

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:

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

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.'

Response.

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds.

Response.

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

Response.

SECOND READING: **Colossians 3:1-4**
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians
Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.

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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



SEQUENCE

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

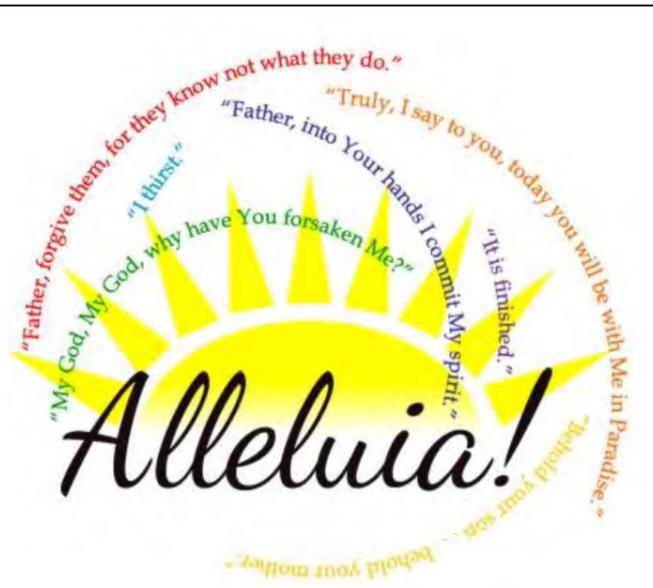
Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with joy in the Lord.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: **MATTHEW 28:1-10**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He has risen from the dead and now he is going



no need for you to be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said he would. Come and see the place where he lay, then go quickly and tell his disciples. "He has risen from the dead and now he is going before you to Galilee; it is there you will see him." Now I have told you.' Filled with awe and great joy the women came quickly away from the tomb and ran to tell the disciples.

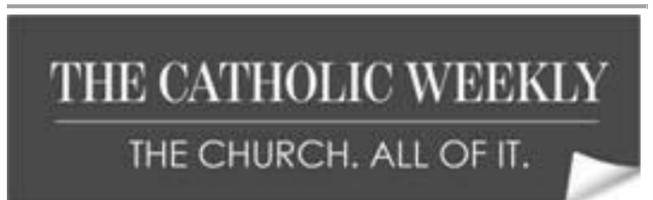
And there, coming to meet them, was Jesus. 'Greetings' he said. And the women came up to him and, falling down before him, clasped his feet. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers that they must leave for Galilee; they will see me there.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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.



Catholic weekly digital edition.

The Catholic Weekly it has now been adapted well and are continuing to produce the paper look in a digital form making it available to everyone online at www.catholicweekly.com.au

So go to the Catholic Weekly website and find the latest edition online by clicking the tile they can read through the paper flicking through page by page.

PARISH OF ST. THERESE, DENISTONE



Presbytery and Office

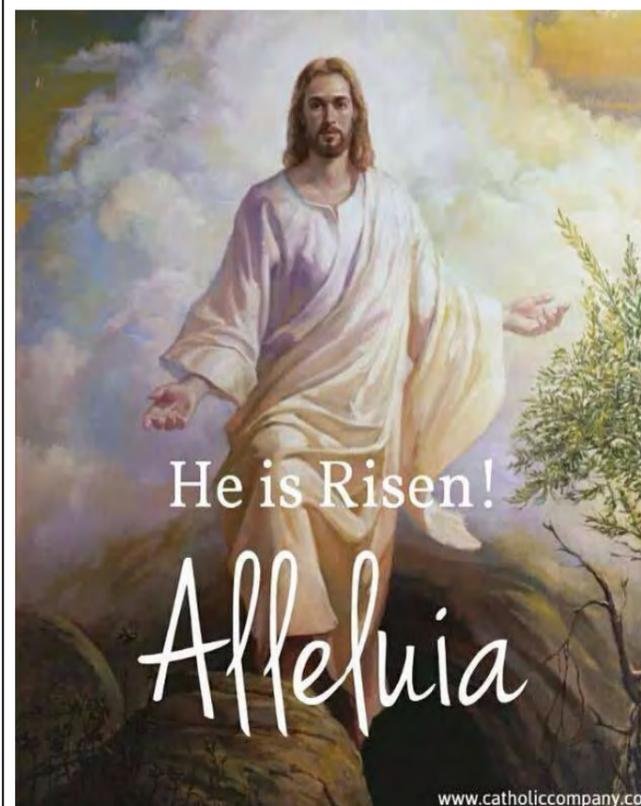
8 Inkerman Rd, Denistone 2114 Tel: 9809 2925,
Website: www.sttherese.org.au
Parish Priest: Fr Roberto Castillo
Deacon: Rev Mr Aruna Perera
Parish Secretary: Gayle White admin@sttherese.org.au
Office hours Tues-Fri 9am-3pm
St Therese's School
448 Blaxland Rd, Denistone 2114 (02) 9874 0412



