



**St John
Vianney**
Parish Morisset



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD YEAR C SUNDAY 29TH MAY 2022

The Ascension that we celebrate today marked the end of the earthly mission of Jesus and the beginning of ours. We, his disciples are to be the visible presence of God here on earth

We live in challenging times. We have a daunting task of rebuilding the Church's credibility and its moral stature in the wake of the sexual abuse crisis.

Now is the time for us to rebuild the Church not necessarily reminiscent of some bygone era, but to become what we are meant to be: salt of the earth and light of the world.

The Christian way of living cannot be other than the way shown in Jesus' simplicity, solidarity and communion with God's people and creation.



We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Awabakal People who, long before us lived, loved, educated and raised their children on this Country. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and we recognise the young people who are our future. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in our communities. We respect their deep physical and spiritual connections to Country through their stories, traditions and living cultures.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Foundation	Leader	In Office
1. Identity and Community		
2. Worship and Prayer.	Uta France	Mon
3. Formation and Education		
4. Mission and Outreach.		
5. Leadership and Structure.	John France	Sat & Sun

If you have any concerns or questions you can also talk to any member of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) who are: Juliet Hutchins, Mal and Pam Melvey, Kerry Lendon, and Rod Hay.

PRIEST SUPERVISOR: Fr Geoff Mulhearn
SACRAMENTAL PRIEST: Fr John Purnell
Parish Secretary: Mrs Rosanna Suckling

OFFICE: 60 Yambo Street, Morisset, PO Box 87, Ph: 02 4973.6859
Office Hours: 9.00 am to 2.00pm—Monday to Friday (except public holidays)
(Due to COVID we ask that you make an appointment to come to the office)
Morisset Parish Office email: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au
Morisset Parish Web site: www.vianneymorisset.org
Morisset Parish Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/stjvparish>
Morisset Parish Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/stjvparish_morisset/
Morisset Parish Bulletin Items: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au

UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES :

Sunday	29th May 9.30am Mass— Morisset
Tuesday	31st May 9.30am Liturgy— Morisset
Sunday	5th June 9.30am Liturgy— Morisset
Sunday	12th June 9.30am Mass— Morisset

TO KEEP OUR COMMUNITY SAFE WE ENCOURAGE

MASK WEARING
PHYSICAL DISTANCING
HAND SANITISING,
STAY HOME IF SICK

We are able to safely seat 100 people at Morisset We still have a pre-book option available for our services but it is not compulsory (You need to do this each week). Please arrive 15mins early if you book and notify us of any cancellation. When the seating capacity of the Church is reached the overflow will be accommodated in the Callinan Centre for live streaming. To pre-book use the Book for Services button on the Parish Website, or the Eventbrite App or Eventbrite Website <http://vianneymorisset.eventbrite.com> or call the Parish Office between 9am and 2pm .

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THE ASCENSION- 29 MAY 2022 REFLECTION

This is a very difficult concept to grasp. It is so easy to go into "Fantasy Land" and think of clouds, unknowable land of God, Jesus going home.

I was thinking instead of the impact of Jesus' Ascension on the disciples. How did they feel? Were they bereft? Overwhelmed? Gutted?

I was reading a reflection by Patricia Sanchez and she gave me a new perspective. She began with the story of Mark Twain. When he was a young boy all he wanted to be was a pilot on the Mississippi River. After he ran away from home he paid a captain of a riverboat \$500 to teach him how to navigate the river. Later he was said to have lamented that if he had known what was involved he would never have started.

Even though he mapped and charted every bend, sandbar, island and town on the river, he could not retain all that knowledge and he almost gave up. That was when his mentor came to his help and really taught him to "Read the river".

I think that this is what the disciples felt when Jesus finally left for good. I bet they felt that they were in mid-stream without a paddle! Jesus had told them it was now up to them to bring the Good News to all! Wow! I bet that they were very tempted to give up.

Just as Twain would learn to read the river, the disciples would learn to Read the Signs of the Times. They learnt to read the needs of the human communities they led, and they came to rely on the power of the Spirit which became their mentor.

