

SUNDAY MASS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

FIRST READING: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 4.

RESPONSE:

Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.

1. I called, the God of justice gave me answer;
from anguish you released me,
have mercy and hear me! *R*
2. Know that the Lord works wonders
for his faithful one;
the Lord will hear me whenever I call him. *R*
3. 'What can bring us happiness?' many say.
Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord. *R*
4. In peace I will lie down and fall asleep,
for you alone, O Lord,
make me dwell in safety. *R*

SECOND READING: 1 John 2:1-5.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia. Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us; make our hearts burn with love when you speak to us. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Luke 24:35-48.

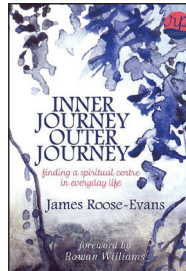
COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

The perfect companion for all those who feel drawn to contemplative prayer and meditation, but who need help and guidance going about it.

James Roose-Evans explains the practical aspects of meditation – such as the significance of posture and breathing, the use of the mantra, and the importance of regular practice. He provides a monthly guide, taking the reader day-by-day through suggested meditations and reflections which encourage the practice of silent, wordless prayer.

Combining practical help with imaginative insights, **Inner Journey, Outer Journey** will provide guidance and inspiration for all those seeking a still centre amidst the pressures of work and daily life.



R250 plus delivery



Order from our website www.rpp.org.za or email orders@rpp.org.za. Enquiries: 082 667 3857.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Live the Word

Mon 19 Apr Liturgy of the Day

Acts 6:8-15; Psalm 119; John 6:22-29

Faith is basic to salvation. But it doesn't stop there. Good works go beyond faith and reach out to serve the One in whom we believe. It is not a question of one or the other, but *both*.

Tue 20 Apr (St Marcellinus, B)

Acts 7:51-8:1; Psalm 31; John 6:30-35

In today's psalm, we are asking God to be our safe place, our guidance and comfort in times of trial. In your prayer today, reflect on how you have experienced God as a sheltering rock of presence in your life.

Wed 21 Apr (St Anselm, BD)

Acts 8:1-8; Psalm 66; John 6:35-40

Humility is an essential ingredient in life because it provides a *kenosis*, an emptying of the self – the very desert spirit of letting go. At its core, humility dramatically opens up a beautiful space in our inner life.

Thu 22 Apr Liturgy of the Day

Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 66; John 6:44-51

Today's psalm reminds us that God never refuses divine mercy, inundating us as heavily as the new rains. It is an unmerited, undeserved, gift, never withheld from the penitent.

Fri 23 Apr (St George, M)

Acts 9:1-20; Psalm 117; John 6:52-59

Through Communion our relationship to Jesus becomes the most intimate – like a marriage where two become 'one flesh'. As St Augustine reflects, "we become what we eat."

Sat 24 Apr (St Fidelis of Sigmaringen, PrM)

Acts 9:31-42; Psalm 116; John 6:60-69

Jesus was not concerned with saying what people wanted to hear. He was concerned with speaking the truth. We ought never to compromise on the truth, even when it is hard to hear.

Sun 25 Apr 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 4:8-12; Psalm 118; John 10:11-18

Jesus expresses confidence that his sheep hear his voice and follow him. But how can we know when it's his voice and not our own we hear? We will only know this through a deep relationship of prayer with Jesus.

(KEY: **SOLEMNITY**; **FEAST**; **Memorial**; (Optional Memorial)
B=Bishop; D=Doctor; M=Martyr; Pr= Priest

Catholic Link

EASTER SPIRIT

3rd Sunday of Easter • Year B
Divine Office: Week III • 18 April 2021

Easter Word

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! We know something of Paul's astonishment at the mystery of God (expressed in Romans 11:33) when we stand before the mystery of Easter.

The dimensions of Easter are beyond calculating. What it means to die and rise again, what it means to live a Resurrection life, what it means to be immersed in God – and still remain human. Yet, somehow we cannot wait till after death to begin to experience Resurrection Life. Our Innocence is already restored; the Spirit is already poured out into our hearts; divine joy and grace in a redeemed life already beckon us. The Easter Word is alive and active, it cuts like any double-edged sword but more finely, it can slip through the space where the soul is divided from the spirit, or joints from the marrow (Hebrews 4:12).

But on the first Easter evening, on the road to Emmaus, the Risen Stranger complained to his two distraught companions "You foolish men! How slow to believe the full message of the prophets!... Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself" (Luke 24:25,27).

He had to do the same again, later still that same evening back in Jerusalem: Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures (Luke 24:45).

Centuries later, during the Second Vatican Council, the Church is still pondering the mystery of the scriptures: [Christ] is present in his word since it is he himself who speaks when the holy scriptures are read in the Church (Constitution on the Liturgy, par 7). How extraordinary is that: the Risen Lord himself speaking to us through the scriptures!

