

**Please Pray for**

**OUR SICK** - Elvie William, Evelyn Holmes, Andrea, Mark, Andrew, Denise, Emma, Mary Morgan, Kara Kennedy, Riley Kemp, Magie and Ray Cullen.

**RECENTLY DECEASED** - Jake Webb.

**REMEMBRANCE** - Teresa Duffy, Anthony Cappiello, Les Bennett, Rona Crannitch, M.C. John, Peter Watson, Mathieu Zwaan, Patricia Luscombe, Glen Santineer.

Child Safe Standards **Safeguarding Children and Young People:**  
Enquires /Complaints: 0426 211 572  
**Policies:**  
<https://www.frankstoncatholic.com.au/sfx/policies/>  
**If you see something, say something**

**St John's**  
9789 9794  
Principal  
Derek Bruitzman

**John Paul College**  
9784 0200  
Principal  
John Visentin

**St Augustine's**  
9781 3007  
Principal  
Carrie Rodda

**St Francis Xavier**  
9783 3424  
Principal  
Stephen Peart

**Easter Sunday - 17 April 2022**



**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH**  
60 Davey Street, Frankston 3199

**ST. JOHN the EVANGELIST PARISH**  
20 Coral Street, Frankston East 3199

**Parish Priest:** Fr Chinua Okeke CSSp  
**Assistant Priest:** Fr Jude Agorchukwu CSSp  
**Deacon:** Rev Kevin Pattison  
**Email:** frankston@cam.org.au  
**Web:** www.frankstoncatholic.com.au

chinua.okeke@cam.org.au  
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kevin.pattison@cam.org.au  
**Phone:** 9783 3484  
**Office Hours :** 9.00am - 4.00pm Mon - Fri

**This Sunday's Readings**  
**1st Reading**  
Acts 10:34, 37-43  
**2nd Reading**  
Col 3:1-4  
**Gospel**  
John 20:1-9

**Next Sunday's Readings**  
**1st Reading**  
Acts 5:12-16  
**2nd Reading**  
Rev 1:9-13, 17-19  
**Gospel**  
John 20:19-31

**Divine Mercy Sunday**  
St Francis Xavier Church will celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday with Confession, Rosary and Mass on the 24 April at 1.30pm.  
**All welcome.**

**OFFERINGS**  
GIVING BACK TO GOD

Thank you for your continued support

St. John the Evangelist	St. Francis Xavier
Presbytery \$595.00	Presbytery \$496.00
Church \$766.00	Church \$1,176.00

**St. Francis Xavier's Programme**  
**Sunday Masses**  
Vigil Mass: 6.00pm Saturday Evening  
Sunday: 8.30am, 10.30am, 5.30pm  
**Weekday Masses**  
1st+3rd Monday of the month, Tuesday to Saturday- 9.15am  
**Liturgy of Word and Communion Service** - 9.15am  
Mondays: 2nd, 4th + 5th Mondays of the month  
**Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Adoration**  
Wednesday before 9.15am Mass, Friday after 9.15am Mass  
1st Friday of month until 10.00pm  
**Reconciliation**  
Saturday 10am & 5.30pm  
**Anointing of the Sick Mass**  
1st Thursday of month 9.15am  
**Rosary**  
Tuesdays before 9.15am Mass and Saturdays after 9.15am Mass

**St. John's Programme**  
**Sunday Masses**  
Vigil Mass: 7.00pm Saturday Evening  
Sunday: 8.30am and 10.00am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Tuesday to Saturday - 9.00am  
**Liturgy of Word and Communion Service**  
Monday - 9.00am  
**Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Adoration**  
Wednesday before 9.00am Mass, Friday after 9.00am Mass  
1st Friday of month until 10.30am  
**Reconciliation**  
Saturday 9.30am & 6.15pm  
**Anointing of the Sick Mass**  
1st Thursday of month 9.00am  
**Rosary**  
Before weekday Mass, (except Wednesday), Saturday at .30am

WE WISH ALL OUR PARISHIONERS  
HAPPY EASTER  
God Bless you  
All  
FR. CHINUA, FR. JUDE & DEACON KEVIN

**St Vincent de Paul Society**  
good works  
If you would like to help give back to the community please contact : **For Donations: 1800 621 349**  
**For Assistance call 9769 6060**  
**SFX Vinnies** Peter Butler: 0410 569 357  
**Meetings** held on 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mon 4.00pm-5.30pm  
**SJE Vinnies** Mary Murtagh: 9781 3520  
**Meetings** held on 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues 10.00am-11.30am

**SYRO MALABAR**  
Regular services :  
**Every Thursday night - 6pm Mass at SFX**  
**First Sunday of month - 5pm Mass at SJE**

**THANK YOU** A Big **Thank you** to all who helped to make the Easter celebrations memorable:

1. Donated the palms/olive branches.
2. Decorated our Church.
3. Working bees.
4. Sacristans.
5. Flower ladies.
6. Members of the Worship team.
7. Readers.

