**MCCIA Bible Study 2019**

The first MCCIA Bible Study on the topic of ‘Resurrection Hope in the City’ was held on the evening of Wednesday 26 June. We were generously hosted by the Coptic Orthodox Church in their premises in the Eporo Tower in La Trobe Street, with a fine meal. There were about twenty people present and participating.

The study on Luke 24:1-12 was led by Mr. Hattem Ziraf of the Coptic Church. He spoke about the spiritual problem of loneliness in the city and the way in which the message that Christ is risen addresses this reality. The conversation focused on the missional challenge of living in response to the gracious love of the risen Christ in the everyday life of the church in the city. The angel’s word, ’Why do you seek the living among the dead?’ challenges us when we lack faith. It was recognised that the life of the church has unfortunately not always shown this faith, particularly where there has been horrendous child abuse. Participants were left with the missional challenge of living the faith.

The second and third studies will also be held in the Coptic Church at Eporo Tower. The second study will be led by the Rev. Dr. Robert Derrenbacker (Trinity Theological School) on Wednesday 24 July. The text will be Luke 24: 13-35. The third study will be led by the Rev. Dr. Keith Dyer (Whitley Theological College) on Wednesday 4 September. The text will be Luke 24: 36-49.

Notes by Sandy Yule