



We are a community learning to be disciples of Jesus

Welcome to Mt Barker/Strathalbyn Catholic Parish 11th April 2021

Second Sunday of Easter

Mass Times This Week

Saturday 6pm Our Lady of Mercy

Sunday 9am Our Lady of Mercy

Sunday 10:45am The Good Shepherd

Mon 12/04 11.00am Rosary Garden

Tue 13/04 9.30am Our Lady of Mercy

Wed 14/04 12 noon Our Lady of Mercy

Thu 15/04 10.30am Our Lady of Mercy

Funeral Mass - John Entwistle

Fri 16/04 9.30am Our Lady of Mercy

Fri 16/04 6.00pm St James the Less

Sat 17/04 9.30am The Good Shepherd

Sat 17/04 11.00am Rosary Garden

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament follows Mass on Thursday and Saturday mornings for half an hour.

Reconciliation is available during and after Exposition, and by appointment.



Encountering Christ means finding peace of heart

Leading the Regina Coeli on Easter Monday, Pope Francis recalled that the day is also known as *Monday of the Angels* because "we recall the meeting of the angel with the women who arrived at Jesus' tomb". The angel said to them: "He is not here; for He has risen." This expression - "He has risen" - goes beyond human capacity.

Even the women who had gone to the tomb and had found it open could not confirm "He has risen"; only that it was empty. "Only an angel could say that Jesus had risen", said Pope Francis.

Matthew the Evangelist narrates that on Easter morning "there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone, and sat on it." All of the plans and defenses of Jesus's enemies and persecutors were in vain. The image of the angel sitting on the stone before the tomb is "the concrete, visible manifestation of God's victory over evil, of Christ's victory over the prince of this world, of light over darkness."

The angel's appearance, "was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow." "These details are symbols that confirm the intervention of God himself, bearer of a new era, of the last times of history," said Pope Francis.

Reacting to this intervention on God's part, the guards "cannot face the overwhelming power of God and are shaken by an interior earthquake." The women's reaction is "very different" because "they are expressly invited by the angel of the Lord not to be afraid and not to seek Jesus in the tomb." We can reap a precious teaching from the angel's words. "We should never tire of seeking the Risen Christ who gives life in abundance to those who meet Him," said Pope Francis. "To find Christ means to discover peace of heart." The same women of the Gospel experience great joy in discovering the Master alive. "In this Easter Season, my wish is that everyone might have the same spiritual experience; welcoming in our hearts, in our homes and in our families the joyful proclamation of Easter: '*Christ, having risen from the dead dies now no more; death will no longer have dominion over Him.*'"

Our Priests

Father Richard Morris
Parish Priest

Father Ian Wilson
Assisting Priest

Our Churches

Our Lady of Mercy
5 Mann Street, Mt Barker SA 5251

The Good Shepherd
2 Chapel Street, Strathalbyn SA 5255

St James the Less
24 Luck Street, Macclesfield SA 5153

Our Parish Office

7 Mann Street, Mt Barker SA 5251
Tue-Fri Ph 8391 1053

Michelle Muller, Parish Secretary
mbstparish@adam.com.au
Fr Richard: morrisri@bigpond.com
www.barkerstrathcatholic.com

Our Ministry Coordinator, Strathalbyn

Sue Eckert Ph 8537 3053

Our School

St Francis de Sales College
Gavin McLaughlin, Principal
Ph 8393 1000

Please Pray For...

Sick

Roma Baraglia, Blossom (Teresa) Ferrarese, Gene Ferrarese, Mario Ferrarese, Ashlee Lloyd, Helen Malin, Helene Meijer, David Neville, Patricia Smyth, Archer Thomas, David Thomas, Clara Umoren.

Names are kept on the sick list for 4 weeks.

Recently Deceased

John Entwistle.

Anniversaries

Mary Byrth, Reg Furst, April Jones, Fr. Bill Kelly, Eros Pinozzio, Fr. James Quinlan, Anne Shepherd, Vern Taylor.

Anniversaries from Saturday 10th to Friday 16th April.

Parish Pastoral Council

Neil McGoran (Chair), Fr Richard Morris (Ex Officio), Fr Ian Wilson (Ex Officio), Gavin McLaughlin (Ex Officio), Stewart Chilcott, Teena Cobiac, Joanna Falkland, Mike Galea, Yesamma Hendry, Sandra Lloyd, Jo Manalo, Tung Pham, Jan Sobotta.

Supporting our parish community on our journey of faith.

Parish Finance Council

Father Richard Morris (ex officio), John Barton (Treasurer), Michelle Muller, Noel Duffield, Jim Mann, Delia Hughes.

