



St John's Wood/The Gap Parish Bulletin

Vol 5, Issue 21

1 June 2025



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](#)

Christ has entered heaven.

Gospel: [Luke 24:46-53](#)

While blessing them, he was taken to heaven.



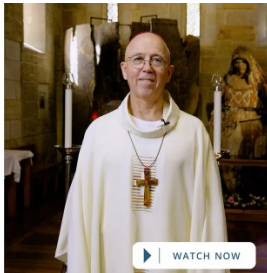
[Readings and Commentaries](#)

PRAYING With CHILDREN
SUNDAY LITURGY

TWO-MINUTE HOMILY

**Ascension
of the Lord**

Bishop Tim Norton SVD



WATCH NOW

We are blessed this week to hear about the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ from a familiar voice and face, Bishop Tim Norton, now serving in Broome. [Watch now.](#)

Deceased

Tony Clinton, Alan Whidburn, Denise O'Rourke

Anniversary

Terry MacDonald, Fr Jim Smith, Bryan Hannagan, Aiden Besley, Robert Murphy

Sick

Fiona Russell, Carmel Herbert, Christy Murphy, Yvonne Harrison, Suzanne Black, Beth Kloza, Heiko Ertel, Jim Johnson, Kathleen Cosgrove, Robert Minns, Tim chen chen zuo Zu, Mary Thomas, Antonio Ferrante, Lorraine Stevens, Carol Black, Moira De Silva, Juliana Ryman, Lorna McConnachie, Margaret Sullivan, Bernie Knapp, Val Bonney, Ryan Ferguson, Linda & Andrea Pisano, Estelle Freney, Toni Bennett, Deiana Martin, Les Grimson

WCCM (Christian Meditation)

Monday at 9.30am Parish Office.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Mater Dei: Monday & Friday 6 - 7pm

This week's Gospel Reflection:

A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY FOR GOD'S MISSION

The Italian composer Giacomo Puccini wrote famous operas such as *La Boheme*, *Madama Butterfly* and *Tosca*. It was during his battle with terminal cancer in 1922 that he began to write *Turandot*, which many consider his best work.

He worked on the score day and night, despite his friends' advice to rest, and to save his energy. When his sickness worsened, Puccini said to his disciples, "If I don't finish *Turandot*, I want you to finish it." He died of a heart attack in 1924, leaving the work unfinished.

His disciples gathered all that was written for *Turandot*, studied it in detail, and then proceeded to write the remainder of the opera. The world premier was in La Scala Opera House in Milan in 1926, and Maestro Arturo Toscanini, Puccini's favourite student, conducted it. The opera went beautifully, until Toscanini came to the end of the part written by Puccini.

He stopped the music, put down the baton, turned to the audience, and announced, "Thus far the master wrote, but he died." There was a long pause; no one moved. Toscanini then picked up the baton, turned to the audience and, with tears in his eyes, announced, "But his disciples finished his work." The opera closed to thunderous applause and has found a permanent place in the annals of great operas.

The Easter season concludes the public life of Jesus, but before he returns to the Father, he gathers his disciples. He asks them to be his witnesses to the world and continue his ministry by proclaiming the good news and under the influence of the Holy Spirit calling people to newness of life.

The feast of the ascension reminds us of our collective responsibility for mission. We are baptised into the community of believers and share an identity, but life as Catholic Christians is a call to share the mission of Jesus.

We may think that mission and evangelisation are the responsibility of clergy and religious, but they are the responsibility of all the baptised. Pope Francis consistently emphasises that the Church does not engage in proselytising but grows through "attraction" and the witness of lived faith, is how we best share the gospel message and invite others to follow Christ.

Jesus is no longer physically among us, but he reminds us that he journeys with us and that the Holy Spirit accompanies us in our journey through life.

Bearing witness does not necessarily mean speaking about our beliefs, although this is what happened with the first disciples. It means integrity of life where our actions match our words. It may also mean on occasion being willing to engage in dialogue with others who do not share our belief, but who have questions. Dialogue is an essential part of witness to our belief. Like the first disciples of Jesus and Puccini's disciples, it is our task to bring their work to completion.

Michael A Kelly CSsR@Majellan Media 2025



WEAR RED FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY 8TH JUNE

We invite you to wear something RED next Sunday to celebrate the Birth of the Church.

It commemorates the **descent of the Holy Spirit** upon the Apostles, marking the birth of the Church and the beginning of its mission to spread the Gospel. The term "Pentecost" comes from the Greek word meaning "fiftieth," reflecting its timing in the Jewish calendar as the Feast of Weeks.

