

Dates for the Diary

Tuesday Friendship Group meet @ 10am
Games Group meet @ 7pm

Wednesday Golf Group meet @ 6.15am
Pick-A-Book @ 9.30am
ACA Group meet @ 6pm

Thursday Revd Josie @ church @ 10am

GAMES GROUP – meets on Tuesday at 7pm to play amongst other games Tri-Ominos and Rummikin. If you've ever wondered what these games are and how to play them get yourself along on Tuesday.

PICK-A-BOOK – is this coming Wednesday from 9.30 – 11.30am. Great opportunity to get along to view a great selection of books which you can take home to read for a gold coin. After you've finished reading them, you're very welcome to bring them back and select some more.

Please pray for: Paul; Keena; Cheryl; Isla; Charlotte; Gavin; Marilyn; Annette; Claire; Eric; Lynn; Dave & family; Bruno; Lafeta; Jennifer; Helen



This week Johnny is with Clency & Caroline Sampson



Happy birthday to Allan Gronow on 15th

Wardens -	Phil Goulding	Phone: 9247 4978
	Judith Smith	Phone: 9246 3745
	Scott Tanoai	Phone: 0425 320 434
Parish Priest – the Reverend Josie Steytler	Phone: 0421 115 438	
Work Days -	Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Sunday	

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Welcome to Worship



Easter 2

12th April 2026

We are a warm-hearted community who are delighted to have you worshipping with us today ...

Our Mission is to

- **Know God personally**
- **Love and respect one another deeply**
- **Disciple and serve those around us**

Sentence: 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.

1 Peter 1:3

Collect of the Day

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.

Today's readings:

Acts 2:14a, 22-32
Psalm 16
1 Peter 1:1-12
John 20:19-31

Next Week:

Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Psalm 116:1-4, 11-18
1 Peter 1:13-25
Luke 24:13-35



Easter 2 - John 20: 19-31

“Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you. And when he said this he breathed upon them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit . . .” Jesus said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe.”

Scene 1 takes place on Easter night. The terrified disciples are huddled together, realising they are marked men because of their association with the criminal Jesus. The Risen Jesus appears in their midst with his greeting of “peace.” John clearly has the Genesis story in mind when the evangelist describes Jesus as “breathing” the Holy Spirit on his disciples: Just as God created man and woman by breathing life into them (Genesis 2: 7), the Risen Christ re-creates humankind by breathing the new life of the Holy Spirit upon the eleven.

In scene 2, the disciples excitedly tell the just-returned Thomas of what they had seen. Thomas responds to the news with understandable scepticism. Thomas had expected the cross (see John 11: 16 and 14: 5) – and no more.

The climactic third scene takes place one week later, with Jesus’ second appearance to the assembled community – this time with Thomas present. He invites Thomas to examine his wounds and to “believe.” Christ’s blessing in response to Thomas’ profession of faith exalts the faith of every Christian of every age who “believes without seeing”; all Christians who embrace the Spirit of the

Risen One possess a faith that is in no way different less than that of the first disciples. The power of the Resurrection transcends time and place.

We trace our roots as parish and faith communities to Easter night when Jesus “breathed” his spirit of peace and reconciliation upon his frightened disciples, transforming them into the new Church.

The “peace” that Christ gives his new Church is not a passive sense of good feeling or the mere absence of conflict. Christ’s peace is hard work: the peace of the Easter Christ is to honour one another as children of the same Father in heaven; the peace of the Easter Christ seeks to build bridges and find solutions rather than assigning blame or extracting punishment; the peace of Christ is centred in relationships that are just, ethical and moral.

The “peace” that the Risen Christ breathes into us at Easter shows us a way out of those tombs in which we bury ourselves; the forgiveness he extends enables us to get beyond the facades we create and the rationalisations we devise to justify them.

Jesus’ entrusting to the disciples the work of forgiveness is what it means to be the church: to accept one another, to affirm one another, to support one another as God has done for us in the Risen Christ. What brought the apostles and first Christians together as a community – unity of heart, missionary witness, prayer, reconciliation and healing – no less powerfully binds us to one another as the Church of today.

While today’s Gospel has been read by the Church as Jesus instituting the Sacrament of Reconciliation, the whole Christian community possesses the power to “forgive” and “retain,” and the grace to “bind” and “loosen.” The Risen Christ gives to every one of us the “power,” the “authority,” the grace to forgive and to bind one another in love.

All of us, at one time or another, experience the doubt and scepticism of Thomas: While we have heard the good news of Jesus’ empty tomb, all of our fears, problems and sorrows prevent us from realising it in our own lives. In raising his beloved Son from the dead, God also raises our spirits to the realisation of the totality and limitlessness of his love for us.

We all have scars from our own Good Fridays that remain long after our own experiences of resurrection. Our “nail marks” remind us that all pain and grief, all ridicule and suffering are transformed into healing and peace in the love of God we experience from others and that we extend them.