

St. Mary of the Angels Geelong

Monday 11th May 2026

Saturday 16th May 2026



Daily Reflections

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

MONDAY 11TH MAY 2026

6th Week of Easter

Acts 16: 11-15, Psalm 149: 1-6, 9. R. v. 4, John 15: 26 –16: 4.

Reflections: Come, live in the Light.

St Paul's life as an apostle contained many hardships as he tells us in 1 Corinthians: 'Five times I received from the Jews thirty-nine lashes. Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, a night and a day I have spent in the deep' (11:24-25). And that's only the beginning of his list! But just occasionally something wonderful happened for him such as when the kindly Lydia insisted that Paul 'come and stay with us' and she would take no refusal. As he enjoyed her hospitality and a comfortable bed, perhaps for the first time in months, I'm sure that he said a quiet prayer of thanks to the Lord. Our lives also have many challenges but let us never forget the blessings that come along, sometimes surprisingly, and be thankful for them.



TUESDAY 12TH MAY 2026

6th Week of Easter

Acts 16: 22-34, Psalm 137: 1-3, 7-8. R. v. 7, John 16: 5-11.

Reflection: Now I am going to the one you sent me.

In Philippi Paul and Silas are beaten and thrown into the innermost part of the prison. But during a divinely- caused earthquake the doors fly open and the chains fall off. The walls of the prison could not keep out the Spirit of God, and the same applies to prison walls today. During a meeting with prison wardens, Pope Francis once urged them to tell the prisoners that the Lord is inside with them: 'No cell is so isolated that it can keep the Lord out. His paternal and maternal love arrives everywhere.' At times we can also find ourselves imprisoned in some way, perhaps by our fears or by an excessive self-preoccupation. Let us take courage that the Spirit of God can also break through the walls we create, with his gifts of freedom and love.



WEDNESDAY 13TH MAY 2026

6th Week of Easter

Our Lady of Fatima

Acts 17: 15, 22 _ 18: 1, Psalm 148: 1-2, 11-14, John 16: 12-15.

Reflection: Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.

We have to humbly acknowledge that as human beings we cannot know God fully. Indeed, we probably grasp only a tiny fraction of the mystery of the Godhead. Jesus alludes to this in today's Gospel when he says, 'I still have many things to say to you, but they would be too much for you now.' Perhaps the wise philosophers in Athen also sensed that they could not grasp the full reality of God, even though they had many gods, so they built an altar to 'An Unknown God'. Jesus promises his disciples that he will ask the Father to send them the spirit who will lead them into a deeper understanding of the truth. May we seek to know God better each day while always recognising that on this earth a complete understanding eludes us. The best way to come to know God better is to fulfill the great commandment of love. By dying to ourselves and loving others, we come to know God personally.



THURSDAY 14th MAY 2026

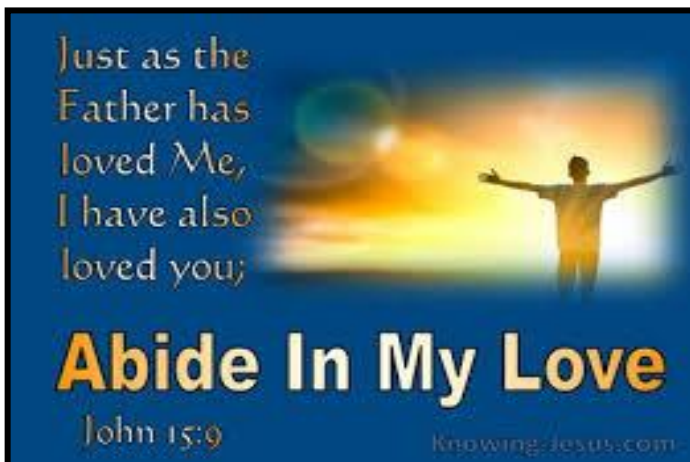
6th Week of Easter

St Matthias Apostle

Acts 1: 15-17, 20-26, Psalm 112:1-8. R. cf. v. 8, John 15:9-17.

Reflection: The Lord will give him a sear with the leaders of his people.

Today we remember St Matthias who was chosen by lot to replace Judas in the Twelve apostles. Our thoughts also naturally turn to Judas. Jesus' love for him never ceased. Why could he not remain in Jesus' love? Perhaps he had his own expectations of how the Messiah should act and he became disillusioned when Jesus did not match those expectations. Occasionally today we can see something similar in people we know and love. For a long time, they were very fervent in their faith and then they stopped going to church. The reasons are often mysterious and we cannot judge. We pray for them today that they may experience the abiding love of Jesus. And we pray for ourselves that we may continue to abide with Jesus despite the many challenges to belief that we face in our world today.



FRIDAY 15th MAY 2026

6th Week of Easter

Acts 18: 9-18, Psalm 46: 2-7 R. v. 8., John 16: 20—23.

Reflection: God is king of all the earth.

We live in the in-between time. Christ has returned to the Father and we await his final coming in glory. In this in-between time, we will have plenty of troubles. While Christ's saving death has assured that ultimately sin will be destroyed, its presence continues for now and we battle it in various ways, just as St Paul faced constant opposition and trials for those who disagreed with his ways. In the Gospel Jesus compares the struggles of the disciples with the painful experience of giving birth. It is a time of suffering, but it will culminate in joy. May the hope of eternal joy spur us on as we journey faithfully and lovingly through this earthly valley of tears.

SATURDAY 16th MAY 2026

6th Week of Easter

Acts 18: 23-28, Psalm 46: 2-3, 8-10, r. V. 8, John 16: 23-28

Reflection: God is king of all the earth.

Today's readings highlight the importance of encouraging one another as we journey to the full realisation of the kingdom of God. The first reading tells of a young believer named Apollos who was preaching the Good News with eloquence and earnestness. Priscilla and Aquilla recognised his goodness and 'took an interest in him', helping him to continue his good work and wrote a letter of endorsement for him. In the Gospel Jesus encourages his disciples, assuring them that the Father loves them and that whatever they ask the Father in his name they will receive. May we also be encouraged by Jesus' assurance of the Father's love for us and may we in turn encourage each other as we journey along our pilgrim way.

The Ascension of the Lord

