

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD / C

29 MAY 2022

THE LORD WILL RETURN. The Ascension of Jesus, whereby he is glorified at the Father's right hand and made 'ruler of everything', does not signal his departure from our midst. It points rather to a new mode of presence that will endure 'until the end of the world'. In the meantime, it is our vocation, as his Church, to reveal him.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Acts 1:11

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.

GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

P. Lord Jesus, you are the image of the unseen God: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You are the first born of all creation: Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are the head of the body, the Church: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

GLORIA

Glorify 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.

COLLECT

P. Gladden us with holy joys, almighty God, and make us rejoice with devout thanksgiving, for the Ascension of Christ your Son is our exaltation, and, where the Head has gone before in glory, the Body is called to follow in hope. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your

Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

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.'

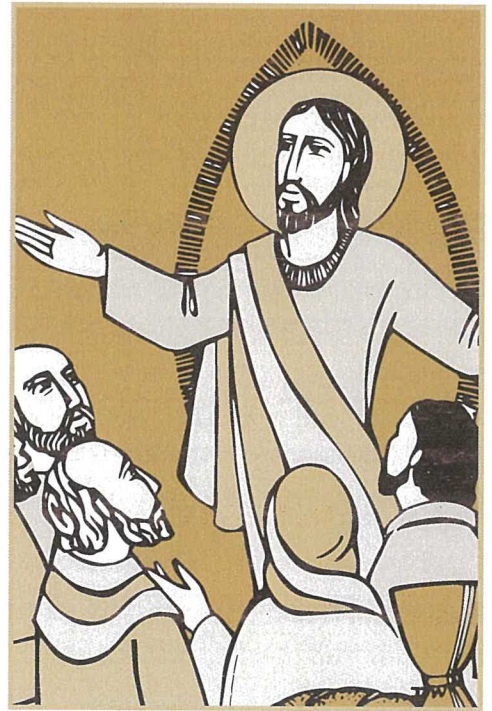
The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

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, 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.

R. Thanks be to God.

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 Lk 24:46-53

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

While blessing them, he was taken to heaven.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.

'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

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, / 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.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R. Blessed be God for ever.

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. We offer sacrifice now in supplication, O Lord, to honour the wondrous Ascension of your Son:

grant, we pray, that through this most holy exchange we, too, may rise up to the heavenly realms.

Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Lift up your hearts.

R. We lift them up to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

R. It is right and just.

PREFACE I OR II OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

After the Preface, we sing or say:

All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

All: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven . . .

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray . . .

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said . . .

R. Amen.

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And with your spirit.

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

All exchange a sign of peace.

LAMB OF GOD

All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON Mt 28:20

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Almighty ever-living God, who allow those

on earth to celebrate divine mysteries, grant, we pray, that Christian hope may draw us onward to where our nature is united with you.

Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Go forth, the Mass is ended.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

REFLECTING ON OUR CALL

As we celebrate the feast of the Ascension the words of the angels to the disciples can serve as a useful reminder of the meaning of this feast: 'Why are you standing here looking up at the sky?' The disciples had just witnessed the departure of their Lord and while their immediate reaction was natural there was work to be done; a mission had been entrusted to them. It was no time for standing still but getting down to the work at hand.

Firstly, the Lord had given them the mission of preaching the salvation that Jesus offered to the whole world. Secondly, they had to prepare for the gift of the Spirit which would enable and empower them to undertake their task. As the Gospel of Luke concludes we find the disciples in prayer in the temple waiting for the gift of the Spirit, joyfully pondering on what they had experienced.

The reading from the letter to the Ephesians calls us to share in that journey of reflection into the meaning of not only the life of Jesus but our own life as Christians. As Paul reflected on Jesus' life, death and resurrection, he came to see that it was truly a cosmic event. Jesus was not just Lord of death but all creation. The Ephesians are invited to reflect on the richness of the gift they have all received as Christians. Today's feast of the Ascension calls us to rejoice in, and reflect on, our call and mission.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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WELCOME TO ST. GREGORY'S—DONCASTER

Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year C

Parish Office:


Hours: Mon—Fri 9.30am to 3.30pm

Tel: 9412 8425

Email: Doncaster@cam.org.au

Follow us on: @StGregsDonny

 www.facebook.com/StGregsDoncaster

 Website: www.stgregs.org.au

Parish Priest: Fr. Charles Balnaves

Parish Secretary: Mon & Tue :Nadia Bolzonello

Wed-Fri: Vera Arief

Mon: Bernadine De Silva (bookkeeping)

MASS TIMES:

Saturday: 6.00pm

Sunday: 8.30am, 10.30am & 5.00pm

Wed & Fri: 9:00 am

**MASS OPEN TO ALL; MASKS / DISTANCING BE
SENSIBLE & CARING / ALWAYS SANITISE;**

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1–11 Eph 1:17–23 Lk 24:46–53

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 9am-10am

BAPTISMS: Please ring the Parish Office for future bookings

ST GREGORY THE GREAT CATHOLIC PRIMARY

SCHOOL: Principal: Michelle Verna

Tel: (03) 9848 4483

Email: principal@sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS:

Contact Margaret O'Donnell at DoncasterRE@cam.org.au

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP: has restarted!

