



Weekly Bulletin

Holy Name of Mary Catholic Parish

4 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere

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THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Sunday, 1 June 2025

**THERE'S ALWAYS ANOTHER LEVEL UP. THERE'S ALWAYS ANOTHER ASCENSION.
MORE GRACE, MORE LIGHT, MORE GENEROSITY, MORE COMPASSION,
MORE TO SHED, MORE TO GROW .**

— ELIZABETH GILBERT

Today we are celebrating the feast of the ascension of our Lord! His ascension means not so much “a space travel,” as what a certain priest had said, but that Christ entered a new dimension, an unseen but definitive presence which is spiritual or immaterial. This signifies His exaltation as universal sovereign Lord of heaven after a fruitful life on earth.

This feast marks an end and a beginning! Jesus victoriously completes his earthly journey and goes back to the Father; for the followers it is a beginning of a great expectation that Christ will always be present with them through His Spirit forever independent of time and space in a new way until the end of time. This is His promise to His disciples and an assurance for them and to us today. Now, they gladly wait for the empowerment of the Holy Spirit to continue the mission of Jesus.

Let me just explore a bit about the one sentence in the first reading of today! Why do you stand looking up toward heaven? - I try to get the meaning of this single sentence. The disciples were overjoyed at the sight of Jesus. Perhaps they wanted to hang on to such a life with Jesus. But there comes again the pain of parting with Jesus. Their action of looking up, perhaps reflects their attitude of getting caught up with the departure and expecting some miraculous thing to happen, or perhaps they were still hesitant to venture out to face the realities of life. At this juncture, the angels have to make these disciples move forward with the promise of the continual presence of Jesus and the returning of Jesus. (I can imagine a scenario of the father of a family leaving abroad for a job and the mother telling the child that dad would be coming back). Taking the message of the angels, the disciples go out on a mission of transforming society. The people who were looking up toward heaven started looking around without losing the base of being in the presence of Jesus. With a slight twist, I would like every one of us to reflect on a few things in the context of our life.

Why are we still living in the past?

Why do we hold on to our anger still?

Why do we harbor ill feelings and grudges towards people?

Why don't we come out of your anti- social behavior- such as drugs, drinks etc.? Why do you hang around those who have a bad influence on us?

Why are we always praying to God for peace and resolution while we are not ready to resolve the issues in our relationships?

Besides, there are so many of us who are so focused on ourselves, blessings, money, power, creative comforts that we cannot go beyond them. The evil one is happy for this because His strategy is effective in that we look so much on ourselves instead of looking around and reaching out to people in need. Many of us are so focused on our woes and miseries. We spend our life so much on our problems and burdens. We have blessings but we tend to belittle or forget these blessings in view of our attachment to our burdens and problems in the past, present and in the future.

This is a tale from the Bhagavad Purana, Hindu epic:

A crow once flew into the sky with a piece of meat in its beak. Twenty other crows set out in hot pursuit and began to attack it viciously.

When the crow finally dropped the meat, the pursuers left it alone and flew off shrieking after the morsel. The crow said to itself: I have lost the meat and gained this peaceful sky”

There should be a unitary approach to our life. A balanced life founded on God and lived out in the community. There is nothing to gain by holding on to the past painful memories, hurt, loss. We must be ready to let go and move forward in our life. Perhaps, we may have to lose something to reach our destination.

We must fulfil our vocation to make this world a better place for the generations to come and return to where we belong. Let us make sure that we bring something for Him, our good life marked with good works as we return to our Father.

And let us have a unitary approach to life!

God's blessings

Fr. Vince

This Sunday's Readings



Entrance Antiphon:

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 1:1-11

*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 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: 46:2-3, 6-7, 8-9

**℟: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**

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. **℟**

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. **℟**

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. **℟**

Second reading: Hebrews 9:24-28, 10:19-23

Christ has entered heaven.

