SUNDAY MASS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:
Within your will, O Lord, all things are established and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 5:1-7.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Psalm 80.

RESPONSE:
The vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel.

1. You brought a vine out of Egypt;
   you drove out the nations and planted it.
   It stretched out its branches to the sea;
   to the River it stretched out its shoots. ℟
2. Then why have you broken down its walls?
   It is plucked by all who pass by the way.
   It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
   devoured by the beasts of the field. ℟
3. God of hosts, turn again, we implore;
   look down from heaven and see.
   Visit this vine and protect it,
   the vine your right hand has planted,
   the son of man you have claimed for yourself. ℟
4. And we shall never forsake you again;
   give us life that we may call upon your name.
   O Lord God of hosts, bring us back;
   let your face shine forth, and we shall be saved. ℟

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:6-9.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia! I chose you from the world that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, says the Lord. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:33-43.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON:
The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.

Books from Redemptorist Pastoral Publications

By popular request, the 2023 Catholic Link series on illness, wellbeing, healthcare and related issues has been collated and compiled under one cover.

God's will is indeed for us to have fullness of life, despite the experience of human limitation and finitude. It is precisely there that we encounter a compassionate Christ who reveals to us the mystery of a God of mercy. May this booklet be a help to growing in a deeper spirituality for health and wellbeing, sickness and suffering.

R80
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Order from our website **www.rpp.org.za** or email **orders@rpp.org.za.** Office: Tue-Fri 08.30-13.00

THE WEEK AHEAD

Live the Word

Mon 5 Oct (St Faustina Kowalska, R)
Galatians 1:6-12; Psalm 111; Luke 10:25-37
"I am Love and Mercy itself. When a soul approaches Me with trust, I fill it with such an abundance of graces that it cannot contain them within itself, but radiates them to other souls." – Diary of St Faustina

Tue 6 Oct (St Bruno, Pr)
Galatians 1:13-24; Psalm 139; Luke 10:38-42
All that God requires of us, is that in our service of others we have the right heart, the right intention – that above all things we love God, others and ourselves. We must do everything with love.

Wed 7 Oct Our Lady of the Rosary
Acts 1:12-14; Resp: Luke 1:46-55; Luke 1:26-38
"How beautiful is the family that recites the Rosary every evening! The Rosary is a prayer both so humble and simple and theologically rich in Biblical content. I beg you to pray it." – St John Paul II

Thu 8 Oct Liturgy of the Day
Galatians 3:1-5; Resp: Luke 1:69-75; Luke 11:5-13
At the start of each day spend ten minutes reading Scripture, and before long you will have no trouble thinking of ways to grow in your faith... or spend some time reading spiritual books each day... or ten minutes quiet time.

Fri 9 Oct (Ss Denis, B & Companions, Ms)
Galatians 3:7-14; Psalm 111; Luke 11:15-26
St Denis was sent to Gaul from Rome in the third century. He was beheaded in the persecution under Emperor Valerius in 258. This patron of France is regarded as the first bishop of Paris.

Sat 10 Oct (St Daniel Comboni, B)
Galatians 3:22-29; Psalm 105; Luke 11:27-28
"Comboni's spirituality was contemplating the compassionate love of Jesus, the Good Shepherd who sacrificed himself for humanity. This contemplation fueled his own passion for Africa." – Comboni Fathers

Sun 11 Oct 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Isaiah 25:6-10; Psalm 23; Matthew 22:1-14
"Why is there a war?... Because I and my neighbor ... do not have enough love. Yet we could fight war ... by releasing, each day, the love that is shackled inside us, and giving it a chance to live." – Etty Hillesum

KEY: **SOLEMNITY**; FEAST; Memorial; (Optional Memorial)
R=Religious; Pr=Priest; Ms=Martyrs; B=Bishop

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Catholic Link

SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT AND WATCHFUL FAITH

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Year A
Divine Office: Week III • 4 October 2026

Faith and Reason

Pope St John Paul II
Photo by Gregorini Demetrio

Pope Benedict XVI
Photo by Kancelaria Prezydenta RP

The close relationship between faith and reason has been central to Catholic theology from its earliest centuries. We saw this in our first article about St Paul debating with philosophers in Athens. Subsequently, St Augustine presented faith not as contrary to reason but as its necessary precondition. St Thomas Aquinas argued that faith and reason operate as two distinct but complementary paths to truth. For him, truth is indivisible.

