

The community of St Mary's Catholic Parish and Dutton Park Catholic Parish acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which our parishes stand.

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD 29th May 2022 - Year C

The Sacrament of Relationships

Today's Gospel reading contains the prayer for the Church that Jesus offered up to heaven shortly before he offered his life in the crucifixion. In it, he makes a sacrament out of relationships. As Jesus and the Father are one, we too are to be one with each other, so that by our witness of unity – permanent, committed, self-sacrificing, unconditional love – we show the world what God's love is like. We prove to the world that God's love is real: It's permanent, committed, unconditional, and selfsacrificing no matter how much one sins.

A sacramental marriage is a visual lesson for the world, a teaching about radical love: how God loves us unconditionally, for better and for worse, in sickness and in health, whether we are rich or poor, with complete faithfulness. Marriage is meant to be a life of radical love, a love that cannot be experienced outside the bonds of permanent vows. In a sacramental marriage, the husband lays down his life to serve his wife, and the wife lays down her life to serve her husband, just as Christ laid down his life to serve us and we who are the Church, the Bride of Christ, lay down our lives to follow him and serve him. Marriage is that sacred! This is the reason why a Catholic priest cannot marry couples who have been divorced until after an investigation proves that previous marriages were not true unions. The unity of a couple is as sacred as the unity between Jesus and the Father and as sacred as our Godordained mission to reveal his love.

Other relationships – when God has formed them – are sacred, too. Each union created by God is a sacrament (the presence and power of Christ for the world). Each relationship is meant to be a visual lesson that teaches the world about the true identity and salvation of Jesus.

How horrible – how anti-evangelization – are divisions within the Body of Christ!!

Questions for Personal Reflection:

List the people who are God's gift to you. Who used to be a gift but no longer seems so due to hardships and relational difficulties? What will you do for that person this week to serve him or her in love (even if they won't be able to know about it)?

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READINGS AT MASS

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 (Ps 46 (47): 2-3, 6-9)

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

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/** 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/** 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 (Heb 9: 24-28; 10: 19-23)

It is not as though Christ has entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do a way with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

In other words, brothers, through the blood of Jesus, we have the right to enter the sanctuary, by a new way which he had opened for us, a living opening to the curtain, that is to say, his body. And we have the supreme high priest over all the house of God. So as we go in, let us be sincere in heart and filled with faith, our mind sprinkled and free from any trace of bad conscience and our body washed with pure water. Let us keep firm in the hope we profess, because the one who made the promise is faithful.

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 (Luke 24: 46-53)

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.

Communion Antiphon (Matthew 28: 20)

Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

Next Sunday's readings:

1st reading: Gen: 1-9

2nd reading: Rom 8: 22-27

Gospel: John 7: 37-39

Excerpts from: The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commision on English in the Liturgy (ICEL) and Universalis © 1996-2018 Universalis Publishing Limited: see www.universalis.com.

THIS WEEK'S Psalm Responses

Monday 30th:

Sing to God, O Kingdoms of the earth.

Tuesday 31st:The Visitation of the Blessed
Virgin Mary (Feast)Among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

Wednesday 1st: *St Justin (Memorial)* Sing to God, O Kingdoms of the earth.

Thursday 2nd:

Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.

Friday 3rd: Charles Lwanga & companions (Memorial) The Lord has set his throne in heaven.

Saturday 4th:

The just will gaze on your face, O Lord.

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK



Thank you to everyone who donated, baked, assisted and supported the St Francis Table Ministry on their Election Day fundraising event last Saturday.

It was a huge success - the funds will go back into the Ministry to assist their mission in supporting the locals in need. $\hfill \ensuremath{\mathbf{x}}$

Sr Salvacion and her team of volunteers were very grateful for all the love and support.







Pilgrim Virgin Statue May - October

Invite a Pilgrim Virgin statue into your home

The purpose of the Pilgrim Virgin Statue home family visitation is to aid families in responding to the re-

quests made by the Blessed Mary during her apparitions at Fatima.

The essence of her requests is threefold: return to God; make reparation for sins; pray the Rosary for Peace.

To arrange for a home family visitation of the Pilgrim Virgin Statue from May to October please contact the Parish Office. National Reconciliation Week is from 27 May to June 3. It's a time to renew our commitment to build stronger relationships of respect and trust between First Nations Australians and non-Indigenous Australians. The theme for this year is *Be Brave. Make Change*. We are encouraged to make a commitment to deal with unfinished business so that change is possible. To find out more, go to: www.reconciliation.org.au

An ecumenical reconciliation service will take place at:

St. Joseph's and St. Anthony's Parish 30 Eldorado Street, Bracken Ridge Friday 27 May 2022 7:00 – 8:00 PM All are welcome.

