

Second Sunday of Easter
16 April 2023

YEAR A
#21.23

Reflection

Faith and Doubts

There are three elements in today's Gospel story that should give us great comfort. The first is that Thomas doubts the early Church, and not just in regard to a minor issue of discipline or procedure. He doubts the central Christian message: that God raised Jesus from the dead. Some of us, too, at various times in our lives, can have doubts about all sorts of things in our faith. There are very few Catholics who get through life without asking some serious questions of God, about Jesus, the Spirit and the Church.

The second consoling fact to this story concerns the earliest Church. Even though they were filled with the presence of the Risen Lord and though Thomas refuses to believe their witness, they remain faithful to him in his doubts. We know this because he is still with them a week later. They didn't expel him from the group or excommunicate him, they held on to him in the hope that he would experience the Lord for himself. Sadly, for us, today, there are some who argue that Catholics who struggle with their faith should 'shape up or ship out'.

The final element in this extraordinary story concerns the significance of the time between the first and second appearances of Jesus. We're told it was seven days and the parallel to the story of creation would not have been lost on the first hearers of John's Gospel. And even though the earliest disciples experience the Risen Lord on Easter Sunday, they are still locked in their fears one week later. The creation of the early Church, took time and having a doubter in their midst ends up a great blessing for them all.

The birth of the Church is an ongoing act of God's creation in every generation. It takes time. Our fidelity to one another on the long journey of faith is only surpassed by our Crucified God who does not give up on us, no matter how many questions we ask or how much we doubt.

Resource used: *Homily*, by Richard Leonard SJ

Parish Administration

Parish Priest

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9.00am-3.00pm

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MASS TIMES

Vigil Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday 8:30am, 10:00am, 6:00pm

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9:30am

Liturgy of the Word with Communion:

Tues 9:30am

ST JOHN THE APOSTLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Principal: Matthew Garton

Pawsey Circuit Florey

Phone: 6258 3592

Email: office.sjaps@cg.catholic.edu.au

www.sjaps.act.edu.au



We Welcome *Fr. André Classens msc*
who will be in our parish this weekend.
Fr. André is from the Missionaries of the
Sacred Heart General House Rome.
He will be attending the MSC Chapter
next week.

EASTER TRIDUUM- THANK YOU

Many thanks to all who have shared their time and gifts of ministry this Easter Triduum. Your planning, preparation and celebrating of the liturgies is appreciated. Happy Easter Season.

The Liturgy Team

The Military Ordinariate of Australia



Invites our parish community to

The National ANZAC Day Mass

at St Christopher's Cathedral, Manuka
at 8:00am on Tuesday 25 April 2023

Guests are asked to be seated by 7:45am

The Ensign Party will enter the Cathedral before 8:00am



Catholic Theological College

*Sign up for one of
18 online sessions.*

Engaging Your Faith—May 2023

*Theology, Vatican II, Scripture,
Spirituality, Science & Faith.*

Choose what interests you
from \$25 per session.

For more information and to register:

ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith/

Practising Christian discourse: Addressing ethics in divisive times

Tuesday 18 April 2023 — 7:00 pm

Chambers Pavilion, Australian Centre for
Christianity and Culture, 15 Blackall Street,
Barton.

***“How can Christians authentically
address ethical issues today?”***

Facilitator: Amy Erickson (PhD, University of
Aberdeen) is Lecturer in Theology and Ethics
at St Mark's National Theological Centre
BARTON

“Be on earth the Heart of God”

PARISH OFFICE HAPPENINGS

The parish office will be closed on
Tuesday 25 April – ANZAC Day.

MSC PROVINCIAL CHAPTER

Frs. Kimi and Chung along with Marian
England will be attending the MSC
Provincial Chapter from

Monday 17 – Tuesday 25 April.

Weekday masses will be replaced by
Liturgy of the Word with Communion.

POT LUCK LUNCH

To welcome Fr. Chung to our parish,
there will be a Pot Luck Lunch on
Sunday 30 April at 11:30am for Noon in
the parish centre.

Please bring a salad or dessert.
Meat and drinks will be supplied.



Pins & Needles

Mon 17 April – 7:15pm
Parish Library

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST



TUESDAY 18 APRIL – 7:30AM

CHANGE OF DATE DUE TO ANZAC DAY

BEAN ORIGIN CAFÉ

NETTLEFOLD STREET BELCONNEN

SJA Men's Group

Meeting Monthly 6:00pm – 8:00pm

For more information contact the parish office.

Next gathering: Friday 21 April

Service Theme for ANZAC Day

St John the Apostle Parish Centre

St John's Friendship Group

next meeting on **Wednesday 26 April**
for Mass at 9:30am, followed by morning
tea in the parish centre.

Please come and join us, you are all most
welcome. Please bring a plate to share.

Heart Spirituality

The Church born from the Heart of Christ

The Word, coming from the heart of his Father, made the world emerge from nothing; and from the heart of the incarnate Word, pierced on Calvary, I see a new world emerging, the world of those he has chosen. And this creation, so fertile, full of grandeur and inspired by love and mercy, is the Church, the mystical body of Christ, which makes this new creation present on earth until the end of time.
Amen

Jules Chevalier msc,
Le Sacré-Coeur de Jésus p. 145f. Paris 1900.

