



HOLY FAMILY COMMUNITY



UNDER THE CARE OF THE AUSTRALIAN JESUIT PROVINCE

254 Luxford Road, Emerton, N.S.W. 2770 - Phone: 9628 7272 - Fax: 9628 6139 - Email: enquiry@holyfamily.org.au
2021/Issue 20 Jesuit Community Presbytery : 9628 5013 16th May 2021

We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land this Church was built.

Parish Priest	Fr Greg Jacobs SJ	gregory@holyfamily.org.au
Assistant Priest	Fr Patrick Mullins, SJ	hfcpat70@gmail.com
Pastoral Associate	Sr Carlene Allen RSM	carlene@holyfamily.org.au
Site Manager	Ray Donaldson	ray@holyfamily.org.au
Secretary	Malia Lolesio	enquiry@holyfamily.org.au
Music Director	Eddie Paunga Lolesio	kosilio_lole@hotmail.com
Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson	Marissa Logronio	logroniom23@gmail.com

MASS TIMES - HOLY FAMILY CHURCH - EMERTON

Saturday Vigil Mass : 5.30 pm Sunday: 9.00 am and 10.30 am

JOHN TERRY CHAPEL (DAY CHAPEL)

Monday	8.30am Mass
Tuesday	6.00pm Mass
Wednesday	6.00pm Mass
Thursday	8.30am Mass
Friday	9.00am Mass
Saturday	9.00am Mass

MASS AT WILLMOT CHURCH

Sunday 7.30am
Cnr Pelsart & Carteret Ave Willmot

RECONCILIATION AND HOLY HOUR—EMERTON

Saturday from 9.30 am to 10.00 am



6.00am—Channel 10
Produced by Diocese of
Wollongong

MASS FOR YOU AT HOME

10.00am—Mass with
Fr Rob Galea
[www.youtube.com/
frrobalea](http://www.youtube.com/frrobalea)

10.30am—Archdiocese of
Sydney
[www.youtube.com/watch?
v=UHTnC8gGMDg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UHTnC8gGMDg)



11.00am—Diocese of
Parramatta
[www.youtube.com/user/
ParramattaDiocese/](http://www.youtube.com/user/ParramattaDiocese/)

REFLECTION FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

The Ascension of the Lord (7th Sunday of Easter)

In my own theology studies, an option for the Christology essay was to start from Holy Saturday and either look back to Jesus' life or to look forward to the resurrection. We could do something similar with today's feast of the Ascension. Are we going to look back at the post-resurrection experiences of Jesus, or forward to the early life of the Church without Jesus' presence? The enthronement of Jesus allows us to do both.

Most of the Easter readings have encouraged us to look at the humanity of Jesus – his eating food, inviting Thomas to touch and believe. But today we are overcome by the divinity of Jesus as he is enthroned at the right hand of God; we are in awe of his majesty in heaven. However, he has not left us, he is present with us in a new way, in a new body, in the Church.

Christ does carry on his work of redemption now through a new body, the community of believers. As Dianne Bergant informs us: "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 are not alone; he remains with us always – just as he promised. It is in this new body of the Church that we stand, secure in what we have together, confident of what we will be given by Jesus through the means of the Church's worship and ministry.



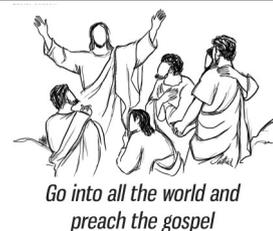
Fr Gregory



SCRIPTURE READINGS—YEAR B

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

LET US HEAR AND RECEIVE THE WORD OF GOD



Go into all the world and
preach the gospel

FIRST READING: Acts 1:1-11

Jesus was lifted up while they looked on.

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the Apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptised with water, but you will baptise with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom of Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him to into heaven."

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

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

Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with loud songs of joy.
For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome,
a great king over all the earth. R.

God has gone up with a shout,
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.
Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises. R.

For God is the king of all the earth;
sing praises with a Psalm.
God is king over the nations;
God sits on his holy throne. R.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 4: 1-13 (shorter version)

We are all to come to unity, fully mature in the knowledge of the Son of God.

Brothers and sisters: I, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.

The gifts he gave were that some would be Apostles, some Prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my Gospel.

I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Mark 16:15-20

Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News.

