

The Living Word

The Ascension of the Lord, Year B

12 May 2024

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 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.

Or Optional Second Reading for Year B

Eph 4:1-7. 11-13 (or longer form Eph 4:1-13)

To the measure of the full stature of Christ.

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace

that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is father of all, over all, through all and within all.

Each one of us, however, has been given his own share of grace, given as Christ allotted it. The one who rose higher than all the heavens to fill all things is none other than the one who descended. And to some his gift was that they should be apostles; to some, prophets; to some, evangelists; to some, pastors and teachers; so that the saints together make a unity in the work of service, building up the body of Christ. In this way we are all to come to unity in our faith and in our knowledge of the Son of God, until we become the perfect Man, fully mature with the fullness of Christ himself.

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 Mk 16:15-20

The Lord Jesus was taken into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God.

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven and said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised is saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

Reflection by Greg Sunter

This passage makes up the concluding verses of the Gospel of Mark. Actually, literary criticism of the Mark gospel suggests that the original gospel ended at 16:8 with the women fleeing from the empty tomb in fear. Verses 9-20 appear to be a later addition to the gospel. The community in which this gospel was written expected Jesus to return within their lifetime and so the dramatic and suspenseful conclusion of the gospel at the discovery of the empty tomb makes perfect sense. However, it soon became apparent that Jesus' return was not going to come as soon as the believers had hoped and so the post-resurrection appearances and the commissioning to continue on with Jesus' work became much more important.

If we were to read this passage literally, we would believe that to be a Christian one had to be able to perform exorcisms, speak in tongues, handle snakes, drink poison and heal by touch. If this were literally true, I guess there wouldn't be too many Christians around today! Rather, the purpose of the passage is that Jesus sends his followers out 'to the whole world' to continue his ministry. It is the 'whole world' to which they are sent; not just their cosy little corner of the world but the whole world. It's what Christian people for the last 2,000 years have been called to do: continue Jesus' ministry to the whole world. It's what each and every one of us is called to do today: 'proclaim the Good News to all creation'. That doesn't mean standing on street corners with a Bible in our hands but it means proclaiming the Good News through our everyday actions and by being open and honest about our faith. It means treating all people as Jesus would.

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HOLY TRINITY

CATHOLIC PARISH

Incorporating the Mass centres and communities of

Holy Family Our Lady Star of the Sea Holy Trinity
101 Hitchcock Av 68 John Dory Drive 34 Stevens St
Barwon Heads **Ocean Grove** **Queenscliff**

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather, the Wathaurong people. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently and respectfully in the land.

We are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Fr Darien J Sticklen
Parish Secretary: Mrs Daniella Sutura
Safeguarding & Admin Support: Ms Jennie Ryan
Parish Mission Ambassador: Ms Josephine Barnes
Pastoral Care Coordinator: Sr Nola Morrissy RSM

For all parish ministries, including Holy Communion to the Sick, RCIA, Baptism & Sacramental Program, Men Alive, Faith Development & Spirituality Group, St Vincent de Paul local Conference, Trinity Aid for Refugees, etc., please visit:

www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au

PARISH OFFICE & PRESBYTERY
34 Stevens Street, Queenscliff 3225
Telephone: (03) 5258 1673
Email: queenscliff@cam.org.au

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
10:00am to 1:00pm (closed public holidays)

PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOLS

St. Aloysius, Queenscliff
Principal: Ms. Miriam Leahy, Tel: 5258 1736
Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove
Principal: Ms. Kerry Sells, Tel: 5255 4308

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

BARWON HEADS: Saturday Vigil 6:00pm
OCEAN GROVE: Sunday 9:00am
QUEENSCLIFF: Sunday 11:00am

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Please see below: Liturgy in our Parish this week

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

is available prior to each weekend Mass, and before or after weekday Masses if needed.

BAPTISMS & WEDDINGS

Visit our website for all information or contact Parish office
www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/sacraments/

COLUMBARIUM

Please visit www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/about-us/parish-columbarium/

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN ATTENDING NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Please visit our website for all information:
<https://hollytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/sacraments/sacramental-program-1/>

Please send in bulletin notices by 1pm on Thursdays

PARISHIONERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE THEIR BULLETINS HOME AFTER MASS

The ASCENSION of the LORD, Year B

Anniversaries 12th May to 18th May: Matthew Ryan, Anthony Buhagiar, Emidia Buhagiar, Michelangelo Gatt, Rita Gatt, June Myers, Brigitte Lyons, Russell Healy, Alma Corby, Rosalba Mastroianni, Valerie Masters, Carmelo Scaffidi, Frank Hayden, Bill Holland, Joan O'Dowd, Arthur Richards, Alberta Sargeant, Johanna Jansen, Helen Dunn, Nola O'Halloran, Anne Larkins, Fr Kevin Casey OMI, Kevin Shannon and Barry Macfarlane.

Please pray for those who are Sick: Elly Anwyll, Naomi Bianco, Mary Blonk, Peter Bourke, Helen Carter, Sam Caruana, Jack Davin, Pat Dickeson, Michael Dowling, Ian Downing, Robert Drummond & Patti Semler, Frank Flynn, Gloria Forbes, Nell Fraigneux, Kay Freyne, Ross Gilham, Margaret Gladstone, Martin & Mary Grundy, Justin Hanan, Stephen Hanan, Susan Hardy, Peter Harrington, Jeannette Hodgkinson, Gregory Holien, Robert & Lyne Horner, Robert Hurley, Melissa Keogh, Gary Kingsbury, Hilda Koerntjes, Margaret Lomas, Toni Lukauskas, Brendan Merriman, Belinda Monterosso, Christine Naulty, Frank Nelson, Helen Pearce, Cecilia Picc, Mavourneen Ray, Margaret Renwick (Snr), Geraldine Richards, Betty Rushton, Mary Sullivan, Pam Sullivan, Kevin Teasdale, Deanne Warren, Cathy Williams, Peter Williams and Shirley Woodruff.

