



THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF IVANHOE

St Bernadette's Church, West Ivanhoe

Mary Immaculate Church, Ivanhoe

Mother of God Church, East Ivanhoe

No. 18

30 April – 1 May 2011

2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER: YEAR A

Reflection:

The gospel story about doubting Thomas has to be one of the most misunderstood episodes in the New Testament. If you're like me, for years we have been consoled by Thomas doubting that Jesus had been raised from the dead. Thomas' doubts were in Jesus, we have been led to believe. But let's read the story very carefully. It's not Jesus Thomas doubts, it's the disciples. In fact when Jesus appears to them seven days later, Thomas has the opportunity to share in the experience of the Risen Lord and like the others he immediately confesses Easter faith.

There are three elements in this story that should give us great comfort. The first is that Thomas doubts the early Church, and not just in regard to a minor issue of discipline or procedure. He doubts the central Christian message: that God raised Jesus from the dead. Some of us, too, at various times in our lives, can have doubts about all sorts of things in our faith. There are very few Catholics who get through life without asking some serious questions of God, about Jesus, the Spirit and the Church. These questions are good in themselves. They are necessary for a mature, adult faith. What we need to ensure is that we sincerely want answers to the questions we ask and not just use them to justify our wandering away from our faith. Thomas is the patron saint of all of us who sometimes struggle to believe what everyone else in the church seems to accept. And he is also the patron saint of those of us who seek the courage and patience to wait for the answers.

The second consoling fact to this story concerns the earliest Church. Even though they were filled with the presence of the Risen Lord and though Thomas refuses to believe their witness, they remain faithful to him in his doubts. We know this because he is still with them a week later. They didn't expel him from the group or excommunicate him, they held on to him in the hope that he would experience the Lord for himself. Sadly for us, today, there are some who argue that Catholics who struggle with their faith should 'shape up or ship out'. While every group has its boundaries and there are limits to what people can dissent from, we could take the earliest Church as our model and stay faithful to our doubters and help them come to see the transforming truth that has changed our lives.

The final element in this extraordinary story which can help us in our Easter faith concerns the significance of the time between the first and second appearances of Jesus. We're told it was seven days and the parallel to the story of creation would not have been lost on the first hearers of John's Gospel. And even though the earliest disciples experience the Risen Lord on Easter Sunday, they are still locked in their fears one week later. The creation of the early Church, the movement of its earliest leaders from timidity to boldness took time and having a doubter in their midst ends up a great blessing for them all, for Christ is present at every step of the Church's creation and re-creation as well.

This story was written for people like us who do not have access to the historical Jesus. The birth of the Church is an ongoing act of God's creation in every generation. It takes time, and people will be at different stages at different moments. Our fidelity to one another on the long journey of faith is only surpassed by our Crucified God who does not give up on us, no matter how many questions we ask or how much we doubt. May this Eucharist give us confidence enough to hold on to each other in good times and bad so that we can all continue to experience his presence and have life in his name. © Richard Leonard SJ Liturgical Commission, Brisbane 2011 & Graphic: LabOra Liturgy 2011

THE WORD

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Rejoice to the full in the glory that is yours, and give thanks to God who called you to his kingdom, alleluia.

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

V. 1. Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' Let the sons of Aaron say: 'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say: 'His love has no end.' **R.**

V. 2. I was thrust, thrust down and falling but the Lord was my helper. The Lord is my strength and my song; he was my saviour. There are shouts of joy and victory in the tents of the just. **R.**

V. 3. The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. **R.**

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!

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL: We pray: **Risen Lord, hear our prayer.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Jesus spoke to Thomas: Put your hand here, and see the place of the nails. Doubt no longer, but believe, alleluia.

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY:

We remember all in need of prayer at this time including Olga Trevan, Dorothea Chandler, Jill Brophy, Joe Rush, Bernadette Shepherdson and Leonard Topp. We also remember all those who provide care and support for those in need.

We remember Fr John Maher OMI, Ron Spilsbury, Albert Carrazzo, John Fitzgerald and Elena Tomasoni who died recently. We also remember Mary Boyle, Pauline Bradley, Joe Altorjai, Onoria Renzella, Sam Talarico, Jack Biviano, Giuseppina Cincotta, John Cincotta, Giuseppe Montorio and Alfonzo Montorio whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.



Baptisms in our Parish Community:

We welcome Matteo Scenna who is baptised into the faith community of the Catholic Parish of Ivanhoe this weekend. We welcome their families, relatives and friends who have come to share this special occasion, one of many steps taken in the lifelong journey of faith.

St Bernadette's First Friday Devotions – Friday 6th May:

Mass will be celebrated at 10am, and followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Devotions will conclude with Benediction at 4.00pm. All are welcome to spend time in prayer with the Blessed Sacrament.