And a huge **thank you** to Paul Stubbs for his generosity of time and effort. **God Bless you all.**

He is Risen!  
Alleluia

www.catholiccompany.com

**Gospel - Easter Vigil**  
**Luke 24:1-12**

On the first day of the week, at the first sign of dawn, the women went to the tomb with the spices they had prepared. They found that the stone had been rolled away from the tomb, but on entering discovered that the body of the Lord Jesus was not there. As they stood there not knowing what to think, two men in brilliant clothes suddenly appeared at their side. Terrified, the women lowered their eyes. But the two men said to them, 'Why look among the dead for someone who is alive? He is not here; he is risen. Remember what he told you when he was still in Galilee: that the Son of Man had to be handed over into the power of sinful men and be crucified, and rise again on the third day?' And they remembered his words. When the women returned from the tomb they told all this to the Eleven and to all the others. The women were Mary of Magdala, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James. The other women with them also told the apostles, but this story of theirs seemed pure nonsense, and they did not believe them. Peter, however, went running to the tomb. He bent down and saw the binding cloths, but nothings else; he then went back home, amazed at what had happened.

**The Gospel of the Lord**  
*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ*

**Gospel - Easter**  
**John 20:1-9**

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

**The Gospel of the Lord.**  
*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*



## Homily, Easter Sunday, Year C - *Christ The Lord Is Risen: Alleluia, Alleluia!*

**Christ is Risen Alleluia!** *Easter is the greatest and the most important feast in the Church. It marks the birthday of our eternal hope. "Easter" literally means "the feast of fresh flowers." We celebrate it with pride and jubilation.*

A couple of weeks ago we started what looked like a hopeless, and an endless journey. Today we have come to the end of that journey. Today is the greatest of all Sundays in the Christian calendar because of the newness of life that it brings. Today a new epoch has completely began. This is because the historical Jesus, who suffered, was crucified, died and was buried has now been glorified.

In the words of the Catechism of the Catholic Church: *"The Resurrection of Jesus is the crowning truth of our Faith in Christ, a Faith believed and lived as the central truth by the first Christian community; handed on as fundamental by Tradition; established by the documents of the New Testament; and preached as an essential part of the Paschal mystery along with the cross..."* (CCC # 638).

The short story is that Christ has risen in fulfillment of his promise: *"I will rise on the third day."* The battle is over, mission accomplished. There is no controversy because Jesus is Lord! Today, we celebrate the triumph of good over evil, of light over darkness, and of peace over chaos. We celebrate hope, patience and the fulfillment of God's Promise to his people. We also celebrate the uniqueness of our religion, the Resurrection of our Lord. Through his Resurrection, Jesus affirms that he is the Lord of the living and the dead. If Jesus Christ did not rise from the dead, then the Church is a fraud and Faith is a sham. But if Jesus really did rise from the dead, his message is true!

One question that we must ask ourselves this Easter Sunday is: *Did I resurrect with Christ this Easter?* Today's Gospel tells us that Jesus left the linen cloths in the grave. In other words he did not cling to any "worldly" thing or allowed them to pull him down. If we must rise with Christ, we must equally be ready to detach ourselves from all unnecessary things that pull us down spiritually. Through our Lenten observances we died with Christ, so let us rise with him through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Like Paul, today our song should be that of thanksgiving to God: *"We bless God the Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ who in his great mercy has given us a new birth...by raising Jesus Christ from the dead"*. This is because Christ's death was our death and his Resurrection is ours too. Therefore, his joy, glory and triumph are equally ours.

As Christ's disciples, our testimony from today shall be: *"I saw Christ's glory as he rose... Christ my hope has risen...!"* Like the apostles, our duty is to spread the good news of the Lord's Resurrection to the entire world. Like Peter in today's first Reading we must say to all people: *"Now we are those witnesses...we eat and drank with Him after his resurrection..."*

Having been raised with Christ, we must act like the living and not the dead. We must seek the things of light, things that are noble and things that glorify God. We must seek heavenly things by living like citizens of heaven rather than "earth bound spirits." This is what Paul calls us to do today when he says: *"Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is..."* In other words, we must live the type of life which is worthy of one who has risen and reigns with Christ.

