



Holy Spirit Catholic Parish

93 Burdekin Ave, Amaroo ACT and 220 Victoria St, Hall ACT
Supporting and supported by Holy Spirit, Good Shepherd,
Mother Teresa Primary Schools and St John Paul II College

11-12 May 2024

The Ascension of the Lord | Year B



Holy Spirit Amaroo

Monday

No Mass
Office closed

Tuesday

9:15am Communion Service

Wednesday

9:15am Communion Service
No Holy Hour and
Reconciliation

Thursday

9:15am Communion Service

Friday

7:00am Mass
No 12:00pm Mass

Saturday

4:30pm Reconciliation
5:00pm Mass

Sunday

8:00am Mass
9:30am Mass
5:00pm Mass

What Happens Next?

"Time to go." We all know what that means. If you come from a family like mine, it means we're now entering into a period of goodbyes that make us loiter in the doorway for another half hour. Sooner or later, though, we're going to finish that final conversation, give that last hug, say the last I-love-you, and wish the travelers a safe journey home. And then they're gone. For a moment, there's an almost visible space in the room shaped just like Aunt Ida and the kids. That same shaped emptiness is curiously echoed in the heart. Even the silence sounds curiously like the folks who just left.

The disciples standing around after the Ascension must have experienced something like that. A Jesus-shaped space where he stood, a Jesus-sounding silence where he'd spoken. There was a space in their hearts, too, that they would always long for him to fill. And yet the same must have been true of them as it is for us when we take leave of loved ones. Their presence remains brilliantly in their absence. They're not here but are hardly gone for good. You can't kill love off that easily. Love never leaves the room.

How do you keep Jesus close even when he may seem absent?

Pray

God of all wisdom, give us visions of the life you intend for us. Make your ways our ways. Guide us in building a Spirit-led community that bears fruit which is pleasing to you and beneficial to our neighbours. Amen.

Ponder

Consider the Jesus-shaped place in your life. Is it big enough, profound enough, life-changing enough? Reflect on ways to expand it. *The church, you see, is not peripheral to the world; the world is peripheral to the church.*

Kids' Corner

Jesus performed a lot of miracles. He walked on water, healed the sick and even raised the dead. He did these signs to show people that he was the Son of God who loved them. When Jesus left the earth and ascended into heaven, he continued to do miracles through his disciples. After all, he had given them a big job: to convert the whole wide world! Miracles still happen through Jesus today. They may not always look like what you read in the Gospel stories, but they are there. Keep your eyes open for miracles. They show us that God is with us.

God, I believe you are with us today and every day. Amen.

www.gpbs.com.au

Share your Language with us! Pentecost Church Decorations.



Parishioners are invited to write "WELCOME" and "Happy Birthday" in whatever language they speak, as a first or second language, other than English. Coloured cards, pens and a box will be available in the foyer after Mass. Let's see how many languages we can collect!



St Francis Xavier Hall

Saturdays 5:00pm

Parish News and Events

- * **Rosary after Mass**—Saturday 11 May | All are welcome.
- * **No Christian Meditation** on Tuesday 14 May
- * **No Holy Hour** on 15 May and 22 May due to clergy retreat and Confirmation Mass.
- * **No Midday Mass** on Friday 17 May due to Confirmation Retreat.
- * **Sunday 12 May after 9:30am Mass | Mother's Day Morning tea.**
Please bring a plate to share.
- * **Sunday 19 May at 9:30am | Parish Birthday Celebrations**
Mass followed by cake and BBQ. Please bring a plate of delicious delights to share and come dress in your national outfits. More information on the poster in the foyer!
- * **Thursday 30 May at 9:15am | Anointing of the Sick Mass**
Mass followed by morning tea. All welcome! Please bring a plate to share.
- * **Tuesday 11 June from 7:30pm-9:00pm | Plenary Council Findings Report**
Save the date: A session will be held with guest speakers who were part of the council. All are invited to come along. More information in the coming weeks. Please register your interest with the parish office for catering purposes.



Youth Group | Fortnightly Sundays 6:00pm-7:30pm
(19 May, 2 June, 16 June, 30 June)

Come along to the parish centre. \$5 Donation for food and snacks.
Contact Theivani at the Parish office.

PRIESTS ON RETREAT

Fr Troy and Fr Eden will be on clergy retreat from Monday 13 May to Thursday 16 May. There will be a communion service offered on Tuesday-Thursday.



