



**St John
Vianney**
Parish Morisset



EASTER SUNDAY YEAR B 31 MARCH 2024

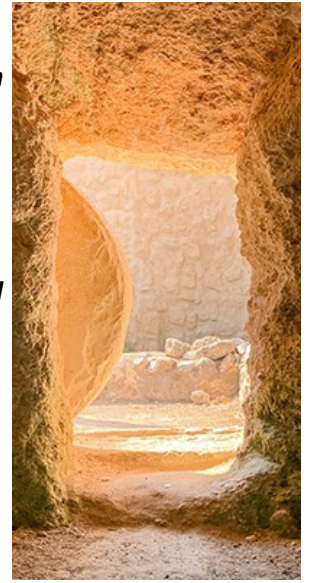
For Christians, Easter is the greatest feast of all. Easter is the base on which our Christian faith is built. Easter gives us the chance to reflect on what it means to be a Baptised Christian.

We have heard the Easter story so often, we may be tempted to 'switch off'. Often our attention may be more on Easter eggs or Hot Cross Buns.

Easter invites us to witness to the risen Jesus by a life of hope, commitment, and fidelity to God and to our fellow men and women.

The hope of Easter is the hope for a renewed world, a world of peace and justice, a world of compassion and goodness, a world of mercy, faith, and truth.

Christ is risen! Alleluia! Alleluia!



We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Awabakal People who, long before us lived, loved, educated and raised their children on this Country. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and we recognise the young people who are our future. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in our communities. We respect their deep physical and spiritual connections to Country through their stories, traditions and living cultures.

- PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM:** Uta France
John France
- PRIEST SUPERVISOR:** Fr Joseph Figuardo
- SACRAMENTAL PRIEST:** Fr John Purnell
- PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:** Juliet Hutchins
Mal Melvey
Pam Melvey
Kerry Lendon
Rod Hay
- PARISH SECRETARY:** Rosanna Suckling

OFFICE: 60 Yambo Street, Morisset, PO Box 87, Ph: 02 4973.6859
Office Hours: 9.00 am to 2.00pm—Monday to Friday (except public holidays)
(We ask that you make an appointment to come to the office)
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Morisset Parish Web site: www.vianneymorisset.org
Morisset Parish Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/stjvparish>
Morisset Parish Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/stjvparish_morisset/
Morisset Parish Bulletin Items: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au
(Please submit all Bulletin Notice requests to the parish office by 2pm Wednesdays)

Email the Parish Office to Subscribe for an Electronic Bulletin .

UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES :

- Thursday 28th March 7pm
Holy Thursday—Morisset
- Friday 29th March 3pm
Good Friday—Morisset
- Saturday 30th March 6pm
Easter Vigil— Morisset
- Sunday 31st March 9.30am
East Sunday—Morisset
- Tuesday 2nd April 9.30am
Liturgy—Morisset
- Saturday 6th April 5pm
Family Mass—Morisset
- Sunday 7th April 9.30am
Mass—Morisset
- Tuesday 9th April 9.30am
Liturgy—Morisset
- Saturday 13th April 5pm
Mass—Cooranbong
- Sunday 14th April 9.30am
Mass—Morisset
- Saturday 20th April 5pm
Family Mass—Morisset
- Sunday 21st April 9.30am
Mass—Morisset
- Saturday 27th April 5pm
Mass—Cooranbong
- Sunday 28th April 9.30am
Mass—Morisset

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Reflection for Easter Sunday Year B — 31st March 2024

Our Lenten journey is complete and TODAY WE CELEBRATE. On this holiday, in the midst of Easter egg hunts and gatherings of family and friends, let us remember that today, first and foremost, is a HOLY Day. Today we celebrate the fulfillment of God's promises to his people. Our Redeemer has come and delivered his message of love and forgiveness. By his own choice, he has suffered greatly, before enduring the death on the Cross to earn reparation for our sins and so ensure our salvation. Now, today, we have the completion with Christ's resurrection from the dead. This day offers all Christians hope!

"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad."

John's Gospel tells us of Mary Magdalen's discovery of the empty tomb, her rush to inform the disciples and then the haste of Peter and John to confirm what she had reported. Peter saw the discarded burial cloths; when John entered, "he saw and he believed". He explains that "till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead." This is something we, also, are called by our faith to believe.

