



Ss Peter and Paul's Catholic Parish

23 Leeds Street, Doncaster East,
Victoria, 3109.

Tel: 03 9842 1480

Web: www.sspp.org.au

Email: doncastereast@cam.org.au

**WEEKEND MASSES HAVE BEEN
TEMPORARY SUSPENDED DUE TO THE
COVID 19 PANDEMIC**

Our Vision

We are a Catholic Community who profess, celebrate and witness that Jesus lives, and to whom the Father sends His Spirit. We express that belief by living out and spreading the message of the Gospel.

Easter Sunday – Year A

12th of April 2020

My Dear Friends,

The Easter story is a story of overcoming darkness and despair, and finding new life and hope. In this unusual and unprecedented time, it is our faith that informs our actions and transforms concern into compassion for one another. We hold tightly to the certain hope that we, though utterly unworthy, are the beloved sheep of our Lord's pasture, and our gracious shepherd will never slumber in keeping watch over us.

As we are forced, out of love and care, to observe this Holy Week in the solitude of our homes, we know that the Holy Spirit is moving through our lives and the life of our community, gathering God's people in the unbreakable bond of love through Jesus. The joy of the empty tomb and the promise that we, too, will know such a resurrection is the hope-filled message our upside-down world so desperately needs in this time of pandemic.

Easter invites all of us to believe in the transforming power of love. At a time in our world where fear is a natural response, the Easter season encourages us to look towards love and life. We look for the generous and life-giving response of our health care and community service workers who continue to care for others.

We look to the generosity of neighbours, as people help one another with shopping, phone calls and staying in touch. We look to the willingness of our community leaders working together to realise better outcomes for us all.

COVID-19 is impacting so many aspects of our lives, and for many of us it is the first time we will spend Easter apart from family and friends.

It is important to remember to take the time this Easter to care for ourselves, and reach out (albeit remotely) to those we love at this time, to wave to a neighbour, call those who may be anxious, and bring a bit of hope in this time of crisis.

At this time Romans 5:1-5 comes to mind :-

Therefore, since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
through whom we have obtained access to his grace in which we stand;
And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.
Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings,
because we know that suffering produces perseverance;

Perseverance- character;
and character- hope.
And hope does not put us to shame,
because God's love has been poured out into
our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

I wish you all a blessed Easter. You will all continue to remain in my daily prayers. And with God's grace , we will all stand together as a community once again soon.

Yours in Christ,

Fr Jerald.

Prayers of the Community

Our Prayers are asked for those who died recently: especially Antonio Calcagno and Graham Simpson and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time especially Len Alcock, Zofia Kimnes, Andrew Duke, Vincenzo Spadafora, Gino and Maria Borsato, Antonio Chiodo, Bryam Donnelly, Adrian Lurada, Frank Alexander, Ross Serruto, Teresa Scoleri, Delia Clohessy, Brother Brendan Gaynor, Gina Tarquinio, Mary Sinclair

For those who are sick: Paul O'Connor, Emily Patrikis, Madeline Gilmore, Dan McMahon, Teresita Leung, June Webster, Joel Pemberton, Angela Selva, Anthoula Miras, Danny and Alice Zanon, Margaret Jansen, Teresa Talia, Mary Ritus, Lois Norton Old, Salaka Hewamaduma, Priyanthi Perera, Josh Davis, Maree Spinks, Joyce Foo, Peter Wilkinson, Audrey O'Connor, Tai Thomas, Pat Carty, Khek Hong Tan, Choi Yeng Chew, Marie Simpson, Catherine Poon, Ann Weerappah, Bronwyn Burke, Filomena Fusco, Carmenza Cruz, Alicia Nivia, Frank Prendergast, Joan O'Hanrahan, Pauline Smit, Remi Vulich, Mary Tancredi, Irma Ciccotelli, Jovina Ebell, Gina Ciriaco, Dr Hong Nguyen, Cesare Iozzi, Ian Stuart.

Please note:

- Please note our temporary revised opening hours of Monday from 9am -5pm Friday from 9am-3pm
- On all other days the office and Fr Jerald can still be contacted on 0473 873479.

Easter Message from Archbishop Peter Comensoli

The following link will take you to the Archbishop's Easter video on the Catholic **Archdiocese** of Melbourne's Website.

<https://bit.ly/EasterMessage2020>

Poem during this time of Isolation

And the people stayed home. And read books, and listened, and rested, and exercised, and made art, and played games, and learned new ways of being, and were still. And listened more deeply.

Some meditated, some prayed, some danced.

Some met their shadows.

And the people began to think differently. And the people healed. And, in the absence of people living in ignorant, dangerous, mindless, and heartless ways, the earth began to heal.

And when the danger passed, and the people joined together again, they grieved their losses, and made new choices, and dreamed new images, and created new ways to live and heal the earth fully, as they had been healed.

KITTY O'MEARA

A GUIDE TO HOLY WEEK FROM HOME

In addition to watching the liturgies streamed online, we encourage you to make these few simple acts during Holy Week.



Holy Thursday

- Read John chapter 13:1-17 and take turns washing each others feet
- Consider taking down wall art in your home to create a bare space
- Share bread and wine/juice and read the story of the last supper



Good Friday/Holy Saturday

- Implement some silence in your home throughout the day, in the morning or during the 3 o'clock hour
- Fast not only from food but other noises such as music/tv/social media



Easter Sunday

- Celebrate! Read John chapter 20:1-9
- Get dressed up and make a wonderful meal to share as a family
- Call/FaceTime with loved ones

HOW TO PRAY MASS FROM HOME



CREATE A SACRED SPACE

- Set out a crucifix
- Light a candle
- Open your bible to the Gospel reading
- Rearrange furniture

PREPARE SPIRITUALLY

- Dress the same as you would if you were attending Mass
- Bless the room with holy water
- Have each person bless themselves with holy water
- Spend a few minutes in silence before Mass begins

ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE

- Stand, kneel, and sit at the right times
- Say the prayers and responses of the Mass out loud

ENGAGE IN COMMUNITY

- Share a meal after Mass
- Spend time talking about the Gospel reading

**Prayer to St Joseph –
under whose patronage the Archbishop has placed this time of crisis.**

St Joseph,

A
PRAYER
to
ST JOSEPH

You were receptive to God working in your life.
Help us by your prayers at this time of trial.
You kept Jesus and Mary under your watchful care:
may your prayers assist our local Church to respond
to those in need.

You taught the Christ Child your trade and prayers:
help us to follow his example of love.

You were part of God's plan for all humanity:
assist us to be vigilant and responsible this day.

You spent your life in service:
may we be mindful of others, particularly the
elderly and vulnerable, caring for them in these
difficult days.

You trusted in the clear primacy of God over all
history and every situation: help us to grow in faith
and pray to the Father, *Thy will be done.*

Amen



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE
OF MELBOURNE