

Anglican Parish of Avon

Priest in Charge The Rev. Dave Perryman

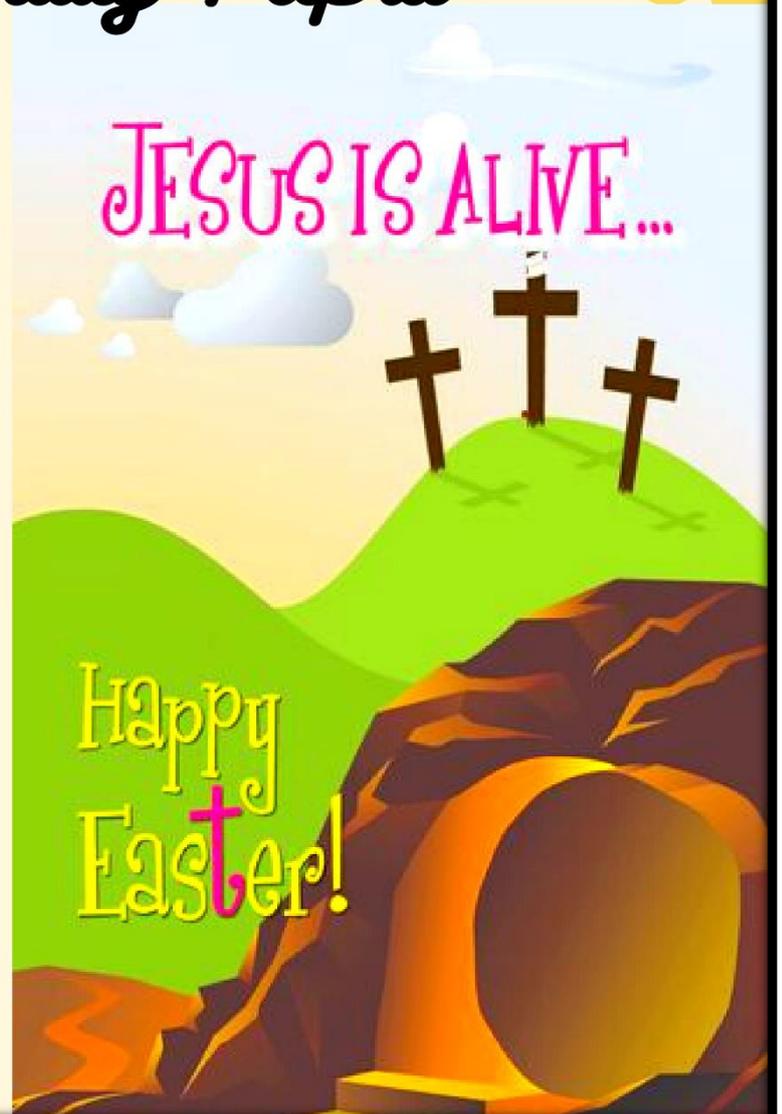
All Age Family Easter Worship & Celebration Come -Join in the Fun!

Easter Sunday 4 April

*8.30am All Saints
Church Briagolong*

*10am Holy Trinity
Church Stratford*

*2pm St Mary's
Church Munro*



We acknowledge the Gunai Kurnai people as the original inhabitants of this land. We acknowledge their elders past and present and their children who are their hope for the future.

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Opening Hymn: 'Alleluia, alleluia – MP 30

1 Christ the Lord is risen today: Hallelujah!
Let the whole creation say: Hallelujah!
Raise your joys and triumphs high: Hallelujah!
Sing now, heaven, and earth reply: Hallelujah!

2 Love's redeeming work is done; Hallelujah!
fought the fight, the battle won; Hallelujah!
vain the stone, the watch the seal: Hallelujah!
Christ has burst the gates of hell. Hallelujah!

3 Lives again our glorious king; Hallelujah!
where, O death, is now your sting? Hallelujah!
Once he died our souls to save; Hallelujah!
where your victory, O grave? Hallelujah!

4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Hallelujah!
following our exalted Head; Hallelujah!
made like him, like him we rise; Hallelujah!
ours the cross, the grave, the skies. Hallelujah!

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Welcome

Greeting

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

Call to worship

Christ is risen!

Alleluia!

The tomb is empty!

Alleluia!

Christ is alive!

Alleluia!

The Sentence

‘This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.’

