

Jesus said to his disciples:

'As the Father has loved me,  
so have I loved you.  
Remain in my love.  
If you keep my commandments  
you will remain in my love,  
just as I have kept my Father's commandments  
and remain in his love.  
I have told you this  
so that my own joy may be in you  
and your joy be complete.  
This is my commandment:  
love one another,  
as I have loved you.  
A man can have no greater love  
than to lay down his life for his friends.  
You are my friends,  
if you do what I command you.  
I shall not call you servants any more,  
because a servant does not know  
his master's business;  
I call you friends,  
because I have made known to you  
everything I have learnt from my Father.  
You did not choose me,  
no, I chose you;  
and I commissioned you  
to go out and to bear fruit,  
fruit that will last;  
and then the Father will give you  
anything you ask him in my name.  
What I command you  
is to love one another.'

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

**A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**



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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / B

5 MAY 2024

## THE INCLUSIVENESS OF GOD

Our first reading from Acts today is an edited story of the encounter of Peter and Cornelius. It is worth reading the full episode of Chapter 10. What we have is enough to relate the momentous occasion when Peter, a Jew, enters the house of Cornelius, a Gentile. This is significant of itself, laying aside any impropriety. More than this, Peter declares that God shows no partiality. It doesn't matter whether Jew or Gentile, anyone who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to God. Simultaneously with Peter speaking, the Holy Spirit came upon all the audience, Jews and Gentiles alike.

In John's Gospel, Jesus begins: 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you, remain in my love.' This invitation to abide or remain in God's love opens the command to love one another which is ever more poignant in light of the inclusivity of God. In this passage Jesus calls his disciples 'friends' and no longer servants, indicating the closeness of their relationship, their walking together and their collaboration in the work of Jesus. Yet we know even today there are barriers or hurdles that Pope Francis also acknowledges but urges us to find a way forward as a Church. 'Abide in my love' could be our mantra so the love of God is enacted to everyone we meet. How can we seek to be inclusive of all who seek God? How do we develop our ecumenical relationships and outreach to all those whom God desires to be welcomed?

**Dr Rosemary Canavan**

## FIRST READING Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

*The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the gentiles also.*

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said 'I am only a man after all!'

Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.'

■ **The word of the Lord.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 97: 1-4. R. cf. v. 2

**R. The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power. (or Alleluia!)**

1. Sing a new song to the Lord / for he has worked wonders. / His right hand and his holy arm / have brought salvation. **R.**
2. The Lord has made known his salvation; / has shown his justice to the nations. / He has remembered his truth and love / for the house of Israel. **R.**
3. All the ends of the earth have seen / the salvation of our God. / Shout to the Lord all the earth, / ring out your joy. **R.**



## SECOND READING 1 Jn 4: 7-10

**A reading from the first letter of St John**  
*God is love.*

My dear people,  
let us love one another  
since love comes from God  
and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.  
Anyone who fails to love can never have known God,  
because God is love.  
God's love for us was revealed  
when God sent into the world his only Son  
so that we could have life through him;  
this is the love I mean:  
not our love for God,  
but God's love for us when he sent his Son  
to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn 14: 23

Alleluia, alleluia! / All who love me will keep my words, / and my Father will love them and we will come to them. / Alleluia!

## GOSPEL Jn 15: 9-17

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

*No one can have greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.*



6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter 5<sup>th</sup> May 2024)  
**St Joseph's Catholic Church, 30 Fitzgerald Street**  
**St Thomas Aquinas' Church, 43 Bromby Street**

**In the Pastoral Care of the AUGUSTINIANS**

- ▶ Fr Luca Park OSA Parish Priest
- ▶ Fr Marydas Arackal OSA Assistant Priest
- ▶ Fr Matteo Cho OSA (Korean Chaplain)
- ▶ Fr Brian Buckley OSA Prior

**ADMINISTRATION**

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH CENTRE  
 Tel: Church & Office 9826 9677  
[secretary@parishofsouthyarra.org.au](mailto:secretary@parishofsouthyarra.org.au)  
[www.parishofsouthyarra.org.au](http://www.parishofsouthyarra.org.au)  
**Postal:** Box 21 South Yarra 3141



**OUR PARISH AND THE AUGUSTINIANS**

Commit to creating an environment where the safety of children and vulnerable persons is paramount. All volunteers are required to have a Working With Children Check.

