

St John the Apostle Parish

A Missionary of the Sacred Heart Parish

The Ascension of the Lord Year C

1 May 2016

#24.16

“To be on earth the Heart of God”

Parish Administration:

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MASS TIMES

Vigil Saturday 6:00pm

Sunday 8:30am, 10:00am, 6:00pm

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9:30am

LITURGIES

Liturgy of the Word with Communion: Tues 9:30am

Baptisms: 1st & 3rd Sun 11:30 am

Reconciliation: Sat 11:00 – 11:30 am or by
appointment with the priests

PRAYER

Charismatic Prayer: Thursday 7:30pm

Maida: 0423 658 326 Rosary 7:00pm

Meditation [Library] Friday 7.30-8.15 pm

Morning Prayer: Mon, Tues, Fri 9:10am

Stations of the Cross First Fri Monthly 5:30pm

From the Pastor's Desk.....

Science and technology have enabled us to see the world in new ways. We get an idea of this when traveling by plane as we peer down from a great height upon vast billowing clouds. We can no longer picture heaven as being above the clouds or located on some Olympian mountain top. Such naivety, however charming, does not square with our present knowledge or experience. Nevertheless, science and technology also have their limits. The Ascension of the Lord, which we celebrate today, has to be approached though, through the gateway of theology.

As the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches, heaven is not a so much a place as a reality. It is described as, “the communion of life and love with the Trinity, with the Virgin Mary, the angels and all the blessed...the ultimate end and fulfilment of the deepest human longing, the state of supreme, definitive happiness.”

The ascension of the Lord is not only about Jesus returning to glory, but about our journey in Christ toward heaven. Or, as Jean Corbon puts it in his book *The Wellspring of Worship*, “The movement of the ascension will be complete only when all the members of [Christ's] body have been drawn to the Father and brought to life by his Spirit.”

I find this dynamic understanding of the Ascension very appealing for it does not limit the Ascension to some fixed point in history, but rather sees it as a living reality in our Christian lives that direct us toward our communion with the Trinity, the saints and all believers. This is the mystery that we celebrate in each Eucharist.



Today we celebrate the gift of motherhood. Of course we should be celebrating Mother's Day (and Father's Day) every day of the year. But nonetheless it's nice to have a special day set aside when we can fuss over mum and let her know how much we love and appreciate her.

Peace & blessings,
Gerard

The Ascension

Among the elements within the paschal mystery, the ascension is the least understood. We are clearer about the meaning of the death and resurrection of Christ and the descent of the Spirit at Pentecost. We have less understanding of the ascension.

The Ascension is an event inside of the life of Jesus and the early church, a feast-day for Christians, a theology, and a spirituality, all woven together into one amorphous bundle of mystery that we too seldom try to unpack and sort out.

The forty days between the resurrection and the ascension were, as scripture makes clear, not a time of unadulterated joy for the first disciples. In the days before the Ascension, the disciples were overjoyed whenever they recognized again their Lord, but mostly they were sad..... At one point, they gave up completely and, as John put it, went back to their former way of life, fishing and the sea.

However, during that time leading up to the ascension, Jesus slowly reshaped their imaginations. The gospel account of Jesus' ministry establishes a model and a pattern for the ministry that the followers of Jesus seek to emulate in their own lives after his Ascension. The Ascension is the pivotal event in the ministry of Jesus. The Ascension, and the subsequent events of Pentecost, was essential for the shift in emphasis from the ministry being carried on by Jesus to the same ministry carried on by millions of people throughout time.

To have faith today is to be in that time between the death of Christ and the ascension, vacillating between joy and despondency, trying to manage an ascension.

Resources used: *Managing an Ascension*, by Ronald Rolheiser OMI & *Reflection*, by Greg Sunter at LiturgyHelp.