For parish property, maintenance and finance matters.

Collections Last Week

1st Collection (supporting our priests)	\$ 986.20
2nd Collection (supporting the parish)	
Envelopes	\$ 683.00
Online and direct debit	\$ 180.00
Loose plate	\$ 545.70
Total second collection	\$ 1,408.70
Holy Places Appeal	\$ 757.60
Project Compassion	\$ 1,595.65

Thank you for supporting our parish and our priests.

If you would like to give to the first and second collections via envelope, direct debit or credit card, please contact Michelle or Father Richard at the Parish Office, ph 8391 1053.

Meetings This Week

Mon 9.45am	Arty Crafty Ladies	OLOM Foyer
Tue 5.00pm	Parish Finance Council	Parish House
Wed 1.00pm	Legion of Mary	Parish House

On our Parish Website

Visit our website at: <https://www.barkerstrathcatholic.com/>
Prayers for all occasions - Contact tracing forms -
Parish directory - Website links - Strath hall booking calendar
- and lots, lots more.

Child Safe Contact Officers

Michelle Muller and Teena Cobiac
Child Abuse Report Line (CARL): 13 14 78



Reflection on the Scripture Readings

St John's gospel, written long after the other three gospels, is a meditation upon the events of the Saviour's life filled with Resurrection light. It is not surprising, therefore, that the gospel readings for the Sundays of the Easter season are from the fourth gospel. Today's readings



are a celebration of the Resurrection faith that makes it possible to know and enter into the Paschal Mystery. They come to a climax with the story of how the original 'doubting Thomas' found faith.

This gospel invites us to share the experience of the disciples, finding faith through the coming of the Lord into their midst on the evening of his Resurrection Day. What a dramatic situation – they are to meet the one whom they have deserted and abandoned to his fate. There is no word of reproach, no reference to what has taken place, only 'Peace be with you' and again 'Peace be with you' – you are forgiven come once more into my friendship. Their finding faith is a meeting with God's generous and reconciling love. And he sends them forth with the good news of the forgiveness of sins.

For many, faith does not come easy. We are helped by Thomas's testimony that echoes down through the centuries - as he owns that it is indeed the crucified one, the one who shared the deepest darkness of the world we have made - to whom we can entrust ourselves as our Lord and our God.

The Resurrection faith today's liturgy celebrates is a faith which must find expression in action. The reading from Acts describes the first community of Christian faith, no longer a group of discouraged and disillusioned followers, but galvanised into action: sustained by the power of the apostles' witness, united in heart and soul, sharing what they had with those in need. The apostolic witness and preaching are echoed for us in the reading from John's first letter. The faith that unites believers in the Resurrection is a 'victory' – not a victory achieved by violence and power, but the triumph that belongs to those who have truly learned the ways of the Risen Lord – whose greeting was 'Peace' and the forgiveness of sins.

Authentic Resurrection faith awakens a sense of responsibility and brings a call to mission: 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you'.
John Thornhill SM

Question of the Week

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you'. After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. (John 20: 19 – 20)

Adults: What could you do this week to inspire your family to resemble the early Christians more closely?

Young People: What type of Christian gathering (Mass, youth group, retreats, service trips, phone conversations) help me the most to connect with the Christian community, and why?

Children: What could you and your family do to help others in need?

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Virtual Weekend

A weekend of discovery... a lifetime of love

Worldwide Marriage Encounter invites couples, priests and religious for a virtual marriage encounter weekend to enrich and revitalise your sacrament of service. It gives you the opportunity to grow in your relationship with your spouse or community.

After the weekend, couples often choose to reconnect with other encountered couples on a regular basis for a shared meal, prayer and discussion. **We may be able to catch up in the Mount Barker - Strathalbyn Parish** if enough couples enrol for the Virtual Weekend.

The virtual weekend via Zoom commences at 7pm on Friday April 30th, concluding 4pm Sunday May 2nd.

Contact Julie and Zyg Staszyc: M: 0437 388 513 or E: sabookings@wwme.org.au. For all other enquiries for Marriage Encounter enrichment, programs and events contact Thomas and Maria on E: wwmecentral@gmail.com or visit: <https://www.wwme.org.au>.

Children's Liturgy Catechist Enrichment Day

Given all the changes happening over the past year, we invite all catechists to participate in an Enrichment Day. This will be an opportunity for formation, networking with each other and the Family Faith Formation team, to share our insights and support each other in enhancing our catechesis with children.

