



# 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 - 18<sup>th</sup> April 2021

### Meet in every one the face of the risen Lord....

There was once a little boy who always wanted to meet Jesus. 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 the woman and gave her a big hug. He 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.

Today's Gospel describes Jesus' appearance to His apostles who were in the locked Upper Room of the Cenacle on the evening of His Resurrection. Jesus addresses the doubts of His apostles about His Resurrection by inviting them to touch Him and by eating a piece of cooked fish. Jesus explains to them how the prophecies have been fulfilled in Him. Then after receiving the Holy Spirit, He commissions them to bear witness to Him and preach "repentance and forgiveness of sins in His name".

The same Jesus who, prepared the disciples for their preaching and witnessing mission, is present with us in the Eucharistic celebration. In the "Liturgy of the Word of God," Jesus speaks to us. In the "Liturgy of Bread and Wine," Jesus is our spiritual food and drink. Thus, today's Gospel scene is repeated every Sunday on our parish altars. Like the early disciples, we come together to repent of our sins, express our gratitude for blessings received, listen to God's word and offer our lives to God along with our petitions and His gifts of consecrated Bread and Wine. We also share in the spiritual food Jesus gives, thus gaining the necessary strength for sharing Christ's message with the others, mainly by living open and committed Christian lives.

Our daily lives are the way to experiencing the risen Lord and sharing Him with others. Just as the disciples experienced their risen Lord in their community, let us learn to recognize the presence of Jesus in our own homes, parish community.

Blessings,

Fr. Dantus Thottathil.

### This Week's Readings:

**First Reading:** Acts 3:13-15, 17-19 – You killed the prince of life; God, however, raised him from the dead.

**Psalm Response:** Lord, let your face shine on us.

**Second Reading:** 1 John 2:1-5 – Jesus Christ is the sacrifice that takes away our sins and those of the whole world.

### Gospel Acclamation

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

**Gospel:** Luke 24:35-48 – It is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead.



### QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

**Life brings tears,  
smiles and memories.  
The tears dry,  
the smiles fade,  
but the memories last  
forever.**

### Next week's Readings

**First:** Acts 4:8-12

**Second:** 1 John 3:1-2

**Gospel:** John 10:11-18

Roster	Readers	Counting
24 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup> April	6:15pm (1st) Suzanne G 8:00am (1st) Peter L (2nd and POF) Matty M (2 <sup>nd</sup> and POF) Hilda A	Group 4 6:15pm Gp 3 8:00am Gp 2 6:15pm Emma M 8:00am David C

**Mass Times:** Saturday 6:15pm & Sunday 8:00am

**Reconciliation:** Thursday 5:30pm

**Parish Office Hours:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9:00am to 2:00pm.

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

### A VOCATION VIEW:

What could convince someone to turn to God? That God became man and is the sacrifice that takes our sins away. Let us pray – Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us and set our hearts on fire with love when you speak. Enable us to respond to the call to be witnesses of your love.

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**Pastor:** Fr Dantus Thottathil [thottathild@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:thottathild@bne.catholic.net.au)

**Associate Pastor:** Fr Prem Rethnamony

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

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Emergency Contact: 3207 4566

**Safeguarding Officer:** Lisa Knight ☎ 3822 2139

**STOPLINE Contact:** [AOb@stopline.com.au](mailto:AOb@stopline.com.au)

**Parish Primary School**

Principal: Mr John Spillane

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**Please be mindful of our sick & all who care for them:** Colleen Van den Bosch, Janice McAnlen, Rebecca Harvey, Clara Elms, Jasmine Webb, Beth Riegler, Henk Hoonhout, Peter Goodburn, Tony Dickinson, Elizabeth Smit, Pat Cochrane, Patricia Briscoe, Alicia Black, Paul McKean, Geoffrey Whall, Kevin Harrop, Judy Mullan, Charles Lilley, Ann Brown, Sally Legarda, Gemma Paxman, James Thomas, Cindy Cummins, John Bacon, Jodie Bromiley, Casey Whitby, Trish Swan, Ian Splatt, 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:** Roma Piper, Leontia Markey

**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*

**Mass Celebrations** Please visit the following website to register for the Mass you wish to attend. If you are unable to utilise this online system, please call the parish office to register.