We don't have the physical experience of finding the empty tomb but we have the witness of Peter. In the Acts, it is recorded that Peter said, "we are witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people. " That all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name."

Then, in his letter to the Colossians, Paul reminds us, "Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ. Now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed - and he is your life -you too will be revealed in all your glory with him."

Being a Christian can often be challenging, as John France reminded us in his reflection for Palm Sunday. As we renew our Baptismal vows this Easter, let us contemplate the un-Christlike behaviours we need to reject and remember we have cause to be joy-filled, despite the individual challenges we have in our lives.

Pope Francis reminded us of this late last year: Gospel is a proclamation, a proclamation of joy. Ideologies are cold, all of them. The Gospel has the warmth of joy. Ideologies do not know how to smile; the Gospel is a smile, it makes you smile because it touches the soul with the Good News.

Either we proclaim Jesus with joy, or we do not proclaim him, because another way of proclaiming him is not capable of bringing the true reality of Jesus.

Let us leave our Church today, as joy-filled followers of Christ, full of gratitude for what has been done for us and secure in the knowledge that God is with us to give us the strength we need to live as Christ wants us.

Pam Melvey

Welcome

Welcome to all the visitors to our Parish of St John Vianney during the Easter season. The Parish of St John Vianney Morisset, was officially formed in 1947, however our Mass centre of St Patrick and St Brigid at Cooranbong, dates to the 1860's. The present Cooranbong Church celebrated its centenary in August 2006, and 150 years of Catholic presence in the area was celebrated in 2011. It is documented that Saint Mary McKillop visited Cooranbong where she had a convent school. Up until 1966 St John Vianney Parish was part of the Diocese of Sydney, but now it is part of the Diocese of Maitland / Newcastle, with Bishop Michael Kennedy as Bishop.

The Morisset Church is 'Looped' for those with hearing difficulties. -Switch your hearing aids to the 'T' setting. The 9.30am Mass at Morisset is recorded each Sunday and uploaded

to the Parish Website and Facebook later in the day, - internet allowing. This allows people in nursing facilities and those away from the parish for whatever reason, to keep 'in touch' with the parish.

Parish Assembly

Recently Fr Greg Barker VG met with the Parish Leadership, and the PPC. Much discussion was held around the Synodal Model of Church and Parish, and the path and direction that our Parish might pursue moving forward.

To this end, it was proposed that a Parish Pastoral Assembly, to which all parishioners are invited, be held after Mass on Sunday 2nd June. It is several years since an Assembly was held in our Parish. (Covid etc.)

A Parish Pastoral Assembly is a body of faith-filled parishioners and the ordained, through which everyone works together as co-responsible partners in furthering the mission of Christ in our Parish.

From this Assembly, a Pastoral Plan will be developed. This Plan is a set of goals and objectives embraced through a process of shared decision-making, which will direct the parish in its activities and decisions for the next 12 months.

More on this event in the coming weeks.

Bishops Pastoral Visit to SJV School

Bishop Michael Kennedy will visit St John Vianney Primary School, Morisset on Friday 05 April

Bishop Michael wishes to meet as many staff and students as possible. He will address the whole school community at an assembly.

He will also visit some classrooms and share some refreshments with the staff.

Bishop Michael will return to the Parish later in the year, to confer the sacrament of Confirmation Friday evening 20th September.

With A Light Heart.

Three old men, Mike, George, and Steve are enjoying a cup of coffee at the local park.

Mike says earnestly, "I wish I could sleep through the night. I need to go to the toilet every 2 hours. It's so frustrating."

George says, "Crikey, you think that's bad? I'm so constipated I haven't had a bowel movement in a week.

Steve looks incredulous and adds, "You think you blokes have it bad? I sleep soundly through the night and every morning at 7:30 I empty my bladder and have a big bowel movement."

George and Mike look confused. "How's that a problem?" They ask.

Says Steve, "It wouldn't be, except I don't wake up until 8."

Chrism Mass

On Tuesday evening, the Chrism Mass, one of the most significant events on the Liturgical Calendar was held at the Sacred Heart Cathedral Hamilton.

