

St. Thomas' Cardiff & All Saints Boolaroo

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

19th April 2020

Christ is Risen
He is Risen Indeed

Our help is in the Name of the Lord;
The Maker of heaven and earth.

Almighty and eternal God,
the strength of those who believe
and the hope of those who doubt:
may we, who have not seen, have faith
and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing;
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



O God, you will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are fixed on you; for in returning and rest we shall be saved; in quietness and trust shall be our strength.
Isaiah 26:3; 30:15

CONFESSION

Heavenly Father, we confess to you our fears, our worries, and our anxieties. You have given us your perfect love which casts out all fear and your peace which transcends all understanding, but even still we feel dislodged, displaced, untethered, and uncertain during these times.
We believe, Lord; help our unbelief.

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

READINGS

First Reading

Acts 2:14a,22-32

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. 'You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, "I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'" 'Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the

Messiah, saying, "He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption."
This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.
Hear the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Psalm

Psalm 16

Preserve me, O God: for in you have I taken refuge.
I have said to the Lord, You are my lord: and all my good depends on you.
As for those who are held holy on the earth: the other gods in whom people delight,
Though the idols are many that they run after:
their offerings of blood I will not offer, nor take their name upon my lips.
The Lord is my appointed portion and my cup: you hold my lot in your hands.
The share that has fallen to me is in pleasant places: and a fair land is my possession.
I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel: at night also he has instructed my heart.
I have set the Lord always before me: he is at my right hand, and I shall not fall.
Therefore my heart is glad and my spirit rejoices: my flesh also shall rest secure.
For you will not give me over to the power of death: nor suffer your faithful one to see the Pit.
You will show me the path of life: in your presence is the fulness of joy,
and from your right hand flow delights for evermore.

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:1-12

A Reading From Peter's First Letter

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To the exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, who have been chosen and destined by God the Father and sanctified by the Spirit to be obedient to Jesus Christ and to be sprinkled with his blood: May grace and peace be yours in abundance. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that was to be yours made careful search and inquiry, inquiring about the person or time that the Spirit of Christ within them indicated, when it testified in advance to the sufferings destined for Christ and the subsequent glory. It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in regard to the things that have now been announced to you through those who brought you good news by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things into which angels long to look!

For the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Gospel

John 20:19-31

The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John chapter twenty beginning at the nineteenth verse.
Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.' But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.' A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood

among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.' Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Talk: [2nd Sunday of Easter](#) (Click)

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church

We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

For he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" Hebrew 13:5-6

INTERCESSIONS

Mighty God, what an amazing gift we have received! We have been born again through the resurrection and even though we have not seen the Risen Christ we love and believe in him, rejoicing with all Christians in an indescribable and glorious joy. Amen

Gracious God, like Thomas we will still face times of doubt and uncertainty but we know that we are not alone in our doubts and that you, our Father in heaven, continue to love us whatever our state of mind or body. Amen

Loving Lord we pray for the Corona Virus situation and the procedures that have been put into force to try to halt its spread. Help us all to be responsible in the things that we do in our lives to prevent the spread of the virus by taking heed of the recommended precautions and avoiding situations which may make things worse. We pray for all those affected by the Coronavirus and we give thanks for the work of all medical personal. We pray for the researchers who are working on a cure and vaccine that one will be found soon. We pray for the family and friends of those who have died. Give them a peace that only you can give..
Amen

Faithful God, we hold before you, those whom life has damaged and all who find it difficult to trust in you. We pray that you will push aside their doubts and fears and bring them hope, comfort, and healing and with it an inner peace.. We pray for those on our prayer lists and those we carry in our hearts. Amen

Merciful God we pray for those who approach death with great fear and those who have died unprepared to meet you. Have mercy on us them, forgive them all that is past and gather them into your everlasting kingdom of peace and joy. We pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. Amen

Everlasting God we thank you that our time of worship presented on YouTube renews our faith and trust in you and your risen son Jesus Christ. Help us during the coming week ready to show our gratitude and live the Good News of Easter. Amen

As our Saviour Christ has taught us we are confident to pray

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits you have given me, for all the pains and insults you have borne for me. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.

May the Lord Jesus Christ be with us to protect us. May he go before us to guide us, and stand behind us to give us strength. May he look upon us, to keep us, and bless us. Amen

REFLECTIONS ON THEME:

The resurrection may be an interesting historical fact, but if that's all it is, it has little value for us today. This week's Lectionary readings make it clear, however, that the resurrection of Jesus is way more than just an event of the past. Every reading offers the assurance that God's life is available to us now in Christ. In both Peter's preaching and his letter he affirms that Christ's resurrection is real and is a promise that God's life is available to all. The Psalm, which Peter quotes in his Pentecost sermon, expresses the Psalmist's assurance of God's care and life, and is taken by Peter as a prophecy of Christ's resurrection. Finally, in the Gospel reading, John demonstrates how Christ's resurrection inspires and empowers his disciples, and how Thomas is dramatically drawn into faith. Put together, these readings give us a basis for confidence as we face the challenges – the 'little deaths' – of each day, and they invite us to experience Christ's resurrection life now, not just after we have died. So, resurrection is not just an amazing thing that happened long ago. It can be our lived experience every moment.



The weary evangelist knocked on another door, fully expecting to have it slammed in his face. Sure enough, the older woman who answered, angrily demanded that he leave once she figured out why he was there and slammed the door. The door, however, bounced back open, and the woman shouted, "Get your foot out of my door!"

"But ma'am..." the evangelist began, when the woman again slammed the door in his face. Once again it bounced back open. "I said get your foot out of my door!" the woman yelled again. One more time she slammed the door. One more time it bounced open again.

"But ma'am..." the evangelist said again, only to be cut off. "Don't talk back to me!" the woman screamed in a rage. "I want you off my property!" She slammed the door a fourth time, only to see it bounce open a fourth time. "Ma'am," the evangelist yelled as he beat a hasty retreat down the sidewalk, "you'll be able to close your door if you move your cat out of the way!"