

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

For the Church: For the church and its place in the world. For our bishops, especially Bishop Genieve Blackwell. For the growth, strength and confidence of our Parish. For our neighbouring parishes in Preston, Fitzroy and Collingwood. For our work following the Royal Commission. For the search for a new Dean of Trinity Theological College.

For the World: For national leadership that they may seek the welfare of their people. For the governments of the USA, Russia, North Korea, Israel, Palestine, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Iran and Yemen. For the approaching meeting of the U.S. President with the North Korean government. For peace in Jerusalem. For the United Nations and for all skilled in the art of diplomacy. For refugees. For those refugees formerly held on Manus Island and Nauru. For the Muslim communities of Myanmar. For the Australian Parliaments.

For the Community: For the work of the Royal Commission into the banking and financial companies. For agencies of welfare and material aid. For the homeless and all seeking access to community and public housing. For our hospitals and nursing homes. For Bruce as he commences his work in Jakarta.

For the Sick: Our prayers are asked for: Jill, Ann, Joseph, Dorothy, Gary, Ron, Jeffrey, Jan, Vera, Martha, Joyce, Jude, Trish, Russell, Domenico and Gavin.

For the Departed: We give thanks for the life those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Fran Wilson, Anne Birchall, Alice Braithwaite, Thelma Greenwood, Ethel Peake, Jean Reilly, Bob Davis and Hilda Kirchner.

A WEEK OF WEEKS

Almost as soon as the Christian Easter made its appearance in history, it presented itself as a feast that went on for fifty days. All the days of the fifty-day period were to be celebrated "with great joy"; according to Tertullian, they comprise a single feast day, and according to Saint Irenaeus it is a feast day "with the same import as Sunday." Whereas the Jewish Pentecost was a harvest feast and one commemorating the covenant and was assigned to the fiftieth day after Passover, the Christian Pentecost was originally a period of fifty days during which each day had the same value and function. The mystery of the Resurrection was here celebrated in all its aspects and implications. It is worth noting that while the Greek text of Acts speaks of the day of Pentecost in the singular (Acts 2:1), the Latin text, which reflects ecclesial usage of the fourth century, puts the word in the plural: *Dum completeretur dies Pentecostes*, "When the fifty days were completed." The privileges attaching to the Lord's Day were extended to the fifty-day period of Easter: during this time people prayed standing, and fasting was prohibited. So too the entire period was "the most felicitous time for administering baptism. Somewhat as Sunday was the first and the eighth day, so the "great Sunday" constituted by the fifty days of Pentecost opened with the day of the resurrection and continued through eight Sundays. It was therefore an octave of Sundays and "a week of weeks." The emphasis on the octave of Sundays underscores the "last days" character of the fifty-day Easter period. St. Basil writes: Pentecost reminds us of the resurrection which we await in the other world.

The Liturgy & Time - Martimort & Ors



Prayers and Readings for THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

(Year B)

6 May, 2018

9.30 am, 11.00 am, 5.00 pm

Introit Hymn:	375	Come let us with the Lord arise
Psalm:	98	
Gradual Hymn:	379	He is risen
Offertory Hymn:	526	Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us
Doxology (St James)	368 v.5	
Dismissal:	373	Hail, our once-despised Jesus
	Sermon	The Vicar.

Opening Sentence

Jesus said, 'You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit.'

Prayer of the day:

Loving God, your Son has chosen us and called us to be his friends; give us grace to keep his commandments, to love one another, and to hear fruit which will abide; through him who is the true vine, the source of all our life, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words: and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Prayer of the week

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life; grant that we may walk in his way, rejoice in his truth, and share his risen life; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

FIRST READING:**Acts 10: 44 – 48**

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. 45 The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, 46 for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 47'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have' 48 So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

THE PSALM: 98

Response: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of God.

1. Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvellous things. His own right hand and his holy arm have won for him the victory.
2. The Lord has made known his salvation; his deliverance has he openly shown in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his mercy and faithfulness towards the house of Israel. And all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
3. Sound praises to the Lord, all the earth; break into singing and make music. Make music to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the voice of melody.
4. With trumpets and the sound of the horn sound praises before the Lord, the King. Let the sea thunder, and all that fills it; the world and all that dwell upon it.
5. Let the rivers clap their hands; and let the hills ring out together before the Lord; for he comes to judge the earth. In righteousness shall he judge the world, and the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING:**1 John 5: 1 – 12**

My brothers and sisters, everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. 2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. 3 For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, 4 for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. 5 Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? 6 This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth. 7 There are three that testify: 8 the Spirit and the water and the blood, and these three agree. 9 If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. 10 Those who believe in the

Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. 11 And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

All who love me will keep my words: and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**THE GOSPEL:****John 15: 9 – 17**

At that time Jesus said, 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. 10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. 11 I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. 12 This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command you. 15 I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. 16 You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. 17 I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.'

