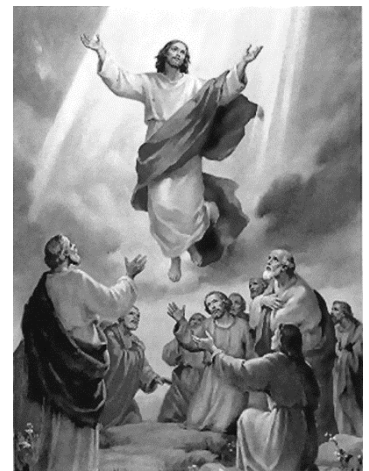


Reflection by Greg Sunter

This passage makes up the concluding verses of the Gospel of Mark. Actually, literary criticism of the Mark gospel suggests that the original gospel ended at 16:8 with the women fleeing from the empty tomb in fear. Verses 9-20 appear to be a later addition to the gospel. The community in which this gospel was written expected Jesus to return within their lifetime and so the dramatic and suspenseful conclusion of the gospel at the discovery of the empty tomb makes perfect sense. However, it soon became apparent that Jesus' return was not going to come as soon as the believers had hoped and so the post-resurrection appearances and the commissioning to continue on with Jesus' work became much more important.



If we were to read this passage literally, we would believe that to be a Christian one had to be able to perform exorcisms, speak in tongues, handle snakes, drink poison and heal by touch. If this were literally true, I guess there wouldn't be too many Christians around today! Rather, the purpose of the passage is that Jesus sends his followers out 'to the whole world' to continue his ministry. It is the 'whole world' to which they are sent; not just their cosy little corner of the world but the whole world. It's what Christian people for the last 2,000 years have been called to do: continue Jesus' ministry to the whole world. It's what each and every one of us is called to do today: 'proclaim the Good News to all creation'. That doesn't mean standing on street corners with a Bible in our hands but it means proclaiming the Good News through our everyday actions and by being open and honest about our faith. It means treating all people as Jesus would.

PARISH HAPPENINGS

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday 14 May

- 6.00pm SVDP – AQ Room
- 7.00pm Italian Prayer Group – Church
- 7.30pm PFC – Library

Tuesday 15 May

- 9.00am Yr's 11 & 12 joining Mass
- 9.30am Playgroup – Hospitality Area
- 9.30am Scripture group – Library

Wednesday 16 May

- 9.30am Wednesday Friendly Group – Hosp.
- 7.00pm Legion of Mary – Library

Thursday 17 May

- 9.30am Playgroup – Hospitality

Friday 18 May

- 9.00am Yr 5's joining Mass
- 12.00pm Requiem Mass – Church

Let us remember in prayer all those who are sick Vilma Gouse and those whose anniversaries occur around this time Una Kenny and the recently deceased Mary Hammill, Terry Mackenroth, Leo Power and Patrick long.

Communion Ministers to the Sick

At weekend Masses we observe the sending out of a very dedicated group of ministers – those who take Christ to those who cannot join the community for Mass. As we hear in the words of their sending, they not only distribute Communion, but also take time to read scriptures, share faith and provide companionship through conversation and sharing of news with those who are prevented by age or illness from accessing the Church. The work of this group is barely visible beyond their sending, yet it reaches out into our community in such an important way. We would love to hear from you if:

1. this is a ministry you have considered joining, with a commitment of one week per month (or more);
2. you are aware of members of this parish community, or your family, who are not able to get to Mass but would like Communion.

To respond, please call the office on 3398 2977, email on ologcc@bigpond.net.au

Thank-you

The Parish Office wish to extend our sincere thanks to our parishioners and the parents and staff of St Martin's and San Sisto for your patience and understanding with the funeral on Tuesday. Needless to say everything ran smoothly and we couldn't have done it without your help.

Seeking Transport Coordinator

Another important ministry in our church is the Home Transport Ministry. Denis Honen, who has run this ministry for many years now is ready to step down from his role as he no longer lives in the area. With that said, we are seeking someone to coordinate the roster for Home Transport. If you think you might be interested or you are unsure of what is involved, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you.

Italian news

Tutta la comunità italiana è calorosamente invitata a partecipare alla veglia di Pentecoste, che si terrà sabato 19 maggio 2018, cominciando alle ore 8:00am., con la santa Messa della parrocchia e dopo la Messa si comincerà la celebrazione della veglia con padre Angelo Cagna. Per ulteriori informazione telefonare a padre Angelo 0423 648 736, o Vito Di Stasi 0413 633 895.

Corpus Christie Procession

It is that time of year again where we have the Corpus Christie Procession at 2pm, on Sunday 3 June in the city. A bus has been organised again to leave and return to Our Lady of Graces. The bus will leave 1.15pm sharp for the Cathedral, fares are \$5 return single or \$15 return for a family. If you would like to travel with the Parish please write your name down on the folder at the back of the Church. If you have any queries, please contact Bill on 3157 2452.

One Family - Planned Giving

Over the next couple of weeks members of our parish family will hear a lot about the 2018 Parish Planned Giving campaign. This is necessary because this year our projected expenses will exceed our dwindling income. We know that from managing our own household budget expenses higher than income cannot be sustained. Prudent financial management requires the parish budget if possible to be in surplus or at the very least balanced.