Year of Mercy – Prayer Day

Saturday 14th May 2016

'Merciful like the Father'

St John the Apostle Catholic Church

9.00am – 4.30pm

A Day of Prayer Reflection and silence.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be made available during the morning. Please select a time and add your name to the Prayer Roster in the Foyer. Outline of the Day is up in the foyer. For more information Contact Sabina Van Rooy 0400269951

ENROLLING NOW 2-20 MAY

St John the Apostle Primary School

Pawsey Circuit, Florey

Kindergarten – Year 6

www.sjaps.act.edu.au



St Francis Xavier College

Open Day Friday 13 May

9:00am – 2:30pm

Year 7 2017 Information Evening - 9 May

5:00pm tours – 6:30pm Information Session

Year 11 2017 Information Evening - 11 May

5:00pm tours – 6:00pm Information Session

www.sfx.act.edu.au

SUNDAY AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

We are reading

***“The five people you meet
in heaven”***



By Mitch Albom

Sunday 15 May 3:00 pm Parish Library.

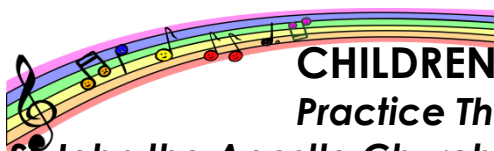
Pins & Needles Craft Group

Third Thursday Monthly

Next Meeting: 19 May

7:15pm Parish Library

***All Welcome. If craft is not your thing,
maybe conversation is.***



CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Practice Thursdays

St John the Apostle Church at 4:00pm

We sing next: 10:00am Mass – 12 June

JUBILEE OF MERCY

The Church is commissioned to announce the mercy of God, the beating heart of the Gospel, which in its own way must penetrate the heart and mind of every person. The Spouse of Christ must pattern her behaviour after the Son of God who went out to everyone without exception. In the present day, as the Church is charged with the task of the new evangelization, the theme of mercy needs to be proposed again and again with new enthusiasm and renewed pastoral action. It is absolutely essential for the Church and for the credibility of her message that she herself live and testify to mercy. Her language and her gestures must transmit mercy, so as to touch the hearts of all people and inspire them once more to find the road that leads to the Father. #12

Misericordiae Vultus – Pope Francis

Key Quotes from *Laudato Si'*

Pope Francis' Encyclical on Ecology & Climate

The rich heritage of Christian spirituality, the fruit of twenty centuries of personal and communal experience, has a precious contribution to make to the renewal of humanity. #216

POPE FRANCIS 2016 PEACE MESSAGE: OVERCOME INDIFFERENCE AND WIN PEACE

Come and discuss on
WEDNESDAY 18 MAY at 7:30pm
St John the Apostle Parish Library

For more information or to get the discussion guide contact
Bev Purnell: 6258 2098

Email: mabe-purnell@grapevine.com.au

'Be Still' - The Archdiocesan Retreat for 2016

is a chance for parishioners and those searching, to encounter God in a new way.

Facilitator: Sr Lynette Young, RSJ

Details: October 7-9, @ St Clement's, Galong.

Contact sandy.cassidy@cg.org.au or phone 6163 4300.

The Archdiocesan Commission for Women,
Anglican and Uniting Churches will host an
Ecumenical Response to Domestic Violence,

"For Such a Time As This"

Saturday 18 June, 10am to 4pm,

The Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, Barton. Domestic violence experts will examine the nature of violence and look for practical solutions. BYO lunch, beverages provided. Inquiries to Margaret 6231 0664 or 0417 418 838 or

commissionforwomencg@gmail.com.

SAFETY – Church Driveway



The driveway in front of the church is a shared zone. We will be looking at safety issues concerning this area and ways it can be improved. When you drive through the parish grounds please limit your speed to 10KPH. We ask both pedestrians and drivers to be alert and parents to supervise their children in this shared zone.

FAMILY CENACLE ROSTER

Cenacles will be held this week during May at the following homes:-

Bryan Cowman PH 6254 6790

Wed 11th May 2.00pm

Joe & Judy Mewburn PH 6254 6202

Fri 13th May 2.30pm

A ROSTER IS AVAILABLE ON THE INFORMATION TABLE IN THE FOYER.

