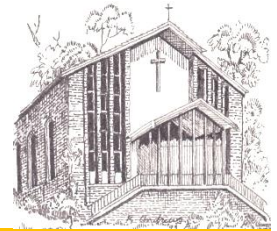




Welcome to the Parish of St Michael Thirroul and Wombarra



20 / 21 APRIL 2019
EASTER SUNDAY ✦ YEAR C
Welcome to the Newly Baptized!

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Patience

The word haunts me this Easter. Yes, the promise of all ages has now been fulfilled in the Resurrection, and we rejoice.

Even so, we have to wait for our slow selves to understand. We are forced to learn patience. Remember how Jesus was so unhurried when he learned that Lazarus, his friend, was dying in Bethany, not far away from where he was? He delayed four days going there. In other words, he waited “forever,” in emotional time. Mary and Martha, those close friends of Jesus, did without him as they buried their brother and grieved. Jesus finally got there and each sister cried out words that tore into him.

You could have saved our brother!

Jesus wept.

And then he replied, “I am the resurrection and the life.”

On this day we rejoice because we can see that this statement of his was true. This day it is spread out before us in the Great Celebration of Easter.

We followers of God and his Christ take a long, long time to get beneath the surface of this feast, to put ourselves into the hands of what, after all, is not a money-back guarantee, but a promise. “You will be my people and I will be your God.” It is so tough for us to drink the milk of trust in the same way a child drinks at its mother’s breast. We have to decide to entrust still another sluggish part of ourselves to God and to his promise.

Maybe the length of the Easter Vigil Service helps us to take in this fact. In the full service there are ten readings, including the Epistle and the Gospel, together with a candle-lighting-ceremony (“Light of Christ”), and numerous Baptisms. Patience is the name of the game at Easter Vigil. Maybe it is for the same reason Jesus made the two sisters wait.

The darkness of Easter Vigil, lit only by candles, lets us hear, in sequence, how God created us and blessed us, how he called upon and counted on Abraham, how he rescued the Hebrew people as they ran from their captors in the desert journey (and ran from God too).

For a “brief moment,” we are told, God lost patience and turned away, but then “with enduring love” took his people back, offering water to the thirsty and grain to the poor. Can we trust this? How much?

You will be my people and I will be your God.

Finally, the Gospel is proclaimed, announcing an empty tomb! The women in the story believe. The men don’t. At least not right away.



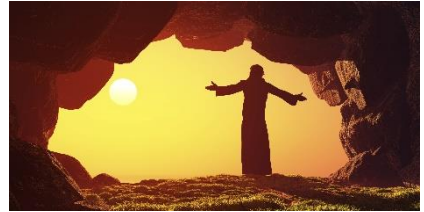
How about you? Do you believe? Is Jesus risen or is he not? Is it just a child's fable, after all?

On this glorious Easter weekend, after we have reacted just like the disciples on those seemingly never-ending post-crucifixion days, and even after we sing songs about resurrection, still we do it by faith and trust. We hear it anew, maybe now more profoundly.

We wait, joyfully. Halleluiah!

Ultimately, we are asked which path we will follow. The sceptical, calculating path of doubters, or the trusting, patient route of those who keep learning to believe—above all and after all—in the tender mercy of God.

Halleluiah!



We come to Easter Sunday's celebration filled with the memory of the liturgies of the greatest week of the Church's year – liturgies which have spoken for themselves, as they invited us to relive in faith the great things God has done for us, coming to a great climax in the Easter Vigil – captured in the words of St Paul read during the Vigil, 'As Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too' are called 'to live a new life'.

The days after Easter have a remarkable atmosphere. The Church's mood is not one of exuberant triumph, but one of wonder and calm. Faith must come to terms with the new creation brought into existence by the Paschal Mystery. And it is impossible to forget the price that has been paid: the one who 'went about doing good' has died 'hanging on a tree'.

Though they proclaim realities which are incomparable in their greatness and importance, the Church's liturgies do not strive to impress by creating effect. Only faith can fully appreciate the motivation that brought them into existence; they are a reflection of the Church's living response to what God has done for us. A group of people who have come through a great ordeal or an extraordinary experience will often find themselves in a mood of calm, reflection and gratitude. The liturgies of Easter Week have such a mood.

With Peter, in the first reading, we look back upon the gospel story that has led up to the great event in which we have been given to share. Peter recalls the ministry of Jesus 'anointed with the Holy Spirit and with power' and his tragic death; and as a privileged witness he announces the Lord's resurrection, to be 'the judge of the living and the dead', the one witnessed to by 'all the prophets'.

With Paul, in the second reading, we look forward with a hope that has no bounds. The destiny which is ours through the power of the Saviour's resurrection invites us to 'look for the things that are in heaven', because the life we now have 'is hidden with Christ in God'.



In the gospel reading – the story of Peter and the beloved disciple running to the empty tomb – the Church of the Apostles acknowledges that faith does not come easily: only a generous openness to God will find faith in the Risen Lord. This openness is linked especially with a knowledge of God's ways to be found in 'the teaching of scripture'.

The renewal of baptismal promises, which is customary at the Easter Day Mass, invites us to reflect upon the immense implications of our sharing in the Saviour's risen life, for the sake of the whole world.

The new life of the risen Christ shows itself in us as we love God and our neighbour. When we spontaneously love others because it just seems the right thing to do, that is the Spirit of our risen Lord alive in us.