This Week's Readings: 2nd Sunday of Sunday: Year A

Acts 2:42-47

Ps 117:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 1 Peter 1:3-9

John 20:19-31

Saint and Feast Days:

Mon 2nd May: St George

Tues 3rd May: Ss Philip & James

Wed 4th May: English Martyrs

Thurs 5th May: St Asaph

Fri. 6th May: St Dominic Savio

Sat. 7th May: St John Beverley

Next Week's Readings: 3rd Sunday of Easter: Year A

Acts 2:14, 22-33

Ps 15:1-2, 5, 7-11

1 Peter 1:17-21

Luke 24:13-35

HAPPENINGS ACROSS THE PARISH

Tuesday 3 May	6.30pm	Confirmation Family Workshop	Mary Immaculate School
Tuesday 3 May	7.30pm	Baptism Preparation Session	
Tuesday 3 May	8.00pm	St Vincent de Paul Conference meeting	St B Community Centre
Wednesday 4 May	12.00-3pm	Outreach Social Afternoon	St B Community Centre
Friday 6 May	10am & 4pm	First Friday Devotions	St Bernadette's Church
Saturday 7 May	10.00am	Reconciliation	Mary Immaculate Church
Saturday 7 – Thursday 12 May		Korean Community Holy Spirit Seminar	St Bernadette's Church
Monday 9 May		Mary Immaculate School Open Day	
Tuesday 10 May	7.30pm	Mother of God School Parents Representative Council	MOG School
Wednesday 11 May	7.00pm	Confirmation Catechist Class	Mary Immaculate Hall
Friday 13 May	10.30pm	Mass of Anointing and Blessing	Mother of God Church
Saturday 14 May	10.00am	Reconciliation	Mother of God Church
Weekend Masses: 14 – 15 May		Confirmation: Rite of Enrolment	Mass at each church
Sunday 15 May		Mother of God School Open Day	

INFORMATION

Project Compassion Boxes and Envelopes:

Project Compassion boxes or envelopes need to be returned to one of the three churches or Parish Office as soon as possible. If a **receipt is required, relevant details need to be filled in on the box lids or back of envelopes please.** Receipts will be issued and mailed for this financial year once returns are completed. This may not be possible for late returns. Details of contributions are then sent to Caritas. – Ruth

Archdiocesan Mass Census for the month of May 2011 – Counters required!:

This year, the Archdiocese and the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference - Pastoral Research Office have combined to conduct the Mass Count.

For the first four weekends in May, all present at each Mass (including children and babies) in each church will be counted as part of the Archdiocesan Mass Census. Census sheets are available in each church to be used by counters for this purpose. Census sheets need to be returned to the Parish Office Monday 23rd May.

Thank you for your assistance.

Morning Tea at Mother of God: All welcome to Morning Tea after the 10.30 Mass on Sunday, 1st May.

Maundy Thursday:

60 Ivanhoe residents, from the Anglican, Uniting, Baptist and Catholic communities, maintained the tradition of gathering to share prayer and a meal on this most significant Christian feast. Very truly, many hands did make light work. However, we are especially indebted to the Uniting Church community for the use of their comfortable and convenient community centre, to the Rev. Renate McDonald for leading us in prayer and to Paul Brady, from Caffe Strada, for cooking the delicious meal and providing most of it.

I'm sure this really united us as we lived the Easter Triduum, in our own ways in our own communities-Merle



Mass of Anointing and Blessing - Friday 13th May at Mother of God:

All parishioners, families and friends are invited to a Mass of Anointing and Blessing on Friday 13th May at 10.30am at Mother of God Church. Families from Mother of God School have kindly offered to provide Morning Tea after Mass. If you require assistance with transport please contact Eileen 9499 7120, Sue 9499 1485 or Helen 9499 7793.

Please note: There will be no 9.15am Mass on Friday 13 May at Mother of God

Outreach Activities:

Wednesday, May 18: (Please note the change from the published date earlier this year), a film and high tea to celebrate Ladies' month. At 1.30pm we will screen 'Ladies in Lavender' on our big screen followed by High Tea. \$5.00 admittance. To assist with catering, please book by **Friday May 13** with either: Helen 9499 7793, Sue 9499 1485 or Eileen 9499 7120. - Thank you, Outreach Girls



Outreach Social Afternoon: The next afternoon for lunch and games will be on Wednesday 4 May from Noon – 3pm at St Bernadette's Community Centre. Everyone is welcome for lunch – no charge. Please bring a **small** plate of something to share for lunch. – Outreach Group

Rotary Club of Bundoora: An invitation to all interested in child safety issues - an informative evening with Bernie Geary OAM, Child Safety Commissioner, Victoria on Wednesday 4 May from 6.30pm at Bundoora Bowling Club, Yulong Reserve, Bundoora (entry via Cameron Parade). Dinner, dessert, tea and coffee: \$30 per person. Drinks extra. Please confirm your attendance with Jacq or David, 9455 2610 ASAP

Shoah Holocaust Memorial Service for Christians and all people of good will:

For the sake of the present we do not forget the past! - Thursday 5 May at 7.30pm at St Paul's Cathedral, Swanston St, Melbourne. Memorial Service will be followed by refreshments & conversation. All welcome.



