

Dear Parishioners of St. Joseph's Oatley, in better times we were able to celebrate in the Church all the Ceremonies of Holy Week and Easter Sunday as a parish community. This year we are all in insolation, unable to attend our Church or to participate in the Liturgy over Easter and beyond. I suppose the whole drama of suffering and death, and the hope of resurrection plays vividly on our minds at this time as we suffer the global effects of the Covid-19 pandemic and patiently await with hope for a successful resolution of the crisis.

Easter liturgy encourages us with its theme of light. The Easter fire struck from a flint, the Paschal candle, the procession with candles and the sudden illumination of the church at the Easter vigil all symbolise the shining splendour of the risen Christ. Three times the words are sung "*Lumen Christi*" (The Light of Christ) as the candle shows the way through the darkness. And in the great hymn the *Exultet* the Deacon or Priest sings "Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendour, radiant in the brightness of your king. Glory fills you. Darkness vanishes for ever." Christ is the external light. He comes to illuminate every person who comes into the world. His radiance is reflected in every Christian. In every Christian, Easter is perpetuated, since in Christ every Christian will rise to a new life of glory.

Christian imagination has loved to see in the sunrise which the women saw as they made their way to the tomb in which Jesus was buried, a symbol of the Light who rose from the tomb and shed his light across the world. Once all over Europe men and women would, from some vantage point, watch the sunrise on Easter morning. That moment of dawn was marked by the ringing of bells and the singing of choirs to greet the rising sun as a symbol of the risen Christ. Without the risen Christ the world would indeed be a dark and a hopeless place; he has made it a world of hope and love, a place of encouragement of us all. He has dispersed the darkness of the mystery surrounding the purpose of human existence. In his light now we all see light!

With the sacrifices we all must make during these troubled times; the light of Christ is a beacon of hope for us all.

Happy Easter! Our greetings to all our brothers and sister today should be "Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed, *Alleluia!*"

Fr. Paul.

Masses and Prayers: James Kavanagh (rec dec), Darcy Smith (ann30/3), Ivy Smith (ann. 17/3), Paul Sinclair (rec dec), Pedro Lumapac Snr (ann.), Elias Francis (ann.27/3)

Sunday Mass of the RESURRECTION

12 April 2020

THE INTRODUCTORY RITES

*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.*

Penitential Act

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

Amen.

Lord, have mercy.	Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.	Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.	Lord, have mercy.

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

Collect

Let us pray.

O God, who on this day,
through your Only Begotten Son,
have conquered death
and unlocked for us the path to eternity,
grant, we pray, that we who keep
the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection
may, through the renewal brought by your Spirit,
rise up in the light of life.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD (See Bulletin Liturgy Sheet)

Profession of Faith

Do you believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth?

I do.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered death and was buried,
rose again from the dead
and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

I do.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting?

I do.

And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit
and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins,
keep us by his grace,
in Christ Jesus our Lord,
for eternal life.

Amen.

General Intercessions

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, on this, the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad as we pray to the God who raised Jesus from the dead.

1. For the people of God, brought through saving waters to a land of promise: May we joyfully proclaim, with our lips and our lives, the good news of Christ's victory over sin and death. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
2. For all the peoples of the earth during this festival of Christ's resurrection: May the gloom of malice and evil yield to a blossoming of sincerity and truth. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
3. For those newly baptized into the death and resurrection of Christ: May they walk always with Christ in newness of life. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
4. For those who are sick or housebound, and for us all who are in isolation because of the Coronavirus pandemic: May the risen Christ visit us with healing power and new hope. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
5. For our parish community as we celebrate the resurrection of the Lord: May we remain faithful to our baptismal promises. *Let us pray to the Lord.*
6. For those who have died and whose lives are hidden with Christ in God: May they live forever with Christ in the glory of the resurrection. *Let us pray to the Lord.*

7. Let us rejoice with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Heaven, and be glad that he Lord is truly risen. **HAIL MARY.**

God our Father, through the death of your Son, you gave us the hope of eternal life. Grant that through his Resurrection we may obtain the life we long for. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pope Francis Prayer for protection from Coronavirus

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you. Health of the sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, our Salvation, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the Joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Our Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You have already come and untie myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be *etc.*

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Look upon your Church, O God,
with unfailing love and favour,
so that, renewed by the paschal mysteries,
she may come to the glory of the resurrection.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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