

BiTs & pieces

Readings: 15th -20th June 2026

Monday	Mt 5:38-42
Tuesday.....	Mt 5: 43-48
Wednesday.....	Mt 6:1-6.16-18
Thursday.....	Mt 6:7-15
Friday.....	Mt 6:19-23
Saturday.....	Mt 6:24-34

Synod Prayer

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity so that we may
journey together to eternal life and not stray from
the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in
every place and time, in the communion
of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.



NOTICES:

1) YOUTH DAY CELEBRATION 2026:

Young people of the Archdiocese of Pretoria, come together in faith, fellowship, and celebration as we mark Youth Day. Join us for a day of prayer, reflection, and renewal in Christ.

- ❖ Sizanani Village, Bronkhorstspuit,
- ❖ Tuesday, 16 June 2026, 07:00 – 17:00,
- ❖ Logistics Fee: R40. Come pray. Come connect. Come

celebrate. Come be renewed.

✚✚. Please contact:
Nyaradzai @ 062 945 4246
Onkgopotse @ 074 246 4589

- 2) **PILGRIMAGE 2027** : You are warmly invited to join Fr JP Mathebula on a spiritually enriching pilgrimage to Lourdes, Paris, Assisi, and Rome from **3–13 September 2027**. This pilgrimage offers a unique opportunity for prayer, reflection, fellowship, and spiritual renewal as we visit some of the most sacred Christian sites in Europe, including the Grotto of Our Lady in Lourdes, the holy sites of Assisi, and the Vatican in Rome.

- ❖ **COST:** R55 200 per person (subject to change). For bookings and enquiries, please contact Omolemo Tours & Services on:
- ❖ ☎ 079 751 6559 / 082 778 2841

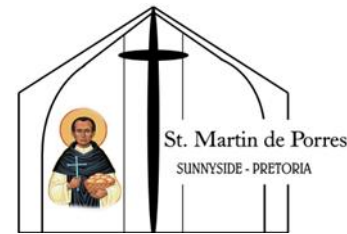
All are welcome. Come and experience this faith-filled journey.

LENTEN TALKS SURVEY

Dear Parishioners, help us plan our upcoming Lenten Talks by completing a short survey. Please scan the QR code or use the survey link provided. Your input is valuable and appreciated. Thank you!



<https://forms.gle/j77Uqq22s99VSbux5>



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**St Martin de Porres Parish,
Sunnyside Pretoria**

Administration:

Parish Priest: Fr. John Paul Mathebula

Email: info@smdp-sunnyside.com

Office Hours:

Tuesday & Fridays: 08:30 – 10:30

Wednesday & Thursday: 16:30 – 18:30

Parish Services

Weekday Masses: Tuesday to Friday: 08h00
(First Friday at 17h30)

Fridays – Exposition of the Blessed

Sacrament: 12h00 - 17h30.

HOLY HOUR ADORATION: Every First

Thursday of the Month, immediately after the Morning Mass

Sunday Mass: 08h00 and 10h30

FINANCE: Pledge /Tithe Administrator

Contact: finance@smdp-sunnyside.com

Banking Details:

Name: Sunnyside Catholic Church

Bank: Standard Bank

Account Number: 011512172

Branch Number: 010645

Ref: Pledge number or Surname

14th JUNE 2026

11TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME- YEAR A

First Reading: Exodus 19:2-6

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 100
We are His people, the sheep of His flock.

Second Reading: Romans 5:6-11

Gospel Acclamation:
ALLELUIA ALLELUIA
The kingdom of God is at hand, repent, and believe the Gospel.
ALLELUIA

Gospel: Matthew 9:36-10.8

1. **Confessions:** Saturdays 17:00 – 18:00

2. **Infant Baptism:** Date will be communicated soon.

Mass Intentions: 14th June 2026

Sun 14th

08:00

- **ST ANTHONY PRYER GROUP:** Thanking God for successful novena and feast, asking God to bless, protect all group members of St Anthony, their families and grant them their heart desires.

- **NONTOBEKO GUMEDE:** Heavenly Birthday remembrance for our beloved mother Elizabeth Themba Gumede (14 June 1958). May her soul continue to rest in Gods eternal peace

10.30

- **JOSEPH UGWEYE:** Thanking God almighty for a successful birthday and more years in his life, blessing, joy and progress.

- **VINCENT NWANKWO:** Thanking God for successful surgery operation on sister Chinwe Nwankwo and, happy birthday to my daughter Chioma Nwankwo

- **ST ANTHONY PRYER GROUP:** Thanking God for successful novena and feast, asking God to bless ,protect all group members of St Anthony ,their families and grant them their heart desires.

