

BiTs & pieces

Readings: 11th -17th May 2026

Monday	Jn 15:26-16
Tuesday.....	Jn 16:5-11
Wednesday... OUR LADY OF FATIMA	Jn 16:12-15
Thursday..... ST MATTHIAS	Jn 15:9-17
Friday.....	Jn 16:20-23
Saturday.....	Jn 16:23-28

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) **AFRICA DAY CELEBRATION:** Is commemorated on 25th May. St Martin de Porres will celebrate this special occasion on Sunday, 31st May, after the 10:30 Mass. This will be a bring- and-braai/ bring-and-share event. There will be lots of stalls to taste different foods from across Africa and our kids' corner will have jumping castles & lots of games. Let us come together to celebrate and share our rich cultures. **Parishioners** are encouraged to wear their

traditional attire. For more information regarding stalls and donations, please contact: **Ms Kgaogelo Mononyane 082 604 2537 OR Ms Jamela Mathebula 072 199 1288**

PS: Volunteers are welcome, please give your names to the above-mentioned contacts.

- 2) **MARIAN MONTH:** The month of May is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Rosary will be prayed Monday to Saturday at 17:00, and on Sundays after the 10:30 Mass. All parishioners are warmly invited to join in this devotion.
- 3) **AFRICA DAY SECOND COLLECTION:** Day, please note that beginning on Sunday, 17 May, there will be a second collection in support of the Africa Day celebration. We kindly invite everyone to prayerfully support this special collection as we come together in gratitude, unity, and celebration of the rich faith and heritage of our African community. Your generosity and participation are greatly appreciated.

Mass Intentions: 10th May 2026

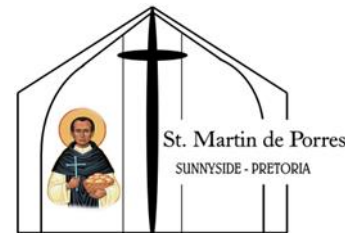
Sun 10th

08:00

- **BEATRICE PHIRI:** Thanksgiving to God for the blessings and protection upon my life.

10.30

- **PARISHINER:** For the repose of the souls of Mr. and Mrs. Sibeko. May the perpetual light continue to shine upon them. May they continue to rest in peace.



129 Celliers Street

Telephone/Fax: (012) 440-6190

Email: info@smdp-sunnyside.com

Website: www.saintmartindeporres.co.za

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram & Tiktok

**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

10TH MAY 2026

6th SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR A

First Reading: Acts 8:5-8.14-17

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 66

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.

Second Reading: 1Peter 3:15-18

Gospel Acclamation:

ALLELUIA ALLELUIA

If a man loves me, he will keep my words, says the Lord, and my Father will love him and we will come to him.

ALLELUIA

Gospel: John 14:15-21

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

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

Meetings :

1. **La Voix des Anges (LVDA) :** Mon & Fri, 17H30

2. **St. Anthony Prayer Group:** Every Tuesday after the 8am Mass.

3. **Neo Catechumenal Way:** Tuesdays, 19H00

4. **French prayer group:** Wed, 18H00 – 19H30 & Sat 16H00 – 17H00

5. **St Cecilia:** Tues 18H00 & Sat 10H30 am

6. **Legion of Mary:** Sat 08h00

7. **Women's Group:** Every 2nd month on 1st Saturday for prayer and meeting after 10H30 mass.

8. **Sacred Heart:** Every 1st Sunday after 10H30 mass

9. **St Anne:** Every Thursday at 18H00

10. **Daughters of St Anne:** Every 2nd Sunday 09H00

11. **Bible Sharing Group:** Thursday's at 18H00

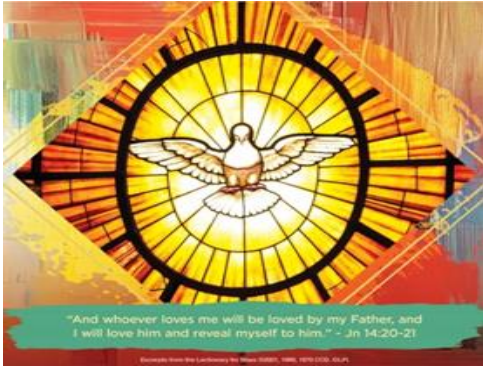
12. **Sons and Daughters of St Joseph:** Every 1st and 3rd Sundays after 8H00.

