

2nd Sunday of Easter

Year A

26 & 27 April 2014

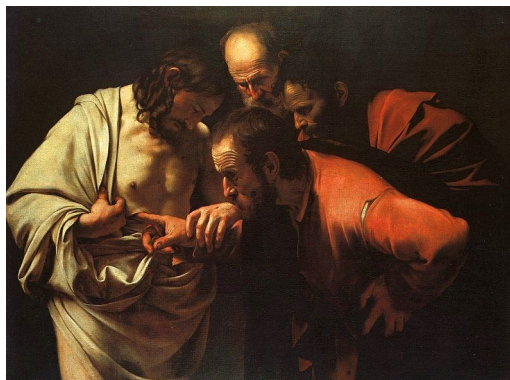


# St Mary's Parish Echuca

The importance of today's gospel story is shown by the fact that it led to the original conclusion of St John's gospel. The story proper falls into two parts: the appearance of the risen Lord to the assembled disciples on the first Easter Day and his appearance before Thomas a week later.

John presents Jesus' resurrection, his giving the Spirit and the commissioning of the disciples in a single unified sequence. By contrast, the Gospel-writer Luke introduces a time-span of forty days before Jesus' ascension and fifty days before the outpouring of the Spirit. Each is communicating the same profound truth within a different theological framework.

The text for today can be sub-divided into four parts. In part one, Jesus appears to the fear-filled disciples and greets them with peace. This twofold greeting should be given strong emphasis. Part two consists of Jesus' commissioning the disciples and breathing out his Spirit upon them. Part three relates the encounter between the risen Lord and the Apostle Thomas, culminating in words that implicate us "Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe". The reading comes to a climax with the final summary of the gospel's purpose. "that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name".



Caravaggio-The Incredulity of Saint Thomas

We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand. We pay our respects to them and for their care of the land.

#### PARISH STAFF

**Parish Priest** Fr. Des Welladsen  
[fatherdes@stmarysechuca.org.au](mailto:fatherdes@stmarysechuca.org.au)

#### Pastoral Associates

Anne Kotsiakos & Christine Sebire  
email:

[anne@stmarysechuca.org.au](mailto:anne@stmarysechuca.org.au)  
[christine@stmarysechuca.org.au](mailto:christine@stmarysechuca.org.au)

#### Secretary

[admin@stmarysechuca.org.au](mailto:admin@stmarysechuca.org.au)

#### Parish Office Hours:

Monday 9.00am -12noon  
Tues - Fri 8.30am -3.00pm  
Telephone: (03) 5482 1127

#### Website:

[www.stmarysechuca.org.au](http://www.stmarysechuca.org.au)  
P.O. Box 63 Echuca 3564

#### Weekend Mass Times

Saturday: 6.00pm  
Sunday: 8.00am & 10am

#### Masses this week

**Tuesday**  
No Mass

**Wednesday**  
Liturgy of the Word  
12noon

**Thursday**  
No Mass

**Friday**  
No Mass

# NOTICES

**Everyone is most welcome to join the  
Combined Family Group Morning Tea**

**THIS SUNDAY** after 10am Mass .

(Family group members are asked to bring a plate)

St Joseph's Rochester—Parish Mission

with Fr Jewel Aytona, CPM

4 May—8 May 2014

Mass at 5.30pm each day—Mission presentation 7pm

[www.fathersofmercy.com/author/Fr.-Jewel-Aytona](http://www.fathersofmercy.com/author/Fr.-Jewel-Aytona)

Project Compassion.

All you wonderful people who have collected money for Caritas over the Lenten period, could you please return your envelopes or money boxes to the Parish Office or place in the collection bags as soon as possible.

Caritas gives thanks for your support.

**Ladies Morning: Saturday 3 May**

Community Church, Rose Street Echuca

Speaker Sandra Anderson:

Topic God's Pattern for Women

Contact: Lena 5482 3401 or Jenny 5482 6050

AN EVENING WITH THE HON.

**TIM FISCHER AC**

*FROM RIVERINA TO ROME:*

*TANGO IN DIPLOMACY*

Hosted by St Aloysius, Moama

**Friday 30 May, 2014**

St Mary's Primary School Auditorium,

Bridlington Ave, Echuca

Tickets available from St. Mary's Church Parish Office

or by contacting:

Johanna Nesbitt 0418 599 210 or Jacqui Millar 0419 565 305

**Proceeds to East Timor Missions**

\$35 incl. dinner

**Date Claimer**

**"POPE FRANCIS MODELLING THE MINISTRY  
OF ST PETER"**

**10<sup>th</sup> National eConference**

**Wednesday 11 June from 10am - 3pm.**

**St Mary's Parish Centre**

## St. Mary's Social Justice News

Though a small group, the Social Justice Group is celebrating a number of successes in the last year. With great support from this parish, we have sponsored university placements for students in East Timor, raised in excess of \$8,000 for Caritas Australia and provided over thirty street swags for the homeless of Echuca, just to identify a few key projects.

We are now looking to the year ahead and have decided to focus on two key areas in the coming months.

### Refugees and Asylum Seekers

In the current climate it is very difficult to grasp the situation of people in desperate need who seek safety in our country. Media and politicians give very confusing perspectives but at the heart of the issue are people who need help.

