



Regina Coeli Parish

Beverly Hills - In the Archdiocese of Sydney



Weekly Newsletter

The Ascension of the Lord 16 May 2021

Liturgy Times

SUNDAY:

8:30am, 10:00am.

Children's Liturgy during school term

TUESDAY: 8:30am Adoration, 9.15am Mass

WEDNESDAY: 7:00am

THURSDAY: 9:15am

FRIDAY: 8:30am Adoration, 9.15am Mass

SATURDAY: 9:00am

(Adoration and Reconciliation after Mass)

5:00pm (Vigil Mass)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 9:30-10:00am; 4:25-4:50pm

The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches. - Matthew 13:31-32 -

The parable of the mustard seed highlights for me two things: firstly that true greatness is found in the kingdom of heaven; secondly that, unfortunately, the kingdom of heaven is easily overlooked on account of its apparent smallness. It is a mystery why some of the most important things in life tend to be also the easiest to overlook (e.g. faith, prayer, love, forgiveness). The answer probably has something to do with the fact that being able to recognise the value of the purest things in life requires a pure heart.

52 children will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation on Thursday. I think it fair to say that Confirmation can be the sacrament received with the least amount of enthusiasm sometimes. After all, apart from being able to say 'I have been confirmed,' it isn't too obvious what difference the sacrament makes. It is difficult to talk about the value of Confirmation without addressing the elephant in the room, namely, the apparently small things which are easily and frequently overlooked. Consequently, I think that the parable of the mustard seed is a good lens through which to examine the Sacrament of Confirmation.

A parishioner has passed away suddenly. He was 82 and attended daily mass. It seems to me not a small coincidence that his heavenly departure has occurred during the Year of St Joseph, for, he has been one of those people who, for me, bore a striking resemblance to St Joseph - quiet and resoundingly faithful. Lately I had been noticing that he looked weak to the point of profound exhaustion. I was informed by the son that there was a serious health issue - a heavy cross - on account of which his health had been noticeably deteriorating.

More each day he seemed to me like a person who was happily dedicated to a life of constant prayer with whatever strength was still left in him. When I saw him in prayer, even in his most frail moments, he seemed strong as an oak - like a mustard seed grown into the most stable and dependable tree. Knowing how restless my own heart could be, seeing him deep in prayer was edifying, almost enviable. Granted, we cannot see what is in another person's heart. But, after years of practice, it seems that even the body can come to reflect something of the beauty of what has been embraced by the soul with singular devotion. In other words, the content of the parable of the mustard seed can be manifested at least as a partially visible reality. - Fr Peter -

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The Week Ahead

Sun 16 May Ascension	8.30am 10.00am	No need to book for Mass
Mon 17 May		No Mass
Tue 18 May	9.15am 9.50am	Mass with Year 6 Reconciliation with Year 6
Wed 19 May	7am 9am	Mass Adoration with Year 2 & 5
Thu 20 April	9.15pm 5.30, 7pm	Mass Confirmation
Fri 21 May	9.15am	Mass
Sat 22 May	9.00am 9:25- 9:55am	Mass Adoration & Reconciliation
	4:15- 4:45pm 5pm	Reconciliation Vigil Mass
Sun 23 May Pentecost	8.30am 10.00am	Mass Mass followed by BBQ

The Men's Conference of St Vincent de Paul Society will be conducting their Winter Appeal at the end of this month after missing last year due to Covid.

Weekend 29/30 May address to Parishioners & handing out of envelopes.

Weekend 5 / 6 June collection to be taken up. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible please mark the envelope accordingly to receive a receipt after the end of the financial year.

All money donated is used to support the poor & needy within our Parish area. With Winter just around the corner the colder weather places greater stress on those who have difficulty supporting themselves & often their families.

Providing warm clothing & bedding, additional food & managing the increase in electricity, gas etc can be quite challenging for those struggling to make ends meet.

Your support will as always be greatly appreciated & make those struggling in life happier knowing that someone really cares.

Recently Deceased

Frank Capra, Dawn Gates, Rosetta Tesoriero, Anthony Rodriguez, Madeleine Raftery

In Loving Memory

Gino Tullio Ronda, Nadia Hobeika, Joseph Ghibely, Ugo Buracchi, Mary Crawford, Pietro Banno, Edward Cantwell, Spiro & Josephine Bajada

Please remember those who are in ill health especially:

Mildred Petit, James Ybasco, Josh Venture, Carmen Bajada, Anne Kensey, Peter Peters, Monica Costa, Quang Vo, Matt Nugent, Ann Mc Dowell, Christopher McDowell, Damiano Serravalle, George Dagher, Mrs Saba, Josephina Algozzina, Pat Mortimer, Mrs Donald Burch, Mary Daniels, Geoff McDowell, Elena Mura, Mr TD (Terry) Wall, Kim Delaney, Lauren Sotano, Sam Hy, Georgia Brown, Luke Compton, Paul Camellotti.

About the BBQ

I'm under no illusion that a ten year anniversary is a big enough occasion for fussing over. After all, I am surrounded by parishioners who have been married far longer! Nevertheless, a number of people were already aware that it was the tenth anniversary and felt that it should be acknowledged in some way.

Before the pandemic we used to hold morning tea after Mass once a month. Sometimes the morning tea would become quite big, for example, when invitations were sent through the parish school. All this was excellent! But I had thought for quite some time that it might be even better, especially for families with children, if the morning tea turned into, for example, a BBQ (or something else substantial enough to be a proper meal)!

