

3rd Sunday of Easter (b) 14th April 2024

Introduction

*leader: Greet the people and name the Sunday of the Year (see above)
Acknowledge visitors and welcome them.
Remind everyone about refreshments at the end of Mass ???
Announce the theme of the liturgy (see next)*

Theme – The disciples come to understand their task: ‘to be witnesses to the message and the resurrection of the Lord!’

*leader: Today's gospel records
the Risen Jesus' appearance to the disciples.
Jesus continues to seek out the company
of the poor and the outcast and eat with them.
The Risen Jesus, who searches out straying disciples,
is the same Jesus who sat down and ate
with the poor and the outcast.
They recognise him in the act of breaking bread
and sharing fish.*

(Announce the opening hymn:)

Greeting

*presider: Ki te ingoa o te Matua, ✠ o te Tamaiti, o te Wairua Tapu:
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, whose table we share,
be with us:*

or

Good evening/morning and the Lord be with you:

or

*Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord,
be with you all:*

or

*Citizens with the saints and members of God's household, grace and
peace be with you:*

*all: **And with your spirit.***

Penitential Rite *Invitation to Repentance*

either (confer with the Projectionist beforehand if you choose the: 'I confess'.)

*leader: Gathered together in Christ, let us ask forgiveness with
confidence, for God is gentle and compassionate.*

*all: **I confess: . . .***

or

*leader: Believing in the Risen One involves affirming and communicating life.
If we do not share life, our love of God has not reached maturity:
The Risen One fulfills everything written about him – in the Torah of
Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms; yet our minds remain closed to
understanding the Scriptures: - (pause) - Lord, have mercy:*

leader: *The Risen One is a living presence; yet we treat Jesus like a dead hero:*
- (pause) - **Christ, have mercy:**

leader: *The Risen One has sent upon us what God had promised - power to transform bodies and return them to life; yet we settle for debate about matters of our faith, instead of practising an active love, hope and faith:*
- (pause) - **Lord, have mercy:**

leader: *May almighty God, cleanse us of our sins and through the celebration of this Eucharist make us worthy to sit at the table of the kingdom for ever.*

all: **Amen**

GLORIA *invitation*

either

leader: *With all the voices of heaven, let us sing praise, honour and glory to God.*
or

leader: *With peoples everywhere, let us glorify our God in joyful song.*
or

leader: *Let us sing the praises of the Lord, the God who made us, whose glory is from age to age.*

Opening Prayer

leader: *(Kia inoi tatou / Let us pray: ...) God of all the prophets,
You fulfilled Your promise of old
that Your Christ would suffer and so rise to glory.
Open our minds to understand the Scriptures
and fill us with joyful wonder in the presence of the risen Christ,
that we may be his witnesses
to the farthest reaches of the Earth.
We ask this through Jesus Christ, the firstborn from the dead,
who lives and reigns with You now and always
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever:*

all: **Amen.**

Introduction to the first reading: *(Acts 3 : 13 – 15, 17 – 19)*

leader: *A disciple assimilates and lives 'into' the personal calling of their master. Later, following a period of apprenticeship, the disciple is authorised to re-present the master. Peter does that in this first reading from Acts.*

Introduction to the second reading: *(1 John 2 : 1 – 5)*

leader: *The author is dealing with successionists within the community, who although they claim communion with God, don't see the importance of keeping commandments.*

Gospel Acclamation:

all: **Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Lord Jesus, make your Word plain to us:

Make our hearts burn with love when you speak. Alleluia!

Introduction to the gospel reading: (Luke 24 : 35 – 48)

leader: Luke records Jesus appearing to Simon Peter; to two disciples on the road to Emmaus; and to the Eleven, who are joined by the disciples from Emmaus.

Homily Notes (presider)

