Reflection.

Reflection on the Gospel-Easter Year C

- Veronica Lawson RSM

It does not always pay to discount someone’s story just because it sounds a bit fantastic. In Luke’s resurrection account, that’s what the “eleven and all the rest” do with the women’s stories of a rolled-back stone, no body, and heavenly interpreters. The notion of resurrection was not in itself extraordinary in a first century Jewish context. The Pharisees believed in a general resurrection, but the idea that God would raise one person from the dead before the time of the general resurrection was quite unthinkable. From the men’s perspective, therefore, the women are talking nonsense. Peter decides to go and confirm their testimony, indicating that he suspects there is some truth in what they have to say. Their account checks out and he goes away in amazement (no apology, just amazement).

This gospel and the whole Easter celebration is about “the one who lives”. Luke’s account leaves no doubt about the death of Jesus: there are witnesses, there is evidence. The same account checks out and he goes away in amazement (no apology, just amazement). They are invited to remember the prophetic words of Jesus: “He is not here, but has been raised.”

We turn briefly to the reading from John’s gospel for Easter Sunday morning. Mention of “the first day of the week while it was still dark” evokes the first day of creation and God’s word bringing light. The two angels guarding the tomb call to mind the heavenly creatures who barred the way to the tree of life in the Genesis garden story. The biblical story has come full circle, from creation to resurrection and new creation.

We take time at Easter to re-member, re-enact, and re-tell these originating stories of our tradition, to dramatize and celebrate in solemn ritual what we celebrate in lower key every Sunday of the year. In our liturgical re-telling, all the power of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus is present to us and to our world.

Parish News
St. Joseph's and St Anthony's
Bracken Ridge and Bald Hills

Resurrection faith is a commitment to life. In these times of planetary uncertainty, a commitment to life includes taking seriously the findings of reputable climate change scientists who no doubt sometimes feel a bit like the women of the gospel whose message was discounted. Resurrection faith invites us to live simply so that all may simply live.

Parish Priest: Fr. Gerry Hefferan Ph: 3269 0446.
Safeguarding Children & Vulnerable Adults Representative: Clare Kennedy.
Pastoral Coordinator: Margaret Halpin
Sacramental Coordinator: Helen Hickey
School: 30 Eldorado St, Bracken Ridge. Principal: Mr. Gary Creevey. Ph: 3261 2858.
St. John Fisher College: John Fisher Drive, Bracken Ridge. Principal: Ms. Catherine Galvin, 3269 8188.
Parish Office: Bronwyn Venzke, bridge@bne.catholic.net.au Ph: 3261 3670. Monday, Tuesday & Friday mornings.
St Vincent de Paul: Jeff Walsh
Parish Care Group: Marcia Caruso
Youth Leader: Emma Beach
Hospitality Group: June and Keith De Broughe, Newsletter: Barbara Masteman (Cut-off time: noon Fridays).

Please leave the area facing the Parish Centre free for the elderly and those among us who have some mobility difficulties and need our sensitivity with parking even if it appears the area is not being used.

We acknowledge the Turrbal people, the traditional custodians on whose land we worship.
Our prayers matter.
Pray for Peace. Let us all ‘Pray@8’. Pray@8 cards are available at the doors of the Church. Please take one for yourself and one to give away. “Loving God. Let your gentle presence settle over our troubled lands. Teach us to walk in the way of your peace. Amen.”

Anzac Day.
Wednesday, 24/4. Mass at 9am.

Children’s Liturgy.
No Children’s Liturgy during the School holidays. Recommencing 28/4 for Prep to Year 3 students. Held in the Parish Centre during the Liturgy of the Word at the 9am. Mass. Rostered Angela Keats. Enq. Barbara

Kindy Liturgy.
No Kindy Liturgy during the School holidays. Sessions will be announced at the commencement of the 9am. Mass. Our 3, 4 & 5 year olds are invited to join us in the Parish Centre during the Liturgy of the Word. Enq. Margaret

We Pray God’s Healing touch and love.
For all those who are sick and for those who care for them.
To have family/friends included in our newsletter, please contact Barbara

Condolence.
Our prayers and thoughts are with those who have recently lost loved ones. Recently Deceased:

Memorial:
All our deceased family members and friends.

Volunteers and Blue Cards.
Parish Volunteer Forms and Archdiocesan ‘Code of Ethical Behaviour’ forms are available for volunteers to sign. Please collect these forms from Bronwyn at the Office, Terry or Margaret.
The Archdiocese of Brisbane has implemented standards of conduct for voluntary church workers to maintain a safe and healthy ministry environment. Our commitment to these standards requires that we conduct background referencing for all persons who intend to engage in voluntary ministry having direct and regular involvement with children, young people and vulnerable adults. This referencing is always kept up to date.

