

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

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

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.

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# Reflections on the Gospel



# THE SAVING WORD

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / B

6 MAY 2018

## THE JOY OF GOD'S LOVE

There is no joy like that of discovering we are loved by someone from whom we would very much like to be loved but of whose love we never dared to think ourselves worthy.

This is what Jesus is trying to communicate to the disciples. He wants them to experience the joy that he feels in being loved by the Father. They will experience this joy when they realise that he is loving them *as* he himself is loved by the Father. This is the rationale behind his entire life and mission.

In the Fourth Gospel the 'commandments' the disciples are urged to keep are reduced simply to the commandment to love the brothers and sisters. Keeping this essential commandment is what is meant by the exhortation: 'Remain in my love.' The Greek word (*menain*) embraces the sense of 'dwell' as well as 'remain'. Believers live within the divine communion of love. They 'remain' within it by allowing that divine love to flow through them to one another.

The second half of the Gospel brings out the sacrificial quality of the love required. Despite the vast difference between ordinary human beings and Christ as Son of God, the disciples can think of themselves as his 'friends' rather than servants. This is because he has made the supreme gesture of friendship by laying down his life for them and also because he has shared with them the intimacy he enjoys with the Father.

They are Jesus' 'friends' not through their choice but through his: chosen to communicate a sense of God's love to the world.

Brendan Byrne, SJ

## FIRST READING

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.

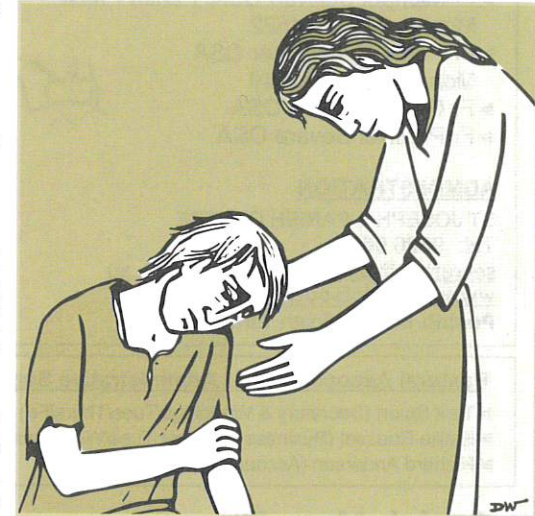
### ■ The word of the Lord.

## 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

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!



St Joseph's Church, 30 Fitzgerald Street  
 St Thomas Aquinas' Church, 43 Bromby Street  
 est. 1887

**Under the Pastoral Care of AUGUSTINIANS**

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- ▶ Fr Abel van der Veer OSA  
 Mobile: 0409 368449
- ▶ Fr Gerald Dullard OSA
- ▶ Fr Percival Severe OSA



**ADMINISTRATION**

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[secretary@parishofsouthyarra.org.au](mailto:secretary@parishofsouthyarra.org.au)  
[www.parishofsouthyarra.org.au](http://www.parishofsouthyarra.org.au)  
 Postal: Box 21 South Yarra 3141.

**CHILDRENS' LITURGY**

St. Joseph's • 10.30am Mass  
 First & third Sundays of the month  
 (except school holidays and long weekends)

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

St. Joseph's • Sat: 5.15pm – 5.45pm  
 (or by request)

**ANOINTING / HEALING MASS**

First Tuesday of the month 10am at  
 St Joseph's Church  
*(Senior parishioners, those with ongoing  
 sickness, those with mental illness, may all  
 receive the Sacrament of the Sick )*

**Pastoral Associates and Administrative Support**

- ▶ Toni Stuart (Secretary & Weddings: Tues/Thurs/Fri)
- ▶ Yvonne Bolland (Weddings: Tues 10am-12noon)
- ▶ Emilie Rousset (Business Manager: Tues/Wed/Thurs)
- ▶ Diane Brebner (Alfred Hospital Liaison)
- ▶ Richard Anderson (Accountant)

**Parish Mass Times** for the week commencing weekend 6<sup>th</sup> May 2018

DAY	ST JOSEPH'S	ST THOMAS AQUINAS'
	TIME	TIME
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> May Sixth Sunday of Easter	(Saturday- Vigil 6.00pm) 10.30am Mass Childrens' Liturgy 6.30pm Praise & Worship	9.00am Mass
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> May		
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> May Our Lady of Grace	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Communion Service
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Communion Service
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00am Mass 10.30am Christian Meditation	12.45pm Mass
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> May Blessed William Tirry	9.00am Mass 6.00pm Mass	

**FAITH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (RCIA) - JOURNEY TO EASTER**

Open to anyone wishing to learn more about what we Catholics believe and practice.  
 Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May 5pm: Topic: The on-going Catechesis: The Promise of the Holy Spirit. "He will teach you everything and remind you of all I have told you".  
 Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May: A Celebration of Eucharist.  
 For more information please contact Fr Abel 0409 368449

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** This Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> May during 10.30am mass at St Joseph's church.

