



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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CALLED TO PREACH THE GOOD NEWS

As I write I'm in a transit lounge and, as it turns out, it's probably the most appropriate place from which to reflect on the feast of the Ascension which was a moment of great transition for the early church. As Jesus ascended the disciples were invited to leave behind what was known and familiar. Now the time had come to begin a new stage of the journey as they continued Jesus' mission. Many questions remained and they were uncertain about their ability to cope with the changes that lay before them. Jesus had proclaimed the coming of the kingdom. Now the task had been entrusted to them.

In a time of transition and change, we can all have the need for a point of reference that helps give direction and a sense of purpose. Paul writes from prison, bound and seemingly powerless, but he knows that the most powerful bonds for the Christian are those of love. For the Christians of Ephesus, the call is to be worthy of the vocation they have received, to grow in their baptism, and in their love and care for one another.

In a sense, the Ascension is something that happens to each and every individual Christian and community when we take up the task of preaching the gospel in our own time and place. We are still called to preach the good news of the kingdom, to carry on the task which Jesus has entrusted to us. There are still many questions in the life of the Church and there always will be.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Acts 1: 1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

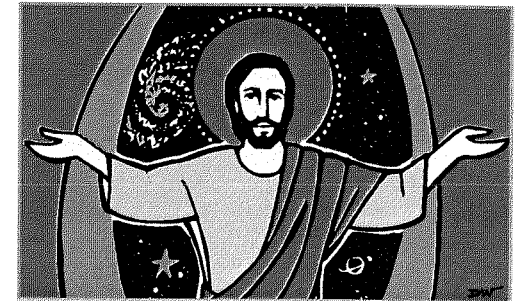
Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

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,



ST. PAUL PARISH

Under the Care of the Claretian Missionaries

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PARISH STAFF Parish Priest: Fr. Renato Manubag, CMF. Assistant Priest: Fr Anthony Vo, CMF.

Parish Secretary: Ms. Audrey Williamson

SCHOOLS Mr Damian Casamento (Principal) St Paul's Primary School 9363 1568

Ms Karen Bergin (Principal) St Peter's Primary School 8312 6900

Church Bank Account details: National Australia Bank BSB: 083 - 347, Account number : 5531 76372

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS.

Thanksgiving Total = \$1205.00

Chaplaincy Sunday - There will be a special leaving collection after Mass - Please give generously. Your support and generosity will ensure that Catholic chaplains can continue to faithfully meet the emotional and spiritual needs of the vulnerable.

Next Sunday the children from St Paul's Primary school will be making their First Holy Communion, please keep them in your prayers.

Due to First Communions the Vietnamese mass will start fifteen minutes earlier on the 23rd of May only.

Finance Committee - St Paul Parish is seeking the assistance of suitably qualified parishioners to join its Finance Committee and support the Parish Priest in the administration of the temporal goods of the Parish.

If you are willing to volunteer a few hours a month and your area of expertise is one of the following: Management, Accounting, Business, Legal or Financial; please prayerfully consider this request.

You may leave your details with the parish secretary on 83725500 or email SunshineWest@cam.org.au.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. In the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, we consider the safety and wellbeing of all persons to be our highest priority.

We too acknowledge that children, young people and adults at risk may require additional safeguards to promote their participation, wellbeing and safety. Our safeguarding committee members here at St Paul's, consist of Fr Rene, Sr Connie, Sam & Jane Zahra, Joe Gatt, Vicky Deguara and Audrey Williamson. If you need to talk to anyone of them please call the parish office on 8372 5500 or see them after masses.

Bulletins can now be accessed through the parish website: www.cam.org.au/sunshinewest

Reminder - due to covid being ever present please remember to sign/log in using QR codes when coming to masses, and don't forget to observe social distancing and use hand sanitizer as needed.

A big THANK YOU to Ben Chircop for the donation of a lawn mover to the church.

WE PRAY FOR: **Special Intentions:** John, **For Healing:** Angela, **Recently Deceased:** Saviour Vella, Joe Zahra, Roger Cremona **Our Dear Departed:** Iginio Zanni, Freddy Brockdorff, and family, Michael & Paula Galea and Family, Natu Portelli, Liberata, Carmelo, Mikelina, Cikku, Carmena, Guzeppi, Mathew & Gloria Montebello, Tereza, Guzeppi & Carmenu Mifsud, Nina, Carmenu & Salvu Portelli, Sam & Vicky Cassar, Grace Avellino, Joe Caruana, Emy Saffarese, Victor Aquilina, Gumrie & family Borg, Mark Sheean, Paula Aquilina, Vince Aquilina Sonta Vassallo, Patricia Snaize, Moreska Cleur, Philomena Dougherty, and all Souls.

Church Diary (Week beginning 16th May 2021)

Saturday 15th/16th May

Saturday Mass 8.00am English Mass 9.00am Vietnamese Mass

Baptism: Isabella Damon

6.00pm Vigil Mass + Mary Calleja

Sunday Masses (Confession half an hour before all Masses on Sunday)

7.00am English Mass +

8.30 am English Mass +

10.00am English Mass + Healing—Liliana Viscio-Mariani,
+ Onofri, Dominico & Anna Dominico

11.30am Vietnamese Mass

1.00pm Spanish Mass

Monday 17th May 8.00am English Mass 9.00am Vietnamese Mass

12.00pm Lady of Knots

Tuesday 18th May 8.00am English Mass 9.00am Vietnamese Mass

10.00am Italian Prayer Group

6.45pm Benediction, Novena, Adoration

Wednesday 19th May 8.00am English Mass + Mary Calleja

9.00am Vietnamese Mass

Thursday 20th May 8.00am English Mass + Freddy Brockdorff

9.00am Vietnamese Mass

9.30am Legion of Mary (English)

7.30pm Spanish Prayer Group

Friday 21st May 8.00am English Mass 9.00am Vietnamese Mass

Saturday 22nd/23rd May

Saturday Mass 8.00am English Mass + Grasso Domenica

9.00am Vietnamese Mass

Baptism: April Borg, John Rafoo, Audrey Garamas

6.00pm Vigil Mass + Mary Calleja

Sunday Masses (Confession half an hour before all Masses on Sunday)

7.00am English Mass + Frank Gauci

8.30 am English Mass +

10.00am English Mass + Healing—Liliana Viscio-Mariani

11.15am Vietnamese Mass

12.00pm First Communion Mass (St Paul's Primary)

1.00pm Spanish Mass

2.00pm First Communion Mass (St Paul's Primary)



Feast of the
Ascension
of Jesus

