



Weekly Bulletin

Mary, Queen of the Family Parish

St. Michael's Church, 58 Orwell Street, Blacktown & St. Patrick's Church, 51-59 Allawah Street, Blacktown.

We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land we worship.

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD - YEAR C

20 APRIL 2025

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Mary Queen of the Family (MQOF) parish strives to grow as missionary disciples of Jesus Christ, continuing to deepen in understanding the Sacred Scriptures and Sacred Tradition of the Catholic Church and to live as a faithful and committed Catholic community, evangelising and responding to the needs of the family in the Blacktown community and beyond.

LITURGY TIMES

Sunday Masses

5.30pm Sat Vigil (St Patrick's)
7.00am Sun (St Patrick's)
8.00am Sun (St Michael's)
9.30am Sun (St Michael's)
10.00am Sun (St Patrick's)
11.00am 4th Sun - Filio Mass (St Michael's)
2:00pm - Sudanese Mass (St Patrick's)
1.00pm - Syro-Malabar Mass (St Michael's)
5.30pm Sun (St Patrick's)
6.00pm Sun (St Michael's)

Weekday Masses

St Michael's: 8am Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri
7.30pm Wed only

St Patrick's: 9am Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs,
Sat and 7.30pm Fri only.

RECONCILIATION

St Michael's: Wed 6:30pm-7:20pm

St Patrick's: Fri 6:30pm-7:20pm &
Sat 9:30am-10:30am

HOLY HOUR

St Michael's: Wed 6:30pm-7:30pm
St Patrick's: Fri 6:30pm-7:30pm

Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals & Anointing of the Sick by appointment.



*Fr Wim, Fr Rooney, Fr Stephen, Fr Andrawes, Deacon John
and the MQOF Parish Team wish you
a happy and holy Easter. May the peace of the Risen
Christ be with you and your families.*

Bishop Vincent's Easter Message 2025

Dear sisters and brothers,

The Resurrection isn't simply something we look forward to in the afterlife! The Resurrection of Christ affects us right now, existentially and fundamentally.

(con'd over page)

Parish Directory

St. Michael's Church - 58 Orwell Street, South Blacktown &
St. Patrick's Church - 51-59 Allawah Street Blacktown.

Parish Office: At St. Patrick's Church. Office Hours: Mon-Fri: 9am-4pm

Telephone: 02 9622 1125 A/H: 02 8705 0830.

Website: www.mqofblacktown.org.au Email: admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

Parish Team:

Parish Priest: Fr. Wim Hoekstra

Assistant Priests: Fr Andrew Rooney, Fr Stephen Onyekwere

Deacon: Rev. John Cinya

Finance Officer: Sarah Canete-Damole Email: accounts@mqofblacktown.org.au

Parish Secretary: Jill Franco (Tue to Fri) Email: admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

Sacramental Coordinator: Gerald "Ged" Oblea. (Mon to Wed) Mobile: 0422 724 008

Email: sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au

Catechist Coordinator: Sandra Baker

Parish Pastoral Council: Chair: Cecil Fernandes; Asst Chair: Joshua Carr Secretary: Savita Surendra

Members: Beato Pudadera, Christe Degollacion, Ekhlas Ambili, Erica Luiz, Helena Vea, Harlane Petersen, Sidney Lazum, Fr. Wim Hoekstra, Fr. Andrew Rooney, Fr. Stephen Onyekwere, Rev. John Cinya.

Parish Schools:

St Michael's Primary:

P : 8869 6200

<https://www.stmichaelsblacktown.catholic.edu.au>

St Patrick's Primary:

P : 8869 6000

<https://www.stpatsblacktown.catholic.edu.au>

Nagle College:

P : 8887 4500

<https://www.nagleblacktown.catholic.edu.au>

Patrician Brothers College:

P : 8811 0300

<https://www.patsblacktown.nsw.edu.au>

Catholic Early Learning Centre (St Michael's) :

P : 8814 8406

<https://www.celcblacktownsth.catholic.edu.au>

Aged Care Facilities:

Opal Nursing Home (37 Kildare Rd, Blacktown NSW 2148) P : 9852 9600

Mullauna Retirement Village (61 Bungarribee Rd, Blacktown NSW 2148) P : 8822 2100

This is what happened at our Baptism. We didn't simply go into the water to express our intent to die to sin and then come out of the water to express our intent to try to live a new life anchored in Christ. There's more to it than that.