Happy Mother's Day to all mums, mums-to-be, grandmas, great-grandmas, godmothers, and women who dedicate their lives to their children. You are truly a blessing to your families and to our parish. Join us for a cuppa on Sunday 12 May after the 9:30am Mass.

Community News

- * **Men Alive Weekend—25-26 May 2024—Mary Help of Christian, Pearce.** Cost \$50 per person: includes workshops, morning and afternoon tea, lunch and bbq dinner on Saturday. RSVP Friday 17 May 2024 to Mat Wolnicki 0438 446 489 or mat.wolnicki@menalive.org.au



Please keep the following individuals in prayer.....



For those who are sick

Elisabeth Faith O'Connell
Kwang Hui Lim
Elizabeth
Adriano Cesar Junior
Maria Teresa Meireles
Theresa and Joseph Tan
Tony Johnston
Jaya Raghwan
Paul Johnston
Mark Bush
Jim Banks
Barbara Kirk
Vesna Ljubičić
Gaudencio Montaos
Alonso
Rozalind Murphy
Sharni Laffan
Marc Darlington
Liam O'Brien
Nancy Phillips
Daranee Thepthong
Ashley
Ana Al-Adhami
Linda Dwyer
Carmen Azzopardi
Rudy Mercado
Wigglesworth Family
Brigitte Gurtler

Anniversaries

Felicity Jane Malouf
Sebastiano Mammoliti-20yrs
Lualhati Aquino
Dominador Aquino
Elena Micu
Anthony Lim
Rita Moran

Recently Deceased

Keith Crowley
Ben Cassar
Cyril Jolicoeur

We include those who are members of our Parish or relatives. Please email the parish office or [click here](#) to request prayers.

[Prayer Requests](#)

100 Voices Choir

Last Sunday afternoon 10 men from the Holy Spirit Men's Choir sang in a 100 Voices Choir fundraising event at St Christopher's. Proceeds supported four disability charities. Vocal coach, Frances Miley, joined our men and Hildegard Palafox accompanied the large choir. Holy Spirit parishioners also sang in other community choirs featured during the event including the Indonesian Choir, the Filipino Choir and the Indian and SriLankan Choir. The cathedral was full and the singing was strong and beautiful. 100 Voices organizer and conductor, Maneerat Jeerapaet, from the Spence Community Choir was delighted with how well the event went. The singers were grateful for the experience of being part of a big choir which sang well together.



Parish Youth Group

A great time was had by all at our Youth Group last Sunday. Thank you to all who attended and participated. A big thank you to our youth leaders (Matt, Paris, Ashish and Frances) and to our parent helpers. We hope to see everyone again on Sunday 19 May at 6:00pm.



Social Justice Group Update



Next weekend we will celebrate Pentecost Sunday. Our Parish is named after the Holy Spirit, so may we pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit on each one of us.

From Sunday, 19 May to Sunday 26 May the Catholic Church also gives us the opportunity to renew our commitment to respond to the cries of the earth and the cries of the poor during Laudato Si' Week.

The Parish Social Justice Group will hand out at all Masses on the weekend of 18/19 May a newsletter reminding us of Pope Francis' message to all people 'to care for all of creation, the lands, the oceans, the flora and fauna, our fellow human beings and especially, the poor.' Other articles will highlight Sustainable Fashion and the introduction of *Sustainability Sunday* to be held on the last Sunday of every month.



So, while you are enjoying your morning tea after 9.30am Mass on Pentecost Sunday, please look at the information provided by members of the Social Justice Group as we celebrate Pentecost Sunday and Laudato Si' Week.

PPC Update

Greetings all,

Just writing to update everyone on the latest considerations from your Parish Council. We met this week to discuss next steps in the parish.

We would like to begin with a thanks to Frances and Jim for the Call to Ministry last weekend. It was only the beginning of a month of calling you to ministry. Please consider volunteering for one of our ministries so that we can continue to flourish in faith as part of the global church. Volunteer forms are in the Church foyer.

The most significant step is our participation in the Archdiocese Assembly in October 2024. The Assembly is an action coming from the Plenary Council in 2022. In preparation for this Assembly, the Archdiocese has been holding listening sessions and workshops to shape the core questions we the parishioners have for the Archdiocese and we need to answer for the Archbishop. You are encouraged to join these Archdiocese workshops if you can. However as a parish, we plan to hold a multitude of preparatory meetings, lunches, dinners, prayer sessions and roundtables to prepare parishioners and the parish for the Assembly and for our own Parish Assembly in 2025. In the coming months you will be invited by Fr Troy and the Council, through the bulletin, the website and Parish App to contribute and attend these meetings, prayer sessions and roundtables to provide your input on how we can grow in faith.

