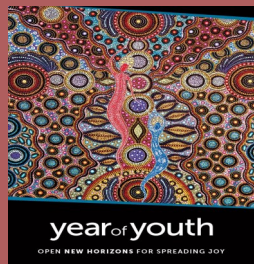


2nd Sunday of
Easter

7th & 8th April

Year B



St Mary's Parish Echuca

Focus on the Readings

This gospel each year reminds me of the oil painting "The Incredulity of St Thomas" by Caravaggio, [1601-1602, Sanssouci, Potsdam, Neues Palais].

The artist has taken some liberties in presentation of the encounter between the Risen Christ and the Apostle who doubted. But nonetheless he portrays a powerful and memorable scene rich in Christian spirituality. Thomas was absent when Christ first appeared to the disciples and refused to believe that he had risen from the dead. The painting depicts two other disciples with Thomas, possibly Peter and John, who look just as incredulous as Thomas.

The wound that Thomas touches depicted in the painting, though not in the gospel passage, is the one made in Jesus' side by the soldier's lance. The soldier's action strongly emphasised reality of Jesus' death. Also witnesses saw water and blood gush from his side, symbolising the sacramental life of the church springing from Christ Jesus himself. Now with Thomas's action, the death of Jesus and his resurrection are real and present to the apostles and to us.

We begin reading the first Letter of John, but starting from the last chapter taking up Thomas's affirmation that Jesus is our Lord and God and believing this, we are in God's love (1 Jn 5:1-2) and so have life through his name (Jn 20:31) and live in unity and peace with one another (Acts 4:32).



Quote of the week:

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love is everlasting. (Psalm 117:29)

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PARISH STAFF

Parish Priest

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Pastoral Associate

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Parish Administrator

Colleen Edwards
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Parish Office Hours:

Mon-OFFICE CLOSED
Tues - Fri: 9.00am - 3.00pm
Closed for lunch 12.30 to 1.00pm
T: (03) 5482 1127
P.O. Box 63 Echuca 3564

Website:

www.stmarysechuca.org.au
Follow us on twitter
@StMarysEchuca
Facebook St Marys Parish Echuca

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Today we respectfully acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Yorta Yorta Nation including the 8 clans, Bangerang (Pangerang), Kaitheban, Wollithiga, Moira Ulupa, Kwat Kwat, Yalaba Yalaba and Nguri-illiam-wurrung.

This land is sacred, this land is gift, this land is thousands of years old. We acknowledge the immense beauty of this land and the dreams of the Yorta-Yorta People.

We pay our respects to elders past and present and acknowledge the lessons the Yorta-Yorta people teach us about care, respect and justice for mother earth. We remember their story as we journey together in a spirit of hope, justice and peace.

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday: 6.00pm
Sunday: 8.00am & 10.00am

Come & See 5.00pm
3rd Sunday of the month
March to November

Masses this week

Tuesday

No Mass

Wednesday

Liturgy-12noon

Thursday

Mass-9am-PC

Friday

Mass-9am-PC

Reconciliation
10.00 to 10.30am

NOTICES



National Conference on Parish Renewal and Evangelisation

12 – 14 July 2018 - **Early Bird Registrations** and Group Discounts **now available**

This year the Archdiocese of Brisbane, in collaboration with the ACBC's National Centre for Evangelisation, will host PROCLAIM 2018. This national conference will engage parishes and faith communities in a conversation focusing on five key areas: Leadership, Culture Change, Young People, Belonging and Evangelisation.

During the conference participants can attend keynote presentations, expert panel sessions and discussions facilitated by leaders with 'on the ground' experience. Ideally, this will help those participants to contribute to the formulation of some practical strategies to assist your parish or faith community's own goals in the areas of renewal and evangelisation.

Keynote speakers include Cardinal John Dew (Archdiocese of Wellington, New Zealand), Ron Huntley (Divine Renovation – Canada), Ms Lana Turvey-Collins (Plenary Council 2020 Facilitator), Mons Enrique Figaredo SJ (Cambodia) and host of PROCLAIM 2018 Archbishop Mark Coleridge (Archdiocese of Brisbane).

To find out more visit www.proclaimconference.com.au and register at our early bird rate.

Ros's Family Group

Coffee on the Mary Ann
Wednesday 11th April

Please be at the wharf by 10am
Contact Lyn Watt—0438 824 537

Wanted: Welcoming Households

The Rural Australians for Refugees Echuca Branch, in conjunction with the Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project, is planning to host a group of refugees from Melbourne on the weekend May 5 and 6.



Local families played host to around 45 people on two previous occasions and the experience was a warm and enlightening one for all. Some in the wider community took time out to meet the visitors, who had seen little of the Australian countryside, and join in activities.

Once again we are seeking families willing to be part of this year's visit and welcome two or more people into their homes from mid Saturday till early afternoon Sunday.

RAR will organize a cup of tea on arrival and a shared lunch on Sunday.

For further information please contact:
Jenny Morris 54 821 427 / 0418 652 731 or
Kerry McLoughlan 54 801 827 / 0439 266 888.

We welcome to our faith this weekend

Max John Williams
Son of
Brock & Sarah Williams
&
Buddy James Gay
Son of
Alan & Julie Gay
&
Luna Mae Brewis
Daughter of
Shawn & Vanessa Brewis



STRENGTH & KINDLINESS



Want to know more about St. Joseph's College Echuca?