The Gift of the Spirit only comes when we surrender ourselves to be mentored by the Spirit. To let go of our own ego and listen humbly with the eyes of our hearts. With the eyes of the heart we will be able to wait for Jesus' return by living according to the Gospel principles and by making the spiritual and corporal works of mercy our daily agenda. The eyes of our minds might be boggled by the enormity of the needs surrounding us, if we look with the eyes of the heart we will instead see a brother or sister in need, and we will reach out to help.

It is interesting to note that today's readings give us two versions of the Ascension. In the Gospel of Luke, we are presented with Jesus' ascending to God and concluding his mission on earth. In Acts we are presented with the view of his departure 40 days after his resurrection, this inaugurates the Church's mission.

It is said that we do not have a mission. God has a Mission- and God's Mission has a church!

I am heartened today with the thought that, with the help of Jesus' own Spirit, we as a community, as a Diocese, as a Church, will learn to read the river; we will learn to respond to the needs of others. That is how we live God's mission!- Uta

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2022

This Year's theme, "Be Brave. Make Change." is a challenge to all Australians— individuals, families, communities, organisations and government—to Be Brave and tackle the unfinished business of reconciliation so we can Make Change for the benefit of all Australians.

Last year Reconciliation Australia encouraged all Australians to take action; not just in National Reconciliation Week but every week of the year.

We saw unprecedented response to our suggested actions for everyday and for braver action.

This year we are asking everyone to make change beginning with brave actions in their daily lives – where they live, work, play and socialise.

National Reconciliation Week—27 May to 3 June—is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. For more information go to: <https://nrw.reconciliation.org.au/>

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES FORMATION EVENTS OVER JUNE ONLINE 7.00PM-8.00PM

1 June- Belonging, Being and Becoming at St Nicholas- Presented by Caroline McGuinness (Trainer and Assessor, St Nicholas Pathways)

Participants will be introduced to the philosophy and framework that guide practice in St Nicholas education and care settings. We will explore how educators work with young children in their journey to belong, be and become.

8 June- Educating the whole child to support learning and wellbeing- Presented by Renee Tyczynski (Professional Officer [psychologist], Catholic Schools Office)

Learn about how Catholic schools support student wellbeing by ensuring a safe, supported, inclusive environment, where students are engaged in their learning, form positive relationships and develop skills for their future within a faith-based community.

15 June- Social connections and improving senior's wellbeing- Presented by Nicola Rosenthal (Regional Manager, Catholic Healthcare)

Join with us as we explore the importance of social connections, and five keyways seniors can improve their wellbeing. The presentation will also discuss mental illness, grief and loss in later life and which support services are best suited for older Australians.

20 June- Relationships Matter- Presented by Robyn Donnelly Marriage and Relationship Educator- Pastoral Ministries)

The session provides participants with an understanding of patterns of behaviours that drain our emotional bank accounts and can cause the relationship to go into meltdown or disconnection of the parties. Participants can reflect on 7 areas that create strong sound relationships starting at the foundations this includes research around rituals and shared meaning, so your relationship stays connected to get through areas of disagreements or conflict.

To register go to www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/upcoming-events

For more information and to Watch the Pope's message for the 10th World Meeting of Families go to: <http://www.mn.catholic.org.au/news-events/world-meeting-of-families-2022/resources/>





**DIOCESAN LEADER
SHARES FEARS NOW
VOLUNTARY ASSISTED
DYING BECOMES
LEGAL IN NSW**

Maitland-Newcastle Diocesan Administrator, Fr Greg Barker, has shared his fears and sadness that the 'sanctity of life is being diminished'. His statements come on the back of the NSW Parliament passing legislation overnight, which legalises voluntary assisted dying.

"It is a terrible day for our State," Fr Barker said.

FR GREG BARKER PUBLISHED MAY 20, 2022

Fr Greg expressed a multitude of concerns, including for workers who will be asked to enforce the new laws, which are expected to take up to 18 months to come into effect.

"I fear for those in health care who may be asked to go against their conscience," he said.

