



St Mary's Cathedral Parish

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ARCHBISHOP ANTHONY J. IRELAND

Administrator:
Fr Bernard Perera

Assistant Priest:
Fr Steven Smith

Deacon & Sacristan:
Deacon Michael Smith

Pastoral Associate:
Sr. Monica Shelverton PBVM

Director of Music:
Clair Stanelos

Parish Secretary :
Nimshini Peiris

PARISH OFFICE :

(Tuesday & Friday - 8.30 am - 5.30pm and
Wednesday 10.30 am - 1.30pm)



[cathedralparishhobarttasmania
https://www.stmaryscathedralhobart.org.au](https://www.stmaryscathedralhobart.org.au)

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A - 17TH MAY 2026

FEAST OF ASCENSION OF THE LORD

The Ascension of the Lord Jesus is one of the great feasts in the Christian liturgical calendar, celebrated forty days after Easter. It marks the moment when the risen Christ, having appeared to His disciples and strengthened their faith, returned to the Father in heaven. This event is recorded in the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 1:9-11) and the Gospel accounts, where Jesus is taken up before the eyes of His disciples and a cloud hides Him from their sight.

Historically, the celebration of the Ascension dates back to the early centuries of the Church. By the fourth century, it was widely observed as a distinct feast, especially in Jerusalem, where pilgrims gathered at the Mount of Olives, traditionally believed to be the place of the Ascension. Over time, the feast spread throughout the universal Church, becoming a holy day of obligation in many regions. The Ascension completes the earthly mission of Jesus and prepares the way for the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

The Ascension is not simply about Jesus "going away." Rather, it is a profound moment of transition and promise. Jesus does not abandon His disciples; instead, He entrusts them with a mission: "Go and make disciples of all nations." His physical departure marks the beginning of a new way of His presence—through the Holy Spirit and within the community of believers, the Church.

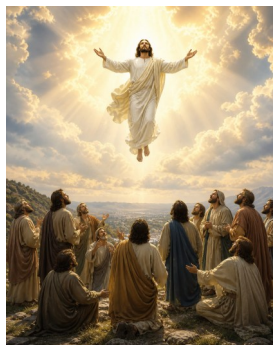
For our daily lives, the message of the Ascension is both challenging and hopeful. First, it reminds us that our faith is not meant to be passive. The disciples could have stood gazing at the sky, but they were called into action. Likewise, we are invited to move beyond mere admiration of Jesus to active participation in His mission—through service, compassion, and witness in our homes, workplaces, and communities.

Second, the Ascension gives us a sense of direction and purpose. Jesus' return to the Father opens the path for humanity to share in divine life. It assures us that heaven is not a distant dream, but a real destiny. In times of struggle, uncertainty, or loss, this truth brings hope: our lives are moving toward something greater.

Third, the Ascension calls us to trust in God's presence even when He seems hidden. Just as the disciples no longer saw Jesus physically, we too may sometimes feel distant from God. Yet, the promise remains: "I am with you always." This encourages us to deepen our faith, especially in moments when we rely more on trust than on visible signs.

Finally, the feast invites us to lift our hearts and minds to higher values. In a world often focused on material success and immediate gratification, the Ascension reminds us to seek what is eternal—love, truth, justice, and holiness.

In celebrating the Ascension, we are not just recalling an event of the past. We are embracing a living reality: Christ reigns in glory, intercedes for us, and calls us to continue His work on earth, with hope fixed firmly on heaven.



MASS TIMES

St Mary's Cathedral, Hobart



7.30am: Tuesday - Friday
5.00pm: Saturday (Vigil Mass)
10.30am: Sunday
6.00pm: Sunday

Sacred Heart Church New Town

9.15am: Tuesday - Thursday
8.00am: Saturday
8.30am: Sunday

Lawrenny Court

(131 Hill St West Hobart)

10.30am: Friday

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St Mary's Cathedral, Hobart

4.00pm - 4.30pm: Saturday

NOVENA TO OUR LADY AND ROSARY

Sacred Heart Church, New Town

After 9.15am Mass: Wednesday

7.30am: Saturday

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

St Mary's Cathedral Crypt, Hobart

6.00pm - Midnight: Friday

SACRAMENTS & DEVOTIONS

*ENQUIRIES FOR BAPTISMS AND MARRIAGE
PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE*

PIETY SHOP— Thursday, 10 am - 3pm. Saturday & Sunday the shop is open after every weekend Mass



St Mary's Cathedral Parish embraces and wholeheartedly supports the Archdiocese of Hobart Safe Communities Policy and Framework, which can be found at the Parish office. Any enquiries regarding Safe Communities contact the Parish Office (03) 6234 4463.