(Luke 24.34; Psalm 118.24)

Opening Prayer

Let us pray,

**God of hope, in the midst of death,
you call forth life.**

**When all hope seemed gone,
you raised Jesus from the grave.**

**We come before you today,
longing for your life-giving presence.**

**God of new life,
raise us up with all your people.**

**Lift us from the tombs of our despair and doubt,
that we may rejoice in your power over death.**

**God of joy, fill our hearts with alleluias
as we sing your praises.**

Glory to God. Amen!

The Confession

God shows great love for us in that while we
were still sinners Christ died for us.

Silence for self-reflection

Let us then confess our sins in penitence and faith.

For the times we forget you are alive,
Risen Lord Jesus, forgive us.

For the times we forget to celebrate your love,
Risen Lord Jesus, forgive us.

For the times we forget to tell our neighbour,
Risen Lord Jesus, forgive us.

For the times we forget to live as you call us to live,
Risen Lord Jesus, forgive us.

For the times we forget to open our lives to you,
Risen Lord Jesus, forgive us.

For the times we forget to open our lives for
the sake of others,
Risen Lord Jesus, forgive us.

The Absolution

Almighty God,
who in Jesus Christ has given us
a kingdom that cannot be destroyed,
forgive us our sins,
open our eyes to God's truth,
strengthen us to do God's will
and give us the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Prayer of the Day

God of glory,
by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of death and hell:
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned
and the way to life stands open, in our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Ministry of the Word

The First Reading

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: ‘I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.’

Acts 10.34-43

Hear the word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

Hymn to the Risen Christ – *We will say the Hymn together*

**Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us:
so let us celebrate the feast,**

**Not with the old leaven of corruption and wickedness:
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.**

**Christ once raised from the dead dies no more:
death has no more dominion over him.**

**In dying he died to sin once for all:
in living he lives to God.**

**See yourselves therefore as dead to sin:
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Christ has been raised from the dead:
the first fruits of those who sleep.**

**For as by one man came death:
by another has come also resurrection of the dead;**

**For as in Adam all die:
even so in Christ shall all be made alive.**

The Second Reading

A Reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians

¹ Now I should remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ² through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. ³ For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴ and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵ and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as to someone untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰ But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace towards me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹ Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe. *1 Corinthians 15. 1-11*

Hear the word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

Early Talk

The Gospel

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

¹ Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ² So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, ‘They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.’ ³ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. ⁴ The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷ and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸ Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹ for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰ Then the disciples returned to their homes. ¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹² and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³ They said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping?’ She said to them, ‘They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.’ ¹⁴ When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?’ Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, ‘Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.’ ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned and said to him in Hebrew, ‘Rabbouni!’ (which means Teacher). ¹⁷ Jesus said to her, ‘Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, “I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.”’ ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, ‘I have seen the Lord’; and she told them that he had said these things to her. *John 20. 1-18*

For the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Sermon

The Affirmation of Faith

Let us stand and together affirm the faith of the Church:

**We believe in God the Father,
God almighty, by whose plan
earth and heaven sprang to being,
all created things began.**

**We believe in Christ the Saviour,
Son of God in human frame,
virgin-born, the child of Mary
upon whom the Spirit came.**

**Christ, who on the cross forsaken,
like a lamb to slaughter led,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
he descended to the dead.
We believe in Jesus risen,
heaven's king to rule and reign,
to the Father's side ascended
till as judge he comes again.**

**We believe in God the Spirit;
in one Church, below, above:
saints of God in one communion,
one in holiness and love.
So by faith, our sins forgiven,
Christ our Saviour, Lord and friend,
we shall rise with him in glory
to the life that knows no end. Amen.**

The Prayers

Please sit or kneel for prayer as you are able.

Response:

Risen God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayers.

At the conclusion of the prayers:

Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray,
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

The Greeting of Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said, ‘Peace be with you.’

Then were they glad when they saw the Lord.

Alleluia!

The peace of the risen Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Hymn: ‘Alleluia, alleluia’ – MP 30

Alleluia, alleluia,
give thanks to the risen Lord;
alleluia, alleluia,
give praise to His name.

1 Jesus is Lord of all the earth,
He is the King of creation.

Alleluia, alleluia . . .

2 Spread the good news o’er all the earth,

Jesus has died and has risen.

Alleluia, alleluia . . .

3 Come let us praise the living God,
joyfully sing to our Saviour:

Alleluia, alleluia . . .

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The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

But chiefly are we bound to praise you
because you raised him gloriously from the dead.
For he is the true paschal lamb who was offered for us,
and has taken away the sin of the world.
By his death he has destroyed death,
and by his rising to life again he has restored to us everlasting life.

