

## SUNDAY MASS

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

**FIRST READING:** Acts 6:1-7.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Psalm 33.

### RESPONSE:

May your merciful love be upon us, as we hope in you, O Lord.

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for the upright. Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp; with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **R**
2. For the word of the Lord is faithful, and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right, and his merciful love fills the earth. **R**
3. Yes, the Lord's eyes are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. **R**

**SECOND READING:** 1 Peter 2:4-9.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the way, and the truth, and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, but by me. Alleluia.

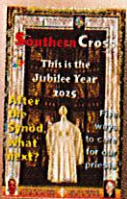
**GOSPEL:** John 14:1-12.

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

## The Southern Cross

Read South Africa's monthly Catholic magazine which engages, entertains, edifies, educates, elucidates, evangelises, and enhances our faith!



To subscribe go to [scross.co.za/subscribe](http://scross.co.za/subscribe) or email [subscriptions@scross.co.za](mailto:subscriptions@scross.co.za) or call Pamela on 071 218-5287

## THE WEEK AHEAD

# Live the Word

### Mon 4 May Liturgy of the Day

Acts 14:5-18; Psalm 115; John 14:21-26

"We ask that streams of Easter light might flow into the intimacy and privacy of our hearts this morning, to heal us and encourage us and enable us to make again a new beginning." – John O'Donohue

### Tue 5 May Liturgy of the Day

Acts 14:19-28; Psalm 145; John 14:27-31

What is it that burdens you in life the most? Is there something that you obsess about, are angry about, can't let go of or that tends to dominate your life? Surrender it to the Lord in your prayer today.

### Wed 6 May Liturgy of the Day

Acts 15:1-6; Psalm 122; John 15:1-8

Pruning is necessary if a plant is to produce an abundance of good fruit or beautiful flowers. Are you willing to let yourself be pruned of all that is not of God, allowing your life to become fruitful for God's Kingdom?

### Thu 7 May Liturgy of the Day

Acts 15:7-21; Psalm 96; John 15:9-11

"For the desert fathers and mothers, prayer was not an activity undertaken for a few hours each day, it was a life continually turned towards God." – Benedicta Ward.

### Fri 8 May Liturgy of the Day

Acts 15:22-31; Psalm 57; John 15:12-17

We all desire to belong and to be wanted. Today's gospel invites us to reflect on two phrases: "I have chosen you" and "Go and bear fruit." God has chosen you. Accept God's call in your life.

### Sat 9 May Liturgy of the Day

Acts 16:1-10; Psalm 100; John 15:18-21

God uses all maltreatment for good. Ponder today any form of persecution or injustice you suffer for the sake of your faith and embrace of the Gospel. The Lord wants to use that, if you let Him.

### Sun 10 May 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; Psalm 66; John 14:15-21

"Observe the sabbath day by keeping it holy, as the Lord your God has commanded you. Six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God." – Deuteronomy 5:12-14

KEY: SOLEMNITY; FEAST; Memorial; (Optional Memorial)

# Catholic Link

## RESURRECTION IS A VERB

5th Sunday of Easter • Year A  
Divine Office: Week I • 3 May 2026

# MARY and a New World Order

May is Mary's month, and so it is appropriate that we give the first of this month's Links articles to her, in tandem with the theme of our Easter series, "Resurrection is a Verb."

Mary is not mentioned explicitly in the resurrection narratives. All we know is that she stood at the foot of her son's cross on Good Friday, and that she was present at the first Christian Pentecost. So historically, she would likely have been among the disciples on Easter Sunday, as we know Mary Magdalene and other women disciples were. But let's consider another approach.

All the gospels, we know without doubt, were written by their respective evangelists in the light of the early Christian experience of, and faith in, the Resurrection. The leading question would have been, who exactly was this dead man now risen? Mark starts his narrative with the public ministry of Jesus as an adult, Matthew with the immediate infancy narratives, Luke further back with his conception, and John right back to his pre-existence "in the beginning". But today, our interest is going to be in Mary's role in Luke, in particular her Magnificat, following the biblical insight of seeing the gospels in the service of resurrection faith. What Luke writes in Greek about Mary's Magnificat, he does so in a grammatical method that brings together both past and present tense, i.e. what God has done for Israel in the past, God at the same time, *continues* to do in the present. Now we are really claiming that resurrection

is a verb! What "God, my Saviour", in Mary's words, has accomplished in the Paschal Mystery of the death and resurrection of Christ inaugurates a new world order, continuous

"from age to age".

Mary gives witness:

"He puts forth his arm in strength and scatters the proud-hearted. He casts the mighty from their thrones and raises the lowly."

