



ONE MISSION, TWO CHURCHES

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Year A - 5th April 2026



Acts of the Apostles 10:34. 37-43, Ps 117: Colossians 3:1-4,
GOSPEL READING: **John 20:1-9**

Meditation: What was it like for the disciple who had stood at the cross of Jesus and then laid him in a tomb on Good Friday, to come back three days later and discover that the sealed tomb was now empty? John, along with Peter, was the first apostle to reach the tomb of Jesus on Easter Sunday morning. Like Mary Magdalene and the other disciples, John was not ready to see an empty tomb and to hear the angel's message, Why do you seek the living among the dead (Luke 24:5)? What did John see in the tomb that led him to believe in the resurrection of Jesus? It was certainly not a dead body. The dead body of Jesus would have disproven the resurrection and made his death a tragic conclusion to a glorious career as a great teacher and miracle worker. When John saw the empty tomb he must have recalled Jesus' prophecy that he would rise again after three days. Through the gift of faith John realized that no tomb on earth could contain the Lord and giver of life. John saw and believed (John 20:8).



John had to first deal with the empty tomb before he could meet the risen Lord later that evening along with the other apostles who had locked themselves in the upper room out of fear of the Jewish authorities (John 20:19-23). John testified as an eye-witness to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ: What we have seen, heard, and touched we proclaim as the eternal word of life which existed from the beginning (1 John 1:1-4). John bears witness to what has existed from all eternity. This "word of life" is Jesus the word incarnate, but also Jesus as the word announced by the prophets and Jesus the word now preached throughout the Christian church for all ages to come.

One thing is certain, if Jesus had not risen from the dead and appeared to his disciples, we would never have heard of him. Nothing else could have changed sad and despairing men and women into people radiant with joy and courage. The reality of the resurrection is the central fact of the Christian faith. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Lord gives us "eyes of faith" to know him and the power of his resurrection. The greatest joy we can have is to encounter the living Christ and to know him personally as our Lord and Savior. Do you accept the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection with skeptical doubt and disbelief or with trusting faith and joyful wonderment?

From the Early Church Fathers: Hesychius of Jerusalem, died around 450 A.D.

"Hidden first in a womb of flesh, he sanctified human birth by his own birth. Hidden afterward in the womb of the earth, he gave life to the dead by his resurrection. Suffering, pain and sighs have now fled away. For who has known the mind of God, or who has been his counsellor if not the Word made flesh who was nailed to the cross, who rose from the dead and who was taken up into heaven? This day brings a message of joy: it is the day of the Lord's resurrection when, with himself, he raised up the race of Adam. Born for the sake of human beings, he rose from the dead with them. On this day paradise is opened by the risen one, Adam is restored to life and Eve is consoled. On this day the divine call is heard, the kingdom is prepared, we are saved and Christ is adored. On this day, when he had trampled death under foot, made the tyrant a prisoner and despoiled the underworld, Christ ascended into heaven as a king in victory, as a ruler in glory, as an invincible charioteer. He said to the Father, 'Here am I, O God, with the children you have given me.' And he heard the Father's reply, 'Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies your footstool' (Psalm 110:1)." To him be glory, now and for ever, through endless ages. Amen.

The Resurrection by Piero della Francesca (1460s), Fresco © Meeting Hall of Palazzo dei Conservatori di Sansepolcro.
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JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN. WISHING YOU A BLESSED & JOY FILLED EASTER.

Office (for both Churches): 17 Stevens Road Forest Hill Vic 3133 (St Timothy's)

Parish Office tel: 03 9412 8499; Presbytery tel: 03 9877 2292

St Luke the Evangelist, 46 Orchard Grove, Blackburn South

Email: foresthill@cam.org.au | Web: sttimothys.org.au / Email: blackburnsouth@cam.org.au | Web: blackburnsouth.org.au

Parish Priest

Fr Alex Chow

Parish Secretary

Sonya O'Farrell

Wednesdays,

Thursdays & Fridays

10am – 2pm

=====

SUNDAY MASS

Saturday Vigil: 5pm (SL)

Sunday: 8:30am (SL)

10:30am (ST)

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tues. 6:30pm (SL)

Wed. 9.15am (ST)

1st Wed Mass of Anointing @10am

Thurs. 9.15am (ST)

Fri. 9.15am (SL*)

6.30pm (ST)

Sat. 9.15am (SL*)

