



Saint Mary MacKillop Catholic Parish

Birkdale · Thorneside · Wellington Point

(This Parish is Child Safety Aware and also complies with Australian Privacy Laws)



Third Sunday of Easter - Year A - 26th April 2020

Meet in everyone the face of the Risen Lord....

There was once a little boy who desired to meet God. One day he was walking home from school. As he went through the park, he noticed an old woman sitting on a park bench. She looked lonely and hungry, so he sat down and offered part of the chocolate he had been saving. She accepted it with a smile. They sat together in a very friendly manner, eating and drinking and smiling at each other. When the boy got up to leave, he reached over to the woman and gave her a big hug. Then walked home smiling. His mother noticed his big smile and happiness on his face and asked, "What did you do today that made you so happy?" "I had lunch with God. And he has a great smile," he said. The old woman returned to the small house she shared with her sister. She too was smiling. Her sister asked her why she was so happy. "I just had lunch with God. And he is a lot younger than I expected," she said.



The Emmaus story speaks to people of all ages. We can see ourselves in these two despondent travellers on their journey, the faith and hope they have lost, the future they have hoped for fallen apart. And yet they met an unknown friend walking the road with them, who gave them fresh insight, and connected their challenging present situation with what they had known in the past. And, of course, Jesus reveals Himself powerfully and creatively in explaining the Scriptures, in the breaking of bread, as symbolic of the Eucharist. Having dined with Him, they were filled with new energy and enthusiasm, to share with others what they now knew about Him.

God challenges us to meet the Risen Christ who comes to us in ordinary life situations. The disciples of Emmaus were given a lesson in the scriptures. It is in the Word that we also meet God and Jesus. Scripture is God's word and through it He communicates Himself to us. All of the Easter accounts suggest that Christ comes to us in the places where we live out our lives. Followers like Mary, Peter, Cleopas and His companion discover Him in a personal way. The Easter story and the story of the Emmaus journey tell us that God never forces Himself on us, but joins us in a walk or in the visit of a friend or while sharing the sorrow of another or reading a consoling letter from someone we love. God speaks to us in the here and now - in the voices of those who are hurt or are sorrowful, in the faces of the poor and the needy, in the victims of prejudice and the generosity of those who care. We may miss Him if we do not look for Him where Cleopas and his friend found Him - in things as ordinary as a meal and in the Eucharist. Our experience of loving and being loved by Jesus helps us to share that experience with others to help them walk the way of Jesus, to discover the Way of Truth and Life. Today we pray that each of us can personally share in that experience, that our hearts too may be burning within us...

Blessings,

Fr. Dantus Thottathil.

This Week's Readings:

First Reading: Acts 2:14, 22-23 - *It was impossible for him to be held by the power of Hades.*

Psalm Response: Lord, you will show us the path of life.

Second Reading: 1 Pet 1:17-21 - *The ransom that was paid to free you was the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ.*

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us.

Make our hearts burn with love when you speak. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 24:13-35 - *They recognised him at the breaking of the bread.*

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

**Life is really nothing without
Love and Care.**

**Give it to everyone but don't
expect it back, because it is a
FEEL not a DEAL**

Next week's Readings First: Acts 2:14, 36-41

Second: 1 Pet 2:20-25

Gospel: John 10:1-10

Mass Times: Weekend Masses Cancelled until further notice

Reconciliation: Cancelled until further notice

Parish Office Hours: Tuesday & Friday 9am to 2pm.

Parish Council Members: Chris Mahoney, Therese Evans, Cathy McGrath, Lorraine Kumar, John Spillane

Pastor: Fr Dantus Thottathil thottathild@bne.catholic.net.au

Associate Pastor: Fr Prem Rethnamony

12 Hardy Rd, Birkdale Q 4159 ☎ 3822 2139 Fax 3822 4060.

birkmmack@bne.catholic.net.au www.stmarymackillopparish.org.au

Emergency Contact: 3207 4566

Safeguarding Officer: Lisa Knight ☎ 3822 2139

STOPLINE Contact: AOB@stopleveline.com.au

A VOCATION VIEW:

We can feel the Lord's call at the strangest places and times.

The call can haunt us and pursue us until we say,

"Lord, what will you have me do?".

