

all creation. He who believes and is baptised will be saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in My name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after He had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God He took His place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

◆ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Communion Antiphon: Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible

Ascension Prayer

We beseech you, Almighty God, that we who believe Your only-begotten Son our Redeemer, to have ascended this day into Heaven, may ourselves dwell in spirit and heavenly things. Amen.

A reflection by the Venerable Servant of God, Archbishop Fulton J Sheen

For those forty days after His Resurrection, Our Divine Saviour was preparing His Apostles to bear the loss of His Presence through the gain of the Comforter who was to come. It was not a period when He dispensed gifts, but rather one in which He gave out laws and prepared the structure for His Mystical Body, the Church. Moses had fasted days before the giving of the Law; Elias fasted forty days before the restoration of the Law; and now for forty days the Risen Saviour laid the pillars of His Church, and the new Law of the Gospel. But the forties were about to end, and the Apostles were bidden to wait upon the fiftieth day—the day of jubilee.

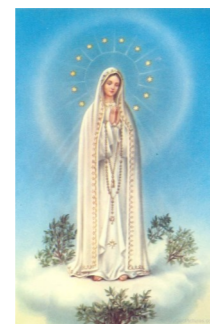
Christ led them out as far as Bethany, which was to be the scene of the last adieu; not in Galilee but in Jerusalem, where He had suffered, would take place His return to His Heavenly Father. His sacrifice being completed, as He was about to ascend to His Heavenly throne, He raised His hands bearing the imprint of nails. That gesture would be one of the last recollections the Apostles would have, save one. The hands were raised first to heaven and then pulled downward to earth as if to draw down its blessings on men. Pierced hands best distribute benediction. In the Book of Leviticus, after the reading of the prophetic promise of the Messiah, there came the high priestly benediction; so too, after showing that all prophecies were fulfilled in Him, He prepared to enter the heavenly sanctuary. Hands that held the sceptre of authority in heaven and on earth now gave the final blessing: And even as He blessed them He parted from them, And was carried up into heaven...(Luke 24:51) And is seated now

at the right Hand of God. (Mark 16:19) So they bowed down to worship Him, And went back full of joy to Jerusalem, Where they spent their time continually In the temple, praising and blessing God. (Luke 24:52, 53)

Had Christ remained on earth, sight would have taken the place of faith. In heaven, there will be no faith because His followers will see; there will be no hope, because they will possess; but there will be love for love endureth forever! His leave-taking of the earth combined the Cross and the Crown that governed the smallest detail of His life. The Ascension took place on Mount Olivet at the base of which is Bethany. He led His Apostles out through Bethany, which meant passing through Gethsemane and the very spot where He wept over Jerusalem! Not as from a throne, but from a mountain elevated above the garden with the twisted olive trees crimsoned with His Blood, did He give the final manifestation of His Divine power! His heart was not embittered by His Cross, for the Ascension was the fruit of His Crucifixion. As He said, it was fitting that He suffer in order to enter into His glory.

In the Ascension the Saviour did not lay aside the garment of flesh with which He had been clothed; for His human nature would be the pattern of the future glory of other human natures, which would become incorporated to Him through a sharing of His life. Intrinsic and deep was the relation between His Incarnation and His Ascension. The Incarnation or the assuming of a human nature made it possible for Him to suffer and redeem. The Ascension exalted into glory that same human nature that was humbled to the death.

(Life of Christ)



Prayer to Our Lady of Fatima

O Most Holy Virgin Mary, Queen of the most holy Rosary, you were pleased to appear to the children of Fatima and reveal a glorious message. We implore you, inspire in our hearts a fervent love for the recitation of the Rosary. By meditating on the mysteries of the redemption that are recalled therein may we obtain the graces and virtues that we ask, through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.



Prayer for Mothers

Loving Father and Almighty God, thank you for all the mothers in the world. Bless them so that they may always give life and nourishment to their children through their firm faith, generous and selfless love, good example and constant concern for their bodily and spiritual health. Grant that we, their children, may honour them always with a spirit of profound love, respect and thanksgiving. Give them the grace to mirror the virtues of the Blessed Virgin Mary, mother of Jesus Christ Your Son and our spiritual mother. Grant this through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD - YEAR B

12 MAY 2024



“Today our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven; let our hearts ascend with Him ... and although He ascended alone, we also ascend, because we are in Him by grace.”
- St Augustine of Hippo

Entrance Antiphon: Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens? This Jesus Whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw Him go, alleluia.

First Reading Acts 1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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 of 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.**

Responsorial Psalm Ps 46:2-3, 6-9

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. **R.**
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. **R.**
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.**

Second Reading Ephesians 4:1-13

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God Who is Father of all, over all, through all and within all.