THE LUMINIOUS LANTERN PARADE Welcoming Migrants and Refugees (Catholic Justice and Peace Commission)

Once again, the Commission is a community sponsor of the wonderful Luminous Lantern Parade. For 15 years, we have been part of the parade which is a public expression of welcome to migrants and refugees. We encourage Catholics to join our contingent and help to carry our banner and lantern.

The parade will take place on: Friday 10 June at Southbank Parklands (starting at Little Stanley Street). It kicks off at 6:00 PM, but contingents begin forming from 5:00 PM.

Please register your interest in participating in the parade by e-mail to cjpc@bne.catholic.net.au.



Reconciliation Week Event!

An Evening With: Dr Noritta Morseu-Diop Welcome to Country: Gaya Kerry Charlton

Noritta has specialised in understanding the experiences of incarcerated Indigenous people, a topic she examined in depth through her PhD thesis & book: *Healing in Justice: Giving a Voice to the Silent and Forgotten People*.

Her ancestry extends from Aboriginal Australia to the Kulkalgal Nation and to the Dauareb Clan of the Meriam Nation. She has lived in Brisbane for nearly 40 years and worked as a grassroots social worker for 30 years in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities throughout Queensland in the areas of grief, loss, trauma, mental health, criminal justice, social, cultural, emotional and environmental health and wellbeing and community development.

Noritta is now developing a 'A Cultural Wellness & Yarning Place' at:

QCŪ Building 16 Peel Street, South Brisbane Friday 4 th June 6 – 8pm [arrive from 5:30] RSVP Phone 0401 733 359 email: office@antargld.org.au

This is a FREE event and the first on ANTaR Qld's calendar for 2022.

PARISH ACTIVITIES 2022

BAPTISMS

2nd Saturday - 9.30am: St Mary's Church (Family preparation sessions on the 4th Tuesday -Bookings essential.)

ADORATION Sunday 4-5pm: St Mary's Church

ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS

- 1st Friday 7am: St Mary's Church
- 1st Saturday 5pm: St Ita's Church 1st Sunday 7am: OLPS Fairfield

CHILDREN'S LITURGY (School Term Only)

- Saturdays 5.00pm: St Ita's Church (Vigil Mass)
- Sundays 9.00am: St Mary's Church

FAMILY MASS

4th Saturday - 5pm: St Ita's Church (School term only - check dates on website)

ST FRANCIS TABLE - Ministry to the Elderly 1st and 3rd Monday: 10am -1pm St Francis Hall, 47 Dornoch Tce, West End

SUPPORT FOR DUTTON PARK PARISH & ST MARY'S SOUTH BRISBANE PARISH

Please consider giving to our planned giving program.

Your continued support for our Parishes is appreciated. If you'd like to use direct debit please download one of the form below, complete and email back to the parish office directly.

Dutton Park Parish download: Dutton Park Parish Direct Debit Request Form

St Mary's Parish download: St Mary's Parish Direct Debit Request Form

Other ways of giving direct internet transfer:

Dutton Park Parish: BSB: 064-786 Acc No: 100 022 825 Ref: Last Name and Collections

St Mary's Parish South Brisbane

BSB: 064-786 Acc No: 100 009 890 Ref: Your Last Name and Collections

We also have Tap n Go see Church Coordinator at Mass.



SIGNS OF OUR TIME

Don't Forget to Register for the Signs of Our times Launch!



If you haven't already registered for the on-line launch of Signs of Our Times by Archbishop Mark Coleridge on Tuesday 31 May, 6:00 -7:00 PM, make sure you do so this week.

Signs of Our Times is a collaboration between the Commission and the ACBC Office for Justice Ecology and Peace. It provides resources and support for Catholics to embrace a culture of encounter in their social action. It also encourages social action which is firmly grounded in scripture, tradition and pray-er. During the launch, we will announce some opportunities for you to get a practical experience of what Signs of Our Times is all about. Register at: Bit.ly/SOOTlaunch



OPEN MORNING Tuesday 7 June

lhc.qld.edu.au



When was the last time you reviewed your will?

HopgoodGanim Lawyers is a Brisbane-based law firm which was founded in 1974. We can help you with:

- wills & estate planning; and
- estate administration & disputes.

Contact - Greg Cox 3024 0331 g.cox@hopgoodganim.com.au www.hopgoodganim.com.au

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