



SUNDAY 27TH APRIL, 2025. 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER. YEAR C

REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL (JOHN 20: 19-31)

This weekend we celebrate the second of eight Sundays of the Easter Season which culminates in the Feast of Pentecost. In other words, we 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.

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. Again, it is the first day of the week, evoking the first day of creation. 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 to place ourselves in the shoes of the earliest disciples. It invites us 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 our pursuit of justice and peace. It also invites us to ponder the consequences of forgiving on the one hand and of not forgiving on the other. To forgive another is to release that person from the burden of guilt and shame. Forgiveness opens up the possibility of healing for all concerned. To refuse forgiveness or to "retain" the sins of another is to leave that person unforgiven and so unhealed. We might also consider the consequences of refusing to open ourselves to forgiveness. Those who refuse to forgive others have often failed to forgive themselves for their own shortcomings.

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 first hand 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 already knows.

If we think, however, that those who hear from the outset 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 their fears.

We all need time to grasp what it means to say that Christ has been raised. Biblical scholar, Margaret Daly-Denton notes that, in the Jewish tradition, "the eighth day symbolized the aeon to come". Like John's community we live in "the eighth day", in resurrection time, the time of the new creation. Easter faith invites us, for the sake of the whole Earth community, to keep living into that reality.

By Sr. Veronica Lawson, RSM

DEATHS & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for **Pope Francis** who died recently; and for **Cena Said and Gregory Formosa** whose anniversaries occur about this time.
May they rest in peace.

BAPTISMS

We pray for **Matilda Cullia, Hunter and Jude Hosking, Leo Fava and Lachlan Lontayao** who we welcome this weekend through the Sacrament of Baptism. May they, their parents and Godparents be filled with the Holy Spirit.

MASS COUNT:

The annual Mass count of the number of parishioners, including babies, in attendance will be recorded for all the Weekend Masses during the month of May in all the Parishes throughout the Archdiocese. This year, the four weekends of **3-4 May, 10-11 May, 17-18 May and 24-25 May** have been selected for the count.

Four weekends have been chosen to allow for those Parish Masses occurring in an infrequent pattern such as Masses said in languages other than English.

First Reading: Acts 5:12-16

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

The Word of the Lord. (R.) Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm Ps 117:2-4, 22-27. 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. 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.)**
3. O Lord, grant us salvation; O Lord grant success. Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes. We bless you from the house of the Lord; the true God is our light. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Apocalypse 1:9-13, 17-19

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle. When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First and the Last; I am the Living One.

I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

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: 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.

JOSEPH'S CORNER HIGH TEA

Sunday 4 May 2025, from 2.00pm- 5.00pm at Mt St.
Joseph Girls' College Maidstone Street, Altona 3018.
Tickets: \$40 per person. For table bookings or dietary
requirements, contact Ann Hudson on 0409 901 899.

CATHOLIC CARE APPEAL

Next weekend, **3rd and 4th May**, there will be an extra
Collection for the Catholic Care appeal in each of the
churches. CatholicCare Victoria delivers programs and
services to support families, children, young people and
individuals. The services include counselling and mental
health services, specialised support for children and
teens, refugee, asylum, housing support for families.

OPEN DAY AT MOUNT ST. JOSEPH GIRLS' COLLEGE

Date: **Sunday 18 May**. Time: **10:00am - 2:00pm**
During your visit, you will have the chance to:

- Take a guided tour of our facilities
- Meet our dedicated teachers and student leaders
- Learn about our academic programs, co-curricular activities, and faith-based values
- Discover how we nurture students to become confident, compassionate and capable young people. Please register your intention to attend.

EASTER TAIZE PRAYER

You are invited to enjoy Easter Taizé Prayer,
hosted by the Association of Pastoral Ministry Leaders
Melbourne, led by Marg Hayes, a member of our
Association at **St Augustine's Church**,
71 Somerville Road, Yarraville on **7 May 2025**.
Prayer will begin at 7.30pm and last approximately 45
minutes to an hour. Supper will be provided
afterwards.

A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We join the church in mourning the death of
Pope Francis. Pray with us in thanksgiving for
the life and legacy of our beloved shepherd:

Loving God,
we give you thanks for the life and ministry of
Pope Francis. In him you gave us a man of
humility, one who valued listening to the
voices of the voiceless, compassion for the
undervalued, mercy for sinners and justice
for the oppressed.

