

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Thurgoona



James 2:18

Show me your faith apart from your works and I by my works will show you my faith

Address: 20 Hartigan St, Thurgoona 2640 PO Box 110, Lavington 2641
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Ph: 02 6088 6222 **Parish Priest:** Fr Anthony Dunne **Acolyte:** Denis Golden
Direct Debit: BSB640000: Acc. No.111270902 Include name on transfers.
Cheques: Payable to IHM Parish Account

MASS TIMES

Saturday (Vigil) - 5pm
Sunday 9:30am
Monday 8am
~~**Tuesday** 10am~~
~~**Wednesday** 8:00am~~
Thursday 5:30pm Mass,
Holy Hour 4:30pm
~~**Friday** 8am~~
~~**Saturday** 8am~~

Anointing of the sick Mass
2nd Tues of month, March June Sept Dec.

Reconciliation
Thurs during Holy Hour 4:45 - 5:15pm
Sat 4:30 to 4:55pm before Vigil
Sun 9 to 9.25am
Or anytime, just ask Fr

Baptism and Marriage By appointment

Working Bee - Sat 9am to 11am



John Dunne, Fr Dunne's father passed away peacefully early on Tuesday morning in Brisbane. Please pray for him and keep Fr Dunne in your thoughts and prayers during this sad time.

May he rest in peace.

PARISH NOTICES

Weekday Mass Times this week:

Only Mon 8:00am and Thurs 5:30pm this week. See above.

124th Philippine Independence Day:

You are cordially invited to Holy Mass Saturday, 11th June at 5:00pm at Immaculate Heart of Mary, Thurgoona with fellowship in the Marian Hall afterwards - please bring a plate.

For details contact the MACE Sisters 0413 661 003 or 0402 090 438.

Mobile Phones: Please mute your mobile phone or turn it off during Mass.

Readers: Sat: 5:00pm Mary Seidel

Sun: 9:30am Steve McCrohan

Next week: Sat: 5:00pm Denis Golden

Sun: 9:30am Jorgete Hudson

Cleaning Roster: Sat 4th June Denis



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

29/05/2022

First reading

Acts 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

Psalm 46(47):2-3,6-9

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

Second reading

Hebrews 9:24-28,10:19-23

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

In other words, brothers, through the blood of Jesus we have the right to enter the sanctuary, by a new way which he has opened for us, a living opening through the curtain, that is to say, his body. And we have the supreme high priest over all the house of God. So as we go in, let us be sincere in heart and

filled with faith, our minds sprinkled and free from any trace of bad conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us keep firm in the hope we profess, because the one who made the promise is faithful.

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 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

Luke 24:46-53

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.

‘And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.’

Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

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Prayers of the Faithfull:

For our sick, Joan Jacobs, Noel Ryan, Fr John Speakman, Sam Courtella, Jackson Davis, Mathew Dix, Seamus Clancy and Laurie Evans.

We pray to the Lord. **R.** Lord hear our prayer.

For our recently departed, John Dunne, Joan McCauley, John McCormack and those who’s anniversaries occur at this time.

We pray to the Lord. **R.** Lord hear our prayer.

Communion Antiphon

Mt 28: 20

Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

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COVID 19 & Flu Season:

A friendly and timely reminder that as we enter the winter Flu Season and notwithstanding NSW Health regulations, common sense dictates that if you have a fever, bad cough, fatigue, sore throat or shortness of breath (the symptoms of the cold or flu) or if you are generally sick or unwell - you should not enter the church and should self-isolate as much as possible - regardless of any test results.

Masks are still encouraged for indoor settings and those who prefer to receive Holy Communion on the tongue are asked to approach communion after those who have received on the hand.

PRESENCE, NOT ABSENCE



The Feast of Jesus' Ascension celebrates the end of Jesus' work on earth for us and his return to God his Father. Luke's Gospel and its sequel – the Acts of the Apostles – describe Jesus as leaving his disciples and rising into heaven. His Ascension is followed almost immediately by the sending of the Holy Spirit. Through the Spirit Jesus remains present with us as we trust in his promise that he will return at the end of time. The stories of the Ascension and Pentecost explore the way in which Jesus is now both present to us and distant from us. The image of Jesus rising through the clouds into heaven is in harmony with the way Luke and his contemporaries saw the world. They imagined our world as like a bowl with a spherical cover. Above the vault were the heavens, the world of God and the spirits.

Our image of the world is unimaginably larger. We see rockets go into the sky above us, parachutists come down, and spaceships travel to nearby planets which were once seen as belonging to the heavens. In this world the image of Jesus rising to heaven can seem a little quaint. We need to attend to the larger reality that underlies the image of Jesus being taken into heaven. It speaks of the journey of the Son of God into the human world, his work for us in Jesus, his killing at the hands of other human beings, his rising from the dead into a new life with God, his opening for us the way to follow him and share in his new life, and his coming again at the end of time.

The Ascension is the closing of one stage of God's presence with us and the opening of a new stage of our presence with God. It is surrounded by rich symbolism that is easy to miss. It is said to take place 40 days after Jesus' death and resurrection. The Gospels place his death around the Jewish feast of the Passover which celebrated their freedom from slavery in Egypt. Jesus' death was his passing over from death to life and freeing us from freedom from slavery to sin. The interval between his Resurrection and his Ascension and sending of the Spirit associated these events with another Jewish feast.

It celebrated God's giving the Law through Moses to the people in the desert and God's promise to be present to them through the Law and the Temple. This association makes it clear that the Ascension of Jesus is about presence, not absence. In the story of the Ascension, Jesus instructs his disciples to go to Bethany where he farewells them. In the Gospels Bethany was closely associated with Jesus during his ministry, most notably in John's Gospel as the place where he raised Lazarus to life. It was some distance outside Jerusalem, a safe place to which he retired when under threat of death. In Jerusalem by his death and rising he had conquered death. At his Ascension he could now send the disciples back from Bethany to Jerusalem to share the Good News.

Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ australiancatholics.com.au