



SUNDAY 5TH APRIL, 2026 EASTER SUNDAY YEAR A Reflection on the Gospel

Easter invites us to celebrate life in its fullest sense. It is anything but easy to celebrate life, however, when many are experiencing the effects of mindless wars and so much of the Earth community is affected by the climate crisis. Resurrection faith calls us to be fearless in facing the challenges that confront us.

A faith-filled man and two faith-filled women prepare Jesus for burial. These three people are fearless in the face of possible reprisals for their support of a “political criminal”. Joseph of Arimathea cares for Jesus out of his personal wealth, providing a clean linen cloth and his own newly rock-carved tomb. With his own hands, he performs the burial ritual, lays Jesus’ body in the tomb, and rolls the stone into place. The women disciples who witness the closing of the tomb are both named Mary. One is known as the Magdalene (the “Tower”) and the other is the mother of two male disciples. These women have been towers of strength and light, contributing their goods and ministering to Jesus on the journey from Galilee to Jerusalem.

The women set out at dawn “to see the tomb” This seems strange until we realise that they are functioning as witnesses, this time to the dramatic opening of the tomb and the appearance of God’s interpretive messenger. “Seeing” is a metaphor for insight. In the earthquake phenomenon and the allusion to lightning, there are echoes of other great moments of God’s appearing to Israel, such as the encounter with Moses and the giving of the Law on Mt Sinai.

The two Marys are the first to learn the news of Jesus’ resurrection and the first commissioned to proclaim it. They are apostles to the apostles. The women “see” the place where he was laid. They obey the angel’s command not to be afraid but to go quickly to inform the scattered disciples that the resurrected Jesus has gone before them to Galilee, the place of mission, where they too will “see” him. Resurrection life energises these faith-filled women disciples/apostles and negates the death-dealing power of the Roman Empire. Ironically, the Roman tomb guards become “as though dead”.

As the women hurry away from the tomb, Jesus comes to meet them on the path or the road. He addresses them with a familiar greeting of joy, *Chairete*. This is the first appearance of the resurrected One and it draws from the women a profoundly reverential response: taking hold of him, they fall down in worship. Jesus reiterates the commission already delivered by the angel: not to be afraid and to let the men know what has happened. The male disciples will later be commissioned on the mountain top (Matthew 28:16-20). We sometimes fail to notice that all are commissioned, first the women, then the men. Those “on the mountain top” must not succumb to the temptation of remaining there. They must join those on the road in fearlessly bringing life to Earth’s afflicted, the human and the more-than-human.

By Sr. Veronica Lawson, RSM

DEATHS & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for **Fr. Grant O’Neill** who died recently and for **Gerald Bradmore and Sharan Menzies** whose anniversaries occur at this time.
May they rest in peace.



Synodality is not new

Synodality is not a modern invention. From the earliest days of the Church, Christians gathered to pray, listen, and discern together. In the Acts of the Apostles, the Church faced difficult questions and resolved them not through power struggles, but through prayer, dialogue, and trust in the Holy Spirit.

First Reading: Acts 10:34, 37-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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. (R.) Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23. R. v. 24

**(R.) This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.**

1. 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.' **(R.)**
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds. **(R.)**
3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians
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. (R.) Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: 1 Corinthians 5:7-8

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

Gospel: John 20:1-9

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John
It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture that he must rise from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

(R.) Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

THE APOSTLES' CREED

*I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
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.*

Communion Antiphon: 1 Cor 5:7-8

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

EASTER MESSAGE 2026

“Peace be with you.” These were the first words spoken to the world when Pope Leo was elected on 8th May 2025 and he has continually come back to this theme of the need for Peace in our world. A world where conflict and war exist and damage the lives of so many people, often the poorest and most disadvantaged. Currently wars rage in the Middle East, Ukraine and Russia, parts of Africa and Asia. Our ailing world needs peace at this time and it is our duty as Christians to pray and promote peace, a peace that will last, a peace that is centred on Christ, the Prince of peace.

Pope Leo also said,

“It is the peace of the Risen Christ. A peace that is unarmed and disarming, humble and persevering. A peace that comes from God, the God who loves us all, unconditionally”

“Peace exists; it wants to dwell within us. The task is not to create it, but to welcome it, and to allow it to disarm us.”

In the first Resurrection accounts in the Gospels there is a very familiar pattern that emerges if you look closely.

1. **Encounter:** where Jesus appears to his disciples or the women and greets them with the words, “Peace be with you” or “Do not be afraid”
2. **Dialogue:** where Jesus engages with the individual, honestly and openly
3. **Discernment:** as the individuals come to realise who is before them
4. **Conversion:** they come to a new understanding and faith in the Risen Lord

The gift of Easter and the Resurrection is Peace, the Peace of Christ, let us be a people of Peace, bringing that gift of peace to all whom we encounter.

Peace be with you and your families and loved ones, Fr Werner

WORKING BEES

THANK YOU to all who came to the working bees at Corpus Christi and St. Augustine’s to help to prepare the churches for Easter. It was greatly appreciated.

EASTER HOME BLESSING

You are invited to take home a small bottle of Easter water (only 1 per family please) and an Easter Home Blessing Prayer Card to bless your homes and pray with your family during this Easter Season.