Jesus didn't die a peaceful death in his sleep. His body was subject to torture and humiliation in the last hours of his life. On the cross, he was naked, beaten, tormented and completely broken. But in death, Jesus underwent a total transformation. On Good Friday he was a wreck, and on Easter Sunday his broken body was transfigured. As St Paul puts it, "the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable and the mortal with immortality".

The crucifixion, death and glorious Resurrection of Jesus teach us that our human existence is not simply extended. It is transformed by virtue of our being made one with him. Christ emerged from the tomb with a transformed, human, risen life. We emerged from our Baptism with a participation in the same life Christ received when he rose from the dead.

This is the only life Christ has, and it is this life that he gives to us: his transformed, human, and risen life.

Think about it. This is the life that is nourished within us at every Eucharist. At the Eucharist we join with Christ in his dying and rising. At Communion we come forward and sacramentally unite with the Risen Christ. What we celebrate at Easter then is too big to be put into mere words. That's why the main Easter celebration - the Easter Vigil - is full of symbols: darkness, light, fire, the Easter Candle, water, oil, Baptisms, Confirmations, Alleluia's, music everywhere. That's why we have all those readings that tell the core stories of Creation, Abraham, the Exodus, and the prophets... And to really appreciate what we celebrate at Easter time, let's never forget to think of the real people who have died: our parents, grandparents, children, loved ones, victims of war and violence.

As we ponder and pray about our loved ones gone before us 'marked with the sign of faith', we take in all these symbols, and the full realisation comes over us, "They're alive, really living. They're with God. They're with us in a living bond, and a love that still runs back and forth between us." And somewhere deep down inside us we say, "I really believe this. I know it to be true."

Of course, we can only dare to believe in such a great mystery - because of our hope in Jesus of Nazareth.

Perhaps that is why Pope Francis calls us in this Jubilee year of 2025 to deepen our hope. He wants us to become people of hope and encourage our fellow pilgrims on the journey of faith.

That's not so easy at times! For so many in our chaotic world of 2025 - especially marginalised communities - life seems so hopeless, unjust and unfair. And our beautiful planet is being hopelessly damaged by those who put greed, self-interest and personal ambition before God.

But take heart! Christ by his dying on the cross and his rising to a transformed human life, has opened the door of hope, and shown the way for us all. Let us live the hope of the Resurrection here and now as we journey towards its fulfilment in God's Kingdom.

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Wishing you and your families a blessed and holy Easter.

Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv
Bishop of Parramatta



Join us every Tuesday from 10am until 12:00pm at Sid Moseley St. Michael's Church and every Friday from 10:00am till 12:00pm at Cardinal Clancy room at St. Patrick's Church, for our Arts and Crafts activities will include: Embroidery and Embellishment, Crocheting, Knitting, Arts and Crafts (Painting) & Sewing. All sessions are free. Materials for the lessons is provided or bring your own materials. **Noemi Romero on 0475 798 770.**

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1. Scan the QR code—to go to the FORMED website;
2. In the Parish search field—type "2148" to find our Parish name;
3. Select "Mary Queen of the Family" and press "Next";
4. Enter your Name and your Email address to register a new account and press "Sign Up";
5. Download the FORMED app on your phone and "Sign In" using your email address in step 4;
6. Browse, Watch, Listen, Read, and Study—to form your catholic conscience.

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION - YEAR C

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Cf Psalm 138:18,5-6
I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia.
You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia.
Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

FIRST READING: Acts of the Apostles 10:34. 37-43
We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: PS 117:1-2. 16-17. 22-23. R. V.24
R ~ This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-4
Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.