Bishop Michael blessed the oils that will be used in the ministry of various sacraments throughout the year, from Easter to Easter. Thank you to the Parishioners who attended the Mass, and the Parish Representatives who presented the oils to the bishop for blessing and consecration. These oils were brought back to the parish, where they are received at Mass on Holy Thursday evening.

Pope Francis' prayer intention for March 2024

That those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world might imbue the Church with their courage and missionary drive.

Project Compassion

Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!

Thank you for your continued support through Project Compassion. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, for all future generations.

Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2024 Lenten appeal.

There is still time to donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from the back of the church, or by visiting our parish Project Compassion fundraising page at: <https://parishes.projectcompassion.org.au/o/morisset-catholic-parish-2264> or by calling 1800 024 413.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RETURN YOUR PROJECT COMPASSION BOXES AND ENVELOPES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Points to Ponder

Traditions have always been an important dimension of celebrating faith. Each age is a time of special grace, including our age of high technology.

Did You Know? Name of **Easter**. In every language except English, the name for this annual memorial of the resurrection is some form of the word 'Passover' (For example, Pasch, from the Hebrew Pesach, 'Passover') When Christianity arrived in the north countries, its celebration of the resurrection received a new name from the Germanic peoples, a name used today by English speaking people.: **Easter**.

Easter Sunday did not exist in the early church. What is celebrated today as Easter occurred during the night hours preceding dawn on Sunday, the Easter Vigil.

Communion Minister Training

Fr Greg Barker VG, who is the PP of Warners Bay/Booragul, is organising online training for his Communion Ministers. He was wondering if anyone from our parish would like to join his parishioners with the training.

He sent a copy of the letter that he received from the ACU. If anybody would like to become a minister of communion, or you would like to improve their skills in this area, contact John or Uta.

Parishes are starting to reintroduce and train, Ministers of Communion to the sick and at Mass, after the Covid lockdown.

Dear Father Barker,

I am writing to let you know about our forthcoming online program for **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**.

ACU's online training program for EMHCs is one of the most comprehensive online liturgical ministry training programs for Catholic parishes in Australia. It presents high quality, doctrinally sound content in an innovative way and it enables all communities, especially those with fewer resources or those in remote areas of the country, to access rich and engaging formation easily and to reach a greater number of people through a reliable, contemporary, and consistent learning experience.

Enrolment is now open for the next program which starts on **Tuesday 9 April and runs online over four weeks until Tues 14 May 2024.**

We anticipate that this program will also run later in 2024 from 23 July (to 27 August) and then from Wed 16 October (to 20 November)

Crucially, this program engages the role of an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion on a variety of levels. The development of practical hands-on skills in the local parish comes only after

substantive formation in the history and theology of Eucharist and ministry.

As you may know, the ACU Centre for Liturgy is endorsed by Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and as a national centre for liturgical formation in Australia, ACU has the knowledge, technological capacity, and educational expertise to provide locally made,

consistent liturgical ministry training on a national scale.

Further details of our new program, and a link to enrolment, can be found via our Centre's website www.acu.edu.au/centreforliturgy/pastoral-training.

If you have any questions about the program or other ways in which the ACU Centre for Liturgy can support your work in liturgy and sacraments, please do not hesitate to contact us at CentreforLiturgy@acu.edu.au and we will be happy to help you

Sincerely,

Maryanne

Maryanne Hemsley

Program Coordinator (Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 8.30am – 4.30pm)

ACU Centre for Liturgy

Australian Catholic University

An event celebrating the Ministry of Teresa Brierley

You are invited to join us in celebrating the ministry of Teresa Brierley on Friday 12 April.

After almost 20 years with the Diocese, Teresa has resigned from her role as Director Pastoral Ministries. We're looking forward to recognising Teresa and acknowledging her significant work for the diocese and our community before she finishes in April.

Please find the event details below:

Date: Friday 12 April Time: 2pm to 4pm

Location: Southern Cross Hall (841 Hunter Street, Newcastle West)

RSVP: By 4 April, at <https://teresabrierley.eventbrite.com.au>

Registering is essential.

Principles of Social Teaching (Pre-Assembly Opt-in Seminar)

As part of our participation in the Hunter Community Alliance Founding Assembly, we are providing a seminar on Principles of Social Teaching. The recent Synod of Bishops wrote in their Synthesis Report:

"Christians have a duty to commit themselves to active participation in building up the common good and defending the dignity of life, drawing inspiration from the Church's social doctrine."

