



Welcome to the Parish of St Michael Thirroul and Wombarra



15/16 APRIL 2017

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION ✦ YEAR A

Welcome to the Newly Baptized and more!

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Rising to New Life

“This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.” Easter is the great celebration of victory of life over death.

Ours is an Easter religion. We do not deny or turn away from the evils that surround us: the wars that have killed some 100 million people in our (last) century; the poverty that grips more than half of the human race; the hunger that kills millions every year and ruins the lives of millions more; the discrimination that divides the human family into contending parties; the terrorism ... the list goes on.

We do not deny these miseries, but we refuse to surrender to their power because of our faith in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Suffering will be vindicated; death will be overcome; a new life will arise: that is the Easter message of the paschal mystery.

“Let us feast with joy in the Lord.” Just as Christ passed through death to resurrection, so too will the world pass through its suffering to the glory of a new life.

There is no room for despair: our Easter faith tells us that God will “raise us up and renew our lives.”

“This is the ‘day which the Lord has made.’ Alleluia! Take fresh hope, brothers and sisters of the whole world! With Christ our Passover everything is possible! Christ goes forward in our future!”

– Pope John Paul II, *Easter Message*, 1991: 8

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’.

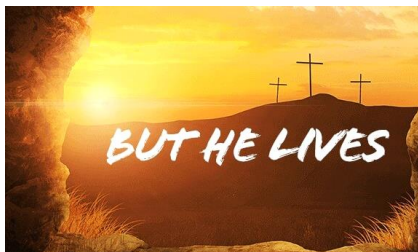
The days after Easter have a remarkable atmosphere. The Church's mood is not one of exuberant triumph, but one of wonder and calm. Faith must come to terms with the new creation brought into existence by the Paschal Mystery. And it is impossible to forget the price that has been paid: the one who ‘went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



WELCOME TO THE NEWLY BAPTIZED ... AND MORE!

Welcome to our catechumen, now neophyte, **MICHAEL WILSON**, baptized, confirmed and received the Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. Congratulations to **ALYSSE WILSON** who received the Body and Blood of Christ for the first time at the Easter Vigil. Welcome and congratulations to **VERITY BARNETT** and **JAY BLAND**, who were received into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church and confirmed at the Easter Vigil.



Welcome to the infants baptized in our Parish Easter Sunday: **ARCHIE KIRBY** and **ELIANA TRASLER**.

Next Baptisms in our Parish will be during the weekend Masses on either

20/21 May. If you want your infant daughter or son baptized that weekend, at least one parent need to attend the Baptism Preparation Class which will be held at 7:15pm on Thursday, 27 April. 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 weekend of each month [except January and Lent], during either of the weekend Masses.

Baptism forms are obtainable from the Parish Office during office hours.



CARITAS AUSTRALIA – PROJECT COMPASSION

Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!

Caritas Australia would like to **THANK YOU** for supporting Project Compassion. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit www.caritas.org.au to make your donation online.



Through your generosity you are helping to empower our most vulnerable neighbours worldwide to build a better future for their families and communities.

Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2017 Lenten appeal. www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion ☎ 1800 024 413

WHY ARE SURF FLAGS RED AND YELLOW?

The red and yellow flag was initially used with great success in World War I particularly by ships and when flying at full mast, indicated man overboard and all friendly ships in the vicinity commenced search procedures immediately. On 25 April 1915, the red and yellow flag was hoisted to symbolise mateship on the shores of Gallipoli. In order to ensure that the ANZACS could easily recognise friend from foe, the red and yellow flag was conceived to signal a safe haven for their own. Upon returning from overseas service, Australian soldiers saw the need to establish a common image in the early 1920s to represent safe swimming areas on Australian beaches. The red and yellow flag was born on Australian beaches at the instigation of those men who saw the flag as a representation of years of mateship, service and above all, a duty to protect others.



