



# St John's Wood/The Gap Parish Bulletin

Vol 5, Issue 18

12th May 2024



## THE ASCENSION of the LORD

**First Reading:** [Acts 1:1-11](#)

Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

**Second Reading:** [Eph 1:17-23](#)

He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.

**Gospel:** [Mark 16:15-20](#)

No one can have greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.

## THIS WEEK'S GOSPEL REFLECTION:

### WHAT DO WE DO NOW?

Imagine how many times, through their days living with and following the Lord, that the disciples found themselves dumbstruck. His teaching fell on them like thunder. Parables, like mysterious worlds, snapped and popped about, opening new, wonderful, bottomless points of view.

And his symbolic actions! He cursed the fig tree. He forgave sins. He woke up in the boat and rebuked the storm. He marched right into the temple and, like a whirlwind, drove out the moneychangers.

And, of course, there were the miracles! He touched and healed lepers, the infirm, the blind from birth. He turned water into wine. He walked on water. He even raised a man from the dead!

And all of this was like a plane on a runway, gathering speed, faster, faster, to go ... where? To the cross! The man died. The spear went into His side. They saw his blood spill. They saw His naked body hanging lifelessly from the wood. They saw him taken down and placed into the earth. They were certainly confused then: the whole movement, the whole world-changing, upside-down, inside-out revolution he started ends in total defeat?

Of course, from our place in the long line of heirs to this story, we know it's not over: on the third day He returns from death. Reading or hearing the story ourselves, we can almost taste the mixture of confusion with unutterable joy and amazement that drenches the page.

And there's more. He is with them, from that first Easter morning, for forty glorious and strange days, days beyond comprehension, where time and space were surely refigured around his presence—heaven, as they say, on earth. There's little said about this time, but, yes, it's strange: they struggle to recognise him. He appears and disappears. He passes through locked doors. He eats fish. He breaks through Thomas' doubt: 'Here, put your hand in my wounded side!' He reconciles and recommissions Peter: 'Feed my sheep!'

And you can just as palpably taste the disciples' wondered confusion now at His ascension. Before their very eyes he passes on into the heavenly realm, the cloud of glory hiding him from their sight. He suffered, died, descended to hell, and returned—and wait, he now leaves for heaven? The story has been strange all along. But three of the gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke—end with this event.

'And what do we do now?' You can almost hear the disciples saying to themselves. In the gospel story that is exactly the question we, who also believe, are supposed to ask. The Lord ascended to heaven, to the place of all authority. He, that man, Jesus of Nazareth, sits on the divine throne. And it's still not over. The rest of the story includes us. It includes all creation. It's still being written!

Our question today is the same as the disciples' then: 'What do we do now?' Keep reading, keep listening, to find out.

*W Chris Hackett © Majellan Media 2024*



[Readings and Commentaries](#)

PRAYING with CHILDREN  
SUNDAY LITURGY



Fr Ihemelandu reflects on The Ascension of the Lord, "It is not the departure of Jesus from us, rather it must be seen as a new presence of Jesus among us.." [Watch now.](#)

### Recently Deceased

Elizabeth Lau, Teresa David

### Anniversary

Jill Beaton, Margaret Sharpe, Ged Cosgrove, Brian Collins, Michael Ratnayake

### Sick

Antonio Ferrante, Deborah Austin, Lorraine Stevens, Carol Black, Baby Dion Eralino, Peter Hadley, Moira De Silva, Susan Black, Juliana Ryman, Lorna McConnachie, Philomena Jasoda, Margaret Sullivan, Bernie Knapp, Mary Davidson, Val Bonney, Peter Maher, Ryan Ferguson, Linda Pisano, Jane McMahan, Estelle Freney, Irene Dards, Toni Bennett, Beth Kloza, Kim Murphy

### WCCM (Christian Meditation)

Monday at 9.30am Parish Office.

