



**St John
Vianney**
Parish Morisset

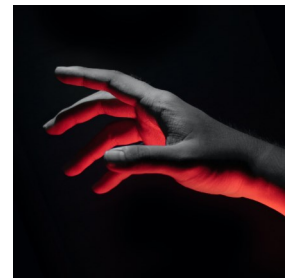


SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR C SUNDAY 24TH APRIL 2022

In the Gospel today we hear how the disciples had gathered in fear in the upper room. The Church today is not unlike the Church gathered in that upper room of old. In many ways, we the Church, are also in a state of confusion and uncertainty. The changes around us may not be as dramatic as affecting the disciples in Jerusalem, but in venturing into the unknown. There is a sense in which the Church finds itself in uncharted territory. Hopefully the Plenary Council, will not yearn for, or hold onto the security of institutional power.

The disciples humbled by their own failings learned to trust and to walk the pathway of vulnerability. It was their faith in Jesus, not the size of their numbers, not the strength of their resources, that determined the outcome of their mission. In fact, the Church was born out of vulnerability. It had nothing to rely on, but the power of the risen Lord.

Like the first Christian community, let us choose to be a place where everyone experiences divine hospitality, kindness and generosity. As we share at the table of God's plenty, let us endeavour to reflect his goodness to us in the way we care for one another, especially those in need.



We Acknowledge the traditional owners of this land the Awabakal Peoples. And pay our respects to the elders past and present, and any that may be with us today.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Foundation	Leader	In Office
1. Identity and Community		
2. Worship and Prayer.	Uta France	Mon
3. Formation and Education		
4. Mission and Outreach.		
5. Leadership and Structure.	John France	Sat & Sun

If you have any concerns or questions you can also talk to any member of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) who are: Juliet Hutchins, Mal and Pam Melvey, Kerry Lendon, and Rod Hay.

PRIEST SUPERVISOR:	Fr Geoff Mulhearn
SACRAMENTAL PRIEST:	Fr John Purnell
Parish Secretary:	Mrs Rosanna Suckling

OFFICE: 60 Yambo Street, Morisset, PO Box 87, Ph: 02 4973.6859

Office Hours: 9.00 am to 2.00pm—Monday to Friday (except public holidays)
(Due to COVID we ask that you make an appointment to come to the office)

Morisset Parish Office email: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au

Morisset Parish Web site: www.vianneymorisset.org

Morisset Parish Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/stjvparish>

Morisset Parish Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/stjvparish_morisset/

Morisset Parish Bulletin Items: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au

Morisset Parish Presbytery: Ph: 02 4973 1537

(Please submit all Bulletin Notice requests to the parish office by 2pm Wednesdays)

Email the Parish Office to Subscribe for an Electronic Bulletin .

UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES :

Sunday	24th April 9.30am
	Mass— Morisset
Sunday	1st May 9.30am
	Mass— Morisset
Tuesday	3rd May 9.30am
	Mass— Morisset

TO KEEP OUR COMMUNITY SAFE WE ENCOURAGE

**MASK WEARING
PHYSICAL DISTANCING
HAND SANITISING,
STAY HOME IF SICK**

We are able to safely seat 100 people at Morisset We still have a pre-book option available for our services (You need to do this each week). Please arrive 15mins early if you book and notify us of any cancellation. When the seating capacity of the Church is reached the overflow will be accommodated in the Callinan Centre for live streaming. To pre-book use the Book for Services button on the Parish Website, or the Eventbrite App or Eventbrite Website

<http://vianneymorisset.eventbrite.com> or call the Parish Office between 9am and 2pm .

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REFLECTION FOR THE 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR C

What a wonder-filled Easter celebration we have had after all the restrictions of these last two years! There was the commemoration of the Last Supper, the solemnity and sorrow of Good Friday, the very special Vigil and the joy of Easter Sunday. At this point, on behalf of us all, I would like to say a huge “Thank You” to Uta and John France for the preparation and implementation of the inspiring liturgies we have experienced.

