



WELCOME TO St Mary's Parish

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Parish Priest: Mons Peter Jeffrey Email address: mons.peterj@bigpond.com
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Parish Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 9.00am to 3.00pm
Website: stmarysmooropna.com

Third Sunday of Easter

Sunday 25th April, 2020



Liturgical Jottings

Spiritual Communion

It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent anyone from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion, which is a source of grace. Spiritual Communion means uniting oneself in prayer with Christ's sacrifice and worshipping him in his Body and Blood. The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass. Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid sin.

During the COVID pandemic, many are viewing Mass at Home or over the internet. The celebrant invites the distance-congregation to join in the prayer of Spiritual Communion (see right column) so that they feel connected to the Mass and one another.

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Looking at the Gospels

The two disciples on the road to Emmaus, proclaimed in today's Gospel, travel on a unique journey which has many implications for them, other disciples and for us today. Firstly it becomes a moment of conversion for them. They are despondent and shattered by the death of Jesus. Secondly after recognising the Risen Christ they are overcome with joy and enthusiasm. They quickly reversed their journey, despite the lateness of the hour to share their experiences with the Twelve.

Some years ago I had a day in London waiting for a flight home. Not to waste the opportunity I visited the NGA and arrived just in time to hear a lecture on Caravaggio's painting "The Supper at Emmaus" The art expert, an Australian, enthralled his audience for over an hour. He retold the story, and highlighted the genius of the artist in drawing the two companions out of the painting by the torn sleeve but at the same time drawing the viewers into the scene by the magnanimous arms gesture of the other. We are invited to share the meal, listen to the Lord and go out to spread the [good] news. The lecture and the painting gave me material for many a homily and much food for prayer. I was so impressed I bought the painting. Well, not really, but four A4 prints of the work.

Good Idea for the Week: Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, Come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there And unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Pope Francis Easter Urbi et Orbi 2020 Blessing

Dear brothers and sisters, indifference, self-centredness, division and forgetfulness are not words we want to hear at this time. We want to ban these words forever! They seem to prevail when fear and death overwhelm us, that is, when we do not let the Lord Jesus triumph in our hearts and lives. May Christ, who has already defeated death and opened for us the way to eternal salvation, dispel the darkness of our suffering humanity and lead us into the light of his glorious day, a day that knows no end. With these thoughts, I would like to wish all of you a happy Easter. (final paragraph)

On the Lighter Side

The art lecturer [Looking at the Gospel, above] told his audience about the bowl of fruit half sitting on the table and half suspended in the air. Each morning one of the gallery's curators must come in and pick up the bowl of fruit fallen on the floor and place it back onto the table.

ST MARY'S PARISH MOTTO

"Reaching out to each other
- growing together in love"

St Mary's Mooroopna acknowledge the Yorta Yorta Nation and the Aboriginal people who have walked this land for thousands of years

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Sat Vigil
Sunday

Cancelled
Cancelled

RECONCILIATION

Cancelled

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Following Government requirements and guidance from Bishop Shane, the church will remain locked and all masses have been cancelled until further notice

PARISH / SCHOOL NEWS

Parish Bulletin

The bulletin will continue to be circulated electronically to all those whose email addresses are known. It would be appreciated if you could kindly download and pass on to any parishioners who do not have electronic communication. A few hard copies will be available in the parish house.

You are welcome to phone or email any notices / anniversaries to the parish office
mooroopna@cdos.org.au

Parish Office Hours

The office will remain locked and Brenda's hours have been reduced. At this stage Brenda will be in attendance during the following times :-

Tuesday and Thursday, 9.00am to 1.00pm

Baptisms

These have all been postponed with the exception of urgent ones when in a life is in danger.

St Mary's School

Most students are working remotely from home but we have 30 children of emergency workers who are being supervised at the school each day.



Thank you to our generous parishioners who have opened their hearts and made their annual Project Compassion donation to Caritas Australia.

Our total this year stands at \$1651.30

We have extended the closing date to Sat 2nd May if you would still like to contribute.

Envelopes can be dropped in to the slot outside the parish office or you may wish to make a donation via EFT

BSB 083 543,
A/c No 86896 5333.

