



SUNDAY 4TH MAY, 2025. 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER. YEAR C

REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL (JOHN 21:1-19)

In the publication of Pope Francis' Post-Synodal Exhortation, *Christus Vivit*, The Pope addresses his words to "young people and to the entire people of God". Quite early in the document, there is a call for the church to be a "living church", a church that is "attentive to the legitimate claims of those women who seek greater justice and equality" (par. 42). For Johannine scholar, Elizabeth Dowling RSM, this would entail a return to the spirit of the early chapters of John's Gospel.

John's final chapter marks an unfortunate shift in the portrayal of gender roles, a shift that would seem to reflect struggles in the early church to accept women in leadership roles. The focus is clearly on Peter, on his role as leader and his relationship with Jesus.

In John 20, it is not at all clear that Peter has come to resurrection faith, while there is no such doubt about the faith of Mary of Magdala. It is she who receives the first resurrection appearance and she who is commissioned to proclaim the news of the resurrection to the other disciples.

In Chapter 21, Peter goes fishing and several of the other disciples join him. They catch nothing. At dawn, they see the figure of Jesus on the shore. His disciples, with the exception of the "beloved disciple", do not recognise him immediately. They follow his instructions and find themselves overwhelmed with their catch. At the invitation of Jesus, they breakfast on bread and fish. This provides the setting for the rehabilitation of Peter, already foreshadowed in his decision to clothe his naked body. In the wake of his three-fold denial, Peter makes a three-fold profession of love of Jesus. This brings with it the responsibility of tending not only his "sheep" but also his "lambs". This command has particular resonance for a church that has failed so many of its children.

While the passage is filled with symbolism, we might pause to appreciate the materiality underlying the symbols. Fishing is an important Gospel metaphor for ministry. The number of fish (153) probably denotes the universality of the mission. The 30% decline in large fish species in my country provides a sober reminder that the mission must include the natural world as never before. The untorn net is a symbol of unity, like the seamless garment in the passion narrative. The verb "to draw" has several layers of meaning in this fishing context: the disciples were not able "to *draw* in the net....so Simon Peter went aboard and *drew* the net ashore".

These statements evoke earlier sayings of Jesus, particularly his words on the cross, "And I if I am lifted up from the earth will draw *all* to myself" (12:32). The "all" allows for the whole Earth community, human and more-than-human, to be drawn to the crucified and resurrected One, despite the failures of the past.

By Sr. Veronica Lawson, RSM

DEATHS & ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for **Mary Febey, Irene Portelli and Pope Francis** who died recently; and for **Josefa Biront** whose anniversary occurs about this time.
May they rest in peace.

MASS COUNT:

The annual Mass count will start this weekend in our churches. The number of parishioners in attendance, including babies, will be recorded at all Weekend Masses in every Parish throughout the Archdiocese during the month of May.

This annual count is important for pastoral planning, comparisons to be made across years, as well as maintaining an up-to-date picture of Mass attendance in the Archdiocese, in parishes and migrant community centres.

First Reading: Acts 5:27-32, 40-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The high priest demanded an explanation of the apostles. 'We gave you a formal warning,' he said 'not to preach in this name, and what have you done? You have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and seem determined to fix the guilt of this man's death on us.' In reply Peter and the apostles said, 'Obedience to God comes before obedience to men; it was the God of our ancestors who raised up Jesus, but it was you who had him executed by hanging on a tree. By his own right hand God has now raised him up to be leader and saviour, to give repentance and forgiveness of sins through him to Israel. We are witnesses to all this, we and the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.' They warned the apostles not to speak in the name of Jesus and released them. And so they left the presence of the Sanhedrin glad to have had the honour of suffering humiliation for the sake of the name.

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

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 29:2, 4-6, 11-13. R. v. 2

(R.) I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

1. I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me
and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.
O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead,
restored me to life from those who sink into the
grave. **(R.)**
2. Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him,
give thanks to his holy name.
His anger lasts but a moment; his favour through
life. At night there are tears, but joy comes with
dawn. **(R.)**
3. The Lord listened and had pity.
The Lord came to my help. For me you have
changed my mourning into dancing; O Lord my God,
I will thank you for ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading: Apocalypse 5:11-14

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

In my vision, I, John, heard the sound of an immense number of angels gathered round the throne and the animals and the elders; there were ten thousand times ten thousand of them and thousands upon thousands, shouting, 'The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power, riches, wisdom, strength, honour, glory and blessing.' Then I heard all the living things in creation – everything that lives in the air, and on the ground, and under the ground, and in the sea, crying, 'To the One who is sitting on the throne and to the Lamb, be all praise, honour, glory and power, for ever and ever.' And the four animals said, 'Amen';

and the elders prostrated themselves to worship.

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

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Christ is risen, the Lord of all creation; he has shown pity on all people. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 21:1-19

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus showed himself again to the disciples. It was by the Sea of Tiberias, and it happened like this: Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee and two more of his disciples were together. Simon Peter said, 'I'm going fishing.' They replied, 'We'll come with you.' They went out and got into the boat but caught nothing that night.