In John’s Gospel we hear how the risen Christ appeared to his disciples, showed them his wounds and commissioned them to continue his work. His breath filled them with the Holy Spirit but Thomas was not there. He would not believe without a personal experience of Christ! Eight days later, when Christ appeared again, Thomas was able to touch his wounds and, with this experience, came a profound realisation of Christ’s divinity, which he expressed in these words, “My Lord and my God.” No one before him had truly appreciated who Christ was – not just a prophet or the promised Messiah, but his God. We are called to take this on faith. Christ gave us his blessing and encouragement when he says to Thomas, “You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.”

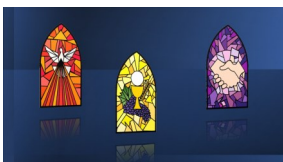
For more than two thousand years he has been known as “doubting Thomas”, an expression that has been incorporated into our language to describe a sceptic, who refuses to believe something without personal experience. Yet, so great was Thomas’ faith conversion, he spent the rest of his life preaching Christ’s Gospel, travelling as far as India, where he was apparently martyred. It is human to have doubts, to question, and at times we struggle to hold our faith, especially when life is hard. As a result, we need to nurture our faith continually, to find ways to deepen our relationship with God. This may be in sharing our liturgies in community, by reaching out to those in need, in reading the scriptures, in small groups or in private prayer.

On Easter Sunday Father John pointed out that the Resurrection is not the end of the story. Each one of us, like Christ’s disciples, has a role to play. We were challenged when he said, “Life is a constant conversion, a continual work in progress.” He reminded us of Christ’s promise, “I am with you always” and of the fact that the risen Christ is within our very selves. We see the inspiration of the Spirit in the followers of Christ after his death, as their preaching and the cures they brought about converted many. Just like the disciples after Pentecost, we have the Spirit with us as we seek to continue Christ’s mission.

The apocalyptic vision of John also highlights for us Christ’s divinity, his victory over suffering and death and, as faithful disciples, we can share in that victory.

This prayer from our Sunday Missal may well be a good way to end our reflection today: “May the risen Christ come to us, as he came to Thomas. May we in turn express our faith by being ambassadors of mercy and reconciliation.”

Pam Melvey



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

For more information on our 2022 Sacramental Program for families with children in Year 3 or older contact the parish office or go to:

<https://forms.office.com/r/DYGyKimEUb>



ANZAC DAY.

This Monday we commemorate Anzac Day. Anzac Day is the day Australians remember the soldiers of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps who landed and fought on the Gallipoli Peninsula in Turkey

early on the morning of the 25th of April 1915 during the First World War.

We pay grateful respects to those who sacrificed their own lives for others, for our country, and ultimately for the sake of a better world. We remember the pain of those who grieved their deaths and whose lives were changed forever by their wounding.

Convinced that war is the greatest human misfortune, we pray for its elimination from the world. We pray for those who have died in the theaters of war, whether they are on “our side” or the “enemy”.

ANZAC PRAYER

Lord our God, boundless provider,
Source of peace that the world cannot give,
Kindly hear our constant prayer
For those who bore witness to your own fidelity
By giving their lives for those they loved.
Resurrect them in our true homeland
And perfect that peace for which they longed and died.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
your son, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever.
Amen.



Laudato Si' Week
16-24 May

SOCIALJUSTICE.CATHOLIC.ORG.AU @JUSTICECATHOLIC



LITURGY MATTERS: EASTER IS MORE THAN A DAY OR THREE

While the world thinks Easter is done and dusted, we Christians know it has only just begun its fifty-day trajectory through to Pentecost Sunday.

LOUISE GANNON RSJ PUBLISHED APRIL 14, 2022

Holy Week prepares us for the celebration of Easter. Our diocesan Chrism Mass is a big part of that week and this year, with relaxed pandemic restrictions, the Chrism Mass was back. There were more than 300 people who gathered and once again lifted the roof from the Cathedral with the volume of our prayer and singing. People were so happy to catch up again. How good it was to have a face-to-face conversation with people from Taree and Branxton and Singleton and Merriwa and Scone. The pictures in the accompanying gallery convey the experience far better than words.

