

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Ascension of the Lord C

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is,' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.'

As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 46:2-3, 6-7, 8-9. R. v.6

(R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

1. All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy! For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear, great king over all the earth.

2. God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast. Sing praise for God, sing praise, sing praise to our king, sing praise.

3. God is king of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill. God is king over the nations; God reigns on his holy throne.

(R.) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Second Reading *Ephesians 1:17-23*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 28:19, 20

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

Gospel *Luke 24:46-53*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

While blessing them, he was taken to heaven.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this. 'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

The Gospel of the Lord

R. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

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REFLECTION by Nick Brodie

'Jesus is not abandoning the disciples', Pope Francis points out. 'He ascends to Heaven, but he does not leave them alone.' Jesus' Ascension, Francis suggests, can be understood with respect to two aspects of the event. Firstly, Jesus 'announces the gift of the Spirit.' Then, secondly, Jesus 'blesses the disciples.' In sending the Spirit, Jesus ensures that he remains present with his disciples in a new way. There is now, Francis explains, 'a presence that does not want to limit our freedom.' Jesus leaves room for us to make our own way, through time and space, accompanied by the Spirit. As Francis quips, it is the case that 'true love makes us protagonists.'

We are now 'his witnesses in the world', he reminds us. By blessing his followers, Jesus shows that he 'is the great priest of our life.' Ascending to the Father, he intercedes for us and goes 'to present our humanity to him.' Francis therefore encourages us to reflect on how truly we embrace our call 'to be witnesses to the Gospel.' Are we 'capable of loving others, leaving them free and making room for them'? Do we intercede on their behalf 'and bless their lives'? Do we really trust that Jesus wants to work through us?

© Nick Brodie

VOLUNTEERS are needed for Kiosk and Trolley help at Maranatha once a month for a couple of hours.

If you can help, please contact Diana 0459 786 341 or Margot 0439 758 070

Many thanks



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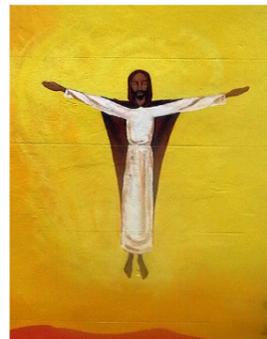


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Carroll College, Broulee
R.E.C: Anna Smart

The ASCENSION of the LORD Year C



CHURCH EVENTS

Choir Practice
Mondays 1pm

Cenacle Prayer 9.30 am
Fridays after Mass

"Good News" Wednesdays
after Mass to discuss reading
for the following Sunday. CMR

Croatian Mass Saturday 7th
June 11am

Morning Retreat - "The Gift of Years"
June 17th
9.30-12noon CMR
For further info:
Marie 0405 028 057
Carolyn 0400 121 119

Parish Sacramental Program 2025
Confirmation
Year 6 Retreat Day Thursday
12th June
9.30-2.00pm Carroll College

Wrap with Love
Tuesday 10th June
10-11am BB Library

Craft Group 10am Thursdays
Church Meeting Room

ADORATION TUESDAYS
@ 4pm

COFFEE CLUB Thursdays
after 9am Mass
Venue: Corrigan's Cove

The Value of Goodbyes

Goodbyes, especially important or intense ones, cause us to face the ultimate questions of life: Why suffering? Where am I headed? What are my most cherished values? **Goodbyes create a certain space in us where we allow ourselves room to look at life in perspective and to gradually discover answers to some questions about life.** We also learn a lot about significant others in our life: we learn who is willing to walk the long road with us, whose heart also welcomes us no matter what, who loves enough to stand with us in good times and in bad. Goodbyes, when reflected upon in faith, can draw us to a greater reliance upon the God of Love.



In today's Readings we hear this strange unbelievable story of Jesus leaving his disciples, saying 'goodbye'. It seems like their source of life has left them – their teacher, comforter, their 'home' was gone. We all can relate to the feeling of being left alone and asking 'where do we go from here?' These first disciples had to 'let go' physically of Jesus at his ascension.

