

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

28:16-20

From the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Tips for Readers (Part 1)

BEGIN: Wait for the assembly to settle, then, making eye contact, confidently announce the reading with 'A reading from...'

DO NOT change this formula in any way. For example, **DO NOT** begin "Our first reading today is..." or any similar beginning.

END: Particular significance is to be given to a period of silence after reading the Word of God before stating 'The Word of the Lord.' (**NOT** 'This is the Word of the Lord')

Changes at Mass next Sunday

- **We will stand** (rather than remain sitting) before responding with the prayer 'May the Lord accept the sacrifice...'
- **We will bow** in reverence of the Mystery that we receive just before receiving Holy Communion.

Reflection

by Dianne Bergant CSA

The feast of the Ascension is really a kind of liminal moment in the Easter season. It is a time between times, a moment when we have left one place in our journey but have not yet arrived at a second. The glory of the Risen Christ has already been revealed in us, but not yet totally. The feast itself celebrates the exaltation of Jesus. Today we stand awestruck, watching Jesus ascend into the clouds of heaven, there to be enthroned at the right hand of God. Today we are overwhelmed by the reality of the divinity of the one whom we have known in his humanity. Like the conquering creator-god, he has overcome his enemy (death) and now reigns over his new creation (the church).

Christ who ascended into heaven in his body carries on what he began on earth through his new body, the church. He teaches through its apostles and evangelists. He ministers through its prophets and pastors. In and through the church, Jesus continues to heal and to comfort; to forgive and to include. We have not been left alone; we have his power, the same power with which he performed marvels when he walked the earth. We have not been left alone; we have each other. Together we make up the new body of Christ. Together we await the fullness of this body. It is this new body that stands in between the times, secure in what we have, confident of what we will be given.

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sleeps to go
Register now!
wyd08woll.org



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Our Sunday Word

St Michael's Parish, Nowra

nowraparish.org.au

Ascension of the Lord (Year A) ~ Season of Easter

4 May 2008

First Reading

1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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.'

The word of the Lord.



Responsorial Psalm

Ps 46

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

1:17-23

from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

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.

The word of the Lord.



St Michael's Parish, Nowra – Tel: 4423 1712 E-mail: office@nowraparish.org.au

Website: nowraparish.org.au Incorporates the Church Communities of St Michael, Nowra; St Patrick, Berry

Sacred Heart, Bomaderry; Mary, Help of Christians, Culburra; St Joseph, Kangaroo Valley; Holy Spirit, Vincentia.

The Ascension of the Lord [Year A]

4th May 2008

SUNDAY Masses:

NOWRA 6pm Vigil; 8am, 9.30am & 6pm
 BERRY 8.00am
 BOMADERRY 9.30am
 CULBURRA 6pm Vigil
 VINCENTIA 6pm Vigil, & 9.30am
 KANGAROO VALLEY 11.00am

MASSES DURING THE WEEK

Nowra: Mon 7.00am, Tues/ Wed./Thurs 8.15am,
 Fri 7am & 11.30am, Sat 9.00am
 Morning Prayer: Wed 7.50am; Holy Hour Fri 10.30am
 Berry: Tues 5.30pm Culburra: Thurs 5.30pm
 Bomaderry: First Friday only (2 May, 6 June) 5.45pm
 Vincentia: Mon, Thur, Fri 8.00am, Tues /Wed 5.30pm
 S'haven Heads; Friday 3.30pm (Community Centre)
 Kangaroo Valley: Mon/Tues/Thurs/Sat 8.00am;
 Wed 6.15am. Divine Office 15 mins prior to Mass.
 No Mass on Fridays.

Confession/Reconciliation

Nowra: Sat 11.30-12.30pm. 5.00 - 5.30pm.
 Culburra: Sat. 5.30pm. Berry: Tues 6.00pm
 B'derry: 1st Fri. 5.15pm; K'Valley: Sat 4.30 – 5.00pm
 Vincentia: Sat 5.00pm – 5.30pm



BAY & BASIN CWL invites parishioners to a reflection day led by Sr Bridie on 7 May at Berry Church Hall commencing 9.30am for morning tea. **BYO lunch.**

NOWRA CWL next meeting Tues 13 May at Sacred Heart Church, B'derry at 9.30am for morning tea – meeting following at 10.00am. If you need transport please meet at the Parish Centre at 9.15am. The Nowra CWL hope to have their meetings around the parish giving parishioners the opportunity to attend.



