



# St Patrick's Parish Gosford

The Communities of St Patrick's East Gosford,  
St Francis of Assisi Somersby & Holy Trinity Spencer  
Neighbourhoods of Grace, entrusted to the care of the Salvatorians.



## THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

The ascension of Jesus (anglicized from the Vulgate Latin Acts 1:9-11 section title: Ascensio Iesu) is the departure of Christ from Earth into the presence of God. The biblical narrative in Chapter 1 of the Acts of the Apostles takes place 40 days after the resurrection: Jesus is taken up from the disciples in their sight, a cloud hides him from view, and two men in white appear to tell them that he will return "in the same way you have seen him go into heaven." In the Christian tradition, reflected in the major Christian creeds and confessional statements, the ascension is connected with the exaltation of Jesus, meaning that through his ascension, Jesus took his seat at the right hand of God: "He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty."

In Christian art, the ascending Jesus is often shown blessing an earthly group below him, signifying the entire Church. The Feast of the Ascension is celebrated on the 40th day of Easter, always a Thursday; the Orthodox tradition has a different calendar up to a month later than in the Western tradition,

## LUKE: 24:46-53

While blessing them, he was taken to heaven.



and while the Anglican communion continues to observe the feast, most Protestant churches have abandoned the observance.

## WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity commences 2 June. The theme for 2019 is "Justice and only justice you shall pursue" (Deut 16:18-20). It is a time to pray with all our brothers and sisters in Christ and commit to living according to the values of unity, justice and mercy both in our personal lives and communally in our local churches. We pray for the visible unity of the Church. Lead us to fulfil Jesus' prayer that all may be one as we work together to bring about your Kingdom.



## FR FRANCIS JORDAN SDS

"Love excels and overcomes all."



## POPE FRANCIS' JUNE 2019 INTENTION

Evangelization – Priests

That priests, through the modesty and humility of their lives, commit themselves actively to a solidarity with those who are the most poor.

**A warm welcome to our parishioners and visitors who are celebrating the Eucharist with us this weekend at St Patrick's Parish.**



## ST PATRICK'S PARISH GOSFORD

### PASTORAL CARE

Fr Grzegorz [Greg] Skulski SDS  
Parish Administrator

Email: greg@sds.org.au

### SALVATORIANS

Society of the Divine Saviour

http://www.sds.org.au

### PARISH OFFICE

Secretary: Colleen Kirk  
Mon - Thurs: 8:30am - 4:30pm  
Friday (fortnightly): 8:30am - 1:00pm

Children's Liturgy & Sacramental Programme  
Coordinator:

Margaret Eadie 4325 7817

Catechists' Coordinator:

Alain Corne

Email: saintpatscdd@acs.net.au

Wed: 9:00am - 1:00pm  
Thurs: 9:30am - 1:30pm

Youth Ministry: Matthew French  
Ph: 0411 792 587

Media Coordinator: Tom Croll

Friday: 9:00am - 2:00pm  
Email: tcroll@photom.com.au

### VOLUNTEER ROLES

Office Admin:

Denise Jay  
Judith Myers

Friday: 9:00am - 3:30pm

AV Presentation:

Bob Smith  
Peter McLean  
Greg McBride

Bursar:

Ros Van Lierop  
Ron Begg  
Tom Brown  
John Malicki

Caretakers:

Gardeners:

Trevor Byrne  
Joyce Byrne  
Victor Camilleri  
Barbara McCarthy  
Ph: 4322 0250

Seniors' Ministry:

School Principals

St Patrick's Primary: Mrs Cheryl Walsh 4325 1159  
St Joseph's College: Mr Tony McCudden 4324 4022  
St Edwards College: Mr Mark Bonnici 4321 6400  
St Peter's College: Mr Tim Hilderbrandt 43512344

Christian Brothers' Community

Frederick Street, East Gosford  
Br Peter Hester cfc [Community Leader]  
Br Rod Shoebridge cfc

### MONDAY 3 CHRISTIAN DVD SCREENING:

In the Jordan Room after 9:00am Mass

All are welcome to join in to watch Christian themed DVDs.

This Monday "THE NINTH DAY". a film by Volker Schlöndorff.