Fr Greg added that the passing of the legislation, which will allow terminally ill adults to choose to end their life, may also be used against them.

"I fear for those who may be at the end of their lives and could now be taken advantage of by the unscrupulous, in a final act of indignity and abuse."

Fr Greg also acknowledged the impact that this landmark decision will have on those who have dedicated themselves to providing end of life care.

"I fear for what it says of our wonderful palliative care doctors, nurses and support personnel who have committed themselves to caring for those at the end of their life."

He said that proper and effective palliative care gives death with dignity.

"I fear for those amongst us who view all pain and suffering as a loss of dignity rather than as a gift and grace for those whose vocation it is to love, care and support those who are most in need."

All NSW members of parliament were given a conscience vote on the proposed legislation. After 10 hours of debate, the Voluntary Assisted Dying Bill 2021 passed in the NSW Upper House 23 votes to 15, making the way for it to be passed in the Lower House.

Fr Greg said that communities and leaders are judged on the level of care they offer for the most vulnerable members under their mandate, including the very elderly and ill.

"I thank those who have been a voice against the bill, including elected representatives who voted against it," he said.

"I will continue to pray, as I ask you too, for those who choose leadership; to pray for their intrinsic goodness, for their goodwill and their ongoing commitment to service, service of all," Fr Greg said.



When Sita's husband passed away, she struggled to provide for her four children and was shunned by her community.

Sita lives in the Bagmati province in Nepal with her four children. Her wage as a labourer barely covered the cost of day-to-day expenses, and she feared she would be unable to further her children's education, leaving them vulnerable to the same poverty and discrimination she was experiencing.

Thanks to the generosity of people like you, Sita was able to join the Nepal Livelihoods and Resilience Program, run in partnership with Caritas Nepal. Over time, she began to develop the life-changing skills she needed to diversify her income, through the sale of milk and other goods, and gain financial independence.

Sita can now produce enough food to feed her family, send all of her children to school, and has become a respected member of her community.

This tax time, you can support more people like Sita to gain the skills they need to triumph over discrimination and escape the cycle of poverty.

Donate now by visiting <https://www.caritas.org.au/make-an-impact-this-tax-time/> or scanning the QR code.



"AMORIS LAETITIA FAMILY YEAR "

The "Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love) Family Year" is an initiative of Pope Francis, which aims to reach every family around the world through several spiritual, pastoral and cultural proposals that can be implemented within parishes, dioceses, universities, ecclesial movements and family associations.

Over the course of ten monthly episodes, hear the Holy Father talk about each of the chapters of the Apostolic Exhortation Amoris Laetitia, along with the testimonies of different families who will share some aspects of their daily lives. This initiative is a joint collaboration between the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life and Vatican News, and aims to facilitate the reading of the Apostolic Exhortation, with the aid of downloadable material prepared for personal and community reflection. To access: www.laityfamilylife.va/content/laityfamilylife/en/amoris-laetitia/iniziativa-e-risorse/10-video-amoris-laetitia.html

MYSTAGOGY MONDAY

Mystagogical reflection invites us into a personal encounter with Christ in the gospel we have heard, the liturgy we have celebrated, or an experience of life or ministry. It invites us to pay attention to what Christ reveals to us, both in that encounter and the living tradition of our faith and to connect it to life now. It invites us to dialogue and transformation.

Join us each Monday morning at 10am as we reveal the mystery of God found in the Sunday Gospel. Register: www.eventbrite.com.au/e/mystagogy-mondays-tickets-304319105637



FAMILY CELEBRATIONS

As we have slowly moved out of a period of isolation, we have welcomed opportunities to gather with family and friends. Recently two events within the Diocese have seen people come together to celebrate during the Easter season.

ROSEMARY MCALLISTER PUBLISHED MAY 23, 2022

Daniel Lee Chun Wei is part of the Pastoral Placement Program, a PhD student studying at the University of Newcastle who is also from Malaysia. He approached me at the beginning of year with a vision of bringing people together from different cultural backgrounds to celebrate their diversity.