JOSEPH’S CORNER HIGH TEA FUNDRAISER

We warmly invite you to join us at our **High Tea Fundraiser on 3rd May from 2pm – 5pm at Mount St. Joseph Girls’ College, 133 Maidstone Street, Altona 3018.**

Ticket price; \$40 per person.

For table bookings of 10 or any dietary requirements, please contact Rob Quail on 0407687003. Your attendance will directly support families that need our help.

We are also **seeking donations of goods, services, or vouchers** for our silent and main room auctions. Any contribution would be sincerely appreciated. P.S. Bring cash or card for our auctions and raffle.



Easter Sunday

4 – 5 April 2026

Happy Easter from all of us here at Caritas Australia!

Thank you for your continued support through Project Compassion. Your generosity is helping to empower the world’s most vulnerable communities, enabling them to overcome challenges and lift themselves out of poverty. There is still time to donate!

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.



Or online at:

www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent.*

PARISH PRIEST:

Rev. Fr. Werner Utri

PARISH SECRETARY: Emilia Balkan

PHONE: 0401 158 113;
(03) 9314 7710

EMAIL: yarraville@cam.org.au

ST. AUGUSTINE'S OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays
9.30am till 2.30pm

PARISH WEBSITE:

www.melbatholic.org/yarraville

SAFEGUARDING: Pat Mc Laughlin

patmac766@gmail.com

PARISH CHURCHES

ST AUGUSTINE'S

71 Somerville Road Yarraville

CORPUS CHRISTI

376 Geelong Road, Kingsville

ANNUNCIATION

4 Nolan Avenue, Brooklyn

PARISH NEWSLETTER:



To receive an Email copy of our newsletter, scan the QR code.

LITURGY TIMES

TUESDAY MASS

St Augustine's....6.00 pm
Exposition: 5.30 –6.00pm

WEDNESDAY MASS

Corpus Christi.....9.15 am

THURSDAY MASS

St Augustine's...9.15 am

FRIDAY MASS

Corpus Christi....9.15 am

SATURDAY MASS

Corpus Christi....9.30 am

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

St Augustine's...5.00 pm

SUNDAY MASS

Annunciation.....8.00 am
St Augustine's....9.30 am
Corpus Christi..11.00 am
St Augustine's...11.30 am
(Polish)

RECONCILIATION:

SATURDAYS after 9.30am
Mass at Corpus Christi
St. Augustine's...4.15pm

NEXT ITALIAN MASS

On hold until further notice

COLLECTIONS

THE FIRST COLLECTION supports the Priests of our Parish, the Archbishop, Priests on special duties and retired priests.

THE SECOND COLLECTON (includes envelopes), supports the running costs of the Church and pastoral initiatives.

To set up a **Direct Debit** Payment to our bank accounts for the Presbytery and the Church, use these account details.

St. Augustine's Yarraville Church Account:
BSB 083347 Account No. 638052213.

St. Augustine's Yarraville Presbytery A/C:
BSB 083347 Account No. 638051413

Corpus Christi Kingsville Church Account:
BSB 083347 Account No. 485182315

Presbytery Account:
BSB 083347 Account No. 638051413

**TAP AND GO CONTACTLESS
DONATION TERMINALS**

in the foyers of the churches.
Follow the prompts and choose your nominated amount to donate.

Codes for one off donations via credit card



Unique to the Parish of St. Augustine's



Unique to the Parish of Corpus Christi

There are census cards at the back of the church for new subscribers wishing to use weekly envelopes. Record details and put the card on the collection plate or contact the Parish office for a set of envelopes.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Many thanks for your donations of non-perishable food. Cereal, long life milk, tea, coffee, milo, soup, pasta, pasta sauce, baked beans, spaghetti, tins of tuna, tinned fruit, rice, jam, biscuits; washing powder/liquid, shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothpaste and brushes are always needed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY - We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

ROSTER FOR THIS WEEK

Holy Saturday 7.30pm, 4th April 2026

READERS: St. Augustine's
Marie Vanderwert, Greg Buhagiar,
Kath Baker, Aileen Martin
MINISTER: Mary Vella

Easter Sunday 5th April 2026

READERS: St. Augustine's
9.30am..... Andrea Wilberger,
Sam/Anna

READERS: Corpus /Christi
11.00am..... Joe Fusca,
Imelda Gibson

MINISTER: St. Augustine's
9.30am..... Gerald Bain-King

MINISTER: Corpus /Christi
11.00am.....Khanh Nguyen

COUNTING: Krys Biront

ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEK

11th & 12th April 2026

**2nd Sunday of Easter A
Divine Mercy Sunday**

READERS: St. Augustine's
5.00pm John Ryan
9.30am Pina Guzzardi
Sam/Anna

READERS: Corpus Christi
11am ... Cass Pelino
AJ Pelino

MINISTERS: St. Augustine's
5.00pm.....Maree Ryan
9.30am.....Phillip Marques

MINISTER: Corpus Christi
11.00am..... Mary Huynh
COUNTING: Les Vella

**SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND ALL
VULNERABLE PEOPLE**

At Yarraville, Kingsville and Brooklyn, we hold the care, safety and well-being of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our communities. The Parish Statement of Commitment and Reporting Process are on display at the entrance of all the Churches and all Diocesan Policies are available on the website or at the parish office.
www.cam.org.au/Professional-Standards/Statements