Jesus appeared to the eleven, and he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. The one who believes and is baptised will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.

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. And they went out and proclaimed the good news everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it.

The Gospel of the Lord.

CELEBRATING THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Only one verse in the entire New Testament makes chronological reference to the Ascension. In Acts 1:3, Luke states that Jesus continued to appear to the disciples for forty days after his resurrection. He goes on to present his account of Jesus being taken up into heaven.

In spite of this ancient witness, the first testimony to the celebration of "Ascension Thursday" in Rome does not appear until around the year 500. Originally the fifty days of the Easter season were celebrated as a single unit culminating in the feast of Pentecost. Gradually, however, this unity broke down until the season was divided between the forty days leading to Ascension, and the ten days from there to Pentecost. Pentecost itself became a separate feast with an octave.

Since Vatican II we have largely recovered the initial unity of the Easter season. But not quite, because the document governing the liturgical year still refers to the weekdays between Ascension and Pentecost as a preparation for the coming of the Holy Spirit. In Australia Luke's chronology is not taken literally; the Ascension of the Lord is transferred to the following Sunday.

Source: Liturgy, Brisbane.

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS

BAPTISMS: We welcome into our community Alekisis Halangahu and Acadia Halangahu, who were baptized last Sunday 9th May 2021.

LIST OF THE SICK: Sandra Roseworn, Kilisimasi Lolesio, Jose Manalo, Fely Dela Paz Manalo, Robert Piper, Thomas Hurst, Monica Taylor, Pacita Galasgas Dimaano, Leo Teman, Gene Nieborski, Colleen Hodges, Gerry Borg, Louise Hall, Helen Ryan, Lemauga Tuliatu, Georgette Sioufi, Vailemani Selui, Margaret Kearney, Eleanor Petterson, Margaret Joyce, Mary Facer, Antonia Beemster, Lopisoni Makario, Faith Nimmo, Janette Queenzell, Vaha Vave, Barry Barrakett, Kenny Clements, Paul Cusack, Ian Watts, Corina Valentine, Jeffrey Bonnici, Jose Lay, Fay Iffland, Mayda Attachian, Tim Meagher, Ray Fenech, Maria Llave, Maria Belisario, Fe Llave Fara Vargas, Stella Edwards, Boyet Llave.



ANNIVERSARIES: Frank Bonavia, Val Hardy, Lusua Sitani, Cecil Benson, John Benson, Elsie Llige, Helen Chambers, Kilistina Kiteau, Vicente (Vic) Araullo, Mario Llige, Gary Hallett, Lyn Burton, Simon Gunn, Dianna Margetson, Maria Gatt, Cynthia Schumacher, William (Billy) Whiting, Leslie Sercombe, Bill Wilson, Jeanette Monk, Shanese Allen, Anthony Saliba, Ester Charlton, Charlie Vella, Maria Carvalho, Fr J O'Shea, Dennis Kennedy, Alice Lowles, John O'Brien, Vincent Conovan.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Libby Gaynor



- *Register your details upon entering the church.
- *Masks are encouraged.
- *Maintain safe distancing.

COVID-SAFE PROCEDURES

- *Wash your hands regularly, and use the hand sanitisers supplied.
- *Wipe down your chairs before you leave.

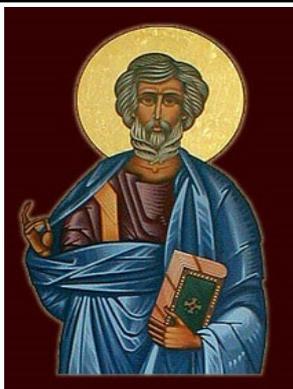
- *Please **do not enter** the church if you are unwell and/or experiencing flu-like symptoms.
- MAXIMUM CAPACITY** in the CHURCH = 232 ppl

PARISH COLLECTIONS—SUNDAY 2nd MAY 2021

1st Collection - for the priests of the Diocese of Parramatta \$
2nd Collection—for parish expenses \$

DIRECT PARISH DONATIONS

- If you would like to make a donation towards the Diocesan Priests' Pastoral Revenue, i.e. 1st Collection, you can do so via:
Acc Name: Parramatta Diocesan Clergy
BSB: 067 950 Acc No.: 004265
Make sure to Reference: 6024 Donation
- If you would like to make a donation to our parish, please make a direct transfer payment to:
Commonwealth Bank
Acc Name: Mount Druitt Catholic Church
BSB: 067 950 Acc No.: 0000446