The Chrism Mass is always a great preparation for the Easter Triduum which is, of course, the main event. Over the three-day liturgy, we don't just recall something that happened 2,000 years ago. We re-member and celebrate Christ's paschal journey from life, through death to resurrection. In the liturgy, Christ's Paschal Mystery is a present reality in which we participate. It is as meaningful, shocking, and life-changing for us today as it was for the first Christians. As Eamonn Bredin puts it so powerfully:

The resurrection event is neither reported nor described in the Scriptures. It is first and foremost a matter of faith; not an occurrence that can be observed, a reality more real than the observable. For the early Christian community the resurrection was not a dogma to be believed but a daring, decisive, power-filled call to live as Jesus lived; a distinctive way, the way of kingdom obedience.

Thus in the mystery of the resurrection: we are not faced with something over and done with, something imprisoned in the past, but an intensely present reality... 1

I don't know about you but my experience of the present reality of the paschal mystery is not lineal but rather a constant cycle of dying – rising experiences through every day. Interestingly, in the Triduum, I often find myself stuck in the Garden of Gethsemane, not ready to move on to Good Friday. Or stuck at the foot of the cross on Good Friday, not feeling at all ready to celebrate the resurrection at the Easter Vigil or on Easter Sunday morning. This is the very wisdom of liturgy. It rehearses me in the steps from death to new life so that I know when I am sitting at the foot of the cross in my everyday life, that I can have 'sure and certain hope' that this is not the end.

When I am in agony and feel totally alone ...
When I am betrayed ...
When I feel spat upon and humiliated ...
When I am the victim of fabricated stories and falsehood ...
When I am in denial ...
When I am scourged by the insults of others ...
when I feel like a laughing stock ...
When I fall down, once, twice, three times ...
When I feel I am carrying the weight of family or the world on my shoulders ...
When I am stripped of everything I hold dear ...
When I thirst ...
When I am hung out to dry ...
When I feel dead and buried ...

In all these moments that continue through Easter and all of life, I recognise that I am in the reality of the paschal mystery, and I know deep within that this is not the end and that new life will come. This is our faith, the source of our hope. This is

what the liturgy teaches me. This is why we never celebrate Good Friday apart from the Triduum. 'The people that lived in darkness have seen a great light!' [Mt 4:16]

As Ralph Kuehner and Joseph Juknialis have pointed out resurrection happens whenever love transforms life; when someone offers forgiveness despite a burning desire for vengeance; when a nation begins to value and protect the rights of all, not just a few; when the poor, hungry, homeless and disenfranchised are attended as brothers and sisters; when immigrants and refugees are not left to drown or incarcerated but are welcomed as the children of God.²

How do we keep up the pace, not only for the fifty days of Easter but for the marathon that is the 'distinctive way of kingdom obedience?' Well, the Church's equivalent of a gym or training program is Sunday liturgy.

Those parishes who host the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) know the Easter Season is the period of Post Baptismal Mystagogy when the parish community accompanies those initiated at Easter as they reflect on their experience of initiation to draw out its meaning for the 'daring, decisive, power-filled call to live as Jesus lived.' Mystagogical Reflection is the way we do this. It is a time of growth for the whole community.

Mystagogical Reflection is a wonderful way of prayer and faith sharing that we have been encouraging for some time. It is for everyone, whether or not your parish hosts RCIA and irrespective of your association with the worshipping community. There are many resources available in our diocesan website, particularly Mystagogy Monday which my friend and colleague Rose is organising.

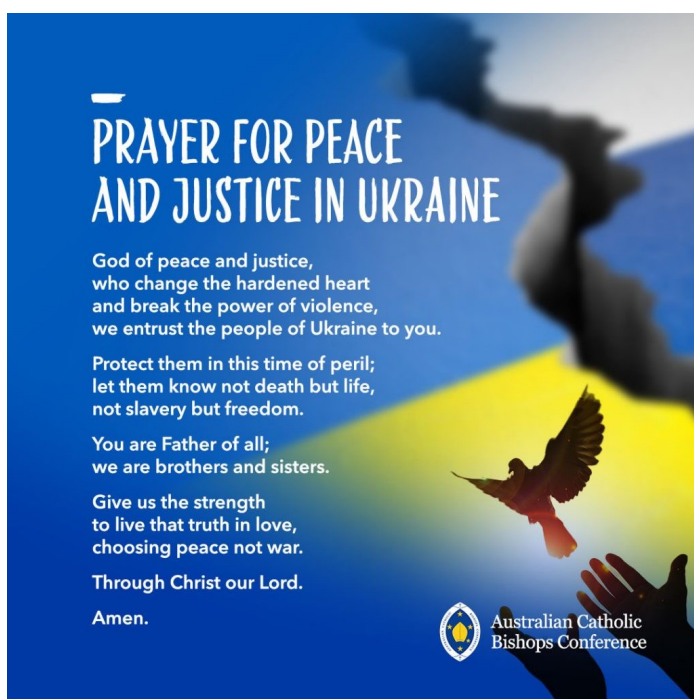
We all know the truth of Eamon Bredin's statement, 'in the mystery of the resurrection we are not faced with something over and done with, something imprisoned in the past, but an intensely present reality'. In this reality may we experience the love and forgiveness, the respect and valuing that holds us in sure and certain hope and raises us up to new life.