In our new century, Pope Benedict XVI writing after the Synod on the Word of God explores the relationship between Word and Sacrament. He stresses that the Word of God is not simply a description of a state of affairs but it brings about a new reality: it is performative: it makes things happen! What God says, God does. This IS my body, This IS my

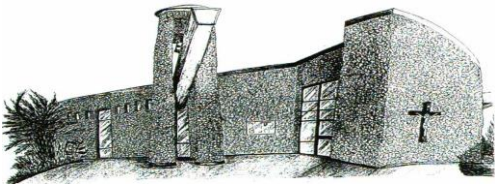
blood. I AM the Resurrection and the Life. I AM the way, the truth and the life. Pope Benedict quotes the scripture scholar par excellence of the Church, St Jerome: "Christ's Body and Blood are [also] the Word of scripture, God's teaching. When we approach the Eucharistic Mystery, if a crumb falls to the ground we are troubled. Yet when we are listening to the Word of God, and God's Word and Christ's flesh and blood are being poured into our ears yet we pay no heed, what great peril should we not feel?"

The Easter Word is a gift for all times and seasons. Even when the circumstances prevent us from fully participating in the Eucharist, we can turn to our Testaments, New and Old, and find the loving Father, the breath of the Spirit and the mind of Christ.



Supper at Emmaus by Rembrandt 1649, at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, UK





St Francis Xavier Catholic Parish

Father Michael Foley, OMI (Parish Priest)

C: 072 968 3394

Deacon Malcolm Wright H: 031 466 4524

Deacon Carl Emmanuel C: 082 493 8668

Patrick Marescia (PPC Chairperson)

Franklin Ferdinand (Finance Chairperson)

Office Hours: **Open – see notice on door**

P O Box 16004 Bluff 4036 Durban

Tel: 031-467-0524 **Faulty number –**

Please use 031 467 3854 or

Email: sfx@telkomsa.net

Website: www.stfrancisxavier.org.za

*Guided by the Holy Spirit, we strive, as a Parish,
to grow into disciples of Jesus Christ,
reaching out in Faith into a wider Community.*

Prayer Circle:

Contact Jeannette Nicholson

031 467 7658 / 083 524 5619

REPOSITORY IS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE:

See notice on door for contact numbers for items urgently required.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: The seriously sick:

Dorothea Johns, Anthony Norris, Brian Fuller, Judy Willman, Scarlett Wright, Patrick Marx, Andre Herder, Michael Tunley, Basil Thompson, Deacon Carl and Jerelene Naidoo-Chetty.



MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS:

ONLINE MASSES: Sunday Masses are available online, live-streamed on Facebook from 9am.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat 17 Apr 5.00pm

Cade Harold's Birthday [Emmanuel Family]

Dane & Simone Kalidin's Wedding Anniversary [Emmanuel Family]

Sun 18 Apr 7.00am

Fr Peter Lafferty's Birthday [Frankson Family]

Sylvia Daniels R.I.P. [Betty & Pat]

Sun 18 Apr 9.00am

Rory Randall's Special Intentions [Maycock Family]

Mon 19 Apr 8.00am

Deacon Carl & Charmaine Emmanuel [Tommy & Michele]

Tue 20 Apr 5.30pm

Yvonne Logan R.I.P. [Logan Family]

Wed 21 Apr 8.00am

Victor Himunchul Snr R.I.P. [Family]

Thu 22 Apr 5.30pm

All Parishioners

Fri 23 Apr 8.00am

Fr Mike

Sat 24 Apr 5.00pm

Gerard Thompson's Birthday [Family]

Sun 25 Apr 7.00am

Gareth Chellin's Birthday [Family]

Sun 25 Apr 9.00am

Helen (Tussie) Paul R.I.P. [Thompson Family]

Edmund Dimba R.I.P. [Simangele & Family]

NOTICES:

OFFERTORY COLLECTION: As we all know the Offertory Collection is an important part of the Liturgy. It is our participation in the Sacrifice that we come to celebrate. Due to COVID it is not been permitted to pass the baskets from person to person. At the time of the Offertory baskets will be held for parishioners to come up as we do for communion, and place their offering in the basket. This has been the custom over the years in many parishes of the Archdiocese of Durban, and other parts of South Africa.

NOTICES:....