The other major parish initiative is our Parish Feast Day on Pentecost next weekend. There is more information in this bulletin on the celebration after the 9:30am Mass. Please come along and celebrate the Parish and the richness each and everyone of you brings from your language, family, culture and your faith to our Parish. Much like the Holy Spirit did at that first Pentecost. We will also be hosting a wine and cheese gathering post Saturday night Mass on 18 May 24 as a way for as many of us to celebrate the Parish Feast Day.

If you have about 45min on Saturday 18 May 24 at 9am to help us dress the Parish for the Feast Day we would be grateful for your assistance.

Finally in the coming months we will be advertising for parishioners to join the Parish Pastoral Council. More detail will come out in the next two months but please consider joining the Council to help us to continue to flourish in our community as part of the global church.

Sean Ryan
PPC Chair

COMMUNITY GARDEN NEWS



WHERE IS THE GARDEN

Did you know our parish has a community garden located behind the church, facing the school oval. It is a place where everyone from the parish, school and wider community is welcome. We are always looking for anyone interested in spending some time in the garden, so please let us know.

Contact Fiona fionawilk62@gmail.com or Theivani in the parish office.

VISIT FROM THE MINISTER

On **Thursday 2 May** our garden was chosen to launch Round 10 of this years Community Garden Grants. Minister Rebecca Vassarotti joined us in the garden for the announcement and spent some time talking to our volunteers and students from Good Shepherd about their interest in gardening, composting and living sustainably. The students had some great ideas about how they can be involved by collecting their vege and fruit scraps for our compost bins.



You're invited!
pentecost
celebration

Join Holy Spirit Parish to celebrate our Church birthday.

Fun for the whole family.

includes:

Multicultural Mass

Sausage Sizzle

Birthday cake celebration

Giant chalk drawings

Please bring a plate of food to share
and dress in your traditional attire.



Sunday 19 May 2024

After 9.30am Mass



The Holy Spirit needs your help! Well actually, Holy Spirit Parish needs your help.

Holy Spirit Parish has been relatively blessed throughout the past 30 years with participation in ministries. In general, each mass has sufficient numbers of rostered individuals and/or volunteers willing to help out on-the-spot when asked, allowing at a minimum for the mass to run without crucial interruptions.

Following the pandemic, the overall numbers of parishioners attending mass has been lower, which in turn has affected the number of people participating in ministries. It is becoming common for the same people to perform ministries every week, for people to fill multiple ministries in the same mass, or for some ministries to not be filled at all.

The Parish ministries are varied and there are opportunities for young and old to become involved. Some include behind the scenes work, helping with mass, ensuring we have chairs to sit on and looking after the buildings and grounds for example. Volunteering to help with a ministry is also a great way to meet other Parishioners.

Through May, the Parish is seeking your interest in volunteering for any of the ministries. More detailed information will be available on the Parish web site about the various Ministries and how you can register interest.

Please have a think about how you could get involved. Next week check out <https://www.holyspiritgungahlin.org.au/parish-involvement/parish-ministries/>

The St Vincent de Paul Society needs you

We all know that the cost of living in Australia is going up. Correspondingly, the number of people calling on the St Vincent de Paul Society for help is doing the same.

People are struggling to pay bills and put food on the table. Sometimes they have to make choices about doing either one or the other.

In our parish the local St Vincent de Paul Conference has seen a large increase in calls for assistance. On one day alone in January we had 23 calls for assistance. While that was exceptional, following the Christmas break, it is not uncommon for us to get 6 or more calls a day. In fact we get more calls for help than any other parish in Canberra. On average we would get 20 or more calls each week. People call us because they need food or clothing or help with bills.

Some of you may recall that I spoke at weekend Masses late last year and asked people to think about joining us in our work. We were lucky enough to get a small number of new members who have already made a wonderful contribution. But since then we have lost other members.

We really need a few more people to help us deal with the growing number of calls for assistance. If we could get half a dozen new members that would make a big difference.

So I'd love you to think about whether you have the time to join us, or at least find out a bit more about what we do. Members of the parish Conference will be out the front of the church after weekend Masses on 11 and 12 May, so why not say hello?

What is involved in being a member?

