

# Sunday 3 May 2026 Fifth Sunday of Easter

## COLLECT

Almighty God,  
who through your only-begotten Son  
Jesus Christ  
have overcome death and opened to  
us the gate of everlasting life:  
grant that, as by your grace going  
before us you put into our minds  
good desires,  
so by your continual help  
we may bring them to good effect;  
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## FIRST READING

*The reading from Acts must be used  
as either the first or second reading.*

### Either Acts 7:55-end

*A reading from the Acts of the  
Apostles.*

Standing before the high priest and  
the council, Stephen, filled with the  
Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and  
saw the glory of God and Jesus  
standing at the right hand of God.  
"Look," he said, "I see the heavens  
opened and the Son of Man standing  
at the right hand of God!" But they  
covered their ears, and with a loud  
shout all rushed together against  
him. Then they dragged him out of  
the city and began to stone him; and  
the witnesses laid their coats at the  
feet of a young man named Saul.  
While they were stoning Stephen,  
he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my  
spirit." Then he knelt down and cried  
out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not  
hold this sin against them." When he  
had said this, he died.

Or **Genesis 8:1-19**

## PSALM Psalm 31:1-5. 15-16

**R** *Let your face shine on your  
servants  
[and we shall be saved].*

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame;  
deliver me in your righteousness.  
Incline your ear to me;  
make haste to deliver me. **R**

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep  
me safe,  
for you are my crag and my  
stronghold;

for the sake of your name,  
lead me and guide me. **R**

Take me out of the net  
that they have secretly set for me,  
for you are my tower of strength.  
Into your hands I commend my spirit,  
for you have redeemed me,  
O Lord, O God of truth. **R**

My times are in your hand;  
rescue me from the hand of my  
enemies,  
and from those who persecute me.  
Make your face to shine upon your  
servant,  
and in your loving-kindness  
save me. **R**

## SECOND READING 1 Peter 2:2-10

*A reading from the first letter of  
Peter.*

Like newborn infants, long for the  
pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you  
may grow into salvation – if indeed  
you have tasted that the Lord is  
good. Come to him, a living stone,  
though rejected by mortals yet  
chosen and precious in God's sight.  
Like living stones, let yourselves be  
built into a spiritual house, to be a  
holy priesthood, to offer spiritual  
sacrifices acceptable to God through  
Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:  
"See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a  
cornerstone chosen and precious;  
and whoever believes in him will not  
be put to shame." To you then who  
believe, he is precious; but for those  
who do not believe, "The stone that  
the builders rejected has become  
the very head of the corner," and "A  
stone that makes them stumble, and  
a rock that makes them fall." They  
stumble because they disobey the  
word, as they were destined to do.  
But you are a chosen race, a royal  
priesthood, a holy nation, God's  
own people, in order that you may  
proclaim the mighty acts of him who  
called you out of darkness into his  
marvellous light. Once you were not  
a people, but now you are God's  
people; once you had not received  
mercy, but now you have received  
mercy.

Or **Acts 7:55-end**

## GOSPEL John 14:1-14

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus  
Christ according to John.*

Jesus said to his disciples: "Do  
not let your hearts be troubled.  
Believe in God, believe also in me.  
In my Father's house there are many  
dwelling-places. If it were not so,  
would I have told you that I go to  
prepare a place for you? And if I  
go and prepare a place for you, I  
will come again and will take you  
to myself, so that where I am, there  
you may be also. And you know the  
way to the place where I am going."  
Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do  
not know where you are going. How  
can we know the way?" Jesus said  
to him, "I am the way, and the truth,  
and the life. No one comes to the  
Father except through me. If you  
know me, you will know my Father  
also. From now on you do know him  
and have seen him." Philip said to  
him, "Lord, show us the Father, and  
we will be satisfied." Jesus said to  
him, "Have I been with you all this  
time, Philip, and you still do not know  
me? Whoever has seen me has seen  
the Father. How can you say, 'Show  
us the Father'? Do you not believe  
that I am in the Father and the Father  
is in me? The words that I say to you  
I do not speak on my own; but the  
Father who dwells in me does his  
works. Believe me that I am in the  
Father and the Father is in me; but if  
you do not, then believe me because  
of the works themselves. Very truly, I  
tell you, the one who believes in me  
will also do the works that I do and,  
in fact, will do greater works than  
these, because I am going to the  
Father. I will do whatever you ask in  
my name, so that the Father may be  
glorified in the Son. If in my name  
you ask me for anything, I will do it."

## POST COMMUNION

Eternal God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way;  
the truth, and the life:  
grant us to walk in his way,  
to rejoice in his truth,  
and to share his risen life;  
who is alive and reigns, now and for  
ever.