



*St Mary's Cathedral*  
SYDNEY

## CATHEDRAL BULLETIN



## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

2022

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL PARISH  
INCLUDING  
ST COLUMBKILLE'S CHURCH,  
MCELHONE STREET, WOOLLOOMOOLOO

# THE 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 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.'

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Ps 46:2-3, 6-9*

**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. **R.**

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 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 *Hebrews 9:24-28, 10:19-23*

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*Christ has entered heaven.*

It is not as though Christ has 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 judgment, 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 had 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 mind 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.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Matthew 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 *Luke 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 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.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## WORD FROM THE DEAN



Dear Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors,

Having returned from visiting our parish on Norfolk Island, I bring greetings from there to you all.

As we celebrate the feast of the Ascension of the Lord, we should try to understand this important event more and more fully.

Here, then, is what the Catechism of the Catholic Church has to say:

### **Article 6**

#### **"HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN AND IS SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE FATHER"**

659 "So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God." Mk 16:19. Christ's body was glorified at the moment of his Resurrection, as proved by the new and supernatural properties it subsequently and permanently enjoys. Cf Lk 24:31; Jn 20:19, 26. But during the forty days when he eats and drinks familiarly with his disciples and teaches them about the kingdom, his glory remains veiled under the appearance of ordinary humanity. Cf. Acts 1:3; 10:41; Mk 16:12; Lk 24:15; Jn 20:14-15; 21:4. Jesus' final apparition ends with the irreversible entry of his humanity into divine glory, symbolized by the cloud and by heaven, where he is seated from that time forward at God's right hand. Cf. Acts 1:9; 2:33; 7:56; Lk 9:34-35; 24:51; Ex 13:22; Mk 16:19; Ps 110:1. Only in a wholly exceptional and unique way would Jesus show himself to Paul "as to one untimely born", in a last apparition that established him as an apostle. 1 Cor 15:8; cf. 9:1; Gal 1:16.

660 The veiled character of the glory of the Risen One during this time is intimated in his mysterious words to Mary Magdalene: "I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." Jn 20:17. This indicates a difference in manifestation between the glory of the risen Christ and that of the Christ exalted to the Father's right hand, a transition marked by the historical and transcendent event of the Ascension.

661 This final stage stays closely linked to the first, that is, to his descent from heaven in the Incarnation. Only the one who "came from the Father" can return to the Father: Christ Jesus. Cf. Jn 16:28 "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man." Jn 3:13; cf. Eph 4:8-10. Left to its own natural powers humanity does not

have access to the "Father's house", to God's life and happiness. Jn 14:2. Only Christ can open to man such access that we, his members, might have confidence that we too shall go where he, our Head and our Source, has preceded us. Missale Romanum, Preface of the Ascension: sed ut illuc confideremus, sua membra, nos subsequi quo ipse, caput nostrum principiumque, praecessit.

662 "and I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself." Jn 12:32. The lifting up of Jesus on the cross signifies and announces his lifting up by his Ascension into heaven, and indeed begins it. Jesus Christ, the one priest of the new and eternal Covenant, "entered, not into a sanctuary made by human hands. . . but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf." Heb 9:24. There Christ permanently exercises his priesthood, for he "always lives to make intercession" for "those who draw near to God through him". Heb 7:25. As "high priest of the good things to come" he is the centre and the principal actor of the liturgy that honours the Father in heaven. Heb 9:11; cf. Rev 4:6-11.

663 Henceforth Christ is seated at the right hand of the Father: "By 'the Father's right hand' we understand the glory and honour of divinity, where he who exists as Son of God before all ages, indeed as God, of one being with the Father, is seated bodily after he became incarnate and his flesh was glorified." St. John Damascene, *Defide orth.* 4, 2: PG 94, 1104C.

664 Being seated at the Father's right hand signifies the inauguration of the Messiah's kingdom, the fulfilment of the prophet Daniel's vision concerning the Son of man: "To him was given dominion and glory and kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed." Dan 7:14. After this event the apostles became witnesses of the "kingdom [that] will have no end". Nicene Creed.










Now we prepare our hearts and minds to celebrate Pentecost, that moment following the Ascension when the Holy Spirit came to the Apostles and filled the living Church. Next Saturday at 6pm we have the special liturgy of the Pentecost Vigil, which echoes in some ways the Easter Vigil, with its several beautiful Readings. I hope many of you can join us. Also, at the 10.30 Mass next Sunday the Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred on several adults from across the Archdiocese. Bishop Brady will be the Celebrant.

Every blessing, in this Ascension tide, for the week ahead,

*Fr Don Richardson,*  
Dean.