Come and learn why we do what we do and be a part of the historical gathering at the University Great Hall. The seminar will be followed by the celebration of Mass before walking on pilgrimage to the university.

Workshop

When: Wednesday, 10 April

Time: Gather from 2.30pm for a 3pm start. Mass at 4.30pm.

Where: Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church, Shortland (enter parking from Lovell Pde)

Register: <https://forms.office.com/r/5C3pY78tsw>

Founding Assembly

Time: 6.30pm - 8.30pm (Food trucks available 5.30pm - 6.30pm)

Register: <https://events.humanitix.com/hca-founding-assembly>

SUPPORTING THE CLERGY / 1st Collection

If you would like to make contributions to support the Clergy / 1st Collection please do so at Mass in the BLUE bucket or electronically using the Online Payments button on the Parish Website Home page, Diocese App, Bank Account Name: CCF BSB: 062815 No: 00328161 Ref: 5016 1st Collection or set up a direct debit contact the parish office for this option.

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH / 2nd Collection

If you would like to make contributions to support our Parish please do so at Mass via the RED bucket or deposit directly into the Parish Account our details are: Account Name: CCF BSB:062815 Account Number: 00328161 one of the following Payment References are required by CCF for all deposits: 5004 or 5004 + SURNAME or 5004 + PG + your Giver Number, or 5004 + PG + SURNAME, or you can use the Online Payments or Planned Giving button on the Parish Website Home page or the Diocese App. If you are considering taking up **planned giving** you may like to know that **a percentage of the contributions are tax deductible**. If you would like to know more or set up planned giving please contact the Parish Office.

WEEKEND ROSTERS			
		<u>THIS WEEK</u>	<u>NEXT WEEK</u>
<u>PRESIDERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	Mass Mass	Mass Mass
<u>PROCLAIMERS:</u>	5PM 9.30AM	See Holy Week Roster	K Lendon R Hay
<u>PSALMIST:</u>	5PM 9.30AM	See Holy Week Roster	D Joyce M Melvey
<u>GIFTS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	H White P Melvey K Lendon M Melvey	P Melvey L & G Hutchinson
<u>SERVERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	TBA R Lawandos	C Lawandos V Paulo
<u>AV</u>	5PM 9.30AM	E Lawandos E Lawandos	J France J Vipan
<u>WELCOMERS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	H White C Lawandos	M Melvey H White
<u>CHURCH CLEANING</u>	COOR MOR	F Dunn C Lawandos K Lendon	XXXX A & G Walker


Our Parish supports The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle in its zero-tolerance approach to abuse. Every one of us must each day commit ourselves individually and collectively to safeguard each child and every vulnerable person to whom we minister and interact with. If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult please contact the Office of Safeguarding P:02 4979 1390 or email: childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au, or visit their website for further information www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au .

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMINITIES

- THURSDAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER - 28TH MAR
- FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD - 29TH MAR
- PASCHAL VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT - 30TH MAR
- SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION - 31ST MAR
- THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD (S) - 8TH APR
- SAINT STANISLAUS (M) - 11TH APR
- ANZAC DAY—25TH APR
- SAINT MARK (F) - 26TH APR
- SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA (M) - 28TH APR
- SAINT ATHANASIUS (M) - 2ND MAY
- SAINTS PHILIP AND JAMES (F) - 3RD MAY

Please pray for all those who are sick: in hospital or at home, especially those living with a life threatening disease:
 Koby Smith, Mick Styles, Sr Patricia Adams rsm, Annette Boyd, Mary Monaghan, Clare Wallington, Donna Hazzard, Pam Mullaly, Tintumol Thomas, Pat Findley, Les Findley, Peter Martyn, Bernadette Martin, Joan Gillett, Bruce Gillett.

Please pray for those who have been called to eternal life may they always be in our prayers.
 Remembrance: Frances Bristow



Prayer Requests for the Bulletin

If you would like the parish to pray for a family member who is sick, recently deceased or you would like remembered please call or email the parish office or complete a prayer card for each person and place in the mail box near the parish office door. Cards are available at the back of the church and at the Parish Office.
 All prayer requests require permission from a family member or the person. Due to Australian privacy laws.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
 I believe that You
 are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
 I love You above all things,
 and I desire to receive You into my soul.
 Since I cannot at this moment
 receive You sacramentally,
 come at least spiritually into my heart.
 I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.
 Never permit me to be separated from You.
 Amen.



Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream





SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection
of the Lord
Sunday 31 Mar 2024

The Introductory Rites

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as Australia's First Peoples and the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which we work, live and learn. Especially the Awabakal and Darkinjung nations who are the traditional owners of the land our Parish encompasses. We honour and pay respect to, Elders past, present and emerging, we acknowledge the spiritual culture of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across Australia, and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

Gathering

The Lectionary/Roman Missal or a Bible may be placed on a table together with a candle and a cross.

Sign of the Cross

Leader:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All:

Amen.

Greeting

Leader:

Blessed be Jesus Christ who has redeemed us and raised us to new life.

All:

Blessed be God forever.

Introductory Remarks

Leader (in these or similar words):

Friends in Christ, although we cannot celebrate the Eucharist this day, we gather in God's name for when two or more come together God is always with us. United with the whole Church, we celebrate the joy of Easter and keep this day of the Lord holy.

Opening Rite

LITANY OF PRAISE

Leader:

Before listening to the Word of God let us praise the Lord Jesus Christ who has raised us to new life.

A brief period of silence follows.

Leader:

Lord Jesus, you have won victory over death: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, you are the joy of all who believe: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, in you we are reborn: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader:

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins,

and bring us to everlasting life.

All:

Amen.

Opening Prayer

Leader:

Let us pray.

All pause for silent prayer.

O Lord, your Son Jesus has unlocked the gates of heaven and won for us eternal life. Filled with Easter joy may we join our lives with Christ and be renewed by the light of the Spirit. We make this prayer through Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

All:

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 10:34. 37-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117:1-2. 16-17. 22-23. R. v.24

(R.) This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end. Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' **(R.)**
2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed; his right hand raised me up. I shall not die, I shall live and recount his deeds. **(R.)**
3. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. **(R.)**

Second Reading

Colossians 3:1-4

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaim:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Sequence

The sequence is said or sung on this day. On the weekdays of the Octave of Easter, its use is optional.

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise.

The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;

and Christ, the undefiled,

hath sinners to his Father reconciled.

Death with life contended: combat strangely ended!

Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.

Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way.

The tomb the Living did enclose;

I saw Christ's glory as he rose!

The angels there attesting;

shroud with grave-clothes resting.

Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee.

That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know.

Victorious king, thy mercy show!

Gospel

Reader:

From the holy Gospel according to **John**.

All:

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 20:1-9

The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

Reader:

The Gospel of the Lord.

All:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All are seated.

Reflection on the Word

A short period of reflection may be observed.

Profession of Faith

Leader:

In union with the whole Church
let us profess our faith.

All:

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

*At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin
Mary, all bow.*

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the Faithful

Leader: Sisters and brothers, rejoicing in Christ's triumph over death, we bring our prayers before the God of glory.

Reader: That our Holy Father, Pope Francis, may continue to proclaim the new life that Jesus Christ offers to all people. In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That nations in conflict will be led from war and death into peace and new life. In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That missionaries and all who dedicate their lives to God will find strength in their faith and draw inspiration from the Easter message. In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That our parish community will be filled with the joy of Easter and find strength to reflect the risen Christ in all that we do. In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all the sick will be shown the healing light of Christ, especially for those who are members of our family and community. In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That everyone who has died will be raised to new life with Christ, especially those who were members of our family and community. In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: God our Father, we rejoice this day in Christ's triumph over death. Hear our prayers and help us to bear witness to the risen Lord as we are freed by the mystery

of his Resurrection. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Leader:

At the Saviour's command
and formed by divine teaching,
we dare to say:

All:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

The Concluding Rite Blessing

Leader:

May the Lord bless us in all things through Christ
so that we may work together in loving service.

All make the sign of the cross during the blessing.

All:

Amen.

Dismissal

Leader:

Let us go in peace.

All:

Thanks be to God.

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LITURGY MATTERS: THE PASCHAL MYSTERY - WHAT IS IT? WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU?

You may have heard the term 'Paschal Mystery' but what is it? What does it mean to you?