Each one of us, however, has been given His own share of grace, given as Christ allotted it. It was said that He would: When He ascended to the height, He captured prisoners, He gave gifts to men.

When it says, ‘He ascended’, what can it mean if not that He descended right down to the lower regions of the earth? The One Who rose higher than all the heavens to fill all things is none other than the One Who descended. And to some, His gift was that they should be apostles; to some, prophets; to some, evangelists; to some, pastors and teachers; so that the saints together make a unity in the work of service, building up the body of Christ. In this way we are all to come to unity in our faith and in our knowledge of the Son of God, until we become the perfect Man, fully mature with the fullness of Christ Himself.

◆ **The word of the Lord.**

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 Mark 16:15-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus showed Himself to the Eleven, and said to them, ‘Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to



Sacred Heart Parish Church

Roman Catholic Diocese of Armidale

The Ascension of the Lord - Year B

May 12th, 2024

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Holy Trinity School Ph: 02 6722 4066
Parish Office Hours:
Monday 13 May & Friday 17 May - 8am to 1pm
Tuesday 14 April - 8am to 12pm
Administrator: Fr Paul Chandler
PPC Chair: Mr David McMahon
Holy Trinity Principal: Mrs Jillian Rainger
Parish Secretary: Peter Turner



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

We pray for: Repose of the souls of: Reg Williams (anniv.12/5/1995); Clare Williams (anniv.16/5/2014); all those in Purgatory.

the Recently Deceased:

Colleen Makim, Lynette Gurr, Patrick McCormack, Richard Noonan, Betty Crawford, John McLean, Elizabeth Constable, Patricia Traves, Roma Fenwick.

the sick:

Charlie McGregor, Princess Catherine, Danielle Irwin, Sue Barwick, King Charles III, Bob McGuire, Robert Sanders, Peter Moroney, Christopher Pay, Jeanette Keightley, Phillip Matthews, Neville Barwick, Fr Barry Leech, Lara Bentley, Paula Lennon, Danny Dickins, Elizabeth Albany, Fr David Crabb, Rebecca Lane, Brian Barker, Clare Lockwood, Margaret Kahler, and all the sick members of our parish.

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE CLERGY AND THE PARISH

1st Collection: Presbytery (for support of priest)
BSB 082105 Account No. 001023550
Account Name: Sacred Heart Presbytery Inverell Savings Ac.
2nd Collection: Church upkeep, maintenance, expenses
BSB 082105 Account No. 001013072
Account Name: Sacred Heart Parish Inverell
For those on the Planned Giving Program could you please quote your surname and envelope number for the reference.

Planned Giving Program: If you wish to join the planned giving program, please contact the parish office.

MAY - THE HOLY MONTH OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

MONDAY 13th

Feast Day of Our Lady of Fatima

No Mass - Church open from 8am to 1pm

TUESDAY 14th

Feast Day of St Matthias, Apostle

Rosary - 8.30am

Holy Mass - 9.00am

Holy Hour - 4.30pm to 5.30pm

WEDNESDAY 15th

Wednesday of the 7th week of Easter

Rosary - 8.30am

Holy Mass - 9.00am

Funeral of Lynette Gurr - 10.30am

THURSDAY 16th

Thursday of the 7th week of Easter

Rosary - 11.30am

Holy Mass - 12 Noon

Adoration - 12.30pm to 1.30pm

FRIDAY 17th

Friday of the 7th week of Easter

Rosary - 8.30am

Holy Mass (HTS Yr 6) - 9.30am

Holy Hour - 4.30pm to 5.30pm

SATURDAY 18th

Feast Day of St John I, pope, martyr

Holy Mass of Sunday - 3.00pm at Ashford

Rosary - 5.00pm

Holy Mass of Sunday - 5.30pm

SUNDAY 19th

Pentecost Sunday

Rosary - 8.30am

Holy Mass - 9.00am

Sacrament of Confession

Sunday: 8.00am to 8.30am

Tuesday: 5.00pm to 5.30pm

Thursday: 1.00pm to 1.30pm

Friday: 5.00pm to 5.30pm

Saturday: 4.45pm to 5.15pm

(and at any time upon request)

OTHER MASSES: (May to August times)

McLean Village Each 4th Thursday - 10.00am

2nd Saturday - Bundarra, St Mary of the Angels - 3.00pm

3rd Saturday - Ashford, St Patrick's Church - 3.00pm

4th Saturday - Tingha, St. Francis' Church - 3.00pm

5th Saturday - Yetman, St Joseph the Worker - 2.30pm

Baptism - Saturdays & Sundays at 10.30am

Marriages and Funerals by Appointment

Please contact the priest on 67221103 for home visits to the homebound and the sick

PARISH NEWS AND NOTICES

A friendly reminder

Please maintain a respectful atmosphere of reverence before and after each Mass so those praying may do so without distraction. Any conversation should be conducted quietly. Also, please remember to turn off your mobile devices.

