

6th Sunday of Easter

Sunday 25th May

First Reading Acts of the Apostles 15:1-2. 22-29

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and ourselves not to burden you beyond what is essential.

Some men came down from Judaea and taught the brothers, 'Unless you have yourselves circumcised in the tradition of Moses you cannot be saved.' This led to disagreement, and after Paul and Barnabas had had a long argument with these men it was arranged that Paul and Barnabas and others of the church should go up to Jerusalem and discuss the problem with the apostles and elders.

Then the apostles and elders decided to choose delegates to send to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; the whole church concurred with this. They chose Judas known as Barsabbas and Silas, both leading men in the brotherhood, and gave them this letter to take with them:

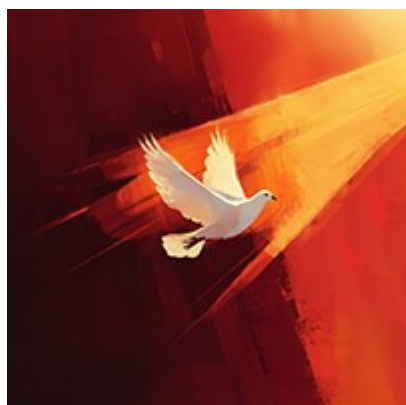
'The apostles and elders, your brothers, send greetings to the brothers of pagan birth in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We hear that some of our members have disturbed you with their demands and have unsettled your minds. They acted without any authority from us, and so we have decided unanimously to elect delegates and to send them to you with Barnabas and Paul, men we highly respect who have dedicated their lives to the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accordingly we are sending you Judas and Silas, who will confirm by word of mouth what we have written in this letter. It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves not to saddle you with any burden beyond these essentials: you are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from fornication. Avoid these, and you will do what is right. Farewell.'

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm Ps 66:2-3. 5-6. 8. R. v.4

(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!

1. O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.
So will your ways be known upon earth
and all nations learn your saving help. (R.)
2. Let the nations be glad and exult
for you rule the world with justice.
With fairness you rule the peoples,
you guide the nations on earth. (R.)
3. Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
May God still give us his blessing
till the ends of the earth revere him. (R.)



Second Reading Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

He showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven.

In the spirit, the angel took me to the top of an enormous high mountain and showed me Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God out of heaven. It had all the radiant glory of God and glittered like some precious jewel of crystal-clear diamond. The walls of it were of a great height, and had twelve gates; at each of the twelve gates there was an angel, and over the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel; on the east there were three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. The city walls stood on twelve foundation stones, each one of which bore the name of one of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

I saw that there was no temple in the city since the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb were themselves the temple, and the city did not need the sun or the moon for light, since it was lit by the radiant glory of God and the Lamb was a lighted torch for it.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation John 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 John 14:23-29

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

The Holy Spirit will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we shall come to him
and make our home with him.
Those who do not love me do not keep my words.
And my word is not my own:
it is the word of the one who sent me.
I have said these things to you
while still with you;
but the Advocate, the Holy Spirit,
whom the Father will send in my name,
will teach you everything
and remind you of all I have said to you.
Peace I bequeath to you,
my own peace I give you,
a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you.
Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.
You heard me say:
I am going away, and shall return.
If you loved me you would have been glad to know that I
am going to the Father,
for the Father is greater than I.
I have told you this now before it happens,
so that when it does happen you may believe.'

The Gospel of the Lord

St. Mary's Parish Cowes Three Churches—One Parish

St Mary's—Cowes

Our Lady Star of the Sea—San Remo

St. Joseph's—Bass

Parish Priest: Father Manny Lomagno

Parish Secretary: Kerry Laughton-McConnon

6 Cowes Rhyll Road Cowes 3922 PO Box 878 Cowes 3922 Telephone 59 525 418 Email cows@cdsale.org.au

Office Hours: Wednesday 9.30am–2.30pm Parish Safeguard Officer: Brendan Marrinon.

Mass/Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion Times

Star of the Sea—San Remo

Tuesday 9.15am Mercy Prayer followed by the Rosary & Mass at 10am.

