

## SUNDAY MASS

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: the Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

**FIRST READING:** Acts 8:5-8, 14-17.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** Psalm 66.

### RESPONSE:

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.

1. Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;  
O sing to the glory of his name.  
O render him glorious praise.  
Say to God, 'How awesome your deeds!' R
2. 'Before you all the earth shall bow down, shall sing to you, sing to your name!'  
Come and see the works of God;  
awesome his deeds among the children of men. R
3. He turned the sea into dry land;  
they passed through the river on foot.  
Let our joy, then, be in him;  
he rules forever by his might. R
4. Come and hear, all who fear God;  
I will tell what he did for my soul.  
Blest be God, who did not reject my prayer,  
nor withhold from me his merciful love. R

**SECOND READING:** 1 Peter 3:15-18.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! If a man loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him. Alleluia.

**GOSPEL:** John 14:15-21.

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON:

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

## THE WEEK AHEAD

# Live the Word

### Mon 11 May Liturgy of the Day

Acts 16:11-15; Psalm 149; John 15:26-16:4

"Easter says to us that despite everything to the contrary, his will for us will prevail, love will prevail over hate, justice over injustice and oppression, peace over exploitation and bitterness." – Desmond Tutu

### Tue 12 May (Ss Nereus & Achilleus, Ms)

Acts 16:22-34; Psalm 138; John 16:5-11

Even though we may have been Confirmed, many of us fail to let the Holy Spirit transform our lives. Trust that Jesus wants you to receive him in his fullness. Let the Holy Spirit become more alive in your life.

### Wed 13 May (Our Lady of Fatima)

Acts 17:15.22-18:1; Psalm 148; John 16:12-15

"O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, and lead all souls to Heaven, especially those in most need of Thy mercy". (Prayer taught to the children of Fatima to be said after each decade of the Rosary)

### Thu 14 May ST MATTHIAS, A

Acts 1:15-17.20-26; Psalm 113; John 15:9-17

St Matthias, the disciple chosen to replace Judas, is considered the patron saint for those struggling with alcoholism. He was also known for his consistent, quiet discipleship.

### Fri 15 May Liturgy of the Day

Acts 18:9-18; Psalm 47; John 16:20-23

"Why do we cause each other so much pain, and why do we turn away from hurt when the only way to the other side of struggle is through it? ... Never look away from pain." – Brené Brown

### Sat 16 May Liturgy of the Day

Acts 18:23-28; Psalm 47; John 16:23-28

Jesus walks with us on all roads of life, the difficult as well as the joyful. Take heart. "Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people and hallelujah is our song." – Pope John Paul II

### Sun 17 May ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47; Matthew 28:16-20

"The Ascension was the triumph of redeemed man. It is the completion of his redemption. It was the last act, making the whole sure, for now man is actually in heaven." – St John Henry Newman

KEY: SOLEMNITY; FEAST; Memorial; (Optional Memorial)  
Ms=Martyrs; A=Apostle

# Catholic Link

## RESURRECTION IS A VERB

6th Sunday of Easter • Year A  
Divine Office: Week II • 10 May 2026

# Resurrection Reconciliation

Two instances of reconciliation after the resurrection of Christ stand out, namely those of St Thomas and St Peter. There are no fanfares of apologies, or even words of absolution and forgiveness from Jesus. There is just reconciliation in acts of faith and love. Thomas: "My Lord and my God." Peter: "You know everything, Lord, you know that I love you."

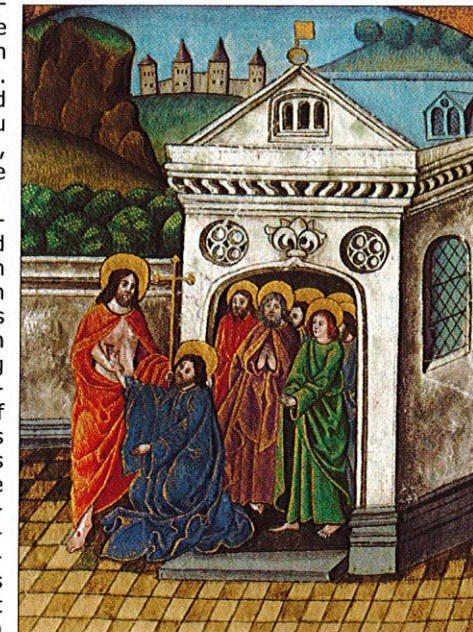
Reconciliation in relationships, when viewed through the lens of faith and love in the Risen Christ and when it draws motivation and strength from that, is nothing less than real-time participation in the power of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It empowers us beyond thinking of the resurrection as an historical event – a noun – and acts as a verb bringing broken relationships back to life. This is not conflict-resolution on steroids, but an experience of transformation and a new beginning strongly built on the saving grace of the resurrection of Christ. Recall what the loving father said after his prodigal son's return: "He was 'dead' and has come back to life" (Luke 25:32).