Parish Dinner Dance - Bookings now open!:

The Catholic Parish of Ivanhoe Annual Dinner Dance will be held on **Saturday 23 July 2011** at The Centre Ivanhoe (7.00pm until midnight). Cost is \$95 per head. Booking forms (green sheets) are available at the back of each church. Please support our parish and make this event successful. Enquiries to Paul McEvey 0438 509 995 or paul.mcevey@gmail.com



Parish Working Bee Saturday 21 May from 8am - 12 Noon:

The next working bee is scheduled for 21 May from 8am - 12noon. Anyone with even a mild interest in gardening is invited to come along and join the fun. BYO gloves, suitable clothing for the conditions, favourite tools... Morning tea will be provided. Our working bees are wonderful communal events; the cuppa and chat afterwards alone make it worthwhile. Hope to see you there.

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Feast of St Peregrine, Patron of Cancer sufferers: Sunday 8th May, 2.30pm at St Brigid's Church, North Fitzroy. Programme: Servite Rosary, Mass, Anointing of the Sick. Phone 9347 8191 Poster in each church

Christian Leadership Course:

An introductory course on the principles and practice of leadership in a Christian context with Br. John McMahon FMS for 12 weeks from Tuesday 10 May to 9 August, 6-8pm at Thomas Carr Centre, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne. Cost: \$170; conc. \$130. Enquiries: 9926 5761 or www.cam.org.au/evangelisation

Fellowship Meal of Jews and Catholics: Sunday 15 May 2011 at 7.00 pm

Where: 306 Hawthorn Road, Caulfield South Cost: \$40 per person

Bookings and payment: Send with payment to Jewish Community Council of Victoria, 306 Hawthorn Rd, Caulfield South, Victoria 3162. Phone 9272 5566 or email: community@jccv.org.au

Mental Illness Fellowship Woodcock Lecture – 17 May:

The Mental Illness Fellowship Victoria is pleased to invite you to this year's Woodcock Lecture, *In it Together - Physical Health and Wellbeing for People with Mental Illness*, on Tuesday 17 May, 6 - 8 pm at the Arts Centre, ANZ Pavilion. This year's guest lecturer is Associate Professor Sharon Lawn of Flinders University, Adelaide, who is internationally recognised for her work in improving the self-care and health management of people with mental illness. She will present research findings and real-life examples of what has worked to improve physical health for people with mental illness. Make your booking for the Woodcock Lecture NOW on <http://www.trybooking.com/9378> or phone (03) 8486 4254. This is a free public lecture. Seating is strictly limited. We look forward to seeing you there!

Melbourne Single Catholics:

Melbourne Single Catholics 35-55, is a free to join social group which offers: dinners, drinks nights, film nights, concerts, walks, lectures on matters of faith, morals and bioethics, gallery and winery visits and more. Our next event is **Friday Night Drinks At Amora Riverwalk Hotel** on Friday, 20 May at 7:00pm. For more information: www.meetup.com/melbourne-single-catholics

Life Hike:

Right to Life Australia is holding a "Life Hike" on 20-22 May on the Great Ocean Road. We will hike 50km to fundraise for Pregnancy Counselling Australia which manages a 24 hour hotline to assist pregnant women in crisis. We are charging for the accommodation only at \$50 total however we are asking all participants to gain sponsorship. Come and enjoy this spectacular part of the Australian Coastline. Details are on our website www.righttolife.org.au or telephone (03) 9387 7098.

Annual Mass for Altar Servers:

27th May, 7.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral. During the Mass new members will be admitted to the Guild of St Stephen. Inquiries: Fr Gregory Pritchard 9772 2211

Helder Camara Lectures - Searching For God In A Time Of Doubt:

Wednesday 1 June 2011 @ 6pm
Tom áš Hal ík, a leading philosopher & theologian in Eastern Europe in Conversation with Frank Brennan SJ
The Oratory, Newman College, 877 Swanston Street, Parkville

Parish Office: 4 Waverley Ave, Ivanhoe 3079

Phone: 9499 1515

Fax: 9499 9959

Website: www.ivanhoecatholics.com

Email: catholicparishofivanhoe@bigpond.com

Parish Staff:

Parish Administrator: Fr. Thang Vu 63 Wilfred Rd, East Ivanhoe 9499 5440

Secretary: Mrs. Ruth Villani Office hours 9.00am – 5.00pm 9499 1515

ROSTERS FOR WEEKEND 7 – 8 May 2011

ST. BERNADETTE'S:

Saturday 6.30pm

Lector

Sister Frances

Special Ministers

B. Jowett, T. Nibali

MARY IMMACULATE:

Sunday 9.00am

Leader

P. Callahan

Reader

P. Carlin

Mass Coordinators

M. Gilbo

Counters

P. Gelsi, P. Black

MOTHER OF GOD:

Sunday 10.30am

Sacristan

P. Verocchi

Lector

I. Chiera

Special Ministers

D. Ervin, M. Chin, B. / S. Janus

Choir Coordinators: I. Chiera

First Collection – Thanksgiving:

Envelopes: \$1,341.00

Loose cash: \$1707.85

Total: \$3,048.85

Second Collection – Presbytery:

\$1,391.05