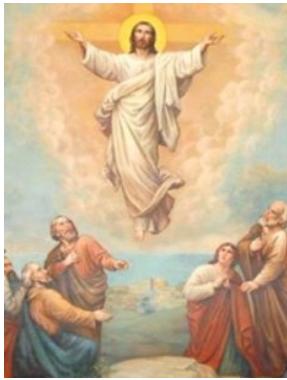


ST. MONICA'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Moonee Ponds



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Assistant Priest: Rev. Fr. Andrew Choi

Parish Office: Sonya Bading

Pastoral Assistant: Abygaile Cukavac

(White)

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

24th May 2020

Dear Parishioners,

It seems like the Easter Sunday was just a few days ago, and it is already the Ascension Sunday which means only seven more days till the Pentecost, the end of Eastertide. How is your Eastertide going so far?

In the Gospel passage today, which concludes Matthew's Gospel, Jesus entrusted his disciples with an important mission before he went back to his Father: "*Go to make disciples [...]; baptise them [...], and teach them [...].*" That is to say, the mission was what Jesus did throughout his earthly life. This mission has been handed on to his disciples and now to us through the faith of numerous people.

I would like to share some words of St Theresa of Ávila. She said: "*Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours.*" As St Theresa said, we, all Christians, should live as Christ in this world.

Although we are living in this strange and extraordinary time, we are still Christians who are invited to share our joy of redemption with others. One thing we should keep in mind is that "*nothing can separate us from God's love that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.* (Rom 8:39)"

Please keep staying safe and well,

Every Blessing,

Fr. Tony and Fr. Andrew

Sunday 24th is Chaplaincy Sunday. We pray for Catholic Chaplains and the vital work they do in youth detention centres, prisons, hospitals and the support of seafarers. Our lay chaplains are our ambassadors who gently enable the lived expression of the values of the gospel among those who sit at the edges of our society.

* SUNDAY ONLINE MASS *

will be available via our Parish Webpage
www.stmonicasparish.com.au

Every Sunday by 10.30am for parishioners to participate in their homes.

Sunday Liturgy @ Home;

Please click on each link below to find guided reflection for The Ascension of the Lord

[For Adults:](#)

[For Families with Young Children:](#)

WE PRAY FOR

The elderly and the sick

Marius Fernando; Dantina Frederico; Barbara Burby; Stella Mammone; Gino Salva

RECENTLY DECEASED

We remember in prayer,

Anna Maria Russo; Sebastiano Gervasi
May they rest in peace

ANNIVERSARIES

In Faith, Hope and Love,

let us pray for repose of the souls of
Lorna Farmer; Patrick Macken; James Carroll

We respectfully acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation, as the traditional caretakers of the land which is the St. Monica's Catholic Parish. We acknowledge the Elders, past & present. May we, too, be good stewards of this land.

ENTRANCE ANTIphon

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?
This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven
will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

FIRST READING (Acts 11, 1-11)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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.’

The word of the Lord. — *Thanks be to God.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(R.) 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 (Eph 1:17-23)

A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians

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.

The word of the Lord. — *Thanks be to God.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

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

The Gospel of the Lord. — *Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ*

COMMUNION ANTIphon

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

