



Post-it Challenge:

Through the resurrection, we have **hope** that we can help each other to be the best people we can be.

We know that with God's **grace** we can care for one another

every single day with acts of kindness and thoughtfulness and by doing this, we can work together to make our world a better place.

- What is your hope for the world this Easter?
- What will you do to make it happen?

Remember: Every prayer and each tiny act of kindness for someone else will set off that ripple which will spread out to all who need hope and love this Easter.

Let us pray:

Living God, we know that all things are possible for you. Fill us with hope for a future where all people may live their lives to the full.

Inspire us to work together with the wisdom to know what needs to be done and the will to do it,

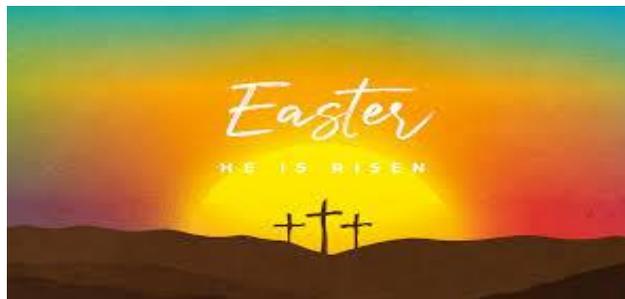
The courage to get on with the job, the perseverance to keep going and the strength to complete our mission. Amen.

St Thomas, pray for us.



Gospel: Easter Sunday, Year A

John 20:1-9



Early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been taken away from the entrance. She went running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

Then Peter and the other disciple went to the tomb. The two of them were running, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and saw the linen wrappings, but he did not go in. Behind him came Simon Peter, and he went straight into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there and the cloth which had been round Jesus' head. It was not lying with the linen wrappings but was rolled up by itself. The other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, went in; **he saw and believed.** (They still did not understand the scripture which said that he must rise from death.)

"We are the Easter people and Alleluia is our song." Pope John Paul II

Reflection:

Easter is a time of joy and celebration. It is the most important feast in the Church's year.

Today's Gospel reading is about what happened on the morning of the third day after Jesus' death. It explains that Mary Magdalene thought that someone had taken Jesus' body and that at first His disciples did not understand that Jesus had been raised from the dead. This is the moment, however, when they finally realise that Jesus has risen from the dead and they believe in Him and know that He is the Son of God.

In this Easter Gospel, we hear about several people who had a hard time understanding what was happening in their lives. We sometimes have a hard time understanding things that happen in our lives. For example, we don't understand why someone gets sick, or why bad things happen in the world. We might feel that everything is dark and we are losing sight of hope but often what feels like an ending, like in the Gospel, can in fact be a new beginning. The message of Easter, whatever the future, brings hope for the world.

Remember that as a family, as a community we are not alone because we have each other, but we also have God who will never abandon us.

As Christians, we are filled with hope on Easter day because Jesus' resurrection shows us that nothing is impossible for God. Jesus is risen from the dead, giving new life and hope to us all.

Bidden or not bidden



is present