



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.

■ The word of the Lord.

**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  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

*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 will be 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.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

**A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**



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**ASCENDED BUT NOT DEPARTED**

The account of the Lord's Ascension in today's First Reading does not mean that Jesus, at the end of his earthly career, literally ascended as described. The clear parallels with the description of the prophet Elijah's ascent into heaven (2 Kings 2:1-18) suggest that Luke is using that episode as a model to indicate the closure of Jesus' personal ministry on earth and its continuation from heaven. Having escaped the clutches of his enemies by rising from the dead, Jesus now makes an Elijah-like ascent to heaven.

Just before he departs, the disciples voice a strong sense of "unfinished business": "Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" Jesus does not give a direct answer. The time of the Kingdom's full arrival and the completion of the messianic program remains shrouded in mystery. What the disciples must understand is that, empowered by the same Spirit that energised his mission, they are to become instruments of its realisation in the new era—that of the Church—that lies ahead. Through their hands and feet and mouth Jesus will continue his messianic work until the end of time.

Taken from a late addition to the Gospel of Mark (16:15-20), today's Gospel has Jesus' commissioning his disciples before being carried up to heaven. The "signs" that are mentioned as accompanying believers (including snake-handling!) are best explained as expressions of the risen Lord's triumph over evil, and the hope for a renewed and harmonious world which that victory holds out.

**Brendan Byrne, SJ**

**FIRST READING**

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 of 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.



**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 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

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

*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,



St Joseph's Church, 30 Fitzgerald Street  
 St Thomas Aquinas' Church, 43 Bromby Street  
 est. 1887

**Under the Pastoral Care of AUGUSTINIANS**

- ▶ Fr Michael Sullivan OSA: Parish Priest  
Mobile: 0434 674822
- ▶ Fr Abel van der Veer OSA  
Mobile: 0409 368449
- ▶ Fr Gerald Dullard OSA
- ▶ Fr Percival Sevard OSA



**ADMINISTRATION**

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH CENTRE  
 Tel: 9826 9677  
[secretary@parishofsouthyarra.org.au](mailto:secretary@parishofsouthyarra.org.au)  
[www.parishofsouthyarra.org.au](http://www.parishofsouthyarra.org.au)  
 Postal: Box 21 South Yarra 3141

**CHILDRENS' LITURGY**

St. Joseph's • 10.30am Mass  
 First & third Sundays of the month  
 (except school holidays and long weekends)

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

St. Joseph's • Sat: 5.15pm – 5.45pm  
 (or by request)

**ANointing / HEALING MASS**

First Tuesday of the month 10am at  
 St Joseph's Church  
*(Senior parishioners, those with ongoing  
 sickness, those with mental illness, may all  
 receive the Sacrament of the Sick )*

**Pastoral Associates and Administrative Support**

- ▶ Toni Stuart (Secretary & Weddings: Tues/Thurs/Fri)
- ▶ Yvonne Bolland (Weddings: Tues 10am-12noon)
- ▶ Emilie Rousset (Business Manager: Tues/Wed/Thurs)
- ▶ Diane Brebner (Alfred Hospital Liaison)
- ▶ Richard Anderson (Accountant)

**Parish Mass Times** for the week commencing weekend 13<sup>th</sup> May 2018

DAY	ST JOSEPH'S	ST THOMAS AQUINAS'
	TIME	TIME
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> May The Ascension of the Lord Mother's Day	(Saturday- Vigil 6.00pm) 10.30am Mass	9.00am Mass
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> May St Matthias		
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Communion Service
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> May St Aloysius & St Possidius	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Mass
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	10.00am Mass	12.45pm Communion Service
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> May Bl William of Toulouse	10.00am Mass 10.30am Christian Meditation	12.45pm Mass
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> May Bl Clement of Osimo & Augustine of Taranto	10.00am Bereaved Mother's Mass 6.00pm Mass	

**CHILDRENS' LITURGY** Children are invited to attend their own special liturgy next Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May during 10.30am Mass at St Joseph's.