**Rosary after Mass*

RECONCILIATION

SL: Tues 5:30 - 6:10pm

Sat 9.45 - 10.15am

Sat 4.30 - 4.50pm

ST: Fri 5:30 - 6:10pm

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT & EVENING PRAYER

SL: Tues 5:30 - 6:30pm

ST: Fri 5:30 - 6:30pm

HOSPITALITY AFTER MASS AT ST. LUKE'S

Second weekend of each month - bring a plate to share (optional)

YOUNG ADULT GROUP -

Wednesday 15th April @ 7pm at St Luke's

Presbytery

LEGION OF MARY -

Friday 10th April @ 10.30am at St Luke's Parish Hall Kitchen



30 APRIL 2026

Thinking about life, purpose, and what really matters. If you're asking

big questions about faith or simply curious — you are very welcome.

ALPHA Australian Edition, ALPHA Chinese Mandarin (adults) and **ALPHA Youth** (ages 13–17) offer a relaxed, no-pressure space to connect with others, enjoy a free dinner, watch engaging short videos, and have honest conversations about life and faith. Come as you are, bring your questions, and see where the conversation leads. No pressure, no strings attached.

Email us at Alphastlukesbbs@gmail.com or register your interest via the QR code We'd love to see you at Alpha!

Next Week's Daily Readings 6 Apr - 12 Apr

The Octave of Easter

MONDAY Apr 6 Acts 2:14, 22-33 Ps 15:1-2, 5, 7-11 Mt 28:8-15

TUESDAY Apr 7 Acts 2:36-41 Ps 32:4-5, 18-20, 22 Jn 20:11-18

WEDNESDAY Apr 8 Acts 3:1-10 Ps 104:1-4, 6-9 Lk 24:13-35

THURSDAY APR 9 Acts 3:11-26 Ps 8:2, 5-9 Lk 24:35-48

FRIDAY APR 10 Acts 4:1-12 Ps 117:1-2, 4, 22-27 Jn 21:1-14

SATURDAY APR 11 Acts 4:13-21 Ps 117:1, 14-21 Mk 16:9-15

SUNDAY APR 12 Acts 2:42-47 Ps 117:2-4, 3-15, 22-24: 1 Pet 1:3-9 Jn 20:19-31

SECOND SUNDAY of EASTER (or of Divine Mercy)

ALTAR SERVING MINISTRY

Are you interested in assisting as an altar server? If so, or if you have any questions about this ministry, please contact Chris Lim on 0419 470 267

MINISTERS OF THE WORD

Saturday 5pm SL
Sunday 8:30am SL
10:30am ST

4 and 5 APR

See separate Easter Roster
Darren McLean
Gabby Chen

11 and 12 APR

Edna Lee
Peter McKeown
Ryan Yee

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday 5pm SL
Sunday 8:30am SL
10:30am ST

See separate Easter Roster
Megan McLean
Susan Chen

Marg Yore
Kana Chelliah
Laura Cigana

SLIDE OPERATORS

Saturday 5pm SL
Sunday 8:30am SL
10:30am ST

Choir
Paul Tierney
Lee Min Yee

7.30pm - Choir
Rosemary Donaldson
Manny Gonzalez

SL WELCOMERS 4 - 5 Apr

5pm Libby Theodore
8.30am Marie Pekish
10.30am Volunteer

SL CHURCH CLEANING

18th April - Maree's team
Maree Moss, Lynda Kilroe-Smith,
Allen Leung & Serena Ng

SL CHURCH FLOWERS
Easter: Kate Skowronska
11th April - Ellen Donoghue

ST CHURCH FLOWERS
Easter: Parishioners

SL WELCOMERS 11 - 12 Apr

5:00pm Edna Lee
8.30am Margaret Gearon
10.30am Volunteer

ST CHURCH CLEANING

10th April
Laura Cigana, Betty Digby,
Trevis Yee & Ben Perera

ST COUNTERS
This week Team 1:
Raj Fonn & Harin Perera
Next week Team 2:
Kelvin Chen & Patrick Rajaratnam

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

All who are sick, especially Helen MacKay, Frances O'Donoghue Brian Koh, Brian McHugh, Suzy Bookluck, Emilio Moreno Garcia, Agatha Wink, Chris Leach, Dora Leung, Hazel Grealy, Josephine Alexander, Grace Dimattina, Kit Bing Fan, Kathryn Holmes, Stewart Davis, Mark, Margaret Hayes, Charmaine Bancroft, Marilene Japour, Paciencia Cabral and all those parishioners unable to be among us this weekend.