**Saturdays** at 6:15pm - Your event URL is <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/parish-mass-saturday-tickets-109262537190>

**Sundays** at 8:00am - Your event URL is <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/parish-mass-sunday-tickets-109263853126>

**EAST TIMOR EASTER RAFFLE** Congratulations to our prize winners – 1<sup>st</sup> - Lucy H, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Ann S, 3<sup>rd</sup> - SVdP Birkdale, and 4<sup>th</sup> - Brian C. Our raffle raised \$953.00. A very big THANK YOU to people who donated prizes and to the people who organised the raffle. Funds raised will go towards the projects currently needed at the School in Metinaro. A total of USD \$10K will be sent (from the Manly and Birkdale Parishes East Timor fundraising) for repair of the fence around the kindergarten to secure the playground of the children and also to help with rendering of the front of the school building. Also to keep the kitchen operating which provides daily food for the children.

**Garden Working Bee** - The gardens and grounds are in need of a tidy up. We need helpers on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April from 4:00pm**. Please bring along tools, hats and sunscreen. Refreshments and water will be provided. If anyone has a trailer available to take rubbish to the dump that would be appreciated. Remember many hands make light work. ***If you are not available on Friday but would like to help out, you are welcome to come and weed and tidy the garden areas at any time that suits you!!***

**Marriage Encounter Weekends - Virtual or live-in** Worldwide Marriage Encounter invites couples, priests and religious to a Marriage Encounter Weekend to enrich and revitalise your Sacrament. It gives you the opportunity to grow in your relationship with your spouse or your community. **Virtual weekend via Zoom, 30<sup>th</sup> April – 2 May 2021**, commencing at 7pm on Friday – concluding at 4pm Sunday. Contact Julie and Zyg Staszyc: 0437 388 513 Email: [sabookings@wwme.org.au](mailto:sabookings@wwme.org.au) **Live-in weekend** Friday 28 May - Sunday 30 May at Ormiston. Contact Maria and David Murphy: (07) 3342 1456, [dandmmurphy@optusnet.com.au](mailto:dandmmurphy@optusnet.com.au) Information website: [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au)

**Project Compassion 2021** Thank you for all the donations so far. Please remember to bring back your compassion boxes and donations by next weekend. Project Compassion boxes and envelopes can be placed on the collection box.

#### **Parish Diary:**

##### **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April**

1:00pm Rosary Group and Private Prayer  
2:00pm Activities Group

##### **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> April**

7:30pm Baptism Preparation

##### **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April**

7:30am HEARTfit  
11:00am Rosary Group and Private Prayer

##### **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April**

5:30pm Reconciliation  
6:00pm Mass

##### **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**

9:30am Mass

##### **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> April**

3:00pm Baptism  
6:15pm Mass

##### **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> April**

8:00am Mass

***Bookings for Weekend Masses are essential***

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

#### **First Reading: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

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.'

#### **Second Reading: A reading from the first letter of St John**

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.

#### **Gospel: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

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 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.'



# A Movement of the Heart

## Support for People Seeking Asylum

### Urgently Needed

#### **A MOVEMENT OF THE HEART**

#### **Support for People Seeking Asylum Urgently Needed**

In recent days, a number of refugees and people seeking asylum who have been detained in the Kangaroo Point Hotel were released into the community. They will be given limited income support and accommodation for between 3 and 6 weeks. After that time, they will be in the same boat as hundreds of other people seeking asylum, including families, in SE Queensland who do not receive help in the form of income support and accommodation.

All of these people seeking asylum are in a very difficult situation. Some have the right to work and access to Medicare, but others do not. For some who have the right to work, it is very difficult to get work at all or enough work to look after themselves and their families. Some are dealing with serious illness and are homeless. Some have been living in the community for several years still waiting for a final decision on their claim for protection. Others have exhausted all legal options available to them to pursue protection from the Australian Government, but have nowhere to go. The way people have arrived here varies from person to person. Some have a visa of some form; others do not. The right to work or to Medicare support is not enjoyed by all. The COVID-19 pandemic has made things much worse for all of them.