Day/Date	Liturgy	Mass Times	Venue
Monday 02/06/2025	7th week of Easter	9am	Mater Dei
Wednesday 04/06/2025	7th week of Easter	9am	SPC
Thursday 05/06/2025	St Boniface, bishop, martyr	9am	SPC
Friday 07/06/2025	5th week of Easter	9am– Anointing Mass	Mater Dei
Saturday 07/06/2025	7th week of Easter	5.30pm	Mater Dei
Sunday 08/06/2025	PENTECOST SUNDAY	8am 10am 5pm	SPC MD SPC

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy Leaders - Help Needed

Children's Liturgy is presently offered at the 10am Mass on the first Sunday of each month. To keep this program sustainable, we are urgently seeking more volunteers to be part of a roster, either as a session leader, or assistant. Your help could be on a monthly, once a term, or standby basis - all help is welcome. All volunteers need to complete the parish safeguarding requirements prior to commencing. Support is available to learn how it all works, including shadowing an existing session leader. Easy to follow materials are provided through the Archdiocese for each Sunday. If you are interested in finding out more please contact the parish office, or Donna Lynn. donna.lynn@live.com.au

PLEASE NOTE:

There will be a special Mass for the feast of The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary to be held at **St Peter Chanel Church at 9am on Saturday 31st May**. We look forward to seeing you there.



JOURNALING GROUP

We have parishioners who meet regularly, for about 1 hour per week, to read the scriptures for a particular day and share their reflections. It's in the **sharing** that the group appreciates how relevant the scriptures are to our lives today. These sharing experiences are so **uplifting and joyful** I am starting a new group or groups to be based in the eastern end of the parish and invite you to join me. All existing groups, to my knowledge, meet in coffee shops, homes or other venues in the western end of the parish. This invitation is to those men and women who currently do not participate in journaling groups. If you want further information, are interested or curious, please contact me:- Denis Newman, mobile 0492 959 797, email mareeba@tpg.com.au



SOCIAL TRIVIA NIGHT

Don't forget to come

and join in the fun!! A small group of parishioners will be gathering for trivia at the Blind Tiger (at the Gap Village) on **Wednesday 4 June**. There are two tables booked from 6pm, with trivia starting at 7pm. Purchase food and drinks as you go on the night. Gold coin entry fee when trivia commences. RSVP is essential - 20 people maximum. Get in early! Please contact Donna Lynn for more details or if you would like to RSVP donna.lynn@live.com.au See you there!

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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E: thegap@bne.catholic.net.au

Web: www.stjohnswoodthegap.net.au

Facebook: [StJohnsWood/TheGapParish](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsWood/TheGapParish)

Bulletin: Email this address if you require a copy
bulletin.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH TEAM

Fr Anthony Odionyenfe

Parish Priest

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Silvana Geldenhuys

Parish Secretary

E: poa.thegap@bne.catholic.net.au

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Local Safeguarding Representative & Parish Office Assistant

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Majella Deegan

Sacramental Program Coordinator

E: spco.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



HOME ROSARY

This week's rosary will be said at the home of Carmel on Monday 2nd June.

Contact the parish office for further details.

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



RCIA UPDATE

With heartfelt appreciation to Graham for the wonderful work he's doing with our RCIA, we are happy to announce that Rhondda will be welcomed into our parish community this Sunday during 8am mass at SPC. Rhondda will be celebrating her first Reconciliation within the week, and her Confirmation/ Holy Communion will be celebrated on Pentecost Sunday at 8am Mass at St Peter Chanel.

Rhondda was formerly of Anglican communion and has expressed her desire concretely to join the catholic faith here in our parish through weeks of the RCIA program .

We also want to express our gratitude to Peter McMahon for being her sponsor throughout her journey. Please keep Rhondda in your prayers.



PARISH COUNCIL

The first meeting of the new Parish Council was held on Thursday night. So far we have 15 members with two awaiting confirmation.

We were inspired by the enthusiasm of the members who all have their own unique qualities, strengths and perspectives.

Our members are: Father Anthony, Anthony Thomas (Chairman), Chris Jackson (Secretary), John Robertson, Patrice Grealy-ridley, Ian McLean, Michelle Mead, Dana Murdoch, David Joyce, Charmayne Eaves, Cathy Kruij, Debbie Hazzard, Genevieve Dubois, Silvana and Ann.

We look forward to keeping you updated with the outcomes from the Parish Council meetings.

WELCOMING SUNDAY



Don't forget this Sunday is welcoming Sunday. Say hello, it's nice to meet you to someone you may not know or haven't spoken to in awhile. Name tags are at the back of the Church.

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

Single Working Middle Aged Male seeking Granny Flat to Rent or Room to House Share even if it's only Available Short term, Non Smoker, Cooks Meals But Always Cleans up etc .

Contact Kevin please on +61 435275728 Or Email k_richardson@live.com.au

SOMETHING FOR A LAUGH

A man walks into a bar and sits down. He says to the bartender, "I'd like a bar of chocolate."