## CHURCH OPEN DAILY 8:30AM - 4:30PM.

### STANDARD WEEKDAY MASSES

Gosford:

Monday: 9:00am Wednesday: 11:30am Friday: 12 noon  
Tuesday: 9:00am Thursday: 9:00am Saturday: 9:00am

### WEEKEND MASSES

Gosford:

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm Sunday: 7:30am Children's Liturgy:  
9:00am During 9:00am Mass  
6:00pm Each Sunday of School Term.

Somersby, 30 Lutana Road: Saturday Vigil: 6:30pm  
Spencer, Wiseman's Ferry Rd: 1st Sunday Monthly: 4:00pm

### OTHER MASSES

Filipino Mass 2nd Korean Mass Monthly:  
Sunday Monthly: [Enq: Peter 0409-  
12 noon 508-123] 6:00pm

### ADORATION IN OUR CHURCH

Before the Blessed Sacrament

Mon: 8:30am-9:00am Wed: 11:00am-11:30am Fri: 12:30pm-3:00pm  
Tues: 8:30am-9:00am Thur: 8:30am-9:00am Sat: 8:00am

### RECONCILIATION - 1ST RITE

Gosford:

Mon-Thur: during Prior to Mass 11:30am 4:30pm.  
Adoration Other Fridays 12:30pm Sunday: 7:00am and  
1st Friday of Month Saturday: 8:30am and 5:30pm  
St Francis of Assisi 30 Lutana Road, Somersby:  
Saturday after Vigil: 7:30pm

### CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

After weekday Masses and 3:00pm Friday

### ROSARIES

Weekday

Monday, Tuesday Thursday 8:05am  
Wednesday 10:35am  
Friday 11:35am

Saturdays Monthly

8:05am: 1st - For Priests & Religious.  
8:05am 3rd Saturday - For Mothers & Abortion.  
8:05am 4th Saturday - For Persecuted  
Christians and their Persecutors.

### OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA

Last Wednesday of each Month at 12 noon

### ADORATION AT BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL

Located on Chapel Lane at the Admin Centre  
Monday to Thursday 8:30am - 3:30pm  
Friday 9:00am - 3:30pm

### GROUP MEETINGS

Bible Study Lectio Divina / Christian Unity / Christian DVD:

Mondays at 9:30am twice monthly,  
Wednesday at 10:00am in the Jordan Room.  
Bible Study Monday 7:00 pm in the Jordan Room  
RCIA: in Admin Centre 7:30pm Tuesdays.

Contact the Parish Office to register interest.  
menALIVE: 7:30pm commencing with Mass  
1st Tuesday of Month  
Cancer Prayers: 9:00am 4th Tuesday Monthly  
in Jordan Room

Grief & Loss, Prayer & Support:  
1st Thursday Monthly 2pm in Jordan Room  
Craft Group - Friday each week of School Term  
9:30am - 12:00pm

Movie Night 4th Sat Night Monthly after 5:00pm Mass.

## SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE SHOP

After 9:00am Mass in the Jordan Room.

All proceeds to Charities



## IN YOUR PARISH OF ST PATRICK'S THIS WEEK

Sunday June 2	7:30am 9:00am 10:30am 11:30am 7:00pm	Mass with 96th Birthday Blessing for Catherine Troy Mass and Confirmations Plus Breakfast after 7:30 & 9:00am Masses Baptisms Mass and Confirmations Youth Group Meeting after 6:00 pm Mass
Monday June 3	9:30am 4:30pm	DVD Screening in the Jordan room after 9:00am Mass Fund Raising Meeting
Tuesday June 4	7:30pm	Men Alive Mass for Holy Souls and Meeting after in jordan Room
Thursday June 6	9:00am 9:30am 2:00pm	Vocation Mass Collaborators Meeting in Jordan Room Grief & Loss Meeting in Jordan Room
Friday June 7	9:30am 11:30am 12:30pm	Craft Group in Jordan Room Healing Mass Adoration in St Patrick's from 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm
Saturday June 8	10:15am 7:30pm	Choir Practice in Church Somersby Parishioners Meeting at St Francis of Assisi

## PARISH NEWS AND NOTICES

### SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES, JUNE 25

#### NEXT MOVIE NIGHT - June 29<sup>th</sup>

##### Movie:- **FAITH LIKE POTATOES** (M)

"The Seed For a Great Miracle lies Not in Difficulty, But Impossibility" Based on a true story.... Angus Buchan, a Zambian farmer of Scottish heritage, who leaves his farm in political unrest. Angus and his family start a new life in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa with nothing more than a caravan on a patch of land and help from his Zulu Forman, Simeon. Faced with hardship and personal turmoil Angus is consumed by anger, and fear. A call from God and a Leap of Faith sees the wonder of God's grace at work.



