



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.

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 Mt 28:16-20

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.'

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The feast of the Ascension is really a kind of liminal moment in the Easter season. It is a time between times, a moment when we have left one place in our journey but have not yet arrived at a second. The glory of the Risen Christ has already been revealed in us, but not yet totally. The feast itself celebrates the exaltation of Jesus. Today we stand awestruck, watching Jesus ascend into the clouds of heaven, there to be enthroned at the right hand of God. Today we are overwhelmed by the reality of the divinity of the one whom we have known in his humanity. Like the conquering creator-god, he has overcome his enemy (death) and now reigns over his new creation (the church).

Christ who ascended into heaven in his body carries on what he began on earth through his new body, the church. He teaches through its apostles and evangelists. He ministers through its prophets and pastors. In and through the church, Jesus continues to heal and to comfort; to forgive and to include. We have not been left alone; we have his power, the same power with which he performed marvels when he walked the earth. We have not been left alone; we have each other. Together we make up the new body of Christ. Together we await the fullness of this body. It is this new body that stands in between the times, secure in what we have, confident of what we will be given.

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The Living Word

The Ascension of the Lord, Year A

21 May 2023

First Reading Acts 1:1-11

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. 6-9. 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 Eph 1:17-23

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



Catholic Parish of St Mary Queen of Heaven Georges Hall

Administrator: Rev. Peter Krigovsky
Secretary: Mrs. Veronica Dening (Wednesday 9.30am—4pm)

Address: 15 Georges Cres, Georges Hall; **Telephone:** 9727 3759
Website: <http://www.smgh.org.au> **Email:** parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com
Facebook: [fb.me/smgh2](https://www.facebook.com/smgh2) **Streaming:** <https://cutt.ly/StMarys>

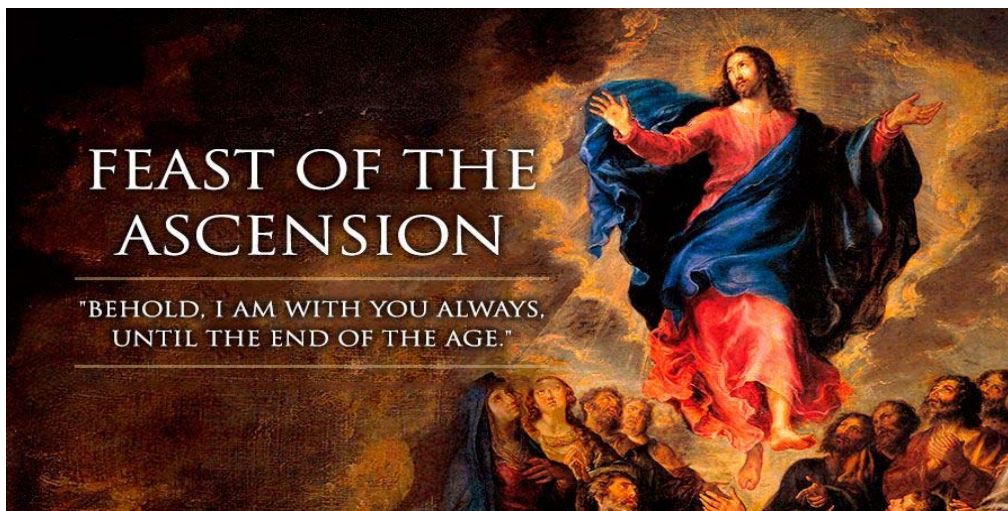
St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Georges Hall

God and us Together

Principal: Mrs Monica Palmer **Website:** www.stmgeorgheshall.syd.catholic.edu.au
School Tel: 9727 0000 **School email:** info@stmgeorgheshall.catholic.edu.au

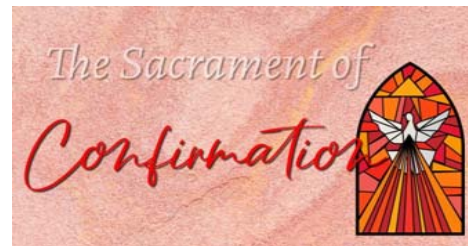
ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Men of Galilee, why gaze at the heavens? This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

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



COVID-19 is still around, Please use sanitiser when you enter the church.

ADDITIONAL NOTICES If you are interested in diocesan events, please collect a copy of additional bulletin at the back of the church.



CONGRATULATIONS—to our parish children who received the Sacrament of Confirmation this Saturday 20 May 2023 at 11.30am by Bishop Terry Brady. May the gifts of the Holy Spirit fill you with His love. Thank you to all who supported the children on this journey, their parents and family members, teachers and

lesson leaders.

DEMPSEY AWARDS - no organists this Sunday as our parish organists will be attending St Mary's Cathedral to receive their Dempsey Medals. A very sincere **congratulations** to Vivienne Moseley, Mary Newton and Maria Rega - All three ladies have served in many ministries, but particularly, as organists for almost 50 years and are very deserving of this award.

2023 WALK WITH CHRIST event celebrates the Feast of Corpus Christi. In this Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, archbishop Fisher invites all the faithful in the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney to unite and honour the real presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. The walk will take place on Sunday 11th June commencing at 2:30pm from the corner of Pitt Street and

Martin Place. It will be preceded by a Festival in Martin Place commencing at 1.00pm.

PARISH BUS TRIP to 2023 Walk of Christ. Fr. Peter is seeking a "champion" who would help with the logistics of organizing such trip. There are pamphlets to be hand out, a promotional video to be shown, and perhaps a promotional talk on weekend Masses and at school be given. The archdiocese will reimburse the cost of the bus.

