



'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.**

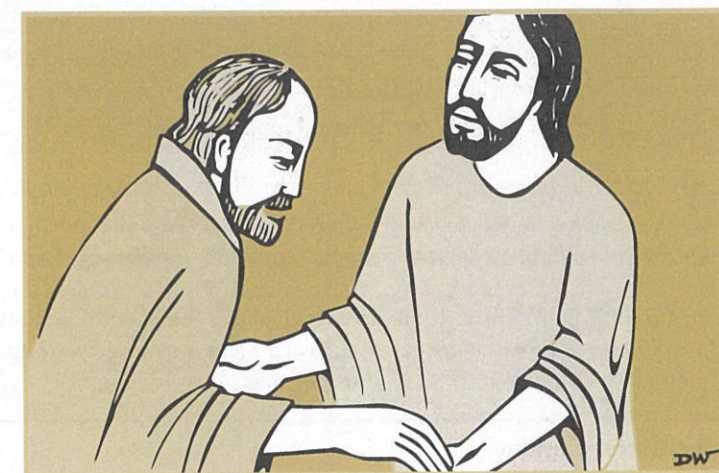
SECOND READING

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!

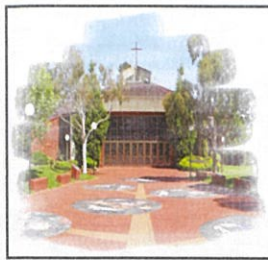
GOSPEL

Jn 20: 19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

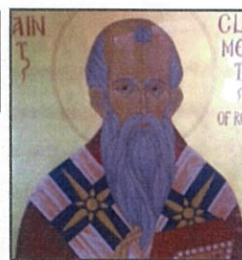
After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.

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.'



St Clement of Rome Church

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Italian Chaplain: Fr Vito Pegolo (0419 736 890), **School Principal:** Mr Michael Watt (9850 1216)

Parish Secretary: Bernadine De Silva (9850 3262) **St Vincent de Paul Helpline** (1800 305 330)

Parish Vision Statement : Guided and inspired by the Holy Spirit, the Parish of St Clement of Rome seeks to be a community of authentic disciples of Jesus, living the Word of God. As a welcoming community, through humble service, we acknowledge our stewardship of God's creation and strive to promote the dignity of all God's people.

Welcome to St Clement of Rome as we celebrate the Second Sunday of Easter
Today's theme is : After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them
We invite you to reflect on this theme throughout the Mass.

Divine Mercy Sunday

Thomas was absent at the first appearance of the risen Jesus to his disciples, but he was the central character in the second appearance which ends with a beatitude forever associated with him: 'Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

Thomas represents future generations of Christians who are called to believe on the testimony of others. At the Last Supper, in his prayer to the Father, Jesus already had them in mind: 'I pray not only for these, but for those also who through their words will believe in me. May they be one. Father, may they be one in us, as you are in me and I am in you' (John 17:20-21).

As profound as Thomas' confession was after he came to believe, the faith of those who do not enjoy the kind of experience he and the other disciples had is more remarkable. Peter speaks so beautifully of this faith: 'You did not see him, yet you love him, and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls' (1 Peter 1:8-9).

God's Word—Daily Reflections



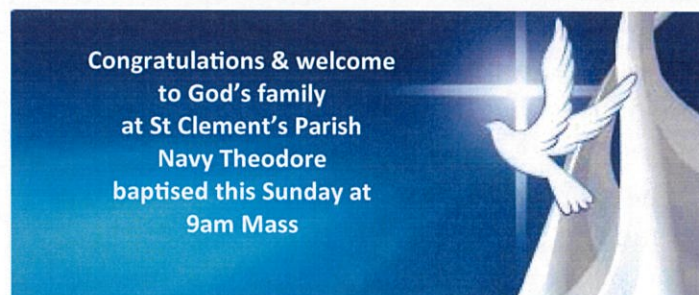
Devotions :

Come and celebrate the 24th official worldwide Divine Mercy Sunday 7th April
Camberwell : Basilica of Our Lady of Victories

12.30pm—Confessions, 3pm—Prayer, 3.15pm—Holy Mass
Enquiries : 9830 4386

Doncaster East : St Peter and Paul's Church
2pm—Holy Rosary, 2.30pm Confessions, Adoration & Devotions.