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Mater Dei: Monday & Friday 6 - 7pm

### WELCOME

*This weekend we welcome the boarding students from Marist College as they join us for 9.30 Mass at Mater Dei followed by morning tea. Please stay and have a chat and make them welcome.*

*Dear God, bless our friendships with depth and sincerity, and may solidarity be our guiding light. Grant us the strength to uplift one another, to stand firm in unity and to journey together through life's trials and triumphs, always bound by love. Amen*

Day/Date	Liturgy	Activity	Venue
Tuesday 14/05/2024	<b>St Matthias, apostle</b>	9am –Mass	Mater Dei
Wednesday 15/05/2024	<b>WEDNESDAY of the 7th week of Easter</b>	<b>9am - Anointing Mass</b>	SPC
Thursday 16/05/2024	<b>THURSDAY of the 7th week of Easter</b>	9am—Mass	SPC
Friday 17/05/2024	<b>FRIDAY of the 7th week of Easter</b>	9am– Mass	Mater Dei
Saturday 18/05/2024	<b>PENTECOST SUNDAY</b>	5.30pm – Mass	Mater Dei
Sunday 19/05/2024		8.00am - Mass	SPC
		9.30 am - Mass	Mater Dei
		5.00pm - Mass	SPC

## ST JOHN'S WOOD / THE GAP PARISH

### Office Hours

Mon, Wed, Fri:- 8:30am - 3:30pm  
Tue, Thurs: - 8:30am - 12:30pm

### Contact

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**Facebook:** [StJohnsWoodTheGapParish](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsWoodTheGapParish)

**Bulletin:** *Email this address if you require a copy*  
[bulletin.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:bulletin.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au)

### PARISH TEAM

#### Fr Terence Nueva

Parish Priest

**E:** [nuevat@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:nuevat@bne.catholic.net.au)

**M:** 0438 946 000

#### Silvana Geldenhuys

Parish Secretary

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#### Majella Deegan

Sacramental Program Coordinator

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#### Ann Lister

Local Safeguarding Representative & Parish Office Assistant

**E:** [poa2.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:poa2.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au)

### CHURCHES

#### Mater Dei

16 Philomene Drive, Ashgrove, 4060

#### St. Peter Chanel

41 Chaprowe Road, The Gap, 4061

### SCHOOLS

#### [Mater Dei Primary School](#)

**T:** 3514 4100

#### [St Peter Chanel Primary School](#)

**T:** 3300 1202



## Loving God,

we thank you for the love of the mothers you have given us, whose love is so precious that it can never be measured, whose patience seems to have no end.

We pray for those mothers who fear they will run out of love or time, or patience. We ask you to bless them with your own special love.

**Amen.**

Catholic.org

## Mother's Day Blessing

*May you feel the touch of God's Blessings on your heart today and always*

**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL THE AMAZING MOTHERS**



### PARISH MASSES HEAD COUNT

The 4-week Annual ARCHDIOCESAN WEEKEND MASS ATTENDANCE COUNT 2024 will be held during the month of May commencing on the weekend of 4/5th. These numbers provide the Archdiocese with a sense of the trends in the Church in 2024. This enables the Church to understand who it is engaging, who it isn't engaging, and where it might place resources into the future.

## HAPPY 95TH BIRTHDAY

On behalf of the Parish we would like to *congratulate*

Terry Foley on his milestone birthday on Wednesday 15th May.



### HOME ROSARY

This week's rosary will be said at the home of Brian & Bernadette on Monday 13th May. Contact the Parish Office for further details.

For through wisdom your days will be many, and years will be added to your life. *Proverbs 9:11*



**Congratulations!**

Please check out our [Parish Webpage](#) and [Facebook Page](#) for regular updates.





## YOUTH LED MASS—SUNDAY 16TH JUNE

### COME AND JOIN IN THE FUN

Our next **Youth led Mass** and **Pot Luck Dinner** will be held on Sunday 16th June. If you or someone you know would like to be involved in the Mass we have listed below parts of the Mass to be involved in:



**Musicians** -Looking for anyone who would like to play or sing. We will **practice before Mass, starting at 3:00pm.**

**Proclaimers & Readers** -Looking for people to proclaim the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> readings and read the prayers of the faithful. There will be time before Mass to have a run-through.