Daniel approached his parish priest Father Christian Onukwugha to discuss what could be done at a local level. Daniel soon learnt about Galilee Monday which is celebrated in different parts of the world including Africa on Easter Monday. For many Christians around the world, Easter Monday is the day they go to meet 'Jesus in Galilee'. This celebration has been interpreted from Jesus' message in the Gospel of Mark and Matthew, where after his resurrection, he told his disciples to go to Galilee where he will meet them.

The parishioners of Wallsend-Shortland gathered on Easter Monday as a community to foster and deepened their relationship and learn about each other's culture. The day began with mass, followed by cultural performances by the various groups including Indian, Filipino, Samoan, Malaysian and Australian. A potluck lunch that included various dishes from various cultures was served. The day concluded with trivia and a song. It was truly a joyous celebration that the community shared and one they hope to continue in the future.

Another event which saw families come together was the Social Justice Exhibition held on Saturday 14 May at The Veritas Centre, San Clemente Mayfield. This year saw over 100 entries to the prize now its third year. This is the first year the exhibition has been held face to face and we were delighted to see many families come along to view the artwork and listen to Dr Sandie Cornish speak about the 2021-2022 Social Justice Statement- Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor. The artworks were powerful and reflected the variety of issues and concerns raised in the statement. It was fitting that the show date was held very close to Laudato si week and National Families Week.

To view images from both events, please see the event gallery below.

This year our universal Church is celebrating the World Meeting of Families. The 10th World Meeting of Families (WMOF) is intended to highlight family love as a vocation and as a way of holiness, to understand and share the profound and salvific meaning of family relationships in daily life. This event is organised by Vatican Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life along with the Diocese of Rome. After being postponed for a year due to the pandemic, Pope Francis has asked

dioceses around the world to make it possible for every family to participate in the WMOF. While Rome will be the main venue for the event on 22–26 June 2022, each diocese around the world will promote local events for its own families and communities based on the theme: "Family love: a vocation and a path to holiness."

The WMOF is a great opportunity for Catholics on the local level to renew their commitment to family ministry in solidarity with diocesan communities from around the world and the Diocese of Rome. There will be a number of local events, reflections and moments of prayer to coincide with the gathering in Rome. To find out what is happening in our Diocese go to: www.mn.catholic.org.au/news-events/world-meeting-of-families-2022



2022 TWEC DINNER

From 22-26 June our church celebrates the World Meeting of Families, which is a time to gather with loved ones. Please join us in gathering as a family of friends at the 2022 TWEC Dinner held on Friday 24 June. The theme for this dinner is 'Honouring the Sisters of St Joseph Lochinvar'.

TIM BOWD PUBLISHED MAY 23, 2022

The 2022 TWEC Dinner will be held Friday 24 June. The theme for this dinner is 'Honouring the Sisters of St Joseph Lochinvar'. This will be an opportunity to gather, to enjoy a meal, share stories of the Josephite spirit within the diocesan community and imagine the next chapter of the TWEC story together.

The first TWEC (Tenison Woods Education Centre, an initiative of the Sisters of St Joseph Lochinvar) Dinner was held in 1995 and returns in 2022 after being interrupted due to Covid-19 in 2020-2021. The dinner has always been a great occasion to get together with friends, enjoy fine food and wine, and support the adult faith formation work of TWEC.

From 22-26 June our church celebrates the World Meeting of Families and is a time to gather with loved ones. The Sisters of St Joseph, with the development of TWEC and, since 2017, the Tenison Woods Education Community, have created a family that continues to expand and grow.

Please join us in gathering as a family of friends of TWEC.

FRIDAY 24 JUNE 2022 at 6.30pm

Therry Centre

New England Hwy, East Maitland

\$60 pp.

Dinner includes canapés, drinks, main meal and dessert.

Tables of 10, small group or individual bookings are welcome. Bookings and payment by June 19 via Eventbrite

<https://2022twec.eventbrite.com.au>

For queries please contact Sharon at 02 4979 1134 or sharon.murphy@mn.catholic.org.au

For more information on the adult faith formation work of TWEC visit mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/.