Wishing you an abundance of easter blessings as we continue on the way of kingdom obedience.

Acknowledgements

[1] Source unknown.

[2] Patricia Sanchez An Evolving Church <http://ncronline.org/blogs/spiritual-reflections/evolving-church-0>



Koby Smith Fundraiser

High Tea On The Water

Sunday The 1st of May 2pm - 4pm

As friends of Kim, Kane, Kaleb & Koby we are raising funds to help the family. Since the end of January, Kim has been Koby's fulltime carer. This has obviously put a financial strain on the family with ongoing medical treatments still to come. If we can contribute a little, it will make a huge difference to them.

"In late January Koby became very unwell.

Koby was taken to Wyong Hospital by ambulance where he had a CAT Scan that showed a sinus infection had leaked into his brain.

He was taken immediately by helicopter to Randwick Children's Hospital where we were told Koby was critical. They needed to operate to relieve the inflammation on his brain. Amazingly, after several surgeries and many prayers, Koby is on the long road to recovery. We are finally home from hospital. However, he still needs further surgery down the track but for now he is making good progress." Kim

A selection of sweet, savoury and scones will be served, as well as tea and coffee
Byo welcome
Cost: \$35pp

Location: 15 Silverwater road Silverwater 2264

Contact one of the following if you have any questions:

Lee Gates: 0419 733 550

Sam Middleton: 0423 200 056

RSVP needed by 28th of April

Greater Bank
Account Name: Koby Smith Fundraiser
BSB: 637-000
Acct Number: 725471831
Reference: High Tea & Surname

LET'S GIVE A HELPING HAND AND WHAT BETTER WAY THAN A THERMOMIX® RAFFLE!!!

As friends of Kim, Kane, Kaleb & Koby we are raising funds to help the family. Since the end of January, Kim has been Koby's fulltime carer. This has obviously put a financial strain on the family with ongoing medical treatments still to come. If we can contribute a little, it will make a huge difference to them.

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1st Prize: Black Limited Edition TM6 Thermomix
2.6L Round Black Thermomix® Server
2.5L Oval Black Thermomix® Server
Delivery Briefing and Cooking Experience
Ongoing support with a Thermomix® Consult
PRIZE VALUE: \$2724

2nd Prize: Handmade Patchwork Quilt
Made & donated by Carmen Bunn
PRIZE VALUE: \$250

3rd Prize: Deluxe Facial, Manicure & Pedicure
House of Beauty by Lee
Lake Macquarie, Silverwater, NSW 2264
PRIZE VALUE: \$150



RAFFLE TICKETS

\$30 PER TICKET

Only 300 Tickets to be sold

TICKETS

When purchasing tickets please put your last name and mobile number as the REFERENCE
Upon receipt of your bank deposit, a text will be sent to you with your ticket number(s)

Greater Bank
Account Name: Koby Smith Fundraiser
BSB: 637-000
Acct Number: 725471831

PRIZES will be drawn at the HIGH TEA Fundraiser Sunday 1st May and will also be recorded on Facebook LIVE.

Contact one of the following if you have any questions:
Lee Gates: 0419 733 550 Martin Kennedy: 0452 428 474
Sam Middleton: 0423 200 056

MAKE PEACE



NOT WAR

ANZAC WEEKEND: PEACE AND ALTERNATIVES TO WAR

The Raising Peace Network invites you to their free online event series this ANZAC Day weekend: 'Peace and alternatives to war'.