**Computer Operator** -Looking for someone who's keen to operate the computer/ overhead lyrics. Some experience is preferential but not necessary.

**Altar Servers** -Looking for anyone who knows how to altar serve, particularly the younger kids.

**Offertory**- Looking for people to take the bread and wine to the foot of the Altar during the Offertory. A great role for anyone!  
Please contact Isabelle Deegan below if you are interested.

[deeganisabelle345@gmail.com](mailto:deeganisabelle345@gmail.com)



## PARISH COMMUNITY BUILDING GROUP UPDATE

There is a group of parishioners who have been meeting to discuss ways of encouraging a deeper sense of community and family involvement in the parish. Thank you to those parishioners who have responded to the call out so far and gotten back to us with their thoughts. Definitely some ideas for us to explore! One of the first simple things we are planning to undertake is to instigate a Welcoming Sunday once a month on the First Sunday of the Month. We are all familiar with, and good at turning and greeting each other at the beginning of Mass but this will be an opportunity to further extend this and step out of our normal comfort zone and friendship groups and be more intentional about meeting or talking with someone who may be a new face at church or someone you always smile at but have never actually had a conversation with. On the first Sunday of each month at both churches we are also going to have "stick on" name tags at the door of the church for people to write their names on to make it easier to say hi to people and have a conversation with someone who you may have seen for ages but never really knew their name. Let's enjoy and look forward to meeting new faces and ensuring our communities are a welcoming place for all!

For any more information or suggestions please contact Luke Garske [luke.garske@connect.qut.edu.au](mailto:luke.garske@connect.qut.edu.au) or Michelle Mead [themeads@gmail.com](mailto:themeads@gmail.com)

## THE SACRAMENT OF EUCHARIST- FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The Sacrament of Eucharist has commenced in the Parish on the weekends and will continue through till 26th May.

**We are planning a combined celebration for the children who have received their First Communion during this time.**

*You are invited...*

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June 9:30am Parish mass @Mater Dei**  
**Followed by morning tea with the community and a special celebratory cake.** We look forward to seeing many of you there.

Please pray for the children who will be celebrating their Sacrament this weekend.

5.30pm MD	8am SPC	9.30am MD	5pm SPC
Liam C	Zavier F	Hannah C	NIL
Adriano C	Ella W	Harry De L	
Cian D		Nicholas L	
Andre D		Justine L	
Elizabeth H		Harry R	
Edward H			
Charlotte H			
Marcus N			
Jacob O'C			
Hamish O'T			
Patrick R-D			

***"For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."***

*1 Corinthians 11:26*



## SYNODALITY AND

### THE LIFE OF THE PARISH

**Location:** St Ignatius Church, 30 Kensington Terrace, Toowong **Date:** Friday, 24 May 2024 **Time:** 7:30pm – 9:00pm



**All Welcome** In anticipation of the October Synod on Synodality, join us for a special event featuring key theologians. The evening's discussions will focus on synodal processes both locally and globally.

**Guest Speakers:** **Fr Agbonkhianmeghe E. Orobator, S.J.** Dean, Jesuit School of Theology, California. Author and key speaker in the October Synod, Fr Orobator is a former provincial superior of the Jesuits in Eastern Africa **Fr Orm Rush** Priest from Townsville Diocese, author of *The Vision of Vatican II*. **Associate Professor Maeve Heaney** Director, Xavier Centre for Theological Formation, ACU, author of *Suspended God*.

**Additional Details:** Fr Orobator's insights can be further explored through his podcast at

[Synodality Embracing Tension Podcast.](#)

## COPRUS CHRISTI PROCESSION (SUNDAY 2nd JUNE) and EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES EXHIBITION

In addition to the procession, that begins at the Cathedral of St Stephen at 2pm on Sunday the 2nd June, an exhibition of Eucharistic Miracles around the world will be on display in the Hanly Room, Francis Rush Centre, **from Saturday 1st – Sunday 2nd June**. There will also be a vigil of Adoration in St Stephen's Chapel overnight from 7pm Saturday 1st – Sunday 2nd June.

