

# SUNDAY MASS

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

*I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.*

**FIRST READING:** Acts 10:34,37-43.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Psalm 118.

## RESPONSE:

*This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice in it and be glad.*

1. Give praise to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures forever. Let the house of Israel say, 'His mercy endures forever.' ✠
2. 'The Lord's right hand has done mighty deeds; his right hand is exalted. The Lord's right hand has done mighty deeds.' I shall not die, I shall live and recount the deeds of the Lord. ✠
3. The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the Lord has this been done, a marvel in our eyes. ✠

**SECOND READING:** Colossians 3:1-4.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

*Alleluia, alleluia. Christ, our Paschal Lamb, has been sacrificed; let us, therefore, celebrate the festival in the Lord. Alleluia.*

**GOSPEL:** John 20:1-9.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

*Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.*

**VIGIL MASS TEXTS:** Romans 6:3-11; Psalm 118 (Alleluia x3); Matthew 28:1-10.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

# Live the Word

### Mon 13 Apr EASTER OCTAVE

Acts 2:14,22-33; Psalm 16; Matthew 28:8-15

Sometimes in an embarrassing situation we do 'damage control' – changing the narrative to avoid responsibility. It may be natural to want to save face, but the cost is steep. Integrity cannot be bought.

### Tue 14 Apr EASTER OCTAVE

Acts 2:36-41; Psalm 33; John 20:11-18

Mary only recognises Jesus when he calls her by name. She recognises the tender sound of his voice. Jesus calls us by name too, but are our hearts open to receive, and do we recognise his voice?

### Wed 15 Apr EASTER OCTAVE

Acts 3:1-10; Psalm 105; Luke 24:13-35

We do not know when we will encounter Jesus 'in disguise'. Even his apostles on the road to Emmaus didn't recognise him. We just need to ready with an open heart at all times.

### Thu 16 Apr EASTER OCTAVE

Acts 3:11-26; Psalm 8; Luke 24:35-48

In order to hear God's word in our hearts we need to prepare our hearts to receive it. Before you hear the Scriptures read at Mass, in a quiet disposition pray that God will give you the grace to truly hear and see.

### Fri 17 Apr EASTER OCTAVE

Acts 4:1-12; Psalm 118; John 21:1-14

How much of Peter's intensity of love for Jesus is reflected in my life? How aware am I of the Lord's presence in times of silent prayer and in the activities of my daily life? Lord, increase my desire for you.

### Sat 18 Apr EASTER OCTAVE

Acts 4:13-21; Psalm 118; Mark 16:9-15

Like the disciples after the crucifixion we too can lose faith, struggle to believe, and forget the miracles that have already been worked in our own lives. Let the light of the resurrection shine in your life today.

### Sun 19 Apr 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 118; John 20:19-31

Sometimes God's timing seems hard to understand. Like Thomas, we can feel isolated and abandoned in our struggles while those around us seem blessed. Lord, help me to see you – and to believe and trust when I can't.

(KEY: SOLEMNITY; FEAST; Memorial; (Optional Memorial)

# Catholic Link



HE IS RISEN!



\* Resurrection of the Lord • Year A  
Divine Office: Week I • 12 April 2020

## GLORIES TO HEAR IT AGAIN

There's a lovely Easter story from the deep south of the United States.

An old African American woman in Alabama passed a religious store whose front window displayed a picture of the Pietà – Michelangelo's statue of the dead Christ in his mother's arms. She put her head round the door and called out to the shop attendant:

"That Jesus in your window? That Jesus lying dead in his mother's arms?"

"Yes."

"He done been killed by da bad mans?"

"Yes."

"Dat poor Jesus! He dead? He dead and gone forever?"

"Well no, he rose again from the dead."

"What? He rise again? You mean he live again?"

"Yes. You must have heard the story of the resurrection before."

Then, with a big smile on her face, the old woman declared:

"Oh yes, I done heard it before. I guess I done heard it a million times before. But I just glories to hear it again!"

To be a Christian is simply to glory in the wonder, the mystery and the majesty of the Resurrection of Christ. As St Paul writes, "if Christ is not risen, then your faith is in vain" (1 Cor 15:17).

Resurrection from death is incomprehensible to human understanding or scientific verification. For Christians, it is a matter of faith, indeed it is the one thing most central to everything that we believe. True, we are one with Jewish and Muslim fellow believers in acknowledging the one God revealed to Abraham. But the incarnation of the Word in the person of Jesus, his death and resurrection,

and the mystery of the Trinity are what set us apart from others. But even that does not go far enough. Christianity is not merely a different set of doctrines that one is required to hold. It is also a way of life.

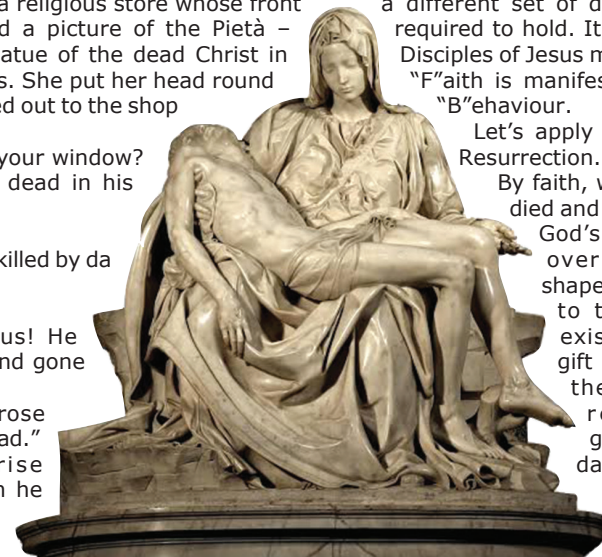
Disciples of Jesus must be "FAB" people. "F"aith is manifest in "A"ttitudes and "B"ehaviour.

Let's apply this principle to the Resurrection.

By faith, we believe that Jesus died and rose again, revealing God's final victory of life over death. This must shape our attitude to life, to the reason for our existence. Life is pure gift of God. Gratitude is the only appropriate response. To be grateful for each new day, to embrace it as an opportunity to "do something beautiful for God" (to quote Mother Teresa), is to have the attitude of

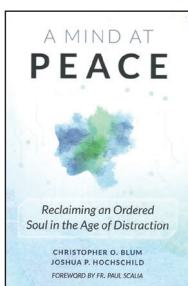
a resurrection person. That in turn needs to be translated into behaviour: to act and behave in a way that is life-giving to others. Caring for those in need, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, sheltering the homeless – is to give them new life; a new chance at life.

Pope John Paul II spoke about developing a "culture of life" in response to our planet's preference for a "culture of death" (think abortion on demand, exploitation of the poor, human trafficking, drug abuse, indeed everything that breathes death). Into this corruption Christians are challenged to "breathe" the new and risen life of Jesus. Resurrection is not just a noun, it's also a verb, in the sense that Christians proclaim and make real the Risen Life of Jesus amidst the ambiguities and tilted structures of our very fallen world... for we just glories to tell it again!



Michelangelo's Pietà

Most of us are far less peaceful and more easily manipulated than in our younger years. We now live in the midst of a digital revolution that leaves us far more distracted and more deeply worried and all too often causes us to lose our mental and spiritual composure that threatens our relationships, our self-knowledge, our prayer, and our ability to make decisions. Dr Christopher Blum and Dr Joshua Hochschild offer this book as a practical guide for recovering interior peace through ordered activity.



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