THE POST COMMUNION SENTENCE:

Jesus said, 'as the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.'

DIARY FOR THE WEEK

6 May 2018 – 13 May 2018

<u>6th Sunday of Easter</u>	9.30 am	Sung Eucharist – St James
	11.00 am	Sung Eucharist – All Saints
	5.00 pm	Holy Eucharist – St Paul's
<u>Thursday</u>	10.30 am	Holy Eucharist – St James
	7.00 pm	All Saints Wardens Meeting
<u>7th Sunday of Easter</u>	9.30 am	Sung Eucharist St James
	11.00 am	Sung Eucharist – All Saints
	5.00 pm	Holy Eucharist – St Paul's

PARISH NEWS

We welcome all who share with us in our service today. If you are new to our Church, please sign the Visitors Book in the Narthex/porch and introduce yourself to the welcomers on duty. Coffee is served after the Service in the Narthex at St James, in the Meeting Room at All Saints and before the service in the Church at St Paul's. Please join us.

Next Sunday's readings – Easter 7 Sunday after Ascension

First Reading: Acts 1: 15 – 17, 21 – 26 Psalm: 1
Second Reading: 1 John 5: 9 – 13 Gospel: John 17: 6 – 19

OIL FOR REFUGEES

We are collecting cooking oil for refugees in 2018 to support the work of David Spitteler and his team at The Asylum Seekers Centre in Dandenong. Oil may be left in the narthex at St James and at All Saints.

CORPUS CHRISTI CELEBRATIONS

St. Peter's Eastern Hill will be hosting an inter-parish celebration of Corpus Christi on Thursday 31 May at 6:15pm which will consist of a Mass and Eucharistic procession followed by refreshments.

BROTHERHOOD STORE – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Community Store at All Saints is running short of volunteers and Jackie has asked if there are any church members who could spare some time to help out as volunteer staff. Training and support provided, of course. The Store is a friendly place with plenty of customers and you are encouraged to support our BSL partnership in this way. Please contact Jackie Kehoe, Manager, at snorthcote@bsl.org.au or on 9489 6183 during Store hours.

CRUCIFIX IN THE ST ALBANS CHAPEL

Special thanks to Michael Condon who has restored the crucifix behind the altar in the chapel at St James church. It was damaged before Easter and thought to be irreparable.

THE MELBOURNE ANGLICAN

The May edition of the Diocesan newspaper is available at the churches this morning.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHURCH UNION FILM AFTERNOON

Details of ACU invitation to a screening of the smash hit film *GOD WILLING* at ACMI Studio 1, Federation Square on Saturday 5 May at 3:30 pm are in a flyer on the Notice Board in the Narthex at each church.

TRINITY THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE – SEMINAR “BIBLICAL VALUES”

Tuesday 15 May at 7.30 pm Professor John Collins of the Yale Divinity School, Professor of Old Testament Criticism and Interpretation. Will explore basic questions to, what we call, biblical values. Old Warden's Lodge, 100 Royal Parade, Parkville. Free lecture, Book at www.trybooking.com/342512

ASCENSION OF CHRIST

Next Thursday is Ascension Day. This day celebrates the withdrawal of Christ into Heaven, witnessed by the Apostles (Mk. 16:19, Lk 24:51, Acts 1. 9). According to tradition it took place on the Mount of Olives. Lk. 24: 50-53 has been held to imply that the Ascension happened on the evening of the day of the Resurrection, but according to Acts 1: 3 it occurred forty days after. There are also explicit references to it in John. (see: John 6: 62, 20:17) though this Gospel has no account of the event itself, and implicit references occur in the rest of the New Testament: Eph. 4:8-10, Heb. 4:14, 7:26, 8:1, 1 Pet. 3:22, 1 Tim. 3:16). The Ascension marked the solemn close of the post-Resurrection appearances and the exaltation of Christ to the heavenly life after he had spoken to His Apostles of 'the things concerning the kingdom of God'. Its theological significance consists in the fact that thereby Christ's human nature was taken into Heaven, whence he now exercises all power in Heaven and on earth (cf Jn. 14:2, Phil. 3:21. Heb 6:20. Rev. 3:21). Ascension Day is one of the chief feasts of the Christian Year. It is kept on the sixth Thursday - the 40th day, after Easter. There is wide read testimony (e.g. in Chrysostom, Etheria and Socrates) to its celebration from the later years of the 4th cent. In early times its observance was frequently, if not always, marked by a procession, apparently to commemorate Christ's journey to the Mount of Olives. According to western usage, the Paschal Candle, lighted during more important services in Eastertide, was until 1970 extinguished after the Gospel at Mass on Ascension Day. Modern practice sees the Paschal Candle burning until the eucharist on the 7th Sunday of Easter. In the BCP Proper Psalms (8, 15, 21; 24, 47, 18) are appointed for the day itself and a Proper Preface for use throughout the octave.