All who have died, especially those whose anniversaries occur about this time especially Jack Stephenson, Marion Deakin, Verna Dughard, Mary Teresa Hosking, Delia Di Campli San Vito, John McEwan, Janelle Kingman Madigan, Lois Whiteoak, Yolanda Wong, Keith Buchanan Henry, Maria D'Astoli, Giovanni & Nunziata Panettieri, Enzo & Amelia Capizzi, Adriano Eisola, Claire Mayo, Maurie Wilmott, Lilian Chapman, Maria Villani, Shirley Hammond, Liz Rava & Maria Lobo. May they rest in peace.

POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL:

For priests in crisis. Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS ON EASTER SUNDAY: Please note that the clocks go back one hour on Saturday night.

PARISH & SCHOOL FETE: The next fete committee meeting will be held on Thurs. 23rd April at 7pm in St Luke's parish hall kitchen. We are currently asking all parishioners and school families if they run a market stall and would like to take part or have a business that would be interested in sponsoring our fete. We are also looking for stall coordinators for our Pre-loved Books, Silent Auction, Beer Garden/Wine & Cheese & BBQ stalls. Contact Sonya in the parish office or email stlukesfete@gmail.com. **More volunteers are very welcome to join us, as many hands make light work!**

UPCOMING BAPTISMS: We warmly welcome the Jodana and Felicio families whose children will be baptised over the next two weekends.

LIGHT INTO THE CITY: The Archbishop has launched the restoration & redevelopment project for St Patrick's Cathedral. For more information please visit: <https://lightintothecity.org.au/>

SAFEGUARDING ESSENTIALS TRAINING: All church volunteers must complete this training which can be done online via this link: [Safeguarding Essentials training module | Melbourne Catholic](#) Please email your certificate to the parish office when you receive it.

PROJECT COMPASSION: Baskets will be available on the altar of both churches from Easter Sunday onwards for parishioners to leave their Project Compassion boxes and donations. Thanks in advance for your generosity!

Resources

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC: Holy Week begins

MAJELLAN MEDIA: Our Lord has Risen

STEWARDSHIP CORNER:

The First collection is for the priest and retired priests.

The Second collection is for parish expenses.

Please note that collection totals will no longer be published each week in the newsletter. Presbytery and Church donations will be reported on a monthly basis at all weekend Masses. To donate regularly via envelope, credit card or bank account, please contact the parish office.

Parish Groups & Contacts

Volunteers and Rosters:

Kelvin & Susan Chen (ST),

Margaret Gearon (SL)

Baptism Preparation: *Fr Alex*

Parish Collection Preparers

ST: Barry Silvester &

Michael Kawalevski

Parish Safeguarding Committee

Fr Alex, Sonya O'Farrell,

Darren McLean & Janette Clark

Parish History

SL: Margaret Gearon

Parish Accountant

Bernard Negline

SL & ST: Hall Hire

Sonya O'Farrell @ 9877 2292

Church Sacristan

ST: Roster of Parishioners

SL: Greg Grant

Church Cleaning & Flowers

SL: Megan McLean

ST: Susan Chen

Church Linen: *SL: Beryl Chelliah*

Parish Garden Maintenance

ST: Des Connors

SL: Darren McLean

Parish Choirs

ST: Miguel Ilagan

SL: Fr Alex

Bible Timeline: *Chris Lim*

ALPHA: *Lynda Kilroe-Smith*

Young Adult Ministry:

Sarah Santilli & Jersy Soesanto

RCIA: *David West*

St Vincent de Paul Conference

For Assistance: 1800 305 330

(Monday to Friday 10am-3pm)

ST: John McCoy

SL: Margaret Gearon &

Steve Kilroe-Smith

Entrance Antiphon: 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.

Response to the Psalm: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Christ has become our paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord. Alleluia!

Eucharistic Acclamation: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

Communion Antiphon: Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

ST TIMOTHY'S: Sunday 12th April at the 10.30am Mass. This will run on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month.



ST LUKE'S: Saturday 11th April at the 5pm Mass. This will run on the 2nd Saturday of each month.

SACRAMENTAL DATES FOR 2026

First Reconciliation - May 26th & 27th from 3.30 to 5.30pm

Confirmation - June 25th @ 6pm

First Eucharist - August 1st @ 5pm

Parents of children who do not attend Catholic schools are asked to contact the parish office asap to enrol in preparation sessions for any of the above sacraments.



