



LEVIN-TAITOKO

“A COMMUNITY RADIATING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST”

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH

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SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - 25th MAY 2025

“The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you.” (John 14:26)

Dear brothers and sisters,

Today, our Risen Lord shows us through all of the readings of today how the Church is how He remains with us today and at the same time is seated in glory in heaven as the Lamb. The eternal city of Jerusalem that John sees in His vision, as recorded in today's second reading radiating with the glory of God, is the Church. The Church is the New Jerusalem that exists in the Risen Lord and the Father with their Holy Spirit who have chosen to dwell in the hearts of all believers, living and asleep, in heaven and on earth..

We see in John's vision of the Eternal Jerusalem how the apostles form the foundation of the Church. The four walls of that city and the three gates on each of the four walls have inscribed on them the twelve names of the twelve tribes of Israel.

This is the same Church with the same Twelve Apostles who, with Peter as head, form the teaching authority of the Church that settled a serious dispute that arose among the members of the early Church, as is mentioned in today's first reading.

Just as Christ promised the apostles in today's gospel, the Holy Spirit still makes known to the Twelve Apostles the will of the Father and Jesus in matters of faith and morals. Through the original Twelve Apostles and their successors, the Pope and the Bishops, the Holy Spirit, continues to teach us.

We, the believers of Christ are united by and in Christ and with His Twelve Apostles we make up the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church which, to this day, radiates the divine light of the Lamb, although only dimly here on earth while splendidly in heaven.

Let us then remain in our unity with the Lamb and His apostles within the Church through the Word and Sacraments. Let us remain steadfast within the Church in these times of grave challenges.

We are bombarded with all kinds of false doctrines that have often led us astray from the doctrines taught by Christ and His apostles and confirmed by the Holy Spirit.

Even if we may find Christ's teaching handed on by the Apostles and their successors so difficult to live out, let us not reject them but gladly struggle daily with the strength of Christ's grace to keep His word.

Fr Simi

JUBILEE YEAR 2025 Celebrate on a pilgrimage! Join the Family Pilgrim Walk *Walk for a Cause on Saturday, 28 June, the Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.*



Pilgrims will meet at 8am at Parliament, visit the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart and St. Mary, his mother, then head to St Mary of the Angels Church The National Shrine that is dedicated to Mary Assumed into Heaven for the culminating mass at 11:00am. Register at family-pilgrim-walk,raiselysite.com. \$15 or \$50 for a family.



TAX RECEIPTS from St Vincent de Paul and the Parish are both available in the foyer. Thank you for your support.

TUESDAY SOCIAL CLUB At 1pm in the Parish Centre for a gathering of friends for fellowship and conversation.

MEALS ON WHEELS We will be rostered for the week of 26th - 30th of May. If you can help please contact Yoka on 022 502 2645 or by email at dekkernz@gmail.com



MISSING! WHERE IS IT? The key from the lock-box in the flower room has been missing for some weeks. Please return NOW or SOONER!



CONFIDENTIAL PRAYER INTENTIONS

- Prayer Intentions are collected twice a week
- They are given to the Prayer Chain in complete privacy.
- You can use the language with which they feel comfortable because we have people in the Prayer Chain able to translate
- The Prayer Intentions will then be



ARE YOU HOUSEBOUND?

Or do you know anyone who is? You are still welcome to receive Communion in your own home. You can also enjoy a visit from the ministers, Just phone the

PARISH COMMUNITY LINE: 022 314 4642

STILL URGENT NEED for volunteers to help with the Children's Liturgy Programme. We are at risk of not being able to continue this important ministry due to a lack of leaders. Please consider donating some of your time towards this programme. No prior experience is required and training can and will be provided. If you are able to help please reach out to Tekea at via phone or text on 021 081 17024 or by email at bwebwent@gmail.com. Thank you!

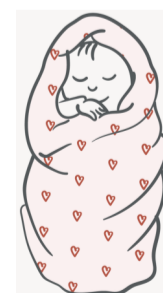


St VINCENT de PAUL CORNERS

In today's Gospel, Jesus mentions that he is "going away", leaving the earth. This means His physical presence, of course. As some of those remaining behind on earth, it is our privilege to serve Him by being His hands and feet in our community. You, our parishioners, who give regularly to the Vinnies' work of helping the underprivileged, are being just that alongside us.

You will know only in the next life what good you have done. Bless you.