True, we do not often witness this in society. Evil remains rife in a sinful fallen world. But we are called to stand together against this in the power of the Resurrection. This is precisely where, as our Redemptorist cardinal in the USA says, we've got to know when to say "no". When to unite as followers of the Risen Christ, call out the "proud-hearted" and let God de-throne them, that the lowly may be raised. The word raised is de-

liberate. Resurrection is at work.

What Mary next proclaims is perhaps more familiar as we know from Matthew 25 on the hungry, thirsty, naked, sick etc.: "He fills the starving with good things". But how does God do that? As St Teresa of Avila said, and as St Teresa of Kolkata did, "God has no hands but yours, no feet but yours...". We are the presence of the Risen Christ now. We can say without fear, as all our recent popes have done, and as Pope Leo XIV is not afraid to do, that in the present world order, the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. We pray with Mary, that God, "remembering his mercy", and through our generosity, will "raise up the lowly".



The Visitation, by Raphael, 1517

Parish Priest: Fr David Evans  
 Parish Secretary: Judy Joseph  
 Bookkeeper: Tanya Charles  
 Office Hours: Mon to Fri 08h00 to 16h00  
 Website: www.stpatricksbenoni.co.za



Phone: 060 327 2998  
 office@stpatricksbenoni.co.za  
 bookkeeper@stpatricksbenoni.co.za  
 106 Woburn Avenue, Benoni

Mass Times	Tues 09h30	Wed No mass	Thurs No Mass	Fri 08h00	Sat 08h00 17h00	Sun 07h30 10h00	Confessions Tues 10h00 Sat 08h30
------------	------------	-------------	---------------	-----------	-----------------	-----------------	----------------------------------------

Baptism of children: Book with the parish secretary and collect the form. Attendance of one short instruction is required.

Please support your parish: **“St Patrick’s Catholic Church”** Benoni, Standard Bank. Current Account number: **021 095 612** (Branch code: 013042). To join our monthly Dedicated Giving contact Tanya; bookkeeper@stpatricksbenoni.co.za or on 060 327 2998.

Our **“Society of St Vincent de Paul”** helps the poor – on our behalf – irrespective of race, colour or creed. Please support them: Society of St Vincent de Paul, Standard Bank, Boksburg, Current Account no. 220930287.

We pray for Francisco Dos Ramos who has died: may he rest in peace and rise in glory to live in joy in the kingdom forever.

Please note that the healing mass for May will be next Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May at 9.30am and not Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May.

The Divine Mercy chaplet will be said every Friday at 3.15pm. Everyone is welcome.

This coming Sunday 10 May is Mothers’ Day and the 10.00am mass will be a young persons’ mass.

Mothers’ Day Raffle

Catechism raffle tickets are on sale after mass, from the parish office and catechism children. R10 a ticket. Prizes can be seen in the parish office. Please support this parish fund raising venture.

To make a donation to St Patrick’s or give your collection at mass: Use SNAPSCAN by downloading the app on your phone and holding it over the QR code on the right.



*Do not let your hearts be troubled. (John 14:1)*

There is no way anyone in the upper room was more troubled than Jesus. In just a few hours, he was going to be beaten, crowned with thorns, and crucified-and he knew it was going to happen. Still, he took the time to encourage his apostles. I may be leaving, he told them, but don't lose your faith or your peace over it. Trust me instead.

As the night went on, the apostles grew increasingly anxious and fearful-so much so that they ended up running away from Jesus. Their faith wasn't strong enough to sustain them when they faced a life-or-death situation.

But that's not how their story ends. Their faith returned when Jesus rose from the dead and appeared to them. They were so excited that they went out and set the world on fire for Jesus.

Were their hearts troubled after Jesus ascended into heaven? Yes, often. Did they lose their peace? Yes, often. Didn't they have the Holy Spirit in them? Yes. So why couldn't they hold firm? Because even the great apostles Peter, James, and John were still only human. Sometimes it takes time, even years, to develop that level of faith and trust.

So how do we regroup when our faith is tested? The best thing you can do is go easy on yourself. Remember how Peter lost his trust and denied even knowing the Lord. He wept bitterly when he realized what he had done, but he didn't remain trapped in that bitterness and guilt. When he saw Jesus on the Sea of Galilee, he jumped into the water and ran to him. He let Jesus reassure him, and he resolved to keep moving forward in faith.

So whenever your faith is tested, or whatever you are struggling with right now, remember that Jesus knows you. He knows your worries. He is with you, surrounding you with his love. Try your best to rest in him.

*“Lord, help me to keep moving forward, to hold my peace, and to trust in you”.*