Building the Synodal Way Together

As we enter the Easter season, we are invited to continue growing as a Church that listens, learns, and walks together. The Synodal Way calls each of us—clergy, religious, and lay—to participate actively in discernment and dialogue, guided by the Holy Spirit.

In the coming weeks, we will focus on deepening our commitment to:

- Listening with an open heart to the experiences, hopes, and concerns of others.
- Engaging in meaningful conversation, grounded in respect, humility, and prayer.
- Strengthening our sense of communion, recognising Christ at the centre of our shared mission.
- Discerning pathways forward, so that our parish and wider Church can respond more faithfully to the needs of our time.

Reflection question: How can we deepen our understanding of synodality in our parish life?

The first meeting of the Diocesan Synod Commission will be held on Thursday 9 April. We ask for your prayers as we gather to discern and plan for the work of the Synod. If you would like to become involved in the preparation toward the Melbourne Synod please email:

Synod2026@cam.org.au

CONGRATULATIONS!



We warmly welcome our candidates and catechumens who have been journeying since last October and will become full members of the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil Mass this weekend.

Isaac Chen

Andrew Fowler

Cara Fowler

Dewen Ling

Graeme Robertson

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our local conference of St Vincent de Paul, Blackburn South is currently looking for people to help with visits, updating the database, bread run (pick up and distribution), purchasing food trips, drivers & voucher control. Many tasks have no more than a one hour commitment per week.



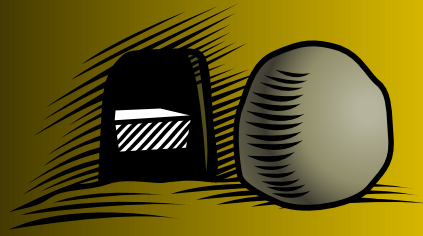
If you are interested please contact Steve 0458 673 514 or Margaret 0409 807 135 (or email margaret.gearon@svdp-vic.com.au). New members are always very welcome!



"SYNOD CORNER"

4. A Synod is not a parliament

The Church is not a democracy where truth is decided by majority vote. A Synod is not about winning arguments or pushing agendas. Instead, it is a spiritual process of listening deeply—to God, to Scripture, to tradition, and to one another—so that decisions are shaped by faith and mission, not ideology.

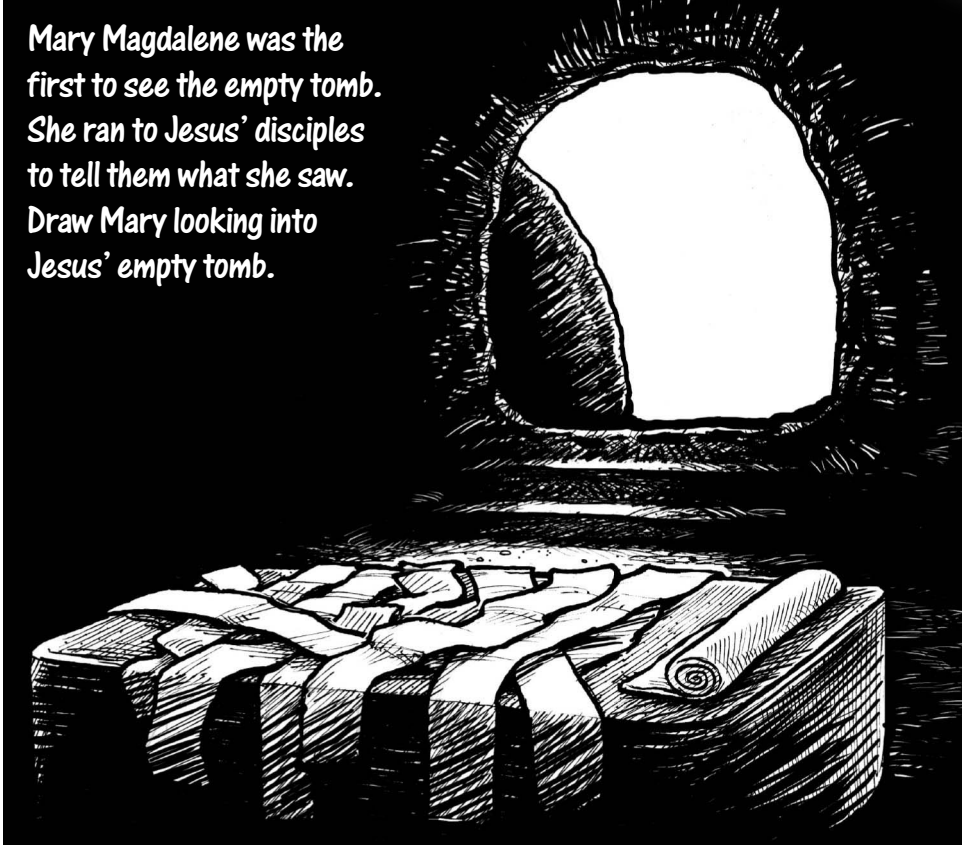


He is risen! Alleluia!