- ♥ COME AND JOIN US IN THE JORDAN ROOM LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH. STARTING AT 7.00PM
- ♥ SHARE A SATURDAY NIGHT RELAXING WITH FRIENDS FROM OUR OWN COMMUNITY
- ♥ ENJOY A POT LUCK DINNER AND A MOVIE AFTER; WE ARE USUALLY FINISHED BY 10.00PM.
- ♥ WE MAKE IT EASY TO MEET NEW FRIENDS.

Pot Luck Dinner:- Simply bring something to the quantity of what you would normally prepare for yourself; to share with all, for either the Main Meal, the Desert, or towards Tea, Coffee, Hot chocolate after dinner while we watch the movie with biscuits or nibbles.

While at the Movie Enjoy a Pot Luck Dinner.

Simply bring something of quality of what you would normally prepare for yourself, to share with all, for either the Main Meal, the Desert, or towards tea, coffee, hot chocolate after dinner while we watch the movie with biscuits or nibbles.

### KIDS CORNER

#### PINT SIZED PADDIES

#### NEXT EVENT FRIDAY JUNE 14.

In the School Hall 7:00 pm on 2nd and 4th Friday of each Month. Enquiries to Melissa 0434 251 481

### KIDS ARE AMAZING

**If you listen very quietly, it sounds like the rain is playing music in the grass and the trees. – Gideon, age 6.**

### ST PATRICK'S PARISH YOUTH GROUP

#### NEXT YOUTH GROUP MEETING

This Sunday, June 2 after 6:00 pm Mass in the Jordan Room. Pizza, food, games, memes and more. Exploring the Catholic faith through talks, small groups, prayer and bible study, all as part of a stable community of young people. Good Music. Quality Banter.

Great opportunity to meet other young Catholic guys and girls in high school. Don't miss it!

### YOUTH BAND

The Youth Band are welcoming new members, so if you are musically inclined why not join the band. If you are interested make contact with one of the existing band members or Fr Greg.

### GENERAL NEWS

#### SOMERSBY PARISHIONERS & EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS.

Fr Greg is keen to meet with Somersby parishioners, especially Eucharistic Ministers and Senior Servers, at a meeting on Saturday, June 1 after Mass at 7.30 pm. We look forward to seeing as many there as possible.

### A BIG THANK YOU

THANK YOU Ron Begg for offering to take on Tom Brown's caretaker duties ... it is very much appreciated. Because we expect that volunteers are allowed a life outside of their dedicated stewardship of the parish, we'd hope to find a support person for Ron who may like to share the duties in a way that suits you both. If you are that person, please contact the Parish Office as we'd love to hear from you.

25th ANNIVERSARIES OF ORDINATION CELEBRATION LAST SUNDAY! Thank you to everyone for your loving support of Fr Tadeusz and Fr George, especially on the occasion of their 25th anniversaries of their ordination. We had a wonderful celebration last Sunday and thank the human engines that powered such a successful morning, and we believe you know who you are! Thank you to all who contributed to the morning tea and assisted the organisers in any way.

### FAREWELL & GOOD LUCK TO PARISHIONER BETTY WOODS

After many, many years as a St Pat's stalwart, will be leaving the parish to move to new accommodation. We wish you the very best Betty!

### CONGRATULATIONS TO CATHERINE TROY

On the celebration of her 96th birthday with a special blessing at the 7.30am Mass this Sunday, June 2. Whilst Cath isn't a parishioner, she has honorary status as the mother of Pam McCrae and is often with the McCrae clan attending our services!

### RECONCILIATION SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2019.

Children who have already been confirmed and are 8 years old are eligible to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation. This weekend at all exits, and on our website [www.bbcatholic.org.au/Gosford] you will find the enrollment applications and information sheets for lodgment at the Parish Office before July 3.

### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL VOTING THIS WEEK

Voting forms are on each pew in the church for the election of new Parish Council Members. There are two ballot

boxes in the foyer. Please put some thought into who you believe will make a good member of our Parish Council and vote accordingly. The Ballot boxes will be available in the foyer for you to place your votes through this next week and next Sunday.