SEQUENCE

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise.
The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;
and Christ, the undefiled,
hath sinners to his Father reconciled.
Death with life contended: combat strangely ended!
Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign.
Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way.
The tomb the Living did enclose;
I saw Christ's glory as he rose!
The angels there attesting;
shroud with grave-clothes resting.
Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee.
That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know.
Victorious king, thy mercy show!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: 1 Corinthians 5:7-8
Alleluia, alleluia!
Christ has become our paschal sacrifice;
let us feast with joy in the Lord.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL: John 20:1-9

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON 1 Corinthians 5:7-8
Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia;
therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread
of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

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PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY

RECENTLY DECEASED

Maria Carmelita Glena, Joseph & Teresa Vella, Fr. David Coffey,
Orfeo Marchetti, Jose Bagadion, Jaime Angeles
Tina McAllister, Maria O'Brien, John Borg, Sam Mercieca,

DEATH ANNIVERSARY

Maria Buterin, Niko Raso, John Portelli, Moya Kopacz,
Liwayway Correa Bautista, Edmond Antony

DECEASED

Lorna Scott, William Peppin, Anastasia Marasigan, Lynus Rodrigues,
Paul & Frances Vella, Frances Bartlett, Colin Newell, Sofia Javillonar,
Bertha Johnstone

SICK

Jacksong Jang, Araceli Bautista, Dominique, Lourdes Novestreras,
Phillippa Schembri, Fernando Pena Epinoza, Amanda Sales, Allan McKay

The funeral of Orfeo Marchetti will be celebrated
at 10am on April 23 at St Michael's Church.

FRIDAY 25 APRIL—ANZAC DAY
Masses at 8am at St Michael's and 9am at St Patrick's
ONLY. No evening devotions or Mass at St Pat's

THE FLOWER MINISTRY IS HOLDING A
MOTHER'S DAY 2025 MARKETPLACE
EARLY BIRD SALE 4TH MAY

AT ST PATRICK'S AFTER THE 10.00AM MASS.
AT ST MICHAEL'S AFTER THE 8.00AM AND 9.30AM MASSES.

MOTHER'S DAY 11TH MAY

AT ST PATRICK'S AFTER THE 10.00AM MASS.
AT ST MICHAEL'S AFTER THE 8.00AM AND 9.30AM MASSES.

THERE WILL BE A GREAT VARIETY OF GOODS & GIFTS FOR SALE AND
A RAFFLE WITH FOUR WONDERFUL PRIZES TO BE WON.
TICKETS GO ON SALE FROM THE EASTER WEEKEND.



Marriage Enrichment
Weekend

We are offering an opportunity for you to learn to become the best version of you selves together and live your best life in love! Come and join us on 23-25 May 2025 at a Marriage Encounter Weekend in a Covid safe environment at Mt Carmel Retreat Centre, Varroville, NSW – a stunning & tranquil oasis on

Ministry of Care Courses:
4- 25 June

Those who visit the sick and are involved in the Ministry of Communion to the Sick and Dying in Hospitals, Aged Care Facilities and in Homes are invited to attend this course on the Ministry of Care. It will be held every Wednesday evening at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre in Blacktown. Attend all 4 sessions to receive a certificate of completion or just attend the session(s) that interest you. Please visit parracatholic.org/events/OFW to reserve a spot. For enquiries, please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or 0488 000 211.



Anointing of the sick

Bookings now open: Diocese of Parramatta's Jubilee
Youth Pilgrimage

Young people (18-35 years) from Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains are invited to join an 18-day pilgrimage to the Jubilee of Youth in Rome from July 19 – August 5, 2025 With only 45 spots available, secure your place by booking before May 10, 2025, and find out more or book at parracatholic.org/jubilee2025/

THE SACRAMENTS / MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

PASTORAL CARE FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Our clergy and pastoral care ministers bring the sacraments of Eucharist, reconciliation, and anointing of the sick to members who are unable to participate because of illness or aging. For more information and to arrange receiving of the sacraments, please contact the Parish Office on 9622 1125 or after office hours number 02 8705 0830.



PARISH GROUPS

HOLY FAMILY FELLOWSHIP PRAYER GROUP



Contact: Charles Hyson, 0412 631 602, www.holyfamilyfellowship.com
Meeting Time and Venue: Please contact Charles for more information.

JOSEPHITE COMPANIONS



Contact: Antoinette Mangion, 0414 735 943
Meeting Time and Venue: Every 3rd Monday of the month, 10:00 am at Cardinal Clancy room, St Patrick's Church

LEGION OF MARY ST MICHAEL'S



Contact: Max Rosario, 0490 137 533 (for statue bookings)
Meeting Time and Venue: Every Thursday, 12:00pm – 1:30pm at Sid Mosley Centre, St Michael's Church.