So the unimportant anniversary has become an opportunity for trying out the idea of 'BBQ after Mass.' My hope is that, if reasonably successful and practical, then, something like 'brunch after Mass' would become a regular parish event. So, please come and enjoy if you can!

Please note that the carpark will not be open next Sunday due to the BBQ.

- Fr Peter -

Rosary Statue
Mr & Mrs A. McKenzie
1 Shirley Avenue
Ph: 02 9759 8006



Parish Secretary

Mrs Margaret
Doherty-Brady
9554 8155
Tues 8:30am-
1:30pm Wed & Fri
10.30am—3.30pm

Sacramental Coordinator/ PSSO

Mrs Elizabeth Gooley
9554 8155
reginasacramental@gmail.com
Tuesday and Thursday from
11.30am - 3.30pm

School Principal

Mr Chris Egan
Asst. Principal
Mr Peter Busch
REC
Mrs Elizabeth
Webster

Scholarship at the Cathedral with Archbishop Anthony Fisher OP

Loss of Trust and Crisis of Leadership: Responses with the Help of St Thomas Aquinas.

After a year's break, during the COVID-19 pandemic, these free public talks are now resuming again, led by the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney, in partnership with the University of Notre Dame Australia's Institute for Ethics and Society.

20 May 2021

Chapter Hall, St Mary's Cathedral

6:30pm

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, this event is currently booked out. However, it will be livestreamed on the Scholarship at the Cathedral website: www.satcathedral.org

Silent Retreat for Men 2021

Date: **Fri (4) – Sun (6) June 2021**

Location: **Mount Schoenstatt Retreat & Spirituality Centre, Mulgoa**

Registration: **\$75**

Note: Participants of this retreat must be 18 – 35 yrs old.

Getting away from the busyness of everyday life and immersing yourself in a quiet environment can provide the ideal environment for you to really focus your attention on listening to God.

Surrounded by the serene and peaceful bushlands of Mount Schoenstatt Retreat Centre, this weekend will enable you to spend some quality time in prayerful silence with Daily Mass, Rosary, Prayer of the Church, Adoration and much more. This is a silent retreat weekend for young men considering a vocation to the Priesthood.

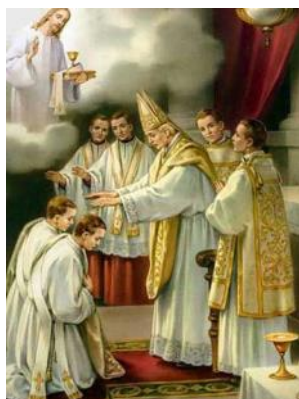
Fr. Edmond (Ed) Travers MSC – External Spiritual Director of the Seminary of the Good Shepherd, Homebush will be facilitating and accompanying you throughout this retreat.

Please RSVP by Wednesday 26 May 2021

Contact Us

For enquiries: Call 02 9307 8424 or E-mail vocations@sydneycatholic.org

10 YEARS ON...



Jeremiah 3:15 ~ Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding. ~

Join us for a BBQ to celebrate the 10 year anniversary of Fr Peter's ordination.

Sunday 23rd May after 10am mass.

Lunch, drinks and good company provided.

There will be a jumping castle and music set up for the kids so please bring the whole family along. Bring a picnic rug.

If you are able, please bring a fruit or dessert plate to share.

Wear something red for Pentecost.

Please note that there will be no parking on the school grounds on this day and that the event will be subject to restrictions at the time.

For any queries please contact Sally. 0411 288 243

First Reading Acts 1:1-11

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

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

Ps 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6

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

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 Eph 1:17-23

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

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.

or Eph 4:1-7. 11-13

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

I, the prisoner in the Lord, implore you to lead a life worthy of your vocation. Bear with one another charitably, in complete selflessness, gentleness and patience. Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God who is father of all, over all, through all and within all.

Each one of us, however, has been given his own share of grace, given as Christ allotted it. The one who rose higher than all the heavens to fill all things is none other than the one who descended. And to some his gift was that they should be apostles; to some, prophets; to some, evangelists; to some, pastors and teachers; so that the saints together make a unity in the work of service, building up the body of Christ. In this way we are all to come to unity in our faith and in our knowledge of the Son of God, until we become the perfect Man, fully mature with the fullness of Christ himself.

Gospel Acclamation Mt 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 Mk 16:15-20

The Lord Jesus was taken into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God.

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven and said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised is saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

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Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The Feast of the Ascension is really a kind of liminal moment in the Easter season. It is a time between times; a moment when we have left one place in our journey, but have not yet arrived at a second. While the narratives that describe the Ascension fit well into the unfolding story of redemption, the feast itself celebrates one aspect of the resurrection itself, namely, the exaltation of Jesus. The readings help us through this paradox. They allow us to focus on this theological point while we commemorate a turning point in the life of the church. We do this by considering both the enthronement of Christ in the heavens and the new body of Christ on earth.

Today we stand awestruck, watching Jesus ascend into the clouds of heaven, there to be enthroned at God's right hand. Today we are overwhelmed by the divinity of the one whom we have known in his humanity. Amidst shouts of joy and exaltation, Christ is enthroned in heaven in both his divinity and his glorified humanity. Now he is present with us in a new way, in a new body, in the church. He teaches through its apostles and evangelists; he ministers through its prophets and pastors. Through us he continues to heal and to comfort; to forgive and to include. We have his power, the same power with which he performed marvels when he walked the earth. We have each other; together we make up the new body of Christ.