

St Agnes' Catholic Parish, Highett

Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

EASTER SUNDAY: RESURRECTION OF THE LORD/A 12th & 11th April 2020



PARISH TEAM:

Rev. John W O'Reilly (Parish Priest)
Elizabeth Sebastian (Tuesday,
Wednesday, Thursday)
Email: highett@cam.org.au
Ph: 9532 1794

SCHOOL:

Mr Lachlan Foott (School Principal)
Shannon Shine (Secretary)
Naomi Field (Secretary)
Jessica Casey (R.E.L.)
Ph: 9532 0344

MASS TIMES:

Weekend
Saturday Vigil 6pm
Sunday 8am & 10am
Weekday
Wednesday 9am Communion Service
Monday, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9am preceded by
Rosary

SPECIAL DEVOTIONS

Friday after 9am Mass
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Novena,
Benediction

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5.15 - 5.45pm or by apt

BAPTISMS

Sunday 10am Mass.

Parish Office:

1 Locinda Street, Highett 3190
www.sahighett.org.au

School Office

Peterson Street, Highett 3190
www.sahighett.catholic.edu.au

LITURGY OF THE WORD: 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

1st Reading: ACTS 2:42-47;

2nd Reading: 1 PET 1:3-9; Gospel: JOHN 20:19-31

EASTER OCTAVE: This begins on Easter Sunday and ends on the 2nd Sunday of Easter which is Divine Mercy Sunday. The Easter Octave "overrides" any other feasts on the calendar.

ST AGNES' PARISH NEWS

EASTER BRINGS HOPE

During these very challenging times of COVID-19 (Coronavirus), the message of Easter, that death did not contain Jesus, offers hope for us.

Let us remember that the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ is celebrated at every Mass.

I would also like you to know that I pray daily for the safety of the parish and school families. May God bless each one of you and your families. Stay safe. **HAPPY EASTER.**

Message from Fr John O'Reilly



9 DAY NOVENA TO THE DIVINE MERCY

JESUS HIMSELF disclosed the following intentions to pray for on each day of the Novena.

DAY 1 (Good Friday) - All mankind, especially sinners

DAY 2 (Holy Saturday) - The souls of priests and religious

DAY 3 (Easter Sunday) - All devout and faithful souls

DAY 4 (Easter Monday) - Those who do not believe in Jesus & those who do not know Him

DAY 5 (Easter Tuesday) - The souls of separated brethren

DAY 6 (Easter Wednesday) - The meek and humble souls and the souls of children

DAY 7 (Easter Thursday) - The souls who especially venerate and glorify Jesus' mercy

DAY 8 (Easter Friday) - The souls who are detained in purgatory;

DAY 9 (Easter Saturday) - The souls who have become lukewarm.

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy should be offered each day for the day's intentions.

Parishioners are strongly encouraged to adhere to the following preventative measures to help protect the most vulnerable in our communities and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

- Individuals should consider their own health, including any potential to infect others with a contagious disease.
- Keep a distance of 1.5 metres between one another unless you are family.
- Exchange greetings with no physical contact unless you are family.
- You are encouraged to participate in a Mass online. Go to:
<https://melbourmecatholic.org.au/Mass> or
<http://bit.ly/MassOnDemand>
dailymass@shalomworld.org
www.cam.org.au/mordiallocaspendale
www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass

Please keep in your prayers -

Sick: Francis Xavier & Margie Arokiasamy,
Nicholas Lourdes, Cecily & Anthony Rajendran,
A Mary, Phillip Greco, Bill Power, Leslie Raymond,
Hilary Palman, Christina Vargis, Ann Ward



AN EASTER CALLING TO US BY NAME

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
Archbishop of Melbourne

What a strange and unsettling storm we are living through! Our lives have become a see-saw between physical isolation and online overload. We come to this year's Easter festivities having been tested in unprecedented ways. What might we draw from that first Easter that can sustain and renew us? Let me offer you the name of Mary of Magdala.

The first to see the resurrected Jesus at Easter dawn was Mary. She was the first to see him; the first to recognize him; the first to be named by him; and the first to be sent by him. Mary rightly is the first apostle, the one called and sent to proclaim Jesus Christ, risen from the dead. Yet, all of this happened quietly, and away from the public gaze that had marked the suffering and death of the world's Saviour. Jesus did not return to his people in a blaze of publicity; but quietly, gently, personally - he called Mary by name.

It is worth honouring Mary Magdalene at this strange and disorienting Easter of 2020, when none of our customary ways of marking these Greatest of Days can occur. For in the tender meeting of Jesus with Mary we have a sure sign of how we might make our way through these days of suffering.

Jesus Christ did not rise from the dead so as to show the world something marvelous and clever. His rising instead showed that suffering and death would no longer have the last word. Rather, that first word spoken to Mary and then repeated through the generations is a name, bearing hope and life for each whose name is called. Easter is a word that recreated the world.

Christians have not been able to gather physically to participate in the Easter Ceremonies this year. Friends and family have not been free to socialize together. No shared leisure; no common activities; no sport. There are no public ways to mark this religious festival. Yet, that first word Jesus spoke at his resurrection - a name on the lips of God - he is now speaking into this storm that has engulfed us. Overwhelmed, disoriented and fearful as we might feel, a calm, clear and tender voice is calling our name.

It is not a voice to magically whisk us away to comfort and security, nor a voice that pretends there is no storm to ride through. It is, rather, the voice of the Risen One, who has known suffering and death, and has tamed their power to overwhelm us. He stands with each of us, so that we need not stand alone. He calls each of us, so that we have a sure compass point. He walks with each of us to show the way through.

Death does not have the last word any longer, even though its threat remains. Our lives - held in the heart of God and carried through death to life by his Son - have not been forgotten. We are remembered by God; he calls each of us by name.

And as Jesus is calling us, he is also sending us to speak words of care, support and comfort into the lives of those around us, and into our #Home Church. He is the voice that speaks through those we are close to at this time - our children we are caring for, our leaders protecting the people, our healthcare workers serving in danger, our spouses and loved ones.

As we remember this Easter that the first word of the risen Jesus was the name 'Mary'. May we hear our own names echo in that call. Let us hold onto this anchor in the storm we are currently living through. To borrow a colloquial phrase, Christ has our back, and we will be OK with him.

Happy Easter.

