

FIRST READING

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
1:1-11**

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

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

SECOND READING

**A reading from the of St Paul to the
Ephesians 1:17-23**

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.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!
Go, make disciples of all the nations.
I am with you always;
yes, to the end of time.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL READING

**A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Matthew 28:16-20**

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 commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'



Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, Cheltenham

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Parish Priest: Fr Alan Fox

Pastoral Associates: Frances North, Christine Dunne

Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Year A

23rd and 24th May, 2020



Focus on the Readings...

The feast of the Ascension celebrates the physical separation of Jesus from the human story, but this text promises his continual presence 'to the end of time'. After three years of living, working and praying with the disciples, Jesus commissions them to continue his work in the world. This is a difficult challenge for some of the disciples who, although prepared to go to the appointed place, still hesitate! Despite their misgivings and fragile faith, he sends them out to all nations. Jesus has been given the authority that was once the exclusive domain of the God of Israel; Jesus has become the presence of the living God, and his presence will continue with his disciples through the grace of the Holy Spirit.

PARISH PRIEST:

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 Christine Dunne 9583 6161

PSYCHOLOGIST:

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PARISH OFFICE:

9583 6161
 Monday to Friday 9 am – 3.30 pm
 Secretary: Lisa Harris
 Bookkeeper: Ann Fitzgerald
 Email: Cheltenham@cam.org.au

PARISH SCHOOL:

Our Lady of the Assumption 9584 9488
 Principal: Mr Richard Jacques
 Email: principal@olacheltenham.catholic.edu.au

SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**MASS TIMES:**

Saturday 6:30 pm
 Sunday 9:00 am, 11:00 am
 Tuesday 6.00 pm
 Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9.15 am
 Saturday 9.00 am

COMMUNION SERVICE:

Monday 9.15 am

RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays: 9.30am & 6pm

BAPTISMS:

Either during a weekend Mass or at 12.30pm on the 2nd Sunday of the month. 6 weeks' notice required. Please refer to our Guidelines for Infant Baptism and Application Form available on our parish website.

WEDDINGS:

By appointment, 6 months' notice required. Saturdays or weekdays (not Sundays). Contact the Parish Office: 9583 6161

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Year A
 23rd / 24th May, 2020

PRAYING FOR:

Brian Heweston, Hilary Palman,
 Vincent Catalano, Marvin Frankeni,
 Leslie Blume, Laurie Nicholls,
 Elaine O'Sullivan
...and all who died recently.

We also remember:

Doris Borg, Frank Duffy
...and all whose anniversaries occur about this time.



OLA "LAUDATO SI" GROUP CORNER:
 The OLA "Laudato Si" group have been meeting online and continue to be mindful of the issues that

Pope Francis in his encyclical brought to the world's attention: climate change, sustainability, circular economy models, social and cultural ecology etc.

Celebrate Laudato Si Worldwide Day of Prayer 2020 with Pope Francis: Sunday 24th May. To join, go to:

<https://laudatosiweek.org>

You can download the encyclical at:

http://www.vatican.va/content/dam/francesco/pdf/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si_en.pdf

A 'Universal Prayer for Creation' is also available here:

<https://laudatosiweek.org/prayer>

We hope that you are all staying well and blessed.

– The 'LS' Team.



The Archdiocese of Melbourne provides a **Coronavirus Update** on its website where you can download the latest information and guidelines:

<https://melbournecatholic.org.au/News/ArMid/416/ArticleID/24441/Coronavirus-Updates>

FREE EBOOK The recently published 'Catholicism in the Time of Coronavirus', is available from Word on Fire Institute <https://www.wordonfire.org/covid> In the book the author, Stephen Bullivant, looks at the impact of the Covid-19 crisis on the Church, and how the Church's pastoral and evangelistic mission might most effectively respond.

**THE SWAG MAGAZINE:**

With the suspension of Sunday Masses around the country, 'The Swag' will now be offering parishioners free online access to a Page Turner and a PDF of the Winter 2020 edition. Go to www.theswag.org.au and click on the yellow box.

COUNSELLING: All counselling will now be over the phone or video consultations due to COVID-19. If you would like to schedule an appointment, please contact AnneMaree Eddy directly on: 0403 284 536, and leave a message indicating you are a parishioner.

ONLINE RESOURCES FOR FAITH FORMATION & INFORMATION:

The **Christian Classics Ethereal Library** is a digital library of hundreds of classic Christian books: <https://ccel.org/>

Lectio Divina May 2020 for daily prayer: <https://ocarm.org/en/carmel/lectio-divina-may-2020>

The **Holy See** to view the written works of Pope Francis and news from the Vatican: <http://w2.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html>

SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS:

Kilbreda College invite you online to explore the quality education and programs that your daughter will experience as a Kilbreda girl, all in the comfort of your own home! Register today at: kilbreda.vic.edu.au

St Bede's College enrolments are now open for current Year 5 students who will in attending Year 7 in 2022. Closing date 21 August 2020. Applications are available on the college website: stbedes.catholic.edu.au

MEDITATION AND MINDFULNESS REFLECTION [via ZOOM]: Saturday 30th

May 2020, 10am-1pm.
 Facilitated by Carol Dyer, this event offers participants theory and practice in meditation and mindfulness. Join them for an opportunity to broaden your ways of accessing your inner world and listening to what God is inviting you to at this time. Cost \$20. Bookings and payment via Trybooking: www.trybooking.com/BJNSJ. For more information, Phone: 9890 1101 or Email: holsc@bigpond.com

SCRIPTURE READINGS for Daily Mass (Australian Liturgical Calendar) are accessible online: www.universalis.com/Australia/1000/mass Navigate the daily Scripture readings for the week ahead using the right-hand column.

Heavenly Happenings
 Rest, sweet rest!
 Sorry I haven't been keeping up with my blog lately. The past seven days were extremely busy for me but I managed to get a TON done. In short, I finished up a project that I've been planning to get done for a while. I'll follow up with more details in another post. Anyhoo, I just wanted to let you all know that I'm still around and everything is glorious!
 Posted by God Day 8 :: 7:20am