

16 May, Ascension, Year B

TEMORA MISSION AREA

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Ardlethan/Sacred Heart Aria Park

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Parish Priest Fr Sijo Jose Email: Sijo.Jose@cg.org.au

St Therese Barellan

In our Prayers: Linda Grinter, Robyn Richards, Neville Caldwell, Ray Fairman, Kashaya Kuemmel,

For our Deceased: Ian Bonny, Ron Williams, Dorothy Allen, Iney Lynch, Penny Vince, James Lewis, Anne Maher, Bill Shea, *(anniversaries)*

May 22, 23

← - - - - - Aria Park **6.00 p.m. Sat Mass** - - - - - →

Mass Barmedman 8.00 a.m. Temora 10.00 a.m. Sunday

Liturgy Ardlethan **9.00 a.m.** Barellan 10.00 a.m.

Reflection

Taken Up into Heaven. The feast of the Ascension assures us that the Risen Jesus, who was taken up to heaven, is still very close to us. We are called to recognise the signs of his presence in the goodness, love and forgiveness of the community, in the healing of souls and bodies and in the great and small miracles of life. The ascended Jesus is not an absent Jesus.

National Families Week: 10—15 May

Family Week is a perfect time to come together to celebrate the power of family relationships in all their diversities, and the importance they play in our lives and community. The 2021 theme for this week is: **Our Family, Our Story, Our Future.**

First Reconciliation

On Saturday, 22 May, four children in Aria Park will celebrate their First Reconciliation. May we pray for Anna, Eliza, Josh and Lucy as they celebrate the merciful and forgiving love of our God. Billy celebrated his First Reconciliation during the week in Temora.

Week of Christian Unity: 16—23 May

“Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit” (cf *John 15:5*)

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in Australia will be observed in the week between Ascension and Pentecost. “Here, Jesus reminds his disciples that he is the vine and we are the branches. If we abide in him, in Jesus and the Covenant made in his precious blood, we will be such a healthy branch as to bear much fruit, abundant grapes. Jesus manifests this in his references to loving one another: “Abide in my love.” This love of Christ figuratively speaking is akin to the healthy sap that nourishes the vine throughout all its branches. The image of branches helps believers understand that they are all diverse as individuals, but brought together in the one Vine, who is

Christ alive in the Church. .. Therefore, abiding in Christ’s love, let us love one another.” (from the website of the Graymoor Ecumenical and Interreligious Institute)

Francis officially creates Catholic ministry of Catechist

Pope Francis has formally created a new official ministry in the Catholic Church for those who teach the fundamentals of the faith to children and others, opening the position to "men and women of deep faith and human maturity."

Instituting a new ministry of "catechist" with the apostolic letter *Antiquum Ministerium* ("Ancient Ministry"), the Pope said those who already serve as teachers of the faith in places across the world experience a spiritual calling to do so and are often leaders in their communities. With the new document, issued *motu proprio* (on the Pope's own initiative), lay catechists can be officially instituted into roles as ministers for their local dioceses and receive recognition for what the Pope termed a "stable form of service rendered to the local Church." *Let us give thanks for this recognition of the role of lay ministers in our church.*

50 Cent Sunday Donation

Recently \$250.00 was transferred into an account for the La Salette Congregation and their ministries in India. Fr Sijo will ensure that the money is given to those in need. Thank you for your ongoing generosity.

National Count of Mass Attendance set for May

Australia’s Catholic parishes and dioceses are being invited to undertake the five-yearly National Count of Attendance over the four weekends of May. Held every five years since 2001, the project is a simple head count of all attenders at all parishes and other Mass centres across Australia. The count takes in Masses as well as Sunday assemblies in the absence of a priest. The National Count of Attendance is held in the same year as the Australian Census, which will take place in August. That allows for information gathered from the two projects to be analysed together.

Thank you

To each of you, my sincere appreciation for all you did in preparing the church and grounds for the funeral of our parishioner, Ian. May our good God bless you in ways that are just right for you.

Rural School of Faith

Sponsored by the Sisters of St Joseph, a weekend for women will be held in Dubbo from Friday 30th July - Monday 2nd August. Some assistance with petrol costs can be arranged. Information is available from Sr Maureen.

A Reflection

In every kindness we offer, in every word of encouragement and comfort we utter, in every moment we spend listening and supporting, we proclaim the Risen Jesus’ Gospel of compassion, mercy and reconciliation. Every good work, however small or hidden, is a spark of the light of the Risen Christ in our midst.

Roster 23 May

Leader: Andrina

Reader: Ian

Minister: Bruce

Welcomer: Sr Maureen