How can peace and security be assured to all in Australasia?

The Raising Peace network is excited to present their next online event: a series of critical discussions on the peace-security nexus with leading peacebuilders, academics and change-makers across Australia.

This discussion series comes at a profound moment where we face an increasingly complex and worrying world, set on a militarised agenda. Together, experts and critical thinkers invite you to discuss with them:

(Saturday 23rd April) First Nations' experiences on peace and conflict in Australia

(Sunday) Alternatives to Australia's security narrative

(Monday) Ways forward, alternatives to conflict and organisations leading the change

Join the Raising Peace network's online discussions over the Anzac Day Weekend, 23rd - 25th April 2022

Free event, reserve your spot for each session here

Online discussion panel and interactive session, via Zoom

Saturday 23rd to Monday 25th April, 2pm - 5pm each day

For further information and program details, visit our website: raisingpeace.org.au.

KINDER 2023

An information night and school tour for Kinder 2023 is to be held on Tuesday night May 3, from 6.30pm. In our Parish School St John Vianney Primary 60 Yambo St Morisset. Anyone who has a child looking to start next year should attend. If you know someone who may be thinking of attending, please pass on this information. For further information contact the school on P 02 4973 4073 or E admin@morisset.catholic.edu.au.



Thank You!

Caritas Australia would like to **THANK YOU** for supporting Project Compassion 2022. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit lent.caritas.org.au 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.**

Please return all donation boxes and envelopes by next Sunday 1st May 2022.

SUPPORTING THE CLERGY / 1ST COLLECTION

The 1st collections in 2020-21 are 67% of the 2018-19 1st collection, which is a 33% reduction. The first two quarters of 2021-22 show the decline continuing. We wish to thank those who have continued to support the Clergy and are asking for those who are not doing so to consider making contributions to support the Clergy / 1st Collection at Mass in the BLUE bucket or electronically using the Online Payments button on the Parish Website Home page or the Diocese App.

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH / 2ND COLLECTION

We wish to thank everyone who has continued their support of our Parish during these very different times. You can support our Parish at Mass via the RED bucket or deposit directly into the Parish Account our details are: Account Name: CDF 96014 Morisset Parish BSB:062815 Account Number: 00328161 Ref: 5004 2nd Collection or 5004 PG and Giver Number, or you can use the Online Payments button on the Parish Website Home page or the Diocese App.

DISCOVER THE DIOCESE'S NEW APP!

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle's new app is available now! Mass times, news and events, and parish giving will be just a tap away.

As part of the new app, you are also able to select your Church and receive customised alerts. To view your latest Parish updates, simply scroll down the home page and click on the notices that interest you for more details.

You can download the app for free from the [Apple App Store](#) and [Google Play Store](#). Just search for 'Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle' and click install on your mobile or tablet! To learn more about the app, visit www.mn.catholic.org.au/mass-times-app

WEEKEND ROSTERS

		<u>THIS WEEK</u>	<u>NEXT WEEK</u>
<u>Presiders</u>	9.30	Mass	Mass
<u>PROCLAIMER:</u>	9.30	J Hutchins	M Shamley
<u>PSALMIST:</u>	9.30	R Hay	L Hutchinson
<u>UNIVERSAL PRAYER</u>	9.30	R Hay	L Hutchinson
<u>GIFTS</u>	9.30	K Amon H White	M Melvey P Melvey
<u>SERVERS</u>	9.30	M Melvey	V Paulo
<u>AV:</u>	9.30	M Foo	U France
<u>SOUND/ VIDEO:</u>	9.30	L & G Hutchinson	L & G Hutchinson
<u>COVID TEAM</u>	9.30	J Hutchins M Foo P Herbert P Melvey	H White R Hay J France
<u>CLEANING</u>	9.30	COVID TEAMS	COVID TEAMS

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMNITIES

ANZAC DAY— 25TH APRIL
SAINT MARK— 26TH APRIL
SAINT PETER CHANEL— 28TH APRIL
SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA— 29TH APRIL
SAINT ATHANASIUS— 2ND MAY
SAINTS PHILIP AND JAMES— 3RD MAY
SAINT JOHN DE AVILA— 10TH MAY
SAINT PANCRAS— 12TH MAY
SAINTS NEREUS AND ACHILLEUS— 12TH MAY
OUR LADY OF FATIMA— 13TH MAY

Please pray for those who are sick, in hospital or recovering at home:

John Francisco, Joan Gillett, Bruce Gillett, Koby Smith, Patricia Jones.