Invitation for Sunday Gospel Reflection - Gatherings leading up to Pentecost.
Please see the Notice board for a list of available times to meet with Fr. Gerry for Sunday Gospel Reflection. Fr. Gerry is inviting all parish groups to be involved, and for any interested parishioners to form a group. Most weeks there is a choice of 2 days, please only choose one day for each week. Enquiries to the Parish Office 3261 3670.

Archdiocesan/Secular Calendar.

Liturgy Roster.

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Liturgies Preparation.
For weekend 4-5/5. Group 6. Enq. Margaret Halpin. All interested parishioners are invited and welcome to attend any of the preparation sessions. Please contact the leader for dates, time and venue.

Leaders/ Proclaimers of the Word.
For next weekend. 27-28/4. Group 5.

Eucharistic Ministers.
For next weekend. Group 5.

Music Ministry.
For next weekend. Group 5.

Servers.
If you would like to serve, please see Fr. Gerry before Mass.

Counters Roster.

Newsletter Photocopying.
Rostered 27/4. Robyn

Prayer Blog.
See Parish Blog updates on our website and on the board near the Sacristy. Parishioners are invited to write and share a short piece on how they pray and share reflections.

Easter Praise Night.
The Light of Jesus Family invites you to its Easter Praise Night on Easter Sunday, 21/4 at Our Lady and St. Dympna’s Parish, Robinson Rd., Aspley from 7pm onwards. Please join us as we continue our celebration of Easter Sunday with praise and worship for the Risen Lord.

St. John Fisher College.

You are welcome to reflect on and submit your response online at www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au. Let us pray for the success of this Council.

Parish Pastoral Council.
If you have any ideas or concerns within the Parish please raise them with your pastoral councillors personally or alternatively by sending an email to bridge@bne.catholic.net.au with the heading “For the attention of the Pastoral Council”.

Nouwen Network.
The Nouwen’s purpose is to support all those suffering from mental illness and their families, across all faith communities. Next gathering

We acknowledge the Turrbal people, the traditional custodians on whose land we worship...
volunteers to mentor locals and build capacity. Overseas Catholic communities are inviting you to immerse yourself for 1 to 2 years. If you have teaching, medical, business, admin or trade skills, you can give opportunity by sharing them with our global family! Come for Global Mission Info: Sunday 19/5 at 3:30pm. Brisbane Square Library Community Meeting Room, 266 George St, Brisbane. Enq. Robert 02 9560 533 or visit palms.org.au/encounters

Volunteer Immersion Programme.
Are you between 18-35 years old and want to make a difference? Join us for the Canossian Australian Volunteer Immersion to Papua New Guinea from 23/6 – 3/7. This will be a formation based opportunity to help out in our Canossian mission in Port Moresby and to immerse yourself in another experience of life. Enq. Sr. Mel on 0484 007 508.

In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop.
25th Anniversary National Pilgrimage. The Sisters of St. Joseph invite you to join the National Pilgrimage, giving you the opportunity to journey to places in Australia made holy by St. Mary MacKillop. The Pilgrimage commences in Melbourne 22/10, visiting Penola, Adelaide and other significant places, and concludes in Sydney 2/11. Cost $3,575 – $4,390 (twin share) depending on capital city of departure (Australia or New Zealand). Single supplement for all areas $685 pp. For a brochure, application form or further information email national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au or call Sr. Therese on 0417 683 123, or Sr. Anne on 02 8912 4818.

Pilgrimage.
Journey with St. Paul as you relive the Acts of the Apostles and the various letters of the New Testament. Explore Greece and Greek islands in this 14-day pilgrimage. Follow St Paul’s journey through land and sea. Encounter Greece’s beauty on the 3 night cruise across the Greek islands. Tour the ancient city of Corinth that inspired many of St Paul’s letters. Marvel at the Byzantine monastery Hosios Loukas. See the House of Virgin Mary & Ancient Ephesus, and much more…. DEPARTURE: 1/10. Enq. 03 8939 6615 or pilgrimage@magholidays.com

Become a Prison Chaplain.
Catholic men and women provide Pastoral Care to prisoners in the eleven Correctional Centres in the Archdiocese of Brisbane. Centacare currently seeks expressions of interests from men and women who would be interested to know more about the work of chaplains in the Correctional Centre this at Woodford. Chaplains visit Woodford as part of the Catholic team every Friday. There is a brochure available in your church with more details. Training is provided and travel expenses reimbursed. It’s a great way to make a real difference to someone’s life through the Christian ministry of pastoral care, making known the love God has all for people. If you would like to discuss this role and its suitability for you, please call: Judy Norris, Director, Centacare Pastoral Ministries on 33243193. A reference from your Parish Priest is required along with all Archdiocesan safeguarding compliance requirements including Blue Card and police check.

