

**OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday: 8.30am - 12.30pm
Tuesday - Thursday: 8.30am - 3.30pm
Friday: 8.30am - 12.30pm

Address: 100 Mayfield Road
Carina Qld 4152
Postal: PO Box 305,
Carina Qld 4152
Phone: (07) 3398 2977
Parish Email: carina@bne.catholic.net.au

MASS TIMES:

Weekend:
Saturday: 6pm Vigil
Sunday: 7am, 9am and 5.30pm
Italian Mass: 10.30am

Weekday: 6.30am & 9am
Monday to Friday
8am Saturday
& Public Holidays

Reconciliation:

Saturday: 8.30am - 9.00am
5.30pm - 6.00pm
or by appointment

PARISH TEAM:

Parish Priest: Fr Alex Vickers O.P.
Assistant Priest: Fr Maurice Keating O.P.
Pastoral Associate: Shelly Stone
Email: sc.carina@bne.catholic.net.au
Parish Secretary: Chris Larter
Email: carina@bne.catholic.net.au
Finance Officer: Chris Larter
Email: fo.carina@bne.catholic.net.au
Italian Chaplain: Fr Angelo Cagna CS
Phone: 04236 48736

Spread the Word

Vol. 35 No. 20**Ascension of the Lord****24 May 2020****Scripture Commentary by Dianne Bergant CSA**

It seems that the risen Jesus remained on earth for forty days, appearing to his apostles and speaking about the reign of God. When the disciples' responsibilities were sufficiently explained, he was taken from their sight. The cloud is a traditional symbol of the presence of God. The two men in white garments who interpreted the ascension recall the two men in similar garb who announced the resurrection. In most eschatological passages, the Spirit is identified with the endtime. Here the activity of the Spirit is a characteristic of the new age, the period between the resurrection and the time of complete fulfilment.



A ritual of enthronement unfolds within this psalm. Two divine titles are invoked: Lord and Most High. The first is the personal name of the God of Israel; the second is an ancient Semitic title of excellence. The enthronement established God's rule over all the earth and all nations. The kingship of the Lord has cosmic underpinnings. The ancients believed that before creation the forces of good and evil were in mortal combat. A battle ensued from which good emerged triumphant. Following this, the cosmos was reordered, a heavenly palace was constructed, and the victor ascended the throne to rule over all. If the kingship of God was commemorated in Israel, this story would have been in the consciousness of the people.

The author of Ephesians prays for a threefold spiritual enlightenment: the hope of the calling from God; the riches of the glory of the inheritance of the holy ones; and the surpassing greatness of God's power for those who believe. These marvels have already taken place; it is for the believers to acknowledge them. The power referred to belongs to God. It was God's power that raised Christ from the dead and seated Christ in the place of honour in heaven; it was God's power that made all things subject to Christ and exalted Christ as head of the church. It is this same power that enables the members of Christ's exalted body to share in Christ's fullness and exaltation.

In the account of the commissioning by Jesus, the disciples returned to Galilee and see Jesus on the mountain. They worship him, but with incomplete understanding. The commission that Jesus confers is straightforward and all encompassing. The disciples are told to go out and make disciples of all nations. This will be accomplished by baptising and teaching. The disciples are told to baptise in the threefold name of the Trinity. Those baptised are plunged into the mystery of that name and recreated as new beings. Social or cultural boundaries are dissolved; ethnic and gender restrictions are lifted. The specific teaching alluded to is moral rather than doctrinal. Those who hear this teaching are to observe what Jesus commanded.

Mass from Our Lady of Graces Parish via Live Stream

Mass is live streamed from Our Lady of Graces Parish every day at 7am. To view, go to www.carinacatholicparish.org.au and find the Facebook news feed on the home page. You do not need Facebook to view the Mass.

PARISH HAPPENINGS

Let us remember in prayer all those who are sick and those whose anniversaries occur around this time Teresa Nu Luong and the recently deceased Nerina Gugliemino.

Stage 1: COVID-19 Restrictions & Protocols

These protocols are currently in effect until 12 June 2020 and are subject to change with any ongoing amendments to Queensland Health guidelines.

If you are feeling ill, please do not enter a church, parish building or Archdiocesan workplace.

Please note that the opening the Church for private prayer and the celebration of Mass is at the discretion of the parish priest.

Not all parishes have the capacity to implement the directives and the cleaning protocols required at this time.

Below is what we are capable of doing during Stage 1 at Our Lady of Graces Parish.

Private Prayer in the Church

- Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 1pm (*this is subject to funerals*).
- Entry and exit to the church will be via the parish office only.
- You will need to sign in & out at the parish office.
- There will be a requirement to sanitise, at the parish office, upon entry and exit.
- A maximum of 10 people will be allowed in the church at any one time.
- The rules of one person per 4 square metres and 1.5 metres between people apply.

Mass

- Mass will continue to be celebrated at 7am each day without a congregation, with people able to follow Mass via live stream.
- The attendance at the live stream Masses is limited to the priests and those invited to help minister at the Masses (i.e. altar server and musicians).

Sacrament of Reconciliation

- The Sacrament of Reconciliation is only being celebrated by appointment.
- The Sacrament is being held under the big tree outside the church or in the parish library.
- To make an appointment, please contact the parish office on 3398 2977

Funerals, Weddings & Baptisms

- Funerals may be conducted with a maximum capacity of up to 20 people indoors and 30 people outdoors.
- Weddings may be conducted with a maximum capacity up to 10 people.
- Baptisms have a maximum capacity of up to 10 people.



As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect Australians' lives, including their worship, the Catholic Bishops will entrust the country to the care of Mary Help of Christians on her feast day this week (Monday 25 May). Mary Help of Christians has been the official patroness of Australia since 1844. Her feast day is usually celebrated on 24 May, however coincides with the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord this year.

The Bishops of Australia, in the last week, have sent out a media release and 'A Word of Encouragement' letter to the Catholic People in Australia. This can be read at catholic.org.au/entrustment. You are invited to pray the following prayer.

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!

Church Roof Update – Week 5

All going to plan, Stage 1 of repairing the church roof will be completed by the end of next week.



The roof from the back of the church on 21 May

Thank You from the Dominican Community

The Dominican Community would like to thank parishioners who have been dropping in donations and offerings during this time of COVID-19.

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Position Vacant: St John Vianney's Parish Manly
St John Vianney's Parish Manly invites applications for the part-time position of Parish Secretary.

To apply for this position or for further information on this position, please visit the following link:
<https://clientapps.jobadder.com/68451/aob-internal-career-opportunities/139287/parish-secretary>

For a copy of the position description or any other enquiries, please contact James Herd (HR Coordinator) at herdj@bne.catholic.net.au

Lourdes Hill College Enrolments

Lourdes Hill College are currently taking enrolments for Year 7 students in 2024 (current Year 3 students). For further information, visit www.lhc.qld.edu.au

Catholic Mission

Catholic Mission have an online campaign called #WeAreStillHere where they feature stories from some of the missionaries all around the world. To view, go to www.catholicmission.org.au/stories-from-around-the-world

SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading - Acts 1:1-11

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

- Psalm 47 (46):2-3. 6-9. R. v.6

(R.) *God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.*

1. 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.)
2. 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.)
3. 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

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 Acclamation - Matthew 28:19. 20

Alleluia, alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel - Matthew 28:16-20

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.'

Year 1 Students Visit the Statue of Our Lady

On Thursday 14 May, a class of Year 1 students from St Martin's School visited the statue of Our Lady, located outside the church.

The students brought along some flowers to place in front of Our Lady.



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