

## SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A

30th March 2008

### THEME: John 20: 19-31

My friends, this Second Sunday of Easter is also called Divine Mercy Sunday. Rejoicing in our merciful God, we remember our baptism and promise again to live as Jesus lived.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;  
happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

### FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Monday 31st March	- Annunciation of the Lord
Friday 4th April	- First Friday - Sacred Heart
Saturday 5th April	- First Saturday - Fatima

### FORGIVENESS AND PEACE

When Jesus breathes on them, the disciples become partners with the Father, Son and the Spirit; in that capacity, they pronounce forgiveness of sins for those who believe and retention of sins for those who reject the Gospel. Later, the church would cite this text as well as Matthew 16: 19 and 18: 18 as seminal texts for understanding the sacrament of reconciliation.

Thomas, who was not present with the others for this Easter evening encounter, refused to believe their claim, "We have seen the Lord!" (v. 25). "I'll never believe without probing... without touching," Thomas declares. Jesus appeared again a week later, and again pronounced "Peace!" upon his gathered disciples.

Perhaps that gift of peace moved Thomas from his stubborn disbelief, or perhaps it was Jesus' challenge to put his finger in the wounds - but after this encounter, Thomas made one of the most profound expressions of faith in the Christian scriptures: "My Lord and my God!" Thomas remains for us an elder brother who teaches that doubt cannot be a stopping place, but it can be a stepping stone to greater, deeper faith.

### PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Grant spiritual comfort and healing to the sick, especially:

Peter Cairns, Allan Dedrauth, Jack Walker, Marjory Stott, Stephen Aldridge, Cameron Thompson, Joe Mullavey, Gerri Boldrini, Mary Egan, Melda McDonald, Kristi Cassandra, Allanah Barnes, Anthony Gilchrist, Rosel Free, Luke Heffernan, Reece Valta, Yela Jankovic, Karl Grlica, Alvin Horn, Kate Cox, Patricia Hamill, Maureen Pidutti, Zoltan Tar, Catherine Mead, Helen Saffrey, Charles Francis, Will Carland, Maureen Fields, Patricia Barber, Ian Walters, Des O'Meara, John Williams, Gregory Cummins, Ben Harper, Joseph Doran, Nicholas Hetherington, Bess Harris, Sandra Varrasso, Effie Ray, Brenden Aldridge, Patricia Bourke, Bob Woods, Marie Cook and Luke Westaway.

Grant eternal life to:

Br Pat Keogh, Eileen Fagan, Marcie Donahee, May Thompson, Shawn McCallum, Ernie Rockliff, William Toohey and all our dear ones deceased.

Anniversaries:

Alice & Charles Rowe, Francis Rodrigues and all those whose anniversaries occur now.

And Also:

Lorraine Hill, Marj Rowe and all our dear ones deceased.

## **LORD HEAR US**

### **BAPTISMS**

Last weekend we welcomed into God's church the following newly baptised:

LILLI HOWE  
ISABELLA HOWE  
IGNATIUS GARRATT

### **FOR YOUR DIARY**

#### **REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR WYD08**

WYD08 registration deadline is 31st March.

Log onto [www.wyd2008.org](http://www.wyd2008.org) or contact Emily Shaw on (02) 6937 0012 to book YOUR spot. Hurry, spaces are limited.

#### **CATHOLIC SCHOOL'S WEEK**

This week is Catholic School's Week. The aim is to raise awareness and celebrate the strengths and distinctive nature of Catholic Schools across the state and about strengthening relationships between all those who have a stake in our schools - students, staff, families, priests, parishioners and members of the wider community. Please feel welcome to join us at any of the activities planned for the week.

**Monday:** 10.30 Mass to celebrate the Feast of the Annunciation. End of Term Mass.

**Tuesday:** Primary sport presentations 1.45pm in the hall.

**Wednesday: Open Day**

10.30am Paraliturgy in the hall

11.30am Infant Sport day

12.30pm Sausage sizzle lunch

**Thursday:** Reconciliation Assembly 10.30am in the school grounds

#### **ACIES - LEGION OF MARY**

Will be held on Sunday 6th April at 2.00pm in the old convent chapel. Followed by afternoon tea and social. All active and auxiliary members and friends very welcome. Do come and join in this beautiful ceremony.

#### **ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED**

Accommodation is now required, preferably with a family, by a young CSU trainee accounting student. Non drinker and non smoker, excellent references. Please ring Catholic presbytery on 6041 2588.

## **THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY**

\* 'China priest' in search for people to teach English

\* Abortion: 'rotteness at our core'

## **ALBURY PARISHES EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Holy Spirit, Lavington - Friday, 4th April 6.00pm-10.00pm.

*Will you not watch one hour with me?*

## **MASS WITH SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING THE SICK**

Thursday 3rd March 2008 at St Patrick's Church Albury. Confessions 10.00-10.30am.

## **HOLY HOUR, EXPOSITION WITH ROSARY AND BENEDICTION**

5.30-6.30pm in St Patrick's Church Albury on Wednesday 2nd April. Prayer in reparation of sins against and a greater respect for all human life.

## **VERITAS CENTRAL EVENTS**

- Thurs 3rd April - Angels Wings Talk and Presentation by Fr Fowles of Thurgoona - (6.30pm)
- Thurs 10th April - Miracle of Marcelino Movie - (5.30pm -7.15pm) - Bookings Essential
- Thurs 17th April - The Good Pope, John XXIII Movie - (5.30pm-8.00pm) - Bookings Essential
- Thurs 24th April - Real Choices Australia Talk and Presentation by Debbie Garratt - (6.30pm)

## **INVITATION**

Veritas Central has been loaned two very special 2000 year old coins from the time of Christ. They are on view in the locked glass cupboards at Veritas Central. You are most welcome to come and have a look at these very special pieces of Christian history. Enjoy a cuppa back in the kitchen while you're there.

## **XAVIER HIGH SCHOOL OPEN DAY**

Xavier High School will have an Open Day on Monday 31st March from 2.30pm to 4.30pm. RSVP to Cerina or Pauline on 6040 6388. All welcome.

## **ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS**

Academic Scholarships for Xavier High School are available for students entering Year 7, 9 and 11 in 2009. Application details may be obtained by contacting Mrs Cerina Meredith on 6040 6388 or email [info@xh.wagga.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@xh.wagga.catholic.edu.au)

## **HOLY SPIRIT PARISH - SCHOOL FETE**

The Holy Spirit Parish and School will hold their annual Fete on Sunday 4th May this year. The Fete will run from 11.00am until 3.00pm in the school grounds, corner of Mutsch and Prune Streets, adjacent to Holy Spirit Church.

## **SNIPPET**

Christ's Easter is also our Easter because in the risen Christ we are given the certainty of our final resurrection. ...The death of the Lord shows the immense love with which He loved us, even to the point of sacrificing Himself for us. **But only His resurrection is 'certain proof'...that what He says is true.** (Pope Benedict XVI)