Mass Saturday 6pm

St Joseph's—Bass

Mass Sunday 11 am

Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion—Wed 9am

Adoration & Prayer Wed 9.30am-10am & 7-8pm

St Mary's—Cowes Wednesday & Friday Mass 9.00 am.

Mass Sunday 9am.

Feast Day: The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Sat 31st May

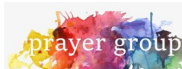
Memorial: St. Philip Neri, Monday 26th May



Bible Study 2025. Bible Study on Wednesday 28th May at 10am St. Mary's Church Hall. New participants are welcome. For further information ring Nicholas on 0409 582 012



Bass Prayer Group on Monday 26th May at 7pm. Contact Wendy Power 56 782271. All Welcome



Jubilee 2025 Pilgrims of Hope

The Jubilee of Workers honours the essential contribution of all workers to our society — whether in trades or professions, as employees or volunteers. It also acknowledges St Joseph, the model and patron of all workers.



What a wonderful day we had last Saturday at our first Autumn market, where we could exhibit so many creative local businesses. The atmosphere and buzz around the school were amazing. A big thank you to the parishioners who supported us by having a stall. This week is Catholic

Education Week, a week we can celebrate all that makes our schools so special. A Diocesan Mass is being held on Wednesday at St Francis Xavier College for all the leaders in the Diocese. We will be having our whole school Mass on Thursday at 9.15 to mark this special week. On Thursday, 12 of our students will be participating in Division Cross Country at Stony Creek.

Autumn Market—Thank you to all those who helped with the plan & flower stall at the Autumn Market at our school. The amount raised was \$435.

REFLECTION

by Fr Michael Tate

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God's home is where the heart is



Some people have the idea that God is awfully remote, dwelling beyond the edge of the cosmos. We make contact by sending a prayer like a long range rocket, hoping it will find its target.

This is far distant from Our Lord's teaching in today's Gospel.

'If anyone loves me and keeps my word, my Father and I will make our home with that person.' It is not in outer space, but in inner space that Divine Love will make a home.

What turns a house into a home? It is in sitting around a table sharing a meal. So, Jesus created a sacred meal for us and invites us to share in the Heavenly Bread and Spiritual Drink.

When we do so, we find, in the words of St John Paul II, that we 'digest, as it were, the secret of the Resurrection'. We take into ourselves the Real Presence of the Risen Lord who makes his home with us.

Coming to Communion, even after a long time away, satisfies the yearning of the human heart because it is made to be the habitation of Divine Love. We could pause for a moment to reflect on the gracious fact that God chooses to dwell in our hearts. Let us respond wholeheartedly.

Saint Joseph the Worker

The first day of May—"May day" has long been dedicated to working people. When he instituted this feast in 1955, Pope Pius XII expressed hope that it would emphasise the dignity of labour and bring a spiritual dimension to labour unions and labour legislation. As Pope John Paul II wrote, "At the workbench where he plied his trade together with Jesus, Joseph brought human work closer to the mystery of the redemption"



Chalice & Paten of St Patrick's Tarraville.

Whilst not made of the highest quality materials, the value of this gold plated 1879 French chalice & paten lies in the fact that it was purchased for use in the first church of the Gipps Land Mission, St Patrick's at Tarraville.

It is likely that the first priest to use this chalice would have been Father Philip Kavanagh the PP of Tarraville, Gipps Land Mission—South. Fr Kavanagh became the first priest to die in the district after he rode out in bad weather to administer the sacrament to a dying parishioner.

Father was buried in the Greenmount Cemetery near Yarram in January 1883 and a community collection raised funds for a large and beautiful monument to be raised over his resting place



A website to help Catholics celebrate the Jubilee year has been launched by the Bishops Commission for Evangelisation, Laity and Ministry. Please visit <https://pilgrimsofhope.catholic.org.au/>

We are a child safe parish. Any children, young persons and adults at risk have a right to feel safe and be safe. If you are concerned about any form of abuse, or believe that someone is at significant risk, you should immediately raise your concerns with our Parish Safety Officer. He can be contacted through the Parish Office. Ph 03 59 525 418

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