ROSTERS

If you are unable to meet your commitment on your day, please arrange a substitute. Thank you!

COMMENTATOR (C), LECTOR (L), SPECIAL MINISTER (SM),
WELCOMERS (W), PROJECTIONIST (P)

OCEAN GROVE: 19th May at 9:00am:

(C) Frank Rice (L) Monica Meagher (SM) Carmel Rice, Dan O'Meara
(W) Margaret Donovan, Jo Ballard.

QUEENSCLIFF: 19th May at 11:00am:

(C) Michael Scott (L) Margaret-Mary Flynn (SM) Lisa Piasente
(W) Helper required.

COUNTERS: Tuesday 14th May at 10:00am:

Des Harris and David Millie.

** NEWS & EVENTS **

If you need Pastoral care & support, or you are aware of others who may need assistance, please phone our Parish office. Mobile number for emergencies is on the recorded message.

For all Safeguarding updates, please visit the parish website:

www.holytrinityqueenscliff.org.au/safeguarding/parish-child-safe/

We appreciate your understanding and support as we work together to comply with our legal requirements. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Day Program at Santa Casa 33-35 Flinders Street Queenscliff:

Exploring Spirituality of Ageing Themes

Presenter: Nicole Rotaru RSM

The secret of life is to let every segment of it produce its own yield at its own pace. Every period has something new to teach us. The harvest of youth is achievement; the harvest of middle-age is perspective; the harvest of age is wisdom; the harvest of life is serenity. Joan Chittister. There will be three (3) sessions:

- Wednesday 1st May: *Accomplishment and Limitations*
- Wednesday 8th May: *Relationships and Spirituality*
- Wednesday 15th May: *Legacy*

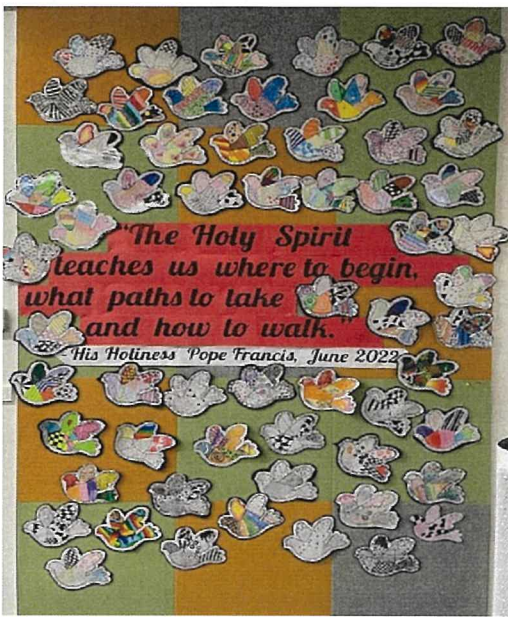
Commencing with a cuppa at 10.00am, then 10.30 – 12.30 pm session, 12.30 – 1.15 pm lunch, 1.15 – 2.30 pm session and closure.

Cost per session: \$25.00. Registration contact: Sr Lizzie Finnerty RSM.

Mobile: 0418 194 261 Email: santacasa@ismapng.org.au.

Taizé Pray | Peace Gathering: people in the Bellarine Peninsula and beyond are invited to gather to pray and worship at Santa Casa (33 Flinders Street, Queenscliff) on **Sunday 19th May 2024 at 2:30pm** followed by afternoon tea at 3:30pm. Please RSVP to Sr Lizzie Finnerty RSM on 0418 194 261 or santacasa@ismapng.org.au for catering and seating purposes. All welcome.

Each Church in our Parish has a TAP & GO terminal. These have helped increase financial support for our Parish. Easy to use – please avail yourself of this way to support us. Thank you.



Together we pray for the children receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this weekend. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.

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LITURGY IN OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

Monday 13th May – Our Lady of Fatima (Memorial)

Tuesday 14th May – St Matthias (Feast)

9:15am Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

Wednesday 15th May – Wednesday of the 7th week of Easter

9:15am Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

with St Aloysius Middle School students attending

Thursday 16th May – Thursday of the 7th week of Easter

9:15am Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

Friday 17th May – Friday of the 7th week of Easter

9:15am Mass at Holy Trinity, Queenscliff

Saturday 18th May – St John I (Memorial)

Sunday 19th May – PENTECOST SUNDAY

12:30pm Baptism Service at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Ocean Grove

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Parish Vision Prayer

Heavenly Father, Holy Trinity Parish is your family, committed to praying and growing together, as we build on the gifts of our past, the living of our present and our hopes for the future.

Lord Jesus, we are nourished by prayer, the word and sacraments, especially the Eucharist. We recognize and trust in each other's spiritual gifts. We will strive to be a visible sign of God's love for the world.

Holy Spirit, baptized in your name, we accept the challenge to live as Jesus did. We will celebrate our lives and gifts in service to others, welcoming all people, and sharing our talents and resources.

As a parish, we will endeavour to make present the Kingdom of God, here and now. AMEN.

CHARLIE'S MAINTENANCE CO

General maintenance, gardening, cleaning and tiling. Servicing the Bellarine and Geelong areas. Contact Charlie on 0413 609 170 or email charlie.sutera76@gmail.com.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY



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 **Ocean Eyes**
OPTOMETRISTS

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in *safe*
hands