LEGION OF MARY ST PATRICK'S



Contact: Doris Zammit, 0419 274 002 (for statue bookings)
Meeting Time and Venue: Every Monday, 6:30pm at Cardinal Clancy room, St Patrick's Church.

MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS



Contact: Max Rosario, 0490 137 533
Meeting Time and Venue: Monday 9:30am-10:30am at Sid Mosley Centre, St Michael's Church. All are welcome!

MQOF SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP

Contact: Frank Mangion, 0410 830 877
Meeting Time and Venue: 18th May 2025, 12pm – 2pm at Cardinal Clancy room, St Patrick's Church.

ROSARY GROUP



Contact: Diane Zerafa, 0403 554 566
Meeting Time and Venue: Every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday after the 8am Mass, at St Michael's church.

CATECHIST MINISTRY

Contact: Sandra Baker
admin@mqofblacktown.org.au
 For more information, please contact the parish office.

TEHILLAH COMMUNITY



Contact: Ash & Rozario Fernando, 0416 861 976 or 0412 195 916
Meeting Time and Venue: Every 2nd & 4th Saturday (during school term only), 2pm – 4pm at the Cardinal Clancy Room, St Patrick's Church.

TRUE LIFE IN GOD PRAYER GROUP



Contact: Diane Zerafa, 0403 554 566
Meeting Time and Venue: Every 2nd Saturday of the month, 3.00pm at Sid Mosley Centre St Michael's Church

YOUTH MINISTRY



Contact: Parish Office
admin@mqofblacktown.org.au
 For More Information please contact our Youth Minister through the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF INITIATION

Baptism

Parents wishing to have their children baptised are to contact the parish office prior to attending a Baptism workshop.

The next workshop will on Saturday 3rd May 2025 @ 2pm - St. Patrick's Church.

For more information please logon to our website:
<https://mqofblacktown.org.au/sacraments/#baptism>

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2025



Registrations for Sacramental processes are **NOW OPEN!**

Sacramental program dates and registration forms are available online on our parish website:

<https://mqofblacktown.org.au/sacraments/>

For more information, please contact our

Sacramental Coordinator, Gerald "Ged" Oblea at sacraments@mqofblacktown.org.au or on (02) 9622 1125 (option 3) /

MQOF SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUP



We encourage you to continue to support and donate non perishable items for Mary's Pantry. These are some suggestions: Cereal, Pasta, Instant Noodles, Rice, Biscuits, Milk, Tinned Soup, Tinned Fruit, Tinned, Fish, Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Spaghetti, Tinned Meat, Tinned Chickpeas, Tinned Lentils, Pasta Sauce, Baked Beans. Your donations will go to help those who are doing it tough in our community and beyond. Thank you for your generosity.

Thank you also for continuing to support the MQOF Social Justice Group 10 cents bottle collection.

Please come and join us for a cuppa and a chat at Mary's Café. We are open every Wednesday after the 9am Mass in the Cardinal Clancy Room.

This would be funny except there's no punch line...





Easter Sunday
20th April 2025

Happy Easter from all of us here at Caritas Australia!

As we celebrate this season of hope and renewal, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your support through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion this Lent.

As we reflect on the Easter message of love, compassion, and new beginnings, we are reminded of the incredible impact your contributions make. Together, we are building a world where no one is left behind.

Thank you for standing with us, as we **Unite Against Poverty** through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2025 Lenten appeal.



**UNITE
AGAINST
POVERTY**
this Lent

It's not too late to donate.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we **Unite Against Poverty** this Lent.

CHURCH MATTERS UPDATE

The roof repairs at St Patrick's are continuing and, pending the weather, should be completed by the end of May. Having received a grant of over \$36,000 from the State Government for security upgrades around St Michael's and St Patrick's, the Committee agreed this should start when the roofing work was completed.

A Planned Giving campaign is slated for the weekend of June 21-22. The next meeting of the Parish Finance Committee is scheduled for 5 June.

To assist our parish needs, can you consider donating regularly online, either via EFT, credit/debit cards or even envelopes. This will help us plan for the future of Mary Queen of the Family Parish.