Catechism classes:

- **Children & youth:** Sunday 09H00

- **Adults (RCIA):** Sunday 09H00

“I WILL NOT LEAVE YOU ORPHANS” THE PROMISE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT



In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks words of comfort, assurance, and hope to His disciples: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments... I will not leave you orphans; I will come back to you."

These words, spoken during the Last Supper, reveal the deep love Christ has for His people and His promise never to abandon the Church.

Although He would soon suffer, die, rise again, and ascend to the Father, Jesus assures His disciples that they would never be left alone. The Father would send the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, the Spirit of Truth, to remain with them forever.

This promise is not only for the Apostles, but for the entire Church throughout every generation. The Holy Spirit continues to guide, strengthen, and protect the Church in her mission. Through the Holy Spirit, Christ remains alive and active among His people. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us, Christ pours out His Spirit upon His members to nourish, heal, sanctify, and unite them as one Body.

Through the sacraments, especially Baptism and Confirmation, believers receive the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit to live as faithful disciples and witnesses of Christ in the world. The First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles shows the early Church growing under the

guidance of the Holy Spirit. Peter and John travel to Samaria to pray over the newly baptized believers, laying hands upon them so that they may receive the Holy Spirit. This moment reflects the living tradition of the Church and reminds us that the Spirit continues to work through the Apostles and their successors. The Church is not merely a human institution; it is a divine community sustained by the power and presence of God Himself.

The Second Reading from the First Letter of Peter calls Christians to remain faithful even in times of suffering and difficulty. Just as Christ suffered and rose to new life, believers are invited to follow His example with courage and trust. Through Baptism, we share in Christ's death and resurrection, and through the Holy Spirit we receive the strength to live according to God's will. Christians are therefore called to give witness to their faith with gentleness, humility, and hope.

Because the Holy Spirit is the anointing of Christ, it is Christ who, as the head of the Body, pours out the Spirit among his members to nourish, heal, and organize them in their mutual functions, to give them life, send them to bear witness, and associate them to his self-offering to the Father and to his intercession for the whole world. Through the Church's sacraments, Christ communicates his Holy and sanctifying Spirit to the members of his Body.

As we continue through the Easter season, the Church prepares us for the great celebration of the Ascension and Pentecost. We are reminded that although Christ ascended into heaven, He continues to remain with His Church through the Holy Spirit. This Spirit has guided the Church for nearly two thousand years through times of persecution, division, hardship, and change. Empires have risen and fallen, rulers and nations have passed away, yet the Church continues to

stand firm because Christ remains faithful to His promise.

Throughout history, there have been moments of crisis caused by human weakness, heresies, and divisions, yet the Church has never been abandoned. The Holy Spirit has continually raised up saints, holy leaders, and faithful believers who renewed the Church and kept the light of Christ burning brightly in the world. This enduring presence of the Spirit is a powerful sign that the Church belongs to God and is sustained not by human strength alone, but by divine grace.

As believers, we are invited today to renew our trust in the Blessed Trinity — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Father lovingly created us and sent His Son for our salvation. The Son gave His life on the Cross and rose triumphantly from the dead to open for us the way to eternal life. The Holy Spirit remains with us as our guide, comforter, and source of strength, leading us safely toward heaven. In these final weeks of Easter, we are also reminded through the traditional observance of the Minor Rogation Days to pray for God's blessing upon the earth, upon our work, and upon our spiritual lives. We ask the Lord to continue planting seeds of faith, hope, and holiness within our hearts so that we may bear good fruit for His Kingdom.

May we remain faithful members of Christ's Church, firmly united to Him through prayer, obedience, love, and the sacraments. And may the Holy Spirit continue to guide our hearts, strengthen our faith, and lead us always closer to the eternal joy promised by Christ, who assures us today:

“I WILL NOT LEAVE YOU ORPHANS.”

DAY 7: OUR LADY OF FATIMA NOVENA, RELIEF OF SOULS IN PURGATORY

Most Holy Virgin, you appeared at Fatima and revealed, to the three little shepherds, the treasures of graces hidden in the reciting of the Rosary. Inspire our hearts with a sincere love of this devotion, so that by meditating on the mysteries of our redemption, we may gather its fruits and obtain the conversion of sinners, and the conversion of non-believers throughout the world. O Holy Mary, I also ask for the favor that I now so earnestly seek...

(Mention your intentions here)

O Mary, may that which I ask in this novena, be for the greater glory of God, for your own honor, and for the good of all people. Amen.

Say: **Our Father... (x3), Hail Mary... (x3) and Glory Be... (x3)**

Amen.