Please mark your donation Caritas, include your surname and we will issue you with a receipt.

"LETS GO FURTHER TOGETHER"

This has been a sad week for our Essential Service personnel across the State and indeed for all of us.



Many of you will have families who serve in the industries we call 'essential services'.

The loss of any life is a tragedy, but the deaths of four Police Officers going about their duties in keeping us all safe has an added edge to it.

Please continue to pray for the families of these Essential Service personnel.

AS THE WORLD TURNS

All over the world, people are talking about Dr. Li Wen Liang. He was the Doctor who discovered the novel coronavirus and, in the early hours of Feb 7, 2020, he died of the same virus.

In December last year, he was arrested for being a whistleblower, "spreading rumours" about a mysterious pneumonia-life virus.

He continued to care for patients until he was infected himself. He leaves a toddler and his wife, who is also infected and 8 months pregnant with their second child. Prior to his death, Dr Li Wen Liang penned a deeply touching poem finishing with :-

No more good people should suffer
from endless fear and helpless sadness,
I have fought the good fight,,
I have finished the race,
I have kept the faith,

AMEN

VALE Dr Li Wen Liang

Third Sunday of Easter



Scripture Reflection

Did our Hearts not burn within us ?

Our readings this Sunday are full of the firm faith in the resurrection of Jesus, both in the teachings of St Peter and in the witness of the disciples in Emmaus.

The **First Reading** gives us the first part of Peter's rousing address to the crowd at Pentecost. Filled with the Spirit, he tells them about the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and how all of this was a result of God's plan.

The **Second Reading**, St Peter again, is a reminder that we have been ransomed by the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ. Our faith and hope are based in the God who raised Jesus from the dead and gave him glory.

Parish Profile

A new feature whilst we are in lockdown.

And we are starting from the top !



- Name** MONS PETER JEFFREY
- Born** Bendigo... A long long time ago
- Siblings** Sister Aileen Keane and 5 nephews
- AFL TEAM** Why Richmond of course
- Favourite Player** The tattooed one – think he is No. 5 !!
- Favourite Holiday Destination** Torquay
- Favourite Food** Ice Cream
- Favourite pastime** Contemplative reading
- Pet Hate** Dirty Dishes
- Favourite TV Program** ABC News

(Editors note

Now really Mons Boring, boring .
I thought it would have been
Married at First Sight !!)

MASS ON LINE

Join the 76,000 views who enjoyed Holy Week live streamed from the Diocese of Sandhurst

LIVE SERVICES FROM SANDHURST With Bishop Shane

www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au

12.10pm every weekday

and

**10.00am Sun 19/4
Second Sunday of Easter**



OTHER OPTIONS FOR YOU AT HOME

DAILY TV MASS Livestream from the National Catholic Broadcasting Council of Canada: <https://dailytvmass.com/> and Facebook: 'Daily TV Mass'

DAILY MASS WITH POPE FRANCIS Mass from the Vatican. The YouTube videos offer English translation

Stronger Rally Whilst in Lockdown

The next Stronger Rally will come to you in the comfort of your own home.

Friday, 1st. May, from around 6.15pm

Featuring Bishop Shane, Fr Rob Galea. For all young people 14—26. Keep the faith going—Stronger Youth YouTube Channel

Readings for
this week:

Acts 2:14, 22-33
1 Peter 1:17-21
Luke 24:13-35

Readings for
next week:

Acts 2:14, 36-41
1 Peter 2:20-25
John 10:1-10

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MERRITT
FUNERAL SERVICES

PH (24HRS): 03 5825 1651

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR

Sick List: , Robert Kelso, Graeme Weir, Noreen Griffiths, Aileen Keane, Alan Mylon, Alma Homewood, Mary Hehir, Jono Bentancourt, Indie Allen, Peter Roberts, Merv Janke, Lorraine Stein, Cecily Dumaresq, Angela Iacono, Allan McGrath

Anniversaries : Jim Healy, John & Peter Raleigh **Recently Deceased :** Betty Duncan



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THE ODE

They shall grow not old,
As we that are left grow old :

Age shall not weary them,
Nor the years condemn :

At the going down of the sun
And in the morning

We will remember them.

Lest We Forget