**EVENTS AND MEETINGS**

- ▶ Christian Meditation: Fridays 10.30am
- ▶ RCIA: Sundays 5pm
- ▶ Praise & Worship: Sunday 6 May 6.30pm



**PRAYER REFLECTION FROM ST AUGUSTINE**

"You say you cannot see God, but it is by loving your neighbour whom you can see, that you clear your eyes and are finally able to see God."

**SJOS/COMBINED PARISHES RAFFLE**

Last chance this week to buy tickets to win a Suzuki Baleno car or Coles/Myer Gift Cards. \$2 per ticket/books of 10. Tickets will be available after mass or from the parish office or email [info@sjos.org.au](mailto:info@sjos.org.au)

**BEREAVED MOTHERS' MASS**

On Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> May at 10.00 a.m. at St. Joseph's church, Fitzgerald St., South Yarra, there will be a special Healing Mass for Mothers/ Families who have suffered the tragedy of the loss of a child. All are invited to attend to receive God's comfort and blessing.

**(YAM) YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY**

"Following the 6pm Young Adult Ministry's mass on Saturday 12 May, we are having a Faith Formation YAM event - starting at 7pm with fellowship over dinner, followed by learning and sharing more about our faith with each other. Please also bring \$10 to cover dinner costs." RSVP through Fr Percival at 0439111932 or visit our YAM Facebook page YAMSYP

**MELBOURNE CATHOLIC MAGAZINE**

South Yarra Parish is featured in a special article of the May edition of MELBOURNE CATHOLIC (pp 9-11). The article is titled, "Reaching Out to Those in Need". A great read based on an interview of Bernadette Dennis (Secretary of SJOS) by journalist Fiona Basile. Copies are available at the entrance to the church this weekend. Price \$4.00

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:**

June Cochrane, Des White, Beb Larsen, Chaiel Balcombe, John & Rose Ignace, Ronald Seaman, Aristotle Pamintuan, Therese Phillips, Mito Gloudemans, Elsa Notarte, Meldred Liba Lagahit, Socorro Severe, Dolores Hogan, Frank Muratore, Maurice Wallin, Madeleine Anderson, Ron Blunt, Andrew Hamilton, Alex Wallisz, Margaret Greene, Elaine Dennis, Spiros Layia, Emma Kirk, Chris 'Smith', Anthony Singh, Jean de Campo.

**IN LOVING MEMORY**



**Recently Deceased**

- ✦ Mary de Bono
- ✦ Ponciano Barraca ✦ Noel Cecilia Mendis
- Anniversaries
- ✦ Lewis King ✦ Kevin Pinney
- ✦ Domenico Tesoriero ✦ Dr Mary Glowrie
- ✦ Antonio Tancredi ✦ Dulcie Hammet
- ✦ Alfred Kudeweh ✦ Carol Duffy
- ✦ Ernst Bohnke ✦ April Fry
- ✦ Ernst Mauerhoffer ✦ Rachel McCarthy
- ✦ John Joseph Donnelley ✦ Karel & Elfrida Kral
- ✦ Hermogenes Camonias

**ASCENSION THURSDAY ECUMENICAL**

**LITURGY** will be held at Christ Church, Cnr Toorak & Punt Rds, South Yarra on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm. All welcome.

**PARISH BAPTISM PRESENTATIONS**

We welcome the family and friends of Juan Andrade Vial, Elena Kopp & Sophie Kerr who are to be presented to the community at St Joseph's this Sunday.

**BAPTISM PREPARATION**

Baptism preparation for parents of children to be baptised in our parish will be held on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 3pm in the parish centre. Please contact the parish office if you intend to have your child baptised in one of our churches.

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION FOR CHILDREN 2018**

If you wish your child to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, Eucharist or Reconciliation for the first time please enquire at the Parish Office or email: [percivalsevere@gmail.com](mailto:percivalsevere@gmail.com)

**MOTHERS' DAY** Next Sunday is Mothers' Day.

As a tribute to mothers still living and to those who are deceased, we ask each of you to bring a flower for mothers who are still alive, or a sprig of rosemary for mothers who are deceased. These may then be brought to the altar after the homily and placed in a large bowl, as a prayer and tribute to the mothers who gave us life.

**SUNDAY COLLECTIONS 29/04/18**

Thanking you for your continuing support!  
 Please contact the parish office if you wish to contribute via Direct Debit or Credit Card

1 <sup>st</sup> Collection (Clergy/Priory a/c) .....	\$1641.95
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection (Church a/c) .....	\$ 342.00
Loose money .....	\$ 455.55