Please come along to the
YEAR 7 2019 INFORMATION EVENING

Monday, April 23rd at 7.00pm in the Oak Centre

Book in for a "Principal Tour"

Wednesday 28.03.18 9.00 & 9.45am

Monday 16.04.18 9.00 & 9.45am & 4.15 & 5.15pm

Wednesday 18.04.18 9.00 & 9.45am

To book a tour, contact Mrs Rhonda Battye
(03) 5482 2577 or registrars@sjc.vic.edu.au

Website: www.sjc.vic.edu.au

Collect an Enrolment Pack
at the College **AFTER 23rd April 2018**
if you are unable to attend.

Parking is available at VIC PARK

Change of venue

Widows & Widowers

Morning Tea 10am—16th April

Held each 3rd Monday of the month

Echuca Riverloaf Bakery—145 Hare Street

April 14 & 15

Altar Servers:

6.00pm Oliver Williams, Oliver Bray

10.00am Noah & Sam Chapman,
Callum Shingles, Tighe Cole

Commentators:

6.00pm Doug Black

8.00am Margaret Duffy

10.00am Julie Moyle

Lectors:

6.00pm Margaret Summers,
Andrew Sebire

8.00am John Vagg

10.00am Theresa Jacobs, Cecilia
Merrigan

Eucharistic Ministers:

6.00pm Marie McDonald, Mary
Marwood, Collette Porter

8.00am Rae Veale, Phil Stiles,
Leanne Roberts

10.00am Jenny Mayes, John Moyle,
Clem Mulcahy, Julie Ritchie, Mick
Westblade

Setting up for Mass:

6.00pm Rose Quinn

8.00am John Dignan

10.00am Bernie Oliver

Altar Society:

Noela Boyer, Elaine Roberts

Glanville Communion:

Gabrielle Barrette

Wharparilla Communion:

Noela Boyer, Pat Sanderson

Bupa Communion:

Win Lavery, Jan Tarr

Home Communion:

Gabrielle Barrette

Hospital Visiting:

Sr Cletus Dullard

Proof Reading-April 12

Chloris Dignan

Counting-April 16

Eileen Pineo, Cath Mackenzie

Lawns-April

Mick Bird

Baptism- April

Jacqui Deola

Calendar

April

11: Christian Meditation-

10.45am to 12 noon-PC

11: Liturgy Meeting-7.30-PC

13: Aged Care Services

15: Come & See Mass-5pm

18: Christian Meditation-

10.45am to 12 noon-PC

18: CWL Meeting-12.30-PC

**18: Bereavement meeting-5.30pm-
PC**

18: Faith Formation-PC-7.00pm

20: Parish Pastoral Council-12noon

25: ANZAC DAY- office closed

6pm Mass on Tuesday 17th April
to celebrate the life of Mary
Gallagher, sister of Rosie Holmes,
who died recently in Ireland.

All welcome - Cuppa afterwards

YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE

Sick: Des Taylor, Mary Edwards, Patricia Vagg, Cheryl Carey, Mary Roberts, Mary Byrne, Enid Stapleton, Bruno Barbera, Anne Henderson, Jill Sutherland, Nikki Donahoo, Helen Munro, Frank Dullard, Judy Clark, Vanessa Rose Maroni, Matt O'Neill, Terry White, Jenna Brasier, Beatrice Phillips

Recent Death:

Anniversary: Ced Summers, Noel Smith, Emilia, Emilio Columbro

Special Intentions:

We often have requests for prayers for special intentions . If you would like our community to pray for something special on a one off basis please call us on 5482 1127 or email us at admin@stmarysechuca.org.au

Christian Meditation will be held every Wednesday at 10.45 am in the Parish Centre.

All welcome to come whenever you can.



5pm Sunday 15th April

St Mary's Church

Hosted by our Filipino community.

All Parishioners are warmly invited to this month's Come and See Mass which will be a joyful and inspiring Easter celebration, which will include the baptism of Calvin Narvasa into our St Mary's Parish family.

Much planning has already taken place and there is no doubt that we are very fortunate to have our parish enriched by such talented and enthusiastic people. Lots of thought has gone into the selection of uplifting songs to include everyone. Fr Line Albigos from Deniliquin will join Fr Des to celebrate the Mass.

All Come and See Masses include hospitality and the planning for the feast after this Mass has been in progress for some time, it will be a wonderful opportunity to deepen relationships within our parish.

Followed by a shared meal in the Parish Centre, please bring some food to share!

Readings

1st Reading: Act of the Apostles 4:32-35

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 117:2-4, 15-18, 22-24

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

Let the sons of Israel say:

'His love has no end.'

Let the sons of Aaron say:

'His love has no end.'

Let those who fear the Lord say:

'His love has no end.' **R.**

The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up.

I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds.

I was punished, I was punished by the Lord, but not doomed to die. **R.**

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

This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. **R.**

2nd Reading: St John 5:1-6

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets.

We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us;

this is what loving God is—keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world—our faith.

Who can overcome the world?

Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God; Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness—since the Spirit is the truth.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!!

Today's Gospel: John 20:19-31

Next week:

1st Reading: Act of the Apostles 3:13-15, 17-19

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 4:2, 4, 7, 9

2nd Reading: St John 2:1-5

Gospel: Luke 24:35-48