A new beginning in our relationship with God. One of the first things that strikes you about this particular 'goodbye' is that it isn't an unhappy one. What do the disciples do once Jesus had said his goodbye and is gone? They go back to the temple joyous in their praise of God for **this ascension is less about endings and goodbyes but more about beginnings.**

It seems that Jesus had to leave his disciples if they were to get on with the task of preaching, teaching, healing and establishing the church. They probably felt inadequate, yet they got on with their lives, doing what he had charged them to do.

What these early disciple discovered from Ascension Day on was that Christ was within them; His presence was there to be found in them and in the world. They were now the Body of Christ, and they would find him and know him present again within their experiences, as they left their comfort zone and went to Samaria and to the ends of the earth - that's where they would find and see him. In all our life experiences I believe that God is there with us, within us and in the world ready to do more with our lives than we ever thought possible.

Do we believe this?

Marie Weatherall

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land, the Walbunja people of the Yuin Nation. We pay our respects to their elders, past, present and emerging

MASSES THIS WEEK

Monday 2nd—Sunday 8th June

Monday 2nd: NO MASS
Tuesday 3rd: Mass 5pm
Wednesday 4th: Mass 9am
Thursday 5th: Mass 9am
Friday 6th: Mass 9am
Saturday 7th: Croatian Mass 11am
 Mass 5pm
 Reconciliation 3.30-4.30
Sunday 8th: Mass 9am

ROSTERS

30 MAY/1 JUNE
Cleaning
 2-6 June B Coffey/M Paine
5.00PM MASS
 Welcomer J McCarthy
 Commentator B Maynard
 Reader: P O’Kelly
 Eucharistic Ministers J Wain
 Computer Screen J O’Sullivan
9.00 AM MASS:
 Welcomer S Beashel
 Commentator M Lowe
 Reader C Lowe
 Eucharistic Ministers D Herring, J Whiteford
 Computer Screen . D May
MORNING TEA:
 Filipino Community

7/8 JUNE
Cleaning
 9-13 R & K Ison
5.00PM MASS
 Welcomer J Anderson
 Commentator: S Ebejer
 Reader: J Mackay
 Eucharistic Ministers L Mylott
 Computer Screen M O’Neill
9.00 AM MASS:
 Welcomer M de Smet
 Commentator A Skinner.
 Reader: N Beatty
 Eucharistic Ministers N Page
 Computer Screen T Jones
MORNING TEA:
 J Barroman/G Berryman
COUNTERS
 G Norris/J O’Sullivan

COUNTERS M C Lowe

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

A/C Name: St Bernard’s
Operating
BSB: 062-786
A/C No: 00012939
Ref: Family Name



St. Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal

will take place at the Weekend Masses May 31/ June 1 with f/up June 7 & 8.

This Appeal assists the disadvantaged & poor in our local area.

Would you consider making a \$ donation after

Mass at the Church door and/or donate winter scarves beanies, socks, gloves or blankets/doonas for Adults & Children.

Place donations in the containers in the foyer of the Church during June.

No clothing ...please take clothing directly to the Vinnie’s shop.

Thank you for your continued support in our local community.

Receipt for \$ donation available if requested.

Cuppa with Mary MacKillop

will be at the home of Mary Haigh on Tuesday June 10 from 10am - 11 am.

All Welcome.

All enquiries: Marie W 0405 028 057

Morning Retreat ‘The Gift of Years – Growing Older Gracefully’ Part 2 will take place on Tuesday June 17 in the Church Meeting Room 9-15am for 9-30am start – 12noon. Cost Free. BYO Shared Morning Tea. Facilitated by Marie W and Carolyn E **Booking Essential by Monday June 9.** Marie 0405 028 057 or Carolyn E 0400 121 119

Fr Curry would like to thank all Parish Staff, ministers of the parish and all volunteers who assisted him during his five month supply at St Bernard’s Church. He would also like to thank those who gave cards and presents at the time of his departure.



This week-end we welcome our new priest, Fr Joshy to our parish.

We look forward to walking together in faith, kindness and love.

May this new chapter be one of growth, hope and shared joy as we deepen our connection with one another and with God.

CHILD PROTECTION CODE OF CONDUCT

Forms are now due to be filled out by all volunteers. I know some of you have only recently filled in your form, but I am trying to make this process as streamlined as possible.

Our parish is committed to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable persons and complying with the Archdiocesan and Govt requirements.

