

# OUR COMMUNITY NEWS

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Special Parish Events (Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals) Phone: Anne Beer 0417 369 322 / 5349 2168

Parish Support - *If you need help with anything, please phone one of our members:*  
Gail Hall: 0412 311 586 Bernadette Franc: 0427 678 830 Anne Beer: 0417 369 322

## SUNDAY – 18<sup>th</sup> April 2021 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

### ***Novel coronavirus (COVID-19)***

The latest COVIDSafe updates are on the diocesan website “news” section [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au).

### **RECENT DEATHS:**

Gayle O’Loughlan, Sr Monica Butler RSM,  
Carla Zampatti & Prince Philip, Duke of  
Edinburgh.

### **ANNIVERSARIES:**

Shelia Fay, Peter Cushing, Jack Collins,  
Jack Harney, Doug McCracken, Ivan  
Cuthbertson, John Francis Slater, David Sal,  
Helen Roxburgh, Brian Fleming & Jimmy Wall.

### **PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Pat Byrne, Margaret MacDonald, Roger Molomby,  
Graeme Dawson, Blake Dridan, Shelagh Mulcahy  
Fr Adrian McInerney, Valda Murphy,  
and all those in need of prayer

### **ROSTERS**

#### ***Introduction & Readings***

Today: Gerrard Family

April 25: Anne Beer

#### ***Prayers of the Faithful***

Today: Gerrard Family

April 25: John Jess

#### ***Assembly Leader***

Today: Anne Beer & Sue Mahony

#### ***Special Minister***

Today: Clarrie Johnston

#### ***Music***

Today: Naomi Gerrard

April 25: Sue Mahony

#### ***Church Cleaning, Linen & Flowers***

April 25 & May 2: Sue Mahony & Kim Truong

#### ***Church Grounds***

April 25 & May 2: Jim Mahony

#### ***Newsletter:***

April: Bernadette Franc 0427 678 830

### **MASS TIMES**

**Sunday April 25<sup>th</sup>** 8.30 a m Mass  
(4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter) ANZAC DAY

### **Our Diocesan Community – Issue 1, 2021**

The first edition of ODC for 2021 is available as of now. Please take a copy to the homebound, nursing homes, hospitals etc to spread the good news of the Diocese,

### **Year of St Joseph – Monthly Reflection**

The April reflection, explains that St Joseph was a Man of Dreams.

[https://catholic.org.au/images/Year\\_of\\_St\\_Joseph\\_Reflection\\_April\\_2021.pdf](https://catholic.org.au/images/Year_of_St_Joseph_Reflection_April_2021.pdf)

Daily Prayers to St Joseph: The ACBC have provided daily prayers and a shorter Litany to St Joseph available from <https://catholic.org.au/yearofstjoseph>

### **Project Compassion 2021**

A reminder to return your Project Compassion box.

### **An Easter Reflection – One Solitary Life**

Please take a copy of the Easter reflection, ‘One Solitary Life.’ There are still a few copies of this left.

### **Praying with Pope Francis**

The Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions cover all sorts of areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope and calling us to loving service. Praying each month ‘The Pope Video’ forms part of the Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network. This video, published to Facebook and YouTube, includes a personal message from the Pope as he asks us to pray for each monthly intention. You can find it at [www.thepopevideo.org](http://www.thepopevideo.org). Pope’s intention for April: **April universal intention for evangelisation – Fundamental Rights:** We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting for fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

*It is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead.*

The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread.

They were still talking about all this when Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you!' In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. But he said, 'Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have.' And as he said this he showed them his hands and feet. Their joy was so great that they could not believe it, and they stood dumbfounded; so he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes.

Then he told them, 'This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms, has to be fulfilled.' He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them: 'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.'

### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER / B

18 APRIL 2021

## THE CALL TO BE WITNESSES

Justice is often understood as fairness or even-handedness. The biblical tradition would not deny this but would tend to see justice as primarily about being in right relationship with God, oneself and others. Someone who is able to live in such a way would be seen to live in *shalom* (peace). On this Third Sunday of Easter these two dimensions are stressed. The first and second reading deal with Jesus as the just one who invites us to find and maintain balance in our relationships with God, ourselves and others. In the Gospel it is in relationship with the risen Jesus that we find true peace, as he leads us out of our fears and gives each one of us a new task – to be faithful and courageous witnesses.

Peter reaches out to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and re-opens the case for Jesus. He does not deny their mistake but states that since they acted in ignorance in killing Jesus the opportunity is still there for them to review their previous judgement and now accept Jesus as their saviour and come into right relationship with him. It is the Risen Lord who appears to the disciples and helps them to understand that even his brutal death was part of God's saving plan. Furthermore, his presence among them will lead them to overcome their fearful relationship to the world. A new relationship is called for since now they are given a new task, to be witnesses to the whole world.

## FIRST READING

Acts 3: 13-15, 17-19

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.**

*You killed the prince of life; God, however, raised him from the dead.*

Peter said to the people: 'You are Israelites, and it is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, who has glorified his servant Jesus, the same Jesus you handed over and then disowned in the presence of Pilate, after Pilate had decided to release him. It was you who accused the Holy One, the Just One, you who demanded the reprieve of a murderer while you killed the prince of life. God, however, raised him from the dead, and to that fact we are the witnesses.

'Now I know, brothers, that neither you nor your leaders had any idea what you were really doing; this was the way God carried out what he had foretold, when he said through all his prophets that his Christ would suffer. Now you must repent and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out.'

### ■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 4: 2, 4, 7, 9. R. v. 7

**R. Lord, let your face shine on us.**  
(or Alleluia!)

1. When I call, answer me, O God of justice; / from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear me! **R.**
2. It is the Lord who grants favours to those whom he loves; / the Lord hears me whenever I call him. **R.**
3. 'What can bring us happiness?' many say. / Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord. **R.**
4. I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once, / for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety. **R.**



## SECOND READING

1 Jn 2: 1-5

**A reading from the first letter of St John.**

*Jesus Christ is the sacrifice that takes away our sins and those of the whole world.*

I am writing this, my children, to stop you sinning; but if anyone should sin, we have our advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, who is just; he is the sacrifice that takes our sins away, and not only ours, but the whole world's. We can be sure that we know God only by keeping his commandments. Anyone who says, 'I know him', and does not keep his commandments, is a liar, refusing to admit the truth. But when anyone does obey what he has said, God's love comes to perfection in him.

### ■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Lk 24: 32

**Alleluia, alleluia! / Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us: / make our hearts burn with love when you speak. / Alleluia!**