

**MASS TIMES**  
*Suspended until further notice.*

**RECONCILIATION**  
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# ST LUKE'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

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**Parish Website** <https://stlukesburanda.com>

The Ascension of the Lord, Year A

24 May 2020

## 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, whom 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 the 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 46:2-3. 6-9. R. v.6*

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

## 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

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.'*



## REFLECTION by Fr Michael Tate

Our Risen Lord Jesus Christ could have continued to appear to groups of followers, century after century – until now!

However, He didn't. The disciples had to be weaned of His risen-mode of appearance among them, lest they think that the victory over death is meant for human beings alone.

As Saint Paul says, *'the Risen Lord is the One who 'fills all creation' with His power radiating out from His Risen Humanity.*

However, dis-appearance is not the same as absence. We believe that Our Risen Lord is present in many modes, including as St Paul says *'... the Church which is His Body'*. That is why the figures in white rebuke the disciples: *'Why do you stand looking into Heaven?'* The Disciples had, rather, to ready themselves to be the Spirit-filled body of Jesus Christ in their own time and place. As we do.

We might pause for a moment to stop staring into Heaven, to ready ourselves to receive the Holy Spirit as at Pentecost in order to be *'The Church which is His Body.'*

# NOTICES

## Vale Margaret Healy



On Thursday, 21 May we farewelled our beloved parishioner **Margaret Healy**. Our deepest sympathies are extended to Brian and the family. May Margaret rest in peace and rise in glory.

## PENTECOST SUNDAY Next Sunday 31 May

It is a beautiful long-standing tradition in the Catholic Church to interiorly prepare one's self for Pentecost Sunday. How? Here are seven ways to prepare your own heart for the feast of Pentecost, and grow more aware of the work of the Spirit in your life and in the world:

1. Find out your Confirmation date. The sacrament of Confirmation is a one-time event, with lifetime effects. Read up on the saint you chose as your patron.
2. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you sift through your own charisms and gifts.
3. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you through an examination of conscience and prepare yourself to receive the sacrament of Penance.
4. Realise that you are participating in the Church's oldest novena, the Novena to the Holy Spirit.
5. Go out and share your faith with someone.
6. Spend some time serving God by serving others. Perform either corporal or spiritual works of mercy in your home and/or community. Pray a prayer to the Holy Spirit.
7. Spend some time thanking the Trinity.

Have a great Feast of Pentecost!

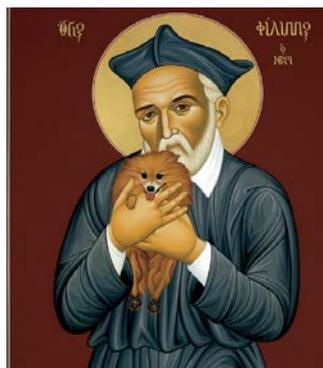
### CATHOLIC LEADER NEWS

The online edition of The Catholic Leader newspaper will be extended to all parishioners **for free** during this time. Keep faith with the Leader at [www.catholicleader.com.au](http://www.catholicleader.com.au)

This week's edition includes:

- The long-anticipated Plenary Council 2020 sessions, have been postponed to October 2021 and April 2022 because of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Vatican has declared a "Special Laudato Si' Anniversary Year" (starting this weekend), and a seven-year action plan emphasising "ecological conversion", safeguarding and care for the earth.

## SAINT OF THE WEEK: St Philip Neri



Saint Philip Neri was born in Florence in 1515. His mother died when he was young and he was educated at a Dominican convent. In 1553, he went to Rome and lived as a hermit for two years, then spent a further three years studying

theology and philosophy. He gave up his studies, sold his books, and encouraged his friends to join him in working for the sick and visiting the churches of Rome. St Philip was ordained a priest in 1551 and he spent many long hours hearing people's confessions. He founded the Congregation of the Oratory, which gave its name to the musical form 'Oratorio', which developed from their services.

St Philip was known as a happy man, who enjoyed playing the occasional practical joke, but was also regarded as a living saint by those who knew him.

### WATCH MASS

You can watch Mass at home on Channel 10 at 6.00am on Sundays. Alternatively, join online for the live Mass broadcast via the Cathedral of St Stephen website: <https://www.cathedralofststephen.org.au/mass-times.html> at 8:00am and 12:30pm weekdays and at 8:00am and 10:00am on Sundays. You can also watch earlier Masses recorded on the same website.

### DAILY INSPIRATION

Sign up to receive regular emails, including two-minute homilies, daily readings and updates from the Archdiocese by visiting [archbne.org/dwlc](http://archbne.org/dwlc)

### SUPPORT ST LUKE'S

Our faith will sustain us through challenging times. Please keep helping our parish community by continuing your weekly offering via direct debit. Call the Archdiocesan Development Fund at 3324 3777 to find out how.

*If you have an item you would like considered for the newsletter please contact the Parish Office.*

Contact Local Safeguarding Representative  
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