

Gospel John 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

After eight days Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.
For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him:

'You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen
and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.



Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The themes for the second Sunday of Easter set the tone for the entire Easter season. They are all directed toward mystagogical instruction, primarily of the neophytes who were baptised during the Easter Vigil, but also of the whole Christian community. The readings for this season provide us an extended meditation on the resurrection and on our own incorporation into it through the mysteries of initiation.

Most of us are like Thomas who looked for some tangible evidence of the resurrection. We do not find it any easier to live by faith than he did. However, when we do live by faith, we actually discover tangible proof. This proof can be seen in the way the community reaches out in care and support to others. Jesus extends his wounded hands to us as he did to Thomas, and the community is invited to touch his wounds as we touch the wounds of our world. We find a similar situation in the reading from Acts where the fledgling Christian community grew in number as a result of the teaching of the apostles. So it has always been. Those who are not eye witnesses of the actual events are called, through the teaching of others, to witness to the power of the resurrection. Although the blessings that we derive from the resurrection are clearly gifts from God, they are nonetheless costly gifts. They have been won through the blood of Christ, and we too may them.

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ST MARTIN DE PORRES

Catholic Parish Avondale Heights

Today's Celebration is on pages:
Old Missal: 198 New Missal: 311



2nd Sunday of Easter - Year A

12 April 2026

First Reading Acts 2:42-47

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 117:2-4. 13-15. 22-24. R. v.1

**(R.) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
his love is everlasting.**

1. Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.'
Let the sons of Aaron say:
'His love has no end.'
Let those who fear the Lord say:
'His love has no end.' (R.)
2. I was thrust, thrust down and falling
but the Lord was my helper.
The Lord is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.
There are shouts of joy and victory
in the tents of the just. (R.)

3. The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes.
This day was made by the Lord;
we rejoice and are glad. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Peter 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Jn 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

**You believe in me, Thomas,
because you have seen me;
happy are those who have not seen me,
but still believe! Alleluia!**

St Martin de Porres Parish

158 Military Rd, Avondale Heights Vic 3034

www.melbocatholic.org/avondaleheights

Parish Priest: Fr. Paul Tru

Secretaries: Lee Tran: Wednesday - Friday

Charles Meneze: Tuesday

Office Hours: Closed Monday

10am - 3pm Tuesday - Friday

Pastoral Assoc: Sr. Cres Villas, asjm

Sr. Connie Mamo, asjm (Vol)

Phone: 9337 6016

E-mail: avondaleheights@cam.org.au

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil 6:00pm

Sunday 8:00am & 9:30am

Vietnamese 11:00am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday to Friday 9:15am

Benediction Wednesday after Mass

Reconciliation Wednesday 10.00am

Saturday 5:30pm

St Martin de Porres School

Principal: Stefanie Harvey

Secretaries: Mary Carmuciano

Maria Aloe

Phone: 9331 9000

E-mail:

principal@smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au

www.smavondaleheights.catholic.edu.au

The Augustinian Sisters

Convent: 2 Venice Court,
Avondale Heights

Phone: 9337 4595

E-mail: sisaugustinian@gmail.com

Website: www.asimoz.org

Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility.

The Parish of St Martin de Porres and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and vulnerable people in our community. Child protection and the dignity of every person is the responsibility of everyone.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Sick: John & Rossini Burns; Pan Giannenas; Susie; Mark; Franca, Nazzi & Teresa Demaio; Peter Falzon; Nancy Green; Emily & Grace; Monica Marland; Mellisa; Charles; Anna; Zac.

Recently Deceased:

Maria La Spina; Vincenza Cassar; Chandra; Rocco Genoese; Salvatore & Maria Perrotta; Draga Vadjal; Susan Broad; Giuseppina Troise; Sr Eulalia Ferriggi, OSA (Malta); Anne O'Prey; Edmund Boileau; Philip Cassar; Lawrence Vella; Ian Howe; Feliciana Lisio.