Please pray for those who have been called to eternal life may they always be in our prayers.

Remembrance: Emily Williams, Corneilus Lyons, Grace Lyons, Louise Kalmus, Frances Bristow, Jason Wismer.

Recently Deceased: Carmel Brereton, Fr Reg Callinan.



PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE BULLETIN

If you would like the parish to pray for a family member who is sick, recently deceased or you would like remembered please call or email the parish office or complete a prayer card for each person and place in the mail box near the parish office door. Cards are available at the back of the church and at the Parish Office.

All prayer requests require permission from a family member or the person. Due to Australian privacy laws.

AN ACT OF 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 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.



Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/>





SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE

Second Sunday of Easter Year C

Sunday 24 Apr 2022

The Introductory Rites

Gathering

The Lectionary/Roman Missal or a Bible may be placed on a table together with a candle and a cross.

Sign of the Cross

Leader:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All:

Amen.

Greeting

Leader:

Blessed be Jesus Christ
who has redeemed us
and raised us to new life.

All:

Blessed be God forever.

Introductory Remarks

Leader (in these or similar words):

Friends in Christ,
although we cannot celebrate the Eucharist this day,
we gather in God's name
for when two or more come together
God is always with us.
United with the whole Church,
we celebrate the joy of Easter
and keep this day of the Lord holy.

Opening Rite

LITANY OF PRAISE

GLORIA

Leader:

With peoples everywhere,
let us glorify our God (in joyful song).

All:

**Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you,**

we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
 have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
 receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
 have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

Opening Prayer

Leader:

Let us pray.

All pause for silent prayer.

Eternal God,
we are your children
who have been baptised in Jesus
and born again in the Spirit.
In these days of Easter joy
stir up our hearts
and increase our faith in you.
We make this prayer through Jesus Christ, your Son,
with the Holy Spirit,
for ever and ever.

All:

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Acts 5:12-16

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily.

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117:2-4. 22-27. R. v.1

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

1. 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.)**

2. 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.)**

3. O Lord, grant us salvation;
O Lord grant success.

Blessed in the name of the Lord
is he who comes.

We bless you from the house of the Lord;
the true God is our light. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Rv 1:9-13, 17-19

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever.

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle.

When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Reader:

From the holy Gospel according to John.

All:

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jn 20:19-31

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 that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into 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.

Reader:

The Gospel of the Lord.

All:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All are seated.

Reflection on the Word

A short period of reflection may be observed.

Profession of Faith

Leader:

In union with the whole Church
let us profess our faith.

All:

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the Faithful

Leader: Brothers and Sisters, with true belief in Jesus Christ, we bring our prayers before the Lord.

Reader: That with faith in Christ, the Holy Church will always bear witness to the spread of the Gospel.

(pause)

In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That national leaders will make decisions based on respect and the dignity of human life.

(pause)

In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who doubt their faith may find belief in Christ who was once dead, but now lives forever.

(pause)

In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That our parish community, without seeing Jesus, will continue to believe and acclaim the victory of Christ.

(pause)

In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the sick will experience the divine healing of Christ, especially those in our community and families.

(pause)

In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who have died will share in the glory of Christ our Saviour, especially those in our community and families.

(pause)

In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: God our Father, having not seen, we believe in Jesus Christ. Hear our prayers and help to sustain our faith in Jesus as the true flesh who rose to glory with you. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Leader:

At the Saviour's command
and formed by divine teaching,
we dare to say:

All:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

The Concluding Rite Blessing

Leader:

Through the resurrection of his Son
God has redeemed us and made us his children.
May the Lord bless us with joy
and fill us with fruits of the Spirit.

All make the sign of the cross during the blessing.

All:

Amen.

Dismissal

Leader:

Let us go in peace. Alleluia.

All:

Thanks be to God.

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