



SUNDAY 12TH APRIL, 2026 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY Reflection on the Gospel (John 20:19-31)

Not so long ago we used to speak of the Sundays “after” Easter. The terminology has changed and we now speak of the Sundays “of” Easter. In other words, we now recognise that the liturgical readings and prayers for each Sunday between Easter and Pentecost invite us into different movements of the one great symphony of resurrection faith.

Today’s Gospel tells of fear and joy and blessing. We bring our present experience of climate crisis and ongoing pandemic into dialogue with all of this.

The first scene in today’s Gospel has the disciples hiding behind closed doors “for fear” of those who had handed Jesus over to be executed by the Roman authorities. As supporters of someone executed on a political charge, they had reason to be fearful. Jesus appears among them, offers a greeting of peace, and tells them that he has been sent by God, his “Father”. They receive from him the gift of the Holy Spirit. He sends them in turn to bring peace and to mediate the forgiveness of God through the power of the Spirit.

The story invites us as believers to place ourselves in the shoes of the earliest disciples. It invites us to be open to receive the gift of the Spirit, to emerge from behind the doors that close us in on ourselves and that prevent us from rising above the fear of reprisals in the pursuit of justice and peace.

The second and third scenes in today’s Gospel focus on Thomas who was not with the other disciples when Jesus first appeared in their midst. Thomas seems to trust only his own experience. We all know people like Thomas. They test our patience because they seem to lack imagination. Then they make big statements when they come around to understanding what everyone else has known for a while. If we think, however, that those who hear in the first place are any better than Thomas, we need to note that the doors are still closed eight days later! The simple fact of knowing has not dispelled the fears. Even those who do believe and trust often need time to take the Gospel message on board.

Like John’s community we live in “the eighth day”, in resurrection time, the time of the new creation. Biblical scholar, Margaret Daly-Denton notes that, in the Jewish tradition, “the eighth day symbolized the aeon to come”. Easter faith invites us, for the sake of the whole Earth community, to keep living into that reality.

All three readings this Sunday affirm those who believe without “seeing”. In the reading from Acts, many who had not seen the resurrected Jesus are drawn to the community of faith-filled believers. The members of the community addressed in 1 Peter have “never seen him [the Christ]” and yet they love him and are filled with inexpressible joy. In the Gospel, we too are declared blessed: “Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe”.

By Sr. Veronica Lawson, RSM

BAPTISM

We pray for **Theodore Nguyen** who we welcome this weekend through the Sacrament of Baptism.

WEDDINGS

Congratulations to **Juliusz & Jennifer** and **Anthony and Imogen** who are celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage this weekend.

DEATHS & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace.



A Synod is not a parliament

The Church is not a democracy where truth is decided by majority vote. A Synod is not about winning arguments or pushing agendas. Instead, it is a spiritual process of listening deeply—to God, to Scripture, to tradition, and to one another—so that decisions are shaped by faith and mission, not ideology.

First Reading: Acts 2:42-47

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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. (R.) Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 117:2-4, 13-15, 22-24.

**(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 down, 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: Peter 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

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 a 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. (R.) Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: John 20:29

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

Gospel: John 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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.
(R.) Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

*I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
He descended into hell;
on the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right
hand of God the Father Almighty;
from there He will come to judge
the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Holy Catholic Church,
the communion of Saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.*

Communion Antiphon: John 20:27

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,
and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

HOSPITALITY

Next Weekend, **18 & 19 April**,
there will be Hospitality
after the **5pm and 9.30am Masses**.
Parishioners are invited to bring a plate of
food to share and stop after Mass for a
cuppa and chat with fellow parishioners.

APOLOGY

I would like to extend a sincere apology to
those who intended joining the Ecumenical
Way of the Cross on Good Friday.
I made a mistake with the starting time.
Apologies for any inconvenience.
Fr. Werner

MARY MACKILLOP SPIRITUALITY RETREAT:

The Art of Contemplation

Hosted by Mary MacKillop Spirituality
Ministry.

Monday 20 April – Wednesday 22 April 2026
at St. Joseph's by the Sea,
16 Esplanade Williamstown.
Facilitator: Clare Shearman
Cost \$682 including GST.

EASTER HOME BLESSING

You are invited to take home a small bottle of
Easter water (only 1 per family please)
and an Easter Home Blessing Prayer Card
to bless your homes and pray with your family
during this Easter Season.

JOSEPH'S CORNER HIGH TEA FUNDRAISER

We warmly invite you to join us at our **High Tea
Fundraiser on 3rd May from 2pm – 5pm at
Mount St. Joseph Girls' College, 133
Maidstone Street, Altona 3018.**

Ticket price; \$40 per person.

For table bookings of 10 or any dietary
requirements, please contact Rob Quail on
0407687003. Your attendance will directly
support families that need our help.