Flowers, Flowers



Looking for people with flower power!

Do you grow flowers, can you arrange them, or would you simply like to give it a go?

Your Cathedral is waiting for “you”. Perhaps you would like to **supply a small bunch of flowers** from your own garden whenever you can.

If you are interested, please let Deacon Michael know or see Christine at the Piety Store after all Masses on the weekends.

THANK YOU

The Regina Coeli

Queen of Heaven, rejoice.

R. Alleluia.

For He, whom you did merit to bear.

R. Alleluia.

Has risen as He said. **R. Alleluia.**

Pray for us to God. **R. Alleluia.**

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary.

Alleluia.

R. For the Lord is truly risen, Alleluia.

Let us pray

O God, Who gave joy to the world through the Resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may attain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ, our Lord.

Amen.



COMPANIONS OF THE CATHEDRAL



Due to unforeseen circumstances the previously advertised “Friends of the Cathedral” group has changed its name to “Companions of the Cathedral” or hopefully to become the CC’s.

Nothing else has changed and the group will start on

WEDNESDAY 3RD JUNE AT 12:30 PM



We will enjoy a cuppa and discuss how the group will operate being up to the members to decide.



If you have the time and would love to get together with others and add to the beauty of our Cathedral we would love to see you there.



Let us start this second half of the year as a Cathedral Community welcoming parishioners and visitors alike.



For any further information please contact Deacon Michael or see Christine at the piety shop.

Parish Office Notice

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed on **Wednesday 20th May 2026** due to a Diocesan event. Thank you for your understanding.

From Our Anniversary Book

John O'Loughlin, Sydney Scott, Jessie Anderson, Incoronata Meale, Elaine Milic, Harold Green, Mary Hurburgh, Ralph Tate, Melva Ringrose, Nita Williams, Mark Brown, Tullia Beresnicki, Annie Fahey, Mary Wood, Agnes Smallbone, Rosa Di Virgilio, Augusto Degasperi, Myrtyle Slade, Domenic Colavecchio, Anthony Peters, Aline Foley, Stella Maria Respondek, Vera Fahey, Fr. Francis Kent, Odilia Mackey, Maree Shea, Filomena Raglione, Edward Shelverton, Kurt Ott, Thomas Littlejohn, Diana Bannerman, William Davie, Francesca Capasso, Gladys Vince, Frances Littlejohn, Molly Dowd, Agostino Leon, Elizabeth Green, Kevin Shelverton, Irene Robertson, Alicia Tamaio, Alfred Waters, Antonio Palmese. ***May they rest in peace!***



JOIN ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL CHOIR



“Make a joyful noise unto the Lord..... come into his presence with singing.”



The Cathedral Choir would like to extend an invitation to any parishioners interested in joining for 10:30am mass.

We are a mixed voice choir with a small time commitment, **rehearsing from 9:30am** prior to Mass as well as **one evening per week.**

Music reading skills are not essential, and singers of all ability are welcome.

Music ministry is a great way to get involved with parish life.

Singing in a choir is also fun, rewarding and a great way to experience singing some of the most beautiful music ever written.



PLEASE CONTACT

CLAIR STANELOS
on 0412 212 468
if you are interested.

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.

or
(R.) 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
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
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
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.'



GOSPELS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Monday 18th May	- John 16:29-33
Tuesday 19th May	- John 17:1-11
Wednesday 20th May	- John 17:11-19
Thursday 21st May	- John 17:20-26
Friday 22nd May	- John 21:15-19
Saturday 23rd May	- John 21:20-25

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 24th May 2026

First Reading	- Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11
Responsorial Psalm	- Ps 103:1. 24. 29-31. 34. R. v.30
Second Reading	- 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13
Gospel	- John 20:19-23

Pray and Reflect on the Word of God !