

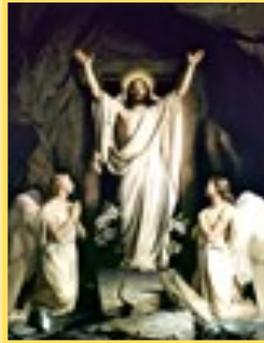
## ***Dismissal of the People:***

**Priest:** Go forth, the Mass is ended, Alleluia, alleluia!

**All:** Thanks be to God, Alleluia, alleluia!

## **Recessional Hymn:**

By Your Kingly Power, O Risen Lord - No. 352



## ***Easter Message from Our Parish Priest, Fr. John Fowles***

Our Easter Gospel exclamation proclaims: "Christ has become our paschal sacrifice, let us feast with joy in the Lord." Such is the joy that Easter brings when with faith we have accompanied Jesus through his passion & death and then arise in joy on Easter Sunday singing out Alleluia's for the Lord is Risen in deed!

May we go forward now revitalised in our faith, facing the challenges with renewed courage and confidence, that Christ's victory is our victory... for we who have suffered with Him will also rise with Him.

May your Easter be for you and your family a time of great joy, inspiring love and peace where ever Our Lord leads us in life.

## ***Parish Notices***

***Happy Easter*** to all our parishioners and their families and may you all experience the joy of this season, with its accompanying holidays, in peace and safety.

***A Hearty Congratulations to Heidi Heath*** on being Confirmed in the Catholic faith tonight during this Easter Vigil Mass. We wish Heidi and her husband, Angus, a very special and joyous Easter this year.

***Divine Mercy Sunday:*** Next Sunday 28th April is Divine Mercy Sunday. Please refer to the programme below. Piety Stall after devotions.

**Divine Mercy:** - **devotions** will be held on Sun.28th. April.

3.00pm - Rosary and Hymn

3.30pm - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

*(Reconciliation is available throughout)*

- Talk & Reflection & Hymn

- Divine Mercy Prayers

- Talk & Reflection & Hymn

*Piety Stall after 9.30 Mass and Divine Mercy Devotions.*



## ***The Easter Vigil***

### ***Service of Light***

#### ***Blessing of the New Fire***

Let us pray; O God, who through Your Song bestowed upon the faithful the fire of Your glory, sanctify this new fire we pray, and grant that, by these paschal celebrations we may be so inflamed with heavenly desires, that with minds made pure we may attain festivities of unending splendour. Through Christ our Lord. **All - Amen!**



#### ***Preparation of the Paschal Candle.***

#### ***Procession***

**Priest:** Lumen Christi

**All:** Deo Gratias

#### ***Easter Proclamation (Exultet)***

*“ Exult, let them exult, the hosts of heaven... ”*

**Priest:** Lift up your hearts.

**All:** We lift them up to the Lord.

**Priest:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All:** It is right and just.

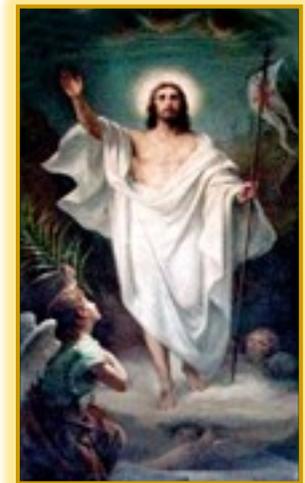
.....May this flame be found still burning by the Morning Star; the one Morning Star who never sets, Christ Your Son, who, coming back from death's domain, has shed His peaceful light on humanity, and lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**All - Amen**

#### ***Liturgy of the Word***

**First Reading:** Genesis: 22:1—18

**Responsorial Psalm 1:** Keep me safe, O God; You are my hope.



**Second Reading:** Exodus: 14:15 - 15:1

**Responsorial Psalm 2:** Let us sing to the Lord; He has covered Himself in Glory.

**Third Reading:** Isaiah: 55: 1 - 11

**Responsorial Psalm 3:** You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.

*After each of the three Old Testament Readings and their psalms, the people stand for the prayer. Remain standing after the third prayer for the Gloria.*

**Gloria:** Intoned and accompanied by bells.

**Opening Prayer:** *(Please stand)*

Let us pray, O God, who make this most sacred night radiant with the glory of the Lord's Resurrection, stir up in Your Church a spirit of adoption, so that, renewed in body and mind, we may render you undivided service. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, on God, for ever and ever.

**Epistle:** Romans 6:3 -11 *(please sit)*

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life. If in union with Christ we have imitated his death, we shall also imitate him in his resurrection. We must realise that our former selves have been crucified with him to destroy this sinful body and to free us from the slavery of sin. When a man dies, of course, he has finished with sin. But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has not power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

**Antiphon to the Psalm:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

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

On the first day of the week, at the first sign of dawn, they 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 has 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 nothing else; he then went back home, amazed at what had happened.

**Homily**

**Confirmation and Blessing of Waters**

*Sacrament of Confirmation is administered now*

*The Priest will now bless the water.*

**Priest:** Dear brothers and sisters, let us humbly beseech the Lord our God to bless this water He has created, which will be sprinkled upon us as a memorial of our Baptism. May He graciously renew us, that we may remain faithful to the Spirit whom we have received.

*We all pray silently now and then the Priest continues....*

**All:** Amen.

**Renewal of Baptismal Promises:** *( all stand with lighted candles and renew their Baptismal promises)*

**Priest:** Do you.....

**All:** I do

**Priest:** And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins, keep us by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord, for eternal life. **All:** Amen

*As the Priest now sprinkles all the people with the blessed water we all sing.*

Antiphon: - No. 29

I saw water flowing from the Temple  
From it's right hand side, alleluia,  
And all to who this water came  
Were saved and shall say: Alleluia, alleluia.

**Prayers of the Faithful**

**Liturgy of the Eucharist**

**Offertory Hymn:** Through the Red Sea Brought at Last - No. 342

**Communion Antiphon:**

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed;  
Therefore let us keep the feast  
With the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia.

**Communion Hymns:**

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing - No. 341; Jesus Christ is Ris'n

