



Tea Tree Gully Parish - St David's Catholic Church

Incorporating - Our Lady of Hope Chapel - Greenwith

8264 4694

Under the care of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate

email: pp@stdavidsttg.org.au



7 April 2024

2nd Sunday Easter Yr B

Readings next weekend 3rd Sunday Easter — Acts of the Apostles 3:13-15, 17-19, 1 John 2:1-5, Luke 24:35-48

God's Silence in the Face of Evil

Theologians sometimes try to express the meaning of Jesus' resurrection in one sentence: In the resurrection, God vindicated Jesus, his life, his message, and his fidelity. What does that mean?

Jesus entered our world preaching faith, love, and forgiveness, but the world didn't accept that. Instead, it crucified him and by that seemingly shamed his message. We see this most clearly on the cross when Jesus is taunted, mocked, and challenged: *If you are the son of God, come down from there! If your message is true, let God verify that right now! If your fidelity is more than plain stubbornness and human ignorance, then why are you dying in shame?*

What was God's response to those taunts? Seemingly nothing, no commentary, no defense, no apologia, no counter challenge, just silence. Jesus dies in silence. Neither he nor the God he believed in tried to fill that excruciating void with any consoling words or explanations challenging people to look at the bigger picture or to look at the brighter side of things. None of that. Just silence.

Jesus died in silence, inside God's silence and inside the world's incomprehension. And we can let ourselves be scandalized by that silence, just as we can let ourselves be scandalized by the seeming triumph of evil, pain, and suffering in our world. God's seeming silence in the face of evil and death can forever scandalize us: in the Jewish holocaust, in ethnic genocides, in brutal and senseless wars, in the earthquakes and tsunamis which kill thousands of people and devastate whole countries, in the deaths of countless people taken out of this life by cancer and by violence, in how unfair life can be sometimes, and in the casual manner that those without conscience can rape whole areas of life seemingly without consequence. Where is God in all of this? What's God's answer?

God's answer is the resurrection, the resurrection of Jesus and the perennial resurrection of goodness within life itself. But resurrection is not necessarily rescue. God doesn't necessarily rescue us from the effects of evil, nor even from death. Evil does what it does, natural disasters are what they are, and those without conscience can rape even as they are feeding off life's sacred fire. Normally, God doesn't intervene. The parting of the Red Sea isn't a weekly occurrence. God lets his loved ones suffer and die, just as Jesus let his dear friend Lazarus die, and God let Jesus die. God redeems, raises us up afterwards, in a deeper, more lasting vindication. Moreover, the truth of that statement can even be tested empirically.

Despite every appearance to the contrary at times, in the end, love does triumph over hatred. Peace does triumph over chaos. Forgiveness does triumph over bitterness. Hope does triumph over cynicism. Fidelity does triumph over despair. Virtue does triumph over sin. Conscience does triumph over callousness. Life does triumph over death, and good does triumph over evil, always. Mohandas K. Gandhi once wrote: "When I despair, I remember that all through history, the way of truth and love has always won. There have been murderers and tyrants, and for a time they seem invincible. But in the end they always fall. Think of it, always."

The resurrection, most forcibly, makes that point. In the end, God has the last word. The resurrection of Jesus is that last word. From the ashes of shame, of seeming defeat, failure, and death, a new, deeper, and eternal life perennially bursts forth. *Our faith begins at the very point where it seems it should end, in God's seeming silence in the face of evil.*

And what does this ask of us?

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First, simply that we trust in the truth of the resurrection. The resurrection asks us to believe what Gandhi affirmed, namely, that in the end evil will not have the last word. It will fail. Good will eventually triumph.