- *Exuberant joy is the proper way to live the Easter season. Easter is 50 days long precisely because our joy in knowing that Christ is risen and we share his new life cannot be confined to or used up in just one day.*
- *Yet, the joy is paradoxical. In Luke's gospel, the disciples talking about the Resurrection are terrified when they see that what they are talking about and hoping for is really true. When Jesus appears and gives them a greeting of peace, everyone panics. He has to prove to them he is no ghost by having them touch him and by eating some fish.*
- *What would my reaction be to meeting someone I knew to be dead, someone whose corpse I had seen, someone whose grave I knew? Living in an age more inclined to psychological rather than spiritual explanations, I would probably think I was hallucinating rather than that I was seeing a ghost. Like the disciples, though, I would panic: "Am I cracking up?"*
- *Let's face it the resurrection is unbelievable. Even seeing the risen Lord is not going to convince us otherwise. It's easier to believe in ghosts or to doubt one's own sanity. Actually, we don't have to do the doubting ourselves; others do it for us. The wisdom of the world assures us that we're at least deluded and probably crazy in our belief that Jesus, once dead, is now alive.*
- *To understand the joy of this season, we must remind ourselves of the impossibility of what we celebrate. We know as well as the disciples did that Jesus really died. There was, and is, no doubt about it. Even if he had not been tortured to death on a cross 2,000 years ago, he'd be dead by now. We can be so used to the idea of the resurrection that we can forget its basis, the death of Jesus. Unless we remember that, we cannot fully celebrate this season. It becomes mere good feelings and folklore.*
- *If we remember the fearsome reality of death, we are ready to rejoice over a piece of cooked fish. In the Resurrection, the impossible had happened. A dead man has returned to his friends spoken with them, shown his fatal wounds to them, eaten with them.*
- *And we are those friends.; The best friend I can ever have, because he knows me in every detail, in all my weakness, yet loves me without limit is Jesus Christ. His earlier friends, our forerunners, we're incredulous for sheer joy and wonder." In our own sheer joy and wonder, we remember how impossible it is that our friend is alive after being dead.*
- *He was dead – he is alive. That in itself is cause enough to whistle,*

whoop and dance. Yet, there is more to our joy. I will one day die. There is no doubt about it. The one statistic that never changes is the death rate. It is, and always will be, 100 percent. No medical technology, no cloning, no wonder drug, no diet, no exercise, no prayers, nothing will ever change that. One day, I will be as dead as Jesus was. Dead. Done. Full stop.

- *And yet, through my really dying, I have a promise of new life in Christ's rising from death. United with Christ's death by the Baptism I renewed on Easter Sunday, I am united with his resurrection. In some way, though I will really die, I will also really live. That's as impossible for me as it was for Jesus. Incredible.*
- *Incredible, but true. Those men and women 2,000 years ago were incredulous in joy and wonder. So can we be. They saw Jesus, spoke with him, were taught by him, ate with him. The impossible, his living again, is real. The impossible, my living again is real. What else can I do but jauntily, joyfully stride through life?*
- *Well, actually, there is one more thing I can do. The end of today's gospel reading tells us Jesus said that 'penance for the remission of sins is to be preached to all the nations.' I can be a preacher. Not someone standing on a street corner haranguing the passing crowds, but someone whose jaunty walk through life, whose bewildered joy and wonder proclaim to all who see me the incredible, unbelievable good news that a dead man has eaten some fish. My dead friend is alive. I like him, will also die. And I too, will live.*

Creed / Statement of Faith

Intercessions - 3rd Week of Easter [Sun 14th – Sat 20th April 2024]*invitation to pray:*

leader: Friends in Christ, like the community of the first Christians, with one heart and with one soul, let us pray with confidence to God-with-us in the risen Jesus, for our world and its needs:

1: For the Christian Church. May Jesus through his death and rising, help our leaders to show Jesus' care and compassion in all that they do:

- (pause) - Lord, hear us:

*all: **Lord, hear us.***

2: For those who announce the gospel. May the example of faithful announcing that Jesus showed through his suffering, dying and rising, help us to be strong in prayer and faithful to His Word and Sacrament:

- (pause) - Lord, hear us:

*all: **Lord, hear us.***

3: For those who go hungry. May the example of faithful companionship, that Jesus showed through his death and risen life; turn our hearts towards generosity and hospitality and help us to show it in practice:

- (pause) - Lord, hear us:

*all: **Lord, hear us.***

4: For all for whom faith is a struggle; that they may be helped by the joy of Christians: - (pause) - Lord, hear us:

*all: **Lord, hear us.***

5: For the sick: we pray for:

*Mangawhai: **Petronella ter Veer, Matteo Gray, Pamela Downes, Petronella Brom, Lorna Bocock, Geraldine Choromanski, Judy Perry, Veronica Grigg, Margaret Rissman, Roselle & Owen McGrane, Richard Henry, Iain Butler, Bob Walters,***

*Maungaturoto: **Trevor Brljevich, Tony Ruiterman, Bill Lewis, Beverly Simons, Bob & Julia Bland, Peter McHugh, Adolph Layec, Jeremy McCroskerey, Benjamin Martinez, . . .***