Thank you for your continued generosity! Fr Wim

Study of Luke's Gospel with Dr Laurie Woods: Fridays 2-30 May

Join us for an enriching study of Luke's Gospel, led by Dr Laurie Woods and hosted by the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD). Sessions will take place each Friday in May from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, Blacktown. All parishioners are welcome to attend. For more information or to RSVP by 30 April, contact ccd.training@parracatholic.org

Workshop 'Exploring Music for the Solemnities': 8 May

Musicians from the Diocese of Parramatta and beyond are invited to attend this workshop led by MET Music Formation Facilitator Eric Grella. The workshop will outline suggested hymns and explore music new and old for the many Solemnities and Feasts that occur in the period of Eastertide. Bring any music related questions along on Thursday 8 May to the Bishop Bede Heather Centre 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown at 7pm. Please RSVP by 2 May via parracatholic.org/events/OFW. For enquiries, please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or 0488 000 211.

Commissioning Mass of Liturgical Ministers: 13 May

In this Jubilee Year of Hope all liturgical ministers - readers, servers and extra ordinary ministers are invited to join us for our Annual Commissioning Mass of Liturgical Ministers. Families and friends are also invited. This celebration will take place at 7:30pm on 13th May 2025, at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. To register your attendance and guests please visit parracatholic.org/events/liturgical-ministers-commissioning-mass/

Children's Liturgy Workshop—15 May

Are you a part of children's liturgy or looking to get started? Come along to this informative workshop to learn more about the Diocesan guidelines, meet children's liturgy teams from other parishes, and ask any questions you may have about this rewarding ministry.

This workshop will be held at the Bishop Bede Heather Centre, 1-5 Marion Street, Blacktown on Thursday, 15 May at 7-8.30pm. Please RSVP via parracatholic.org/events/OFW by 12 May. For enquiries please contact ofw@parracatholic.org or 0460 037 795.

Can you help?

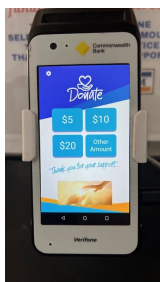
Fr Ed Kenny, currently living at Holy Family Aged Care, Quakers Road, Marayong has been coming to the 10am Mass here at St Patrick's. Our Clergy Health and Wellbeing Team have been bringing him, but is now asking if at least once a month, someone from the Parish could pick Fr Ed up and bring him to St Pat's for the 10am Mass. He has a walker and may need assistance into and out of the car.

Please let us know via admin@mqofblacktown.org.au

The fresco of the Resurrection on the front page can be found at the Sumela Monastery, Trabzon, Turkiye. Fr Wim's photo

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

You can also support the parish by using our **Tap & Go Machine**. The machine amount is variable, please use the screen to donate the amount you wish to give. It also accepts Apple Pay, Google Pay and Pay Wave. All contributions go to the maintenance and development of the Parish as does the second collection at weekend Masses.



Planned Giving (Direct Debit or Credit Card) is also an option if you wish to do cashless donation to the parish, forms are available in the foyer and on our parish website or contact the parish office on 9622 1125.

Setting up a one-time or recurring donation/Planned Giving is quick and easy. Just go to: www.mqofblacktown.org.au/donations or use the QR code. You can also send your offerings/donations thru bank transfer:

FIRST COLLECTION: For the Diocesan Clergy

Account Name: Diocesan Clergy
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SECOND COLLECTION: For the Parish

Account Name: Blacktown Catholic Church
Bank: CBA BSB: 067 950 Account Number: 0000 0677
Reference: 6004 ~ Donor's name

If you encounter any issues signing up, please email Sarah at accounts@mqofblacktown.org.au. Thank you so much for your continued support to our parish. We are grateful!



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business.ablechoice@gmail.com

Contact : 0288097084**

*We can help you with information to meet NDIA, Aged Care, ATO and our Company Policy standards. **Monday and Wednesday ONLY.



St Patrick's Primary Blacktown

Is your child ready to start Kindy?
Call now for a School Tour!
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Enrolment Packs Available Now.

Please call the school office to organize your enrolment pack or download an enrolment form from our school website.

<https://www.stpatsblacktown.catholic.edu.au/>

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ST MICHAEL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

155 Reservoir Road Blacktown South

2026 KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENTS

Now Open



Contact the school office on
8869 6200 or download an
enrolment pack our website
our website.