## THE CHARITABLE WORKS FUND

*LAST CHANCE TO HELP YOUR PARISH AND OBTAIN A TAX DEDUCTION IN THE 2019/20 FINANCIAL YEAR!*

*ST PATRICK'S IS considerably SHORT OF THE \$33,017 ANNUAL CWF QUOTA PAYABLE TO THE DIOCESE OF BROKEN BAY. Please return your envelopes with donations as soon as possible to enable the parish office to pass on your kind and generous contributions.*

## EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS' AND SENIOR SERVERS MEETING

On Sunday, June 16 @ 4.30pm at St Patrick's, Fr Greg calls all Eucharistic Ministers and Senior Servers to a meeting with him to prepare for the commissioning of all in this ministry on the Feast of Corpus Christi, Sunday, June 23 at all Masses. Each minister should be aware that attendance at the meeting St Patrick's or Somersby is very relevant to the commissioning, and that Eucharistic Ministers who aren't commissioned on that day will be unable to serve in the ministry until they are. Could anyone who considers either of these dates a problem for them please contact the Parish Office.

## SPIRITUALITY IN THE PUB

Tuesday 4th June, 2019, 7.30pm - 9.00pm  
The Grange Hotel Function Room, Cnr: Renwick St & Pacific Hwy, WYOMING. Bistro opens at 5-30pm.  
Inquiries: 4328 2596 or 0498 588 261  
Theme 2019: "Reflections on my Spiritual Journey"

### TWO SPEAKERS:

Adrian Gomez is the Ordained deacon at Wahroonga. He also works at the Diocesan Marriage Tribunal, helps with Catholic Youth festivals, is Youth Ministry Coordinator at St. Leo's Catholic College and Team Leader on St. V de P Night Patrol.

Rev Rex A E Hunt is a retired Uniting Church minister and 'grass roots' religious naturalist and social ecologist. Rex is the founding Chair of "The Common Dreams Conference of Religious Progressives" in the South Pacific and author/editor of eight books.

## PLENARY COUNCIL 2020 - YEAR OF DISCERNMENT

The Year of Discernment phase of our journey towards Plenary Council 2020 continues in earnest at Pentecost, beginning with 5pm Pentecost Vigil Mass celebrated by Fr David Ranson, Diocesan Administrator, at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara.

In the weeks following, resources will become available to support small group listening and discernment encounters related to the themes.

Keep up to date with the latest information and resources by subscribing to the Plenary Council Newsletter at: <http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/> and by clicking on 'News'.

## MINISTRY TO THE SENIORS [55+]: CRUISING THE BRISBANE WATERS

**Monday, June 24, departing at 10am.**

If you'd like a morning of sailing the Brisbane Waters with morning tea and lunch for only \$38, please call Barbara McCarthy on 4322 0250 to book yourself a spot.

The Starship Cruise departs Gosford Wharf at 10am

but please be there by 9.45am, and should return at about 1pm..

Why not come and Join us for a morning of fun in the sun.



## Children Receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation Today.

Congratulations and Welcome to:

### 9:00 AM MASS

Amelia Day  
Luca De Toffol  
Carys Donafee  
Dione Fifita  
Matthew Ford  
Bryce Johnson  
Jasmine Johnson  
Callum Mason  
Esther Mathey  
David McArdle  
Paul McArdle  
William McArdle  
Mahalah Mueller  
Matias Oyarce  
Dennie Paget  
Codey Pearman  
Tayla -Jane Pearman  
Sienna Ramirez  
Helen Shiju  
Annabelle Stingmore  
Sophia Stingmore  
Lily Walsh

### 11.30 AM MASS

Rocco Anastasia  
Charlotte Andrews  
Antonia Arango  
Lorenzo Arango  
Tristan Austen  
Emily Bagot-Hayes  
Jessica Chavez

Veronica Chechelska  
Amelia Eager  
Alexander Fatone  
Reagan Gomez  
Ehren Gray  
Max Gray  
Leo Grogan  
Sienna Horan  
Jamie Lea Hordern  
Alexander Huby  
Charlie Hughes  
Mitchell Jackson  
Tristan Jackson  
Ebony Lamb  
Thomas Lloyd  
Teddie Niemkiewicz  
Isla O'Malley  
Lilyrose O'Malley  
Blake Paulley  
Ambrose Plunkett  
Freya Quinn  
Christian Sanfilippo  
Monique Sciberras  
Elijah Stanley  
Adelaide Stocqueler  
Jonah Talbot  
Diezel Thompson  
Isabelle Vassallo  
Sophie Walbancke  
Zara West  
Riley White  
George Woolley



PlenaryCouncil2020  
Listen to what the Spirit is saying...