As the Church draws closer to the Triduum (check out the 10 Questions about the Triduum), we are reminded of the passion, death, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus. This is what is known as the Paschal Mystery. We are particularly invited into that mystery over the Triduum. However, this dying and rising isn't just something that Jesus went through 2000 years ago or that it is our focus only on the Easter weekend, it is very much a part of our own lives that we experience daily.

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So, as you read that last sentence you may ask yourself, what does this dying and rising mean, this Paschal Mystery, in my everyday life context? When we hear the term mystery, we think of something that is hard to comprehend or difficult to explain. This can be true of the Paschal Mystery but let me give it a go and see where we end up.

Looking at our year, there are two seasonal cycles that are occurring, the liturgical year, the sacred season, where the Church participates in the bigger picture of the mystery of Christ, from his birth through to his ascension. We also have our earthly seasons. As we begin to see and feel autumn, we feel the warmth moving over to let in the cold of the coming winter, the leaves turn brown and die. The natural world can almost come to a standstill. But as we know, as the year continues, the warmth will return, and the leaves will grow again. New life returns. So too can our lives mirror the seasons.

Some dying and risings seasons, such as the death of a loved one or the birth of child, are apparent. Sometimes our season might happen in a day, a week, a year or even longer. Read on...

A dying moment may be an argument with a friend or family member, as much as we may feel angry and upset about the situation, the rising moment comes when we go to that person and ask for forgiveness to reconcile the relationship.

There may be an area of your life where you see a need that causes you concern and you are unsure of what could be done. Social justice issues are an example of this. This helplessness can be seen as a dying. Rising from these situations may require being brave and courageous and getting involved. Stepping up to make a change.

You might have a busy day and are rushing around but notice that someone needs your help. This dying moment would require you to stop and give them your time and attention. The rising moment would be making the person feel heard through your gift of listening and friendship. Sometimes we need to make space for others. In helping and having compassion for others in their dying and rising moments in life, we can often then see and appreciate our dying and rising moments more clearly.

So, in a nutshell. Jesus has shown us the way of the Paschal Mystery. How through dying and rising we experience death and new life. It allows us to find hope in our despair, light in our darkness, healing in our pain, joy in our sadness. Like the tree, during autumn and through to winter, it is only the leaves that die. The trunk, branches and roots all stay firm. This is the comfort we have in God. That God will stay firm in our bad times and our good. Christ's own dying and rising has given us a new way to approach life. Jesus said he came so that we might have life and to live it to the full. So, what needs to die and be risen in your life?

10 QUESTIONS ABOUT THE TRIDUUM

WORSHIP AND PRAYER OFFICER FIONA DUQUE ANSWERS SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT THE TRIDUUM BELOW.

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What is the Triduum (aka Easter Long Weekend)?

The Paschal Mystery – aka the life, death and resurrection of Jesus – is the heart of the Church's life. We celebrate this mystery throughout the liturgical year. The Triduum is the most solemn point in the year, shining a light on everything else. The word triduum comes from the Latin meaning 'three days.' The Triduum is one liturgy that has three moments and starts on the evening of Holy Thursday (this year that is the 28 March), goes through Good Friday and finishes at the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. Then the celebration of Easter continues with Sunday Mass and evening prayer.

What happens on Holy Thursday?

On Holy Thursday the faithful come together to celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper in remembrance of the last meal that Jesus had with his disciples. Usually at this Mass the priest washes the feet of members of the community. This ritual of foot washing challenges us to live in accord with Jesus' model of

servant leadership.

What happens on Good Friday?

Good Friday is a solemn day in the life of the Church. The faithful fast and pray in remembrance of Jesus' suffering and death on the cross. The parish church is stripped back, the altar is bare, the tabernacle (the place where the Blessed Sacrament is kept) is empty with the door ajar. There is no Mass. There is a service at 3.00pm, the hour of Jesus' last breath at which people are invited to venerate the cross.

What happens on Holy Saturday?

During daylight hours, Holy Saturday is a time of contemplation, reflection and where the fasting from Good Friday continues. The focus of people's contemplation is Jesus' death and what it means for our world today. Where does Jesus continue to die and suffer today? What is my and our stance in relation to that? But, in the evening, as soon as the sun goes down, well that's another story.