The Social Justice Group aims to unravel some of this information through an information workshop. With the help of a number of speakers, we hope to:

clarify the reasons why people seek asylum in Australia,

clarify current policies and their ramifications

find out how we can help/support those who need it

### Homelessness in Echuca

As Winter sets in and we think of blanket appeals and the distribution of street swags, we are reminded that there are many in Echuca who are homeless. We know that in this area there is an acute shortage of accommodation for people in crisis or on low incomes. The Social Justice Group hopes to uncover the reality of this situation, find out how services in Echuca are provided for those in need of accommodation/services and what we at St. Mary's can do to help.

If you would like to be part of either of these initiatives you would be very welcome.

The Social Justice group meets on the third Wednesday of every month, and covers these initiatives as well as the justice issues that arise through the Diocese and the Church year. If you would like to be part of this active Church group you would be very warmly welcomed.

However if you are especially interested in just one of the above projects without attending the monthly meetings, you would also be very welcome.

Enquiries Claire Hogan 0408 826 102 Christine Sebire 0411 627 645

**RECONCILIATION Saturday 10.00-10.30am**

### **3 & 4 May 2014**

#### **Altar Servers:**

6.00pm Taih & Josh D'Angri  
10.00am Vincent McLindon & Bridget Byrne

#### **Commentators:**

6.00pm Malia Black  
8.00am Margaret Oman  
10.00am Win Lavery

#### **Lectors:**

6.00pm Anne Kotsiakos/Margaret Summers  
8.00am Sr. Margaret Duffy  
10.00am Michelle Shingles/Kerry Mc Loughlin

#### **Eucharistic Ministers:**

6.00pm B Smith, R Quinn & T McKiterick  
8.00am J Roberts, N Goldrick, R Pellegrino  
10.00am C Hogan, R & S Humeniuk, T Jacobs, R Morris

#### **Setting up for Mass**

6.00pm Rose Quinn  
8.00am Veronica Brown  
10.00am Kathy Nanscawen

#### **Altar Society 3 May**

Joan Westblade, Roma Bowman,  
Glenese Zealley

#### **Glanville Communion 4 May**

Terry McKiterick

#### **Wharparilla Communion 3 May**

Maureen Baker & Laurice Murphy

#### **Home Communion 4 May**

Malia Black

#### **Hospital Visiting 5 May**

Mick Westblade

#### **Bulletin Proof Reader 2 May**

Win Lavery

#### **Lawn Roster: May**

Peter Boyer & Trevor Green

#### **Counting 5 May**

Jan Roberts & Nancy Goldrick

#### **Baptism Preparation.**

**May:** Jacqui Deola

### **Calendar 2014**

#### **April:**

**28** Widow & Widowers  
*Complete Garden 10am*  
**29** *No Mass*  
**30** *No Mass*  
**30** Sacramental faith formation night for parents 7.30  
**30** Bereavement meeting 5.30

#### **May:**

**7** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
**7** Children Liturgy Meeting  
**8** Mass at St Mary's School  
**9** Mass at St Joseph's College

### **Stronger Rally - Echuca**

**Young people from across the Diocese of Sandhurst will gather to celebrate their faith**

**Friday, 9th May 6 to 9pm**

**St Mary's Parish Centre**

**Led by Fr Rob Galea and the Sandhurst Youth Ministry Team**

**All young people welcome**

*On this Sunday, we welcome into our faith community through Baptism:*

***Bella Rose Jones***

daughter of Brayden Jones & Tara O'Connor

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***Ollie Maxwell MacDonald***

son of James MacDonald & Emily Pett

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***Harrison David Gregory Loffel***

son of David & Jodie Loffel

Stewardship Program: **18 & 19 April 2014**

Support of the Parish: \$757.00

Loose: \$692.40

*St Mary's Echuca*

*St Aloysius' Moama*

## **First Reconciliation**

**Faith Formation Evening**

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April, 7.30**

**St Mary's Parish Centre**

**Anstruther St, Echuca**

This evening is for ALL PARENTS of children who will be making their First Reconciliation on the 4<sup>th</sup> June.

Enquiries: Christine Sebire 54821127 Angela Finn

54821342

St Mary's Parish warmly welcomes new Administration Manager, Janis Ovens. Janis will commence in St Mary's office on 1 May

***We pray for the sick:*** Shannon Ainsley, Molly Byrne, Owen Cannard, Ken Cullen, Pauline Fitzpatrick, Anna Frattin, Marie Gough, Jenny Hawker, Christine Hughes, Jan Hynes, Leonie Kelly, Mandy Lees, Eunice Long, Emma McLoughlan, Howard Menz, Fiona O'Brien, Barry & Dot Sharkey, Mary Sanderson, Stella Sims, Mary Taylor, Jack Stanley, Thomas Murphy, Esther Moon, Brian Hancock

**Recently Deceased:** Marie (Eileen) McDonald, James (Jim) Dullard, Father Lou Heriot

**Anniversaries:** Bill Shanahan, Elaine O'Mullane,

## Readings from Scripture.

### A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

### Responsorial Psalm 117:2-4, 13-15, 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.

I was thrust, thrust down and falling  
but the Lord was my helper.  
The Lord is my strength and my song;  
he was my saviour.  
There are shouts of joy and victory  
in the tents of the just. 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.

### A reading from the first letter of St Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which had been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold - only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire - and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

### 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!

**Today's Gospel: John 20:19-31**

**Next week: Third Sunday of Easter**

1st Reading: Acts of the Apostles 2:14,22-33 Responsorial Psalm: Ps.15: 1-2, 5, 7-11

2nd Reading: St Peter 1:17-21 Gospel John 24: 13-35