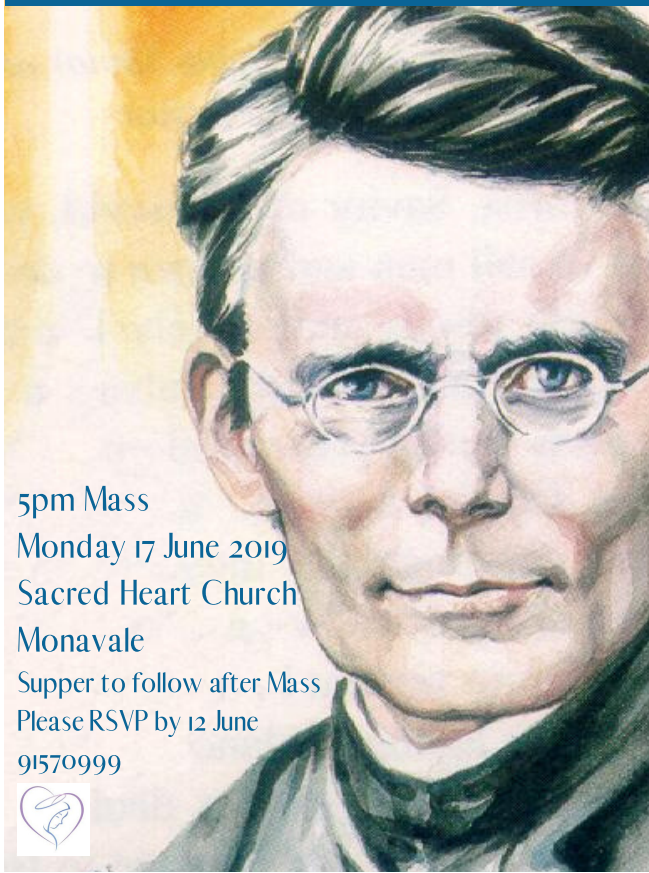
## Funeral Mass for Ian McGuinness

3 June at 1:30 PM  
St Patrick's Church  
East Gosford  
Burial at  
Point Clare Cemetery

A celebration of Ian's life will follow at Gosford RSL club



**Salvatorians Australia**  
Fr Francis Jordan's  
Birthday Anniversary



5pm Mass  
Monday 17 June 2019  
Sacred Heart Church  
Monavale  
Supper to follow after Mass  
Please RSVP by 12 June  
91570999



The Catholic Parish of Gosford invite you to their

# INTERNATIONAL FOOD NIGHT

SATURDAY 15th JUNE 6PM

Join us for a great evening of food, music and fun to celebrate our multicultural parish and Fr Francis Jordan's birthday (founder of the Salvatorians).  
Monies raised will go towards sending our youth to the Australian Catholic Youth Festival in Perth.

*TICKETS:* available from the parish office or on the night  
Adults and youth 15 years and over: \$15  
Children 6-14yrs: \$10  
Children under 5: FREE

*WHERE:* St Patrick's hall, York St, East Gosford  
*DRESS:* In your national colours/costume

If you are able to provide an international dish for the evening, please write your name, what you will bring and what country it is from on the list at the back of the church.

**YOUR PRAYERS PLEASE**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Date	Mass	Intention
Sat 1/6	9:00a Gosford 5:00p Gosford 6:30p Somersby	+ Recently Deceased Steven Kim + Recently Deceased Tim Keogh + Recently Deceased Steven Kim
Sun `2/6	7:30a Gosford 9:00a Gosford 6:00p Gosford	+ Recently Deceased Nelson Fernandes Parish Intentions + Recently Deceased Sid Dowsett
Mon 3/6	9:00a Gosford	Personal Intentions of Margaret Geren
Tue 4/6	9:00a Gosford 7:30p Gosford	+ Recently Dec'ed Michael Burton Holy Souls
Wed 5/6	11:30a Gosford	For Luke's Personal Intentions
Thu 6/6	9:00a Gosford	+ Aniversaries Mary & Laurie Bigeni
Sun 9/6	9:00a Gosford 6:00p Gosford	Parish Intentions + Remembrances Edward & Stephen Blow

