

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

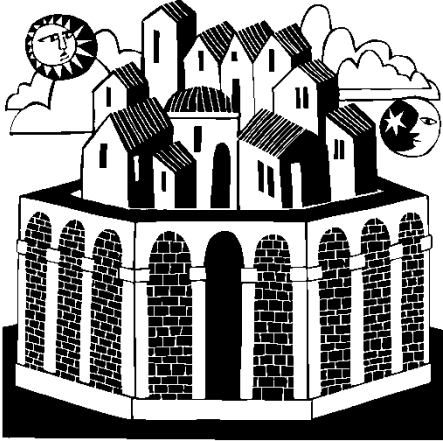
**7 May 2023**



*Readings for  
this week:* Acts 6:1-7  
1 Peter 2:4-9  
John 14:1-12



*Readings for  
next Sunday:* Acts 8:5-8,14-17  
1 Peter 3:15-18  
John 17:1-11



## Liturgical Jottings

### Deacons

The Catholic church has three orders within Holy Orders: Bishop, Presbyter (priest) and Deacon. The role of deacon finds its origins in the New Testament. The verb means to serve at table. The noun is translated as servant or minister. The title is attributed in a way to the Apostles and those appointed to provide a ministry in the Church. St Paul named it as a distinctive office (Philippians 1:1), and lists the deacon's qualities (1 Tim 3:8-13). Though the seven appointed men in the first reading this Sunday are not called deacons their duties of prayer, service to the word and charity imply the service of a deacon. Phoebe of Cenchreae is called a deaconess (Rom 16:1).

"At Mass the deacon proclaims the Gospel, may preach God's word, announce the intentions of the Prayer of the Faithful, prepare the altar and serve the celebration of the sacrifice, distribute communion especially the cup ..." cf GIRM 94

## Looking at the Readings

The gospel readings for the Sundays just before the feast of Pentecost are all taken from Jesus' last discourse in the Gospel of John. In them, Jesus prepares his followers for his death and resurrection and his ultimate exaltation.

This Sunday Jesus says that it is through his death that he goes to God. However, it is as he is raised up in crucifixion that he is exalted. The author of the epistle declares him 'chosen and precious in the sight of God' but it is as the stone that was rejected that he is so honoured. If we ever wonder how the exaltation of Jesus will affect us, we have Jesus' own words of explanation. He promises to go ahead of us and make arrangements for us to share in his exaltation in the house of the one he calls Father. All we need do is follow him.

Today's readings suggest that the exaltation of Jesus is most dramatically manifested in the character of the community of those called by his name. It is revealed in the way Christians settle their differences so that all parties are treated fairly. Jesus is the cornerstone upon which this community is built, and the community mirrors his influence in its life. Christians also participate in the exaltation of Jesus by spreading the good news to others. In Acts we see how the witness of life and the preaching of the word of God increased the number of believers. © Dianne Bergant CSA


## Pope Francis Easter Vigil Homily

Yet today, brother, sister, the power of Easter summons you to roll away every stone of disappointment and mistrust. The Lord is an expert in rolling back the stones of sin and fear. He wants to illuminate your sacred memory, your most beautiful memory, and to make you relive that first encounter with him. Remember and keep moving forward. Return to him and rediscover the grace of God's resurrection within you! Return to Galilee. Return to your Galilee. Dear brothers and sisters, let us follow Jesus to Galilee, encounter him and worship him there, where he is waiting for each of us. Let us revive the beauty of that moment when we realized that he is alive and we made him the Lord of our lives. Let us return to Galilee, the Galilee of our first love. Let each of us return to his or her own Galilee, to the place where we first encountered him. Let us rise to new life! (part 4)

## On the Lighter Side

A priest, a deacon and a rabbit walk into a blood bank.  
"I think I might be a Type O." said the rabbit.



	<b>Those who are recently deceased and those who are grieving</b>	Bill Worm
	<b>For those whose anniversary occurs at this time</b>	Kathleen Feehan
	<b>Our sick and their carers</b>	Bernie Maher, Bill Moroney, May Turvey, Teresa Mutto, Vito Prinzi

DAY, TIME, DATE	COMMENTATOR	READER	GOSPEL PROCESSION	GIFT PRESENTATION	SPECIAL MINISTERS	SCREEN OPERATOR/ORGAN
Sun 10:30 am 14 May	Debbie Worm	Mary Vraca	Doreen Corrigan	D Bourke D Turvey	Connie Serra	Mary Gale Trish Warnett
Sat 6:00 pm 20 May	Carol Coulston	Peter Crombie	Shelia Gregg	J Caiafa D Hamilton	N/A	Mary Gale
Sun 10:30 am 21 May	Rob Miller	Rita Fairchild	Doreen Corrigan	A Basile M Sgammotta	Debbie Worm	Debbie Worm Trish Warnett
Sun 10:30 am 28 May	<b>CONFIRMATION/FIRST EUCHARIST</b>					

