

LITURGY OF THE WORD
The Ascension of the Lord C
First Reading Acts 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.

- 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.
- 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.
- 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 Eph 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 Mt 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 Lk 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 Fr Michael Tate
Heaven and Earth are full of your Glory

Our Risen Lord knew that we are naturally, collectively human-centric. He withdrew His risen mode of appearance (what we call 'the Ascension') to make it clear that the whole Universe, including planet Earth, is filled with the presence and power radiating out from his Risen Humanity. As St Paul wrote in the Epistle to the Romans: 'Creation still retains the hope of being freed from its slavery to decay, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God.' How is the Risen Lord beginning to fulfil this hope?

At Mass, fractions of creation – the Bread and Wine consecrated for Holy Communion – are transformed into the Real Presence of the Risen Lord. Eucharistic Prayer III begins with: 'You are indeed Holy, O Lord, and all you have created rightly gives you praise...' How can all creation give God praise? As the ancient church used to teach: Each of you is a microcosm of the macrocosm, called to be a priest for the Cosmos. Through your enlightened mind and inflamed heart, the Cosmos knows that it exists and that it is loved by its Creator. It is beginning to share the freedom and glory of the children of God.

We could pause for a moment, stop staring into Heaven, and ready ourselves to receive the Holy Spirit so as to be what St Paul calls 'the Church which is His Body in whom the fullness of creation dwells'.

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BAPTISM
 Sienna Vesper Nuttall



ST BERNARD'S PARISH
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Finance Admin: Anne Jackson
PC Co-ord: Marie Weatherall
Asst. PC Co-ord: Carolyn Evenden

Principal: Mrs. Jo Wain
St. Bernard's Primary School, Batehaven
R.E.C: Sharon Beashel
Principal: Mrs. Jacqui Heffernan
Carroll College, Broulee
R.E.C: Erica Drewsen



For the celebration of the Word and the Eucharist

UPCOMING EVENTS

Choir Practice Monday @ 1pm

First Saturday of the Month 9 am Mass

Croatian Mass Saturday 4th June @ 11am

PPC Meeting Thursday 9th June 5pm Meeting Room

Wrap With Love Tuesday 14th June @ 10am Meeting Room

Craft Group - 10am Thursdays

"Enjoy the Good News" Wednesdays after 9.00am Mass

Adoration Tuesday @ 4.30pm

COFFEE CLUB Thursdays after Mass Venue: Corrigans Cove All Welcome COFFEE N CHAT

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD- YEAR C

MASSES THIS WEEK

Tuesday 5.30pm

Wed - Friday 9 am

Saturday - 9 am (First Saturday of June) - 5pm Vigil

Sunday - 9am & 5pm

*Please note - Sunday 5pm Mass will end at the end of June

HIS WEEK: Tuesday - Visitation of Mary - Adoration @ 4.30pm



ORDINATION TO PRIESTHOOD - JUNE 24TH @5PM

Transport to the Ordination: If you intend to drive up to the Cathedral for Deacon Eden's Ordination, could you please inform the Parish office this week, if you have spare seats in your vehicle.

We will put a list together and try and accommodate all who wish to attend. The list will be available in a couple of weeks.

Many thanks.

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2022

27 MAY TO 3 JUNE

The National Reconciliation Week 2022 theme, "Be Brave. Make Change." is a challenge to all Australians— individuals, families, communities, organisations and government—to *Be Brave* and tackle the unfinished business of reconciliation so we can *Make Change* for the benefit of all Australians.

This year we are asking everyone to make change beginning with brave actions in their daily lives – where they live, work, play and socialise. National Reconciliation Week—27 May to 3 June—is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia.



**Pope Francis
Monthly Prayer
Intentions
JUNE**

Families

We pray for Christian families around the world; may they embody and experience unconditional love and advance in holiness in their daily lives

MINISTRY SUNDAY- JUNE 11TH & 12TH

There is a need for more ministers to assist with the pastoral care of all our aged, sick and housebound parishioners. In the lead up to our recruitment weekend in June, please give some prayer and thought to pastoral ministry if you are not already involved. *Every little bit helps!!*
Every little bit helps!

**St Vincent de Paul
Winter Appeal**

Begins June 4/5 at Sunday Masses
Please consider donating to us financially as you leave the church.
Tax deductible receipts available.



Confirmation
The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated at St Bernard's at the 5pm Mass on June 25th. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers

Parish Pastoral Council
Will meet on the 9th June 2022 - If you have issues of concern that you would like to have addressed, please write them out and hand them in to the office. Please put your name and phone number on them so we can respond.

**WELCOME TO NEW
PARISHIONERS
BREAKFAST
Sunday 5th June**

You are invited to come along for a morning tea after the 9am Mass on Sunday 5th June as we warmly welcome our new parishioners to the parish.



LIVING FAITH IN THE EVERYDAY

The Mystery & the Reality of the Ascension

An association with the Jewish feast of God's giving the Law through Moses makes it clear that the Ascension of Jesus is about presence, not absence.