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY:**

Brian Graham, Arlene Peters, Kath Ryan, John Burg, Peter & Lena O'Donovan, Tina Learwood, Allan Francis, Brian Loo, Bev Meehan, Michael Graham, Glenn Mills, Frank McGuinness, Angela Cunningham, Simon Low, Christopher Graham, Frances Cannon, John Riley, Margaret Gunnison, Sonia Cummings, Anna-Marie Rowan, Denise Smith, Melita Waters, Judy Wennerbom, Helen Bligh, Scott McKinnon.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:**

(Ian) John James McGuinness, Bruce Branthwaite, Margaret Agius, Nelson Fernandes, Sid Dowsett, Deacon Jim Caulfield, Steven Kim.

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

Patrick Holohan, Tim Keogh, Kerry Rowe, Llyod Woods, Lionel Owe, Alan Smith, Kenneth "Mick" Murray, Olga Quinn & Phyllis McHatton, Jim & Mary Ryan.

**REMEMBRANCES:**

Keever, Knight & Merchant Families, Alan Smith, Magdalen McNamara, Phyllis Owens, Friquet Family, Colleen Cartner, Thelma Herring, Laura McGuire, Nancy Kirk, Liberatori Risi, Jack & Doris Bourke, Ronald Freeman, Friquet Family, Michael Kokegei.

**CONDOLENCES:**

Condolences to Josie McGuinness, her family and friends on the loss of Ian, her beloved soul mate and husband. Brother to Frank and Gerrard and sister to Catherine. Ian passed late Wednesday afternoon May 29. One can not imagine the pain of losing such a special person, please pray for Ian's soul and for Josie and family. Ian will be greatly missed by many of us. Ian's Requiem will be held at St Patrick's at 1:30 pm Monday, June 3.

Condolences to the family and friends of Bruce Branthwaite and especially to Robert Watkins who cared for Him. Bruce's Requiem will be held at St Patrick's at 10:00 am Monday, June 3.

*Matthew 5:4*  
Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

## 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.'

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

### PS 46:2-3. 6-7. 8-9. R. V.6

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

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.

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

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

## SECOND READING

### HEB 9:24-28. 10:19-23

**A reading from the letter to the Hebrews**

**Christ has entered heaven.**

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

In other words, brothers, through the blood of Jesus we have the right to enter the sanctuary, by a new way which he has opened for us, a living opening through the curtain, that is to say, his body. And we have the supreme high priest over all the house of God. So as we go in, let us be sincere in heart and filled with faith, our minds sprinkled and free from any trace of bad conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us keep firm in the hope we profess, because the one who made the promise is faithful. .

## 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

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

**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.

## COMMENTARY

By Brendan Byrne SJ

The Ascension presents some difficulties for preachers. While in general I don't think we should let technical matters of interpretation intrude too often into the proclamation of the Word, here is one case where it seems we have to make clear that the biblical accounts – given in the first reading (Acts 1:1-11) and the Gospel (Luke 24:46-53) – do not mean that Jesus, at the end of his earthly career, literally ascended in the way described. The very clear parallels with the account in 2 Kings 2:1-18 of the ascension of the prophet Elijah (blessing disciples; promising a share of the Spirit; being carried up to heaven) suggest that St Luke is completing here his characteristic depiction of Jesus in terms of the prophet Elijah. As the prophet's life came to an end without the experience of death – giving rise to the expectation that he would one day return as forerunner of the Messiah – so Jesus, having escaped the bonds of death by rising from the dead now makes an Elijah-like ascent into heaven.

What St Luke is basically conveying by this is the continuity between the ministry of Jesus and that of the disciples who, when empowered with the Spirit at Pentecost, will become eye-witnesses and ministers of the Word. So the disciples are not dismayed, nor do they lament the departure of Jesus. They have a task to fulfil; they will be equipped for that task; they have Jesus' promise that he will return. So, having worshipped the One they now recognise to be God's Son as well as Messiah, they return to Jerusalem with great joy to await the promised clothing 'with power from on high'.

