



'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'
After saying this he breathed on them and said:
'Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

The true believers in the Risen Christ kept Thomas the Doubter within their circle, rather than expelling him. This gave him a further opportunity to experience the very Real Presence of the Risen Lord and his gift of peace. Companionable patience is our best response to those struggling with belief in even fundamental tenets of the faith.

Thomas saw that the wounds of Christ were still present, not obliterated. Does this suggest that our redeemed bodies will bear the marks of the wounds unjustly inflicted on us? However, they will not be disabling to our personality because they will be incorporated into the resurrection life of Christ. Incredibly, our self-inflicted wounds, i.e. our sins, will be obliterated in the mercy of God.

Pope Francis emphasises that it was in responding to the invitation to touch the wounds of Christ that Thomas understood Christ's true identity, exclaiming: 'My Lord and my God'. It is only by touching the wounds of Christ in many different people in many different situations that we can authentically make the same act of faith.

We could take a moment to pray for the strength to touch the wounds of Christ in others, 'the least'. And we could pray that, wounded as we may be by the vagaries and injustices of life, we may be liberated from their evil effects as the Risen Lord adopts our wounds as his own.

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WELCOME TO ST BRIDGET'S CATHOLIC COMMUNITY GREYTHORN

St Bridget's Greythorn is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

Second Sunday of Easter, Year B

11 April 2021

First Reading Acts 4:32-35

The whole group was united, heart and soul.

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117:2-4. 15-18. 22-24. R. v.1

*(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
his love is everlasting*

or

(R.) Alleluia.

- 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.)
- The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds.
I was punished, I was punished by the Lord,
but not doomed to die. (R.)
- The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
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.)

Second Reading 1 Jn 5:1-6

Anyone begotten by God has already overcome the world.

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is – keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world – our faith.

Who can overcome the world?
Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God;

Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness – since the Spirit is the truth.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 20:29

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

Gospel Jn 20:19-31

After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

ST BRIDGETS CATHOLIC PARISH GREYTHORN
48 Sweyn Street, Balwyn North 3104

Parish Priest: Fr John Salvano Contact the Parish Office of St Anne and St Bede on 9401 6355 Priest in Residence: Fr Kevin Lenehan Parish School: Principal: Robyn Thomson Contact : 9857 6394	Parish Secretary: Mario Landini St Bridget Parish Office: Phone: 9857 6395 Office Hours: Wednesday & Friday 9-3. Email: greythorn@cam.org.au Web: www.stbridgetsgreythorn.org.au Parish Hall Hire: Enquiries – 9857 6395	Child Safety Co-ordinator: Anne Credlin Contact 9848 5389 Sacramental Program: Contact the Parish Office 9401 6355 Refugee Action Group: Chair: Robert Stewart Contact via Parish Office St Vincent De Paul Society President: Anne Hartley Help Line 1800 305 330
NOTE: Baptisms and Weddings by appointment only. Contact the Parish Office for details.		

Mass times at our affiliated Churches for this week:

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
St Bridget					5.00pm	10.00am
St Bede	9.15am		9.15am	9.15am	9.00am 6.00pm	9.00am 11.00am
St Anne		9.30am			5.00pm	10.30am
St Joachim						8.30am
First Friday of each month - St Bridget's @ 8.30am (with Anointing) and St Anne's @ 10.30am						

Please arrive at least 15 minutes before Mass so you have time to register or be assisted.

The government QR coding is now compulsory. Please QR code in each time you attend any of affiliated churches. There will be parishioners on hand to help those who are not familiar with the process or who do not have a smart phone. Please arrive early for Mass so that we may still start on time.

IMPORTANT NOTE – CHANGE OF MASS TIMES:

St Bridget's: Please note that there will no longer be a 5.30pm Mass celebrated on Sundays at St Bridget's Greythorn. Many thanks to those who contributed to the liturgy preparation for this Mass.	St Anne's: There will be no longer a weekly Friday Mass at 9.30am celebrated at St Anne's. Instead there will be a <u>First Friday</u> of the month Mass celebrated at 10.30am.
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Rosters for April 17 & 18

	Saturday @ 5.00pm	Sunday @ 10.00am
Lectors	L Sanders	A Mariadason
Minister of Holy Communion	G Lawson	Sr P Watson

Meditation Group – continues on Wednesday morning at 9.30am – via zoom.

Scripture Reflection – will continue on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm via zoom. Please contact Susie Hii for further information or connection details on susiehii.hc@gmail.com

We Remember in our prayers Maria Trigila whose anniversary occurs at this time: may she rejoice forever with our Risen Lord. We also pray for the sick and housebound; may they come to know the healing power of God's love.

Pax Christi Australia presents 'A Moment to Dream: Pope Francis' *Pathway to a Better Future*. **Sunday 18 April, 2:00pm – 3:30pm.** This webinar explores Pope Francis' 'Laudato Si' through a number of sub-topics by various speakers including Fr Kevin Lenehan and Sr Jan Barnett RSJ.

Further information contact Caesar D' Mello on Ph 04 5191 191 – caesarmdm@gmail.com or for bookings – contact Rita camrita44@gmail.com

Stewardship: Your Stewardship envelopes can now be returned when attending Mass. However for convenience you may continue to do a Direct Credit Transfer to the parish accounts directly online, details are:-

Church Account – for envelopes and donations; Bank NAB, BSB 083-347; Acct. No 64 341 3829 (Please include your name and if applicable your Stewardship Envelope Number for correct recording) Contributions to this account are used for church maintenance and ongoing operational costs.

Presbytery Account – support of the Parish Priest; support of retired and sick priests and housekeeping costs: Bank NAB, BSB 083-347; Acct. No 64 341 5066

Project Compassion – boxes and envelopes can now be returned and placed in the second collection basket. Many thanks for your support.

Reflection: "On the evening of that first day of the week" - The first day of the week doesn't mean Sunday. The first day of the week means the new week, the new era, the new beginning. Everything that is in the past, we lay it aside, for it is the first day of a new life.

"when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews" - The Jews were the enemy, and their leader, Jesus, was crucified, and they were afraid there would be a manhunt for all his disciples, so they hid in the upper room

where they had eaten the Last Supper. And suddenly Jesus came and stood in their midst How did he come? Well, the doors were locked and the windows were closed, but suddenly he was there. And the first thing he says to them is "Peace be with you."

Peace be with you. We use the word peace quite commonly. We think of war and peace, and we think of "Let's be peaceful about this," and "Become a peaceful people," and all the rest of it.

But this has nothing to do with Jesus' peace. Jesus is out to announce a new world.

And when Jesus says, "Peace be with you," he means God, "God be with you," because to have God with you is to have peace. God is our peace. The Father is our peace. Jesus is our peace. The Holy Spirit is our peace.

So what Jesus is saying is that when he says, "Peace be with you," he means, recognise that God Himself is with you, and we are going to begin a new way of looking at the world and addressing the world. And that's what he wants you to know. By this peace, Jesus wants us to come closer to the Father and feel the peace he gives us.

Join us May 2nd at 11.15am

FOCUS

GROUP



**God's Work
Our Hands**

**In the Parish
Hall**

**Light lunch
provided**

**RSPV Sunday
April 25th**

**This is your opportunity to discuss the
future of the strong, vibrant, faith filled
community of St Bridget's.**

**Every parishioner's
voice is important.**

**Transport is available – contact the parish office.
Further information - contact the parish office.**

**To hope in God means that we
have a vision for life that is far beyond
what we ourselves can comfortably manage.
When we hope in ourselves it limits our life
to what we can imagine.
When we hope in God there is no limit.**