NAGLE COLLEGE



**SCHOOL
TOURS**

**6 May 2025
9:00AM-10:30AM**



Nagle College, Blacktown South

Families interested in enrolling in our College will have the opportunity to explore our school grounds and facilities, meet our staff, and to ask any questions you may have about the enrolment process.

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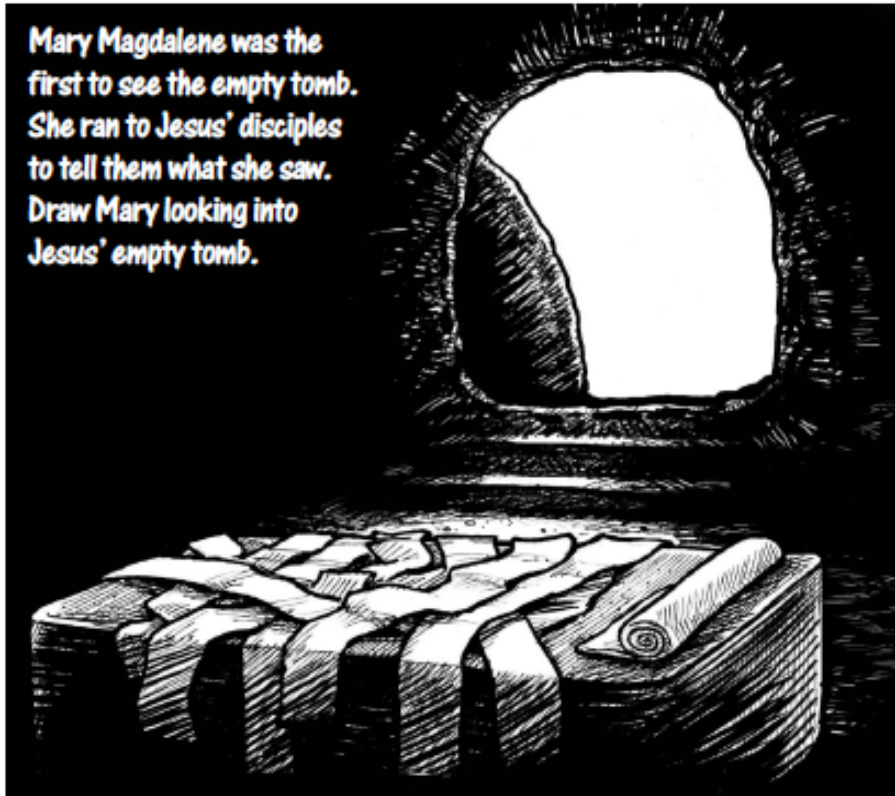
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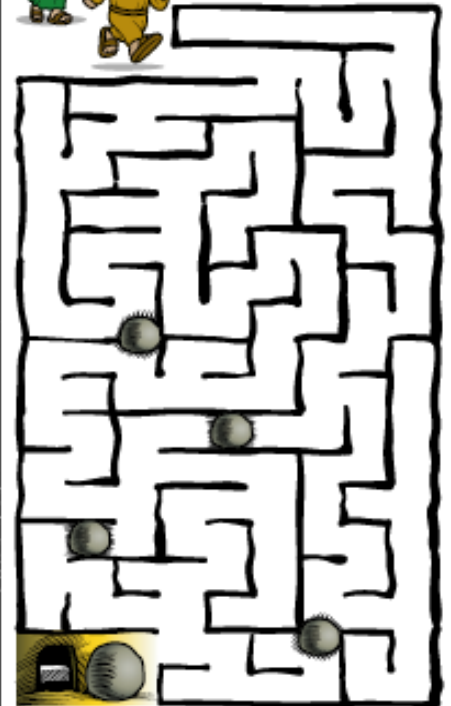
He is risen! Alleluia!

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Mary Magdalene was the first to see the empty tomb. She ran to Jesus' disciples to tell them what she saw. Draw Mary looking into Jesus' empty tomb.



Help the disciples find their way to Jesus' empty tomb.



This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice!



What can you do to make people glad today?

Fill in the missing words below to find out what the letters in the boxes spell.

Mary M went to the tomb.

"They have taken the from the tomb", she said.

Peter was a d of Jesus.

The other disciple ran f than Peter.

He saw the strips of cloth lying inside the tomb.

B he did not go in.

When he saw he believed.

The Scriptures s Jesus would rise to life.