L'Arche Genesaret Community fundraising card/Mahjong/board games day hosted by a very dedicated group of volunteers.

Where: Canberra Bowling Club, Forrest

Date: Monday, May 23rd,

Time: 10am - 2pm. and includes lunch, tea or coffee and a glass of wine (or juice).

Cost: \$20 per head.

If you are able to get a group of 4 together and would like to attend a very enjoyable few hours of fun and games, as well as supporting the Genesaret Community, please contact Mary (6258 1739) or Di (6241 2658) by May 16.

ROSTERS

15 May Ministers of Communion

6:00pm	Joy McInerney, Elaine Laycock, Maresa Laird, Daryl & Laurine Smeaton
8:30 am	Jean Tierney, Margaret Conlon, Pat Cowburn, Clyde Sloan, VACANT
10:00am	Marie Flint, Colin Fox, Erin Pitt, Maida Kajkic, Patrick Corr
6:00 pm	Peter Polkinghorne, Brian Mahony, Jacinta Le, VACANT, VACANT

Reading Roster

6:00pm	Jim Jones & Mindaleisa Jones
8:30 am	Bert Broekhuysen, Elizabeth McDonald
10:00am	Ivo Astolfi, Libby Kain
6:00 pm	Meg Millband, Matthew Toohey

Hospitality Roster

6:00pm	Mary Barrett
8:30 am	Norma Sloan, Clyde Sloan
10:00am	Joe Pisciotta, Maria Hannan
6:00 pm	Brian Mahony

Other Rosters

- 9 May Altar Society: Maresa Laird
- 9 May Church Cleaning: Maresa Laird, Joseph Lê Văn Hải
- 14 May Presbytery Cleaning: Maresa Laird, Meg Millband, Pat Cowburn, Sabina Van Rooy, Lynnie Traynor
- 15 May Counting Roster: Judy Netting, John & Joy McInerney
- 14 May Grounds: Henri Clementine, Peter Onstenk, John Dudley, Mike Blyth

School of Religion: – 9.15am-10.00am

Sundays Parish Centre (School Term Only)

For children not attending a Catholic School



Hearing Loop: - We have a hearing loop in the body of the church. To access it turn your hearing aid to the T-Switch setting.

On A Lighter Note:

At the end of the semester, a 10th-grade chemistry teacher asked her students what was the most important thing that they learned in the science lab. A student promptly raised his hand and said, "Never lick the spoon."

LIBRARY NEWS: This week we have on display some of the titles from our collection on moral theology – the teachings of the Church as well as more personal commentaries

✞ Let us pray for those who are sick.
We remember them in our Masses. ✞

Recently Deceased: Eileen Heath, John Braddon

Anniversary: Lillian Boyd, Ruth Lloyd, Jack Draper, Clements Cox, Robert Griffiths, Matthew Ray, Helen Kelly, Lawrence Southwick, Andrew Harker, Jeremy Hope, Kenneth Brennan, Krysta Lindstrom, Harrison Wroe, Antonia Gladwish, Kevin Crossley, Sarah Sealey, Betty Cowman, Edna Hamilton, Robert Donovan, Elena D'Ambrosio, Hemult Wanda, Daphne Parnell, Bryan McGurgan, Ella Dimitres, Sanra Miniotas, Neil MacFarlane, John Loadsmen, Bernard Gibson, Gloria Fleming, Edward McGregor, Michael Logan.

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Go and teach all people my gospel.
I am with you always, until the end of
the world.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL IN A NUTSHELL Lk 24:46-53

The two works of Luke and Acts, ascribed to the same writer, are both addressed to the same person, Theophilus. However, the Greek name, Theophilus, means 'Friend of God' or 'Beloved of God'. Theophilus may have been a particular person or may have been a literary device by the author – using the name to imply that the books were written to any 'Friend of God'. There is a common style employed in the writing of the two works and a common theology runs through both works and it is these commonalities that lead scholars to conclude that the two works share the same author.

Resources used: Greg Sunter at LiturgyHelp