Since our last successful campaign in 2014 contributions to the planned giving program have dropped markedly. Is now time to renew our previous commitment. We ask also that members of our parish family who have not previously participated commit to join the program.

Over the next few weeks please consider prayerfully what you can give. We would also ask you to consider making your contribution through a direct debit or credit card, by doing so the parish can more effectively manage its finances. However if you prefer to contribute via the weekly planned giving envelopes that too will be fine.

Wednesday Friendly Group

Are you looking for a nice group to socialise with? Are you a fan of morning tea? Well we have an answer for you, The Wednesday Friendly Group! The group meet once a month in the hospitality area for a cuppa and some scrumptious morning tea while chatting away. The next one will be held on Wednesday 16 May at 9.30am. If you would like to join bring a plate. All welcome!

5.30pm Children's Mass

Children's Mass is next Sunday evening 20 May at 5.30pm Mass. Your child may read, collect, hand out newsletters, or bring up the gifts. You need to be available to bring them to the church around 5pm for a little coaching. **To take part, go to schoolinterviews.com.au** and using code Lur6g, register for the ministry of your choice.

We are also chasing after more helpers for Children's Mass. If you think that you would like to get involved, please contact the parish office!

Sacrament of Eucharist – Date Claimer

Children Confirmed at Our Lady of Graces in May 2017 soon commence activities to help prepare them for the important final step in their initiation - the Sacrament of Eucharist [First Holy Communion]. A Parent Meeting for parents of children this group will be held in the church at 7pm on Wednesday 27 June.

Wall of Remembrance

The Wall of Remembrance was established in 1998, to provide Parishioners with a method of having a permanent memorial for their loved ones, in the church grounds. This means that the wall has been part of the parish life for almost twenty years. Spaces cost \$70 and basic plaques are currently \$75 (subject to normal cost increases). You are invited to visit the wall. It can be reached by walking along the path at the side of the church, towards St Martin's School, and turning left at the rear of the church building. For more information contact the parish secretary on 3398 2977 or Graeme Barwick on 07 5527 0622 (evenings).



Missing Pyx

A pyx is the small a small round container used to carry the consecrated host to the sick or those otherwise unable to

come to a church in order to receive Holy Communion. We have started to notice that the collection of pyx in the blue basket in the sacristy has steadily declined and we are now down to our last one. When you borrow a pyx from the sacristy, if you could please kindly return it as soon as possible so that other people may use them too. Thank you.

San Sisto College Open Day – Sunday 20 May from 1 pm until 4 pm

We invite you to meet our students and teachers while exploring our stunning campus and state-of-the-art facilities.

Enjoy guided tours, student performances, faculty demonstrations and displays at Open Day 2018. These provide a unique snapshot of what it feels like to join the San Sisto community. Displays including those from Languages – Japanese and Italian, HPE – Sport and Physical Enrichment, Drama, Textiles, Art, Humanities and Science are always popular, and there will be dress-ups in the Rose Retail Shop. Our café, coffee cart and barbeque will provide refreshments for those keen to take a rest and enjoy the Cecilia Square student entertainment activities. Music and voice presentations of all kinds will be on offer, from ensembles to busking. With the smell of food and the sound of music in the air, there will be plenty to see, experience, do, taste and listen to at Open Day 2018.

Register for Open Day 2018 and discover the San Sisto difference. To register, visit www.surveymonkey.com/r/OpenDay2018

Archdiocese Alpha Training

Mt Carmel Coorparoo is hosting an Alpha training workshop on behalf of the Archdiocese of Brisbane. This workshop will cover how to lead an Alpha Small Group so that guests feel safe to share openly and honestly. Thursday 24th May 7.00pm - 9.00pm in Community Room under the church. All welcome: Please register at <https://ebab.weebly.com/alpha-seminars.html>

Iona College Enrolment Applications for Year 5 in 2020

Iona College is now accepting enrolment applications for the 2020 enrolment intake:

Year 5 in 2020 - applications close Friday 8 June 2018: (boys who have commenced Year 3 in 2018).

Year 5 in 2020 - Prospective Families Information evening will be held on Thursday 24 May at 7.00pm in IPAC.

To complete an Enrolment Form, please go to www.iona.qld.edu.au, click Enrolments.

Contact the College Registrar, Sharon Young on 3893 8801 or at enrol@iona.qld.edu.au for further assistance.

Iona College Open Day

Iona College will hold Open Day on Monday 4 June 2018 from 1.30pm to 4.00pm.

Become a part of the parish Planned Giving Program to help your Parish grow.

We thank, sincerely, all Parishioners who contribute to Planned Giving. Your ongoing commitment and contribution assists the parish to budget for operating expenses (wages, rates, electricity, phones, maintenance etc) as well as parish pastoral planning (faith education, sacramental preparation, resources etc). To obtain Planned Giving Envelopes or to contribute by direct debit, complete this form and place on the plate, or contact the Parish Office. Planned Giving contributions are not Tax Deductable.

Surname: _____ **Given names** _____

Address _____ **P/code** _____

Phone _____

Email _____