

St. Mary of the Angels Geelong

Monday 18th May 2026

Saturday 23rd May 2026



Daily Reflections

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

MONDAY 18TH MAY 2026


7th Week of Easter

St John I

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

***Reflection: "I have told you all this so you may find peace
in me'...***

'We believe you came from God because you do not have to wait for questions to be put into words', say Jesus' disciples. The logic here is very strange. There are many intuitive people who can anticipate a question someone is about to ask. IT doesn't prove they came from God. Jesus's response, 'Do you believe at last?', carries a note of irony. Indeed, he gently points out that things will happen in the future that will lead them to abandon him- at least for a while. The disciples in Ephesus are in a similar situation. They know the story of Jesus but only about the baptism of repentance of John the Baptist. Paul patiently sets out to teach them. Like Jesus' disciples and the disciples in Ephesus, we move forward on our pilgrim journey in half-light but never full light. Sometimes the light is brighter, sometimes dimmer. Let us take comfort in knowing that, as with Jesus, the Father is with us always. On our journey through life, we are never alone.



The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you;
the LORD turn his face toward you
and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

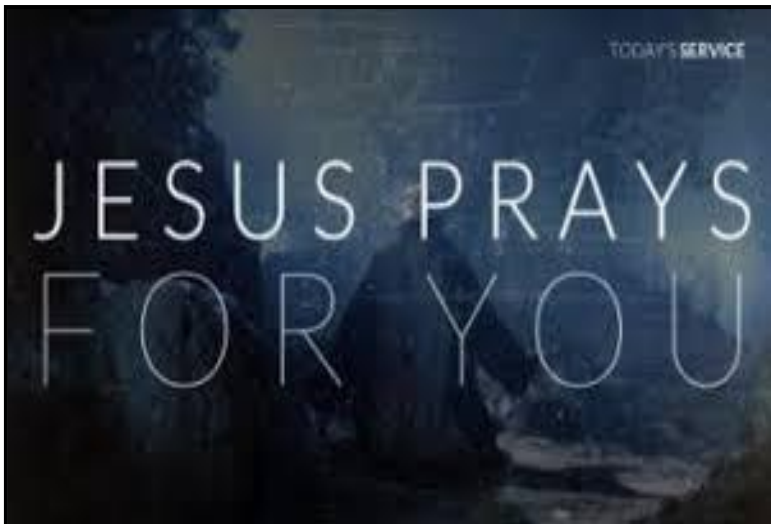
TUESDAY 19TH MAY 2026

7th Week of Easter

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

Reflection: Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth.

In today's first reading, Paul tells the elders of the Christian community of Ephesus that he will never see them again. He is on his way to Jerusalem, and the Holy Spirit has revealed that imprisonment and persecution await him. His conscience is clear, he says. He has carried out as well as he could the mission the Lord Jesus gave him. In the Gospel, Jesus knows that the hour of his glorification has come. He has completed the work the Father gave him to do. In prayer he entrusts those he will leave behind to the Father's care. It will be wonderful if each of us can say at the end of our lives that we have completed the task God has given us on earth. Certainly, we are not perfect and we made mistakes, but we did the best we could in most situation. May we also have the confidence of Jesus and St Paul to entrust the ones we leave behind to the loving care of our heavenly Father.



WEDNESDAY 20TH MAY 2026

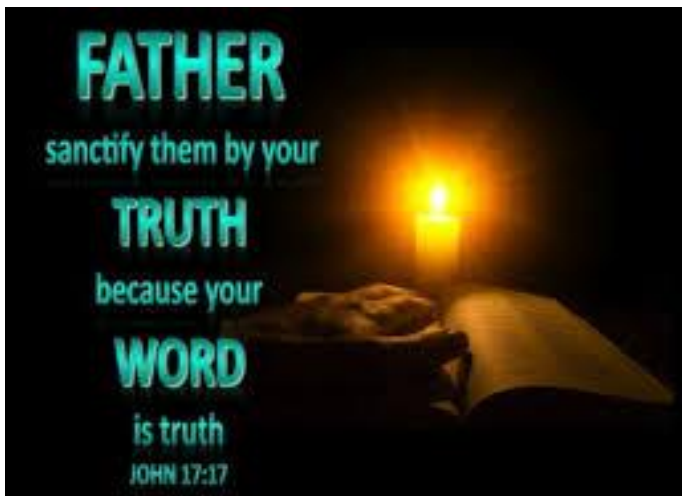
7th Week of Easter

St Bernadine of Siena

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

Reflection: Sing to God, I kingdom of the earth.

