

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Ps 15:1-2. 5. 7-11

**RESPONSE:** Lord, you will show us the path of life.

Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.

I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup; it is you yourself who are my prize.'

**Response.**

I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel, who even at night directs my heart.

I keep the Lord ever in my sight:

since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **Response.**

And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; even my body shall rest in safety.

For you will not leave my soul among the dead, nor let your beloved know decay. **Response.**

You will show me the path of life, and the fullness of joy in your presence, at your right hand happiness for ever. **Response.**

**SECOND READING:** 1 Peter 1:17-21

**A reading from the first letter of St Peter**

**The ransom that was paid to free you was the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ.**

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason - so that you would have faith and hope in God.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** cf Luke 24:32

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us: make our hearts burn with love when you speak. Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL:** Luke 24:13-35

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**  
**They recognised him at the breaking of the bread.**

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.'

'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'



Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at the table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes it is true, The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:**

**The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.**

**READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:**

**Acts 2: 14, 36-41; 1 Pet 2: 20-25; Jn 10: 1-10.**

## PARISH OF ST. THERESE, DENISTONE

Presbytery and Office

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### MASS TIMES:

SATURDAY VIGIL: 6:00 pm.

SUNDAY: 8:00 am and 9:30 am.

MONDAY: No Mass.

TUESDAY through to SATURDAY: 9.00 am Mass.

FRIDAY: 9.00 am Mass.

Exposition & Benediction every Friday after Mass.

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 5pm – 5.45pm or by appointment.

Baptism: Every Sunday at 11am or 11.30am. Please contact Parish Office.

Marriage: By appointment.

Anointing of the sick: Please give names to Father Roberto Castillo.

## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

### 25<sup>th</sup> / 26<sup>th</sup> April 2020



### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

**Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.**

**FIRST READING: Acts 2:14. 22-33**

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

**It was impossible for him to be held by the power of Hades.**

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him

from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him:

I saw the Lord before me always,  
for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me.

So my heart was glad  
and my tongue cried out with joy:  
my body, too, will rest in the hope  
that you will not abandon my soul to Hades  
nor allow your holy one to experience corruption.

You have made known the way of life to me,  
you will fill me with gladness through your presence.'

'Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## A Message from Father Roberto.

Hi everybody, I hope you are all doing well. We are now in the middle of the Easter Season, and our focus at this joyful time continues to be the Risen Lord who passed on from the darkness of the grave to the brightness of the new supernatural life, that does not know end.

Brothers and sisters, what a beautiful truth we believe in. Yes, we all have to go through rough times in this imperfect universe. And it can be seen more clearly at this time; that is why Easter comes to remind us that our faith tells us that no virus or any other power has the last word, but our Lord Jesus Christ, who has already destroyed death through his death; the spectre of death the worst enemy of our humanity could not get hold of him. He escaped from its grip like a bird that escapes from the hunter's trap. And not just that, but he humiliated and defeated the enemy, the devil, that brought death into our world.

Let us keep praying for those who have died in these terrible times, for those who are sick, those who are working to keep the country running and those who want to keep everybody safe. Prayer at this time is a wonderful weapon against the forces of the enemy.

Also let us remember, **lest we forget**, all the people from our armed forces who sacrificed their lives to keep our country safe. Today, a new army of doctors, nurses and scientists are protecting us in a different war, making great sacrifices to keep us safe from the invisible enemy of covid19. And it looks like we are getting closer to victory, so let us hang in there. Let us keep respecting our physical distance, washing our hands, and let us stay social with our neighbours, families and friends through all the means of communication available to us today. Never forgetting the people who are most vulnerable at this time. Stay safe.

**The Lord is risen, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

## Charitable Works Fund May Appeal.

This week Fr Roberto received a letter advising us that the usual appeal for CWF won't be held and our commitment to the usual donation has been waived. This is such a relief during these times of financial stress for everyone.



## Planned Giving.

Thank you to those who continue to support us. Naturally our donations have dramatically been affected over the past month and we do understand why. But the care and maintenance of our priest and parish buildings goes on, and has to be funded.

Whilst we are getting credit card facilities up and running we suggest that people who wish to continue to donate to do so by putting envelopes into the parish letterbox clearly marking them with their intentions Eg First Collection / Loose / Planned Giving. Please note our letterbox is secure so long as you make sure the envelope has dropped in and it's NOT sticking out.

**Offering Envelopes**



## Ongoing expenditure.

Many parish expenses are continual and unavoidable but during the pandemic Fr Roberto has taken steps to try to minimize our electrical charges by turning off the church lights. This week we have replaced the lights on the sanctuary with LED track lights. This expenditure was planned and was becoming an urgent repair as the 2 light bulbs were blown out. So we have taken this opportune moment to replace the lights with modern cost saving fittings. We hope to be very happy with the updated changes.



## PARISH NEWS & NOTICES:

### Request for Mass and Prayers.

We pray for those who have recently died. Also pray for those who celebrate anniversaries especially Ellen Mary Jean Broderick.



### Livestreaming of Sunday Masses at 10am.

Our Sunday Masses will continue to be livestream each Sunday at 10am so if you wish to view them go to our parish website home page at [www.sttherese.org.au](http://www.sttherese.org.au). Previous video Masses can be viewed under the News and Events tab in the Video Gallery. If you have any issues you can also go to **YouTube** and search: **Priest Roberto E Castillo**. Enjoy!

Many thanks to all those who have sent through messages or even photos of you and your families praying and participating in the live streaming of Fr Roberto's Masses.

### Sacrament of Reconciliation.

As per advice of the Archdiocese, Reconciliation is available only by appointment. Please call Fr Roberto on 9809-2925.



### Cobargo Appeal.

We have received a couple of thank you letters from the Cobargo families.



They are most appreciative financially and also in awe that strangers have gone out of their way to help them offering them kindness and a new hope for their future as they rebuild their lives and homes.

And we sincerely thank Elizabeth Wheeler for her wonderful initiative to help others us!

### Caritas Australia Project Compassion Appeal

Many thanks to all those who donated to Project Compassion this year. Your generosity is always gratefully received.



If you missed the opportunity to give please go online to [lent.caritas.org.au](http://lent.caritas.org.au) and securely donate with your credit card, OR you can send a cheque to Caritas Australia, GPO Box 98360, Sydney NSW 2001 OR call on 1800-024-413.

### Closed until further notice

- ❖ Church is closed until further notice
- ❖ Baptisms are postponed for at least 6 months;
- ❖ All parishioners are dispensed from attending Sunday Mass

## Prayer to Our Lady during the Coronavirus pandemic:

Mary, Help of Christians, we fly to you today as your beloved children.

We ask you to intercede for us with your Son, as you did at the wedding in Cana.



Pray for us, loving Mother, and gain for our nation and world, and for all our families and loved ones, the protection of God's holy angels, that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted, we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.

Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful,

wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing, teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind. Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.

We come to you with confidence, Knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother, health of the sick and cause of our joy. Shelter us under the mantle of your protection, keep us in the embrace of your arms, help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus, Amen.

Or you may wish to say this prayer whilst at home to participate in spiritual communion with Our Lord, as we are unable to receive it at this present.



"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 into 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.