

# **St. Mary of the Angels, Geelong**

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2025**



## **Daily Reflections**

**<http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/daily.html>**

**MONDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> JUNE 2025**

**Monday of the 7<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter**

**Sts Marcellinus and Peter**

**Acts 19:1-8 Psalm 67:2-7, R. v. 33, John 16:29-33**

**Reflections: Do you believe at last?**

There is a certain irony in Jesus' words to the disciples: "Do you believe at last?" He knows they will literally be scattered, fearful and mourning for their beloved friend and teacher. Up to this point they, like Nicodemus and the Samariatan woman earlier in the Gospel have only partial understanding of his person and mission from the Father. Similarly, the group of believers in Ephesus had a limited participation in the life and beliefs of the early communities. It will be the promised Spirit of truth who will enable them to appreciate more fully what it means to believe that Jesus comes from God. If we think that we possess the complete truth about Jesus and understand fully the mystery of his person, are we not like them? *Lord, I believe, help me to understand, to respond and to follow where you have conquered.* Like the disciples we need to continue to ask questions. As Pope Francis has written: "He who asks questions is not satisfied. He is animated by a restlessness which shines and represents an energy, a vitality'.



**TUESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> JUNE 2025**

*7<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter*

*Acts 20: 17-27, Psalm 67: 10-11, 20-21., R. v 33, John 17:1-11*

***Reflection. Strengthen our belief in you, O Lord.***

There are two key summary sentences in today's readings. Luke puts on Paul's lips a succinct expression of his mission. 'To bear witness to the Good News (Gospel) of God's grace. This is the same grace and favour that was with Jesus as he grew to maturity. There could hardly be a better way to describe the role of a disciple of Jesus, especially those called into positions of leadership in the community. In the Gospel passage there is a similar basic statement; Eternal life is this – to know you; the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.' It is this gift of true life, genuine life, for which Jesus prays to strengthen the disciples who are in the world. Jesus has, in various ways, communicated this to his disciples, while he was with them. It is through them, who kept his word, and through their reflection, their preaching and their writings, that we too inherit this word and this belief.



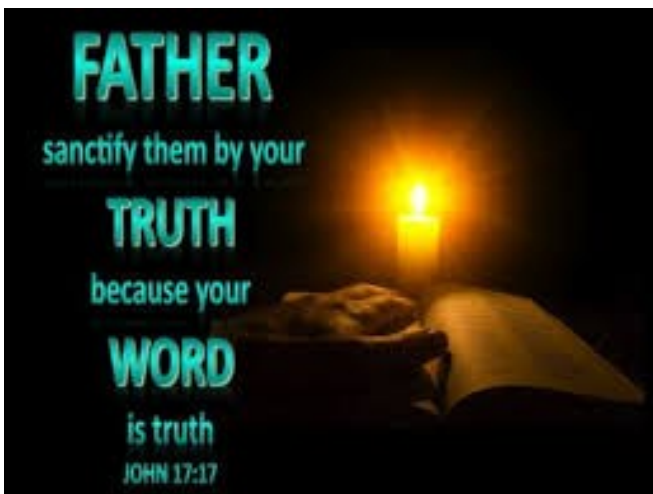
**WEDNESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2025**

**7<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter**

**Acts 20: 28-38, Psalm 67: 29-30, 33-36. R.v. 33, John 17:11-19**

***Reflection Holy Father, keep those you have given me true to your name.***

Today both Paul and Jesus pray for those they will leave behind to continue their mission. Jesus prays that his disciples be consecrated or set aside for the truth. In the scene later in Gospel, in the arraignment of Jesus' before the power of Rome, Pilate asks the perennial question, 'What is truth?', in response to Jesus' assertion that he has come to testify to the truth. We too are constantly in search of the truth – about ourselves, our relationships, about Jesus, about God. The prayer of Jesus for the disciples and for us who come after them but not for one who is prepared to lay down his life for those he loves and for the church of God bought with his own blood. The beautiful commendation of Paul for the church at Ephesus was surely of great consolation to them. What is similarly comforting to us is that the 'word of grace' has the power to build us up.



**THURSDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2025**

*7<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter*

*St Boniface*

*Acts 22: 30, 23: 6-11, Psalm 15: 1-2, 5, 7-11. R.v.1, John 17: 20-26*

***Reflection : Keep me safe, O God, you are my hope.***

Common themes in the Gospel of John such as ‘belief’ unity’, ‘being known’, are prominent in the final section of Jesus’ prayer for the disciples and for those, like us, who come after them. To know that Jesus continues to pray with us and for us is surely at the bedrock of our spiritual life. It is helpful, I believe, to hear those words of Jesus’ prayer directed to me, personally. Then I can ask myself whether I have received the clear message. Have I advanced, or perhaps hindered, harmony and unity in my community? There can be few more comforting words than Jesus expressing his desire to be with us where we are. To know that the mutual love of Jesus and the Father is in us enables us to be more aware of our full dignity as sent by him. We can then allow that love to burn within us and radiate to those around us.

AND THE GLORY WHICH YOU GAVE ME  
I HAVE GIVEN THEM,  
THAT THEY MAY BE  
JUST AS WE ARE **1**

– JOHN 17:22

**FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2025**

**7<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter**

***St Norbert***

***Acts 25: 13-21, Psalm 102: 1-2, 11-12, 19-20. R.v. 19, John 21:15-19***

***Reflection.***

Both Peter and Paul are faced with an uncertain future in today's readings. While Paul has recourse to his status as a Roman citizen, Peter relies solely on the loving forgiveness and rehabilitation by Jesus. Paul became caught up in the politics of successive Roman governors and their relationship with the Jewish religious authorities. There are no hidden agendas in Jesus' dealing with Peter who had denied three times that he never knew him. It is simply 'Follow me!' Like Jesus himself, Peter would be bound and led to a gruesome fate. He will follow in the footsteps of the true, genuine, trustworthy good shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep. Jesus' questioning of Peter is put before us as well. Like Peter we may become challenged and upset but trust always in the one who knows us. Our profession of faith in Jesus, of our love for him, will never guarantee the absence of suffering. It may sometimes mean the reluctant abdication of the freedoms we cherish and seek to maintain.



**SATURDAY 7<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2025**

**7<sup>th</sup> Weel of Easter**

***Acts 28: 16-20, 30-31, Psalm 10: 4-5, 7, R. cf. v 7, John 21: 20-25***

***Reflection The just will gaze on your face O Lord.***

As we come to the end of the Easter season it is appropriate that our readings today are the concluding verses of both the Acts of the Apostles and the Gospel of John. Having finally reached Rome, Paul—Luke's hero and personification of the Gospel itself—has come to the ends of the earth, and here the lively story of the early Christian community ends rather abruptly. On the other hand, the gospel's final two verses are a fitting conclusion to this wonderful document issuing from the witness of the disciple Jesus loved. I believe it is helpful sometimes to pause and reflect in thanksgiving on the contribution to our faith and commitment to Jesus given by ministers of the word such as Luke and this 'other disciple' and their followers and collaborators. Relying on the truth of their testimony, we are encouraged and enabled to be witnesses ourselves.



# *PENTECOST SUNDAY*