Wednesdays at 9.45 am in the church meeting room.

Contact Terry Morton 0402 307 384.

CORNERSTONE YOUTH GROUP:

First Friday of the month from 7pm-9pm

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP: (has restarted)

Hopefully monthly on a Friday from 7pm—9.30pm

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE: Third Monday of

the month at 7.30pm in Church meeting room

ST GREGORY'S TENNIS CLUB: Membership enquiries:

Gianna Alessio (President) 0438 410 506

Please pray for:

Those who are **sick** at this time including Chee Choong Seng, Chee Mee Lian, Chianna Sacco, Roy Dos Santos, Judith Morton, Lilia Go, Theresa Yong, Maria Stone, Eliseo Pardillo, Siat Lin, Vincent Aloï, Margaret Dobran, Andrew Wilson, Fr Matthew Abraham CSsR, Wang Wei Qiao, Paul Materazzo, Ian Angus, Bernadette Sheridon, Eliasari, Dennis Clarke, Veronica, Maria, Veronica, Luz, Carolina, Andrea, Marisa, Rodolfo, Angel, Gustavo, Margaret Hansen, Fati, Patricia McLeod, Angelique Giacomini, Maureen Tresise

And Those who died recently, Maria Piccolo and for the **repose of the souls of** Ken Mullens, Yoo Fat Wong, Josephine Sabina Victoria Silvapulle, Gabriel Silvapulle, and all those whose anniversaries occur at about this time.

Words from Fr Charles:

Reconciliation Week

There are two weeks of each year when, across the country, we take time to reflect particularly, as a nation and as individuals and as a faith, on the aspirations and tragedies and the circumstances of our First Nations peoples: the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The first is this week we are just finishing (27 May—3 June) has been Reconciliation week, including Sorry Day on 26th May. The second is in NAIDOC week from 3-10 July which includes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday (a memorial that has I believe been part of our year since the 1940's).

My involvement with our First Nations peoples began during my university days in 1970-1972 when I joined various lectures and talks and walks and demonstrations, including a cold night outside the Old Parliament House supporting the provision of Scholarships to help Aboriginal people access tertiary education. I was not directly involved but that is the time also when the Aboriginal Tent Embassy was set up.

Then to my lasting sorrow ... I lost touch—my life went other ways. I didn't meet anyone who I consciously knew to be Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, somehow, I 'forgot' about the need for fairness and justice and equity and reconciliation for these proud peoples. Then in 2004 I came into contact with the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry in Melbourne and discovered that the needs of 1972 are still with us. I discovered how many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were around me in my daily life—whether I was aware of the individuals or not they were present: their needs surround me, surround us.

Journeying with our First Nations peoples and giving them a hand up to leave disadvantage behind must be a focus in our lives. I have printed off copies of the "Uluru Statement from the Heart" for you.

You can get it online at <https://ulurustatement.org/the-statement/> this statement gives a clear indication of how our First Nations peoples want to be helped, please read it carefully and reflect on it carefully.

This Sunday is Ascension Sunday—the day on which we remember that Jesus has handed on the baton of spreading the Good News, of bringing peace, truth and justice to the world. I pray we join our actions in faith with the actions that are needed in the world.

God bless, as we approach Pentecost, Alleluia Alleluia!!!



St Gregory's is committed to growing a Child Safety Culture with Love

THIS WEEK

Sat 6.00pm
 Sun 8.30am
 Sun 10.30am
 5.00pm

CARE OF THE CHURCH**LECTORS**

Robert McHugh & Frances Cannizzo
 Rachael Kay, Tony Nimmo
 Erin Djukiadmodjo
 Mary Tonti-Filippini, Margaret Wheatley

Andrew Khalil, Lisa Moule

NEXT WEEK 04/05 June

Sat 6.00pm
 Sun 8.30am
 Sun 10.30am
 5.00pm

LECTORS

Frank Ryan, Anne Davine
 Michael See, Queenie Wood
 Aidan Leung, Chris Perera
 Benedicta Wong, Francis Yim

CARE OF THE CHURCH

Carole Tang

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

Iris O'Farrell, Lorna Phillip
 Brian Setter, Margaret Wallace
 Edith Ma, Tony Ting
 Margaret O'Donnell, Tina Paolino

Stephanie Ong, Nita Pereira (Ctrs)

FLOWERS : (Friday 27 May) Irene Dharmawan

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

Moira White, Peter Whitting
 Joan Dineen, Rachael Kay
 Robert Rukavina, Sim Dai
 Nita Pereira, Viviana Pereira

Sardana Family (Ctrs)

FLOWERS : (Friday 3 June) Geraldina Donato, Mary Piccoli

FACE COVERINGS / DISTANCING: be sensible and respect others and the need for still being careful.

