



## Ascension of the Lord Yr A 24<sup>th</sup> May 2020

**Our Mission:** We follow the words of our patron, St John Vianney, who said "He is here". We recognise Christ is in the Word, the Eucharist, and in us, His people with a special reverence for Him in the poor and marginalised. We are called to make Christ present through our prayer and charity. We seek to grow in our spiritual lives and create a community where everyone is welcome; the young and old, together to experience the loving presence of God. We believe He is here amongst us and we joyfully go out to make Him present to all.

**(This Parish is Child Safety Aware and also complies with Australian Privacy Laws)**

**The feast of "The Ascension of the Lord"** that we celebrate this weekend was actually last Thursday exactly 40 days after Easter, but because of its importance and for pastoral reasons it is moved to this Sunday. Everyone is looking for a long and happy life. And we know Eternal life is unending happiness. This is what we all seek. Jesus today tells us how to attain this all-important reward in life. The feast of "The Ascension of the Lord" is the hope of our glorification and a promise to meet our Lord in heaven. It is a reminder of our salvation, because our true home is in heaven. This is the beautiful truth we celebrate today. So we are challenged to look beyond this world to the destiny which we are to share with Christ. Thus, this world can only be a place of temporary refuge; a world of passage and not a world of permanence.

Moreover, this feast of the Ascension is also a reminder, not just of what awaits us, but also what we need to do while we are still on earth. His Ascension is also the start of our mission, the call that Jesus gives to His Church to continue His mission. A big task indeed. But before we can proclaim Jesus to others, our first task is to make sure that we make Jesus the Lord of our own hearts. This we can do by prayerfully reflecting on His words and by living according to His teachings and commandments.

We are to make time to become more and more Christ like in everything. We can write a new page of the gospel each day, through the things that we do and the words that we say. Then we proclaim the Good News to others not only through our words and deeds, but also through our lives. So that Jesus will also reign in their hearts and one day we all will be with Him in heaven.

**The Feast of Mary, Help of Christians**, the Patroness of Australia is on 24th May, this year because it falls on Sunday we celebrate this feast on 25th Monday. I now ask you to join me in saying the prayer of entrustment of Australia to the care of Mary Help of Christians, on this her feast day especially during this extraordinary situation. *O Immaculate Mary, Help of Christians, Queen of heaven and earth, and tender Mother of humanity, at this time when a pandemic threatens all your children, we entrust to you our nation, Australia, and all who live in this country. We commit to your intercession all the members of our community, beginning with the weakest ones, from the unborn to the sick, the disabled and the elderly. We commit to you our families, our young and old, and all who are vulnerable, those who are quarantined or anxious. We entrust to your Immaculate Heart those who have lost their livelihood or employment, our pastors and other essential service workers, and our leaders at this time. We implore your intercession especially for the protection of doctors and nurses and those who minister to the contagious sick in this crisis. Reign over us, Mother of God, and teach us how to make the Heart of Jesus reign and triumph in us and around us, as it has reigned and triumphed in you. Amen.*

Blessings,

*Fr. Dantus Thottathil.*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK:** Karen Booker, Michael Gibbings, Mary Schmidt, Joyce Starkey, Pat Wilson, Sandra Wilson, Maddie Bell, Teresa Geraghty, Mary Forrester, Krystyna Kelly, Sheila Petersen, Richard Pook, Violet Maureen Phillips, Ash Dean, Dennis Patterson, Carmen Phairs, Irene Gavril, Rosa Maria Santos, Dawn O'Sullivan, Leon and Roz Thomas, Maura Poots, Angela Geraghty, Hugo Callan, Joan Francis, Angela de Weger, Terry Coles, Margaret Brennan, Ted Chapman, Leslee O'Connell, Katherine Pickering, Stacie Stonier, Val Steeden, Don Fraser

For a name to be included in the 'Prayer for our Sick' list, the Privacy Act now requires the personal permission of the nominee or a close relative.