You gave us a pastor who led through the
example of his love for your people and your
creation, who was not ashamed to smell like
his sheep.

Comfort all who mourn his passing,
and may the angels now lead him to paradise
with you to rest in your peace for eternity.

May your Spirit guide the future successor to
your servant Francis
to continue the work you have begun through
him, for the good of the Church and the
world.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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SOLEMN PONTIFICAL MASS

Most Rev. Peter Comensoli, Catholic Archbishop of
Melbourne, welcomes you to attend a Solemn Pontifical
Mass for the repose of the soul of Pope Francis at
1.00pm on Monday 28 April 2025 at St. Patrick's
Cathedral East Melbourne. The Mass will be live
streamed and broadcast on Community Channel C31
(Channel 44 on digital television).

STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES

**Sets of envelopes are ready for collection at each of
the churches.**

There will be 2 distinct collections during Sunday
Masses starting next weekend. The **FIRST COLLECTION**
will be for the **PRESBYTERY**. The **SECOND COLLECTION**
– **ENVELOPES** – for the **CHURCH**. We are encouraging
people to set up a **Direct Debit** Payment to our bank
accounts for the Presbytery and the Church, using the
account details below.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S YARRAVILLE

St. Augustine's Yarraville Church Account:
BSB 083 347 Account No. 638052213

St. Augustine's Yarraville Presbytery Account:
BSB 083 347 Account No. 638051413

CORPUS CHRISTI KINGSVILLE & ANNUNCIATION

Corpus Christi Kingsville Church Account
BSB 083 347 Account No. 485182315

Presbytery Account: BSB 083 347
Account No. 638051413

PARISH PRIEST

Rev Fr Werner Utri

Mobile No. 0401 158 113

Parish Website:

www.melbcatholic.org/yarraville

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Pat Mc Laughlin

patmac766@gmail.com

PARISH CHURCHES

ST AUGUSTINE'S

71 Somerville Road Yarraville

(03) 9314 7710

yarraville@cam.org.au

CORPUS CHRISTI

376 Geelong Road, Kingsville

ANNUNCIATION

4 Nolan Avenue, Brooklyn

(03) 9314 5613

kingsville@cam.org.au

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

Thursday 1st May at

11am at St. Augustine's

PARISH NEWSLETTER

To receive an Email copy of our newsletter, scan the QR code below and fill in your details.



PROJECT COMPASSION

You can support Project Compassion through the **boxes or envelopes** or **by calling: 1800 024 413 or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion** or by scanning the QR code on the envelope.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH FESTIVAL 30 Nov – 2 Dec. 2025

Who is ACYF for?

Young people from Year 9 in 2025 up to those 25 years of age are invited to come along. Those aged 18-25 years are welcome to register as part of a group (Uni, school, parish etc.) or as an individual. Those under 18 will need to register as part of a group (school or parish) and be supervised by an adult group leader.

The Festival will be held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, located in the south-west edge of the Melbourne CBD, on the banks of the Yarra River, accessible via trams, trains, bus and walking paths along the Southbank precinct.

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

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.

ROSTERS FOR THIS WEEK

(26th & 27th April)

2nd Sunday of Easter C

READERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm Nic Fusca

9.30am Phillip Marques

Sam Polzella

Counting..... Les Vella

READERS: Corpus Christi

11.00am Joe Fusca

Mary Huynh

MINISTERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm..... Kath Baker

9.30am..... Pat Mc Laughlin

MINISTER: Corpus Christi

11.00am..... Kahn Nguyen

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEK

(3rd & 4th May)

3rd Sunday of Easter C

READERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm Peter Matheson

9.30am Pina Guzzardi

Anna Messina

Counting..... John Ryan

READERS: Corpus Christi

11.00am Cass Pelino

A J Pelino

MINISTERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm.....Maree Ryan

9.30am..... Gerald Bain-King

MINISTER: Corpus Christi

11.00am..... Val Taylor

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Baskets are left in the churches for regular donations of non-perishable food for St. Vincent de Paul throughout the year.

Cereal, long life milk, tea, coffee, milo, soup, pasta sauce, washing powder/liquid, baked beans, spaghetti, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste and tooth brushes are always needed. Many thanks for your generous support.