## Two Week Mass Timetable Week commencing 1<sup>st</sup> May

### Weekday Mass

Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> May	No Mass
Tue 9 <sup>th</sup> May	No Mass
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> May	9:15 am Mass
Thur 11 <sup>th</sup> May	No Mass
Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> May	9:15 am Mother's Day School Mass

### Weekend Mass

Sat 13 <sup>th</sup> May	No Mass
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> May	10:30 am Mass

### Weekday Mass

Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> May	No Mass
Tue 16 <sup>th</sup> May	No Mass
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> May	9:15 am Mass
Thur 18 <sup>th</sup> May	No Mass
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> May	9:15 am Mass

### Weekend Mass

Sat 20 <sup>th</sup> May	6:00 pm Mass
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> May	10:30 am Mass

**Reconciliation** 3<sup>rd</sup> June

## Sandhurst Scripture Talks 2023:

Acts of the Apostles: Making Decisions with the Holy Spirit

Join Dr Rosemary Canavan and Rev. Dr Brian Boyle on a journey through Luke's "Acts of the Apostles" focusing on the elucidation of the Holy Spirit in the birth of the Church and the activity of the Holy Spirit in the process of discernment in the Council of Jerusalem.

"Its emphasis on discernment, prayerful reflection and indeed synodality makes Acts a topical and enjoyable work for study and reflection." (Fr Brian Boyle)

Online via Zoom 7:00 p.m. Tuesday 9, 16 and 23 May.

These Talks are free, but you must register to attend.

These talks are eligible for maintaining accreditation for teachers in Catholic Schools.

Go to our website for more details.



## Acknowledgement to Country

We turn our hearts and minds to the people of the Yorta Yorta nation, who have occupied this country for thousands of year. We pay respect to their elders past, present and emerging, and commit to walking alongside First Nation Australians in truth, justice, and reconciliation.

## Themes for 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Year A

<https://young-catholics.com>

The readings for the 5th Sunday of Easter Year A tell us that we are called to follow Jesus and serve him, even though we don't know where that might lead us. The first reading tells how and why the first deacons were chosen. The psalm reminds us that God "loves justice and right". In the second reading Peter calls the people to be "a holy priesthood". And in the gospel Jesus tells us to have faith in him.

**Service:** In Acts 6:1-7, the theme of service is prominent as the apostles seek to meet the needs of the community by appointing seven men to serve as deacons. In the gospel for the 5th Sunday of Easter Year A, Jesus emphasizes the importance of serving others and encourages his disciples to continue his work.

**Unity:** The readings highlight the importance of unity within the community of believers. The appointment of the seven deacons helps to maintain unity and prevent division within the early church. Jesus speaks of his unity with the Father and encourages his disciples to remain united in him.

**Leadership:** The first reading for the 5th Sunday of Easter Year A provides an example of leadership in action as the apostles make a decision to address the needs of the community.

**Faith:** Faith is a common theme in the readings for the 5th Sunday of Easter Year A, as the early believers trust in God to provide for their needs, and Jesus encourages his disciples to have faith in him as they continue his work.

**Vocations:** The seven men chosen to serve as deacons were specifically selected for their ability to serve the needs of the community. The first reading highlights the importance of recognizing and affirming one's vocational calling, as well as the value of vocations within the Church.

## Reflection Questions for 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter Year A

- How does the response of the apostles to the needs of the Greek-speaking widows remind us of our responsibility to serve others, particularly the marginalized and vulnerable in our society?
- In what ways can we apply the principles of delegation and leadership seen in the passage to our own lives as Catholics?
- What challenges do we face today in our communities that require us to come together and address as a group?
- How can we maintain our trust in Jesus during difficult times?
- What can we do to keep our focus on our ultimate home with God in heaven?
- How can we better follow the path that Jesus has laid out for us in our daily lives? What are

## Rosario italiano

Il Rosario italiano si terrà venerdì 12 maggio alle ore 14 in Chiesa. Tutti sono invitati a partecipare.

## Italian Rosary

The Italian Rosary will be held on Friday 12th May at 2pm in the Church. All are welcome to attend.

## Pentecost with Sandhurst Youth Ministry:

Young People ages 15-35 are invited to gather together to celebrate Pentecost! There will be music from Melbourne musician Gen Bryant and her band, talks and other activities, and a BBQ. We will also celebrate the Pentecost Vigil Mass as part of the evening.

Further information, including how to register, will be available on Instagram and Facebook on the Sandhurst Youth Ministry pages so make sure you follow us to find out more.

Saturday 27th May

Our Lady's Church, Wangaratta Sth,  
5:30 – 9:30pm (arrive from 5pm)

## Personalised Rosaries



Are you looking for a special rosary as a gift or just for something special for yourself. Connie Serra is making personalised Rosaries please speak to her to organise.

some practical ways we can continue Jesus' work in the world?

- In what ways does Jesus serve as a window into the community of the Trinity? How does this impact our understanding of God and our relationship with Him?
- How can we follow Jesus' example of focusing on doing the will of the Father for the good of all humanity in our daily lives? What are some practical steps we can take to do so?