

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

*It is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead.*

The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread.

They were still talking about all this when Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you!' In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. But he said, 'Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have.' And as he said this he showed them his hands and feet. Their joy was so great that they could not believe it, and they stood dumbfounded; so he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes.

Then he told them, 'This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms, has to be fulfilled.' He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them: 'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.'

#### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.

#### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER / B

14 APRIL 2024

## YOU ARE WITNESSES

What was it like in the aftermath of Jesus' death and the joy of the good news of the resurrection? As we hear more accounts and reflections on the resurrection in today's readings, we also understand something of the dilemma of the early witnesses as to how to pass on this experience.

Luke is writing the Gospel and Acts at least 40-50 years after Jesus' resurrection. There are no photographs, no hard evidence, only the testimonies of those who were there.

Today's Gospel opens with the returnees from Emmaus telling their story and then Jesus appearing among them. The Gospel ends reminding the audience 'you are witnesses' (v. 48). It is not only to the first century audience that this is addressed. We too are witnesses. This is the term we find in Acts, the second volume of the Lukan narrative: the apostles, disciples, believers are witnesses. We are witnesses to the faith and belief of those gone before. We cannot touch and see Jesus for ourselves, but we can engage the scriptures. We can see in Luke's account Jesus' appearance among them, speaking to them, taking some food, inviting them to touch him. Luke's comment that Jesus 'opened their minds to understand the scriptures' (v. 45) repeats what was heard by those on the road to Emmaus. It is our reading and contemplation of the Word that deepens our faith and belief as witnesses and calls us forward in the transformation of our lives in the light of the resurrection.

Dr Rosemary Canavan

## FIRST READING

Acts 3: 13-15, 17-19

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

*You killed the prince of life; God, however, raised him from the dead.*

Peter said to the people: 'You are Israelites, and it is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, who has glorified his servant Jesus, the same Jesus you handed over and then disowned in the presence of Pilate, after Pilate had decided to release him. It was you who accused the Holy One, the Just One, you who demanded the reprieve of a murderer while you killed the prince of life. God, however, raised him from the dead, and to that fact we are the witnesses.

'Now I know, brothers, that neither you nor your leaders had any idea what you were really doing; this was the way God carried out what he had foretold, when he said through all his prophets that his Christ would suffer. Now you must repent and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out.'

#### ■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 4: 2, 4, 7, 9. R. v. 7

**R. Lord, let your face shine on us.**  
(or Alleluia!)

1. When I call, answer me, O God of justice; / from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear me! **R.**
2. It is the Lord who grants favours to those whom he loves; / the Lord hears me whenever I call him. **R.**
3. 'What can bring us happiness?' many say. / Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord. **R.**
4. I will lie down in peace and sleep comes at once, / for you alone, Lord, make me dwell in safety. **R.**



## SECOND READING

1 Jn 2: 1-5

A reading from the first letter of St John.

*Jesus Christ is the sacrifice that takes away our sins and those of the whole world.*

'I am writing this, my children, to stop you sinning; but if anyone should sin, we have our advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, who is just; he is the sacrifice that takes our sins away, and not only ours, but the whole world's. We can be sure that we know God only by keeping his commandments. Anyone who says, 'I know him', and does not keep his commandments, is a liar, refusing to admit the truth. But when anyone does obey what he has said, God's love comes to perfection in him.

#### ■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Lk 24: 32

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



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[www.youtube.com/c/StKevinsParishEastwood](https://www.youtube.com/c/StKevinsParishEastwood)

[www.facebook.com/EastwoodCatholic](https://www.facebook.com/EastwoodCatholic)

## MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION AND DEVOTION

**Weekday Mass:** Monday - 7:30am (Communion Service, except on Feast Days); Tuesday to Thursday - 7:30am (followed by Holy Rosary); Friday - 5pm

**Weekend Mass:** Saturday Vigil - 5:30pm (livestreamed); Sunday - 8am, 9:30am, 6pm

**CCC Mass:** Sunday at 12noon (English/Cantonese)

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Friday 4pm-5pm

**First Friday Devotion:** Monthly at 4pm

**First Saturday Mass and Devotion:** Monthly at 9am

**Exposition and Benediction:** First weekend of the month at all Masses

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Friday 4pm-4:45pm and Saturday 4:30pm-5:15pm

SCAN OUR PARISH QR CODE TO DONATE ONLINE



## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER/Year B

14 Apr 2024

### PRAYER REQUESTS:



**Recently Deceased:** Brittany Abraham

**Death Anniversary:** Mary Bowey, Ben Isaacs, Irotido Martinez, Yessmin Saba, Joe Younis, Chai Seng




**Deceased:** Jessica Hanna, Selwyn & Stephen Jackson, Augustin Choi, John Davidson, Lucy Ng, Cecilia Tan, Peter McNamara; Milly Farrell; Casey, Landon, O'Connor, Pigott and Stewart families; Geoff and Patricia Clarke; Ron and Jan Brayon