THE MONTH DEDICATED TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS



Every year, the Catholic Church dedicates the month of June to the Sacred Heart of Jesus—a devotion that reminds us of Christ's immense love, mercy, and compassion for humanity. The image of the Sacred Heart is one of the most beloved symbols in the Catholic faith: the Heart of Jesus burning with love, wounded for our sins, and crowned with thorns as a sign of His sacrifice for us. In a world that often feels cold, distracted, and distant from God, devotion to the Sacred Heart calls us back to the center of our faith: the tender and personal love of Jesus Christ.

WHY IS JUNE DEDICATED TO THE SACRED HEART?

The Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus is celebrated each year in June, on the Friday following the octave of Corpus Christi. In 2026, the feast falls on June 12. Over time, the Church set aside the entire month as a special season to honor the Heart of Christ and meditate on His love for souls. While devotion to the Sacred Heart has roots in Scripture and the Church's meditation on Christ's love, it was greatly spread through the visions received by Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque in the 17th century. Jesus revealed His Sacred

Heart to her, expressing His deep love for humanity and His sorrow over indifference and sin. He asked that His Heart be honored and that people turn to Him with trust, reparation, and love. The Sacred Heart is not simply a symbol—it is a reminder that Jesus is fully alive, fully present, and continually pouring out grace upon the world.

THE VISIONS OF SAINT MARGARET MARY ALACOQUE

The devotion to the Sacred Heart that Catholics cherish today was largely spread through the life and revelations of Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, a humble Visitation nun in 17th-century France. Long before receiving the visions that would change the course of her life, Margaret Mary endured many hardships. She lost her father at a young age and later suffered a debilitating illness that left her bedridden for several years. During this time, she developed a deep love for Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and found comfort in His presence amid her suffering.

After entering the Visitation convent at Paray-le-Monial, Margaret Mary experienced a series of visions of Our Lord. On December 27, 1673, while praying before the Blessed Sacrament, Jesus revealed His Sacred Heart to her. He showed her His Heart aflame with love for humanity, surrounded by a crown of thorns and surmounted by a cross.

Jesus spoke of His immense love for mankind and His sorrow over the indifference, ingratitude, and sin that wounded His Heart. In one revelation, He lamented that despite His great love for humanity, many hearts remained cold and indifferent in return. He entrusted Margaret Mary with a mission: to spread devotion to His Sacred Heart and encourage souls to respond to His love through prayer, trust, repentance, and frequent reception of the Eucharist.

Over the next eighteen months, Jesus continued to reveal His desires to her. He asked for devotion

to the Sacred Heart through practices such as the Holy Hour, receiving Holy Communion on the First Friday of each month, and the celebration of a feast dedicated to His Sacred Heart. Through these revelations, Our Lord invited the faithful to draw closer to His Heart and to make reparation for the sins and indifference that so often wound Him. Margaret Mary's revelations were initially met with scepticism and misunderstanding, even within her own convent. Yet she remained faithful and obedient through many trials. With the support of her spiritual director, Blessed Claude de la Colombière, devotion to the Sacred Heart gradually spread throughout France and eventually throughout the entire Church. Today, every image of the Sacred Heart reminds us of the same message Jesus entrusted to Saint Margaret Mary centuries ago: His Heart burns with love for every soul and longs for us to draw near to Him.

What Does the Sacred Heart Represent?

The image of the Sacred Heart is rich with meaning:

- The flames represent Christ's burning love for humanity.
- The crown of thorns reminds us of the suffering He endured for our sins.
- The wound in His side points to His sacrifice on the Cross.
- The cross above the Heart proclaims victory through sacrificial love.

Together, these symbols reveal the depth of Christ's love—a love willing to suffer, sacrifice, and continually seek after souls. The Sacred Heart reminds us that God's love is not distant or abstract, but personal, living, and poured out for each one of us.

The Sacred Heart reveals both the humanity and divinity of Jesus. He is not distant from our struggles. He knows suffering, rejection, sorrow, and love. His Heart remains open to every soul who comes to Him.

YOUTH OF ST MARTIN DE PORRES PARISH HAVE SPOKEN

Key Insight

Youth are willing and engaged but require greater inclusion, relevant activities, and clearer support structures to remain active, especially young adults.

Top Issues

- Limited involvement in Mass, leadership, and parish activities
- Insufficient youth-focused and peer-based programmes
- Timing and accessibility barriers for working/studying youth
- Poor communication and awareness of opportunities
- Need for a more inclusive, non-judgemental environment
- Gaps in mentorship, catechism, and leadership
- Declining participation among young adults (18–25)

Priority Actions

- Increase youth participation in liturgy and leadership roles
- Introduce consistent youth spiritual and social programmes
- Improve communication and visibility of activities
- Promote a welcoming, inclusive church culture
- Review timing and accessibility of Mass and events
- Strengthen mentorship and youth formation
- Develop a young adult retention strategy

Way forward

Addressing these priorities will help build a more inclusive, engaged, and sustainable youth presence, strengthening the future of the parish community.