

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### The Ascension of the Lord

#### FIRST 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 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

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6

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

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.

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

#### SECOND READING from St Paul to the Ephesians

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

#### 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 reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commandments I gave to you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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## ST MARY'S PARISH SWAN HILL BULLETIN

**Priest:** Fr. Matthew Thomas PP

**Parish Secretary:** Glenda Klabbers

**Parish Council Chair:** Michelle Haeusler

**Parish Safeguarding Officers:**

Karen & Damien Kelly

**St Mary's School Principal:** Greg Lane

**St Mary MacKillop Principal:** Michelle Haeusler

**Parish Office:** Tuesday 10.00am - 2.00pm  
Friday 10.00am - 2.00pm



## The Ascension of the Lord

Year A

28th May 2017

**Presbytery:** 62 Splatt Street Swan Hill 3585

**Phone:** 50324144

**Email:** swanhill@ballarat.catholic.org.au

The Parish of Swan Hill comprises of the faith Communities of:

St Marys Swan Hill,

St Joseph's Lake Boga

#### Mass Next Weekend:

Saturday	6.30 pm Vigil	Swan Hill
Sunday	10.30 am	Swan Hill

#### Mass this Week:

Tuesday:	NO MASS
Wed:	NO MASS
Thursday:	10.00 am
Friday:	11.00 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 12.00 noon

Mass Intentions:

#### Recently Deceased: We commend to God:

Nancy Colasante,

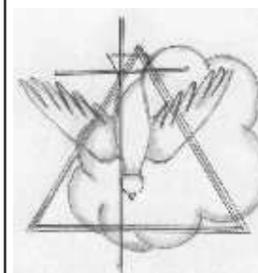
**Anniversaries: We remember:** George and Noreen Scott, Giuseppe Pachi, Fr Brendan Smith, Barry Scott, Noel & Aileen Rogers, Anne Maher, Des O'Sullivan, Pat & Ann Power, Catherine Fogarty.

**Prayers for the Sick:** Erin Coburn, Jude Lewis, Ronald Duryea, Brian Mulcahy, Brooke Kennedy, Joy Parsons, Jarrod Crimmins,

*If you would like a sick person prayed for, please ask for their permission. After one month names will be deleted from the list unless otherwise advised.*

#### WELCOME TO MASS THIS WEEKEND THE CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES AS THEY CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

**The children are:** Bailey Bowd, Jack Brown, Bohdi Kelly, Anthony Massara, Andi Meney, Rydar Morris, Noah Noble, Cruz O'Sullivan, Tynan Perry, Vaughan O'Bree, Samuel Rogers, Dashiell Whiting, Isabelle Angus, Willow Conlan, Ava Crow, Audrey Domaille, Grace Gibson, Maggie Meney, Ava O'Brien, Sophie O'Brien, Sienna Scalora, Alivia Sheehan, Sascha Watt.



**NEXT SUNDAY AT THE 10.30am MASS, CHILDREN FROM THE PARISH WILL BE CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION. Please remember the children in your prayers.**

**Mass Count** continues this weekend.



**We welcome to our Parish through the Sacrament of Baptism:** Marcy O'Bree daughter of Paul and Maurita. May she grow in faith in her loving family and our Catholic Community

**Family Matters - Forum! With guest speaker, Fr Frank Brennan (CEO of CSSA).** Hosted by the Diocese of Ballarat through the Social Justice Commission, all are welcome to attend this free event organised for Saturday, June 24 in Ballarat. Further forums will be held in Warrnambool on Saturday, July 22 and Mildura on Saturday, August 26. Details about workshops and how to register will be released soon.

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2017: 28 May – 4 June 2017** "Reconciliation - The Love of Christ Compels Us" (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:14-20). The Diocesan Commission for Ecumenism and Inter Religious Relations invites all to an active participation in this week of prayer. Resources are available [<http://www.ncca.org.au/faith-and-unity-resources/wopcu/item/1006-week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2017>].here. Rev Gregory Tait, Chair.

**NEW ROSTERS FOR MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST AND READERS ARE AVAILABLE AT BACK OF CHURCH**

**CUPPA AFTER MASS NEXT SUNDAY**

**Please take home a copy of Australian Catholics after Mass.** This quarter we celebrate the gifts women bring to our schools, parishes and other ministries.