We are also **seeking donations of goods,
services, or vouchers** for our silent and main
room auctions. Any contribution would be
sincerely appreciated. P.S. Bring cash or card
for our auctions and raffle.



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 at Mass. Every contribution,
no matter the size, helps to bring hope and
opportunity to people experiencing poverty and
injustice. Together, we are *Uniting Against
Poverty* and walking alongside vulnerable
communities as they build stronger, more
sustainable futures.



Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026
through the donation boxes, envelopes or by
scanning the QR code.

Or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we

Unite Against Poverty this Lent.

PARISH PRIEST:

Rev. Fr. Werner Utri

PARISH SECRETARY: Emilia Balkan**PHONE:** 0401 158 113;

(03) 9314 7710

EMAIL: yarraville@cam.org.au**ST. AUGUSTINE'S OFFICE HOURS:**

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays

9.30am till 2.30pm

PARISH WEBSITE:www.melbatholic.org/yarraville**SAFEGUARDING:** Pat Mc Laughlinpatmac766@gmail.com**PARISH CHURCHES****ST AUGUSTINE'S**

71 Somerville Road Yarraville

CORPUS CHRISTI

376 Geelong Road, Kingsville

ANNUNCIATION

4 Nolan Avenue, Brooklyn

PARISH NEWSLETTER:

To receive an Email copy of our newsletter, scan the QR code.

LITURGY TIMES**TUESDAY MASS**

St Augustine's....6.00 pm

Exposition: 5.30 –6.00pm

WEDNESDAY MASS

Corpus Christi....9.15 am

THURSDAY MASS

St Augustine's...9.15 am

FRIDAY MASS

Corpus Christi....9.15 am

SATURDAY MASS

Corpus Christi....9.30 am

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

St Augustine's...5.00 pm

SUNDAY MASS

Annunciation.....8.00 am

St Augustine's....9.30 am

Corpus Christi..11.00 am

St Augustine's..11.30 am

(Polish)

RECONCILIATION:**SATURDAYS** after 9.30am

Mass at Corpus Christi

St. Augustine's...4.15pm

NEXT ITALIAN MASS

On hold until further notice

COLLECTIONS

THE FIRST COLLECTION supports the Priests of our Parish, the Archbishop, Priests on special duties and retired priests.

THE SECOND COLLECTON (includes envelopes), supports the running costs of the Church and pastoral initiatives.

To set up a **Direct Debit** Payment to our bank accounts for the Presbytery and the Church, use these account details.

St. Augustine's Yarraville Church Account:
BSB 083347 Account No. 638052213.

St. Augustine's Yarraville Presbytery A/C:
BSB 083347 Account No. 638051413

Corpus Christi Kingsville Church Account:
BSB 083347 Account No. 485182315

Presbytery Account:

BSB 083347 Account No. 638051413

TAP AND GO CONTACTLESS**DONATION TERMINALS**

in the foyers of the churches.

Follow the prompts and choose your nominated amount to donate.

Codes for one off donations via credit card



Unique to the Parish of St. Augustine's



Unique to the Parish of Corpus Christi

There are census cards at the back of the church for new subscribers wishing to use weekly envelopes. Record details and put the card on the collection plate or contact the Parish office for a set of envelopes.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Many thanks for your donations of non-perishable food. Cereal, long life milk, tea, coffee, milo, soup, pasta, pasta sauce, baked beans, spaghetti, tins of tuna, tinned fruit, rice, jam, biscuits; washing powder/liquid, shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothpaste and brushes are always needed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY - We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

ROSTER FOR THIS WEEK11th & 12th April 2026**2nd Sunday of Easter A****Divine Mercy Sunday****READERS:** St. Augustine's

5.00pm John Ryan

9.30am Pina Guzzardi

Sam/Anna

READERS: Corpus Christi

11am ... Cass Pelino

AJ Pelino

MINISTERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm.....Maree Ryan

9.30am.....Phillip Marques

MINISTER: Corpus Christi

11.00am..... Mary Huynh

COUNTING: Les Vella**ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEK**18th & 19th April 2026**3rd Sunday of Easter A****READERS:** St. Augustine's

5.00pm Krystyna Biront

9.30am Pat McLaughlin

Sam/Anna

READERS: Corpus Christi

11am ... Natasha Fernandes

Imelda Gibson

MINISTERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm.....Mary Vella

9.30am.....Agnes Hpmans

MINISTER: Corpus Christi

11.00am..... Joe Fusca

COUNTING: John Ryan**SAFETY OF CHILDREN AND ALL VULNERABLE PEOPLE**

At Yarraville, Kingsville and Brooklyn, we hold the care, safety and well-being of children and all vulnerable people as a central and fundamental responsibility of our communities. The Parish Statement of Commitment and Reporting Process are on display at the entrance of all the Churches and all Diocesan Policies are available on the website or at the parish office.

www.cam.org.au/Professional-Standards/Statements