And so, in the joy of this Passover,
earth and heaven resound with gladness,
while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing for ever
the hymn of your glory:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Father of all, we give you thanks for every gift that comes from heaven.
To the darkness Jesus came as your light.

With signs of faith and words of hope
he touched untouchables with love and washed the guilty clean.
This is his story.

**This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

The crowds came out to see your Son,
yet at the end they turned on him.
On the night he was betrayed
he came to table with his friends
to celebrate the freedom of your people.
This is his story.

**This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;
he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:
This is my body, given for you all.

Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;
he took the cup, gave it and said:
This is my blood, shed for you all
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this in remembrance of me.
This is our story.

**This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup we celebrate the cross
on which he died to set us free.
Defying death he rose again and is alive with you to plead for us and all
the world.

This is our story.
**This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Send your Spirit on us now
that by these gifts we may feed on Christ
with opened eyes and hearts on fire.
May we and all who share this food**

**offer ourselves to live for you
and be welcomed at your feast in heaven
where all creation worships you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:**

**Blessing and honour and glory and power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread and Communion

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We who are many are one body,

for we all share in the one bread.

This is the table, not of the righteous,
but of the poor in spirit.

It is made ready for those who want to love God, who love God and those
who want to love God more.

So let us come, wherever we are, gathered afar but together,
those who have much faith and those who have little,

Those who have been here often
and those who have not been for a long time or ever before,
Those who have tried to follow and all of us who have failed.
These are the gifts of God for the People of God.
Christ invites everyone to be known and fed here.

*For those unable to receive Holy Communion this Sunday, you may like
to practice the tradition of 'spiritual communion' as you watch and listen,
the following prayer may be helpful:*

*O Lord Jesus Christ, through your tender mercy grant that as the hem of
your garment, touched in faith, healed the woman who could not touch
your body, so the soul of this your servant may be healed by like faith in
you, whom I cannot now sacramentally receive. In union with the faithful
at every altar-table in your Church I desire to be united with you and
pray that you will come spiritually into my heart. Let nothing ever
separate me from your love, for you live and reign with the Father and
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.***

The Sending Out of God's People

Eternal God, giver of life,
in the breaking of the bread we know the risen Lord.
May we who celebrate this holy feast
walk in his risen light and bring new life to all creation.

**Father,
we offer ourselves to you
as a living sacrifice
though Jesus Christ our Lord.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory.**

Announcements

Final Hymn: 'In Christ Alone' – MP 1072

1 In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
this cornerstone, this solid ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all,
here in the love of Christ I stand.

2 In Christ alone – who took on flesh,
fullness of God in helpless Babe!
This gift of love and righteousness,
scorned by the ones he came to save
till on that cross as Jesus died,
the wrath of God was satisfied,
for every sin on Him was laid;
here in the death of Christ I live.

3 There in the ground his body lay,
light of the world by darkness slain,
then, bursting forth in glorious day,

up from the grave He rose again!
And as he stands in victory
sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
for I am His and He is mine –
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

4 No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the power of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man
can ever pluck me from His hand;
till He returns or calls me home,
here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

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The Blessing

God who has called you is faithful and risen!
Go into the world with the joy of the resurrection,
forgive generously,
love extravagantly,
live abundantly.
And the blessing of God,
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you now and for ever. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!
In the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!

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BULLETIN PRAYER POINTS

Christ is Risen, and the power of His resurrection fills the world today with new life, hope and expectation and so we bring him all our needs.

We pray:-

- *For care of the environment and world-wide conscientious efforts to control climate change.
- *For peace in places of conflict and violence. Provision of safe-haven and new beginnings for refugees.
- *For an end to the racial, social, and domestic violence and social injustices around the world and particularly in our own country.
- *May people from all nations, poor and rich, benefit from the blessing of vaccines to control Covid-19 We give thanks for the development of vaccines by your gifted scientists.
- *Especially for the People of PNG suffering dreadfully from the scourges of the Covid-19 virus which is out of control in their country.
- *For the people of NSW following the devastation caused by floods to life, property and livestock.
- *Faithful God, we think of your church today celebrating the Resurrection all over the world. Language race and nationalities may be different but our worship and our joy on the Day of Resurrection make us one in the Gospel. We pray that The Holy Spirit may guide and strengthen us in mission and service praying that day by day we may grow in love for you and for our brothers and sisters in Christ.