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.

EASTER SUNDAY (Year A)
11th / 12th April 2020



FIRST READING: **Acts 10:34. 37-43**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

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.'

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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.

EASTER MESSAGE 2020

My dear brothers and sisters,

I hope that this message, in spite of all the terrible events affecting our world, finds you and your families strong in your faith, filled with hope for the future, fervent in charity, joyful and healthy.

This year has not been the best of years for Australia, the Church and the world. At the beginning of 2020 we were all affected by the incredible and devastating bushfires that ravaged our land causing great loss of life, health, livelihoods, properties, fauna and flora. Now the world is facing the terrible affliction of a pandemic which is severely affecting the entire world, causing extraordinary loss of lives, health and a huge economic downturn, planting fear and anxiety into people's hearts about the future of the world. This has also affected our Church – our churches are closed at this most special time. So for the time being we cannot celebrate the Eucharist together as the strong and good family that we are. We cannot even open the church for you to come and pray privately. Even extended families cannot get together to celebrate their feasts and parties. We have to remain as isolated as possible in order to stop the spread of this virus. Unfortunately this also brings more sufferings like loneliness and mental struggles.

But not everything is gloom, darkness, terror or fear. Because this week we come to proclaim to you some Good News once again; as we have done every year, as the Church has done for more than 2000 years of history. We have been invited by God to proclaim the Good News to the entire world, in the past, our present and in the future. And this news of great joy is that our Lord Jesus Christ, who was born in Bethlehem, who lived in Nazareth, and had declared himself to be the Son of God, is the messiah who was to save us. And at the appointed time He did something to save humanity from death, sickness, sufferings, sins and evil. This mission he accomplished perfectly when voluntarily and in complete obedience to God the Father, accepted the appalling sufferings of the crucifixion; he was innocent, but he accepted to die as a criminal and sacrificed his life so we could live. He died when he was lifted up on that instrument of death, the cross, and by doing this he also fulfilled all the prophecies of the scriptures.

But the most incredible event happened later. After 3 days buried in a tomb, Jesus rose again! He came back to life to die no more! Indeed, he died and was buried, but he had revealed beforehand, that he was going to rise again, thus restoring the temple of his body; and all this was fulfilled on the first day of the week. He is our Passover! The Lamb of God who took away the sins of the world; and that is why this Easter the church rejoices once again as we contemplate the truth that brings salvation. Christ our Lord, He is our Way, our Truth and our Life.

Brothers and sisters, sing with joy, "Alleluia" with your families, even if you are not able to get out. Many Christians lived in catacombs for many years, and they still continued to celebrate this comforting and wonderful news. Because it is true, the Lord is risen! He is alive and dies no more, and those who now believe in Him, follow Him and do their best to keep His words and His commandments of loving God and neighbour. They will also receive eternal life just as he promised.