To leave hundreds of people desperate to find food to put on the table and to be at risk of being homeless is simply cruel and inhumane. Without income and accommodation support and without work, they rely on the compassionate support of the community.

Many Queenslanders have supported these groups of people seeking asylum with offers of accommodation, financial donations, gift and phone cards, non-perishable food, clothing, toiletries and other basic necessities. Without this support, their struggle to live with dignity would be so much more difficult. With the release of the men detained at the Kangaroo Point Hotel, the need for our compassion only increases

#### **A Movement of the Heart**

We who follow Jesus are a movement of the heart, challenging cruelty and harshness with love and compassion. Jesus invites us to welcome the stranger, to feed the hungry, to give shelter to those without a home and to care for those in need. We do not judge people's circumstances or worthiness. We simply love and care for all who are in need with merciful and compassionate hearts just as the Good Samaritan did.

#### **Asylum Seeker and Refugee Assistance (ASRA) Program**

For the last couple of years, the Queensland Government has come to the aid of hundreds of people seeking asylum and refugees who do not have enough money to survive, who cannot afford a place to rent and who cannot find work. The Government has funded the ASRA Program which offers emergency relief and case managed support to people seeking asylum. 7 major community organisations work together to provide this

support. Around 700 people have been supported by the ASRA program. The need far outweighs the resources available and the funding contract will end in May.

You can help to maintain this vital support by approaching your local State MP and telling them that you want the Queensland Government to continue funding ASRA into the future and for the funds available to be increased.

You can also help the people supported by ASRA by making donations to help pay the rent for people seeking asylum, by offering a unit or home for accommodating people seeking asylum or by helping them to find employment.

If you want to offer practical support to ASRA or if you need more information about ASRA to help you make an approach to your local MP, please contact Anne Hilton, the ASRA Coordinator, at [anneh@communify.org.au](mailto:anneh@communify.org.au).

## **A Wide Range of Opportunities to Provide Support**

Many other groups and organisations help people seeking asylum in SE Queensland in different ways. You can help to replace the cruelty of Government policies with compassion and love by supporting one or a number of these organisations with donations of cash, gift and phone cards, food, offers of accommodation, etc. The type of support that will be accepted by each organisation may vary. Here are contact details for some of these organisations:

- ❖ **Multicultural Australia:** Keirnan Fitzpatrick, [keirnanf@multiculturalaustralia.org.au](mailto:keirnanf@multiculturalaustralia.org.au)
- ❖ **Access Inc (Logan):** 3412 8222
- ❖ **The Romero Centre:** Beata Ostapiej-Piatkowski, Manager, 3013 0100, [beata.ostapiej-piatkowski@mercyys.org.au](mailto:beata.ostapiej-piatkowski@mercyys.org.au)
- ❖ **St Paul's Community Hub, Woodridge:** Jon Soroan, 3208 2868, [jsoroan@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:jsoroan@bne.catholic.edu.au)
- ❖ **Logan Together:** Zahir Ul Husnian, 0413 169 240, [shahzahir2006@yahoo.com](mailto:shahzahir2006@yahoo.com)
- ❖ **Refugee Association of Logan:** Chris Miranda, 0438 621 383, [ral.logan.qld@gmail.com](mailto:ral.logan.qld@gmail.com)
- ❖ **The Society of St Vincent de Paul:** [qld.donations@svdpqld.org.au](mailto:qld.donations@svdpqld.org.au) or 1800 846643
- ❖ **Indooroopilly Uniting Church Refugee & Asylum Seeker Welcome Centre:** Malcolm Dunning, [malcolmd@exemail.com.au](mailto:malcolmd@exemail.com.au), or the church office, 3878 9535
- ❖ **World Wellness Group:** 3333 2100, [admin@worldwellnessgroup.org.au](mailto:admin@worldwellnessgroup.org.au)
- ❖ **Refugee and Immigration Legal Service:** 3846 9300 or donate via <https://www.rails.org.au/donate>
- ❖ **Red Cross Migration Services and Support:** [3367 7222](tel:33677222)

*This information has been compiled by the Catholic Justice & Peace Commission of the Archdiocese of Brisbane. If you need more information, please contact the Commission on 3324 3441 or [cjpc@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:cjpc@bne.catholic.net.au)*