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR ROSTERED MINISTRIES

With the commencement of our new Sacramental Process and the re-opening of our Cooranbong Church for services, in July 2022.

We are calling all current rostered ministry volunteers, as well those who would like to recommence rostered ministries or anyone who like to start their call to serve in rostered ministries to complete a new online sign-up form.

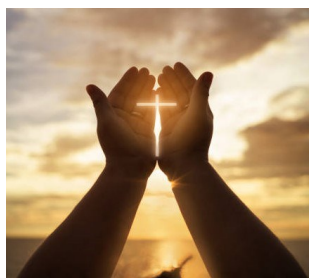
On the sign up form you will be able to let us know which ministries you would like to do, and what services you would like to be rostered for, hence it is important that everyone who would to be a volunteer for our rostered ministries complete a sign up form, even if you are on the current roster as we will be starting July a fresh.

To complete the online Rostered Ministries Sign-Up form just click on the button on the Parish Website Homepage or the link at the bottom of our news item in the Mass App or use this QR Code below.

If you are new to volunteering in our parish you will also need to complete the Diocese's online Volunteer Registration at: <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/people/volunteer/>

Our weekend services will change in July 2022 to the following:

- A Family Mass / Liturgy will be held at 5pm on Saturday evenings in our Morisset Church and will coincide with the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the Month. (i.e. if Sunday is the 1st day of the month the Family Mass will be held on the last day of the previous month)
- Mass / Liturgy at Cooranbong will be at 5pm on Saturday evenings in our Cooranbong Church and will coincide with the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of the Month.
- Sunday Mass / Liturgy will be held at 9.30am on Sunday mornings in our Morisset Church.



GET THE NEW MASS APP

Download the New Mass App for free from the [Apple App Store](#) and [Google Play Store](#). Just search for 'Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle' and click install on your mobile or tablet! To learn more about the app, visit www.mn.catholic.org.au/mass-times-app

SAFEGUARDING TRAINING COURSE 2

This mandatory training will take place in the Callinan Centre on Thursday, 9th JUNE 2022.

It will commence at 10.00am and is expected to take 3.5 to 4 hours with a break for lunch.

If you volunteer now or intend to in the future in any of the following positions this applies to you.

*Coordinators for ministries. *Funeral Ministry. *Pastoral Team Members. *Sacramental Team Members

*Extraordinary Ministers of Communion in hospital, aged care and persons homes.

*Hospitality- Covid Marshal and hospitality servers. (Not ushers). *Counters.

*Gardeners, groundkeepers and mowers.

Any other volunteers are welcome to attend.

More details will follow in time. With thanks Juliet

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE PRESENTS: 'HOW DO WE KNOW CHRIST NOW?'

A free online conference (via zoom) will be held on Friday June 17 2022, 9.30am - 12.30pm with a variety of workshops. This conference will focus on the critical question: 'How do we know Christ now?' and explores how we know the same Christ more authentically and powerfully today.

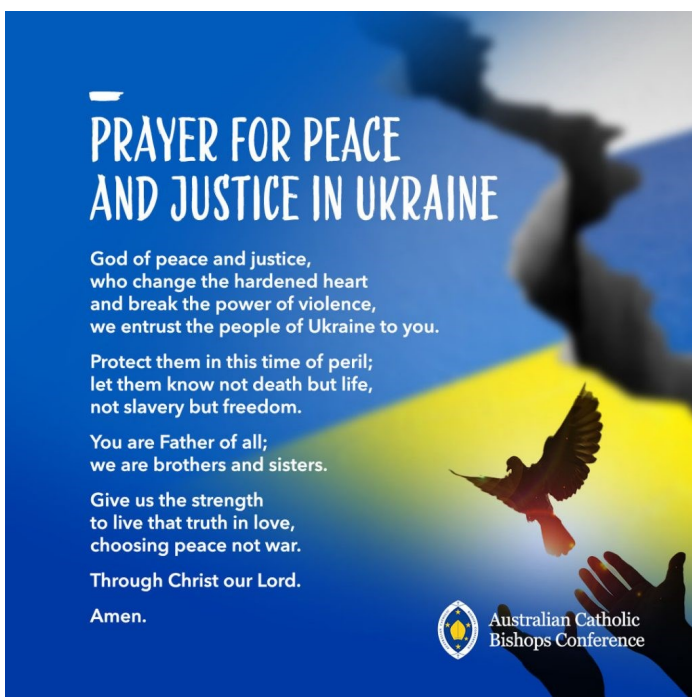
Workshops (11.30am - 12.30pm)

