



## St Mary's Parish Concord

### Easter Sunday

12 April 2020

#### LITURGY OF THE WORD

Year A

##### FIRST READING:

**Acts of the Apostles 10:34, 37-43**

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

##### RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 117

*This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad..*

##### SECOND READING:

**St Paul to the Colossians 3:1-4**

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

##### GOSPEL: John 20:1-9

*He must rise from the dead.*

#### PRAYER INTENTIONS

We pray for those who have recently died: Terry Tully and Francesca Sanfilipo.

We pray for those in many places who have died as a result of the COVID-19 virus, for their families and all who mourn for them.

We pray for all those who are sick.

We pray for the health worker who care for the sick.

**NSW Government Public Health  
(COVID-19 Places of Social Gathering)  
23 March 2020**

#### **All churches must remain closed.**

No Masses or public devotions can be held until further notice. The parish regrets that it is not possible to use the church for private prayer.

## THE EASTER TRIDUUM

*This year, although we are unable to gather in St Mary's church to celebrate the Easter Triduum, we can still celebrate Easter at home and join with millions of Christians throughout the world who like us are praying this Easter for strength and for God's protection during the COVID-19 pandemic.*

*We begin by recalling how we have traditionally celebrated the Easter Triduum (the three days) in the past. We can then adapt those celebrations to our new reality. For some that will mean praying alone, while for others it will be an opportunity to pray with those with whom they live.*

*The Triduum begins on **Holy Thursday** evening with the celebration of the Mass of the Lord's Supper. The Gospel reading from John (13:1-15) recalls the Last Supper when Jesus washed the feet of the disciples. This year, even in those churches where the Mass being celebrated, there will be no washing of the feet. Yet we are still reminded that we are called to serve and not to be served.*

*On **Good Friday** morning in the past our community gathered to recall the death of Jesus by following the **Stations of the Cross**. Then in the afternoon we gathered again for the solemn **Commemoration of the Passion of Jesus**. We listened to the readings from the Word of God, including the reading of the St John's Passion and then participated in the veneration of the cross. Place a cross in your "prayer space" and quietly listen to or read John's Gospel (18:1 - 19:42).*

***The Easter Vigil** begins on Saturday evening after sunset. We wait in the darkened church to greet the light of Christ as the new Easter Candle is carried in procession. After recalling the story of our salvation in the scripture readings of the Vigil, we entered the Liturgy of Baptism. When there are no candidates to be baptized, water is still blessed in the Baptism Font. We are sprinkled with Easter water to recall our baptism and finally, we celebrate the Liturgy of the Eucharist. This year place a candle and a bowl of water on a table and listen again to the Gospel (Mt 28:1-10) account of the resurrection of Jesus.*

*On **Easter Sunday** we always remember our Baptism during the Mass by renewing our baptism promises. We hear again the Alleluia as we celebrate Christ is risen.*

*The information below will provide some resources that will help families and individuals to celebrate Easter at home.*

## SOME RESOURCES FOR CELEBRATING THE EASTER TRIDUUM

### HOW CAN WE CELEBRATE EASTER AT HOME?

We can be united with each other in prayer by setting aside a time when we can pause and read the Word of God and share our reflections. Many find it helpful to create a “prayer space” that helps us to focus.

We can also find those places where the Mass and other ceremonies are being televised or live-streamed. For those who have access to the Internet there are many places that offer prayers and resources to help us. Those listed below are some examples.

**EASTER SUNDAY and GOOD FRIDAY on Free-to-Air TV:** Catholics around Australia will be able to watch the services at St Mary’s Cathedral in Sydney live on national television. **The Seven Network will stream The Lord’s Passion at 3 pm on Good Friday and Easter Sunday Mass from 10.30 am across the country on Channel 7 and on Prime 7 in regional areas, and live-streamed on 7plus. Both liturgies will be broadcast commercial-free and in their entirety.**

**LITURGY BRISBANE** offers a range of resources that will be updated each week. They can be found on the Liturgy Brisbane website at <https://www.liturgybrisbane.net.au/preparation/sunday-readings-and-family-prayer/>

## SUNDAY READINGS READ AT HOME

The first document contains the Sunday readings with associated commentaries and prayers. It is suggested that families gather to read the Scriptures aloud together. This week features the readings of Easter Sunday.

## FAMILY PRAYER WEEK BY WEEK

The second resource is designed for families with young children. An extract from the Sunday gospel is provided, along with some reflection questions, a family activity and a worksheet for children. We invite you to share these resources with anyone who may find them useful.

**THE MASS** Watch Mass online if you have a computer or a TV that allows you to search the Internet. There are many places now streaming the Mass.

**GO TO THE WEBSITE of The Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney** [www.sydneycatholic.org](http://www.sydneycatholic.org) On the Home

page there is a WATCH HERE button that gives links to churches that are live streaming. As well as the Good Friday and Easter Sunday celebrations being televised by Channel 7, **St Mary’s Cathedral** will also be live-streaming **Holy Thursday** (9 April) *Mass of the Lord’s Supper* at 6.30 pm; **Good Friday** (10 April) *Stations of the Cross* at 10 am and the **Easter Vigil** (11 April) at 6.30 pm

The Sydney Archdiocese website also provides a link to other parishes that are live-streaming Sunday Mass and in some cases weekday Masses and other devotions.

**SACRED SCRIPTURE** Set aside a time each day to read the Bible by taking a book, such as one of the Gospels or the Psalms, and working your way through it together. Pause and reflect on the passage. Use *Lectio Divina* when reading a bible text – this is explained in **Universalis** (see below) and also on the Jamberoo Abbey website.

**THE ROSARY** is a prayer that a family can easily recite together or can be said by those living alone.

**APPS and PODCASTS:** For those with access to a smart phone or a computer, the following Apps and Podcasts may help families and individuals to set aside time for prayer.

**The Examen** is a daily reflection that aims to help us to review how God is present in the ordinary moments of life. It is done at the end of the day and is inspired by the Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola.

Search iTunes or other platforms for the following podcasts:

**The Examen with Fr James Martin SJ** This 18 minute Podcast offers a guided reflection from the American Jesuits

**We Wonder Lent** is a 12 minute Podcast offering a daily reflection suitable for children. The one limitation is that it is from America and has references to the American seasons.

**Universalis** is an App that will give you the texts of the Mass of the day and the Liturgy of the Hours (Morning and Evening Prayer). It is available for Apple, Android and Windows. There is a small once only cost to buy the App.

**PRAYER:** There are many different Websites and Apps that offer prayer and reflections. Some are Australian and there many others are from various English speaking countries:

**Jamberoo Abbey, Benedictine Nuns in NSW** - <https://www.jamberooabbey.org.au/prayer>

**Pray as you Go** - <https://pray-as-you-go.org/> (also an App) offers a daily Scripture reading and prayer

**The God Minute** - <https://www.thegodminute.org/>  
(also an App) invites us to pause for a minute during the day.

**Sacred Space** - <https://www.sacredspace.ie/> (also an App) comes from Ireland and offers a daily reflection and prayer in a range of languages.

**PROJECT COMPASSION:** It is still possible to contribute to Project Compassion. Envelopes and boxes can be left at the Parish Office. You can also donate by phoning 1800 024 413 or visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion)

**Follow us on Twitter**   
**St Marys@ParishConcord**

**FACEBOOK:** If you are on Facebook, you may wish to join our new parish group, **St Mary's Parish Concord**. It has been created as a private group so that only those who join can see the posts. Search for us and ask to join.