It was light by now and there stood Jesus on the shore, though the disciples did not realise that it was Jesus. Jesus called out, 'Have you caught anything, friends?' And when they answered, 'No', he said, 'Throw the net out to starboard and you'll find something.' So they dropped the net, and there were so many fish that they could not haul it in. The disciple Jesus loved said to Peter, 'It is the Lord.' At these words 'It is the Lord', Simon Peter, who had practically nothing on, wrapped his cloak round him and jumped into the water. The other disciples came on in the boat, towing the net and the fish; they were only about a hundred yards from land.

As soon as they came ashore they saw that there was some bread there, and a charcoal fire with fish cooking on it. Jesus said, 'Bring some of the fish you have just caught.' Simon Peter went aboard and dragged the net to the shore, full of big fish, one hundred and fifty-three of them; and in spite of there being so many the net was not broken. Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.' None of the disciples was bold enough to ask, 'Who are you?'; they knew quite well it was the Lord. Jesus then stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and the same with the fish. This was the third time that Jesus showed himself to the disciples after rising from the dead.

After the meal Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these others do?' He answered, 'Yes Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my lambs.' A second time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' He replied, 'Yes, Lord, you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Look after my sheep.' Then he said to him a third time, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter was upset that he asked him the third time, 'Do you love me?' and said, 'Lord, you know everything; you know I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.'

‘I tell you most solemnly, when you were young you put on your own belt and walked where you liked; But when you grow old you will stretch out your hands, and somebody else will put a belt round you and take you where you would rather not go.’ In these words he indicated the kind of death by which Peter would give glory to God. After this he said, ‘Follow me.’

**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 21:12-13

Jesus said to his disciples: Come and eat. And he took bread, and gave it to them, alleluia.

CATHOLIC CARE APPEAL

This weekend, **3rd and 4th May**, there will be an extra Collection for CatholicCare Victoria which works with individuals, families and communities to build strength, resilience and empowerment to reach their full potential. Your generous donation will help the most vulnerable members of our community – facing homelessness, experiencing mental health challenges, grief and trauma, families struggling with relationship problems, newly arrived refugees and asylum seekers. Gifts of \$2 and above are tax deductible.

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

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. Hosted by the Association of Pastoral Ministry Leaders Melbourne, led by Marg Hayes, a member of our Association.

LETTER FROM ARCHBISHOP COMENSOLI

After 127 years, **St. Patrick's Cathedral** requires significant restoration and renewal. On Monday, the Prime Minister, the Hon Anthony Albanese announced a \$60 million commitment to begin the restoration. The Liberal/National Coalition have offered similar support if they win the election. **Copies of a letter from The Archbishop regarding St. Patrick's Cathedral are available.** Further information on website: <https://melbournecatholic.org/news/bipartisan-pledge-of-60-million-to-restore-melbournesst-patricks-cathedral>

PALMS – VOLUNTEER ABROAD

Date: **Thursday 22 May 2025**; Time: **6pm – 7pm**.

Join **Palms online** for a special session showcasing how skill-exchange makes a lasting impact in communities. Register at palms.org.au/events. 02 9560 5333; palms@palms.org.au ; 02 9560 5333

PROJECT COMPASSION

Boxes and envelopes should be returned as soon as possible to the baskets in the church or placed on the collection plate at Mass. Thank you to parishioners who have returned their donations already.

DRIVER NEEDED

We are looking for someone to pick up a parishioner who lives in the Footscray area and drive them to the 9.30am Sunday Mass at St. Augustine's Yarraville. If you think you could assist, please speak to Fr. Werner.

MASS FOR MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES

Sunday 1 June 2025, 11am at St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Couples and their families are invited to join us as we celebrate the gift of marriage and family, coinciding with the Jubilee of Families.

Couples who register and are celebrating the following Anniversaries – 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th or 40 years or above – will receive a commemorative certificate. Registrations close on Sunday 25th May.

CONFIRMATION INFORMATION NIGHT

Next Tuesday 6th May there will be a Confirmation Information Night at 7pm in St. Augustine's Church for the parents and children preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation on 1st June.

Next Sunday we celebrate GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY, The World Day of Prayer for Vocations

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 5th June 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.



STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES

Starting this weekend, there will be two collections taken up at each Mass. **The first collection** will be for the Presbytery.

The second collection will be the envelope collection for the Church. Stewardship envelopes should be put on the second collection.

We encourage people to set up a **Direct Debit** Payment to our bank accounts for the Presbytery and the Church, using these account details.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S YARRAVILLE

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

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

CORPUS CHRISTI KINGSVILLE & ANNUNCIATION BROOKLYN

Corpus Christi Kingsville

Church Account:

BSB 083 347 Account No. 485182315

Presbytery Account: BSB 083 347

Account No. 638051413

There are census cards at the back of the church for new subscribers wishing to use weekly envelopes. Record your contact details on the card and put the card on the collection plate at Mass.

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

(3rd & 4th May)

3rd Sunday of Easter C

READERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm Kath Baker

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..... Mary Vella

9.30am..... Gerald Bain-King

MINISTER: Corpus Christi

11.00am..... Val Taylor

ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEK

(10th & 11th May)

4th Sunday of Easter C

READERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm Greg Buhagiar

9.30am Pat Mc Laughlin

Sam Polzella

Counting..... Phillip Marques

READERS: Corpus Christi

11.00am Val Taylor

Rachael Nguyen

MINISTERS: St. Augustine's

5.00pm.....Nic Fusca

9.30am.....Agnes Hopmans

MINISTER: Corpus Christi

11.00am.....Joe Fusca

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.