PARISH YOUTUBE LINK: Please Subscribe - **Masses will broadcast weekly if we are able to reach 1,000 subscribers. We are presently only on 347 subscribers.** Use the link below to go directly to the channel, "Subscribe", and access the notification bell to be notified on your phone as soon as any new content is uploaded. Note that this is free and at any point in time you may Unsubscribe should you choose.
<https://youtube.com/channel/UC7SW37icz8Ybj-aE30omgPw>

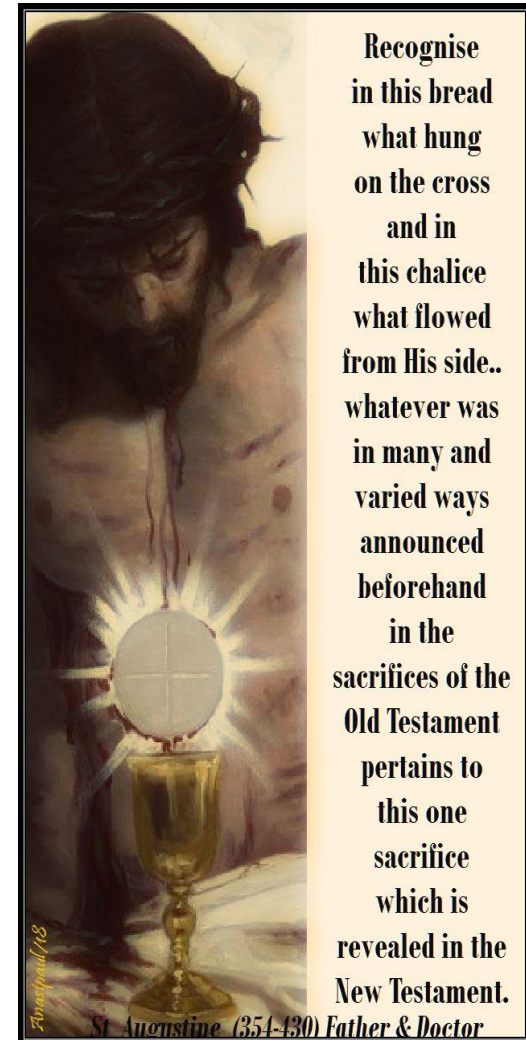
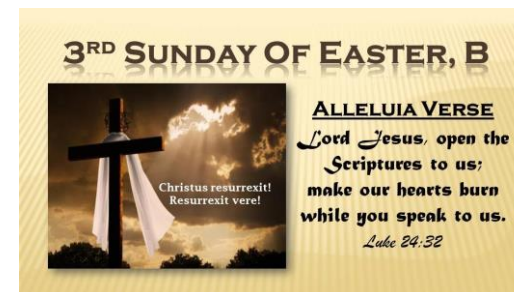
MASS ATTENANCE NUMBERS:

The present permitted total in our church has been cautiously raised to **150** per service. Please social distance as before.

SOUTHERN CROSS: April issue available at R30 from the parish office during regular hours. February and March issues as well.

NAZARETH HOUSE, DURBAN: New Resident places available for Frail and Assisted Care, Dementia and Independent Living. Contact Francesca Joseph on 031 261 2207 or 071 634 8858.

RETRouvaille: If your Marriage and Family life is experiencing any difficulties – no matter how small – help is available. The next Retrouvaille program, in Durban, is scheduled to start on the weekend of 7/9 of May. For further details, please contact Peter and Maire on 0828 500 500 or 074 134 7335, or visit www.helpourmarriage.org. All correspondence is strictly confidential.



3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

• YEAR B • 18 APRIL 2021

DIVINE OFFICE: WEEK III

DAILY MASS READINGS:

YEAR I

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Psalm 66:1-2

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

FIRST READING:

Acts 3:13-15; 17-19

In those days: Peter said to the people, "The God of Abraham and of Isaac and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he decided to release him. But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, and killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. "And now, brethren. I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ should suffer, he thus fulfilled. Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out."

The word of the Lord.

PSALM:

Psalm 4:2.4.7.9

R. Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.

I called, the God of justice gave me answer;
from anguish you released me, have mercy and hear me!

...R

Know that the Lord works wonders for his faithful one;
the Lord will hear me whenever I call him.

...R

"What can bring us happiness?" many say.

Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.

...R

In peace I will lie down and fall asleep,
for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety .

...R



SECOND READING:

1 John 2:1-5

My little children, I am writing this to you so that you may not sin; but if any one does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the expiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. And by this we may be sure that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He who says, "I know him" but disobeys his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him; but whoever keeps his word, in him truly love for God is perfected.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Luke 24:32

R. Alleluia.

Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us;
make our hearts burn with love when you speak to us.

R. Alleluia.

GOSPEL:

Luke 24:35-48

At that time: The two disciples told what had happened on the road, and how Jesus was known to them in the breaking of the bread. As they were saying this, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you." But they were startled and frightened, and supposed that they saw a spirit. And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do questionings rise in your hearts? See my hands and my feet, that it is I

myself; handle me, and see; for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this he showed them his hands and his feet. And while they still disbelieved for joy, and wondered, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate before them. Then he said to them, "These are my words which spoke to you, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

The Gospel of the Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

Luke 24:35

The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