*Wellsford: **Dallas Colville, Alec Colville, Lucille Jenneker, Rita McCurran, Wilma Jansen, Gerard McCurran, Iris Barrow, Lagi Sands, Tim Emberson, . . .***

Bless them for they share in Christ's passion through their suffering:

- (pause) - Lord, hear us:

*all: **Lord, hear us.***

*6: For those who have died: **Phil Cotching, Benjamin Martinez, . . .***

*And those whose anniversaries occur about now: **Charles Wenzlich, Warwick Taylor,** Number them among your saints:*

- (pause) - Lord, hear us:

*all: **Lord, hear us.***

Concluding Prayer:

leader: Ever Faithful God, Your paths are love and truth. Help us to understand our inner lives and keep us vigilant in love on the path which leads to You. We pray in Jesus' name:

*all: **Amen***

Prayer over the Gifts

*presider: (Kia inoi tatou / Let us pray: ...) Lord, receive the gifts of Your joyous Church.
You have given us cause for great happiness on Earth;
grant us the consummation of that joy in heaven.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord:*

*all: **Amen***

Preface

presider: The Lord be with you.

*all: **And also with you.***

presider: Lift up your hearts.

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

presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*all: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

*presider: It is truly right and just,
our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give You thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God;
that we should always sing Your glory, Lord;
but we praise You with greater joy than ever
in this Easter season
when Christ became our paschal sacrifice.
He continues to offer himself for us,
to plead our cause before Your throne.
Christ is the victim who dies no more,
the Lamb, once slain, who lives for ever.
Therefore, the universe resounds with Easter joy,
and the choirs of angels sing the endless hymn of Your glory:*

*all: **Holy holy holy!***

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER III**Memorial Acclamation**

(the Eucharistic Prayer ends with the great 'AMEN')

Introduction to the Lord's Prayer

either

*leader: With trust in God, who nourishes us in the hour of need,
let us pray as Jesus taught us:*

or

leader: Let us pray for the coming of God's realm as Jesus taught us.

or

*leader: The Father has forgiven us, let us forgive our neighbour from the heart
as we say:*

*all: **Our Father, . . .***

*presider: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil;
graciously grant peace in our days,
that by the help of Your mercy,
we may be always freed from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.*

*all: **For the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours,
now and for ever. Amen.***

Sign of Peace

*presider: Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles:
'Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you'.
Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church
and grant us the peace and unity of your Realm,
where you live, now and always:*

*all: **Amen.***

presider: The peace of the Lord be with you:

*all: **And with your spirit.***

leader: Let us offer each other a sign of peace:

Lamb of God

*all: **Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us (x2)
Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.***

*presider: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,
who by the will of the Father
and the work of the Holy Spirit,
through your death gave life to the world;
free us by this your most holy Body and Blood
from all our sins and from every evil:
keep us always faithful to your commandments
and never let us be parted from you.*

*all: **Amen***

either

*presider: Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away the sins of
the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.*

or

*presider: This is the bread come down from heaven;
whoever eats this bread will never die.
This is the cup of eternal life;
whoever drinks of it will live forever:*

*all: **Lord, I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof,
but only say the Word and my soul shall be healed.***

Holy Communion

*presider: Ko te Tinana o te Karaiti:
(Ko nga Toto o te Karaiti:)*

Prayer after Communion

*leader: (Kia inoi tatou / Let us pray: ...) Protect with loving-kindness, Lord,
the people You have renewed
through the paschal mystery of Christ,
and grant them this reward:
the resurrection of the body to glory everlasting.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord:*

*all: **Amen.***

(an opportunity for announcements/notices etc. . . .)

Dismissal

*leader: We are sent; in the name of God, Fulfiller of ancient promises;
we are sent in the name of Jesus, Opener of closed minds;
we are sent in the name of the holy Spirit, the Power from 'on high';
to learn about God's Word;
not only to know about Jesus but also to know him!
Not only to learn about him but to meet him!
Not only to grow in knowledge but to increase in our loving.
not only to love him with our hearts but also to obey him
with our lives – so that knowing him loving and obeying him;
we too may say: "For me to live is Christ!"
We ask this in Jesus' name, until we gather again:*

*all: **Amen***

The Blessing

*presider: Kia whakapaingia koutou e te Atua kaha rawa,
e te Matua, e te Tamaiti ✠ e te Wairua Tapu.*

*all: **Amene***

*leader: The Mass has ended, go in peace
to love and serve the Lord: Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*all: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!***