PROJECT COMPASSION

Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!



Thank you for supporting us this year as we demonstrate how **Lives change when we all give 100%**. Changes are possible for all generations, backgrounds, cultures and communities, who are part of one human family. Through your generosity during Project Compassion this year, you are empowering communities with hope and helping those in great need to shape a better future for themselves, their families and their communities. **Lives change when we all give 100%**. Thank you so much for your support.

Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2019 Lenten appeal. www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion ☎ 1800 024 413

Please return all Project Compassion envelopes and boxes by **NEXT WEEKEND** the latest.

NEEDED FOR ANZAC DAY

Rosemary for ANZAC Day Mass, 25 April, is needed: please bring them in on ANZAC Day itself ... Mass will be at 08:30am on ANZAC Day, Thursday, 25 April. Dawn services will be held at 6am at Thirroul, Austinmer and Coledale.



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred by Bishop Brian on **Wednesday and Thursday, 26/27 June 2019** to Year 6 (or older) students. **Enrolment Forms** may be downloaded from our **Parish website**. Download and complete the Form, then return it to the Parish Office: thirroul@dow.org.au
Enrolments close on **Monday, 13 May 2019**.

WELCOME TO THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

On Easter Sunday morning, the following will be baptized: **ALICE PAYNE; CHARLOTTE VIRET; NIAMH CROKE; NEEVE DUGGAN**. Welcome to our Parish community.



Next Baptisms in our Parish will be during the weekend Masses on **19/20 May**. If you want your infant daughter or son baptized on 19/20 May, at least one parent needs to attend the Baptism Preparation Class which will be held at 7:15pm on **Thursday, 2 May**. Enrolment forms are obtainable from the Parish Office.

Baptism, the first sacrament of initiation, prepares us to celebrate the Eucharist. Baptisms are usually held on the third week-end of each month [except January and Lent], during either of the weekend Masses. Baptism forms are obtainable from the Parish Office.

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Thursday	25 Apr	6:00am	ANZAC Day Dawn Service at Cenotaph
		8:30am	ANZAC Day Mass at Thirroul
Monday	29 Apr	9:15am	ANZAC Day School Service <i>McCarthy Centre</i>
Friday	3 May	9:30am	Anointing of the Sick
Monday	13 May	6:00pm	Enrolments for Confirmation 2019 close



ONE NON-PERISHABLE ITEM PER FAMILY EACH WEEK TO HELP THE NEEDY IN THE LOCAL ILLAWARRA AREA

5,087 rescues performed since 1 July 18 – last week **5,055**

SWIM SAFELY – BETWEEN THE FLAGS WHERE THE WAVES BREAK



ACTS OF APOSTLES

During the Easter Season – which lasts **50 days** (*Lent was only 40 days!*) – the first Scripture reading on Sundays and weekdays is taken from the book “Acts of the Apostles”. Acts and the Gospel of Luke make up a two-part work, Luke–Acts, by the same anonymous author, usually dated to around 80–90AD. The first part, the Gospel of Luke, tells how God fulfilled God’s plan for the world’s salvation through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth, the promised Messiah. Acts continues the story of Christianity in the 1st century, beginning with Jesus’ ascension to heaven. The early chapters, set in Jerusalem, describe the Day of Pentecost (the coming of the Holy Spirit) and the growth of the Church in Jerusalem. Initially, the Jews are receptive to the Christian message, but soon they turn against the followers of Jesus. Rejected by the Jews, under the guidance of the Apostle Peter the message is taken to the Gentiles. The later chapters tell of Paul’s conversion, his mission in Asia Minor and the Aegean [Greece, Turkey, etc.], and finally his imprisonment in Rome, where, as the book ends, he awaits trial. The early Church had its share of troubles!

THIS Sunday’s Readings *on our website*

Easter Sunday • Year **C**

1 st Reading	Acts 10:34,37-43
2 nd Reading	Colossians 3:1-4
Gospel	John 20:1-9

NEXT Sunday’s Readings *on our website*

Second Sunday of Easter • Year **C**

1 st Reading	Acts 5:12-16
2 nd Reading	Revelation 1:9-13,17-19
Gospel	John 20:19-31

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Church of St Michael • Thirroul
Saturday – **5:30pm** • Sunday – **8:00am**
Bulli • Sunday **8:30am** and **5:30pm**
Corrimal • Saturday **6pm**, Sunday **9:30am**

LITURGIES THIS WEEK

Wombarra [<i>Liturgy</i>]	Monday	4:30pm
Thirroul	Tuesday	5:30pm
	Wednesday	9:00am
	ANZAC Day Thursday	8:30am
	Friday	9:30am

Parish of St Michael – Thirroul and Wombarra

Moving forward as a Parish Family + one of the Northern Illawarra Parishes

Patrick Vaughan • *Parish Priest* ❖ Andrew Granc ofm, Geoff Allen, Ken Cafe ofm • *Assisting*

325 Lawrence Hargrave Drive
 4268 1910 4268 1976

PO Box 44 • Thirroul 2515

thirroul@dow.org.au

Parish Office Hours Tuesday, Wednesday Friday

9:00am to 3:30pm Magda Pires
10:00am to 3:00pm Maureen Franciskovic

www.thirroulcatholic.org.au

Parish School of St Michael 4267 2560