"By devoutly assisting at Holy Mass you render the greatest homage possible to the Sacred Humanity of Our Lord."

- St Leonard

ALTAR SOCIETY ROSTER FOR MAY

Pat Bailey & Kay Gardner

HOME ROSARY

"How beautiful is the family that recites the Rosary every evening." - Pope St John Paul II

Bernie & Colleen Graham

11 Diamond Street, Tingha

Wednesday 15 May at 4.30pm

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

Pastoral Council - Wed 15 May 2024, 5.00pm

Liturgy Committee - Sat 18 May 2024, 8.30am

Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers in the parish. May

God bless you all. A special Morning Tea for mothers will be held after this Sunday's morning Mass. All are welcome. Please bring a plate of delicacies to share.

Sacristy Jumble Sale

After the Masses this weekend please take a look at the items in the meeting room that are surplus to needs from the sacristy. There will be glassware, pottery, fabrics, artificial flowers, vases...and maybe more. For a suitable donation you can be adding to your collection at home (or finding a last minute Mothers Day gift). It is up to you to decide how much the donation is, but you will be helping not only to clear some of the storage areas in the sacristies, but also helping the Parish bank balance. Donations are **cash only**; so come prepared.



Praying the Rosary

During the month of May the Holy Rosary will be prayed before each Mass. There are free rosaries and pamphlets that provide a step-by-step guide on how to pray the Rosary at the paper table.

The 15 Promises of Mary to Christians who recite the Rosary

1. Whoever shall faithfully serve me by the recitation of the rosary, shall receive signal graces.

2. I promise my special protection and the greatest graces to all those who shall recite the rosary.
3. The Rosary shall be a powerful armour against hell, it will destroy vice, decrease sin, and defeat heresies.
4. It will cause virtue and good works to flourish; it will obtain for souls the abundant mercy of God; it will withdraw the heart from the love of the world and its vanities, and will lift them to the desire of eternal things. Oh, that souls would sanctify themselves by this means.
5. The soul which recommends itself to me by the recitation of the Rosary, shall not perish.
6. Whoever shall recite the rosary devoutly, applying themselves to the consideration of its sacred mysteries shall never be conquered by misfortune. God will not chastise them in His justice, they shall not perish by an unprovided death; if they be just they shall remain in the grace of God, and become worthy of eternal life.
7. Whoever shall have a true devotion for the Rosary shall not die without the sacraments of the Church.
8. Those who are faithful to recite the Rosary shall have during their life and at their death the light of God and the plenitude of His graces; at the moment of death they shall participate in the merits of the saints in paradise.
9. I shall deliver from purgatory those who have been devoted to the Rosary.
10. The faithful children of the Rosary shall merit a high degree of glory in heaven.
11. You shall obtain all you ask of me by the recitation of the Rosary.
12. All those who propagate the Holy Rosary shall be aided by me in their necessities.
13. I have obtained from my Divine Son that all the advocates of the Rosary shall have for intercessors the entire celestial court during their life and at the hour of death.
14. All who recite the rosary are my children, and brothers and sisters of my only son Jesus Christ.
15. Devotion of my Rosary is a great sign of predestination.*
(Given to St. Dominic and Blessed Alan)
* God's eternal plan of salvation possible for all is what God has predestined for all but it does not negate a person's free will. (see Catechism §600)

Prayer in Honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Hail Mary, White Lily of the Glorious and always serene Trinity. Hail brilliant Rose of the garden of heavenly delights: O you, by whom God wanted to be born and by whose milk the King of Heaven wanted to be nourished! Nourish our souls with effusions of divine grace. Amen.

MASS ROSTER	11May-Sat 5.30pm	12May-Sun 9am	18May-Sat 5.30pm	19May-Sun 9am
Projector	Sr Coral	MJ Guest	S Szumowski	H Rossel
Readers	P Mather & N McCosker	J Thivakon & G Johnson	S O'Brien & J Harris	C Bruse & M Robinson
Commentator	M Gaukroger	J Monie	P Mather	J Rainger
Offertory	Volunteers	M Robinson & volunteer	Volunteers	M Wales & volunteer
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	A Michael	S Hollis	J Monie	R Johnson
Counters		N Turner		R & G Johnson