

6th Sunday of Easter

10th May 2026 Readings

Collect

Grant, almighty God,
that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these
days of joy, which we keep in honour of the risen
Lord, and that what we relive in remembrance
we may always hold to in what we do.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

8:5-8,14-17

In those days: Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ. And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs that he did. For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who had them, and many who were paralysed or lame were healed. So there was much joy in that city.

Now when the Apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 65:1-7. 16. 20. Response v. 1

R/. Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.

Cry out with joy to God all the earth,
O sing to the glory of his name.

O render him glorious praise.

Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! **R/.**

'Before you all the earth shall bow;
shall sing to you, sing to your name!'
Come and see the works of God,
tremendous his deeds among men. **R/.**

He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the river dry-shod.
Let our joy then be in him;
he rules for ever by his might. **R/.**

Come and hear, all who fear God.

I will tell what he did for my soul:
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer
nor withhold his love from me. **R/.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

3:15-18

Beloved: In your hearts honour Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defence to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behaviour in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil. For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia.

If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the
Lord,

and my Father will love him, and we will come to him.
Alleluia.

GOSPEL

John 14: 15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

'I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer after Communion

Almighty ever-living God,
who restore us to eternal life in the Resurrection of Christ, increase in us, we pray, the fruits of this paschal Sacrament and pour into our hearts the strength of this saving food.
Through Christ our Lord.



6th SUNDAY of EASTER

Lectionary Year A

The Word of God

Saint of the Week

Have you ever seen a set of Russian dolls? They are sometimes known as 'Babushka dolls'. Anyhow, they sit one inside the other. The ones you can pick up on the tourist trail very often have five, but there can be as many as two dozen dolls, all one inside the next.

It's a helpful image for what Jesus tells us in the Gospel today: "I am in my Father and you in me and I in you." Given how close that means God is to us, it is no wonder that very often we wonder where God is. Is he up in the sky? Or in the land? If God is in each one of us and we are present in God, then God is a lot more like real life than the religious images we might have for God from our childhood.

If we are looking for God, then we have to begin by listening to the movements of our own heart because that is where God chooses to dwell by means of his Holy Spirit dwelling in us. It is that same Holy Spirit that prompts us to do right rather than to do wrong in moments of difficulty. It is God's Holy Spirit in us that reveals God's deepest dream for us. Because of God's Holy Spirit dwelling in us the Christian life is known as the 'Spiritual Life'. And this time of the Church that we are living in now since the time of Jesus is known as the time of the Spirit.

So, as Christians we live by the Spirit, rather than simply by the Law. This makes us joyful, because we experience the very presence of God in us.

Living by the Spirit, we are aware that the Spiritual life is not just about not sinning. The Spiritual life is not just about being sorry for what we have done. The person in the life of the Spirit seeks to allow their life to be moulded by the Spirit of God. The life of the Spirit is positive, life-giving and joyful, not simply dwelling on the negative.

Our gospel today promotes a vision of God gently dwelling inside us, encouraging us, calling us, dreaming for us, loving us. Listening to God who dwells in our hearts then we ache to live in relationship with him. Our whole being becomes shaped by the presence of God in our hearts.



Wednesday 13th May 2026 Our Lady of Fatima

This feast commemorates the visions of Our Lady seen near Fátima in Portugal in 1917 by three shepherd children, Lúcia dos Santos and her cousins Jacinta and Francisco Marto. The visions occurred on the 13th day of each month from May to October, and by October huge crowds were gathering at the site of the visions and reporting visions and miraculous occurrences themselves.

Pope John Paul II was devoted to Our Lady of Fátima and attributed his survival of an assassin's bullet on 13 May 1981 to her intervention. Jacinta and Francisco Marto, who died in the great Spanish Flu pandemic of 1919-20, were beatified on 13 May 2000 and canonized by Pope Francis on 13 May 2017.

Prayer to Our Lady of Fatima

O Most Holy Virgin Mary, Queen of the most holy Rosary, you were pleased to appear to the children of Fatima and reveal a glorious message. We implore you, inspire in our hearts a fervent love for the recitation of the Rosary. By meditating on the mysteries of the redemption that are recalled therein may we obtain the graces and virtues that we ask, through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer.

Prayer of the Week

A Prayer to the Holy Spirit by St Augustine

Breathe into me, Holy Spirit,
that my thoughts may all be holy.
Move in me, Holy Spirit,
that my work, too, may be holy.
Attract my heart, Holy Spirit,
that I may love only what is holy.
Strengthen me, Holy Spirit,
that I may defend all that is holy.
Protect me, Holy Spirit,
that I may always be holy.
Amen.