

witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

RESPONSE: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end. Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.'

Response.

The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up. I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds.

Response.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

Response.

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-4
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is. Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed - and he is your life - you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; and Christ, the undefiled, hath sinners to his Father reconciled. Death with life contended: combat strangely ended! Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.

Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way. The tomb the Living did enclose; I saw Christ's glory as he rose! The angels there attesting; shroud with grave-clothes resting. Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee. That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know. Victorious king, thy mercy show!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with joy in the Lord.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: John 20:1-9
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.' So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:
Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia;
therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

Safeguarding our community: If you or a person close to you has been abused by someone working or ministering within the Archdiocese of Sydney please call the appropriate authorities OR The Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office on 02 9390 5812 OR **speak with our Parish Safeguarding Support Officer Helen Vaz OR Parish Priest, both of whom will be able to provide support and guidance.**



PARISH OF ST. THERESE, DENISTONE

Presbytery and Office

8 Inkerman Rd, Denistone 2114 Tel: 9809 2925

Website: www.sttherese.org.au

Parish Priest: Fr Roberto Castillo

Deacon: Rev Mr Aruna Perera

Parish Secretary: Gayle White admin@sttherese.org.au

Office hours Tues, Thurs and Fri from 8am-4pm

St Therese's School

448 Blaxland Rd, Denistone 2114 (02) 9874 0412



MASS TIMES:

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6:00 pm.
 SUNDAY: 8:00 am and 10.00 am.
 MONDAY: 9.15am Communion Service.
 TUESDAY through to SATURDAY: 9.00 am Mass.
 FRIDAY: 9.00 am Mass.
 Exposition & Benediction every Friday after Mass.
 RECONCILIATION: Saturday 5pm – 5.45pm or by appointment.
 Baptism: Every Sunday at 11.30am. Please contact Parish Office.
 Marriage: By appointment.
 Anointing of the sick: Please give names to Father Roberto Castillo.

EASTER SUNDAY (YEAR A)
8th / 9th April 2023



EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT

Readings: Genesis 1:1-2:2;
 Exodus 14: 15-15:1;
 Isaiah 54: 5-14;
 Romans 6:3-11.

- 1. Solemn Beginning of the Vigil or Lucernarium:** Blessing of the Fire, Procession , Exsultet
- 2. The Liturgy of Word:** Reading / psalms / prayers, Gloria, Homily
- 3. Baptismal Liturgy:** Litany, Blessing of water, Baptism, Confirmation, Reception, Renewal of Baptismal promises
- 4. The Liturgy of Eucharist:** Preface of Easter 1 (Easter Communicantes)
- 5. The Concluding Rites:**

Dismissal with Alleluia



EASTER SUNDAY

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:
I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

FIRST READING: Acts 10:34. 37-43
A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.' Now I, and those with me, can

(continued on back page)

15 / 16 APRIL 2023 – 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

	SATURDAY 6.00PM	SUNDAY 8.00AM	SUNDAY 10.00AM
Acolyte	R MORFUNI	D ELLIS	J KWONG
Reader	L SAMONTE	S JAYAMMANE	H VAZ
Offertory	DABBAH FAMILY		VOLUNTEER FAMILY
Projection	A PLEADIN		
Altar Servers	GRP 3: BERNLEITNER FAMILY, NIARA PAREKELEM & FREDERICK LI		GRP 7: VINCENT & ALYSSA WIDJAYA
Welcomers	A CHAN & P ONG		VOLUNTEER WANTED
Counters	GROUP 2: T DABBAH C DABBAH		
Altar Flowers	A NAGANATHAN	APRIL ALTAR LINEN: PENNY ONG	

AN EASTER MESSAGE FROM FATHER ROBERTO.

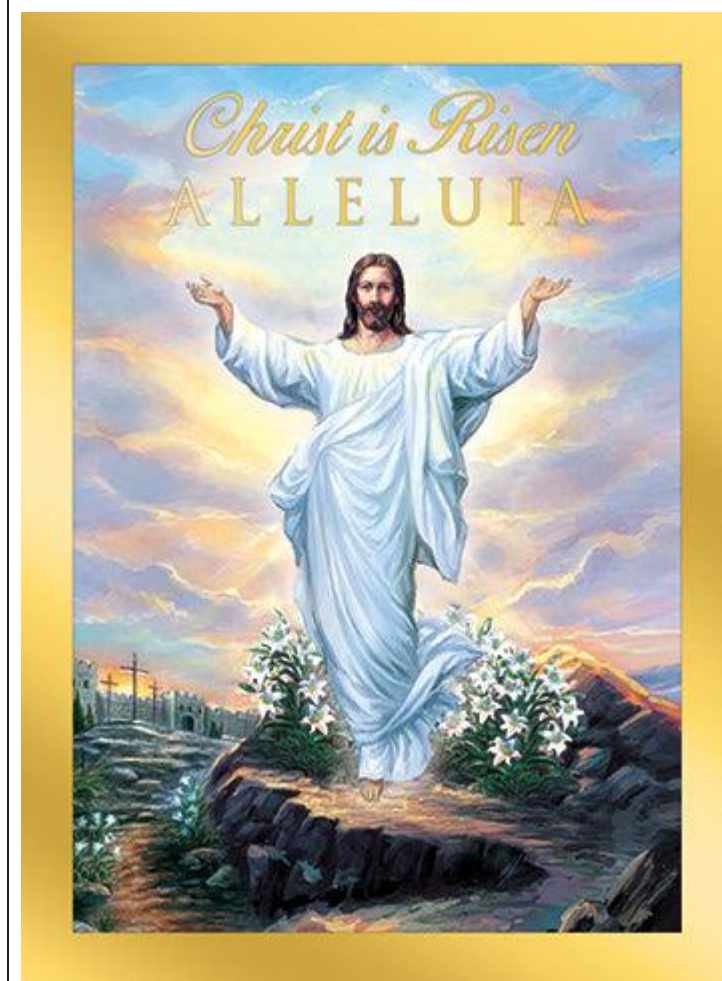
My dear brothers and sisters, we have arrived at the most important day of the year for all of us and all Christians around the world. A most amazing message is once again being proclaimed from all the chapels, churches and cathedrals in every country. It is Easter, the day when the Lord Jesus Christ rose from the dead. Today, the announcement of the resurrection of the Lord, our saviour and our hope, is renewed in all Christian communities, so we can continue to keep our faith strong in our own future resurrection which is to come to all those who keep the faith till the end.