We prayerfully remember **Graham (Jack) Grady** (Berry), **Peter Hamilton, Catherine Tuxworth** (Wollongong); also **Karl Schaefer Kathleen and John Doran, Patrick Firmstone**, and **Ted Armstrong** whose anniversaries occur at this time. *May they rest in eternal peace.*

THE ROSARY is prayed in St Michael's Church each Tues at 10.00am – all parishioners are welcome.

The Ascension of the Lord: What was visible in Christ has now passed over into the Sacraments of the Church. And so that faith might be more noble and strong, it is now grounded not on sight but doctrine.. (Pope Leo the Great - 5th cent)

TAIZE EVENING FOR PENTECOST – will be held at Sacred Heart Church, Bomaderry on Friday 9 May at 7.30pm. All very welcome



YOUTH MINISTRY: An inaugural meeting on **Tue 20 May at 7.00pm in the Parish Centre** to discuss what form of 'Youth Ministry' might take place in the Parish – so **please consider** participating in the initial meeting to give the optimum result in the long term. The Parish Web site has the proposal and Activ8 or get a copy from the Parish office – an opportunity for all generations to look at the options – contact Grant Gleeson on 0411 039 941 or send an email ggleeson@mh.com.au or contact Robbie at the Parish Office. **Don't hold back** – attending the first meeting does not mean a firm commitment to anything – **SO COME ALONG AND SUPPORT THIS VENTURE!**

THE PARISH RECIPE BOOK – containing many delicious recipes by many Parishioners is on sale this w/end for **\$6.00** at all Mass Centres or at the Parish Office. Fundraising to assist young parishioners to attend WYD08 in Sydney.

SHOALHAVEN CROSSROADS – next meeting 9 May at Nowra Baptist Church, Old Southern Rd., South Nowra at 7.00pm for a 7.15pm start. Olympic theme – why not dress up as an athlete.

CENTACARE will be conducting a Rollercoaster program in Nowra –designed to help primary aged children cope with parental divorce / separation – 8 Mondays commencing 12 May at 5pm.. Inform & booking (essential) – phone 4421 8248. Cost \$5 per week – however courses are available to everyone regardless of participant's ability to pay. Information flyer on the notice board at St Michael's Nowra.

CATECHIST'S RETREAT DAY – May 23, 9.45 – 2pm at Bellambi – Christian Meditation & Meditating with children. Year 2 books have arrived – contact Lyn 4423 1009

"ON FERTILE GROUND – TOWARDS WYD". A night of song, prayer, drama and reflection exploring ACTS 1:8, the theme of WYD – **Mon 5 May** at 8.00pm in the Parish Centre.

WYD08 INFORMATION NIGHT – to be held in the Parish Centre on **Wed 14 May** from 6pm – 7pm.

If you are interested in attending any part of World Youth Day week (as part of the parish group), please come along to have your questions answered, to get help registering, and to meet others who will be sharing the journey. Contact Fr Richard or Sarah Ison to know more.



ST MICHAEL'S PARISH / the Young Adult Group and St John's High School will be contributing to the cost of the young people who are attending WYD08 in Sydney in July - **SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS**. If you would like to attend or have registered already please contact Robbie at the Parish Office in the week after the meeting of Wed 14 May.

WYD08 DIOCESAN MASS - Sat 12 July – celebrated by **Bishop Peter and clergy of the Diocese** (during the Days in the Diocese) – A youth focussed liturgy **open to all parishioners** to be held at W'gong Entertainment Centre at 6.00pm (Vigil Mass), preceded by 30 minutes of music and youth choir. We are hoping to organise a bus, leaving from St Michael's Nowra – **there will be forms at all Mass Centres** – please complete the form to express your interest in attending.

- The form also allows you to indicate your interest in travelling to the **WYD Papal Mass** at Randwick / Centennial Park on **20 July** by bus. (Note, the bus will need to leave around 4.00-4.30am!)

INTERNATIONAL WYD VISITORS – our parish is still looking for HomeStay Hosts to accommodate **45 WYD pilgrims** during 9 – 14 July 2008. Register online now at www.wyd08woll.org or speak to one of the following HomeStay coordinators.

Nowra/ Bomaderry – Fr Richard, Louise Taylor, Maureen Ison, Peter & Sue Delaney | **Berry** – Greg Troy
Culburra – Paul & Marg Casey
Vincentia – Carolyn Visser & Maryann Tweed