



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.

■ The word of the Lord.

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 Mt 28:16-20
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

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 commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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PRESENT IN ALL CREATION

The resurrection of Jesus was clearly a moment of healing victory and the basis of hope for the early Church. While the victory over sin and death had been won a whole new set of questions arose for the first generation of Christians. Where do we go now? What does the Risen Lord ask of us? How will the Lord continue to be present among us? The early Christians reflected on Jesus' Ascension and used this moment of transition to address these questions for themselves and to instruct future generations of Christians.

Much had already been achieved but the time had come for the Risen Lord to entrust the next stage of the mission into the hands of the disciples. Having been schooled for forty days by the Risen Lord they were now entrusted with the mission of bringing the message of Jesus to the world around them. While they would not have looked forward to the day when Jesus would pass from their midst, they were nonetheless reminded that while the quality of his presence had changed, he would never leave them.

While the letter to the Ephesians does not speak explicitly of the Ascension it does reflect on how the Pauline communities saw this change in Jesus' presence among them. Christians are encouraged to see that by being exalted to God's right-hand Jesus is now able to be present throughout all of creation, no longer limited by space and time. They are called to see that he is not absent but is now even more powerfully present.

Christopher Monaghan CP

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 of 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.'

■ The word of the Lord.



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 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

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

21 May 23
Easter Wk 7 Yr A

WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH
Website: <https://stpatrikswesttamworthparish.org>
Email: westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au



Parish Priest Fr Anthony Koppman
Pastoral Associate: Sr Kathryn Sweeney RSJ. **Office Hrs:** Wed & Thurs 8.30-11.30 am

Administration Di Bolitho, Anne Bowden
Sacristan Elaine Smyth
School Principals Greg O'Toole and Maree Holland

Presbytery 67658211
Pastoral Associate 0411703608
St Josephs School 67654079

WEEKEND MASSES	Sat: 5.30pm Sun: 9am & 5.30pm	CONFESSIONS
WEEKDAY MASSES	Wed: 12pm Our Lady Help of Christians Thurs: 9am Fri: 9am St Phiip Neri	Sat: 4.30-5.15pm *Or by appointment

ENTRANCE ANTI-PHON: You kingdoms of the earth, sing to God: Praise the Lord, who ascends above the highest heavens; his majesty and might are in the skies. Alleluia.

COMMUNION ANTI-PHON: Christ, offering a single sacrifice for sins, is seated forever at God's right hand, Alleluia.

May God have mercy on all those asked to be remembered in prayer:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Sr Judith Carney rsm, Terry Doherty, Marjie Balfe, Sophie Littlejohns, Father Efren Musngi MS, Marian Murphy, Ann Daly, Charlie Burns.

ANNIVERSARIES: Peg MacRae (4/5), Hugh O'Brien (18/5), Ted Parsons (20/5), Sandy Murray (22/5).

DECEASED: Carmel MacPherson, Peter Richards, John O'Brien, Gary McSweeney, Sr Clare Keating RSJ

SICK: John Betts, Gerard Dunn, Sr Gerard Joseph, Suzanne Roberts, Shane Davidson, Pauline Wiley, Joan Crowe, Lisa Foster, Shirley Collier, Norma O'Brien, Barbara Brennan, Terry Dean, Colin MacPherson, Kate Harrison, Maureen Harrison, Deacon Peter Harrison, William Bonner, Graeme Bussell, Alison and baby Huxley Gallagher, Fr Bernie Flood.

VEENA'S VERSIONS - TAKING INSTRUCTIONS

Dear Boss, I hope I haven't misunderstood your instructions. Because to be honest, boss, none of this Y to K dates problem makes any sense to me. At any rate I have finished converting all the months on all the company calendars so that the year 2000 is ready to go with the following improved months: Januark, Februark, Mak, Julk. In addition, I have changed the days of the week, and they are now: Sundak, Mondak, Tuesdak, Wednesdak, Thursdak, Fridak and Saturdak. Is it enough, or should I change any other Y to K? I am a fan of the New York Yankees. Should I call them New Kork Kankees in order to be Y2K ready?

COMING EVENTS:

**4 June Sunday Evening Mass Time changes to 5 pm
26 May, 29 Aug, 17 Nov Mission & Evangelisation Events

CHURCH COLLECTIONS: BSB 082105

1st. Collection - West Tamworth Presbytery Acc 001023642 (Diocesan collection)
 2nd Collection - West Tamworth Catholic Church. Acc 001041198 (St Pats Church Collection)

**Direct Debit or EFT donations are preferred for planned giving however envelopes are still available.



COVID GUIDE: * FACE MASKS ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED; *ANTISEPIC WIPES/SANITISER AVAILABLE.

"God understands us better than we understand ourselves, or each other."



SUNDAY MASS TIME: A timely reminder that Sunday afternoon mass time will be changed to 5pm from 4 June 2023. (two weeks)

THANKYOU to al those who came along, celebrated our special Mothers Day Mass, brought a plate, and helped prepare for and clean up from our morning tea. By all accounts it was a wonderful event.

STATEMENT REGARDING ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER VOICE FROM AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS: This statement is available via the bulletin email, is on the notice board at the back of the church, and is available in hard copy by request. As per the Bishops' request in this statement, everyone is encouraged to read and discuss the Uluru Statement from the Heart, which they endorsed in 2021 and the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia endorsed in 2022.

LISTENING TO THE HOLY SPIRIT: A DIOCESAN PENTECOST EVENT: All are welcome to attend an interactive Diocesan event designed to help you hear the voice of God for you and your parish in the lead up to Pentecost! The night will feature an interactive and engaging guest presentation from Martin Brennan of the Encounter School of Ministry, with opportunities for small and large group discussion and prayer. Friday 26 May | 6 - 8 pm | online or in person at St Patricks Parish Centre: 59 Crown St, West Tamworth **Registration and enquiries: email chris@armidale.catholic.org.au**

PLANNED GIVING: If you are not part of our planned giving program you may still give regularly by direct debit or funds transfer to our Church account via the bank details opposite. *Please consider contributing, if you are able, as this is how our Church is financially maintained.

PRAYER FOR OUR NEW BISHOP

God our Father, in Jesus, your Son,
 You have given to your Church the perfect model of priest, prophet and king, and so You have blessed us through His sacrifice, taught us through His Word, and guided us through His rule.
 We ask You, Father, to guide and enlighten those who will be tasked with helping to choose the next bishop of our diocese.
 May the person they choose be one of deep and true prayer, a person of a compassionate heart and firm resolve, and a person of joy and peace, who desires above all to do Your will.
 We entrust our prayers to our Patroness, Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and ask this through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen



WEEK 6 ROSTER: 21/5/23

Vigil: R D Gowing, G Styman
9am Sun: R S Brown, A Sartori
5.30pm Sun: R M Murray D Bearman
Counting Team O and J Whale, A Bowden
Fri Cleaning 26/5 M Vella A Jones
Altar Linen: H Reid

WEEK 1 ROSTER: 28/5/23

Vigil: R C Ledwos P Bamford
9am Sun: R S Nichols G Clout
5.30pm Sun: R C Lavell M Murray
Counting Team P Sheils; A Bowden
Fri Cleaning 2/6 S Brown V Griffiths
Altar Linen: J Hutt

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and care for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

