



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.

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 Mk 16: 15-20
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The Lord Jesus was taken into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God.

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven, and said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to 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.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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WHAT DOES THE ASCENSION MEAN FOR US?

The ascension of the Lord is the pivotal link between Luke's Gospel and Acts – the story of Jesus and the story of the Church. The accounts of the ascension at the end of Luke's Gospel and the beginning of Acts are not exactly the same but the message is clear: 'they' (the apostles/witnesses) are to stay in the city/Jerusalem until clothed with power from on high/receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and, then 'he' (Jesus) was carried up to heaven/lifted up, and a cloud took him out of sight (Luke 24:49-51 & Acts 1:4, 8-9).

The letter to the Ephesians contains the plea 'to make every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit' and to build up the body of Christ. This is essential as the one who came down is the same one who ascended, who is calling all, whatever their gift, to work together in their ministry until they become mature in Christ.

Mark's account is thought to be a later addition to the Gospel. 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News', – reminiscent of Matthew's account of the commissioning of the disciples – 'to all creation' (v. 15). This message is vital for us to hear in these times of global ecological crisis. After speaking to the apostles, Jesus was taken up and assumed his rightful place at the right hand of God. In every way the ascension affirms the resurrection, Jesus' return to God and the launch of our mission guided by the Spirit.

Dr Rosemary Canavan

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 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. v. 6

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

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

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,



Est. 1887

Ascension of the Lord 12th May 2024)
St Joseph's Catholic Church, 30 Fitzgerald Street
St Thomas Aquinas' Church, 43 Bromby Street

In the Pastoral Care of the AUGUSTINIANS

- ▶ Fr Luca Park OSA Parish Priest
- ▶ Fr Marydas Arackal OSA Assistant Priest
- ▶ Fr Matteo Cho OSA (Korean Chaplain)
- ▶ Fr Brian Buckley OSA Prior

ADMINISTRATION

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH CENTRE
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OUR PARISH AND THE AUGUSTINIANS

Commit to creating an environment where the safety of children and vulnerable persons is paramount. All volunteers are required to have a Working With Children Check.

Pastoral and Administrative Support

- ▶ Stephy Coosnapa (Parish Pastoral Assistant) ▶ Juliet Oei (Business & Facilities Manager: Wed - Fri)
- ▶ Safeguarding: Stephy Coosnapa ▶ Bernadette Dennis (St Joseph's Outreach Services) ▶ Toni Stuart (Parish Secretary, Weddings & SJOS Volunteer Co-ordinator: Tues/Thurs/Fri)

Liturgical Calendar for the week commencing 12th May 2024

DAY	ST JOSEPH'S	ST THOMAS AQUINAS'
	TIME	TIME
Saturday 11th May	6.00pm Vigil Mass	
Sunday 12th May Ascension of the Lord	10.30am Mass	9.00am Mass
Monday 13th May Our Lady of Fatima		
Tuesday 14th May St Matthias	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Wednesday 15th May 7 th Week of Easter	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Thursday 16th May Sts Alypius & Possidius	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Friday 17th May 7 th Week of Easter	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Saturday 18th May BI William of Toulouse	9.00am Mass	

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL REPORT ON MAY MEETING

Among matters discussed at Parish Council during the week were - the situation of the ministry at the Alfred Hospital where there is no longer a Catholic Chaplain, the consolidation of a social committee, the 2025 renewal of the Lease Agreement with SJOS, new safeguarding codes, and some maintenance issues in the parish.



EVENTS AND MEETINGS

- ▶ Finance Committee: Tues 14 May 4pm
- ▶ Liturgy Committee: Thurs 16 May 6pm
- ▶ RCIA gathering 7pm Thursday 16th May
- ▶ Friends of St Augustine: Thurs 16 May 7pm

With Augustine in the Easter Season

"Today our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven; let our hearts ascend with him. Listen to the words of the Apostle: If you have risen with Christ, set your hearts on the things that are above where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God; seek the things that are above, not the things that are on earth. For just as he remained with us even after his ascension, so we too are already in heaven with him, even though what is promised us has not yet been fulfilled in our bodies."
(Sermon for Ascension)



CHILDREN'S FIRST RECONCILIATION



Preparation classes for children making their First Reconciliation will begin in May, Please contact Stephy at the parish office.

RCIA SACRAMENTS – PENTECOST



With joy we welcome the forthcoming reception of the Church's sacraments by our second group of candidates next Sunday at St. Joseph's 10.30am Mass and pray for their families.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS MAGAZINE

Is available at the church door this weekend. Take your free copy with you.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Recently Deceased

- ✧ Elizabeth Kuligowski

Anniversaries

- ✧ Nancy McNamara
- ✧ Jim Barry
- ✧ Lewis W King
- ✧ Roland Frost
- ✧ Sr Helen Frawley
- ✧ Basil Pereira
- ✧ Christine Kerr
- ✧ Nicola D'Andrea
- ✧ Philip Plate!



CALL TO VOLUNTEER MUSICIANS



Anyone interested in assisting with our music at mass is invited to contact the parish office.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

Our celebration of Mothers' Day provides an opportunity to acknowledge those who gave us birth. The month of May is traditionally the Month of Our Blessed Mother Mary, Mother of Christ and Mother of the Church. During our masses this weekend we recall the memory of those mothers no longer with us and ask God's blessing on all those who enrich our lives.



DO YOU ENJOY GARDENING?

If you enjoy gardening and would like to assist with the maintenance of the parish gardens, your help will be welcome. Please contact the parish office



PARISH CHRISTENING

The parish congratulates the family of Keo Tonel who is to be baptised in our parish this weekend.



PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

Robert Huggins, Margaret Wallin, Mark Ho, June Cochrane, Ronald Seaman, Mitos Gloudemans, Anne Rigg, Ced John Netto, Julie Mahony, Paul Chong, Larissa Popowski, Caroline O'Neil, Isabella Chong, Thomas Bedier, Luke Dennis, Sonia Guzman, Damien Ryan, Stephen Soh, Anne Morton.

MASS COLLECTIONS 5/05/2024

Clergy (Augustinian Community)	
1 st Collection, CDF & bank deposits.	\$ 814.25
Church (Parish Ministries)	
2 nd Collection	\$ 436.40
Envelopes.....	\$ 260.00
Direct Debit/EFT/ CDF Pay/ Cr Cards	\$ 1170.00
Tap Point Terminals.....	\$ 545.00
<i>Thank you for your generosity</i>	