' the holes the nails had made in the hands of Christ. In the vicissitudes of life even the strongest faith can meet with doubts. Personally, I can resonate with the experience of faith meeting doubt when I had to struggle with the sudden death of my Mum four months before my diaconate ordination.

After a week had elapsed, the Risen Lord made another unannounced visit to the disciples and Thomas happened to be present. Christ knew Thomas's heart and his inner struggles. As the Risen Lord repeated Thomas's own words, and invited Thomas to make the test he had demanded, Thomas exclaimed "My Lord and my God."

Regardless of whether we were baptised as infants or we embraced the Christianity

PARISH PRIEST

FR John Echewodo

Email: echewodoj@bne.catholic.net.au

Mob: 0493 636 632 (only urgent or after hours calls)

PARISH ADMINISTRATION: Phone: 07 3359 0239

Margaret Gee (Parish Secretary)

Email: chermsidewest@bne.catholic.net.au

SACRAMENTAL COORDINATOR

Mrs Dianne Trudgian

Email: sacramental.chermside@bne.catholic.net.au

SAFEGUARDING / WORKPLACE HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICER

Compliance Officer: Carmela Knauth

Email: lsr.chermsidewest@bne.catholic.net.au

Phone: 0493 655 502

YOUTH COORDINATOR

Ms Abbey Coman

Email: yc.chermsidewest@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH OFFICE

146 Maundrell Terrace, Chermside West 4032

Phone: (07) 3359 0239

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9am to 3pm.

Mail: PO Box 859, Aspley Qld 4034

Email: chermsidewest@bne.catholic.net.au **Website:** www.olaparishchermside.org.au

PARISH SCHOOL

Our Lady of the Angels Primary School 30 Warraba Ave, Wavell Heights Q 4012

P: 07 3359 9198

Leadership Team:

Principal: Mr Matthew Beacroft
APA: Mr Sam O'Leary

APRE: Mrs Kirsten Karey
PLL: Mrs Liz O'Brien

Email: pwavellheights@bne.catholic.edu.au

MASS TIMES

St Gerard Majella - 146 Maundrell Tce, Chermside West

Mon: 9.00am FRI: 9.00am

Sat 4:30pm **Sun:** 8:00am & 5:30pm

St Paschal Baylon - 30 Warraba Ave, Wavell Heights

Wed: 8.45am (During School Term)

Thu: 9.00am **Sat:** 6:00pm **Sun:** 9:30am

RECONCILIATION IS available after Parish Mass Please approach Fr John

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STOPline receives information about suspected abuse, harm and other serious misconduct by Archdiocesan workers (including priests, religious, employees and volunteers). Information can be shared anonymously.

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(Contiued on P2)

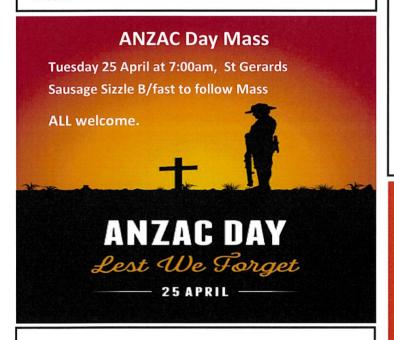
(Continued from P1.)

as adults after going through the RCIA, faith should never be an easy thing for us, just as it was not an easy thing for Thomas. Faith comes with an enormous cost, and it is important that we as Christians count the cost of associated with our faith every day. As soon as Thomas was convinced of his faith and had counted the cost, nothing stopped or scared him from paying its ultimate cost which is martyrdom. He is known as the Apostle of India.

Like Thomas the Apostle, through baptism we have been called and chosen and at the end of every Mass, we are sent forth like Thomas and the apostles of old, to go and become bearers of the good news.

May the life of Thomas and all our forebears in the faith continue to inspire us to be apostles and living witnesses to the resurrection and the good news - wherever we find ourselves in the coming days of the week.

God bless you all. Fr. John



Funeral Notice

Funeral Mass for the late Mr Brian Denis Byrne Wednesday 19 April 2023—10.30am St Gerard's Majella Catholic Church



Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

Our Lady of the Angels' Parish

Warmly welcomes new members through Baptism

Liam Antonio Jenkinson

Genevieve Lily Magnay Clancy

Baptisms are celebrated on Saturday mornings at
10:00am alternately at St Gerards' and St Paschals'.

Bookings to be arranged in person at the Parish

Monday - Friday between 9am - 3pm.

Please check the Parish website for documentation required when making a booking.

Office

Attention Ladies

New Date - 3rd May

The Reflection Day which was planned for Lent is now going to happen on Wednesday 3rd May 9.30 am – 2.30 pm.



I know we did mention the 10th May but that also seemed to hold problems for people. SO -

DATE: 3rd May

VENUE: Parish Meeting Room. **COST:** \$20 (if possible for you)

RSVP - very important: Thursday 27th April to the

Parish Office.