The bartender replies, "Sure, the vending machine is over there."

So, the man walks over to the machine and as he is about to buy some chocolate, the machine suddenly says, "You sugar-loving idiot!"

The man says with surprise in his voice, "That's not very nice." He returns to his bar stool without a chocolate and asks the bartender for some peanuts.

The bartender passes the man a bowl of peanuts and the man hears one of the peanuts say, "Ooh, I like your hair."

The man says to the bartender, "Hey, what's going on here? Your vending machine is insulting me and this peanut is coming on to me. Why?"

The bartender replies, "Oh, that's because the machine is out of order and the peanuts are complimentary."



A boy asks his father, "Dad, are bugs good to eat?"

"That's disgusting. Don't talk about things like that over dinner," the dad replies.

After dinner the father asks, "Now, son, what did you want to ask me?"

"Oh, nothing," the boy says. "There was a bug in your soup, but now it's gone."

😊😊😊😊 Have a great week ahead.....



JUBILEE OF FAMILIES, CHILDREN, GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

This Jubilee celebrates the importance of the family unit, recognising the unique roles played by children and grandparents; and also honours the elderly members of our communities, some of whom are without family members of their own.

For more information click the link below:

[Jubilee of Families Children Grandparents and the Elderly.pdf](#)

VOCATIONS DINNER

Last Thursday, 13 young men gathered for the annual men's discernment dinner with the Archbishop Mark Coleridge.

The evening was filled with laughter, sharing, and brotherhood as we sought to journey with one another on our vocational calls. Archbishop Mark shared his vocation story and explained that "we never know exactly where we are being led, but in signing a blank cheque and saying yes to God, he'll take us on an incredible journey beyond what we could have ever imagined.

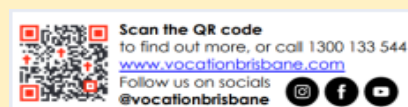
Please keep these men in your prayers as they listen for God's call in their lives. (Can you spot Sam Mead)



A Vocation View The Ascension of the Lord – C/1

Jesus promised his disciples that they would be clothed in power from God. As a follower of Jesus, you are also given that same promise. Pray for the grace to be a faithful witness. (Luke 24:46-53)

Please pray for vocations.





NO ONE SHOULD HAVE TO WALK ALONE

Walk with us in the spirit of compassion and faith at the 2025 Romero Centre Welcome Walk.

As part of the Archdiocese of Brisbane's ongoing commitment to justice and compassion, we invite your parish community to participate in and support the

Welcome Walk—a major fundraising initiative of the Romero Centre.

Date: Sunday, 15 June 2025

Location: Orleigh Park (Area 2), West End

Starts at 1:00pm, *Registration opens at 12:45pm, walk begins at 1:15pm*

Don't miss the moving story shared by our clients after the walk, along with live performances that celebrate strength, resilience, and diversity.

Distance:

3km or 6km walk along the Brisbane River and surroundings

Cost (tax-deductible donation):

\$20 per person, *early bird: \$15 if you register before the end of May*. Free for children, concession card holders, and people from asylum-seeking or refugee backgrounds.

Pre-order your exclusive Welcome Walk T-shirt today — available for pickup at the event. Orders close 8 June!

[Register Now](#)



A Morning's Prayer is a three-hour experience held on Saturdays throughout the year. The mornings are perfect for individuals and groups seeking time for peaceful prayer and reflection.

The theme for this morning's retreat is "**anointed**". We will take some time to explore what it means to be set apart and how the eyes of our hearts are enlightened during this Jubilee Year of Hope.

Our central scripture for the retreat will be from Isaiah 61.

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me..

A Morning's Prayer includes prayerful input, time for individual prayer and reflection, as well as time of discussion and some fellowship.

Date: Saturday 14th June 2025

Time: 9:00am – 12:00pm

Location: Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre
(267 Wellington St, Ormiston)

Cost: \$25 per person (morning tea included)

RSVP: Wednesday 11th June 2025

Reserve your spot today.

[Register now](#)

**THE FIRE
OF GOD'S LOVE**
with Fr Ken Barker, MGL



PENTECOST RALLY
7.30pm, Saturday 7 June 2025

PENTECOST RETREAT
9.30am – 4.30pm, Sunday 8 June 2025
Including the Launch of Fr Ken's latest book
BYO Lunch.

Morning and afternoon tea provided.

At the Church of the 12 Apostles, 111 Yallambee Road,
Jindalee

Love Offering most appreciated.

Enquiries: Len 0421 977 849 or Audrey 0435 558 390

**I have come to
bring fire on
the earth...**

Luke 12:49



**CORPUS
CHRISTI
PROCESSION**

"He who follows me walks not in darkness" - John 8:12

2PM SUNDAY 22 JUNE 2025
Cathedral of St Stephen, BRISBANE CITY