Facilitated by Jenny Seal and Amanda Razon, this is an important day for catechists, new and experienced, to revitalise some essential aspects involved in ministry with children. **Monday May 3, 9.30am - 1.30pm** at the CEO Conference Centre, 116 George St, Thebarton. Register at:

<https://registrationcentre.cesa.catholic.edu.au/event-4229786> and register in the drop down box as Archdiocese of Adelaide.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we ask that you please bring your own lunch for the day. Please let Michelle in the Parish Office know if you wish to car pool.

OLOM Working Bee - Next Sunday

We will be having a working bee in the gardens surrounding Our Lady of Mercy, Mount Barker on Sunday 18th April, after 9am Sunday Mass. The working bee will run from 10am-1pm, to be followed by a BBQ lunch. We hope to have many volunteers to garden, cook the BBQ and bring salads.

Community Day – Christian Meditation SA

The World Community for Christian Meditation SA is holding a Community Day on Saturday April 17, 2021 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 139 Archer Street, North Adelaide, 11am to 3pm. The Rev'd Joan Claring-Bould will speak about her friendship with Henri Nouwen.

Register at <https://www.trybooking.com/BOJJCJ> or E: chr.med.southaust@gmail.com. Please bring your own lunch and cup. Suggested donation \$15. Parking is available behind the church, entering via Walter Street.

New Covid Plans

We are now allowed to have three persons per four square metres in our churches without having to wear masks. This is equivalent to having five people in most of the OLOM pews.

Congregational singing is now allowed; If you would like to sing, please bring a mask and pop it on for the duration of each hymn.



Can You Help?

St Vincent de Paul's are in need of a small round or square dining table for a companion going into a very small unit. We can exchange for a large table.

Please ring Babs on 0409 916 356 if you can help us.

Plenary Council Continuing the Journey

The first Assembly of the Plenary Council originally planned for Adelaide in October 2020 was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It will now be held in multi-modal form online from October 2 – 10, 2021.

As we journey towards the first Assembly, the Thematic Discernment Papers have been released in 'Easy English' versions. These versions provide explanations throughout of the meaning of commonly used terms.

These new releases are available on the Plenary Council website: <https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/resources/tools/>

Working with Children Check

If your Working with Children check has expired, or is due to expire soon, please get the ball rolling by picking up a form from the rear of your church. Once completed, your 100 points of ID can be checked by Father Richard or Michelle Muller at Mount Barker or Chris Bagley at Strathalbyn.

Kids Programs in Term 2

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Sunday in the 9am Mass at Our Lady of Mercy, Mt Barker. We listen to the Gospel from the Children's Lectionary and reflect on how God is speaking to us, using activities such as poster making, craft and prayer.

Youth Group (11+)

After our hugely successful (and fun!) Come and Try session, we will be getting together again on Saturday nights, 7-9pm (after the Vigil Mass) on the odd weeks of school term. Starting term 2, Saturday 1st May. Ruby and Ella.



Atrium/Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd provides a place of prayer especially for children. The catechists assist the children to listen and respond to the words of love whispered by the Good Shepherd. In term 2 we will offer sessions on Wednesdays from 4-6pm for both Level 1 (3-6yo) and Level 2/3 (6-12yo). Ring Teena on 0499 172 740 to book.

Second Sunday of Easter

FIRST READING ACTS 4:32-35

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The whole group was united, heart and soul.

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 117:2-4, 15-18, 22-24

**R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
his love is everlasting.**

Let the sons of Israel say:

'His love has no end.'

Let the sons of Aaron say:

'His love has no end.'

Let those who fear the Lord 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.

I was punished, I was punished by the Lord,
but not doomed to die. **R.**

The stone which the builders rejected

has become the corner stone,

This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 JOHN 5:1-6

A reading from the first letter of St John

Anyone begotten by God has already overcome the world.

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ

has been begotten by God;

and whoever loves the Father that begot him
loves the child whom he begets.

We can be sure that we love God's children

if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us;

this is what loving God is -

keeping his commandments;

and his commandments are not difficult,

because anyone who has been begotten by God

has already overcome the world;

this is the victory over the world -
our faith.

Who can overcome the world?

Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God;

Jesus Christ who came by water and blood,

not with water only,

but with water and blood;

with the Spirit as another witness -

since the Spirit is the truth.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION JOHN 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;

happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

GOSPEL JOHN 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,

so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,

they are forgiven;

for those whose sins you retain,

they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Next Week: April 18, Third Sunday of Easter, Year B,

It was written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead

First Reading: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19, Psalm: 4:2, 4, 7, 9, Second Reading: 1 John 2:1-5, Gospel: Luke 24:35-48.

The English translation of the Psalm Responses, Alleluia & Gospel verses, & Lenten Gospel Acclamation from *Lectionary for Mass*© 1969,1981, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.