

St Joseph's Catholic Parish

Embracing the communities of
Cherbourg, Goomeri, Murgon,
Proston and Wondai

Sixth Sunday of Easter
Year C, 25 May, 2025



Unity in Diversity ... being one in Christ through Baptism!



John 14: 23-29

This Sunday we hear how carefully Jesus prepared his disciples for their life and work once he was no longer with them in the flesh. Ahead of their experience of what would happen in his death, resurrection and return to the Father, Jesus assured them of his continuing, loving presence. This presence would be enriched by the Father and the Spirit being present among them in a new way. With the Father, Jesus promised to make his home with his disciples. Through the Spirit, teacher and reminder of all they had heard from Jesus, Jesus' understanding and passion for God would endure, alive within them.

The first Council of Jerusalem sent its decision out to the new Gentile believers not only in a written letter but also through Judas and Silas, attendees at the Council who could explain its spirit personally. A key principle of responsible decision-making spelled out in the letter: "It has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us ...". The Council members prayed for guidance, but they also used their own abilities to think and discern in reaching their decision. As we explore the synodal way we can learn from the Council's approach.

NEXT WEEKEND –

will be the Installation Mass for **Fr Mikhael Loke** as Parish Priest of Saint Joseph's Catholic Parish Murgon and as Administrator of Saint Joseph's Parish Gayndah on

**Sunday, 1 June 2025, 10.30am,
Saint Joseph's Parish Church,
Murgon.**

The Mass will be officiated by [Archbishop Mark Coleridge](#) and followed by a luncheon in the Parish Hall, Angel Avenue, Murgon.

The Mass will be the **only Mass in the Murgon Parish that weekend** and there will be **no Mass in the Gayndah Parish on that weekend**. All from both Murgon Parish and Gayndah Parish are encouraged to attend. A list will be available in all churches so that parishioners can indicate their attendance, apology and their contribution to the lunch. Please complete and have lists returned to Murgon Parish by 25 May 2025.

Elaine Thompson
Murgon Parish Pastoral Council

Let's ask ourselves: are we open to the Holy Spirit, do I pray to him to enlighten me, to make me more sensitive to the things of God?

This is a prayer we need to pray every day:

*Holy Spirit may my heart be open
to the Word of God, may my heart be
open to good, may my heart be open
to the beauty of God, every day.*

Pope Francis.

Weekend Mass schedule ahead

1st Sunday of Month - 31 May/1 June
Sunday, 10.30am, Murgon
(this is the only Mass in the parish
this weekend)

2nd Sunday of Month - 7/8 June
Saturday, 9.00am, Proston
(Liturgy of the Word)
Saturday, 5.00pm, Wondai
Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon
Sunday, 10.30am, Cherbourg
Sunday, 6.00pm, Goomeri

3rd Sunday of Month - 14/15 June
Saturday, 9.00am, Proston
Saturday, 5.00pm, Wondai
Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon
Sunday, 10.30am, Gayndah

4th Sunday of Month - 21/24 May
Saturday, 9.00am, Proston
(Liturgy of the Word)
Sunday, 8.00am, Murgon
Sunday, 10.30am, Gayndah
Sunday, 6.00pm, Goomeri

Today's readings

Acts 15: 1-2, 22-29; Apocalypse 21: 10-14,
22-23; John 14: 23-29

Response:

O God, let all the nations praise you!

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will
keep my words, and my Father will love
them, and we will come to them. Alleluia!



Pope Leo XIV at Inauguration Mass:

'Let us walk towards God and love one another'

Pope Leo XIV presides at the Mass of Inauguration of his Petrine Ministry in Saint Peter's Square, and invites the Church to walk together along the path of God's love and remain united in one family.

Greeting over 200,000 pilgrims, leaders from around the world, and representatives of Christian denominations, Pope Leo XIV marked the joyous start to his Petrine Ministry, officially inaugurating it with Mass in Saint Peter's Square on Sunday, 18 May.

Religious delegations included Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh, Zoroastrian and Jainists, among the many present for the celebration.

Heart full of gratitude

Expressing his heartfelt gratitude for the prayerful and joyful support offered to him as he begins his pastoral ministry as Pope, Leo XIV recalled the intense emotions experienced over these past few weeks.

"Following the death of Pope Francis, we felt like sheep without a shepherd," he recalled, "yet having received his final blessing on Easter Sunday, and with eyes of faith, hope, and joy, we remembered how the Lord never abandons His people."

The Pope also thanked everyone for accompanying in prayer the College of Cardinals meeting in conclave to elect the Successor of Peter as they looked at how to continue the mission of preaching the Gospel with a shepherd able to address today's challenges.

He said they felt "the working of the Holy Spirit, who was able to bring us into harmony, like musical instruments, so that our heartstrings could vibrate in a single melody."

United in love and unity "I was chosen, without any merit of my own, and now,

with fear and trembling," said Pope Leo, "I come to you as a brother, who desires to be the servant of your faith and your joy, walking with you on the path of God's love, for he wants us all to be united in one family."

Pope Leo XIV recalled how love and unity are the two aspects of the mission entrusted to Peter by Jesus.

In the Gospel on this Sunday, Jesus entrusts the disciples to continue the mission, to be "fishers of men" and bring the "hope of the Gospel" to all people "so that all may experience God's embrace."

Peter's experience of the "infinite and unconditional love of God" enabled him to take up this mission, the Pope explained.

Self-sacrificing love

Pope Leo recalled how Peter is entrusted then with "loving more" and "giving his life for the flock," a "self-sacrificing love."

"The ministry of Peter is distinguished precisely by this self-sacrificing love, because the Church of Rome presides in charity and its true authority is the charity of Christ. It is never a question of capturing others by force, by religious propaganda or by means of power. Instead, it is always and only a question of loving as Jesus did."

Church, sign of unity and communion

The Holy Father expressed his hope for "a united Church, a sign of unity and communion, which becomes a leaven for a reconciled world."

In the face of a world marked by so much discord and wounds caused by hatred, violence, prejudice, fear, and economic reality "that exploits the Earth's resources and marginalises the poorest," the Pope said, "we want to be a small leaven of unity, communion, and fraternity within the world."

"We want to say to the world, with humility and joy: Look to Christ! Come closer to him! Welcome his word that enlightens and consoles! Listen to his offer of love and become his one family: in the one Christ, we are one," he urged. "This is the path to follow together, among ourselves but also with our sister Christian churches, with those who follow other religious paths, with those who are searching for God, with all women and men of good will, in order to build a new world where peace reigns!"

The Pope upheld the missionary spirit, adding that such an approach will keep



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Parish website:

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Safeguarding

If you have experienced abuse or misconduct, you can ring the help line, **1300 304 550**. Information can be shared anonymously.

We pray for those who are sick:

Jess Bradbury; Graham Burgess;

Rodney Euler; Kevin Fry;

Nerla Knight; Dr Graham McAllister.

the Church from closing itself off in small groups or taking on a feeling of superiority to the world.

"We are called to offer God's love to everyone, in order to achieve that unity which does not cancel out differences but values the personal history of each person and the social and religious culture of every people," he said.

Vatican News



The Holy Spirit transforms and renews us, creates harmony and unity, and gives us courage and joy for mission.