Come along with your family, community and parish groups. For transport and other information, please call 0412 802 122 or visit the Corpus Christi website at <https://www.corpuschristibrisbane.com> **All are welcome!**





We invite you to join Australian Marist Solidarity for this unique event which will raise much needed funds for our partners throughout Asia and the Pacific.

Connect with your Marist friends and enjoy a drink as we raise funds to support programs like the Chetana Tribal Boys Hostel, which provides safe accommodation for ethnic minorities from remote areas in India.

With the support of Marist College Ashgrove and the Old Boys Association, and powered by the Funding Network, we can't wait to make a significant contribution to the lives of young people in need across our region.

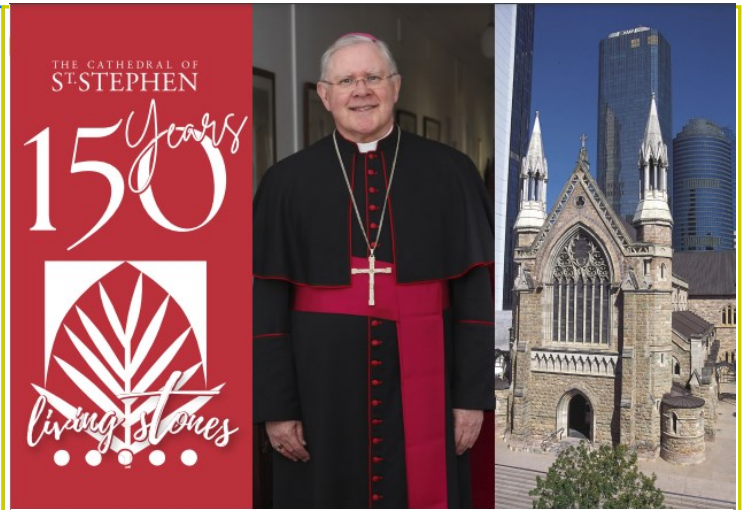
"Please join us for this evening to reconnect with your Marist friends and help us raise important funds for young people in need".

- Norman Chan, Acting Board Chair AMS

**Details:** Time: 5.45pm-8pm

**Venue:** The Tower, Marist College Ashgrove

**Register:** [Click here](#), 3354 0600 [ams@marists.org.au](mailto:ams@marists.org.au)



## 150th Anniversary of the Cathedral of St Stephen and the Golden Jubilee of Archbishop Mark Coleridge

**FRIDAY 17 MAY**

12.30 pm Mass for the Sesquicentenary

6.00 pm Ecumenical Celebration of the Sesquicentenary  
(Refreshments will follow)

**SATURDAY 18 MAY**

11.30 am Mass for the Golden Jubilee of the Priestly Ordination of the Archbishop

6:00pm Pentecost Vigil Mass

**SUNDAY 19 MAY**

10:30am Pentecost Mass

**GO AND INVITE EVERYONE**  
*to the banquet*

His Eminence  
*Cardinal Giorgio Marengo IMC.*

Catholic Mission invites you to a dialogue on Mission in Action as we hear Cardinal Giorgio Marengo share how we can help support the work of the church in Mongolia.

Cardinal Marengo, who first went to Mongolia in 2003, is a strong believer in interfaith dialogue. It is through the grace of God he continues his ministry in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

Donations are welcome and will support the work of the church in Mongolia.

**Monday 24th June 2024**

**Time:**  
6:00 pm to 7:30 pm



**Venue:**  
Hanly Room - St Francis Rush Centre  
196 Charlotte St, Brisbane

Register via Trybooking  
[www.trybooking.com/cQTQF](http://www.trybooking.com/cQTQF)  
or QR Code



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### A vocation view: The ASCENSION of the LORD - B

Jesus said to his disciples 'Go into the whole world and proclaim the Good News to all creation'. There are still dark aspects to our world and neighbourhood that need the Good News. Answer the call to 'Go and teach all people my Gospel',

"I am with you".

**Please pray for Vocations.**

To find out more call 1300 133 544 or

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or scan the QR code

