

5th April 2026
Easter Sunday
Celebrated by
Fr. George Debincat

Christ is Risen – Christos Anesti

First Reading Acts 10:34,37-43

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

117(118):1-2,16-17,22-23

(R) This day was made by the Lord: we rejoice and are glad.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.' (R)

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.
I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds. (R)

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.(R)



♪ Hymns for Today ♪

322 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

517 O Bread of Heaven

728 Thine Be The Glory

Second Reading Colossians 3:1-4

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

The Word of the Lord

This Easter Sunday we welcome into our community, by the Sacrament of Baptism, baby Marisa, daughter of Victor and Sylvia Fernandez . There will be a celebration party after mass to which you are all invited.

Memorial Acclamation
We proclaim your Death, O Lord
and profess your Resurrection
until you come again

We Pray For
Those in our community and all our relatives and friends who need our prayers especially **Monique St. Georges** recovered from an operation as well as those who have died

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia give thanks to the risen Lord
Alleluia, Alleluia give praise to His Name.

Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed:
let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord.

Alleluia, Alleluia give thanks to the risen Lord
Alleluia, Alleluia give praise to His Name.

Gospel

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

Communion reflection

From St Augustine
The passion of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is the hope of glory and a lesson in patience. It is a great thing that we are promised by the Lord, but far greater is what has already been done for us, and which we now commemorate..... When Christ has already given us the gift of his death, who is to doubt that he will give the saints the gift of his own life? Why does our human frailty hesitate to believe that mankind will one day live with God? He had no power of himself to die for us: he had to take from us our mortal flesh. This was the way in which, though immortal, he was able to die; the way in which he chose to give life to mortal men: he would first share with us, and then enable us to share with him. Of ourselves we had no power to live, nor did he of himself have the power to die. In other words, he performed the most wonderful exchange with us. Through us, he died; through him, we shall live. The death of the Lord our God should not be a cause of shame for us; rather, it should be our greatest hope, our greatest glory. In taking upon himself the death that he found in us, he has most faithfully promised to give us life in him, such as we cannot have of ourselves.



After listening to today's readings let us now consider the following :

Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

There are several accounts in the various gospels of the discovery of the empty tomb. The slight variations between them show all the marks of oral tradition, for in genuine oral tradition each 'performance' is different. Different people tell the story slightly differently, stressing different aspects. This story in John's Gospel stresses the proof that the tomb really was empty, for the apostles examine the evidence carefully. Other accounts concentrate less on the evidence and more on the message, that the disciples will meet the Risen Lord in Galilee. It was important to establish that the tomb was empty, to prevent the charge that the meetings with the Risen Christ were simply ghost-appearance accounts. Apart from the proof that this was a real, living and bodily person, these encounters stress two factors, the power of the Risen Christ and the commission given to the disciples. The disciples are to go out into the whole world and spread the message, always accompanied by and strengthened by Christ himself. In this account Simon Peter is clearly the senior, the authority figure, to whom the Beloved Disciple defers. But it is the love of the Beloved Disciple which immediately brings Peter to faith. If Jesus were not risen, how would my life be different? What is the best way in which I can 'proclaim the Good News' of Christ's resurrection?

And of Fr. Robert Draper

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord Acts 10.34, 37-43 Psalm 117 Colossians 3.1-4 John 20.1-9

Today's gospel can seem strange to many – there is no great drama presented about the Resurrection. The evidence is sparse and consists of a few cloths and the way they are displayed. Both Peter and John see the (limited) evidence, but John is the one who understands. John is assumed to be the disciple who is always described as 'the beloved disciple'. That can be the key to this passage; John is able to interpret the simple sign of burial cloths, because his love has given him a deeper insight into the reality of the one he knew and loved. The evidence for the presence of Jesus among us is always based on his love for humanity and the love which that enables to be reciprocated. It is worth noting that in his great address to Cornelius and his household, Peter puts such a strong emphasis on the fact that he and those with him are personal witnesses to the Risen Christ, 'we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.' That becomes a common feature of the accounts of the appearances of Jesus after the Resurrection. The Lord is encountered and shares food with his disciples. Christianity is ultimately not a code of life or set of rules or a worldview, but a relationship with the Risen Lord – with one who is known and encountered. Christians are those who know Jesus Christ, and as is done every time the Eucharist is celebrated, 'we have eaten and drunk with him'.

Eucharistic Ministers

05-Apr-26	Mary Newman	Monique Sant Georges
12-Apr-26	Iain Dando	Ben Miltenburg
19-Apr-26	David Felice Pace	Mary Newman
26-Apr-26	Johanna Marks	Ben Miltenburg
03-May-26	Monique Sant Georges	Iain Dando

Readers Rota – If you would like to join please contact Johanna on johannamarks3@gmail.com

Angelika Camilleri &

05-Apr Readings	Sylvia Fernandes	Prayers	Baptismal
12-Apr Readings	John Attard	Prayers	Johanna Marks
19-Apr Readings	Johanna Marks	Prayers	Mary Newman
26-Apr Readings	Mary Newman	Prayers	Stella Woodgate
03-May Readings	Stella Woodgate	Prayers	Rachel Holland
10-May Readings	Rachel Holland	Prayers	Chris Holland

Pope Leo XIV's prayer intention for April

For priests in crisis . Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

DIARY

Friday 3 April Pilgrimage to visit 7 churches at 9am. Bus available at Bus Terminal in Victoria. Return at 12.30pm. €3 donation.

9th April 2026 3.30 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in English at Ghasri church followed by refreshments.

Sunday 12 April from 4.00 pm
Feast of Divine Mercy

There will be a special celebration in English at Ghasri Parish Church. The service will include Adoration, Hymns, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, and the Litany to Divine Mercy. All welcome. Books and leaflets of the Divine Mercy are available outside the chapel for those who wish to participate in the Novena which commences on Good Friday

Our collections over the Easter period will be our grateful thanks to our priests who serve us so well. Please be generous



Money Matters
The collection for last Sunday will be our gift to our hard working priests.

Chaplain Fr. Loretu Tabone
21561824/99001829

Email: 32northnadur@gmail.com
Council Members:

John & Veronica Grech 21551180
David Felice Pace 79560051
Marcel & Sylvia Grech-Marguerat 77051050
Johanna Marks 99950596
Mary Newman 77047872

Would you like to join us on the Council and help in running our community?

Contact johannamarks3@gmail.com

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

2nd April Maundy Thursday Washing of feet 5.00 pm

Readings: Vince Vella

Ministers: Ben Miltenberg & Johanna Marks

Washing of feet: 1. Vince Vella

2. Ben Miltenberg

3. Angelica Camilleri

4. John Grech

5. Monique St Georges

Others welcome

Hymns

578 One Bread, One Body

730 This Is My Body

813 Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

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3rd April Good Friday 3.00 pm

Readings: Mary Newman

Ministers: Monique St. Georges & Ben Miltenberg

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4th April Easter Vigil 8.00 pm

Readings: 1. Johanna Marks

2. Iain Dando

3. Ben Miltenberg

4. Andy Young

5. Johanna Marks

6. Iain Dando

7. Andy Young

Ministers: Ben Miltenberg & Iain Dando

Hymns: 703 The Light of Christ (entry)

517 O Bread of Heaven (Offertory)

728 Thine Be The Glory (Recessional)

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5th April Easter Sunday 10.00 am

See newsletter

HAPPY EASTER