**THANK YOU**

A warm thank you to those from our parish who attended the Ecumenical Liturgy at Christ Church Anglican Church on Thursday evening. It was a rewarding and prayerful experience for all!

**EVENTS AND MEETINGS**

- ▶ Christian Meditation: Fridays 10.30am
- ▶ Liturgy Meeting: Wed 16 May 7pm
- ▶ Praise & Worship: Sunday 20 May 6.30pm



**PRAYER REFLECTION FROM ST AUGUSTINE**

"Do make judgements about whom God loves or does not love, unless you wish to fall into error."

*St Augustine & his mother St Monica*



**MOTHER'S DAY**

God is both mother and father of us all. Today, in a very special way we remember and honour our mothers living and deceased, and we give thanks to God for the blessings and love we have received through them.

**BEREAVED MOTHERS' MASS**

On Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> May at 10.00 a.m. at St. Joseph's church, there will be a special Healing Mass for Mothers/ Families which have suffered the tragedy of a Miscarriage, Still-birth or Neo-Natal death. Coming immediately after Mothers' Day, we believe these children too wish to give thanks for the gift of life to the mothers/parents who conceived them, - a life they are now able to enjoy in God's presence. All welcome. **Please Note: There will be no 9am mass on that day**

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:**

June Cochrane, Des White, Beb Larsen, Chaiel Balcombe, John & Rose Ignace, Ronald Seaman, Aristotle Pamintuan, Therese Phillips, Mito Gloudemans, Elsa Notarte, Meldred Liba Lagahit, Socorro Sevard, Dolores Hogan, Frank Muratore, Maurice Wallin, Madeleine Anderson, Frank Blunt, Andrew Hamilton, Alex Walisz, Margaret Greene, Elaine Dennis, Spiros Layia, Emma Kirk, Chris 'Smith', Anthony Singh, Jean de Campo.

**IN LOVING MEMORY**



**Recently Deceased**

✦ Patricia Gillespie

**Anniversaries**

- ✦ Rocco D'Andrea
- ✦ Margaret Beaton
- ✦ Ivan Guzman
- ✦ Barnaba Tocigl
- ✦ Martin Conlan
- ✦ Ernst Mauerhoffer
- ✦ Joy Lovell
- ✦ Anna & Marco Novaselich
- ✦ Eddie Bennetts
- ✦ Karel & Elfrida Kral
- ✦ Christine Kerr
- ✦ Domenico Te
- ✦ William Somers
- ✦ George Hooy
- ✦ Mary Monaghan
- ✦ Humberto Saratagle
- ✦ Sonia Tocigl
- ✦ Leslie Priest
- ✦ Mary Connell

**Watch This Space !**

Coming in June!  
 Tuesdays in the Priory!  
 Discussion Groups about  
 Christian faith and living  
 7.00 pm every Tuesday in June

**ENROLMENTS**

The Sacrament of First Reconciliation will be celebrated on Thursday 16 August and the Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on Sunday 16 September. If you wish your child to receive either of these Sacraments please enrol by contacting the parish secretary, Toni Stuart. Preparation classes will be held in the 4 weeks prior to each of these Sacraments.

**PARISH BAPTISM PRESENTATIONS**

We welcome the family and friends of Elena Kopp & Sophie Kerr who are to be baptised at St Thomas Aquinas this Sunday.

**MASS COUNT**

During the weekends in May the number of parishioners attending Mass will be counted in order to maintain an up-to-date picture of Mass attendance in the Archdiocese.

**SUNDAY COLLECTIONS 6/05/18**

Thanking you for your continuing support!  
 Please contact the parish office if you wish to contribute via Direct Debit or Credit Card

1 <sup>st</sup> Collection (Clergy/Priory a/c) .....	\$ 866.55
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection (Church a/c) .....	\$ 552.00
Loose money .....	\$ 521.90