



The Ascension of the Lord - Year A

21st May, 2023

Parish Priest Fr Vinoth Santiago
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CHILD PROTECTION - is everyone's responsibility

Parish Email gisborne@cam.org.au
Parish Website <http://pol.org.au/gisborne/Home.aspx>
Secretary Hours Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am – 5:00pm

Check the Parish Website for:

Child Safety & Code of Conduct Policy
Parish Privacy Act / Professional Standards

A parent must accompany any child leaving the church during Mass.

CONTINUING PRAYER LIST:

Please pray for those who are in ill health:

*Eileen S, Corrine V, Megan B, Andrew M, Michael W,
Glenys O, Anthony S, Ryan F, Jessica C, Cheryl L,
Stephanie C, Archie P, Kylie I, George T, Bill P &
Jacqueline D.*

We pray for the recently deceased, especially **Victor Bissett**,
and for those who have an anniversary at this time.

May they rest in peace ☩

Please email Tam if you would like an Anniversary included in the prayers.

Email issue resolved

We have been advised by the Archdiocese that their server problem has been rectified so you should all now be receiving emails from the parish office again.

If there's ever a time you don't receive the Parish Bulletin sent out each Thursday afternoon, please head to the parish website:

<http://pol.org.au/gisborne/Home.aspx>

CONGRATULATIONS FR. GERRY

May 20th, 2023 will mark the 51st Anniversary
of Ordination into the Priesthood
for Fr. Gerry Spillane.

What an amazing achievement to give your life in
service to others for such a long time.

Please keep Fr. Gerry in your prayers as he celebrates
this achievement.

ALPHA EXPERIENCE at St. BRIGID'S

Ever wanted to pause and consider the big questions
about life, meaning and faith?

Well, you're not the only one!

We had 14 people attend the Alpha Information Night
and they are keen to move forward with the program.

The Alpha Group will meet for the next 7 weeks.

Wednesday evenings at 7pm - in the Presbytery.

Please bring a plate to share prior to the meeting.

Alpha is a series of interactive sessions in a friendly,
welcoming space. Don't worry if you missed the first
meeting, please come along and join us!

Participants gain an insight into the basics of the
Christian faith and discuss its meaning in various
aspects of our lives. Everyone is welcome, regardless
of background and faith tradition.

REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

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, dis-appearance 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.'

mtate@bigpond.com

St. Brigid's Parish Calendar of Events

Wed 24/05/23 9:15am St Brigid's School Mass

Thurs 25/05/23 7:00pm Pastoral Council Meeting

Frid 26/05/23 10:30am Warrina Mass

Sat 27/05 & Sun 28/05/23 All Masses will be Commitment
Masses for Confirmation children

Sun 28/05/23 12noon Baptism's



Rosters & Events



Ministers for next weekend's Masses

Pentecost Sunday – Year A

27th & 28th May, 2023

6:00pm Mass St. Brigid's
Reader: T. Wilson & F. Murone
Offertory: to be chosen on the day.
Eucharist: L. Wilson

8:00am Mass St. Ambrose's
Welcomer: J. White
Reader: P. Lacy
Offertory: to be chosen on the day.
Eucharist: -----

Counters:
Not currently needed.

Flowers:
K. Page & L. DeBono

9:30am Mass St. Patrick's
Reader: P. O'Callaghan
Offertory: to be chosen on the day.
Eucharist: R. Fisher

11:00am Mass St. Brigid's
Reader: T. Armstrong
Offertory: to be chosen on the day.
Eucharist: K. Page



St. VINCENT'S COLLEGE BENDIGO REUNION

Sunday, May 21st, 2023 (all day)

*Venue: Catherine McAuley College,
St. Vincent's Road, Junortown*

Past students of St Vincent's College Bendigo and their partners are invited to attend the 65th Anniversary and Sports Hall of Fame Dinner, followed by Mass and BBQ at Catherine McAuley College

For all enquiries and booking details,

Email timothycoates@gmail.com or call 0407 403 574.

HEALING MASS FOR BODY AND SOUL

Friday, May 19, 2023 – 7:00pm to 8:00pm

*Venue: St Catherine of Siena Church,
108 Bulmans Road, Melton West*

You are invited to join the St Catherine of Siena community, Melton, in a Mass for healing of body and soul celebrated by Fr Gilbert Carlo SVD.

Fr Gilbert is a promoter of contemplative prayer and has conducted scripture-based retreats in the US, India, Australia and several other countries in Europe and the Middle East.

The Mass will be followed by eucharistic adoration.

For all enquiries, email Fr Gilbert at gilbertcarlo@gmail.com

WELCOME

St. Brigid's Parish community warmly welcomes visitors and new parishioners. We invite new parishioners to introduce yourself to Fr. Vinoth, fill in a census card located in the church foyer and place in either collection or contact Tam directly at the parish office.