Today, Our Lord Jesus, the son of God and son of Mary, has fulfilled every prophecy in the scriptures that spoke about the Messiah that was to come. And his main mission to rescue humanity, was finally completed and fulfilled when he died and rose from the grave. Through the humiliating pain of the cross, he was able to defeat all our enemies: the devil and death. He removed the poison of sin through his divine mercy and his incredible sufferings on an instrument of death: the cross; and by his resurrection has now opened for us the Way to heaven; which is the Lord himself, he is our Way to God the Father, he is the Way to happiness and to life forever.

Since I have come to Denistone, 13 years ago, we as a family have remembered and re-lived year after year these great mysteries of our faith. And in our journey of faith, we have been persevering, in spite of the troubles of this life. Many have been imitating our Lord, carrying crosses and some have encountered sufferings and doubts, discouragement and worries of life. But together we are still a family of God and everybody is making every effort to remain close to the Lord, and support each other. You have been doing your best to remain faithful; and continue to serve him in the community through the different ministries that keep this family of faith, this people of God together. Although the numbers have come down in the last few years, many continue to follow the Lord because we realise that he is the only one who has words of eternal life.

To believe in the Lord is not easy in our world today. There have been so many troubles in the church which has discouraged some; society is moving very fast and transforming itself into a less Christian place, the number of people who are losing faith has been growing, and the number who don't practise anymore keeps increasing. This also discourages people, and some have become more hesitant about their faith. Also, many are not treating their faith as a priority but as something which is unimportant and irrelevant. But we thank God that he keeps providing us with wisdom, because this helps us to see clearly that nothing in this world is going to give us the life that the risen Christ promises. And so today, we are grateful to the Lord for his blessings to us. For giving us these days to be renewed and for strengthening our hope even in the midst of so much darkness. Let us keep running the race of faith brothers and sisters, don't give up halfway, even though the running can get harder. Journey with the Lord and with the help of his mother our most blessed Mother Mary, you will triumph and you one day will rise too. This is our hope! So, keep running towards the finish line. And you will obtain the crown of righteousness the Lord is preparing for all those who remain with him.

So let us rejoice and celebrate that the Lord has triumphed and that we all can triumph too. Thank you to all our parishioners who have worked so hard and kept their faith these 13 years that I have been here. And let us thank all the previous parishioners who worked hard before us and kept the faith and to all the priests who also tried their best to keep the faith and the love of God alive in the hearts of all throughout the life of our parish. Huge thanks to all who helped this Easter, may the Lord reward you with a greater faith. Once again Happy Easter to you all Alleluia, Alleluia.



PARISH NEWS & NOTICES:

Request for Mass and Prayers.

We pray for those who have recently died especially Peter Bugeja. Also pray for those who celebrate anniversaries especially Salvador Rey.



Congratulations at Easter.

At the Vigil Mass this Saturday we welcomed

LEON WATANABE

into the Catholic faith. Please keep him in your prayers



Project compassion.

Don't forget to bring back your Project Compassion envelopes or money boxes. All donations are 100% tax deductible. Don't forget the poor this Lent!



Divine Mercy Sunday.

Will be celebrated at St Therese Church Denistone on 16th April from 2pm-4pm. Please view our noticeboards for more information. The novena leaflets will be in the front foyer for you to take home.

- Reconciliation & Prayers and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Mass.



Blessing of a Home at Easter

Bottles of Holy Water are available after Mass.

Please note that it is ONE per family.

A house blessing at Easter is a special way to stay mindful of God's perpetual presence. It is an old tradition to have one's home blessed during Easter time. This blessing also helps you prepare to celebrate Jesus' resurrection and the promise of eternal life after death. The family can recite the following prayer whilst sprinkling the home with holy water. Use a branch blessed on Palm Sunday (or a sprig from the garden) and the Holy Water blessed during the Easter Vigil; which you can take from the little bottles provided and placed on baskets near the baptismal font. Please take one for your family.



THE BLESSING

Let us now pray that the Lord will enter our home

and bless it with his presence.

May the lord always be here among us, deepen our love for each other, share in our joys,

and comfort us in our sorrows.

May our home be a place of love, Filled with the goodness of the Lord.

Amen.

Denistone Catholic Women's League.

The NEXT meeting will be held on Friday the 14th April 2023 at 10am.

NEWCOMERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.



THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY
THE CHURCH. ALL OF IT.

- Feeding the Masses. How Sydney's Catholics have made Easter a feast of faith.
- A peace like no other. Archbishop's Easter message.
- The face of God? The evidence for the Shroud.
- Healing, faith & relics. Maronites mark 50 years.
- Prayer is like glue, make it stick.