If you are a volunteer in the parish, can you please fill in another Child Protection Code of Conduct, which is **valid for three years**. This enables us to maintain accurate records. A copy of the Archdiocesan Child Protection Code of Conduct is available in the church foyer and also on the parish website.

Many thanks Roslynn Trompp,
 Parish Secretary



Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn

Dear friends,
 Our Archdiocese is blessed to have six dedicated seminarians progressing towards the Priesthood.

This year, we welcomed three new first-year seminarians – Dylan House, Jeremy Cains, and Isaac de Roadt – who have already begun their journeys. They join Nicholas Barry in his second year, Cinnil Thomas in his third, and Bran Grgic, who is now in his fourth year of formation. Together, they represent the bright future of our faith community.

The 2025 Good Shepherd Appeal is an opportunity for spiritual and financial generosity.

To give a non-deductible gift please use one of the options below.
 (Mail to: GPO Box 3089
 CANBERRA ACT 2601)
 Calling: (02) 6239 9876

I am convinced that the Holy Spirit calls young men to become priests. I ask everyone to pray for increased vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood.

Thank you for your generosity

Archbishop Christopher Prowse
Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra/ Goulburn
May 2025

Remembering the Sick:

Sr Maria Goretti, Travis Roth, Piper Roth, Maya Roth, Kristy Crosby, Jeanette Clarke, Chris Bowditch, Sheree Jackson, Brendan Blyton, Wendy & Pat Roberts, Mark O’Neill, Karen Nixon, Kevin Totterell, Dawn Robinson, Maria de Rocco, Myrna Glenn, Norma Dean, Ann Marie McLoughlin, Antionette Doyle, Christine Norman, Anne Gatehouse, Tony Vogel, Suzanne Hughes, Sr Marie McAlistar, Peter O’Neill, Fr John Walter, Fr Kevin Murphy, Allan Rogers, Rita Condon, Ben Copland, Vince Burns, Patrick Burns, Carolyn Burns, John Dillon, James Lee, Trish Hamilton, Jim Banks, Dennis Sheather, Mary Henderson, Diane Lanzon, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, Allan Odlum, Luke Ward, Andrew Morton, Ken Evendon, Judy Betts, Anica Bautovic, Angela Mylott, those in hospital and nursing homes.

Death Anniversaries: are listed in the Memorial Book at the front of the Church and names can be added to it if dates are provided.

We pray for the recently deceased in the Parish Community: Rod Sanders, Colin Platt, Indy Roth, Pope Francis, Kelvin Jones, Margaret Priest, Linda Vogel, Geoffrey Bopping, Ivan Backo, Jean McSmith, David Wick, Joe Quigley, Margaret Silversides, Patricia Totterdell, David Cowley, Joanne Rogers, Gerald Lewis, Josephine Beckhaus, Cyril Noyeaux, Frank Simic, Sr Paulinus Croker, Marion O’Grady, Patricia Suhl, Neil Leonard, Letitia Baz, Trent Fisk, Kevin Carew, Margaret Kelly, Arthur Hurrell, Vicki Lukasik, Paul Skinner, Suzanne Melton, James Quirk, Giovanni Menon, Tony Puconja, Hazel Nolan, Else McGahey, Richard Smart, Patrick Dunn, Laurence Foran, Lynton Ryan, Jacki Harding, Keith Cooke, Sarah Good, Robert Mitchell, Joyce Hurrell, Archbishop Francis Carroll, Ruth O’Malley, Julie Morgan, Suzanne Houssard, Nancy Sykes, Lillian Burkinshaw, Lynette Arundel

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
 may the faith you have given us
 in your son, Jesus Christ, our
 brother, and the flame of charity enkindled
 in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
 reawaken in us the blessed hope
 for the coming of your
 Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
 into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the
 Gospel.
 May those seeds transform from within both
 humanity and the whole cosmos, in the sure
 expectation

of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with
 the powers of Evil
 vanquished, your glory will shine
 eternally.

May the grace of the
 Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
 a yearning for the treasures of
 heaven.

May that same grace spread
 the joy and peace of our
 Redeemer
 throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
 be glory and praise for ever.

Amen.

Pope Francis Monthly Prayer Intentions

JUNE

That the world might grow in compassion
 Let us pray that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with Jesus, and from his Heart, learn to have compassion on the world

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Ray and Anne Brown

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