Paul and Jesus are both acutely aware that fierce wolves in many guises will attack the communities once they are gone. There will be difficulties form within and without. Neither calls for the Father to prevent these difficulties. If there were no difficulties we would not grow up, we would remain children. It is through testing that our faith is purified and strengthened. Paul urges the people to remember his words and the example of his life. Jesus asks the Father to consecrate his disciples in the truth he has revealed to them. We are fortunate that their witness and teaching remain string among us through the Gospels and the letters of St Paul. May these sacred texts be valuable guides for us as we battle the forces of evil within ourselves and our world.



THURSDAY 21st MAY 2026

7th Week of Easter

St Christopher Magallanes

*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.

There were many divisions in Judaism at the time of Jesus and St Paul. The Sadducees and Pharisees, for instance, disagreed on many things including the resurrection of the dead. Paul was able to exploit their lack of unity to his own advantage. The Christian community for which John wrote his Gospel was also divided and many divisions have occurred within the Christian Church over 2000 years. Division weakens our witness to Jesus Christ. All Christian Churches recognise this and feel sorry for it which is why in Australia this week between Ascension and Pentecost is designated a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. We gather with our Protestant brothers and sisters to pray with Jesus that we may all be one. Of course, unity, does not mean uniformity. There can be deep unity in diversity. May we be united in the things that matter- our faith is Jesus Christ and our commitment to the values of the Gospel, most especially love.



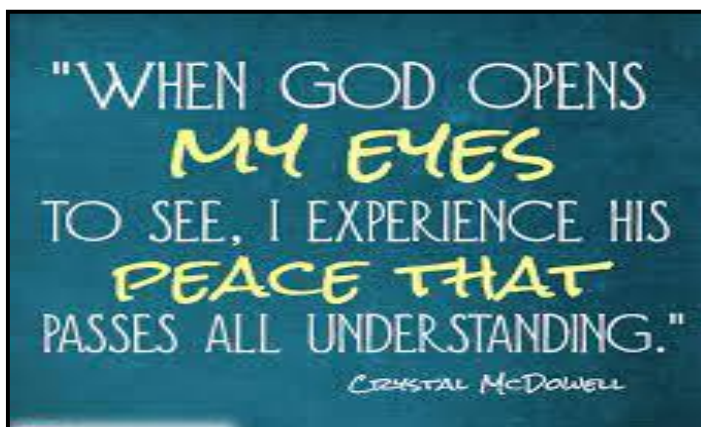
FRIDAY 22nd MAY 2026

7th Week of Easter

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

Reflection: Feed my lambs, feed my sheep, follow me?"

When I was young, approaching ordination to the priesthood, I was filled with uncertainty. I had some qualities that would help me as a priest, but I was also aware of my limitations and wondered whether I was suited to priesthood. At the time the Gospel we hear today was a great help. Jesus assured me that the only things that matter are 'Do you love me? Look after my sheep.' If you seek to do both, you will be a good priest. Now, nearly 50 years late, it is the second part of his Gospel that speaks to me. The free choice and commitments I made as a young person now determines the course of my life. I cannot simply do what I want. Rather, the demands of mission and my community determine what I must do. I am at peace with this most of the time and know I am giving glory to God in following a path no longer fixed by myself. I have also learned that in everything we are never alone. Jesus never says, 'Do this, do that.' He always says, 'Follow me.'



SATURDAY 23rd MAY 2026

7th Week 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.

Today we hear the ending of the Acts of the Apostles, and what a strange ending it is! It almost feels as if the last chapter is missing, the chapter in which we are told that 'they all lived happily ever after!' Instead, it ends with Paul going about his duties in Rome, with great uncertainty remaining about what will happen to him and indeed to the Christian community. The simple fact is that the story of the Acts of the Apostles, the story of the life and struggles of the Christian community, continues to this day. It will end only on the Last Day when Christ comes again in glory. Then we will all 'live happily ever after.' The final verses of the Gospel of John that we read today have a similar note of incompleteness. Peter has many questions, but Jesus says simply, 'Follow me'. These are Jesus' words to us at the end of the Easter season. We do not know what the future will bring. All that matters is that we seek to follow him each day.



Pentecost Sunday

*Lord send out your Spirit and renew
the face of the earth*