Brothers and sisters, there is a heaven, waiting for you and for me, if we just believe in this glorious saviour who gave up his life to save the guilty. To save this sinful and stubborn humanity. So this is the announcement we make today. Jesus is Lord; he is God, he is alive and he has the power to give you, your family, our church and the world eternal life, if we only believe in him and follow him faithfully. Courage! Let us not be afraid! The Risen Christ is in the midst of our sad world, his light is still shining. Let us contemplate this beautiful day and the Good News of salvation.

Alleluia! Alleluia! The Lord is risen, and he has come to save you, Alleluia! Fr Roberto Castillo



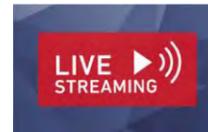
Request for Mass and Prayers.

We pray for those who have recently died especially Hamid Amini (*Fr Roberto's brother-in-law*), Florencia Castillo (*Fr Roberto's grand aunty – who died from Covid19 in New York*), Carmel Morabito and Bette Blyth (*was a Eucharistic Minister at the Vigil Mass – I'm sure many of you recognise her happy face*). Also pray for those who celebrate anniversaries.



Live stream Masses.

Just letting you all know that Fr Roberto has been live streaming his Masses. If you wish to view them go to our parish website home page at 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!



Prepare yourselves & your home for Easter.

Why not take the time to do something different due to these unusual and restrictive times, decorate your home in some small way for the Easter Season.



For Holy Thursday you can read the Gospel by John 13: 1-15 or view Fr Roberto's live stream Mass at 7pm.

For Good Friday add a purple ribbon to your palm fronds, venerate a cross say some prayers OR read the Pasion of the Lord Jn 18: 1-19:42 OR view Fr Roberto's live stream Passion at 3pm.

For Easter Sunday remove the purple ribbon and add some flowers and colourful bows and view Fr Roberto's live stream Mass at 10am OR read the Gospel 28: 1-10 and sing Alleluia and have a nice lunch!

Cardinal George Pell.

I'm sure you have all seen the news about Cardinal Pell's release from prison and that the High Court has quashed his sentence. To read Archbishop Anthony Fisher's statement go to: <https://www.sydneycatholic.org/casys/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/High-Court-Appeal-Statement-Archbishop-Fisher.pdf>



I'm very pleased that justice has been served and that the Cardinal has cleared his name.

Project compassion

Due to these unsettling times Project Compassion will miss your donation this lent. To ensure you still make your donation go to project compassion website and click on the Donate now tile and follow all the directions or call on 1800-024-413.

It would be good to also mention that that your parish is St Therese – Denistone.



Closed until further notice

❖ **Church is closed until further notice** - even for private prayer. I encourage everyone to continue to pray at home and keep your faith alive!

❖ We have decided to keep preparing the bulletin so everyone hears what we are trying to do to keep in touch with you all during this period of isolation.

❖ **Baptisms need to be postponed for at least 6 months**; in case of emergency please call a priest / deacon or parents should baptise the baby/child immediately.

❖ **Private Reconciliation is available** - call the presbytery and book a time with Fr Roberto. Please be assured that Fr Roberto will observe the social distancing rules.

❖ **All parishioners are dispensed from attending Sunday Mass**: please keep faithful by watching Mass on TV, setting aside some time for prayer at home or reading the scriptures. Don't feel bad about not attending Mass every Sunday, we are all united in this.

❖ **Any parishioner who needs help** during this time with friendship or food please call the presbytery as we can help out - CatholicCare is setting up a phone service and we are organising some willing volunteers who can help you too. Please don't forget to be in touch with your neighbours.

Donations.

We have begun making enquiries to be able to accept credit cards or donations online from parishioners due to these very unsettling times. We will keep you posted on our progress through the bulletin. In the meantime people have generously been putting envelopes into the parish letterbox clearly marking them with their intentions Eg First Collection / Loose / Planned Giving. We thank all those who have done this. Please note our letterbox is secure so long as you make sure the envelope has dropped in and it's NOT sticking out.

