PARISH PRIEST

Fr. Gerard Prunty

PARISH OFFICES St. Thomas' Terang

P.O. Box 25 Terang. 3264 Ph: 5592 1195 Fax: 5592 2308 terang@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Clare Neal "We are a Child Safe Parish"

St. Colman's Mortlake St Joseph's Caramut

P.O. Box 25 Terang 3264 Ph: 5592 1195 terang@ballarat.catholic.org.au

SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

St. Thomas' Terang

Mr. Ben van de Camp Ph 5592 1925

St. Colman's Mortlake

Mr. Tim Bourke Ph 5599 2285

Mercy Regional College

Ms Sharon Gillett Ph 5593 2011

St. Thomas the Apostle and St. Colman's Parishes acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians of this land the Kirrae Wuurong people.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

ST THOMAS' TERANG

Saturday 6.00 pm Sunday 10.30 am

ST COLMAN'S MORTLAKE

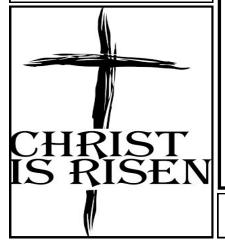
<u>Sunday</u>

9.00 am

Next Weeks Readings:

18th & 19th April 2020

1st read: Acts 2: 42-47 **2nd read:** 1 Pet 1: 3-9 **Gospel:** Jn 20: 19-31



ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE TERANG and ST. COLMAN'S MORTLAKE PARISH BULLETIN

To access this bulletin online go to www.ballarat.catholic.org.au and select either Terang or Mortlake Parish.

Easter Sunday

11th & 12th April 2020

RECENT DEATHS: Jim Ryan

ANNIVERSARIES: Mick Quinn, Bernadette Fitzgibbon,

Sr Margaret Houlihan, Phyllis Parsons

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Chris Delaney, Patricia Moloney

(Names placed on the sick list will remain for 3 weeks unless otherwise notified)

SUPPORTING OUR PARISHES:

Thank you for your ongoing support of our Parishes

EASTER HOPE

In these times that we have never experienced before, the need for hope is very real for us all. We will not celebrate the Easter ceremonies the way we always have but still the events of Holy Week reminds us that our God came to share in our human existence in all things.

Holy week, especially Good Friday tell us God shares in our anxiety, misunderstanding, suffering and of course death itself. But the end result is the resurrection and new life.

The reality is, Easter Hope for us all.

While not able to do a lot of things we usually do at Easter, especially the Easter ceremonies together this year; it doesn't mean their meaning and purpose doesn't affect our lives. Jesus Christ still died and rose for us all. May, through our prayer on our own or with family, bring to us all the Hope of Easter joy and resurrection come to us, our families, communities and our world.

The Good Friday ceremonies (3pm) and Easter Sunday Mass (10:30am will be live on Channel 7 from St Mary's Sydney. Local Easter ceremonies from St Patrick's Camperdown, St Joseph's Warrnambool and others are online through YouTube or Facebook.

Notices need to be at St. Thomas' Parish Office by 10.00 am next Friday

Reflection on the Gospel-Easter Sunday Year A

(Matthew 28:1-10)

-Veronica Lawson RSM

Easter invites us to celebrate life in its fullest sense. It is anything but easy to celebrate life, however, when tens of thousands in the Earth community are facing death, when hundreds of thousands are ill and countless others are struggling to put food on their tables. Resurrection faith calls us to be fearless in our support of those most deeply affected.

A faith-filled man and two faith-filled women prepare Jesus for burial. These three people are fearless in the face of possible reprisals for their support of a "political criminal". Joseph of Arimathea cares for Jesus out of his personal wealth, providing a clean linen cloth and his own newly rock-carved tomb. With his own hands, he performs the burial ritual, lays Jesus' body in the tomb, and rolls the stone into place. The women disciples who witness the closing of the tomb are both named Mary. One is from Magdala, centre of a fish-salting industry in Galilee and the other is the mother of two male disciples. These women have contributed their goods and services to Jesus on the journey from Galilee to Jerusalem.

The women set out at dawn "to see the tomb" This seems strange until we realise that they are functioning as witnesses, this time to the dramatic opening of the tomb and the appearance of God's interpretive messenger. "Seeing" is a metaphor for insight. In the earthquake phenomenon and the allusion to lightning, there are echoes of other great moments of God's appearing to Israel, such as the encounter with Moses and the giving of the Law on Mt Sinai.

The two Marys are the first to learn the news of Jesus' resurrection and the first commissioned to proclaim it. The women "see" the place where he was laid. They obey the angel's command not to be afraid but to go quickly to inform the scattered disciples that the resurrected Jesus has gone before them to Galilee, the place of mission, where they too will "see" him. Resurrection life energises these faith-filled women disciples/ apostles and negates the death-dealing power of the Roman Empire. Ironically, the Roman tomb guards become "as though dead".

As the women hurry away from the tomb, Jesus comes to meet them on the path or the road. He addresses them with a familiar greeting of joy, *Chairete*. This is the first appearance of the resurrected One and it draws from the women a profoundly reverential response: taking hold of him, they fall down in worship. Jesus reiterates the commission already delivered by the angel: not to be afraid and to let the men know what has happened. The male disciples will later be commissioned on the mountain top (Matthew 28:16-20). All are commissioned, first the women, then the men. Those "on the mountain top" must not succumb to the temptation of remaining there. They must join those on the road or the path in fearlessly bringing life to Earth's afflicted.

Easter Sunday ~ 12th April 2020

Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!

Thank you for supporting us this year as we demonstrate how love and compassion for our global community can transform lives. You will be helping to empower the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and share their strengths with their communities to lift themselves out of poverty.

When we **Go Further Together** in love and compassion, the whole world thrives. **Thank you for supporting Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2020 Lenten appeal.** www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion #projectcompassion