THANKSGIVING

Any parishioner wishing to join the Thanksgiving program is invited to contact Tam at the parish office to arrange some Thanksgiving envelopes. Thanksgiving contributions by Direct Debit or Credit Card are also welcome.

THANKSGIVING BY DIRECT DEBIT

Anyone not already on the Thanksgiving Program who would like to contribute to the Church may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

**St. Brigid's Church Account
NAB**

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 6742 95773

Please use your surname and TG number as the reference.

PRIEST & PRESBYTERY BY DIRECT DEBIT

Anyone not already contributing to the Priest & Presbytery expenses who would like to contribute may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

**St. Brigid's Presbytery Account
NAB**

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 6672 72303

Please use your surname as the reference.

KARATE CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Thursday evenings 6pm - 1st TWO lessons free then \$7 per class
No term commitment required; pay as you come.

Enquiries: Kathryn Aprile—0404 340 892

SCRIPTURE STUDIES

Every Thursday—10am—St. Brigid's Church

Enquiries: Bernie Floreani—0414 890 377

Weekly Social Cards Night

St. Brigid's Hall – Tuesday 7:30pm start - Entry \$10 per player

Light supper served on completion of play

EVERYONE WELCOME

Open House - meet after 11:00 am Sunday Mass

at the Kaffeine Bar – 30 Aitken Street for a coffee and chat.

Everyone Welcome

Weekday Services 23rd May to 26th May, 2023

Tues 5:00pm to 5:30pm Mass at St. Brigid's
Wed 9:15am to 10:00am - Mass at St. Brigid's (School Mass)
Thurs 9:15am to 10:00am - Mass at St. Brigid's
Fri 9:15am to 10:00am - Mass at St. Brigid's

Reconciliation & Spiritual Direction:

APPOINTMENT ONLY—please call Parish Office 5428 2591 to book a time

Please see parish website for any changes—www.cam.org.au/gisborne

St Brigid's Parish Weekly Thanksgiving Sunday – 14 May, 2023

Total Amount received	\$	625	(envelopes)
Total Amount received	\$	464	(credit cards)
Total Amount received	\$	210	(direct debit)
Presbytery Collection	\$	837	(cash, c/c & d/d combined)

Thank you for your ongoing support through the Thanksgiving Program.

May the Lord bless you all.

Introduction: The feast of the Ascension is a significant phase in God's history of salvation. Christ "has passed beyond our sight, not to abandon us but to be our hope". The sending of the Spirit inaugurates the era of the Church.

1st Reading: Acts 1:1-11

We hear the beginning of Luke's second book after the Gospel. His intention is to link the earthly ministry of Jesus with the era of the Church under the Spirit sent by Jesus.

2nd Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23

We hear Paul's prayer for his converts - and for us. It is the Spirit of Jesus that builds up the Church, which is the Body of Christ and the fullness of creation.

Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

This is a brief reading which is powerful for the mandate it proclaims. Jesus commissions the disciples to share in his authority and to go out to all the world to preach and baptise.

Prayer of Intercession: We have heard the words of mandate for the Church. The Spirit will guide the Church for all time. Let us pray that we be people of hope.

1. We pray for Pope Francis, our bishops, priests, lay workers, families and all the faithful that we might become witnesses to the gospel of life and transform our world with love.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

2. We pray that the mystery of the Ascension would always encourage us to live in this world following the Gospel values of Jesus so that we may follow where he has gone before us.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

3. We pray that we might show the world a new way of looking at every human life, as made in the image and likeness of God.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

4. May all Christians be aware of their missionary duty to be involved in every field, including the political and social, so that all peoples come to recognise Jesus as the Saviour of the world.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

5. We pray for those in our parish who are sick, especially *Eileen S, Corrine V, Megan B, Andrew M, Michael W, Glenys O, Anthony S, Ryan F, Jessica C, Cheryl L, Stephania C, Archie P, Kylie I, George T Bill P & Jacqueline D*. May they find comfort and support in those who care for them. We pray for the recently deceased, especially *Victor Bissett* and remember those whose anniversary occurs at this time that they share in the eternal life promised by Jesus who has gone to prepare us a place.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Lord, as Jesus has freed us from death and sent us your Spirit of promise to be with us for all time, so may our faithfulness lead us to trust the Way of your Truth to your eternal Life.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Next weeks readings: Acts 2:1-11; 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13; John 20:19-23.

(pause) We pray to the Lord.

Lord hear our prayer.

THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory.
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ,
Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
You take away the sins of the world; have mercy on us;
You take away the sins of the world; receive our prayer;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father; have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father. Amen

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, *(all bow)*
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried; "he descended into hell";
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen

The Living Word

The Ascension of the Lord, Year A

21 May 2023

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.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 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*

(R.) *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

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.

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

Matthew 28:16-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

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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