The red and yellow flags have come to be an Australian icon, representing a culture founded on the need to be a true mate and put others first. The red and yellow cap branches from the foundations of the red and yellow flag and ensures the Surf Lifesavers are easily identifiable to the public, thereby providing beachgoers with the same security they have when they see the flags flying the Cross.



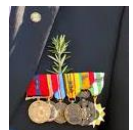
THIRROUL SURF LIFESAVING CLUB

Surf Lifesaving Patrols help keep our beaches safe. Swim between the flags. So far in Australia this season **6,769** rescues have been made! *Last week it was 6,704!*

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

ROSEMARY IS NEEDED

We will need Rosemary for ANZAC Day, Tuesday, 25 April – for the special ANZAC Day Mass at 8:30am – please drop in Rosemary on **22/23 April**.



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2017

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in our Parish on 1 June. Students in **Year 6 or older** should already have enrolled by **10 April**. *Download Enrolment Forms from our Parish website. Hand in Enrolment Forms to the Parish Office this week.*

KSC ANNUAL CHARITIES DINNER

The annual Knights of the Southern Cross Charities Dinner will be held on Saturday, 27 May 2017 from 7pm at the Thirroul Railway Institute, Railway Parade, Thirroul. The speaker will be Fr Chris Riley AM, Founder and CEO of Youth Off The Streets. Tickets are \$35 each, BYO. Bookings are essential: contact Paul Tuckerman ☎ 4267 2535.

THE EASTER BUNNY is a character depicted as a rabbit bringing Easter eggs. The Easter Bunny is sometimes depicted with clothes. In legend, the creature carries coloured eggs in his basket, lollies and sometimes also toys to the homes of children, and as such shows similarities to Santa Claus. It was first mentioned in Georg Franck von Franckenau's *De ovis paschalibus* (About Easter Eggs) in 1682 referring to an Alsace [region of France] tradition of an Easter Hare bringing Easter Eggs. Eggs, like rabbits and hares, are fertility symbols of antiquity. Since birds lay eggs and rabbits and hares give birth to large litters in the early spring, these became symbols of the rising fertility of the earth at the March Equinox.



THANK YOU!

Thank you to all parishioners who helped in so many ways to make the Easter liturgies so meaningful. Thank you for your service to our Parish.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNER OF THE CCI RAFFLE

From the Catholic Women's League: Many thanks to everyone who generously supported the recent Easter raffle. The lucky winner of the hamper was Maisie Matthews.

The USA is #1 world-wide in the following: total crimes; rape; CO₂ emissions; divorce rate; teen birth rate; heart attack; McDonald's restaurants; plastic surgery; prisoners.

<p>THIS Sunday's Readings <i>on our website</i></p> <p>Easter Sunday • YEAR A</p> <p>1st Reading Acts 10:34,37-43</p> <p>2nd Reading Colossians 3:1-4</p> <p>Gospel Matthew 28:1-10</p>	<p>NEXT Sunday's Readings <i>on our website</i></p> <p>2nd Sunday of Easter • YEAR A</p> <p>1st Reading Acts 2:42-47</p> <p>2nd Reading 1 Peter 1:3-9</p> <p>Gospel John 20:19-31</p>
<p>SUNDAY MASS TIMES</p> <p>Church of St Michael • Thirroul</p> <p>Saturday – 5:30pm • Sunday – 8:00am</p> <p>Bulli Sunday 8:30am and 5:30pm</p> <p>Corrimal Saturday 6pm, Sunday 9:30am</p>	<p>LITURGIES THIS WEEK</p> <p>Wombarra [<i>Liturgy</i>] Monday n/a</p> <p>Thirroul Tuesday 5:30pm</p> <p>Wednesday 9:00am</p> <p>Thursday 9:00am</p> <p>Friday 9:30am</p>

Parish of St Michael – Thirroul and Wombarra

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

Patrick Vaughan • Parish Priest ❖ Geoff Allen, Ken Cafe ofm • Assistant Priests

☎ 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