1. 'Deep Incarnation' and Hope for the Transformation of the World led by Very Rev. Dr Kevin Lenehan
2. Profound Experiences as Encounter: Christian Spirituality for Today led by Dr Rina Madden
3. Exploring Mindfulness and Christian Contemplative Practices led by Dr Cullan Joyce
4. God the Artist Communicates to Us First, Before God the Lecturer: A Workshop Uncovering the Presence of God in Art led by Rev. Dr Elio Capra SDB

Register www.mn.catholic.org.au/church-mission/catholic-life/faith-formation/upcoming-events

ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE IN THE SPIRIT OF TAIZÉ

Will be held at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Tighes Hill On the First Sunday each month starting June 5th, 2022 at: 5.00pm – 6pm followed by a shared supper.



SUPPORTING THE CLERGY / 1ST COLLECTION

The 1st collections in 2020-21 are 67% of the 2018-19 1st collection, which is a 33% reduction. The first two quarters of 2021-22 show the decline continuing. We wish to thank those who have continued to support the Clergy and are asking for those who are not doing so to consider making contributions to support the Clergy / 1st Collection at Mass in the BLUE bucket or electronically using the Online Payments button on the Parish Website Home page or the Diocese App.

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH / 2ND COLLECTION

We wish to thank everyone who has continued their support of our Parish during these very different times. You can support our Parish at Mass via the RED bucket or deposit directly into the Parish Account our details are: Account Name: CDF 96014 Morisset Parish BSB:062815 Account Number: 00328161 Ref: 5004 2nd Collection or 5004 PG and Giver Number, or you can use the Online Payments button on the Parish Website Home page or the Diocese App.

UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMNITIES

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD— 29TH MAY
THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY— 31ST MAY
SAINT JUSTIN— 1ST JUNE
SAINTS MARCELLINUS AND PETER— 2ND JUNE
SAINTS CHARLES LWANGA— 3RD JUNE
PENTECOST— 5TH JUNE
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH—6TH JUNE
SAINT EPHREM—9TH JUNE
SAINT BARNABAS— 11TH JUNE

Please pray for those who are sick, in hospital or recovering at home:

Bernadette Martin, Sue Alexander, John Francisco, Joan Gillett, Bruce Gillett, Koby Smith, Patricia Jones.

Please pray for those who have been called to eternal life may they always be in our prayers.



PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE BULLETIN

If you would like the parish to pray for a family member who is sick, recently deceased or you would like remembered please call or email the parish office or complete a prayer card for each person and place in the mail box near the parish office door. Cards are available at the back of the church and at the Parish Office.

All prayer requests require permission from a family member or the person. Due to Australian privacy laws.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,
I believe that You
are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment
receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite
myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.



Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at <https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/>

WEEKEND ROSTERS

		<u>THIS WEEK</u>	<u>NEXT WEEK</u>
<u>Presiders</u>	9.30	H White	J France
<u>PROCLAIMER:</u>	9.30	J France	K Amon
<u>PSALMIST:</u>	9.30	U France	L McRae
<u>UNIVERSAL PRAYER</u>	9.30	U France	L McRae
<u>GIFTS</u>	9.30	XXXX	XXXX
<u>SERVERS</u>	9.30	XXXX	XXXX
<u>AV:</u>	9.30	T Alexander	U France
<u>SOUND/ VID-EO:</u>	9.30	L & G Hutchinson	L & G Hutchinson
<u>COVID TEAM</u>	9.30	H White T Alexander R Hay J France	K Amon K Lendon J Vipan B Hutcheson
<u>CLEANING</u>	9.30	COVID TEAMS	COVID TEAMS

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an abiding commitment to promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults. If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult please contact the Office of Safeguarding (ph: 4979 1390 or email: childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au), or visit their website for further information (www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au).





SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE

The Ascension of the Lord C

Sunday 29 May 2022

The Introductory Rites

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, on which we gather today, who, long before us lived, loved, educated and raised their children on this Country. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and we recognise the young people who are our future. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in our communities. We respect their deep physical and spiritual connections to Country through their stories, traditions and living cultures.

Gathering

The Lectionary/Roman Missal or a Bible may be placed on a table together with a candle and a cross.

Sign of the Cross

Leader:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All:

Amen.

Greeting

Leader:

Blessed be Jesus Christ
who has redeemed us
and raised us to new life.

All:

Blessed be God forever.

Introductory Remarks

Leader (in these or similar words):

Friends in Christ,
although we cannot celebrate the Eucharist this day,
we gather in God's name
for when two or more come together
God is always with us.
United with the whole Church,
we celebrate the joy of Easter
and keep this day of the Lord holy.

Opening Rite

LITANY OF PRAISE

Leader:

Before listening to the Word of God
let us praise the Lord Jesus Christ
who has raised us to new life.

A brief period of silence follows.

Leader:

Lord Jesus, you are the way to the Father: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you clothe us with power from on high: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, your message goes out to all nations: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader:

May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins,
and bring us to everlasting life.

All:

All: Amen.

Opening Prayer

Leader:

Let us pray.

All pause for silent prayer.

God in heaven,
we are happy and thankful
that Jesus has ascended to you in glory
for he is our hope.

May we always carry Christ in our hearts
and proclaim the Good News to all.

We make this prayer through Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,

All:

Amen.

The Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Acts 1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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.'

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 46:2-3. 6-7. 8-9. 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

Eph 1:17-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

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.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Reader:

From the holy Gospel according to Luke.

All:

Glory to you, O Lord.

Lk 24:46-53

While blessing them, he was taken to heaven.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this. 'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

Reader:

The Gospel of the Lord.

All:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All are seated.

Reflection on the Word

Q. How might the disciples have reacted to the Ascension of Jesus?

Q. Why might Luke's gospel emphasise the need to preach the good news to all the nations?

Q. What situations in your life make it difficult to be a Christian witness?

Q. What hope does Jesus' Ascension give all Christian people?

Profession of Faith

Leader:

In union with the whole Church
let us profess our faith.

All:

**I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,**

suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the Faithful

Leader: Brothers and sisters, with Christ ascended into heaven, let us bring our prayers to the Lord.

Reader: That the Holy Church will continue to bear witness to the Gospel with grace and courage. (pause)

In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That Catholic communities around the world will embrace the seven goals of the *Laudato Si* Action Platform, working together to care for our common home. (pause)

In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all young people, called to live life to the fullest, may see in Mary's life the way to listen, the depth of discernment, the courage that faith generates, and the dedication to service. [Pope Francis' prayer intention for May 2022]

(pause)

In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That our parish community may be inspired by the joy and hope of Christ's Ascension into heaven. (pause)

In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That reconciliation between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island peoples and the wider Australian community will be reflected in understanding and respectful relationships. (pause)

In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the sick will be strengthened by God's abundant mercy, especially those in our community and families. (pause)

In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who have died will ascend to glory with Christ our Saviour,
especially those in our community and families. (pause)

In your glory:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: God our Father, your Son is with you, at your right hand. Hear our prayers and
help us to glorify the work of our Saviour now enthroned in glory, through
prayer, word and actions. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

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The Lord's Prayer

Leader:

At the Saviour's command
and formed by divine teaching,
we dare to say:

All:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

The Concluding Rite Blessing

Leader:

Through the resurrection of his Son God has redeemed us and made us his children.
May the Lord bless us with joy and fill us with fruits of the Spirit. All make the sign of the cross
during the blessing.

All:

Amen.

Dismissal

Leader:

Let us go in peace. Alleluia.

All:

Thanks be to God.

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