The school of thought known as the Enlightenment (c. 1685 to 1820), however, treated faith as irrational. The First Vatican Council (1870) insisted that faith and reason *are* harmonious and the common quest resumed, one example being St John Henry Newman's exploring the rationality of the act of faith itself. The Second Vatican Council (1962–65) affirmed the legitimate autonomy of human reason and science, leading thirty years later to Pope John Paul II's encyclical, *Fides et Ratio* ("Faith and Reason, 1998) which offered a comprehensive treatment of the relationship between the two.

Even before he became Pope, Karol Wojtyla was a dominant Christian leader and thinker exercising a watchful faith during the final decades of the twentieth century and well into our current century.

Wojtyla was both poet and philosopher; both theologian and pastor. He had enormous energy and zest for life. Gaining two doctorates, he lectured in ethics at the Catholic University of Lublin in Poland and the Jagiellonian University in Krakow. At age 38 he was made auxiliary bishop of Krakow.

As a poet, Karol Wojtyla retained a lively sense of wonder which stirred his questioning mind. His published verse ranges over serious questions we all face: the meaning of our existence, issues of loss, suffering, doubt, memory, and most of all, the mystery of the inner life.

With his sharp intellect he was alert to philosophical trends: how today's focus often becomes tomorrow's fashion, often impinging on people's faith. When he came to writing the encyclical, *Fides et Ratio*, he began with a homely analogy: "Faith and Reason are like two wings on which the human spirit rises to the contemplation of truth."

Using St Anselm's words he confessed, "I believe that I may understand; I understand that I may believe". Even if one's starting point is faith, intelligible vocabulary is required. The deeper one's faith, the greater the demands on reason.

On the other hand, if reason is one's starting point, we may critically engage with the faith phenomenon. The divine can be detected in nature, and in people of wisdom and common sense.

Successor to Pope John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI argued in his carefully worded 2010 address at Westminster Hall, for the interdependence of faith and reason and their corrective role in public life. For Benedict, reason without religious input is vulnerable to "ideological manipulation". We have only to look at the slave trade, to say nothing of twentieth century totalitarianism, to witness the denial of human dignity.

Religion, in its turn, needs reason as a bastion against fundamentalism and sectarianism. Neither can function well in isolation. Speaking to all UK parliamentary representatives, Benedict called for ongoing dialogue between religious belief and secular rationality – faith and reason – in the public domain of politics, science and philosophy.

OUR LADY OF THE VISITATION
CONSTANTIA CATHOLIC CHURCH

27th Sunday of the Year A
3rd / 4th October 2026

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Website: www.constantiacatholic.co.za
Parish Priest: Rev Fr Shaun Addinall
Deacon: Rev Dcn Michael Brooks
Child Safeguarding: Julie Junor
Secretaries: Deborah Jordan / Vivien Cones
Office Hours: Weekdays 08h30-13h00

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Date			Intentions
Saturday 3rd	17h30	**27th Sunday of the Year**	Missa pro Populo
Sunday 4th	09h00	**27th Sunday of the Year**	Patrick Pillay RIP
	17h30	**27th Sunday of the Year**	Geraldine Forshaw RIP
Monday 5th		Private Mass	Mortuary List
Tuesday 6th	18h30	Mass of the Day	Fr Nkululeko Qokolo RIP
Wednesday 7th	08h00	**Our Lady of the Rosary**	Debbie White RIP
Thursday 8th	09h00	Mass of the Day	Denise Pillay
Friday 9th	09h00	Mass of the Day	Benjamin Ryan RIP
Daily	18h00	Prayer & Rosary on Zoom	http://bit.ly/ConstantiaZoom
CONFESSION		**Saturdays 16h45-17h15**	***Or by Appointment***

Prayer Intentions: For all in need of our prayers and their families:
Peter Becker, Fr Declan O'Doherty, John Robertson, Lindy Henry, Sheila Cheminais, Taryn Boden, Nel Vorstenbos, Chris Vorstenbos, Jaqueline Cole, Alyson Riches, William de Villers, Dr Ron Mallett, Brenda Robb, Beulah Williams, Wayne Golding, Connor Young, Simon Young, Cecco Giovannini, Derek Kudsee.

