

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.

■ 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 Mt 28:16-20
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

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.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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PRESENT IN ALL CREATION

The resurrection of Jesus was clearly a moment of healing victory and the basis of hope for the early Church. While the victory over sin and death had been won a whole new set of questions arose for the first generation of Christians. Where do we go now? What does the Risen Lord ask of us? How will the Lord continue to be present among us? The early Christians reflected on Jesus' Ascension and used this moment of transition to address these questions for themselves and to instruct future generations of Christians.

Much had already been achieved but the time had come for the Risen Lord to entrust the next stage of the mission into the hands of the disciples. Having been schooled for forty days by the Risen Lord they were now entrusted with the mission of bringing the message of Jesus to the world around them. While they would not have looked forward to the day when Jesus would pass from their midst, they were nonetheless reminded that while the quality of his presence had changed, he would never leave them.

While the letter to the Ephesians does not speak explicitly of the Ascension it does reflect on how the Pauline communities saw this change in Jesus' presence among them. Christians are encouraged to see that by being exalted to God's right-hand Jesus is now able to be present throughout all of creation, no longer limited by space and time. They are called to see that he is not absent but is now even more powerfully present.

Christopher Monaghan CP

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 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



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www.facebook.com/EastwoodCatholic

MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION AND DEVOTION

Weekday Mass: Monday - 7:30am (Communion Service, except on Feast Days);

Tuesday to Thursday - 7:30am (followed by Holy Rosary); Friday - 5pm

Weekend Mass: Saturday Vigil - 5:30pm (livestreamed); Sunday - 8am, 9:30am, 6pm

CCC Mass: Sunday at 11:30am (English/Cantonese)

Eucharistic Adoration: Friday 4pm-5pm

First Friday Devotion: Monthly at 4pm

First Saturday Mass and Devotion: Monthly at 9am

Exposition and Benediction: First weekend of the month at all Masses

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Friday 4pm-4:45pm and Saturday 4:30pm-5:15pm

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The Ascension of the Lord

21st May 2023

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Recently Deceased: Coral Whalan, Alex Then, Roy Schiavone, Stanislaw Rosinski

Death Anniversary: Juanita Amora, Mary Cecelia Kunde, Cecilia Kan, Eileen Smith

Deceased: Selwyn Jackson, Sandra Wehbe, Sapienza Tedesco, Julian Lamudji, Jusuf Lay, Jonathan Ellsmore, John & Bonnie Bowdern, Leslie & Isabel Johnson and members of their families; Peter McNamara, Milly Farrell, Marie Cummins, Francis Murray; Casey, Landon, O'Connor, Pigott & Stewart families; Geoff & Patricia Clarke; Ron and Jan Brayan

Sick: Elizabeth Uy Tan, Lyn Crown, Burkhart Foertsch, Graham Rumble, Sam Wong, Robert Lauw, Tenille Moujalli, June Phelan, Anne McIntyre, Adhy Guna S., Daisy Gouw, Nur Gouw



UPCOMING FEAST DAYS AND MEMORIALS:

OUR LADY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS May 24, PENTECOST SUNDAY May 28

A MESSAGE FROM FR PAWEL:

My dear friends, greetings from my stay in Poland, where I am visiting my loved ones. I am sorry that I cannot personally share with you the joyful news about the significant changes that are taking place in our parish church. As you may notice, the tabernacle has been moved to the sanctuary, under the cross, behind the altar. Of course, this change was made with the advice and approval of the Sydney Archdiocese Liturgical Commission and our Parish Pastoral Council, taking into consideration the views of other priests and parishioners. This change is particularly important among other renovation works and improvements that has been taking place in our church recently. Many other initiatives are still ahead of us, but those related to the veneration of the Holy Eucharist are the most essential in the life of every parish community. Let there be greater honour to Jesus who is present in the Blessed Sacrament. I join you in prayer as I offer my devotions in the holy places I've visited, and will be visiting. May God bless & keep us all in His Love and Peace!

PARISH NEWS:

- **NEXT WEEKEND IS PENTECOST SUNDAY**, one of the most important feast days of the liturgical year. This concludes the Easter season and celebrates the beginning of the Church!
- **Welcome to all school families participating in our Eucharistic celebration this weekend!** We invite you to join us for morning tea after the 9:30am Mass.
- **We welcome our parish school children, Spencer and Winston Mitchell, who will receive the sacrament of Baptism this weekend! Congratulations!**
- Parish School Mass to celebrate **Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians**, Wed 24 May, 9:30am
- **Thank you so much for your generosity. So far, we have raised \$4863 towards the Charitable Works Fund Appeal. Envelopes still available if you wish to donate.**
- **LITURGICAL ROSTERS WILL BE UPDATED SOON.** Email the parish office for any changes.
- **Next Baptism Info Evening:** Tuesday, 6th June at 8pm in the Parish Office Meeting Room.
- **St Kevin's Men's Choir will be singing at the 6pm Mass on Sun 28th May. New members welcome. Contact Lou: 0400 303 733**
- **GRAB A COPY OF THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY FOR ONLY \$2! IN THIS WEEK'S EDITION: SYDNEY SENDS LIFE-SAVING SUPPLIES TO ZAMBIA**, Dr Mark Hanley, St Kevin's parishioner, shares his mission in helping St Joseph Lumezi Nursing College and Provincial Hospital. Read full article: <https://www.catholicweekly.com.au/sydney-sends-life-saving-supplies-to-zambia/>

UPCOMING TRAININGS to be conducted by the Archdiocese of Sydney Liturgy Office, Venue: St Kevin's Parish Hall. Copy of Baptism Certificate required. COST: FREE. For details on how to register go to: <https://liturgy.sydneycatholic.org/ministry-training-formation/>

- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMOHC), Wednesdays, July 19, 26 and Aug 2, 6pm-9pm All current EMOHC and Senior Altar Servers who haven't done this course from the Liturgy Office are **strongly encourage to participate**. This course is a pre-requisite to all Senior Altar Servers who wish to take the Acolytes course.
- Acolytes/Senior Altar Servers: Saturdays August 5, 12 and 19, 9am-12pm
- Readers: Saturdays October 7 and 14, 9am-12pm

AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE:

- **Join us for this year's 'Walk with Christ'** annual Eucharistic Procession through the streets of Sydney. When: Sun 11th with a festival beginning at 1pm in Martin Place. The procession starts at 2:30pm from the corner of Martin Place & Pitt St. This solemn event culminates at St Mary's Cathedral forecourt, with homily & benediction by the Archbishop. ALL WELCOME
- **Seasons of Renewal: Corpus Christi.** Join the Parish Renewal Team online as we explore practical ideas to help you prepare for the feast of Corpus Christi and the Walk with Christ. All welcome! Wed 24 May, 10 – 11 am; Thu 25 May, 2 – 3 pm; Thu 1 June, 7:30 – 8:30 pm Register at <http://www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events>

PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL:



St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle; be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray and do you, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

A MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE OF SYDNEY:

Child sexual abuse is a crime. The appropriate people to deal with crimes are the police. If you or anyone you know have been abused, please contact the police. Alternatively, contact Safeguarding & Ministerial Integrity Office (02) 9390 5810 or E: safeguarding-enquiries@sydneycatholic.org. You may speak to your Parish Priest who will be able to provide support & guidance. The Archdiocese has a legal obligation to report crimes to police.