Your Roster – June 9, Pentecost Sunday [C]					
MASS	VIGIL 5:00	7:30am	9:00am	6:00pm	Somersby -6:30
DATE	08.06.19	09.06.19	09.06.19	09.06.19	08.06.19
<b>Audio/Visual</b>	Robert Biviano	Mark Fawcner	Arthur Holland	Joe Tropiano	Melissa Monaghan
<b>Acolytes</b>	Gerard Nicholls Sam Giddings	Peter O'Neill Gerard Price	Peter Julius Peter Cho	Anna Jung Kevin O'Donnell	<b>Altar Society:</b> Vicki Muscat
<b>Lectors</b>	Bridget Sharp Diana Ball	Sheila Evans Regina Fong	Carol Bailey Kaitlyn Crawford	Penny Gomez Corrie Dunn	Jane Azzopardi Melissa Monaghani
<b>Commentator</b>	Terry Cooke	Ron Burgess	Frances Mathey	Cheryl Walsh	Mary Luci
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist</b>	Rosemary Lee Nicole Murphy Diana Ball Jan Blanch Vic Camilleri	Pam McCrae Joy McHugh Anna Neale Lucy Price Neryl Tyrrell	Khelene Hussein Marissa Hussein Paul Hussein Anne Lovett	Anna Llige Rick Llige Margaret Pratt Laraine Rowe Sherree Sullivan	Michael Monaghan Jane Azzopadi
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Taz Parry Sam Cormack Lachlan Cormack	Sebastian Eager Laura Eager	Scott Shedden Philip Yoon Cormac Brady Joanna Tony Lorenzo Arango	Joey Stitt Vito De Toffol Remi De Toffol	Antoinette Xuereb Mia Xuereb <b>Flowers:</b> To be advised
<b>COUNTERS</b> June 10 Marie Cradock Joyce Byrne June 17: Neryl Tyrrell David Slingsby	<b>ALTAR LINEN</b> Hazel Walsh Collect June 3 Return June 7	<b>ALTAR SOCIETY</b> June 8 Fran Thompson Barbra Mills Roslyn McMahon Audrey Morris	<b>CHILDRENS LITURGY</b> John Van Leirorp Danielle Camelleri	<b>PARISH BUS</b> <b>Driver:</b> John Donnelly <b>Helper:</b> Brenda Donnelly	<b>HOSPITAL VISITATION</b> Barbra Mills Peter Mills

Beyond this, however, and at a deeper level, the feast of the Ascension celebrates the Christian sense of Jesus' exaltation to God's right hand. This motif appears very early in the tradition. We find it in the closing stanza of the remarkable christological hymn quoted by Paul in Philippians 2: 'Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend – in heaven, on earth, and under the earth – and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father' (2:9-11). What is envisaged here is the completion of Jesus' messianic work: the subjugation of all powers hostile to God and the ensuing liberation of the entire cosmos for the praise and glory of God. The same sense of enthronement, following achievement of the messianic task, finds expression in the frequent reference in the New Testament to Jesus' sitting on God's right hand – an allusion to Ps 110:1, as in the reading from Eph 1:17-23 set out for Year A.

Communicated here is, of course, a vision of the future, an act of hope. The forces hostile to God and to true humanity have by no means yet been fully overcome. The essential blow has been struck in the Paschal victory of Jesus but his messianic work continues as he breathes his Spirit into the Church that carries on his mission. What the Church must understand – what the Ascension assures her – is that accompanying all her labour and suffering is the victory of her risen Lord, who now stands at the right hand of God interceding on behalf of all (Rom 8:34).

In this sense the Ascension is not simply something that happened to Jesus – his departure, physically, from this world. It is the feast that celebrates the hope that his triumph will ultimately be ours as well.

The Second Reading (set down optionally for Year C), from Hebrews 9 and 10, considers the 'movement' of the risen

Lord in a somewhat different mode. The background image is that of the yearly entrance of the Jewish High Priest into the innermost sanctuary of the Temple, the Holy of Holies, on the Day of Atonement. Jesus, in his obedient suffering, has acted as the last and final High Priest, making a single act of atonement valid for all time. Unlike the high priests, however, he has not gone alone into the sanctuary to meet God. Having purified us and washed us clean with his blood, he has taken us with him through the curtain (constituted by his own body) into the very presence of God.

<http://liturgyhelp.com.au>

## READINGS NEXT SUNDAY

### SUNDAY, JUNE, 9 - PENTECOST SUNDAY

1st – Acts 2:1-11  
2nd – Cor 12:3-7, 12-13  
Gospel – John 20:19-23

### MONDAY JUNE, 10 :

The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church.

### TUESDAY JUNE, 11

St Barnabas, Apostle.

### THURSDAY JUNE, 13

St Anthony of Padua, priest, doctor.



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