More concretely, it asks us to roll the dice on trust and truth, namely, trusting that what Jesus taught is true. Virtue is not naïve, even when it is shamed. Sin and cynicism are naïve, even when they appear to triumph. Those who genuflect before God and others in conscience will find meaning and joy, even when they are deprived of some of the world's pleasures. Those who drink in and manipulate sacred energy without conscience will not find meaning in life, even when they taste pleasure. Those who live in honesty, no matter the cost, will find freedom. Those who lie and rationalize will find themselves imprisoned in self-hate. Those who live in trust will find love. God's silence can be trusted, even when we die inside of it. We need to remain faithful in love, forgiveness, and conscience, despite everything that suggests they are naïve. They will bring us to what is deepest inside of life. Ultimately, God vindicates virtue. God vindicates love. God vindicates conscience. God vindicates forgiveness. God vindicates fidelity. Ultimately, God vindicated Jesus and will vindicate us too if we remain faithful.

Fr Ron Rolheiser OMI



PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES

Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion 2024.



If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit caritas.org.au/project-compassion and donate online.

Your generosity will empower the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and lift themselves out of poverty.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, for all future generations.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

ARCHDIOCESE NEWS

Marian Procession The 75th Marian Procession will be held on Sunday May 19 beginning at Victoria Park and processing up Wakefield Street into Victoria Square.

**The change of location this year is due to road closures on King William St for a Port Adelaide football club home game. The Procession will commence at 2pm and all are invited to attend with their parish or community. Group assembly will begin from 1.30pm. For more information please contact Archdiocesan Events on 8210 8220 or events@adelaide.catholic.org.au

Marian Procession Volunteering The Archdiocesan Events Office is currently seeking volunteers to support at the Marian Procession in a range of roles. If you are available and willing to help, please contact events@adelaide.catholic.org.au or 8210 8220. Volunteer roles are needed for Saturday May 18 and Sunday May 19 (which is the date of the event and begins at 2pm).

EASTER CELEBRATIONS

Thank you to all our volunteers and helpers who gave up their time to help with the setting of the church for the Easter celebrations and thank you to everyone who helped in anyway during the celebrations . We have had lovely responses from everyone on how lovely and uplifting Easter was at Tea Tree Gully.

DIARY DATES

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy

Thank you to Sarah & Jenny (St David's) and Hayley (OLOH) for offering to help with Children's Liturgy. If anyone else would like to join the team, please phone Amanda Bartels 0414 255 458 or Joan Smit on 0407 441 126 and we will explain what is required and how the Liturgy is presented. *You will be supported by Amanda and Joan.*

Parents, please refer to the bulletin for Children's Liturgy dates each month as we are unable to offer Liturgy every Sunday at this stage. Warm Regards Amanda & Joan

Widow/ers Mass

Thursday 18th April at 11am followed with a shared meal.



FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY CELEBRATION Divine Mercy Sunday April 7th, 2024 at Holy Trinity Church, 171 Kesters Road, Para Hills. At 2pm, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Reconciliation, Chaplet of Divine Mercy Benediction, Holy Mass at 3pm concluding with Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image.



GARDEN GROUP WORKING BEE

Despite the intermittent showers on Tuesday 2nd April, 7 of us faithful managed to clear out the unnecessary ground cover and spread 20 wheelbarrow loads of mulch. Thank you to everyone for the hard work and the wonderful result that you achieved.

If you would like to join this dedicated group, they meet on the first Monday of each month at 10am in the church garden. .



GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY

If you came to the Good Friday Liturgy, you may have looked at the 'crown of thorns' hanging on the wall above the Tabernacle ... but did you take a good look at the shadows under the 'crown of thorns'? Have a close look now. Can you see the face of Jesus crying?

Feast of St Eugene De Mazenod - 21st May- Oblate Feast Day



The Oblates invite you to join with them on Tuesday **21 May at 10am** at St David's Church, for Mass to Celebrate their feast day.

Please stay for a shared brunch after Mass.

The Feast Day will be hosted by the De Mazenod Family who meet on the first Monday of each month at 6pm.

Please place this date into your diaries.

