



he will live,
and whoever lives and believes in me
will never die.
Do you believe this?

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer.
I knew indeed that you always hear me,
but I speak
for the sake of all these who stand round me,
so that they may believe it was you who sent
me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

This Gospel tells us that Our Lord was moved with compassion in an almost violent way, raging against the seeming finality of death. The raising of Lazarus was a demonstration of his power to rob death of its supposed supremacy.

But, Our Lord did not set Lazarus completely free! You may think that to be raised from the dead was not a bad start, but Lazarus was still shuffling; bound, constrained, constricted by the past. To those gathered around the tomb Jesus issued the command: 'Set him free, unbind him.' It was the collective effort of others which enabled Lazarus to walk as a liberated son of God.

You may find yourself commanded by the Lord to help unbind a person who has had a deadening experience which has drained them of life. We get the courage to respond because it is the command of the One who definitively conquered death.

We could pause for a moment to resolve to help liberate others already helped by the grace of Him whom we believe to be *the Resurrection and the Life*.

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The Living Word

Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year A

26 March 2023

First Reading Ez 37:12-14

I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live.

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 129. R. v.7

*(R.) With the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption*

1. Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord,
Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleading. (R.)
2. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,
Lord, who would survive?
But with you is found forgiveness:
for this we revere you. (R.)
3. My soul is waiting for the Lord,
I count on his word.
My soul is longing for the Lord
more than watchman for daybreak.
(Let the watchman count on daybreak
and Israel on the Lord.) (R.)
4. Because with the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption,
Israel indeed he will redeem
from all its iniquity. (R.)

Second Reading Rom 8:8-11

*If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in
you, then he will give life to your own mortal bodies.*

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your

interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

Gospel Acclamation See Jn 11:25. 26

*Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will not die for ever.*

Gospel Jn 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33-45 or shorter form Jn 11:1-45

I am the resurrection and the life.

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said:

'I am the resurrection and the life.
If anyone believes in me, even though he dies



ST ANTHONY OF PADUA PARISH CLOVELLY

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CLERGY: Parish Priest: Fr Laurie Cauchi
PARISH OFFICE: 7 Fewings St, Clovelly NSW 2031 (*Open Mon & Fri only, 9--4pm*).
SECRETARY: Louise Jones

SUNDAY MASS: Saturday (Vigil) 5.00pm, Sunday 8.00am, 10.00am.
WEEKDAY MASS: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday at 9.00 am.
BAPTISMS: 10.00 am, 4th Sunday of the month.
Appointment needed with Parish Priest before proceeding.
Please contact the Parish Office to arrange time.

MARRIAGES By appointment (*six months' notice*).
RECONCILIATION Half an hour before weekend Masses or by appointment.
RCIA PROGRAM Enquiring to become a Catholic? Contact the parish office.



Dear Parishioners,
If you have any suggestions or concerns about our Parish, please don't hesitate to contact me! Speak to me after Mass, send me an email or phone the parish office. It is hoped that we can have a Parish Meeting in the near future. Date TBA. Thanks, Fr Laurie

WEEKDAY MASSES: Entry into the Church for weekday Masses will now be via the side doors only. The front doors of the Church will not be open for weekday masses.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS:
FRIDAYS AT 7.00 PM DURING LENT.

Jesus believes a sinner has a future not just a past.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES: The next set of Planned Giving envelopes are now ready for collection. They are on the table in the Church foyer.



DAYLIGHT SAVING ends next Sunday 2 April at 3.00 am.
Remember to put your clocks back one hour.

We welcome into our parish community: Gianna Varacalli, who will receive the sacrament of Baptism this weekend.

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Entrance Antiphon: Give me justice, O God, and plead my case against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

Communion Antiphon: Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever, says the Lord.

Readers: Gloria White, Silvia Bell; Leanna Langlands, Cassandra Jordan; Anne MacNally, Maureen Crowe.

Next week: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Year A.
Readers: See new roster

Holy Week Program at St Anthony's



PALM SUNDAY (02 April)

5.00 pm Vigil (01 April)
8.00 am & 10.00 am Mass (02 April)
Palms, for you to take home, will be blessed at each Mass.

HOLY THURSDAY (06 April):

10.30 am Chism Mass at St Mary's Cathedral
(All invited to attend the Blessing of the Holy Oils)
(NB: NO Morning Mass at St Anthony's)
7.30 pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper
Following Mass there will be Adoration until 9.00 pm

GOOD FRIDAY (07 April):

10.00 am Stations of the Cross
3.00 pm Commemoration of the Lord's Passion & Death

EASTER:

7.00 pm Saturday Vigil (08 April)
8.00 am & 10.00 am Sunday Mass (09 April)

EASTER RECONCILIATION TIMES:

7.00—8.00 pm Tuesday (04 April)
After Mass until 9.00 pm Holy Thursday (06 April)



PRAYERS FOR HEALING: Mary Kellaghan and all our family members and parishioners who are unwell at this time.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF: All deceased family & friends & past parishioners.

A message from the Archdiocese of Sydney: Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office at (02) 9390 5810 or safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org You may also want to speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support & guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police.