**ST MARY'S MINISTRIES for 4th June 2017**

**Ministers of the Word:**

**Vigil:** Brenda Grace, Barb Patterson

**10.30am:** CONFIRMATION

**Ministers of Communion:**

**Vigil:** Margaret Derham, Teresa McRae, Dick & Rene Devereux.

**10.30 am:** Frank Fogarty, Connie Alderuccio, Rona Bookham, Ken Smith, Jocelyn Ingram.

**Presentation of Gifts:**

**Vigil:** Jim & Elaine Elliott.

**10.30am :** CONFIRMATION

**Music Ministry:**

**Vigil:** Joe Taverna

**10.30am:** Confirmation

**Counters:** Ken Smith & Peter Coady.

**STATE OF THE NATION**

**Presbytery Account:** (1st Basket) \$ 1,084.95  
(Support of Priests & Bishop)

<b>Parish Account:</b> (2nd Basket)	<b>Envelopes</b>	\$ 720.00
(Support of the Parish)	<b>Credit Card</b>	\$ 0.00
	<b>Direct Debit</b>	\$ 0.00
	<b>Loose Plate</b>	\$ 143.50
		\$ 863.50

**Project Compassion:** to date \$ 2,469.90  
Thank-You!

**READINGS NEXT WEEK 4th June Year A**

1st Reading : Acts 2:1-11

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13

Gospel: John 20:19-23

**Car Park** Just a friendly reminder that the car park in the church grounds is for those with a Disabled sticker, or people being dropped off and picked up. We ask that you do not park on the grass, as we have had to replace the sprinklers a couple of times. Thanks for your assistance with this.

**St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship – applications now open**

The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offer scholarships to enable lay people to further their understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or a specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. Applications close 17 July 2017. Details and application: <http://www.pallottine.org.au/scholarships/st-vincent-pallotti-scholarship-for-lay-ministry.html>

**120 years of Catholic Education in Charlton**

On October 20 & 21 21, 2017 we will be celebrating 120 years of Catholic Education in Charlton – this is also Charlton Show weekend. We invite any past pupils and staff to attend our celebrations. Please contact Anne, ph. 0408547973 for further details.

**Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF)**

ACYF is in Sydney December 7-9, 2017. A joyful 3 day immersion in faith with 15,000 other young Australians. Young people (yr 9-30yo) are encouraged to go. Information is on the diocesan website Youth and Young Adult pages: [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au) or contact Amanda on 5337 7125 or [youth@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:youth@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**“Lessons from the Long Paddock” econference**

The Diocese of Wilcannia- Forbes is offering an econference online event called “Lessons from the Long Paddock” on Tuesday, June 6, 2017. This econference opens the conversation for many people who are curious about what the experience of faith actually feels like in ordinary life. Participants engage with conversations which signpost essential spiritual markers relevant to knowledge about what leads into fuller humanity, Christian, Catholic and Australian life. This econference draws participants to seek Christ at the heart of human experience and nurtures a capacity to trust that individuals have all they need to begin the journey into constant conversion. The econference has two keynote speakers, Bishop Columba Macbeth Green OSPPE and Fr Frank Brennan SJ, who will discuss Australian and Outback Spirituality. The workshops will be facilitated by Kate Englebrecht, Diocesan Director of Mission. For more information please contact Kate on, ph. 0420 309 689 or <http://www.wf.catholic.org.au/>

**Reflection**

Our Risen Lord Jesus Christ could have continued to appear to groups of followers, century after century – until now!

But, he didn't, because the disciples had to be weaned of his Risen-mode of appearance among them lest they think that the victory over Death is meant for human beings alone.

But, as St Paul says, the Risen Lord is the One who 'fills all creation' with His power radiating out from his Risen Humanity.

However, disappearance is not the same as absence. We believe that Our Risen Lord is present in many modes, including as St Paul says '...the Church which is His Body'.

That is why the figures in white rebuke the disciples: 'Why do you stand looking into Heaven?'

The Disciples had, rather, to ready themselves to be the Spirit-filled body of Jesus Christ in their own time and place. As we do.

We might pause for a moment to stop staring into Heaven, to ready ourselves to receive the Holy Spirit as at Pentecost in order to be 'The Church which is His Body.'

by Michael Tate  
[mtate@bigpond.com](mailto:mtate@bigpond.com)



How many words can you make from the letters in the word ASCENSION?

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Even though Jesus ascended into heaven he is always with us. Complete the sentences below.

Jesus is with me when....

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Jesus is with me when....

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Jesus is with me when....

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Unscramble the words below to find out what Jesus told his disciples before he ascended into heaven.

\_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_

WITH YOU \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ THE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_



TIME REMEMBER UNTIL ALWAYS AM END