The Feast of Jesus' Ascension celebrates the end of Jesus' work on earth for us and his return to God his Father. Luke's Gospel and its sequel – the Acts of the Apostles – describe Jesus as leaving his disciples and rising into heaven. His Ascension is followed almost immediately by the sending of the Holy Spirit. Through the Spirit Jesus remains present with us as we trust in his promise that he will return at the end of time. *Taken together the stories of the Ascension and Pentecost explore the way in which Jesus is now both present to us and distant from us.*

The image of Jesus rising through the clouds into heaven is in harmony with the way Luke and his contemporaries saw the world. They imagined our world as like a bowl with a spherical cover. Above the vault were the heavens, the world of God and the spirits. Our image of the world is unimaginably larger, measured in light years. We see rockets go into the sky above us, parachutists come down, & spaceships travel to nearby planets which were once seen as belonging to the heavens. In this world the image of Jesus rising to heaven can seem quaint.

We need to attend to the larger reality that underlies the image of Jesus being taken into heaven. It speaks of the journey of the Son of God into the human world, his work for us in Jesus, his killing at the hands of other human beings, his rising from the dead into a new life with God, his opening for us the way to follow him and share in his new life, and his coming again at the end of time. The Ascension is the closing of one stage of God's presence with us and the opening of a new stage of our presence with God.

The Ascension of Jesus is surrounded by rich symbolism that is easy to miss. It is said to take place 40 days after Jesus' death and resurrection. The Gospels place his death around the Jewish feast of the Passover which celebrated their freedom from slavery in Egypt. Jesus' death was his passing over from death to life and freeing us from freedom from slavery to sin. The interval between his Resurrection and his Ascension and sending of the Spirit associated these events with another Jewish feast. It celebrated God's giving the Law through Moses to the people in the desert and God's promise to be present to them through the Law and the Temple. This association makes it clear that the Ascension of Jesus is about presence, not absence.

In the story of the Ascension, Jesus instructs his disciples to go to Bethany where he farewells them. In the Gospels Bethany was closely associated with Jesus during his ministry, most notably in John's Gospel as the place where he raised Lazarus to life. It was some distance outside Jerusalem, a safe place to which he retired when under threat of death. In Jerusalem by his death and rising he had conquered death.
At his Ascension he could now send the disciples back from Bethany to Jerusalem to share the Good News – our mission today!

Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ - www.australiancatholics.com.au/article/jesus-with-us

PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

If you would like to join the Parish e-platform giving for both the Priest and the Church, the details are as follows:

Acc. Name:
St Bernard's
Operating Account
BSB: 062-786
Bank Acc:
000012939
Ref: Family Name

28/29 MAY
Cleaning
30May-3 June R & K Ison

5.00PM MASS
Welcomer:
C Brownlie
Commentator J Quigley
Reader P O'Kelly
Eucharistic Ministers A Rogers
Computer Screen T Jackson
9.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer Volunteer
Commentator . L Page
Reader: N Beatty .
Eucharistic Ministers N Page S Beashel
Computer Screen T Priest.

5.00PM MASS:
Welcomer Volunteer
Commentator D Robinson
Reader: M Devine
Eucharistic Ministers A Horsfall
Computer Screen M O'Neill
MORNING TEA:
L Rodwell & J Barroman

4/5 JUNE
Cleaning (6-10)
Favetta/O'Neill/
Nugent

5.00PM MASS
Welcomer: Volunteer
Commentator D Robinson
Reader P Nolan
Eucharistic Ministers C Brownlie
Computer Screen K Conway

9.00 AM MASS:
Welcomer C Connell
Commentator . M Lowe
Reader: C Lowe.
Eucharistic Ministers N & L Page
Computer Screen T Jackson.
5.00PM MASS:
Welcomer Volunteer
Commentator M O'Neill
Reader: S Ebejer
Eucharistic Ministers M Devine
Computer Screen J O'Sullivan

MORNING TEA:
N Beatty & M deSmet

Parish Financial Support

During the coming week or so, a Finance Council representative will be speaking to you about money. It's always difficult, especially in times when people are under economic pressure and limited income. Also, the request is made whilst being aware of diminishing numbers in the Congregation. We would like to thank you for your generous and selfless support prior to this information talk, but as you will see there are real needs that we are trying to meet.

Thank you Fr Tom

Remembering the Sick:

Peter O'Neill, Barry O'Neill, Beverley Biglia, Fr John Walter, Mara Pranjic, Lola, Fr Kevin Murphy, Allan Rogers, Pam Wilson, Antony and Andrew, Lois White, Rita Condon, Ben Copland, Femia and Mark, Roberto Alivio, Vince Burns, John Dillon, James Lee, Trish Hamilton, Daniel Coffey, Jim Banks, Dennis Sheather, Mary Henderson, Diane Lanzon, Marion O'Grady, Victor Edith, Jan Simpson, Dawn Robinson, Allan Odium, Luke Ward, Andrew Morton, Ken Evendon, Judy Betts, Janet Thornberry, Anica Bautovic, Angela Mylott, Jeanette Clarke, and those in our local Nursing Homes and Hospital

WANTED: Volunteers for Maranatha Kiosk

If you can volunteer just one Tuesday of the month from 9am-11.30 am to work at the kiosk in Maranatha please call Norma Dean on 0477759990.
We would also be grateful if you can put your name down to be on a list of on call volunteers.
Many thanks if you can help

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: Vincent Corbin, Pero Simic, Michael McNamara, Steven Smith, Anton Miloloza, Petronila Aballe, Rosemary Cahill

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