

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Bright Morning Star

Loving God,
you have given us the bright
Morning Star.
You loved us
before the creation of the world.
Amidst opposition,
grant us courage
to proclaim your resurrection,
telling of the Star who Guides us
and of the eternal life that
awaits believers.
We ask this through your Son,
the Alpha and the Omega,
the first and the last,
the beginning and the end. Amen.

Sunday, June 1, 2025
Come, Lord Jesus!



Today's readings: Acts 7:55–60; Revelation 22:12–14, 16–17, 20; John 17:20–26. Jesus is “the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.” One way you can continue to prepare for the coming of Christ is by focusing yourself on Jesus. Consider beginning and ending your days in prayer: before getting ready for your day, pray with that day’s Scripture readings; end your day with returning to the same Scripture passages. Before getting out of your bed in the morning, tell Christ three things for which you are grateful; before going to sleep, look back on your day and thank God for the ways God was present to you. Before starting your day, pray an Our Father and ask God to guide you; before wrapping up your day, pray the

Glory Be to recognize God’s great glory made present throughout your day.

Proclaiming the truth about life after death can often bring opposition. Acts 7 portrays Stephen’s proclamation of the Good News and his subsequent martyrdom. Those present to hear him are infuriated and they “ground their teeth at him” (verse 54). They cover their ears and stone him. Today, as we near the end of the Easter season, consider how you will passionately and fearlessly live into the resurrection long after this season. We thirst for the gift of life-giving water; take the steps to accept this gift. Indeed, Jesus is coming; indeed, we ask that the grace of the Lord Jesus be with us all.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, June 2

Sts. Marcellinus and Peter

Though little is known about Sts. Marcellinus and Peter, they were important enough to be included in one of our Eucharistic Prayers. Marcellinus and Peter were a priest and an exorcist, respectively, in the fourth century. Both were beheaded in 304. Today, their service to the Church is celebrated: those whose blood is shed in the name of their faith are joined closely to Christ and, thus, to us. Say a prayer in gratitude for the long tradition to which saints such as Marcellinus and Peter have dedicated themselves. *Today's readings: Acts 19:1–8; Psalm 68:2–3ab, 4–5acd, 6–7ab; John 16:29–33.*

Tuesday, June 3

St. Charles Lwanga and Companions

In various parts of Africa, St. Charles Lwanga is well known as the patron of youth and Catholic action. Charles and twenty-one other young Ugandans were burned to death for refusing to participate in immoral acts in 1886. The virtue of courage is exemplified in these martyrs. How can you courageously say yes to your faith in times of temptation? *Today's readings: Acts 20:17–27; Psalm 68:10–11, 20–21; John 17:1–11a.*

Wednesday, June 4

Tend the Church of God

Today we hear St. Paul address the presbyters. He is instructing them on the difficulties found in the community at Ephesus and surrounding areas. He warns them to guard the community against false prophets that are sure to emerge once he departs. He concludes his remarks by citing Jesus, who said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” How are you giving to the Church? What is a way you can “tend the Church of God”? *Today's readings: Acts 20:28–38; Psalm 68:29–30, 33–35a, 35bc–36ab; John 17:11b–19.*

Thursday, June 5

St. Boniface

St. Boniface was an English Benedictine monk. He dedicated himself to the conversion of Germanic tribes. To reform the German Church, Boniface was guided by two principles: restoring the obedience of wayward clergy and establishing Benedictine monasteries (houses of prayer). He was massacred with more than fifty others while preparing converts for confirmation. *Today's readings: Acts 22:30, 23:6–11; Psalm 16:1–2a and 5, 7–8, 9–10, 11; John 17:20–26.*

Friday, June 6

St. Norbert

St. Norbert founded the Premonstratensians, or the Norbertines, (a religious order) in twelfth-century France. They were tasked with combating heresies, revitalizing the faithful, and aiding in reconciliation efforts among enemies. St. Norbert knew that none of that important work could be done without God and found much strength in his devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. If Eucharistic adoration is available in your area, schedule time to pray before the sacrament. If it is not available, spend time in silence praying near a tabernacle. Ask Jesus to strengthen your faith. *Today's readings: Acts 25:13b–21; Psalm 103:1–2, 11–12, 19–20ab; John 21:15–19.*

Saturday, June 7

Gazing on the Lord's Face

Joining the psalmist, we sing, “The just will gaze on your face, O Lord.” What is a just deed to which you can commit yourself as the end of the Easter season nears? How have you gazed on the Lord's face? Regardless of whether you consider yourself artistic, consider drawing or painting the face of the Lord that you are gazing upon. Challenge yourself to think creatively. Allow the Lord to speak to you through this time spent creating. *Today's readings: Acts 28:16–20, 30–31; Psalm 11:4, 5 and 7; John 21:20–25.*