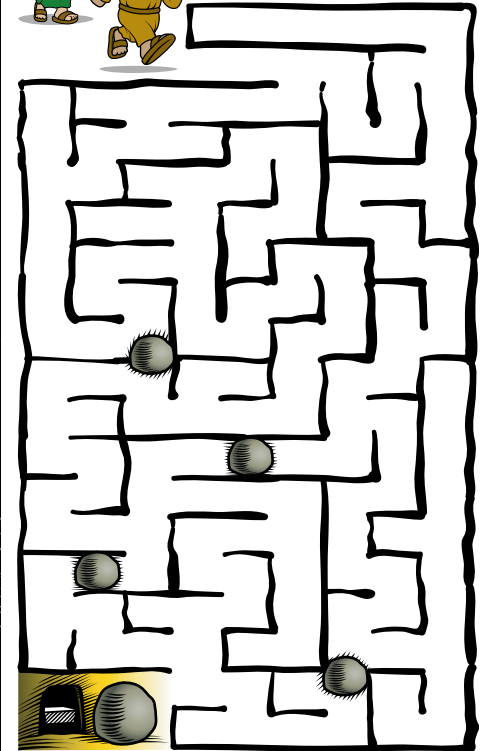


Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Mary Magdalene was the first to see the empty tomb. She ran to Jesus' disciples to tell them what she saw. Draw Mary looking into Jesus' empty tomb.



Help the disciples find their way to Jesus' empty tomb.



This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice!



What can you do to make people glad today?

Fill in the missing words below to find out what the letters in the boxes spell.

Mary M _____ went to the tomb.

"They have taken the _____ from the tomb", she said.

Peter was a d_____ _____ of Jesus.

The other disciple ran f_____ _____ than Peter.

He saw the strips of _____ cloth lying inside the tomb.

B _____ he did not go in.

When he saw _____ he believed.

The Scriptures s _____ Jesus would rise to life.

SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION – 5 APRIL 2026



COLLECT

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,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

READINGS AND REFLECTIONS

This evening, the Easter Triduum comes to an end. The Easter Season has already begun! After all the energy and effort of the Easter Vigil, there is no room for weariness this morning. Easter is the climax of the liturgical year. Most of the assembly will not have been at the Easter Vigil. Perhaps Easter Sunday is a good day to baptise infants. All the people will have the opportunity to renew their baptismal commitment. Excellent music and fine attention to the proclamation of the word of God are a necessity.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

10:34, 37–43

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead - and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117:1–2, 16–17, 22–23

R. This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.

or

R. Alleluia.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel 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. **R.**

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

First Reading

Throughout the Easter season, the first reading is taken from the Acts of the Apostles, not the Old Testament. It witnesses to the life of the early Church in which the Spirit-filled reality of the resurrection is unfolded, first through Peter and then through Paul.

Luke's gospel ends with a final instruction from the risen Lord: In the name of the risen Lord, repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be preached to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this... (Lk 24:47-48). How this comes to pass is the subject matter of the Acts of the Apostles.

Here Peter gives a wonderful summary of Jesus, his life, death and resurrection. He is speaking to the household of Cornelius, a pagan Roman centurion, and announces himself an eye-witness to all that has taken place.

Readers should engage confidently with the testimony of Peter, catch his enthusiasm and make it come alive for the hearers at Mass.

Responsorial Psalm

The responsorial psalm for the Mass of Easter Day (Psalm 117/118) is identical to the Alleluia of the Easter Vigil. Alleluias would make an excellent response for Easter morning and the same music can be used.

Verses from this psalm are also used next Sunday. On both days we hear the verse cited in the synoptic gospels, the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter: *The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.* It is a fine image to express the Paschal Mystery of Jesus' death and resurrection.

References to 'triumph', 'raising', and 'live' make it clear why the psalm has been chosen for Easter. The cantor/reader can proclaim the text energy and joy, and the assembly can reply by singing vigorous Alleluias.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

3:1-4

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him..