The resurrection of Christ is the core of our faith. New life from death. Not the resuscitation of a corpse, but the living, abiding presence of the Son of God who came to bring us new life (John 10:10). And we experience that new life as it breathes new breath into relationships that are paralyzed by betrayal and wounded memories. But reconciliation can have a timetable of its own, as even long-term estrangements are slowly healed by resurrection grace. A beautiful new creation is made

by God the Artist from the broken pieces of human folly and fragility. Resurrection reconciliation does not just patch and glue together the broken pieces of an old relationship. It creates a new one, a work of beauty of the Divine Artist who seeks our ultimate transformation into the image of the Risen Christ. We are drawn into perfect communion, into unity of life with the most Holy Trinity.

St Paul is quick to see some of the theological and social implications of this in Galatians 3:28. "There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." I don't believe our "either-or" dualistic culture has even begun to realise this properly. Yet Christians are called to be ambassadors of reconciliation; to be mirrors of the love and grace of God in their relationships. To see others through the very eyes of God.

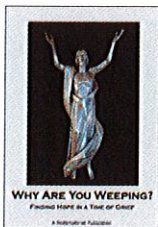
A word on the subtle difference between forgiveness and reconciliation. We saw on Divine Mercy Sunday how the Risen Lord imparted to the apostles the power to forgive sins. Being forgiven is in itself a resurrection gift and can stand on its own. But reconciliation is sometimes more gradual as it requires both parties to be filled with remorse and with mutual repentance in their desire to restore the relationship. To experience that restoration is proof positive that resurrection is a verb. Reconciliation is a form of resurrection, a reflection of God's work in the world bringing peace, joy, and unity out of our human brokenness.



The Incredulity of St Thomas, from an English manuscript, 1504

Just as he encountered Mary Magdalene with the question, "Why are you weeping?", Jesus continues to come to those who mourn the death of loved ones.

A new and revised version of the very popular first edition, this book is offered in the hope that it will bring readers who are grappling with questions of faith and feelings of loss, into contact with the compassion of Jesus.



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

Given the gift of eternal life in Baptism: Brayden Bvunzawabaya and Vhuhulu Managa.

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

We need parishioners to operate the overhead and laptop at weekend masses. Speak to the person operating at mass or the organist.

On behalf of St Patrick's St Vincent De Paul Society Benoni Conference, we would like to thank you, most sincerely, for your generous donations and continued support. The need is so great and with your support we are doing our best to assist those in need. We are in desperate need of blankets.

*Thanks for giving me the best things in life:*

*Your Love. Your care.*

*Your cooking and for everything you've done for me.*

*Happy Mother's Day*



*Here was great joy in that city. (Acts 8:8)*

Ever since the time of the Enlightenment, there has been a tendency to dismiss belief in the devil. An overemphasis on reason and science led people to believe that there was no reality beyond the material universe.

Yet Scripture gives us plenty of evidence to the contrary. Jesus confronted demonic forces when he met a man with an unclean spirit, a blind demoniac, and the daughter of a Canaanite woman.

Evil spirits are real, and they are most effective when we are indifferent to them.

There are real-life situations of people who are possessed by evil spirits through witchcraft, curses, and the like. These people need the help of an exorcist. But those are rare cases. For the rest of us, Satan tends to harass us, not possess us. He whispers thoughts that tempt us to be negative, resentful, or self-condemning. We may think these thoughts come from ourselves, and partly they do. But at the same time, they are fostered by Satan's negative accusations.

So what can you do? First, have faith that the Holy Spirit is in you, helping you fight Satan's temptations. Second, pray. Hold on to the words of the Lord's Prayer, "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." Then, pay attention to what is going on in your heart. Look for signs of how the temptation is diminishing. Rejoice in even the smallest sign of freedom!

Jesus has already conquered Satan. Now he wants us to step into the freedom he has won for us. By following these three simple steps, we can begin to know the "great joy" that comes when we resist Satan's temptations.

*"Lord, lead me not into temptation. Deliver me from every evil harassment."*

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.