Attending a meeting once a fortnight on a Tuesday at 7pm for about an hour;

- ◆ Making yourself available to work with another member in dealing with the calls for assistance that come in on a particular day, which might take 2 hours;
- ◆ Calls can be dealt with during the day or evening depending on what suits.

Working With Vulnerable People

Because of the type of work we do with vulnerable members of the community, members are required to obtain a Working With Vulnerable People card from Access Canberra and have a police check done, which can be organised through the St Vincent de Paul Head Office at Yarralumla.

In Conclusion

I really hope you will consider joining us. When the time comes we would like to think that we are able to say that we fed the hungry, we gave drink to the thirsty and we clothed the naked.

Mark Carter (0401 149 352)

On behalf of the parish St Vincent de Paul Conference

Readings for The Ascension of the Lord

Entrance Antiphon | Acts of the Apostles 1:11

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?
This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven
will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

First Reading | Acts of the Apostles 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 46:2-3. 6-9. 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 | 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.

ay 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 | 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 | Mark 16:15-20

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.

Communion Antiphon | Matthew 28:20

Behold, I am with you always,

even to the end of the age, alleluia.

Source: Liturgy Help © 2024

A Mother's Day Reflection



Dear Lord, Thank you for the gift of motherhood and the loving embrace that mothers provide. Thank you for the blessing it is to be called "Mum." Thank you for the numerous spiritual children you have given to so many "spiritual mums" and mentors. We pray that you will fill this day with favour and grace as we honour mothers everywhere. We ask for comfort for those who are grieving loss and heartache, especially on this day. We ask for strength for those who wait for children to return home. We ask for healing for those who have been hurt by relationships that were intended to be loving and nurturing. We ask for faith for those who will someday be Mums, who find themselves on a journey that seems so difficult. We ask for encouragement and grace for those women who have made a brave and loving choice to adopt children. We ask for the ongoing care and support for single mums who work so hard on behalf of their children.

We also remember the mums who are no longer with us and are with you in eternal glory! God, thank you, for the gift of life. Thank you that your heart is for us, and that you are with us, in all our unique journeys and pathways.

On Mother's Day, we pray for joy, grace, wisdom, and for peace for mums, mums to be, and women who nurture and lead. We are grateful for their loving presence in our lives. Amen.—<https://majellan.media/>

WE NEED YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

First Collection (Supporting all priests of the Archdiocese)

1. BSB: 062 786 Acc Number: 00029248 Acc Name: Central Presbytery Fund Ref: Gungahlin and Surname
2. Tap and Go machines or Qkr!

Second Collection (For the upkeep of our parish, staff salaries, parish loans, liturgical needs etc)

1. Click on <https://www.holyspiritgungahlin.org.au/donations-payments/secure-online-payments/>
2. Direct Credit: BSB: 062 786 Acc Number: 00010701 Acc Name: Holy Spirit Parish
3. Tap and Go machines or Qkr!



CONNECT WITH US

Parish Priest: Fr Troy Bobbin

Assistant Priest: Fr Eden Langlands

Parish Office and Presbytery

93 Burdekin Ave, Amaroo Ph: 6242 9622

Website: www.holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Parish Manager: Theivani Evers

E: theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

P: 0472 921 518

Parish Secretary: Vacant

E: office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Office Support: Anne Smart

E: officesupport@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Finance Officer/ Planned Giving: Tony Rose

E: gungahlin.finance@cg.org.au

Parish Pastoral Council (PPC): Sean Ryan

E: sean.ryan.cdss@gmail.com

Download our parish app: **Pocket Parish** from **App Store** or **Google Play**.

Parish Groups

Craft Group | Beth Forshaw
Mondays 1:00pm Parish Office

St Vincent de Paul | Drazen Roginic President
P: 0401 669 301
E: Drazen.Roginic@vinnies.org.au

Call to Connect | Maureen Hilton
M: 0431 123 465

Holy Spirit Prayer Group | Kathy Torcasio 0401 920 028
Wednesdays at 7:30pm in the church

Social Justice Group | Peter Petersen
E: socialjustice.hsp@gmail.com

Legion of Mary | Grace Magbutay
E: office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Youth Ministry
E: office@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

Care Group | Sonja Vocisano
P: 0438 699 591

Community Garden Group | Parish Office
E: theivani@holyspiritgungahlin.org.au

St Francis Xavier Social Group

Greg Farrugia 0412 299 549 gjvita@gmail.com

Gabrielle O'Kane 0417 464 216 okane.hall@gmail.com