Weekday Mass times in the coming week: Tue/Thurs: 9:15 am St Kevin's Lower Templestowe; Wed/, Fri: 9:00 am St Greg's Doncaster.

Masses with congregations: No check-in, no vaccination checks. Still we should hand sanitise and we are encouraged to wear masks if we feel the situation demands it. Parish staff & volunteers within the Parish setting and its outreach are still required to be up to date with their vaccination.

Facebook: Live-streaming: Normally 9:15 am from St Kevin's Tu/Th; Sunday morning 10:00 St Kevin's or 10:30 St Gregory's (alternating). Mass with children participating will generally not be live streamed.

Lost Parishioners?: who have you lost? Who hasn't said 'HI' at Mass since two years ago? Who could you call and check up on? Please do, maybe they need your support.

Transport to Mass: I am aware of at least on parishioner who would like to come to Mass but has not transport. Perhaps there are more. Are you willing to assist someone local get to Mass? Please Contact the office.

St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary School - Open Days In 2022

Tue 8th Nov from 9am—1pm. Register at www.sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au/ events If you would like to have a School Tour prior to this date please contact the School Office on 98484483.

Parish Facilities: The Tennis Club Room and Courts and the Hall and the Parish Room are becoming available. Room bookings can be made: st.gregoryhall3108@gmail.com and Jess will get back to you. Tennis club use for tennis playing: contact Gianna on 0438 410 506.

BRING HOPE TO NEELA AND HER FAMILY

This week Catholic Mission offers us the opportunity to be part of a life-changing program which aims to help prevent malnutrition, especially in babies and young children, and help disadvantaged families provide food for their loved ones.

The Deberety Goat Rearing Centre is a dream of the local Church and community in Emdibir. When established, the Centre aims to provide nutritious goats milk for families in need, like Neela's*, so that babies like Ajani* can be healthy and strong.

Please give generously today to help kickstart this life-giving program by using the appeal envelope provided, going online at catholicmission.org.au/ethiopia, or scanning the QR code. Your gift will also help many other similar Church-run mission programs around the world.

*Name altered to protect identity



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/ethiopia



**Pentecost Seminar: Come, Holy Spirit!**

DATE: Saturday, 4 June 2022
 TIME: 9:30am to 12:30pm
 PLACE: St Philip's Church Hall, 60 Junction Rd, Blackburn North
 PRESENTERS: David Schütz, MTh, BTh, BA, GDipMin, GDipLIM, GCertHE
 Natasha Marsh, MA Th, BLibA, AMusA Musicianship
 COST: \$30.00 (Includes light lunch)
 BOOKING: <http://trybooking.com/BZPKV>
 Enquiries: David Schütz 0400 978 938
oranimaeducation@animanetwork.org



Our Lady Statue and the many blessings that come is available to have in your home. If you would like to have her in your home for a month or so she is available. You could also have her for any special dates throughout the year. Please phone Mary on 0401049984.

Morning Tea Roster:
 In June 2022, we will resume morning tea after the Sunday 10.30am Mass and we warmly invite volunteers to host these sessions. Hosting is a great way to be more involved again in our wonderful parish community and to reconnect with everyone. If you are interested, please sign up on the roster on table in the foyer. Any questions, please call Karen on 0412 402 426. Thank you for your support!





Stewardship
a way of life

Parish Stewardship: Please pick up your Stewardship envelopes for May 2022 to 2023 and your receipts from the church foyer today. If you are missing your envelopes please let us know. If you have been supporting us through Direct Debit throughout the lockdowns and want to return to envelopes contribution please let us know as well. Your regular financial support of our parish is vital for us to achieve our mission and we sincerely thank you. **Anyone who is not in our program** and regularly attend Mass here, is cordially invited to contribute to St Gregory's Stewardship Program. Sign-up cards are available in the foyer. Please complete one and deposit in the Stewardship Pledge Box.

YOUTH NIGHT
 Join us 7pm till 9pm
 @ The Parish room at St Gregory the Great

Welcome Year 6 - 9



Inviting Youths in grade 6 to year 9 to join us for our Cornerstone youth group meeting on the first Friday of June (3rd June) from 7- 9pm. We will be playing games and having a discussion on the Sacred Heart of Jesus that falls on June 11th. The Cornerstone Youth Group is not only a good place to stay connected with friends, but to grow your faith towards God. Come journey together with us

Every 1st Friday of each month