

St Joseph's Catholic Parish

Embracing the communities of
Cherbourg, Durong, Goomeri,
Murgon, Proston and Wondai

2nd Sunday of Easter
Year B, 11 April, 2021



Unity in Diversity ... being one in Christ through Baptism!

Brighter than the Fuller's Loom

The Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus can be overwhelming. There is so much in these events that it can be hard to hold them in tension – life, death, resurrection. The immensity of these events are far from our comprehension. At best we can hold them in our imaginations as manifestations of God's love for us. What does resurrection look like?

After two thousand years most of us imagine the resurrection through the prism of a picture or film we have seen. In art humans have tried to portray the Resurrection various ways. The main medium has been light. With bright lights and fuzzy Jesus's artists make Jesus unseeable or at least unclear. The focus is usual on those around Jesus rather than him. I think this is the image because we tend to bring together the image we have of Jesus in his glory at the Transfiguration with the Resurrection.

If we still have no firm image in our minds, how do we think the disciples of Jesus expected the Resurrected Jesus to look? We were told last week that the disciples were forewarned that Jesus had risen, but what did that mean in their perception of the world. Remember this is the first time anyone had ever used the term Resurrection.

When we feel lost or overwhelmed by life and events around us, one effective way to handle the loss of control is to deflect. In today's scripture our deflection usually lands on Thomas – 'Doubting Thomas'. We say to ourselves, "He was an apostle and he didn't get it."

We can be condescending or even contemptuous of the one who, 'doubted'. But in reality wasn't he just being human? The others were telling him of an event he missed sharing and he reacts. I think poor Thomas was from the South Burnett. Once again he was late for Mass and missed something important.

In Thomas our fears, doubts and sense of being overwhelmed are manifested. To this confusion and 'doubt' what is Jesus's reaction? Compassion. Jesus does not condemn Thomas or remonstrate with him. Instead Jesus helps Thomas to overcome his fear and accept the depth of God's love.

Easter Liturgies

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Easter liturgies. Holy Week and the Triduum of Easter are an amazing time in the calendar of our parish and I wish to thank everyone who was involved and assisted with our commemorations and celebrations. I would especially like to thank Edith and all our musicians and choir members who lifted up our celebrations. Thank you.

Fr Bryan Pipins SJ



Divine Mercy Sunday



Masses Times – this week

Tuesday, 13 April
Gayndah, noon

Wednesday, 14 April
Wondai, 5.00pm

Thursday, 15 April
Murgon, 5.00pm

Friday, 16 April
Castra, 9.00am

Saturday, 17 April
Proston, 9.00am
Wondai, 5.00pm

Sunday, 18 April
Murgon, 8.00am
Durong, 10.30am
Goomeri, 6.00pm

Today's readings

Acts 4:32-35; 1 John 5:1-6
John 20:19-31

Response:

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
his love is everlasting.

Gospel Acclamation:

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

Next Sunday: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19;
1 John 2:1-5; Luke 24:35-48

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Saint Martin I – 13th April

When Martin I became pope in 649, Constantinople was the capital of the Byzantine empire and the patriarch of Constantinople was the most influential Church leader in the eastern Christian world. The struggles that existed within the Church at that time were magnified by the close cooperation of emperor and patriarch.

A teaching, strongly supported in the East, held that Christ had no human will. Twice, emperors had officially favored this position: Heraclius by publishing a formula of faith, and Constans II by silencing the issue of one or two wills in Christ.

Shortly after assuming the office of the papacy—which he did without first being confirmed by the emperor—Martin held a council at the Lateran in which the imperial documents were censured, and in which the patriarch of Constantinople and two of his predecessors were condemned. In response, Constans II first tried to turn bishops and people against the pope.

Failing in this and in an attempt to kill the pope, the emperor sent troops to Rome to seize Martin and to bring him back to Constantinople. Already in poor health, Martin offered no resistance, returned with Calliopas, the exarch of Constantinople, and was then submitted to various imprisonments, tortures, and hardships. Although condemned to death and with some of the imposed torture already carried out, Martin was saved from execution by the pleas of a repentant Paul, patriarch of Constantinople, who was himself gravely ill.

Tortures and cruel treatment having taken their toll, Martin died shortly thereafter. He is the last of the early popes to be venerated as a martyr.



RWANDAN GENOCIDE COMMEMORATION

During the Rwandan genocide of 1994, members of the Hutu ethnic majority in the east-central African nation of Rwanda murdered as



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Collection for 4/4/2021

Easter Total.....\$1,684.10

We pray for those who are sick:

Noa van Elswijk; Michael Druce.

✝ If you know anyone in need, please contact Cecily Fry, President, St Vincent de Paul Conference, on 0437 864 667

many as 800,000 people, mostly of the Tutsi minority. Started by Hutu nationalists in the capital of Kigali, the genocide spread throughout the country with shocking speed and brutality, as ordinary citizens were incited by local officials and the Hutu Power government to take up arms against their neighbours. By the time the Tutsi-led Rwandese Patriotic Front gained control of the country through a military offensive in early July, hundreds of thousands of Rwandans were dead and two million refugees (mainly Hutus) fled Rwanda, exacerbating what had already become a full-blown humanitarian crisis.

The **commemoration** will be at Queensland Parliament House, 2A George Street, Brisbane on Saturday, 17 April 2021 from 2.00pm to 5.00pm. Contact RAQ President on 0413 008 343 or the Secretary on 0420 956 060