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be
everywhere loved.....forever!

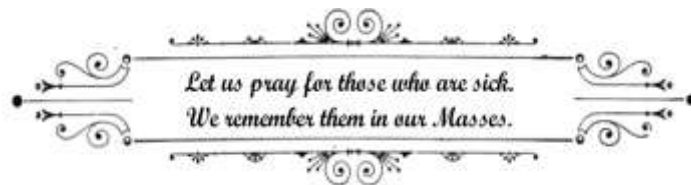
Stewardship

Easter Vision

The Christian steward approaches life with an "Easter vision" rooted in gratitude for the salvation our Lord has won for us through His death and Resurrection.

It is challenging to live for heaven when the things of the earth — job stress, family crises, health troubles, political strife — loom large on the horizon. We can find ourselves becoming cynical like the Apostle, Thomas, in our Gospel passage today — until he had an encounter with the merciful Saviour. When we are tempted to give in to doubts about our faith for whatever reason, all we need to do is seek the Lord — in prayer, in the sacraments, through the encouragement of our Christian communities — and just as He did for Thomas, our Lord will mercifully restore our Easter vision and fill us with His joy and peace.

www.catholicsteward.com



Recently Deceased: Joan Aikins

Anniversary: Mihaly Baruta, Jim Fallon msc, Augusta Colquhoun, Sharron Diamond, Alan Hodge, Leslie Savage, Joan Sculthorpe, Julio Vinales, Otto Trenka, Leonard Franks, Drago Polak, Barbara Normann, Delilah Wilson, Leslie Barry, Daryl Smeaton, Daniel Dewar, Claudio Orifice, Sheldon Doyle, Yolanda Melikian, Brenda Hudson, Basil Adkins, Ricaredo Jabagat, Monique Adamik, Hannah Kennett, Joachim Tittlebach, Frederick Hayes, Vladislav Malnar, Joseph Kowalski

Mass Intentions the week of 17 – 24 April

Mon 17/04	Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Wed 19/04	Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Thur 20/04	Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Fri 21/04	Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Sat 22/04	
5:00pm	John, Joan & Eddie Walpole

Sun 23/04	
8:30am	Parish Intentions
10:00am	Tony Malnar
6:00pm	Shannon Reed

To ensure that a mass time is available please telephone the parish office to make a booking.

Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group

St John's parish is participating in reconciliation. Any parishioners, young and older, are invited to participate in the Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group for our parish. Please come to a first meeting for 2023 on **Thursday, 20 April, 7:30pm** in the parish library. Thank you.

Relax, Review, Reflect

We will be watching

"Nebraska"

Friday 28 April at 7:00pm
in the parish library.



SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Baptisms	1st & 3rd Sun during Mass
Reconciliation	Sat 4:00pm – 4:30pm
Sacramental Program	Contact Parish Office
School of Religion (Parish Centre)	Sunday 9.15am during school term

PRAYER LIFE

Charismatic Prayer: Maida: 0423 658 326	Thursday 10:00am
Meditation	Friday 5:15-6.30 pm
Rosary	Monday – Friday 9:05am
Eucharistic Adoration	1 st Thursday of the Month 7:30pm – 8:30pm
Adult Choir	Wednesday 7:30pm

SOCIAL LIFE

St Johns Friendship Group	Last Wednesday of the Month 9:30am Mass and morning tea
Pins & Needles	3 rd Monday of the Month 7:15pm Parish Library
Women's Breakfast	4 th Tuesday of the Month 7:30am Bean Origin Belconnen
Men's Group	3 rd Friday of the Month 6:00pm Parish Centre

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
his love is everlasting.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, Alleluia
You believe in me, Thomas,
because you have seen me;
Happy those who have not seen me,
but still believe!
Alleluia

Readings – 23 April 2023

First Reading	Acts 2:14, 22-23
Psalm	Ps 15:1-2, 5-7, 7-11
Second Reading	1 Pt 1:17-21
Gospel	Luke 24:13-35

ROSTERS

23 April

Lector Roster

5:00pm	Elaine Laycock, Gordon Donnir
8:30am	Wendy Wade, Shane Murtagh
10:00am	Ann Reynolds, James Nield
6:00pm	Andrew Luck, Marian Crowley

23 April

Ministers of Communion

5:00pm	John Drury, Laurine Smeaton
8:30am	Darren Maharaj
10:00am	Bonnie & Rose Benedictos
6:00pm	Priscilla Momi

23 April

Hospitality Roster

5:00pm	Joan Galpin
8:30am	Beatrice Williams
10:00am	
6:00pm	Erin Treavskis

23 April

SJAShop

5:00pm	
8:30am	Norma Sloan
10:00am	Joe Mewburn
6:00pm	

Weekly Rosters

Altar Society	16 Apr	Mary Cruickshank
Grounds	22 Apr	David Pigram, Mike Lavis, Matthew Garton
Church Cleaning:	16 Apr	Carol Blyth, Beatrice Williams, Dushyanthi & Nishan Upasena

On a Lighter note

Sight Gags by Scott Lee, O.D.