The Church reminds us that Easter, the feast of the Resurrection, gives us the joyful message that we are a "Resurrection People." This means that we are not supposed to lie buried in the tomb of our sins, evil habits, and dangerous addictions. It gives us the Good News that no tomb can hold us down any longer – not the tomb of despair, discouragement, doubt, or death itself. Instead, we are expected to live a joyful and peaceful life, constantly experiencing the real Presence of the Risen Lord in all the events of our lives. ***"This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad."*** (Ps 118:24).

The living Presence of the Risen Lord gives us lasting peace and celestial joy in the face of the boredom, suffering, pain, and tensions of our day-to-day life. For the true Christian, every day must be an Easter Day, lived joyfully in the close company of the Risen Lord.

*Next* —————>

We are called to be transparent Christians showing others through our lives of love, mercy, compassion, and self-sacrificing service that the Risen Jesus is living in our hearts.

Easter reminds us that every Good Friday in our lives will have an Easter Sunday, and that Jesus will let us share the power of his Resurrection. Each time we display our love of others, we share in the Resurrection. Each time we face a betrayal of trust and, with God's grace, forgive the betrayer and forget the offense, we share in the Resurrection of Jesus. Each time we fail in our attempts to ward off temptations - but keep on trying to overcome them - we share in the Resurrection. Each time we continue to hope - even when our hope seems unanswered - we share in the power of Jesus' Resurrection. In short, the message of Easter is that nothing can destroy us – not pain, sin, rejection, betrayal, or death. Because Christ has conquered all these, we, too, can conquer them - if we put our Faith and trust in Him.

Finally, I once watched a local football match at a school playing ground. As I sat down, I asked one of the boys what the score was. With a smile, he replied: 'They are leading us 3-0 down.' I said; 'Really! I have to say you don't look discouraged.' 'Discouraged?' the boy asked with a puzzled look. 'Why should I be discouraged when the referee has not blown the final whistle? I have confidence in the team and the managers; we shall definitely overcome.' Truly, the match ended 6-3 in favor of the boy's team. He waved at me gently with a beautiful smile as he left. I was amazed, mouth wide open; such confidence; such beautiful faith. As I got back home that night, his question kept coming back to me: "Why should I be discouraged when the referee has not blown the final whistle?"

**LIFE IS LIKE A GAME.** Why should you be discouraged when the Almighty God is your Manager? Why should you be discouraged when there is still life? Why should you be discouraged when your final whistle has not sounded? The truth is that many people blow the final whistle themselves, but as long as there is life, nothing is impossible for God and it is never too late for you, for **CHRIST is RISEN**. Don't blow the whistle yourself for **CHRIST is ALIVE**. **Be encouraged! Don't give up!**

### **Happy Easter!**

*Fr. Chinua and I, with hearts full of joy and appreciation for all your prayers and support, wish you all a very joyful and **Happy Easter** with God's choicest Blessings. ...*

*Fr. Jude CSSp.*

## **Easter Message** **Easter 2022: The Eternal Dawn**

Friends,

It is the dawn of a new creation that greets those who go out to meet the Lord.

As the gospels tell us: "Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb..."

Wrapped in grief and shock, Mary had come to attend to the dead body of Jesus. Dutifully and lovingly, she made her way through the remnants of the night to honour the one she loved.

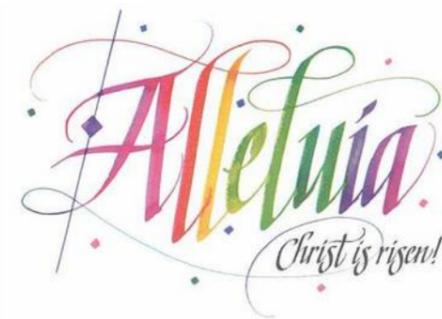
What she encountered there was the dawn of the risen Jesus – a light that broke into her darkened life. As Mary reached the darkened tomb, she saw the emerging Dawn, and she believed.

The light of dawn also emerges for us, as the dark of night gives way to a new day. In the dawning light of the risen Jesus we, too, recognise a world reborn. He has patiently and lovingly waited for our eyes to see and our hearts to reach out to him.

For Christ is the dawn into our lives; he is the light of our new day.

May we emerge from our own shadows, step forward, and hasten to the Dawn of his resurrection and our re-creation.

**Easter blessings to you all.**



**Archbishop Peter A Comensoli**