TEA TREE GULLY PARISH

Parish Office Phone: 8264 4694 Email: secretary@stdavidsttg.org.au Web Page: <https://www.stdavidsttg.org.au>
Church Office & Presbytery: 2-4 Vizard Rd, Tea Tree Gully 5091 facebook.com/ttgparish
Our Lady of Hope Chapel: Cnr Golden Way & Golden Grove Rd, Greenwith. Contact via St David's Parish Office

STAFF

Priests: Fr James Jeyachandran OMI - Parish Priest (pp@stdavidsttg.org.au)
Fr Didier Indibi OMI—Assistant Priest (didierindibi@gmail.com)

Office Manager/Secretary - Denise Crawford - secretary@stdavidsttg.org.au
Church Sacristan - David Reynolds - contact via Parish Office

Child Safe Contacts: St David's Church - Amanda Bartels - contact 0414255458 or Parish Office

OLOH - Leah Tunks - contact 0431049947 or Parish Office

CH&S Officer:- Rina Borlace— contact Parish Office

MASS TIMES

St David's Church **Weekday Mass times:** Monday - Saturday 9.15am Rosary - 8.50am daily

Weekend Mass times: Saturday Vigil - 5.30pm, Sunday 7.00am & 10.30am

Our Lady of Hope Chapel: Sunday 9.00am

Reconciliation: Saturday morning after Morning Mass and Saturday evening from 5pm- 5.20pm.

Exposition: first Saturday of the month after morning Mass



We are a 'Child Safe'
Organisation

Mass Intentions and Feast Days for week commencing

6 April 2024

Saturday 6: 9.15am -

5.30pm: Monica Harte - RIP

Sunday 7: 7am: for the people of the parish

9am:

10.30am -

Monday 8: 9.15am -

Tuesday 9: 9.15am -

Wednesday 10: 9.15am-

Thursday 11:

Friday 12: Book of intentions

Please pray for the sick of our Parish:

names are on the list for a short period, unless parish is notified

John Williams, Judith Murray, Ros Rimmer, Bob Culshaw,
Gloria Grew, Ron & Clare Cashin, Sally Perry, James Perry,
Pauline Read, Brenda Crawford, Colleen Wallace,
George and Mary Willcox, Cathy Cullen, David Reynolds

DECEASED ANNIVERSARIES

Catherine Halleren, William Johnson, Paddy Hunt, Josef Antosik,
Luigi Di Fava, John Ramsay, John Shortt, Julio Komaromi,
Elsie Murphy, Hendra Suwandi, Betty Dwir, Elizabeth Adams,
Suchita Pappas, William McWilliams, William McWilliams



Vinnie's TTG Conference.

FOOD ITEMS REQUIRED: SOUP, TINNED FRUIT, TINNED SPAGHETTI, PASTA SAUCE, RICE

Under international law, secure and adequate housing is a human right. Yet, on any given night more than 122,000 Australians are homeless. Everyday we see the human face of these statistics. Vinnies is committed to assisting people experiencing homelessness and this includes addressing the range of issues that lead to it.

In South Australia we operate two crisis accommodation centres; one in Adelaide CBD for men over 18, and one in the northern suburbs that accommodates women, children and their pets.

Wasim Saman, *President TTG Conference*

Cleaners Roster: 10-12 April - Group 5

please come to the Parish Office to collect keys—

Linen for April - Georgina Mizzi

please take dirty linen, at least twice per week

Counting Roster: Next Weekend -14/4 Group 3

Morning Tea Hosts: 14 April

St David's - Zofia & Frank

OLOH - Shaw

If you would like to help with any of these ministries, please contact Parish Office. Remember you must obtain a Police Clearance to volunteer at the church.

Baptisms: Saturday 6th April at 11am

Olive Renae Feo, child of Heidi & Fabian Feo

Jesse Flynn Feo, child of Maria & Julian Feo

Sunday 14th April during the 10.30am Mass

Leo Josaf Martin, son of Wayne and Veronica

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES AVAILABLE from the MAIN FOYER OF THE CHURCH. They commence this Sunday.
If you require Planned Giving Envelopes, please place your name and address on the sheet provided. Your regular giving helps to maintain the upkeep of the church.