



Kyabram Catholic Parish

St Augustine's-Kyabram ~ St Patrick's-Tongala ~ St Sebastian's-Merrigum

St Augustine's – Kyabram, 69 Church Street, PO Box 341, Kyabram Vic, 3620
Tel: 03 – 5852 1026 Email: Kyabram@cdos.org.au

Parish Administrator – Fr John Paul Pasala

We come to worship we remember the Yorta Yorta & Bangerang People the original custodians of this land

Ascension Sunday

Sunday 16th May 2021



Readings for this week:

Acts 1:1-11
Ephesians 1:17-23 or 4:1-13
Mark 16:15-20



Readings for next week:

Acts 2:1-11
Galatians 5:16-25
John 15:26-27, 16:12-15



Liturgical Jotting Vigils

We are very familiar with vigils for Sundays and the major feasts. The Feasts of Ascension and Pentecost have distinctive Vigils with their own set of prayers for the Mass. Pentecost Vigil also has an extended Liturgy of the Word.

The fifty days of the Easter Season conclude with Pentecost Sunday, when the gift of the Holy Spirit to the apostles, the beginnings of the Church, and the start of its mission to all nations are commemorated. Its vigil Mass is characterised by urgent prayer, after the example of the apostles and disciples, who persevered together in prayer with Mary, the Mother of Jesus, as they awaited the Holy Spirit.

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Focus on the Readings

The First Reading, the first 11 verses from the Act of the Apostles reads like the Gospel. Luke, the evangelist, recounts the final scene of the physical Jesus with the Eleven Apostles. They ask questions, Jesus responds and encourages them to be his witnesses. Witness demands mission, mission demands the power of the Holy Spirit.

Luke also connects Acts with his Gospel by means of his introduction addressing Theophilus (Greek personal name meaning: Beloved of God). Theophilus may be a Greek official but also a general title given to Greek Christians for whom Luke wrote his two works.

We are provided with three choices for the second reading, all from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians. They present us with the implications of the Ascension: The Lord Jesus Christ rose to the heights in heaven, to shower down his gifts and graces to us. We give him praise!

Mark's account of the Ascension is typically brief: "He was taken up into heaven." No mention of mountain, clouds, angels or fanfare. The mission of the disciples, more importantly for us here on earth, has commenced.

Ascension Prayer *(Collect prayer for the Ascension vigil Mass Roman Missal)*

O God, whose Son today ascended to the heavens as the Apostles looked on, grant, we pray, that, in accordance with his promise, we may be worthy for him to live with us always on earth, and we with him in heaven. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever and ever. Amen.

Words of Pope Francis

Jesus is present in the world but in another style, the style of the Risen One, that is, a presence that is revealed in the Word, in the Sacraments, in the constant and inner action of the Holy Spirit. The feast of Ascension tells us that Jesus, although having ascended to Heaven to dwell gloriously at the right of the Father, is still and is always among us: this is the source of our strength, our perseverance and our joy, precisely from the presence of Jesus among us with the strength of the Holy Spirit.

Pope Francis, Ascension 2020, Regina Caeli Address

On the Lighter Side

A bishop asked a class how did God make the world. A child perceptively responded: "with his left hand!" The perplexed prelate asked how is that. "Because Jesus was sitting on his right hand," the child replied. The texts actually state: "sitting at his right hand." (Eph 1:20 and Mark 19:19)



LAUDATO SI' WEEK

Laudato Si' Week 16th – 24th May is a global celebration of the culmination of the Special Laudato Si' 5th Anniversary Year, and a celebration of the great progress the whole Church is making on its journey to ecological conversion.

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference's Office of Social Justice & Caritas Australia's Catholic Earthcare program are co-hosting a prayer & reflection event entitled **Laudato Si' – Sowers of Hope** on Friday 21st May at 5.30pm via Zoom – register [here](#) or at www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au



ROSTERS – NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday 22nd May at 7.00pm:

Commentator – I Paynter; Lector – W Mulcahy;
Special Minister – L Busch

Sunday 23rd May at 8.00am:

Commentator – Help needed; Lector – M Carver;
Special Minister – M O'Shea

CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL DAY

ALL Welcome. Celebrating Charismatic Mass 10.45 am **Saturday 22nd May 2021** at St Brendan's Church, Shepparton. Celebrated by: Fr Varghese Vithayathil Praise and Prayer in Afternoon. Finishing at 4:00 pm. Directly behind St Brendan's church BYO Lunch – no sharing due to Covid. Tea and Coffee Provided

RSVP: Contact: Brigita Hore: 0412 042 196 or Mary Zobec: 0427 190 282

Hosted by Diocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal

BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS

This weekend we welcome

Chayse Shane Guiney

and

Jarryd Philip Tomasini

into our faith community.



Please keep Chayse and Jarryd and their parents, Shane & Laessa and Simon & Casey, and godparents in your prayers.

SANDHURST YOUTH MINISTRY – POSITION VACANT

Sandhurst Youth Ministry is seeking a vibrant youth worker to join the Diocesan team.