THANK YOU!

I would like to express my sincere and heartfelt gratitude to all of you for the wonderful birthday wishes, generous presents and monetary gifts I received for my birthday. Your kindness and generosity touched me deeply, and I am truly grateful.

A special thank you to everyone who attended my birthday celebration last Saturday evening. It was such a joyful and memorable occasion, and I was delighted to share it with so many of you. I am also very grateful to everyone who contributed in some way to making the evening such a wonderful celebration.

Most of all, thank you for your love, prayers and continued support. I feel incredibly blessed to be part of this wonderful parish community.

Fr Shaun

LIVING THEOLOGY 2026
"Our Father? The Shadow of Father"

A three-evening series exploring fatherhood, our image of God, and pathways to healing and reconciliation.

27–29 October
St Michael's Parish, Rondebosch
See the notice board for full details

RACHEL'S VINEYARD HEALING RETREAT

A confidential weekend of healing and hope for anyone affected by abortion.

30 October–1 November 2026,
Cape Town.

Contact Angie: 082 852 1284.

VISITING PRIESTS – WEEKEND MASSES

Fr Shaun is in Johannesburg this weekend, attending the EOHSJ Vigil and Investiture Mass. A warm welcome and our grateful thanks to the following priests for celebrating our weekend Masses:

Sat 3 Oct, 5.30pm – Fr Roger Hickley
Sun 4 Oct, 9.00am – Fr Paul Moore
Sun 4 Oct, 5.30pm – Fr David de Caires e Freitas

A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO FR ROGER!

We wish Fr Roger a very happy birthday this Saturday, 3 October. He is a great friend to our parish, and we send him our warmest wishes and every blessing for the year ahead.

SUNDAY TEA: This Sunday - 04 October

Please join us in the parish hall, after 9:00am Mass, for our monthly Bring-and-Share tea. Thanks to Tessa Middleton, Mel and Luke Holderness and Michelle Adriaanse for hosting.

Please drop off your contributions at the hall before Mass. For more info: sarahravenhill1@gmail.com.

LAY COUNSELLING is available for any parishioners in need. Please contact the office for further information.

REFLECTION: 27th Sunday of the Year

Peace is a gift of God. In the Second Reading Paul advises us how to get it. We must pray, not only just asking, but giving Him thanks.

His peace is greater than anything we may fear, and better than anything we can conceive.

Richard.

SEASON OF CREATION 2026
1 September – 4 October

This year's theme, **"Living Water,"** is inspired by the vision of the prophet Ezekiel (47:1–12), where a river flows from the Temple of God, growing deeper and bringing life and healing wherever it flows.

LIVESTREAM:
FRIDAY 9:00 am MASS

Our Friday 9:00 am Mass will be livestreamed on the Parish YouTube channel. Join us here: https://www.youtube.com/@marysconstantia2029

Up-coming dates/events …

Tue 06 Oct – PPC Meeting
Sat 17 Oct – Proclaimers Meeting
Sat 31 Oct – First Confession
Sun 08 Nov – First Holy Communion

PPC MEETING

Tuesday 6 October at 7.15pm

JUNIOR CATECHISM Gr1-Gr7

Term 4 Starts Sunday 11 October

MARRIAGE BLESSING

We invite all married couples to please join us next weekend for a Marriage Blessing.
Date: All weekend Masses
10 & 11 October, 2026

GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE PROJECT

The project is progressing well, and we are finalising plans to go to tender phase, where we will get final construction quotes and plans.

Construction is planned to start in January to avoid the area being a building site over the holidays.

Please continue to support our fund raising. We have nearly reached target of R500k. Every little amount helps. Thank you. Please EFT to Parish Account, Ref: GOR + Your Name

Thank you for the feedback - people will be contacted and it will be posted on our board.

To be a welcoming and missionary parish, spreading God's love.
Guided by the Holy Spirit, inspired by Mary's loving example, and rooted in the Eucharist, we worship and serve God with joy, journey together in faith, welcome all with compassion, and carry Christ's presence into our community and beyond.