**Pastoral and Administrative Support**

- ▶ Stephy Coosnapa (Parish Pastoral Assistant)
- ▶ Safeguarding: Stephy Coosnapa & I-Lynn Lee
- ▶ Toni Stuart (Parish Secretary, Weddings & SJOS Volunteer Co-ordinator: Tues/Thurs/Fri)
- ▶ Juliet Oei (Business & Facilities Manager: Wed - Fri)
- ▶ Bernadette Dennis (St Joseph's Outreach Services)

**Liturgical Calendar** for the week commencing 5<sup>th</sup> May 2024

DAY	ST JOSEPH'S	ST THOMAS AQUINAS'
	TIME	TIME
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	6.00pm Vigil Mass	
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	10.30am Mass	9.00am Mass
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 6 <sup>th</sup> Week of Easter		
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> May Bl Maria of St Joseph of Alvarado	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> May Our Lady of Grace	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> May 6 <sup>th</sup> Week of Easter	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> May 6 <sup>th</sup> Week of Easter	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> May 6 <sup>th</sup> Week of Easter	9.00am Mass	



This weekend is the **CatholicCare Victoria Appeal**. CatholicCare delivers programs and support to those most vulnerable in our community. Your support and generosity will help provide caring and compassionate support for struggling individuals and families. You can donate using the envelopes provided or at [www.catholiccare](http://www.catholiccare)

**EVENTS AND MEETINGS**

- ▶ RCIA gathering 7pm Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May
- ▶ Parish Council: Wed 8 May 7pm
- ▶ Finance Committee: Tues 14 May 4pm
- ▶ Friends of St Augustine: Thurs 16 May 7pm

**ST AUGUSTINE IN THE EASTER SEASON**



“Let no one say, I do not know what I love. Let them love their brother or sister, and they will love the same love. For they know the love with

which they love, more than the brother or sister whom they love. So now they can know God more than they know their brother or sister: clearly known more, because more present; known more, because more within them; known more, because more certain...”  
*(on the Trinity VIII, 8)*

**CHILDREN'S FIRST RECONCILIATION**



Preparation classes for children making their First Reconciliation will begin in May, Please contact Stephy at the parish office.

**PARISH CHRISTENING**

The parish congratulates the family of Louis Horton who is to be baptised in our parish this weekend.



**IN LOVING MEMORY**

**Recently Deceased**

**Anniversaries**

- ✦ Rocco D'Andrea
- ✦ Ivan Guzman
- ✦ Patricia Gillespie
- ✦ Eddie Bennetts
- ✦ Ross McKenzie
- ✦ Christine Kerr
- ✦ Mary Monaghan
- ✦ Leslie Priest
- ✦ Mary Connell



**VOLUNTEER MUSICIANS**

We are seeking volunteer musicians who would be interested in going on a roster to play at St Joseph's weekend masses. Please contact the parish office.

**MOTHERS' DAY NEXT SUNDAY**

Next week as a tribute to mothers still living and to those who are deceased, we ask you to bring a flower for mothers who are living, or a sprig of rosemary for mothers who have died.



**SAVE WITH CDF COMMUNITY FUND**

CDF offer competitive financial returns and your savings will help build community and social service facilities. To find out more, scan the QR code or google **Catholic Development Fund**



**DO YOU ENJOY GARDENING?**

If you enjoy gardening and would like to assist with the maintenance of the parish gardens, your help will be welcome. Please contact the parish office.



**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:**

Margaret Wallin, Mark Ho, June Cochrane, Ronald Seaman, Mitos Gludemans, Anne Rigg, Ced John Netto, Julie Mahony, Paul Chong, Larissa Popowski, Caroline O'Neil, Isabella Chong, Thomas Bedier, Luke Dennis, Sonia Guzman, Damien Ryan, Stephen Soh, Anne Morton.

**MASS COLLECTIONS 28/04/2024**

<b>Clergy (Augustinian Community)</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup> Collection, CDF & bank deposits.	\$ 787.45
<b>Church (Parish Ministries)</b>	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection	\$ 287.70
Envelopes	\$ 130.00
Direct Debit/EFT/ CDF Pay/ Cr Cards	\$ 140.00
Tap Point Terminals	\$ 533.00
<i>Thank you for your generosity</i>	