CHOIR PRACTICE - There will be choir practice on Thursday 25 May at 7.00pm in preparation for the 10.00am Mass on Sunday 28 May. New members are always welcome. Please ring Pat Falvy on 0425 219 660

CHILDREN LITURGY - is back! The first Children's Liturgy Mass will be celebrated on Sunday 28 May at 10am Mass. All children welcome. Parents/Parishioners wanting to help please contact Fr. Peter or Veronica.

MASS OFFERING BOOKLET explaining matters relating to Mass Offerings, Mass Intentions, Mass Stipends is now available at the back of the church, at the entrance to the sacristy. Feel free to take a copy.

MAY THE MONTH OF MARY To honour our Blessed Mother during May, let us pray the Rosary before every weekday Mass and a decade of the Rosary before every Sunday Mass. Free Rosary beads and Rosary cards - available at the back of the church.

FLOWERS FOR OUR LADY - during the month of May parishioners are invited to bring fresh flowers to place at the statue of Our Lady on the Sanctuary.



2023 CWF APPEAL - THANKYOU to all who have donated towards the CWF Appeal to support

our most needy. If you didn't get to donate last week, it's not too late - there are envelopes available on the seats or back of church. Please be generous.

IN THE FOOTPRINTS OF MARY MACKILLOP - The Sisters of Saint Joseph have prepared an Australian Pilgrimage, "In the Footsteps of Mary

MacKillop" commencing in Melbourne on 17 October, journeying through Victoria and South Australia, and ending at Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney on 28 October 2023. During the pilgrimage we visit many places associated with Mary MacKillop's life and ministry. Enquiries: please contact Sr Anne Bond: 8912 4818 or email: national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au

2023 FIRST RECONCILIATION

Information Night—Wednesday 21 June @ 7pm
Commitment Weekend - any Mass 24/25 June
Sacrament - Wed 16/8, Thurs 17/8, Fri 18/8
All enquiries: email: nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au

LAY MINISTRY ROSTER - Anyone wanting to serve as Greeters, Readers, Commentators, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Acolytes - please prayerfully consider how you can assist AND put your name down on the list at the back of the church OR email to veronicad.smgh@bigpond.com

ANOINTING OF THE SICK to those in need will be from now on offered during the Mass on 1st Tuesday of the month. Please consider to bring your shut-in loved ones to this Mass.

50th ANNIVERSARY OF ST MARY QUEEN OF HEAVEN CHURCH - 27 May 2024 will be the 50th anniversary of the dedication of our church, worth celebrating. To honour this anniversary we need volunteers—if you can help email: parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com

SAFEGUARDING OUR PARISH - Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you, or anyone you know, have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, you can contact the Safeguarding Office at 93905810 or Email: safeguardingenquiries@sydneycatholic.org. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to the police. **Our parish** has a folder with Safeguarding information in the church for parishioners to view. – check out the latest safeguarding newsletter. A link to the Archdiocese's Child Safeguarding Policy is available from the homepage of our parish website and on display in the folder. Enquiries: Veronica via parishoffice.smgh@bigpond.com.

Please Remember In Your Prayers Our Sick (please advise delisting)



Daniel Clarke, Warren Clarke, Azelia Donati, Eileen Ellery, Kerry Gibbons, Kathleen Gibson, Christine Hughes, Sue James, Barbara Kains, Daniel Matesic, Phillip Nehme, David Sanders, Mary Strambio, Tony Strambio, Cornelius Van Baardwyk

Let us Pray For All Those Who Have Died



Rest In Peace

Victor Litvensky, Maria Binh Nguyen, Maria Tri Dham, Mattha Uonethia, Marie Tarrazi, Maria Tam Hong, Peter Baulman, Ike Brooks, John Clarke, Vasco Zenere, Paul Almond, Joanne Litrico, Roger Luck, Umberto & Victoria Busuttill, Samir & Saba Jnr, Saba & Jamal Kairousz, Caterina & Giuseppe Turcato, Mato Stipich, Xavier Mayers, Dennis Lawler, Ida Wighton

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.

MASS TIMES (English):
Vigil Mass 5 pm (Saturday)
Sunday 8.00 am & 10.00 am
Weekdays: Wednesday 6pm
Mon. Tue. Thu. Fri. Sat. 9.00 am

VIETNAMESE MASS
Vigil Mass 6.30 pm (Saturday)
Sunday 5.30PM

RECONCILIATION
Saturday 4.30pm-4.55pm
or anytime on request

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
Wednesday 5.00pm—6.00pm
Friday after Mass 9am-10.30am

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK
Offered to those in need on 1st Tuesday at 9.00am Mass

Baptisms: Sunday 11.00am,
Bookings are necessary.

Children first Sacraments:
Please contact Elaine Nehme
Email: nehme.elaine@yahoo.com.au

Parish site maintenance:
John Impala Phone TBA
Ivan Leskur Phone TBA

Parish Pastoral Council:
Bernie Freeburn, Veronica Dening, Elaine Nehme, Zena Azar, Paul Abdul Ahad, Natalie Goetz, Monica Palmer, Linh Bui, Jannette Samawi, Grace Mokdassi

Finance Committee:
Bernie Freeburn, Michael Anderson, Ted Goetz, Veronica Dening, Eileen Stevenson

Golden oldies: Lorraine Impala

St Vincent de Paul: Mary Scott