St. Therese & St. Anthony Parish –

The Village.
(A Parish Mothers’ Group). Commencing Friday, 3/5 at 10am. in the Parish Centre. The aim is to share wisdom, pray and support each other while having a coffee. Anyone with a baby under one is welcome. Enq. Emma Beach

Position Vacant.
An event Coordinator for a full-time position at St. Stephen’s Cathedral. 37.5 hours per week. Thursday to Monday. Applications close Fri. 26/4. For further details visit the Archdiocese of Brisbane Website: https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/ and go to careers. The Archdiocese of Brisbane has standards of conduct for employees and volunteers to maintain a safe and healthy environment. Our commitment to these standards requires that we conduct background referencing for all persons who will engage in direct and regular involvement with children, young people and/or vulnerable adults.

Mary MacKillop College.
Kedron. Open Day. Sun. 19/5. 10am. – 1pm. For further details visit www.mmc.qld.edu.au

Queensland Churches Together.
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. From the second till the ninth of June. Ecumenical Seminar. At the James Byrne Centre, Toowomba. 2/5. All welcome.

Delamore Retirement Community.
Kedron. Call 3357 7028 to arrange a tour of the facilities.

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Our Parish Family—Sister Parish with Blackall-Tambo Parish in the Diocese of Rockhampton & supporting South Sudan—Patroness St Josephine Bakhita

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QUICK REFERENCE ...  

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Training.
Watch this spot for forthcoming dates.

Enq. Terry Tolhurst

SVDP
Meetings are held on the first Sunday of each month after 9am Mass. Enq Jeff Walsh

St Joseph’s Craft Group
Our Craft Group meets on the 3rd Monday of every month after the 9am Mass 9.30-11.30am.
Next gathering Monday 15/4.
Enq Jan or Jan

Our Parish Newsletter online
http://www.stjosephsbrackenridge.com/parishnewsletter.html

Friday Night Prayer Vigils
Quiet prayer and reflection in the Church.
7-8pm. For the Fridays of Lent we will focus on the Stations of the Cross.
All welcome

@BNEArchdiocese Mobile App.
Archbishop Mark’s Homilies, Mass times, News, events. Enq. brisbanecatholic.org.au

Youth Groups
BLITZ:-
Next gathering on Sunday 5/5 in the Parish Centre from 4.30 -6pm. All students Years 4 – 6 welcome. Gold coin donation.
Enq Emma Beach

ROCK:
Next meeting 28/5 in the Parish Centre from 5 – 7pm. All students between Grades 7 -12 are welcome.
Enq Emma Beach

SALT:-
Young Adults Group (Ages: 18 to 30). All welcome. Enq. Jess

Ladies’ Prayer Group
Held each Wednesday morning in the Church, from 9.30 – 10.30am. This is followed by tea or coffee in the Parish Centre. All most welcome to join us. Enq. Margaret

Parish Seniors’ Group.
This Group meets in the Parish Centre after the 9am Mass on the first Tuesday of each month. Enq. and/or transport: Peter and Margaret Guy


Giving
Our Parish takes up one collection for the support of our priest, parish and contribution to the Archdiocese. It is taken up before the offertory. Current number of Envelope Givers: 60. Current number of Direct Debit Givers: 96. Thank you for your giving from last weekend:-

- Envelopes $606.
- Direct Debit $1702.
- Loose $1394.
- Total $3702.

Budgeted Weekly Target: $3404.
Average – Week 15. $3276.

Should you wish to donate directly to the parish (via your online banking), please use the following account:- BSB064786 Account 005931500 Bracken Ridge/Bald Hills Catholic Parish

Please consider joining our Planned Giving Programme
Name: ........................................
Address: ......................................
Ph: ................................................
Email: .........................................

Please place slip on the collection plate or email Bronwyn Venzke at bridge@bne.catholic.net.au
Many thanks for your support.

The only funeral service owned and operated by the Catholic Church
Ph: (07) 3293 0555  Web: www.holycrossfunerals.com