The successful applicant will be required to support parishes, schools and youth ministry initiatives in the Diocese of Sandhurst (Bendigo). They will be able to present the values and ideals of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church to the young people of the Diocese. Previous experience in active youth ministry leadership, or in working with young people is a desired attribute.

Youth Ministry Worker - download a copy of the position description:

<https://www.sandhurst.catholic.org.au/positions-vacant/youth-ministry-worker-music-communications>

Applications close at 5pm, Monday 31st May and should be sent to ruth.lawlor@sandhurst.catholic.org.au

For any questions please contact Ruth Lawlor on Ph 0458 585 200.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

“Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.” – 1 JOHN 4:15

How strong is your faith? When you have an opportunity to either defend or clarify a question about our Catholic faith, do you do it? Or, do you remain silent so that others don't think you are weird?

Pray for the courage to be strong in all circumstances and to joyfully share your witness with others.

If you do not try, your chance of success drops to 0.0% – *Unknown*

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Sick: Nancy Taylor, Angela Finn, Julie Shaw, Joan Childs

Recently Deceased: Michael Kelly

Anniversaries: -

(Please email the Parish Office to add names to our prayer list.)



DIARY DATES

Monday	17 May	-
Tuesday	18 May	Mass 5.00pm
Wednesday	19 May	-
Thursday	20 May	Mass 9.15am St Pat's School Mass, Tongala 10.15am
Friday	21 May	-
Saturday	22 May	Mass 7.00pm
Sunday	23 May	Mass 8.00am Mass 11.00am Merrigum Baptism 12.30pm
Monday	24 May	-
Tuesday	25 May	St Mary's School Mass, Rushworth 10.00am Mass 5.00pm
Wednesday	26 May	-
Thursday	27 May	Mass 9.15am
Friday	28 May	-
Saturday	29 May	Mass 7.00pm
Sunday	30 May	Mass 8.00am

Parish Administrator

Fr John Paul Pasala

Kyabram Presbytery: 5852 1026

Tatura Presbytery: 5824 1049

Pastoral Associate

Alma Limbrick (available in Parish Office on Thursdays, 8.30 to 5.00pm)

Administration

Leanne, Colleen and Ruth

Parish Office hours –

Mon/Tues/Wed – 8.30am to 12 noon

Thursday – 8.30am to 5.00pm

Parish Office email address

kyabram@cdos.org.au

Parish Office website:

www.kyabramcatholicparish.org.au

Principals

St Augustine's College

Brayden Stone – Phone 5851 3000

St Patrick's Primary

Jackie Stockdale – Phone 5859 0371

Parish Pastoral Council

Fr John Paul, Alma Limbrick (Pastoral Associate), Alana Brennan (Chairperson), Maurie Finn, John Forde, Jackie Stockdale, Brendon Lane, Finola Price, Brayden Stone, Mary Zobec

Mass Times

Kyabram

Week Day Masses (Tuesday and Thursday): see Diary Dates

Saturday: 7.00pm

Sunday: 8.00am

Tongala

Second Sunday of month 11.30am

Merrigum

Fourth Sunday of month 11.00am

Mass of Anointing is held the first Thursday of the month at 10.00am in St Augustine's Church.

STRONGER TONIGHT (18th June)

Sandhurst Youth Ministry's next Stronger Rally is just around the corner and we are excited to again be able to invite Secondary School students and young adults to attend!!! The event will be held on **Friday, 18th June** at St Bernard's Primary School, Wangaratta, from 6 – 9 pm. Arrive from 5:30 pm.

This night will feature music by Gen Bryant, a talk from a guest speaker, and contributions from young people from the Diocese, as well as a dinner break (light meal provided) to give everyone a chance to meet new people.

Register here: <https://www.trybooking.com/BRIGX>. For group bookings contact youth@sandhurst.catholic.org.au for more information.

Follow Sandhurst Youth and Stronger Youth on Facebook and Instagram to keep up to date with the latest info.



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

Mk 16: 15-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The Lord Jesus was taken into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God.

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 will be 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.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word

CALLED TO PREACH THE GOOD NEWS

As I write I'm in a transit lounge and, as it turns out, it's probably the most appropriate place from which to reflect on the feast of the Ascension which was a moment of great transition for the early church. As Jesus ascended the disciples were invited to leave behind what was known and familiar. Now the time had come to begin a new stage of the journey as they continued Jesus' mission. Many questions remained and they were uncertain about their ability to cope with the changes that lay before them. Jesus had proclaimed the coming of the kingdom. Now the task had been entrusted to them.

In a time of transition and change, we can all have the need for a point of reference that helps give direction and a sense of purpose. Paul writes from prison, bound and seemingly powerless, but he knows that the most powerful bonds for the Christian are those of love. For the Christians of Ephesus, the call is to be worthy of the vocation they have received, to grow in their baptism, and in their love and care for one another.

In a sense, the Ascension is something that happens to each and every individual Christian and community when we take up the task of preaching the gospel in our own time and place. We are still called to preach the good news of the kingdom, to carry on the task which Jesus has entrusted to us. There are still many questions in the life of the Church and there always will be.

Christopher Monaghan CP

THE SAVING WORD

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD / B

16 May 2021

Acts 1: 1-11

FIRST READING

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 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,