Sr. Carmel

Lamps Ablaze: Apostolic Priorities for the Archdiocese of Brisbane

Priority Two: Reshaping Parish Communities

"Our current structures are based upon the facts of an earlier time and our current mode of provision is unsustainable. In the cities at least we have too many parishes and too many churches. Urban parishes were established on the assumption that people had to be able to walk to church and at a time when the numbers attending Mass were much larger. Many of our parishes are pressed financially and cannot provide the range of services which a missionary Church requires. Therefore, we need - sensibly and over time - to move towards larger configurations of a community of communities where the concentration of personnel and the sharing of resources would allow a greater range of services for the sake of the Gospel."

Download the whole document at tinyurl.com/lampsablaze

Brief Messages

Thank You

A big thank you to all the many volunteers who made our Easter celebrations so special.

Name Badges

Please collect your name badges from the Office.

Meditation Group

There will be no meditation group at 5.45pm on Mondays for the rest of April. The group will start up again on Monday 1 May at St Paschal's. Any enquiries please contact Susie Jones 3359 8997.

JISA FABER—Jesuit and Ignatian Spirituality Retreat opportunities. See noticeboard or website: www.jisa.org.au

Reception of Communion from the Chalice

We are now able to re-introduce the practice of receiving communion from the chalice.

We are aware that some parishioners may not be comfortable with the relaxation of these practices as COVID-19 still remains a health risk in the community. Please only do what you are comfortable with. The health of all in our Parish Community is our highest priority. Of course, if you are unwell, you should really stay home and in any case, should refrain from receiving from the chalice or on the tongue.

Process

To begin with, we shall start with 2 ministers of the Precious Blood at each Mass with a limited quantity of wine to be consecrated. We shall amend the arrangements as time goes by depending on demand.

Thank you for your co-operation.

MAY 18-20, 2023 RIVERLIFE CENTRE Summit Seventeen Mile Rocks principal gathering of the Archdiocese brisbanesummit.com Be **empowered, inspired** and **equipped** to engage in the mission of the Church.

Pilgrimage – In the Hearts of Francis and Clare (Holy Cross Parish and Dragonfly Ministries')

An opportunity for 'slow pilgrimage', taking time to explore and reflect upon the heart of Saints Francis and Clare of Assisi.

Experience the places in which they lived, prayed and learned to love God more each day.

Over 10/11 days and nights, we will walk the streets and fields, sit in the caves and chapels of Assisi, the Rieti Valley sanctuaries and the mountain of La Verna where Francis received the stigmata.

Gathering in Rome on Friday 18 August 2023 and dispersing from Rome on Monday morning 28 August 2023.

Optional extension A: Adventures in Rome: 5 nights and 5 days pre

Optional extension B: St Anthony of Padua: 2 nights and 3 days post-pilgrimage

For more information contact Grace Harwood

M: 0409 524 283

E: grace@dragonflyministries.net.au

Stewardship

"Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you." John 20:19

Are you good at making people feel welcome? When you meet someone new, like a new neighbour, a new work colleague or a new parishioner, do you make them feel at home? When we make people feel welcome, we make them feel like they are included instead of being excluded. We are made for relationships - with God and each other. When you see yourself as a beloved son or daughter of God, you tend to see others the same way, too - just as God, Our Father, sees us.

(Accessed on April 3,2023from www.archstl.org/about-stewardship/bulletin -inserts/weekly-biblereflections)

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WE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Brian Byrne

Anniversaries: Please pray for Thelma D'Silva, Caterina Romeo, Marie Kirwan and all those whose names appear

in our Parish Books of Remembrance.

Sick: Please pray for all those whose names appear in our

Parish Books of the Sick.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

23 April 2023 - Third SUNDAY of Easter

1st Reading:

Acts 2:14, 22-33

Psalm:

Psalm 15: 1-2, 5, 7-11

2nd Reading:

1 Peter 1: 17-21

Gospel:

9/04/23

Luke 24: 13-35

OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS PARISH

Weekend 1st

2nd

Loose

2300.35 1590.00

TOTAL \$3890.35

All donations are greatly appreciated

Regular Parish Activities

1st Friday: Adoration after 9.00am Mass St Gerards 2nd Friday: Anointing Mass 9.00am St Gerards

Rosary: before Friday Mass (but not during Lent)

: after Friday Mass

What's on this Week: 17 - 21 Apr 2023

Thurs 20/4 Thursday Ladies Group St G 10:00am

Op-Shop OPEN

Monday to Friday 9:30am to 1:30pm

Piety Shop OPEN

Monday to Friday 9:00am to 3:00pm



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https://evangelisationbrisbane.org.au/daily-reflections/

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Turrbal Peoples, who have walked this Country in ages past, who walk it now and will walk it in the future. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and acknowledge their profound connection and respect for the land and waterways of this Country. Spirit and Creator God, may you guide us in the traditions of this land as we walk gently and humbly, in kinship with all of creation.



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Local Parishioners.

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John Andrew - 0401 343 727 johnandrew@eplace.com.au





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