Anniversaries & Remembrances:

Brian Redfern (1st); Gioconda Moretti (1st); Maria Disauro (1st); Seu Tchong Um David; Son Moi Lic Sonia; I Cho Lay Charlie; George Fabris; Victor Degabriele; Dominic Cumbo; Bernarda & Francis Grima; Teresa, Emmanuel, Tonina, Phillip Sammut; Emmanuel & Nazarena Farrugia; Adam Hood; Rita & Carmelo De Bono; Joseph Consiglia.

Parish Support Programme:

Pays Wages, Electricity, Cleaning, Insurance, Rates, Maintenance.

Pledge: \$2,588

Received: \$2,255

Loose: \$2,660

Presbytery: Supports Parish Priest, Retired Priests & Cathedral. \$1,806

Collection for the Holy Land: \$3,406

Thank you for your generosity during this anxious time for Christians in the Holy Land.

Project Compassion: \$1,302

CONTRIBUTING TO THE COLLECTIONS

Have you left your cash at home?

Why not use our QR Code or the Donation Tap Machine (Max. \$99). Please see one of our friendly volunteers with the machine in the back of the church if you wish to tap your card/phone to donate.

Thank you for your generosity.



BAPTISMS THIS WEEK

We congratulate and pray for:

Joseph Tran; Eliza Peiris

WHAT'S HAPPENING

While Fr Paul is away, we warmly welcome Fr Arnold Heredia and Fr Joseph Tan Nguyen who will be celebrating Mass in our parish. We invite all parishioners to make them feel welcome into our community.

Easter House Blessing

Fr Arnold and Fr Joseph would be very happy to visit and bless your home. Please contact the parish office or Fr Arnold direct on 0439 401 878 to arrange a blessing.

Fr Arnold can also be contacted directly if he is needed outside of office hours.

Parish Support Programme

The new sets of envelopes, receipt, and letter from Fr Paul are at the back of the church.

Please take yours home today.

Thank you for your continued support.

Parishioners who have not yet joined the **Stewardship Program** are warmly invited to reflect on the difference they might wish to make within our parish community through their involvement. Your support and generosity are deeply valued, and your participation is both needed and sincerely appreciated. If you would like to join the program or require any further information, please contact the parish office.

Monday Mass

Will start on the 4th of May at 9.15am.

The Augustinian Sisters Latest Newsletter



Read about Sr Lorraine's Mission news from the Philippines.

www.asimoz.org/mission-news-march-2206.html



**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

THANK YOU!



Caritas Australia sincerely thanks you for your generous support of Project Compassion this Lent.

If you still have your Project Compassion box or donation envelope at home, please return it next week. Every contribution, no matter the size, helps to bring hope and opportunity to people experiencing poverty and injustice.



Prayer of Praise

God of our salvation we give you thanks,
for Christ our Saviour has redeemed
the world.

Lifted high above the earth
all nations have seen his saving power.

God of life we praise you
for Christ is risen from the dead.

Death has no power,
salvation has been won,
we are dead to sin
and alive in Christ Jesus.

God of power and might
we rejoice in Christ the Lamb
who has ransomed us with his blood.

Lifted high above all the earth,
he is our hope and our salvation.

God of majesty, we glorify you
for now Christ reigns on high.

Exalted by you and given a name
above all names

let every tongue confess that
Jesus Christ is Lord.

You have set us free:
Praise to the Lord, alleluia.



Devotion to Divine Mercy

Mondays: 2.30pm Rosary

3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet

followed by Stations of the Cross, 4pm finish.



Christian Meditation 2026

Maranatha ... Come Lord Jesus

All welcome: Monday 10 - 11am

Parent's Room in the Church

Term 2: Apr 20; May 4 & 18; June 1 & 15.

NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome you and ask that you make yourself known to us by completing the New Parishioners Form in Documents and Forms under Recommended Links on our website and return it to the Parish Office. Thank you.