Alternative Second Reading

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

5:6-8

You must know how even a small amount of yeast is enough to leaven all the dough, so get rid of all the old yeast, and make yourselves into a completely new batch of bread, unleavened as you are meant to be. Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast, by getting rid of all the old yeast of evil and wickedness, having only the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

20:1-9

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

Second Reading

The first alternative for today's second reading contrasts heaven and earth. The context is baptismal – plunged into the waters of the font we die with Christ and rise with him. Our baptismal union with Christ is a participation in the things of heaven, because there the risen Christ reigns in glory.

The reader should try to evoke the radiance of the resurrection which all the baptised are called to share.

Second Reading – 1 Corinthians

The second alternative for today's second reading uses the image of yeast and bread baking. If the Colossians choice linked the Easter message to baptism, this choice takes us to Eucharist. Easter and Eucharist both celebrate the Paschal Mystery in which Christ is our Passover.

Our oneness with the risen Lord summons us to renewal, putting aside our old ways and embracing sincerity and truth.

The yeast image may not be obvious to the hearers. The reader should perhaps emphasise the 'completely new batch of bread.'

Gospel

There is excitement. People are running. But at the centre of this story is the quiet enigma of an empty tomb. The setting is mysterious – very early, still dark. The very ambiguity invites us to wonder with the disciples what is going on.

The wrapping cloths of Jesus' burial are the symbol of Jesus' resurrection. That is enough for Peter and John – and presumably Mary of Magdala – to come to understand what has happened and to believe.

In what follows in John's gospel, Mary encounters the risen Lord in the garden, at first thinking he is the gardener. It is a pity we do not hear this part of the story today. (It is read next Tuesday.)

Still, we have the whole Easter season to uncover the real presence of the risen Lord. The ambiguity of this account of the resurrection actually fits our own experience well, for we encounter the risen Lord in the mystery of word and sacrament.

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Solemn Blessing (EASTER SUNDAY)

Bless, O Lord, your people,
who long for the gift of your mercy,
and grant that what, at your prompting, they desire
they may receive by your generous gift.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
come down on us and remain with us for ever.
Amen.

(Adapted from the Solemn Blessing for Easter, Roman Missal p. 712)



2026 EASTER MESSAGE

Easter offers a way forward

Friends,

Easter invites us to stand at the threshold from night into dawn. In the Gospel, we meet Mary Magdalen arriving at the tomb while it was still dark (Jn 20:1). She carries grief and confusion, yet a fragile hope. What she finds is not an ending but a beginning: the stone is rolled away, the tomb is empty. And before her stands the One who knows her name: Mary.

As dawn breaks, a quiet truth emerges: death has not had the final word; life has arisen.

The resurrection unfolds like morning light. It does not blind, but illumines. It does not erase wounds, but transfigures them. Christ, the Light of the World, comes to meet us as the light we need. Christ is present; Christ is life.

Yet many today experience absence. For the young especially, the world can feel stripped of mystery—flattened, reduced. Meaning feels distant; hope can seem lost. Our lives can appear dark and empty. Conflict and war confront us.

And yet, it is precisely there that Easter speaks our name. The empty tomb is the sign which awakens us to the truth that God is still with us; Jesus is still for us. This Easter, we are called not only to receive Christ's light, but to rediscover its wonder—and to bear that light for others.

Here in Melbourne, we see both vitality and vulnerability: generosity among neighbours, yet distance towards others. Into this world comes the risen Christ, shining light into every darkness and upon every life. To be a light is to reflect the One who brings hope, and to keep it alive in a world that can forget to hold in safety those in need.

In our divided and conflicted world, Easter offers not escape but a way forward: to live with compassion, seek truth, build peace, and stand for hope.

To the steadfast in faith: may this Easter renew your joy and courage. To those who feel distant: the light of Christ is already seeking you. To people of goodwill: Easter proclaims that life is stronger than death, love stronger than fear, and hope stronger than despair.

May the risen Christ bless Melbourne and all its people this Easter. And may we rediscover his company as we walk from darkness into his marvelous light.

Christ is risen. Alleluia.

Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
Archbishop of Melbourne



ST. LUKES SCHOOL
BLACKBURN SOUTH



St Luke the Evangelist Blackburn South

We are Taking Enrolments for All Year Levels

Book in for an Open Morning or a Personal Tour

SCAN TO
BOOK A
TOUR



We are Companions on The Journey

2026

