

'RE-TELLING THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS TODAY' - HOMILY – 15 APRIL 2018
3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER

PASSAGE BEFORE TODAY'S GOSPEL

In the passage before today's Gospel,
from the depths of despair to great joy,
we hear the witness account of
Jesus appearing to two disciples on the road to Emmaus.
After Jesus goes,
they say to each other:

*'Were not our hearts burning within us
while he was talking to us on the road,
while he was opening the scriptures to us?'*

They are witnesses.

WHAT SHOULD THEY DO?

KEEP IT TO THEMSELVES?

SHARE THIS GOOD NEWS WITH OTHERS?

The Gospel continues:

*'That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem;
and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together.
They were saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!'*

The scene is now set.

We know the Emmaus disciples have witnessed to Jesus risen from the dead.

We know that Simon has witnessed to Jesus risen from the dead.

Having been told that by people we would normally trust,

WOULD WE BELIEVE IF JESUS APPEARED TO US?

TODAY'S GOSPEL PASSAGE

Today's Gospel Luke 24:35-48 begins with the Emmaus disciples

*"Then they told what had happened on the road,
and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.'*

WILL THE GATHERED DISCIPLES NOW BELIEVE?

In the midst of this discussion, the Passage continues:

*"While they were talking about this,
Jesus himself stood among them and said to them,
'Peace be with you.'
They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost.
He said to them,
**'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?
Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself.
Touch me and see;
for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.'**
And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.
While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering,
he said to them, **'Have you anything here to eat?'***

*They gave him a piece of broiled fish,
and he took it and ate in their presence.”*

THE ‘GOOD NEWS’ – SHARING THE JOY OF JESUS RISEN

Part of the ‘Good News’ is sharing the joy of Jesus risen.

Another critical part of the ‘Good News’ is understanding the Scriptures.

Today’s Gospel passage continues:

‘Then he said to them,

*‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you
—that everything written about me in the law of Moses,
the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’*

*Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,
and he said to them,*

*‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer
and to rise from the dead on the third day,
and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed
in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.
You are witnesses of these things.’”*

HOW WE UNDERSTAND THE SCRIPTURES AND LIVE THE ‘GOOD NEWS’ OF JESUS?

FOUR WAYS

Let us follow on today’s mandate in four ways.

1. YEAR OF YOUTH

In the area from Sandgate Brighton through to the Brisbane River around Hamilton, in the north-eastern suburbs of Brisbane, our nine parishes will share the excitement of the Good News of Jesus on **Saturday July 28th** with secondary school aged young people and young adults aged 18 to 30.

There will be three presenters, chosen by young adults who are organizing the day.

Further details for the morning and afternoon will be published soon on social media.

2. TWILIGHT REFLECTION

On **Sunday July 22nd, from 4pm – 7pm**

you are invited to share the Good News in a twilight reflection.

Our presenter will be Dr. Maeve Heaney from ACU and the Seminary.

Further details will be provided.

3. 175th ANNIVERSARY STRADBROKE MISSION & THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN SE Queensland

Before these special occasions, Cleveland Parish celebrates

an anniversary on **Sunday 27th May 9am Mass at Dunwich** on Stradbroke Island.

- The anniversary of the first Catholic Aboriginal Mission in Australia in May 1843 at Dunwich. Four Passionist Priests served there.
- The anniversary of the Catholic Church in south-east Queensland with the arrival of Bishop Polding of Sydney on his pastoral visits south-east Queensland in May and early June 1843 and of two priests appointed to Brisbane in December 1843.

4. REJOICE & BE GLAD ~ GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE

Before these three events above, we have the opportunity last week and this week to grow in holiness as we reflect

on the **Apostolic Exhortation of Pope Francis 'Rejoice and Be Glad'**.

Released last Monday.

Beginning last Tuesday on our Parish Facebook,
for two weeks we have daily quotes from this inspiring document.

You are invited to take the time to read and pray about this document.

It is a slow read as it takes us on an inner journey.

May God bless you on this journey.

Fr Gerry

[Readings: <http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/041518.cfm>]

[Parish Facebook: <http://bit.ly/parishFacebook15042018>]

[#RejoiceandBeGlad](#) [#GaudeteEtExsultate](#) [#OPYOE2018](#)

Some parishioners and friends, not on Facebook, have missed out on the daily quotes.

They will be made available shortly on <http://bit.ly/WebsiteRejoiceBeGlad>

GOSPEL OF LUKE

Jesus himself stood among them and
said to them,
'PEACE BE WITH YOU'

"Part of the 'Good News' is sharing the joy of Jesus risen."
Fr. Gerry

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