

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.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

THE SAVING WORD

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY) / C

27 APRIL 2025

THE BREATH OF LIFE

Fear surrounds Jesus' disciples in this story from John's Gospel set on the night of his resurrection. They are closed in a room out of fear of the Jewish authorities. The Risen One comes into their midst, into the centre of their fears, and proclaims, 'Peace be with you.' Jesus offers his frightened disciples peace at a time when they feel a sense of potential annihilation by the very ones who had manufactured Jesus' execution.

His 'peace' is more than an encouragement not to worry; it is a prayer, his gift, for their wholeness and holiness. The prayer is accompanied by his breathing upon them—an echo of an earlier 'breathing' when Jesus 'breathes down' his spirit on to his mother and the Beloved Disciple at the moment of death. This is John's Pentecost scene. For John's audience, 'breathe' was a sign of life. Here, in the room's enclosure, Jesus' breathes onto his disciples his life which offers forgiveness.

The story concludes with Thomas and it is not about his 'doubting'. It is rather about his connection with the other disciples. Disconnected from them, he does not believe. When he reconnects with them a week later and Jesus reappears, Thomas comes to faith in the Risen Jesus. Two points emerge from this powerful story: Jesus' presence dispels fear; Easter faith is restored and deepened through belonging to a community of believers.



Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Acts 5:12-16

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily.

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.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 117:2-4, 22-27. R. v. 1

R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, love is everlasting, (or Alleluia!)

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 cornerstone. / 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 Lord God is our light. **R.**

SECOND READING

Apoc 1:9-13, 17-19

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever.

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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 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

Jn 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



Est. 1887

2nd Sunday of Easter 27 Apr 2025)
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
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secretary@parishofsouthyarra.org.au
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) ▶ Joel Sanchez (Business & Facilities Manager: Wed - Fri)
- ▶ Safeguarding: Stephy Coosnapa ▶ Joss Honour (St Joseph's Outreach Services)
- ▶ Toni Stuart (Parish Secretary, Weddings & SJOS Volunteer Co-ordinator: Tues/Thurs/Fri)

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

St. Joseph's • 10.30am Mass
 Fourth Sunday of the month.
 (except school holidays and long weekends)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Joseph's • Sat: 5.15pm – 5.45pm, or by appointment.

ANOINTING / HEALING MASS

(Sacrament of the Sick) First Tuesday of the month 10am at St Joseph's Church

HOLY COMMUNION AT HOME

Anyone ill or housebound may contact us to request a visit for communion at home.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

- ▶ Children's Liturgy: Sun 27 April 10.30am SJ
- ▶ Coffee after Mass at St Thomas' 27 April
- ▶ Morning Tea at St Joseph's after 10.30am mass

AUGUSTINE – ON EASTER FAITH



"When the disciples saw the Lord they were joyful, yet their hesitation remained. For something had taken place which was incredible; yet it had taken place. Is it incredible now that the body of Christ has

risen from the tomb? The whole healed world believes it. The disciples were brought to believe not alone through their eyes, but through their hands, so that faith might enter their heart by way of their senses, so that the faith thus entering their heart might be preached throughout the world." (from an Easter Sermon)

MASS FOR POPE FRANCIS

Solemn Pontifical Mass for the Repose of the Soul of Pope Francis will be celebrated at 1.00pm Monday 28 April at St Patrick's Cathedral, East Melbourne.

For those unable to attend in person, the Mass will be livestreamed and broadcast on Community Channel C31 (Channel 44 on digital television)

PROJECT COMPASSION

Please return boxes and envelopes as soon as possible. Thank you for your generosity. Donations can also be made at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION



Enrolments open for the Sacraments of Reconciliation & Holy Communion. Classes will begin 26th April 10am – 12pm in St Joseph's. Please contact

Stephy at the parish office.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

Ellen Allery, Robert Huggins, Gaston Gori, Margaret Wallin, Mark Ho, June Cochrane, Anne Rigg, Mitos Gloude-mans, Ced John Netto, Julie Mahony, Paul Chong, Isabella Chong, Thomas Bedier, Luke Dennis, Sonia Guzman, Damien Ryan, Stephen Soh, Cecil D'Cruz, Joanna Howe, Christine Rodrigues, Janine Forster, Christie De Silva, Anita Zaio, Tom O'Neill, Florencio Pineda.

IN LOVING MEMORY



Recently Deceased

- ✦ Pope Francis

Anniversaries

- ✦ Domenico Tesoriero
- ✦ Frank Muratore
- ✦ Lucia Ochoa
- ✦ Susan Hoogenboom
- ✦ Michael Yu
- ✦ Alfred Kudeweh
- ✦ Keith Arthur
- ✦ Ross McKenzie
- ✦ Fr. Mick Mulcahy



COFFEE AFTER ST THOMAS' 9.00AM MASS

After mass at St Thomas Aquinas this Sunday 27th April, join us for coffee at Botanical Hotel, 169 Domain Road. All welcome!

CHILDRENS' LITURGY & MORNING TEA

Children's Liturgy this Sunday 27th April during 10.30am Mass at St Joseph's. All families with children are invited to attend and parents may also participate. All parishioners are welcome to Morning Tea after mass



PARISH BAPTISMS

The parish congratulates the family of Noemi Elneser & Charlie Podkrznik who are to be baptised in our parish this weekend.



THE AUGUSTINIAN NEWSLETTER

Copies of The Augustinian publication are in our churches this week. Please take home a copy.



EASTER ENVELOPES

Envelopes at church doors for offerings to the clergy at Easter.

MASS COLLECTIONS 20/04/2025

Clergy (Augustinian Community)	
1 st Collection, CDF & bank deposits.....	\$1291.95
Church (Parish Ministries)	
2 nd Collection	\$ 952.00
Envelopes.....	\$ 60.00
Direct Debit/EFT/ CDF Pay/ Cr Cards...\$	945.60
Tap Point Terminals.....	\$ 315.00
Good Friday Holy Land.....	\$ 1272.90
<i>Thank you for your generosity</i>	

Liturgical Calendar for the week commencing 27th April 2025

DAY	ST JOSEPH'S	ST THOMAS AQUINAS'
	TIME	TIME
Saturday 26 th April	7.00pm Vigil Mass	
Sunday 27 th April 2 nd Sunday of Easter	10.30am Mass Children's Liturgy	9.00am Mass
Monday 28 th April St Peter Chanel		
Tuesday 29 th April St Catherine of Siena	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Wednesday 30 th April St Pius V	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Thursday 1 st May St Joseph the Worker	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Friday 2 nd May St Athanasius	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Saturday 3 rd May Sts Philip & James	9.00am Mass	



DEATH OF POPE FRANCIS (1936-2025) "We unite with all the People of God in praying for the eternal rest of his soul and entrust him to the tender loving mercy of the Father. Pope Francis, who came from the peripheries of the world, has been the father of the poor, and a witness of joy and hope. May the Lord, he so faithfully trusted, now welcome him into eternal life. May he rest in God's gracious and gentle peace." (Archbishop Peter Comensoli) (Courtesy Melbourne Catholic)