**ANNIVERSARIES** Ethel Barker, Andrew Caltabiano, George Carney, Breeanna Castillon, Sr (James) Cavanagh, Sr Emmanuel (Mary) Conneely, Gerald Costello, Agnes (Nancy) Davies, Andreas de Bruijn, Hester Deutschmann, Clarence Dunlop, Jacqueline Farmer, Geoffrey Harrison, Kathleen Hodge, Alan Kane, Francis Kate, Naomi Keller, Jackie Kneeshaw, Bessie Lucker, Patrick McDonald, Christins McMahon, Clara Mills, Agnes Marano, Monica Mulheran, Kate Newman, Mary O'Shea, Richard Pittock, Josefa Raleigh, Francis Ritchie, Lenore Segeren, Lawreen Smith, Terence Shephard, Helen Stewart, Lothar Thiel, Dudley Taylor, Sr Francis Perry, Annie Smith, Eva Mancktelow, Harold Smith, Helen Stewart, Phyllis Sticher, Monica Wells, Kenneth White, Geoffrey Williams

### QUOTE OF THE DAY:

**Your storms are only temporary. But the blessings of God are Forever.**

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Acting Parish Secretary: Kate Sellwood **Office hours: 9.00am to 12.30pm Wed, Fri**

Manly Office Ph: 3131 2610 (Birkdale 3822-2139) Presbytery Ph: 3396 0742 **Parish email: [manly@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:manly@bne.catholic.net.au)**

**Website: [manlycatholicparish.org.au](http://manlycatholicparish.org.au)**

### **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Les Sellwood (Chairperson) Joshua Walsh (Secretary), Bruce Corrie, Helen McNamara, Paola Nunez, Maria Jones, Pam Chapman and Julia McLean.

**This Parish is Child Safety Aware and also complies with Australian Privacy Laws. A copy of the Child Safety and Protection of Vulnerable Adults policy is situated in the foyer of the church.**

**Archdiocesan Safeguarding Officer for Manly is Les Sellwood: 0401 235 739**

**STOPLINE Contact; [AOB@stopline.com.au](mailto:AOB@stopline.com.au)**

**St John Vianney's, Manly & St Jude's, Gumdale**

**First Reading:** Act 1: 1-11

**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 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:** Ps 46: 2-3, 6-9 **God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord**

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.**

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.**

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:** Ephesians 1: 17-23

**He made Jesus 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, 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:** Matthew 28: 16-20

**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.'

**Prayers of the Faithful:**

For our world that we may be free of COVID-19 and those who are sick or anxious because of COVID-19, that God comfort and heal them, Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

That those who suffer from COVID-19 today may experience peace and new strength. Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

For the members of this parish, that we continue to witness to Jesus by our love for and care of one another, Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord hear our prayer.**

For all who are weighed down by worry, ill health and other personal problems, that they may look up to the Lord and receive the help they need, Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord hear our prayer.**

For all who have died, that they complete their journey of joy to the glory of God's kingdom, Let us pray to the Lord. **Lord hear our prayer.**

## **Announcements:**

- The parish office will only be open on **Wednesdays and Fridays between 9am and 12:30pm**. *In the event of an emergency, please contact Fr Dantus on 3396 0742.* During this time, we are providing the newsletter and other weekly resources to parishioners via email. If you wish to receive the newsletter via email. Please email your details (email address and phone number) to: [manly@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:manly@bne.catholic.net.au)
- **Please note that fencing has been installed on the parish boundary for security reasons. Parishioners are welcome to enter the parish through two gates located in the fence.**
- As you know, with the suspension of public Masses, collections are not taking place, which places some strain on our parish finances through considerably reduced income. We understand that many are facing the task of preparing for the financial difficulties that lie ahead. If you are able, please remember the parish in your thinking and planning ahead. We are most grateful for the assistance you feel you are able to offer in this difficult time. May I express our deepest thanks and appreciation to our parishioners for your continued support of our Parish. Our parish account details: **Account Name:** Manly Parish **BSB:** 064786 **A/C Number:** 006716002
- We are now on Facebook. Please like and follow us at: <https://www.facebook.com/St-John-Vianneys-Catholic-Parish-Manly-QLD-103593494688237/> for parish updates.
- **From 17 May 2020, we will be able to hold mass with 8 people in attendance. Attendance at these masses will be on a roster basis. If you wish to be included on this roster, please contact the parish office via email [manly@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:manly@bne.catholic.edu.au) or phone 3131 2610. Please include the number of people that would be attending with you.**