



# Welcome to the Parish Church of St Stephen

Sunday 14th April 2024

## Third Sunday of Easter

### Services Today

**9.30am** Said Mass

**11:00am** Sung Mass with Sermon

**Hymns: 119: Responsorial Psalm 4: 120/S23: 118: 117**

#### *Chorus*

There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal yourself to us.  
There is a longing in our hearts for love, we only find in your, our God

### 685 Easter 3 / The Third Sunday of Easter

**Introit** O be joyful in God, all ye lands, alleluia; sing praises unto the honour of his Name, alleluia; make his praise to be exceeding glorious, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Psalm** Say unto God, O how wonderful art thou in thy works, O Lord: through the greatness of thy power. Glory be...

**Alleluia** Alleluia. Alleluia. *V.* The disciples knew the Lord Jesus: in the breaking of the bread. Alleluia. *V.* Ought not Christ to have suffered these things: and to have entered into his glory? Alleluia.

**Offertory** Praise the Lord, O my soul; while I live will I praise the Lord: Yea, as long as I have any being, I will sing my praises unto my God, alleluia.

**Communion** O sing unto the Lord, alleluia: sing unto the Lord, and praise his Name; be telling of his salvation from day to day, alleluia, alleluia.

## **Collect**

Almighty Father,  
who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples  
with the sight of the risen Lord:  
give us such knowledge of his presence with us,  
that we may be strengthened and sustained  
by his risen life  
and serve you continually in righteousness and truth;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## **First Reading - Acts Ch3 v12-19**

<sup>12</sup> Peter saw his opportunity and addressed the crowd. "People of Israel," he said, "what is so surprising about this? And why stare at us as though we had made this man walk by our own power or godliness?" <sup>13</sup> For it is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—the God of all our ancestors—who has brought glory to his servant Jesus by doing this. This is the same Jesus whom you handed over and rejected before Pilate, despite Pilate's decision to release him. <sup>14</sup> You rejected this holy, righteous one and instead demanded the release of a murderer. <sup>15</sup> You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. And we are witnesses of this fact! <sup>16</sup> "Through faith in the name of Jesus, this man was healed—and you know how crippled he was before. Faith in Jesus' name has healed him before your very eyes." <sup>17</sup> "Friends, [\[a\]](#) I realize that what you and your leaders did to Jesus was done in ignorance. <sup>18</sup> But God was fulfilling what all the prophets had foretold about the Messiah—that he must suffer these things. <sup>19</sup> Now repent of your sins and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped away.

## **Responsorial Psalm 4: 'It is you, O Lord, who make me dwell in safety'**

## **Second Reading - 1 John Ch3 v1-7**

See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are! But the people who belong to this world don't recognize that we are God's children because they don't know him. <sup>2</sup> Dear friends, we are already God's children, but he has not yet shown us what we will be like when Christ appears. But we do know that we will be like him, for we will see him as he really is. <sup>3</sup> And all who have this eager expectation will keep themselves pure, just as he is pure. <sup>4</sup> Everyone who sins is breaking God's law, for all sin is contrary to the law of God. <sup>5</sup> And you know that Jesus came to take away our sins, and there is no sin in him. <sup>6</sup> Anyone who continues to live in him will not sin. But anyone who keeps on sinning does not know him or understand who he is.

<sup>7</sup> Dear children, don't let anyone deceive you about this: When people do what is right, it shows that they are righteous, even as Christ is righteous.

## Gospel - Luke Ch24 v36b - 48

<sup>36</sup> And just as they were telling about it, Jesus himself was suddenly standing there among them. "Peace be with you," he said. <sup>37</sup> But the whole group was startled and frightened, thinking they were seeing a ghost!

<sup>38</sup> "Why are you frightened?" he asked. "Why are your hearts filled with doubt?" <sup>39</sup> Look at my hands. Look at my feet. You can see that it's really me. Touch me and make sure that I am not a ghost, because ghosts don't have bodies, as you see that I do." <sup>40</sup> As he spoke, he showed them his hands and his feet.

<sup>41</sup> Still they stood there in disbelief, filled with joy and wonder. Then he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup> They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup> and he ate it as they watched.

<sup>44</sup> Then he said, "When I was with you before, I told you that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and in the Psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup> And he said, "Yes, it was written long ago that the Messiah would suffer and die and rise from the dead on the third day. <sup>47</sup> It was also written that this message would be proclaimed in the authority of his name to all the nations, <sup>48</sup> beginning in Jerusalem: 'There is forgiveness of sins for all who repent.' <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of all these things.

## Post Communion

Living God,  
your Son made himself known to his disciples  
in the breaking of bread:  
open the eyes of our faith,  
that we may see him in all his redeeming work;  
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

### **Please remember in your prayers**

Father John Luff, Willa Owen, Lydia Grammer, Brian Garner, Carl Symes, Hugh Lloyd-Jones, David Streek, Jill Stephenson, Bill Rollo, Paulo De Augustino, David Streek, and a Mother with two young children diagnosed with cancer.

## Services for this week

**Monday to Friday 8.00am** - Morning Prayer

**Tuesday 16th April 11.00am** Said Mass

**Saturday 20th April 10.00am** - Coffee and Chat in Church

**Sunday 21st April**  
**The Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**9.30am** Said Mass

**11.00am** Sung Mass with Sermon

### LOOKING AHEAD...

The Church AGM  
will take place after the 11.00am mass on  
Sunday 28th April

Please join us for refreshments

**In the Vestry after the 11am Mass**

*After Mass please put the kneelers back on the shelf. Thank you!*

Deadline for notices for next bulletin – **6.00pm Thursday**

To Fliss or email [fml397026@aol.com](mailto:fml397026@aol.com)

*For his church's Easter program, five-year-old Billy was asked to recite Luke 24:6: "He is not here, he is risen." Despite practicing it several times, when he stood in front of the church, he froze and couldn't remember what to say. The director leaned over and whispered the verse in the little boy's ear. Billy smiled, grabbed the microphone, and confidently proclaimed, "He's not here. He's in prison!"*