SAINT MATTHIAS, APOSTLE 14TH MAY

The first act of the Apostles after the Ascension of Jesus, was to find a replacement for Judas. Peter had one criterion, that, like Andrew, James, John and himself, the new apostle be someone who had been a disciple from the very beginning. The new apostle would have witnessed Jesus' resurrection. He must have followed Jesus before anyone knew him, stayed with him when he made enemies, and believed in him when he spoke of the cross and of eating his

body -- teachings that had made others melt away.

Two men fit this description -- Matthias and Joseph called Barsabbas. They knew that both these men had been with them and with Jesus through his whole ministry. But which one had the heart to become a witness to his resurrection?

The apostles knew that only the Lord could know what was in the heart of each. They cast lots in order to discover God's will and Matthias was chosen. He was the twelfth apostle and the group was whole again as they waited for the coming of the Holy Spirit.

That's the first we hear of Matthias in Scripture, and the last. Legends like the Acts of Andrew and Matthias testify to Matthias' enthusiastic embrace of all that being an apostle meant including evangelization, persecution, and death in the service of the Lord.

What is CONFIRMATION?

- † It is the **SACRAMENT*** that celebrates the presence of God's special strength and gifts in a baptised person.
- † It is one of 7 Sacraments... signs made sacred by Christ to show His presence in the world, and to help us reach a closer union with God.
- † It is one of 3 SACRAMENTS of INITIATION (The other 2 are Baptism, and Eucharist).
- † It is a **COMMUNITY CELEBRATION** where every parish member has the opportunity to reaffirm publicly and personally his or her baptismal vows during the rite.
- † It is a time when we all celebrate the outpouring of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

THE ROLE OF THE SPONSOR:

- † The Sponsor is an Adult Catholic who is fully initiated (i.e. Baptised, Confirmed, made their First Holy Communion) and at least 16 years of age.
NOTE: A parent may not be chosen to be his or her child's Sponsor.
- * **BEFORE CONFIRMATION**, this person may help the Candidate prepare for Confirmation.
- * **AT CONFIRMATION**, the Sponsor presents the Candidate for anointing.
- * **AFTERWARDS**, through example and advice, the Sponsor helps guide the Confirmed in a life of Christian commitment.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION
 will be celebrated here in Holy Family Parish
at 10.30am on Sunday 13th of June, and
At 7.00pm on Wednesday 23rd of June.

The Mt Druitt & District Reconciliation Group

Invites you to

THE MT DRUITT RECONCILIATION WALK

SATURDAY 22nd MAY,
10.00AM—2.30PM
DAWSON MALL, MT DRUITT



To foster positive relationships between our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the broader community, everyone is invited to join us for **INFORMATION, ENTERTAINMENT,** and our **WALK FOR RECONCILIATION** on the above date.

[Mt Druitt and District Reconciliation Group]

Email: mtdruittreconciliation@gmail.com // Mob: 0421 188 770 //

Facebook: Mt Druitt and District Reconciliation Group.

Supported by Blacktown City Council



**ONLINE SCRIPTURE
REFLECTION NIGHT**
 WITH DR MICHELE CONNOLLY RSJ
TUESDAY MAY 25 AT 7PM



FREE LIVESTREAM

**PENTECOST
SUNDAY'S
READINGS**

FREE, ONLINE, REGISTRATION NECESSARY
www.tinyurl.com/ifmrego



HOLY FAMILY PARISH VISION

† Holy Family Mt Druitt is a welcoming community:
 † on a journey towards a personal encounter with Jesus;
 † called to unity and celebrating our diversity;
 † living and sharing the joy of the Gospel.



DATES for your DIARIES

PARISH EXPO

This would be an opportune event to get to know the who's and what's of our parish community. The Parish Expo will highlight the different groups and activities associated with the Parish—prayer groups, activities, other agencies etc, that we belong to or that use our site.