What happens in the evening on Holy Saturday?

As soon as the sun sets on Holy Saturday, the Easter Vigil begins. It is a celebration filled with joy and marked by noble solemnity. It has four parts: the Solemn beginning of the Vigil – when the Paschal Candle is lit - The Liturgy of the Word, The Baptismal Liturgy - during which new members are baptised - and finally the Eucharist. This liturgy is a long one but is one of the most wonderful, beautiful, and significant in the liturgical life of the Church. It celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus.

What happens on Easter Sunday?

People get Easter eggs. Well, yes, that is true, but more importantly the faithful who were unable to participate in the Triduum come together for Mass to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. The community sing joyous hymns of praise. This is the day the faithful have been waiting for all through Lent. Death has lost its sting (cf. 1 Cor 15:55) for all humanity.

Why do people abstain from meat on Good Friday?

The discipline of abstaining and fasting strengthens people's ability to identify and abstain from things in their life that may cause a block in their relationship with God. The emptiness of Good Friday helps Catholics to do this more earnestly. Abstinence and fasting declutters and opens people's hearts to be ready to encounter the risen Christ and be strengthened and renewed in their relationship with God and use that strength and renewal to change the world.

What is the difference between the Triduum and Eastertide?

For the Church, Easter doesn't finish when the long weekend is over. Eastertide (the Easter season) has just started. It goes for 50 days finishing with Pentecost (which means 50 days). So, whilst the secular world moves on from Easter to the next thing, the faithful continue to celebrate new life in the risen Christ. 40 days after Easter the church celebrates the Ascension of Jesus where he is taken up into heaven. We will get back to Pentecost in a 10 Questions to come...

What is the Paschal candle?

The Paschal candle is the symbol of the light of Christ blazing in the light of darkness of our world. It is a key symbol at Easter but also at other times, such as baptisms and funerals. Each year the church gets a new Paschal candle which is lit for the first time at the Easter Vigil – the first sign of the resurrection. The newly lit candle is processed into the darkened Church where the light is spread amongst the people, and this is a sign that they are to take the light of Christ out into the world.

I am not Catholic, so how can I get involved?

There are many ways over the Triduum that you can get involved. Being open to a time of contemplation and reflection on your life can be a great start. Wishing people a happy Easter is a

simple way to acknowledge the faith of Christian friends. Accept invitations to any of the liturgies within the church or any festive meals that your Christian friends may be hosting. Choose your own Triduum adventure...you never know what you might find.

SCHOOLS CELEBRATE HARMONY WEEK

Harmony Week has been an eventful time across our Schools, with many students switching out their regular uniforms for something a little more... orange.

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Harmony Week recognises our diversity and brings together Australians from all different backgrounds. It's a time to celebrate our rich multicultural landscape with over 70 Indigenous languages being spoken, and 49% of the population being born overseas or with immigrant heritage.

As one of the most culturally diverse countries in the world, this is a perfect opportunity to educate children about the importance of the social and cultural diversity that constitutes Australia's fabric and milieu.

The students at [St Joseph's Primary School, Merewether](#) spent the week delving into lessons that highlighted the beauty of diversity. To end the week of celebrations, the School conducted a Liturgy where students shared their newfound knowledge and personal reflections on the week that was.

Students at [St Patrick's Primary School, Wallsend](#) put on a Bollywood display as they celebrated cultural diversity through song and dance.

It was a sea of Orange as [Our Lady of Victories Primary School, Shortland](#) celebrated Harmony Day with a liturgy followed by a food tasting representing the flavours of the world.

[St James' Primary School, Kotara South](#) celebrated cultural diversity and Harmony Day as a community, by coming together for a liturgy, sharing a range of international foods, then making and flying kites in the afternoon. Children from families with Dutch, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Korean and French backgrounds, opened the liturgy by introducing themselves and welcoming the audience in another language.

To view the NBN Coverage of Harmony Day at St Patrick's visit <https://www.nbnnews.com.au>
To learn more about Harmony Week, visit www.harmony.gov.au/

Family Mass
Join Us at 5pm Sat 6th April
60 Yambo St Morisset

St John Vianney Parish Morisset

Those families with children who are completing or are intending to start their Sacramental Program journey should attend.