# UPCOMING LITURGIES AND EVENTS

## May - June 2022

 <p>The Ascension</p>			28 <b>Saturday</b>	29 <b>Sunday</b> The ASCENSION of the LORD 	30 <b>Monday</b>	31 <b>Tuesday</b> The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
1 <b>Wednesday</b> St Justin  6:30pm <b>RCIA</b> (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	2 <b>Thursday</b>  6:30pm <b>CITY                  COMPASS</b> 	3 <b>Friday</b> Charles Lwanga & Companions	4 <b>Saturday</b> 6pm Mass Pentecost Vigil	5 <b>PENTECOST                  SUNDAY</b> 10.30am Mass Adult Confirmations 	6 <b>Monday</b> The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church	7 <b>Tuesday</b>
8 <b>Wednesday</b>  6:30pm <b>RCIA</b> (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	9 <b>Thursday</b>  6:30pm <b>CITY                  COMPASS</b> 	10 <b>Friday</b>	11 <b>Saturday</b> St Barnabas	12 <b>Sunday</b> <b>HOLY TRINITY</b>  	13 <b>Monday</b> St Anthony of Padua <b>Public Holiday                  Mass 9am</b>	14 <b>Tuesday</b>
15 <b>Wednesday</b> 7pm Organ Recital  6:30pm <b>RCIA</b> (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)	16 <b>Thursday</b>  6:30pm <b>CITY                  COMPASS</b> 	17 <b>Friday</b>	18 <b>Saturday</b>	19 <b>Sunday</b> <b>CORPUS                  CHRISTI</b> Walk with Christ 	20 <b>Monday</b>	21 <b>Tuesday</b> St Aloysius Gonzaga

## Weekly Mass Schedule

### MASS

Monday to Friday: 6:45am, 1:10pm, 5:30pm

Saturday: 9:00am, 12:00 noon

Saturday Vigil: 6:00pm

Sunday: 7:00am, 9:00am, 10:30am (Solemn Choral Mass), 6:00pm

### RECONCILIATION

Monday to Friday: 12noon to 1:00pm and 4:30pm to 5:25pm

Saturday: 11:00am to 12noon and 4:30pm to 5:30pm

### EVENING VESPERS

Monday to Friday: 5:00pm

Saturday: 5:30pm

Sunday: 5:00pm

(Choral Vespers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament)

# CATHEDRAL NOTICES





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## WALK *with* CHRIST

**Sunday 19th June 2022**

**CORNER OF MARTIN PLACE AND PITT STREET**

Entertainment in Martin Place from 1.30pm  
Procession begins at 2.30pm sharp

FIND OUT MORE 



## WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES

CELEBRATED LOCALLY IN SYDNEY  
24 -26 JUNE 2022

**FRI, 24 JUNE**  
Local Parish Celebrations


**SAT, 25 JUNE**  
Family Pilgrimage - 8 locations to choose from

**SUN, 26 JUNE**  
10:30 am Mass at St Mary's Cathedral followed by Family Festival



FOR MORE INFORMATION  
[www.sydneycatholic.org/world-meeting-of-families](http://www.sydneycatholic.org/world-meeting-of-families)





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## Walking in the Spirit: the Plenary Council of the Catholic Church in Australia

As we move towards the Second Assembly of the Plenary Council the People of God in Australia are invited to make the prayerful journey through the Walking in the Spirit prayer pilgrimage.

The campaign began on Easter Sunday, April 17, and runs until the Second Assembly, which opens on Sunday, July 3. The link below has been created for use by individuals, families, schools, parishes and other Catholic communities.

<https://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/walkinginthspirit/>

# Didaskó



Online Catholic Adult Faith Formation

In His Great Commission, Our Lord commanded the Apostles to make disciples and "teach them the commands I have given you" (Mt 28:20).

**Didaskó** seeks to support parishes to respond to this by building a culture of formation in which disciples are encouraged to grow by investing time in spiritual, intellectual, human and practical formation.

**Cost: \$25.00 per course (includes three sessions).**

This course will be delivered online via Zoom. Registration essential. More information, contact Helen at [parishrenewal@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:parishrenewal@sydneycatholic.org)

## SILENT RETREAT FOR MEN

PRIESTHOOD • DISCERNMENT

*Go out to all the world and tell the Good News* MARK 16:15

# 24 - 26 JUNE 2022

MOUNT SCHOENSTATT, MULGOA

For more information, please contact us at [www.vocationcentre.org.au](http://www.vocationcentre.org.au) • [vocations@sydneycatholic.org](mailto:vocations@sydneycatholic.org) • 02 9307 8424 •



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