SVdP Levin Bank Account for donations: 11 6932 0308328 11



John 027 626 4792

Kilian 022 695 0056

Brigette 027 379 2802

BABY ASSIST

As we have recently prepared several Welcome parcels for newborn babies, we would appreciate donations of blankets - both cot and bassinette sizes, and knitted garments of all sizes, to replenish our supplies. Many thanks.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS TO OFFICE@STJOSEPHLEVIN.COM BY 10AM WEDNESDAY
POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY 2025

For working conditions Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfillment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanised.

THE PROMISE OF PEACE AND THE PRESENCE OF THE SPIRIT

Jesus offers His disciples words of comfort and reassurance. He tells them, "Anyone who loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them." These words remind us that our relationship with God is not distant or abstract - it is deeply personal. God dwells within us when we embrace His word and live according to His teachings.

The disciples were anxious about Jesus' departure, much like we sometimes fear uncertainty in our own lives. But He does not leave them alone - He promises the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, who will guide and teach them. This same Spirit is with us today, illuminating our hearts, strengthening our faith, and reminding us of God's truths.



Jesus speaks of a peace that is not of this world. The peace He gives is not dependent on external circumstances but is rooted in His presence. How often do we seek peace in fleeting things - security, success, or approval - only to find ourselves restless? Christ's peace surpasses all understanding. It is a deep assurance that we belong to Him, no matter what trials we face.

"Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid," He says. These words invite us to trust in Him, even when life feels uncertain. When doubt creeps in, we can cling to His promise that the Spirit is with us, guiding, comforting, and leading us toward eternal life.

Let us remain in God's word, open to His Spirit, and anchored in His peace. May we live as people in whom God makes His home, radiating His presence to the world.

PRAYER AND FASTING FOR PEACE AND THE RELIEF OF SUFFERING

Catholics, moved by confronting images of children in Gaza, invite other Catholics to take part with them in Twenty-four hours prayer and fasting for Peace and the relief of children suffering starvation, injury and death due to wars being fought by adults. You are invited to fast from food, or if health excludes food fast, fasting from another activity on Friday 30th of May and to Pray for Peace in all places of conflict. You may choose to donate to Caritas the amount you will not pay for food that day. You may also choose to continue this fast on Fridays until there is an end to the children in Gaza being denied food and safety.

We suggest praying "Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us" (as in the Mass) and or the Litany of saints we were asked to pray for the election of Pope Leo XIV.



May the souls of our beloved dead and the souls
of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Annette Lark Hospicio Tinga Rosario Tinga

Suzanne Aubert says...

Forgetfulness of self makes heroic souls. What renders us incapable of great sacrifices, what holds us back from others, is that diabolical preoccupation with self. Let us enlarge our hearts...

Reflection:

Society today seems totally focussed on self. Advertisements encourage us to buy things or indulge in activities which will build us up in the eyes of the world. We worship at the altar of the ego and spend millions to bolster the image of tinsel town idols.

Following Christ entails forgetting self and self-preoccupation and reaching out to others in love and service – enlarging our hearts, in other words. Where is my focus? Is it myself or Jesus in others?



Prayer:

Lord, open my heart to your presence in others.

W E E K L Y S C H E D U L E

Monday, 26th May	9:30am	Liturgy of the Word with Communion, St Philip Neri
Tuesday, 27th	9:30pm	Holy Mass, St Augustine of Canterbury
	1:00pm	Tuesday Social Group
Wednesday, 28th	9:30am	Holy Mass
	10:00am	Rosary in the Chapel
Thursday, 29th	9:30am	Holy Mass, St Paul VI, Pope
	7:30pm	Christian Meditation in the Side Chapel
Friday, 30th	11:00am	Exposition
	12:10am	Holy Mass, Reconciliation
Saturday, 31st	5:30pm	Vigil Mass
Sunday, 1st June	9:30am	Holy Mass, The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
	11:00am	Legion of Mary Kiribati Group (Chapel)

Readings at Sunday Mass

(25/5/2025) **1st Reading:** Acts 15: 1-2, 22-29 **2nd Reading:** Revelation 21: 10-14, 22-23a
Gospel: John 14: 23-29

Psalm Response: *I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.*

(1/6/2025) **1st Reading:** Acts 1: 1-11 **2nd Reading:** Ephesians 1: 17-23
Gospel: Luke 24: 46-53