**Sick:** Metta Ie, Myunghee Jung, Rita Baird, Marian Arendarczyk, Xiao Yi Chen, Sheriden Nemecek, Paul Celler, Dave Isaacs, Terence Cahill, Barbara Hall, Elizabeth Uy Tan, Graham Rumble, Sam Wong, Robert Lauw, June Phelan, Anne McIntyre, Adhy Guna S., Daisy Gouw, Nur Gouw

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

"If you believe what you like in the Gospel, and reject what you don't like, it is not the Gospel you believe, but yourself." - St Augustine of Hippo

### PARISH NEWS:

- We would like to wish Fr Pawel a belated Happy Birthday! Thank you for all that you do for our parish! May you have God's blessings always! 
- Let us commemorate **ANZAC Day** by praying for those who had faithfully served & sacrificed their lives for our country. **ANZAC day Mass will be held on Thu 25th April at 7.30am.** All are invited to attend. 
- Thank you for your generosity, we raised \$7,444.05 towards Caritas' Project Compassion.
- Our parish will have another BAKE SALE on Sun 5th May after the 8am and 9:30am Mass!!! Proceeds from this fundraiser will go towards future parish projects and events. Thank you for your support! 
- For families living within the parish boundaries and/or with children attending St Kevin's school or our local public schools, **we will be running a BAPTISM FOR OLDER CHILDREN PROGRAM in May.** If you would like your child (7-12yo) to receive the sacrament of

Baptism, send us an email to express your interest. Email: [parish@stkevinseastwood.org.au](mailto:parish@stkevinseastwood.org.au) .

- SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION PROGRAM INFO EVENING FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS** will be held on Wed, 1st May at 7pm in the church. Child must be in Year 6 or above and have received the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. For more info visit: <https://www.stkevinseastwood.org.au/confirmation/> .
- Next Didasko Adult Faith Formation course will be on Mon, Apr 15, 22 & 29, 7:30pm in the Haseler Centre.** TOPIC: 'Christ Purgative, Illuminative, and Perfect Way, an Introduction to Christology,' presented by Br Benjamin Johnson. To register contact the parish office.
- Next Infant Baptism Info Session will be on Wed, 8th May at 8pm in the parish office. To register please email: [parish@stkevinseastwood.org.au](mailto:parish@stkevinseastwood.org.au) or call 9874 2533.
- Donation of NEW SOCKS for the homeless needed at St Patrick's Church Hill.** If you wish to donate please place them in the collection box in the foyer. Thank you for your help!
- Queen of the Most Holy Rosary (QMHR) Jamaican Appeal:** Please consider donating household items to the Missionaries of the Poor in Jamaica. See poster in the foyer for details.


**NEW DONATION POINT TAP DEVICES NOW AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH FOYER.** These two new donation points have user-friendly touchscreen interface that offers multiple preset donation amounts. The old 3G tap devices will be phased out soon. Thank you.

### ALPHA @ ST KEVIN'S EASTWOOD:


Curious to know more about Jesus? Do you ever wonder if there is more to life than this? Then ALPHA is for YOU! Join us and be part of the conversation! A SEAT AT THE TABLE HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR YOU. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS COME! St Kevin's Catholic Parish: 36 Hillview Rd Eastwood, 2122 Monday nights, 7pm to 9pm from May 6th - July 22nd. Scan the QR code to register. For more info email: [alpha@stkevinseastwood.org.au](mailto:alpha@stkevinseastwood.org.au)



### OTHER NEWS:

- NSW Parliament will soon be debating on what is marketed as the 'equality' bill.** This bill will have disastrous impacts on vulnerable women and children, as well as for faith communities. Have your say, scan the QR code and complete a short online survey. See poster for details. **SURVEY CLOSES April 14.** 
- Oremus: Living the Year of Prayer 2024:** Our Holy Father has asked the entire Church to dedicate 2024 as a Year of Prayer to prepare for the 2025 Jubilee. Join us online on Thu 18 Apr, 'Learning the Art of Prayer;' and on Thu May 2, 'Leading Others in Prayer.' Time: 7:30pm-8:45pm: Info and registration visit: [gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events](http://gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events)
- Sisters of Life - Sydney Tour 2024, Apr 18-24:** University Catholics invites you to come & meet the sisters! To register go to: [www.unicatholics.org.au](http://www.unicatholics.org.au) See poster for more details.

### A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY:

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you or anyone you know have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, contact Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office E: [safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org) or (02) 9390 5810. You may also speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support & guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to police. 

### PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL:



St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle; be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray and do you, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.