- *We pray for our Diocese, and the churches in our local community.
- *For Bishop Richard and his family as, he leads the faith-life of the Diocese.
- *For Dave as he leads the ministry, discipleship and pastoral caring in our parish and community.
- *For Emma and their 4 children.
- *We ask you to walk closely with Dave, Emma, and children in this remarkably busy and at times challenging year.
- *For all who support the op shop. Coordinator Bev, volunteers, and all who donate to our ministry and mission.
- *For the mainly music team, and for the families who gather here each Thursday morning.

* For each other and ourselves as we re-new our belief and commitment to Christ, knowing his gift of eternal life in heaven to those who believe in his resurrection.

*For our Retiring Offertory – **BCA**

We raise before you now, those who need healing in their lives and give you thanks where healing has taken place.

We pray especially for Val, Marion, Cliff, Paul, Bev, Julie, Lillas, Keith, Ruth, Alice, Emma, Crystal, Daryl, Jan and Mick.

Loving God, we pray for all who mourn the death of loved ones at this time, the family and friends of the late Mrs Joan McIllwain and of Mrs Marj White.

Grant them all your loving comfort and peace as they mourn the death of a much-loved mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

Faithful God as we go out into the world, we pray that we may reflect your love in our families, our church and our community; so that the world can witness that we are followers of Christ and draw others into his loving care

NEWS AND NOTES

A very Happy Easter to everyone . . . “Christ has risen indeed”!!

Today is the most important day in the Christian Calendar . . . the foundation of the Christian faith. The resurrection of Jesus represents something supremely powerful: the potential for rebirth, salvation, and renewal of faith. Easter Day is a time when we can refresh our faith and recommit to our beliefs.

We all know that eggs represent new life. Eggs have signified new life far back into the mists of human origin, long before Christianity. Easter Eggs are not mentioned in the Bible. An ancient Roman proverb said that all life comes from an egg. Christians from the 1st Century onwards have transformed such symbols so that they embody Christian teaching. Christians adapted the egg into a symbol of the resurrection of Jesus. New life emerging from the tomb.

All over the world Christians exchange decorated eggs at Easter. They are a rich gift to share because eggs represent how God’s love brings amazing, irrepressible life to all creation.

Please collect Easter Eggs as you leave the service and join us for Morning Tea.

This afternoon at 2pm, there will be a celebration of Easter at St Mary’s Munro.

Tuesday last, in a beautiful service, we celebrated the life of Mrs Marj White. What a privilege it was!

Our thanks to Marj’s family for the privilege, and to Bev T and Wendy P for coordinating the catering team. The task of Catering is somewhat more challenging as we continue to observe the Covid safe requirements, thank you everyone!

The next Family Fun Fair Meeting will convene at 10am this coming Thursday. All are most welcome!

Next Sunday there will be a Healing Service in Holy Trinity at 4pm.

WHAT'S ON IN THE PARISH

April

Thursdays 9.30am mainly music in Parish Hall during School Term. School Holidays 2 April to 18 April.

Retiring Offertory BCA

- Mon 5** Easter Monday
- Thurs 8** 11am Family Fun Fair Meeting
- Sun 11** Second Sunday of Easter
Healing Service
- Sat 17** Men's Breakfast
- Sun 18** Baptism at Holy Trinity. Third Sunday of Easter
- Mon 19** School Resumes
- Tues 20** Parish Council Reports Due
- Fri 23** Family Movie Night
The Bard's Birthday. Shakespeare April 23, 1564 – April 23, 1616.
St Mary's Anniversary. Licensed 23/4/1922
- Sat 24** 10am-3pm. Women's Craft Day
- Sun 25** Fourth Sunday of Easter.
ANZAC Day. Dawn and 9am Services in the Memorial Park
Also 'Armed Forces Day' in Australia & New Zealand.
- Tues 27** Parish Council Meeting
The Reverends Jenny and Tony Wicking to be formally
inducted in the Parish of Yarram.

Sunday 11 April, Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 4.32-37. Ps. 133. 2nd Read 1John 1.1-2.2
John 20.19-31

Priest: Dave, Lit Assist: May. 1st Read Sandra. 2nd Gail
Intercess: May. Org: Vic. Sides: Nola, Kerry C
Camera Bev H/Denise. Flowers: Kerry C.
MT. Sandra, Gail, Liliias cooking. Sac: May.

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