Vocation Brisbane. P: (07) 3336 9392 E: vocation@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Primary School

Principal: Mr John Spillane

10 Hardy Rd, Birkdale Q 4159

☎ 3822 5500 Fax 3822 5690

pbirkdale@bne.catholic.edu.au

www.marymackillop.qld.edu.au

Please be mindful of our sick & all who care for them: Pat and Jack Cochrane, Kevin Kranz, Patricia Briscoe, Alicia Black, Tessa Gorogo, Mick Gauci, Paul McKean, Geoffrey Whall, Kevin Harrop, Judy Mullan, Charles Lilley, Ann Brown, Sally Legarda, Gemma Paxman, James Thomas, Cindy Cummins, John Bacon, Winifred Linton, Jodie Bromiley, Casey Whitby, Trish Swan, Ian Splatt, Jan Hurst, Steven West, Ava Loda, Joan Thorpe, Patricia Haines, Belinda Wheeler, Cely Salisbury, The Bade Family, Carol Parker, Brian Crimmins, Brian Johnston, Medi Camelli, Hazel Foster, Dan Mullan, Stana Matic, Page Brosnan, Dot Abrahams, Amelia Ramsay, Jeanette Moore, Nola Murphy, Christiana Becker, Cathy Leane, Pauline McNamee, Pat Crimmins, Gina Mather.

May God embrace all who have recently died: Mildred Ball-Wilson, John Mills.

Anniversaries & Remembrances April: Raffaele Topatigh, Les Richards, Unis Eather, Mark Fallon, Jim Fagan, Peter Swart, Graham Smith, Toribia Reyes, Rosemary Marr, Maureen McCarthy, Johanna Jorna, Marilyn McDonald, Maria Andrews, Margaret Schleeauf, Catherine Chambers, Theresa Gormley, Pat Gormley, John Gormley, Malcolm Simpson, Catherine and John Gablonski, Pat McGowan, Neville Hume, David Foley, Ian Swann, Daphne Leighton, Maria Poloniato, Kevin Moore, James Maxwell, Sam Sciacca, Brian Lane, Mick & Livia Cencig, Daisy Johnson, Maurice Pye, Sidney Ahrens, Ian Stuart, Ralph Webster, Tony Morrissey, Vivian and Rodello Cabigquez, James Leonard, Aldo Bandiero, Ismael Padilla, John Henry, George Montgomery, Georgia Higgins, Eugenia De Monte, Fred Hudson, Ian Stuart, Ross Prove, Aurora Tan, Doug Risson, Irene Gall, Harry Elliott, Dennis Davey, Helen Sherrin, Jim Maclean, Patricia Stuart, Georgette Ferre, Alan McGrath, John Beers. *Please record any further names in the Anniversaries & Remembrance Diary at the Welcome Desk*

Keep in touch with your parish We are here to support you. If you or someone you know needs pastoral care, help to stay connected with the parish community or more information about sacraments please contact the parish office. If you regularly make a weekly contribution to the running of the Church on the collection plate and you are able to keep making your contributions without causing you any financial hardship, please contact the Parish Office to discuss the options available to continue your support.

Our planned giving bank account details for direct deposits are as follows:

BSB: 064 786 Account No: 100017027 Account name: Birkdale Parish Planned Giving

Kindly reference your deposit with your surname and your planned giving number/envelope number if you have one.

Parish Office – will remain open on **Tuesdays and Fridays (excluding Public Holidays) between 9:00am and 2:00pm** until further notice. The preferred contact method is by phone 3822 2139 or email birkmmack@bne.catholic.net.au. If you require a priest **IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY ONLY** please phone 3396 0742

ANZAC DAY MASS A special ANZAC Day Mass will be streamed from the Cathedral on Saturday April 25th at 11:30am. Here is the Opening Prayer for the Mass on ANZAC Day:

Let us pray. Almighty everlasting God, who sent your Son to die that we might live, grant, we pray, eternal rest to those who gave themselves in service and sacrifice for their country. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him:

I saw the Lord before me always, for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me. So my heart was glad and my tongue cried out with joy: my body, too, will rest in the hope that you will not abandon my soul to Hades nor allow your holy one to experience corruption. You have made known the way of life to me, you will fill me with gladness through your presence.'

'Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witness to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

Second Reading: A reading from the first letter of St Peter

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason - so that you would have faith and hope in God.

Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at the table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes it is true, The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.