When: Sunday 20th June
Time: 11.30am—3.00pm
Where: TBA



**LET'S CELEBRATE
 PENTECOST SUNDAY
 NEXT WEEK,
 BY WEARING
 SOMETHING RED**

May 16: World Communications Day

When we think of communications it is easy to focus on the shiny new technology and not on what it is used for. Technology certainly does make a difference to the way in which we think and see our world. In a world where nothing is written the telling of stories in homes and villages, sometimes for hours on end, is all important. Through it wisdom is passed down. With the development of alphabets and other forms of writing and later with the invention of print, wisdom, customs, discoveries and stories could be preserved in texts. People became concerned for exact spelling and dates. Radio brought its own changes, as did television with its emphasis on visual communication, and more recently digital communication.

With each change people wonder what the new ways of communicating will mean. In the most important respects, however, little changes. When we communicate, we still want to say or show something to other people. To do this successfully we still need to ask ourselves the same questions regardless of the technology we use. We should ask, for example, whether those with whom we speak will understand accurately what we want to communicate to them, whether what we want to communicate is true, and whether our hearers will be the better for hearing it. If our communication, whether by whispering in a friend's ear, through a world-wide television program, or through social media, does not meet these tests, then our communication is a waste of time or worse.

Changes in the way in which people communicate can have powerful effects and seem to be magical. People who use new technologies can have enormous power over others. In ancient Athens, when all important decisions were made after public discussion, theorists who devised systematised ways of persuading people through public speaking had extraordinary influence in the City. They came to have a bad reputation because many people used their discoveries to persuade without caring whether their arguments were true or not. They were accused of making the worse argument win. People later grew suspicious of high rhetoric and it became less effective.

That cycle has been repeated through history, as preachers, pamphleteers, radio commentators, shock jocks, television pundits and social media influencers have all exploited new communications technology. They were all controversial, many were successful. But the same questions about truth, about hearers' understanding, and about the benefits or harm of their communication, kept returning. Ultimately the judgment made upon them depended on the answers.

In his yearly messages for World Communications Day Pope Francis keeps returning to these central questions. He asks particularly whether what is communicated by governments and interested parties is true. That leads him to insist on the importance of journalists in society. Their task is to seek out the truth. He focuses on the truth about people's lives, especially of those who are poor and oppressed. To see this truth we need to move outside the company of people with similar views and to go out to meet people in their own worlds.

This is true also of such organisations as Jesuit Social Services when we speak on behalf of young people who are vulnerable and have acted badly. It is easy to dismiss them as media often do as worthless, losers and no-hopers. Our task is to go out to them, to listen and to see the precious humanity they share with us.

Pope Francis describes the qualities needed for this as curiosity, openness and passion. These are the opposed to cynicism, which assumes that all that is worthwhile has been discovered, and to fixed ideas, to ideologies, and to attempts to control what is communicated. They are about the search for truth. World Communication Day reminds us that truth lies at the heart of communication.

- By Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ

The Lord Be With You

**GET MORE
 OUT OF
 MASS**

"The Lord be with you" is no ordinary greeting. It's not like "Good morning", but rather conveys the reality of Jesus' presence "where two or three are gathered in my name" (Mt 18:20).

"The Lord be with you" is spoken four times in Mass, and to a whole roster of heroes from the bible who are called to a daunting mission outside their comfort zone. Think of Isaac (Gen 26:3, 24) and Jacob (Gen 28:13-15); Moses (Exod 3:12) and Joshua (Jos 1:5, 9); David (2 Sam 7:3); Jeremiah (Jer 1:6-8) and Mary (Lk 1:28). All of them heard this message at pivotal moments in their lives when the future of God's people was dependent on how well they answered the call and played their part in God's story of salvation. Each of these heroes faced obstacles and fears to achieve their mission, but it was knowing that "the Lord is with you" that made the difference between success and failure.

Hearing this in Mass, we should realise that when we face our own fears and obstacles to achieve our mission, that the same encouragement is given to us: "The Lord be with you." What a blessing to really feel the Lord with me in those daunting times!

The new translation of Mass has us respond: "And with your Spirit." There is much more going on than the old "And also with you." Our response of "and with your Spirit" acknowledges the Holy Spirit's unique activity through the priest during the sacred Liturgy by virtue of his ordination. The people are saying in effect: "Be the priest for us now" aware that there is only one priest, Christ himself; we are getting in touch with the deeper presence of "the Lord with us" in the work of the Holy Spirit in the priest.

[Adapted from Edward Sri, A Biblical Walk Through The Mass]