3.00pm—Holy Mass
Enquiries : 9842 1480



Parish Morning tea this Sunday after 9am Mass

Please join us for a delightful morning tea after Mass in the Clifton Centre. All welcome.

MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION & OTHER SACRAMENTS
Mass Times: Sat 5:30pm (Vigil), Sun - 9am & 11am (Italian)
Tues 9:15am (Italian), Wed-Sat 9:15am (unless informed)

Reconciliation: Sat 9.45am (and on request). Marian Devotions & Eucharistic Adoration : Sat 8.40am
Baptisms: Welcoming (3rd weekend) & Baptism (4th weekend) every month. Weddings: By Appointment

We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people, the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently on this land.

PARISH DIARY

Sun 7th Apr @ 9am—Baptism & morning tea in the Clifton Centre followed by Mass
Fri 19th Apr @ 9.15am—Whole School Eucharist/ Presentation of Yr 6 Leaders

Recent Deaths & Death Anniversaries

We pray for those who have died recently, and for the repose of the souls of **Romeo Zanini, Marco Parissi, Daniele Schieven** and all those, whose anniversaries occur at about this time. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

After School Sacramental Program

The preparation classes for the Sacrament of Eucharist will begin on the Sat 27th April. Please visit our website to check out the full list of class dates and other information.



Online Training Program—Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion—9th April

This 5 week online program provides rich and engaging content in a supportive environment. The program is led by an experienced liturgy instructor and features many opportunities for questions and interaction with others.

Online Training Program—Minister of the Word 4th June

This 4 week program will be led by a experienced liturgy instructor who will guide participants through our engaging materials in a friendly and supportive learning environment.

For more information, contact the ACU Centre for Liturgy
Email : centreforliturgy@acu.edu.au
Phone : (02) 9701 4751

Thank You

Caritas Australia would like to **THANK YOU** for supporting Project Compassion 2024. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit caritas.org.au/project-compassion and donate online.

Your generosity will empower the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and lift themselves out of poverty.

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.



LITURGY ROSTER		SAT 5.30PM	SUN 9.00AM
Date		Saturday 5.30 pm	Sunday 9 am
6 /7 April	<i>Sacristan</i>	Elroy De Witt	Francis & Gloria Ng
	<i>Commentator</i>	Rene De La Cruz	Jan McQueen
	<i>Reader</i>	Paul Sammut	Maria Papalia
	<i>Special Ministers</i>	John Bruce	Anne Fusca
		Elroy De Witt	Rita Gagliardi
		May Teh	Fulvia Gerasolimo
13/14 April	<i>Sacristan</i>	John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
	<i>Commentator</i>	Paul Sammut	Maria Papalia
	<i>Reader</i>	May Teh	Yamna Taouk
	<i>Special Ministers</i>	Martin Teh	Gloria Ng
		Enza Wilcocks	Shirley Pyndiah
		Warwick Wright	Grace Cannatelli

ROSTER—ITALIAN MASS 11AM

DATE	LETTORI	OFFERTORIO	MINISTRI DELL' EUCHARISTIA
14/04	J FAGGION P LOMBARDO	FAM. L VETTORETTO	C TRAVAGLINI T RECINELLA

Meditation and Mindfulness

Join Rowland Ashby, author of A Faith to Live By: Conversations about faith with twenty-five of the world's leading spiritual teachers (Anglican Media/Mosaic Press 2012) and former Director of Anglican Media Melbourne and editor of The Melbourne Anglican as he leads this special meditation series at Heart of Life in Croydon this Autumn. This practice can be profoundly healing and life-giving. Starting on 8 April and running for 8 weeks, you can tap into a deep spring of love, joy, peace and compassion at the centre of our being. Jesus called it Living Water, with which we will never thirst. Cultivate a transforming, healing awareness of the Divine presence, and learn how to mediate.
Book in using this link: <https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/meditation-mindfulness-in-the-christian-tradition/>