It is not as though Christ has entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

In other words, brothers, through the blood of Jesus we have the right to enter the sanctuary, by a new way which he has opened for us, a living opening through the curtain, that is to say, his body. And we have the supreme high priest over all the house of God. So as we go in, let us be sincere in heart and filled with faith, our minds sprinkled and free from any trace of bad conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us keep firm in the hope we profess, because the one who made the promise is faithful.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.
I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 24:46-53

While blessing them, he was taken to heaven.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'You see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.

'And now I am sending down to you what the Father has promised. Stay in the city then, until you are clothed with the power from on high.' Then he took them out as far as the outskirts of Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. Now as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and was carried up to heaven. They worshipped him and then went back to Jerusalem full of joy; and they were continually in the Temple praising God.

Communion Antiphon:

Behold, I am with you always,
even to the end of the age, alleluia.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS



Congratulations

Sofia and Oliver

who receive the Sacrament of Baptism this Sunday 1/6/2025

We welcome these children
to our Parish.

"RYDALMEN"
*Building up fellowship among men
of different age brackets*

Meets on The Third

Thursday of every Month

Where: Parish Meeting Room

Time: 7:15pm for 7:30pm to 9:00pm

What to Bring: Small plate of nibbles
(Optional)

Next Meeting: 19 June 2025

Congratulations

Congratulations to the
25 children who
received the
Sacrament
of Confirmation
on Thurs. 29 May 2025.

Thank you to
Lynette Rodrigues
and her team for
preparing the children
for the sacrament.



**SACRAMENTS
OF
FIRST RECONCILIATION
&
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

SACRAMENT DATES:

FIRST RECONCILIATION: THURSDAY 26 JUNE – 6PM

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: SUNDAY 21 SEPT – 12PM



**NEXT SVDP
CONFERENCE
MEETING**

on **Tuesday 3rd June**
at **7pm**

in the Parish Meeting Room
New members are welcome.

Wellbeing & Health

Brue Moore
Romenda McGregor
Pia Ylagan
Kaz Seremet

Let us pray for the...

Recently Deceased

Renato Abello
Bessie Chavenia
Shirley June Lazarus
Romualdo Soriano
Yosep Benny Kossim

Anniversaries

Ignacio De Los Reyes
Mary Mathew

PARISH ROSTERS

7/8 June 2025

	<u>Computer Operators</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>	<u>EMHC</u>	<u>Counters</u>	<u>Cleaning Ministry</u>	<u>Altar Society</u>
Sat Vigil 5.30pm	Eric Flores	Romeo Urqueza Yolanda Urqueza	Cristian A Jemma L	Susan Boulous Kathy Saad	Sheila Tapiador	Susan Boulous & Family	Linda Tsang Grace Coco Sheila Tapiador
Sun 8.00am	Anne Fernando	Angela Finnane Will Finnane	Jensen M Judah M	Barbara Rosario Lina Flores	Bill O'Shea		
Sun 10.00am	Delilah Rodrigues	Astrid Kossim Joseph Andrews	Theo M Tashnie W Tashen W	Sheila Tapiador Evelyn Artiaga			

14/15 Jun 2025

	<u>Computer Operators</u>	<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>	<u>EMHC</u>	<u>Counters</u>	<u>Cleaning Ministry</u>	<u>Altar Society</u>
Sat Vigil 5.30pm	Lynette Rodrigues	Leah Garcia Eli Ogrizek	Harriet S Zachary C	Sr. Maureen Sue Farrar	David Boulous Sue Boulous	Anton Massillamany	Maria Greenfield Lily Hon
Sun 8.00am	Anne Marie Lyons	Anne Marie Lyons Glenys Oxlee	Maya R Tara C	Lina Flores Michael Clark	Evelyn Noviza	Vartguess Markarian	
Sun 10.00am	Vartguess Markarian	Cynthia Oscar Jessica Tapiador		Lynette Rodrigues Dominic Rodrigues	Lawn and Garden Children's Liturgy	Romeo Urqueza Sunday 15/06/2025 at 10am	

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Join Us for Our Monthly Parish Lunch!

Dear Parishioners,

We're excited to invite you to our Monthly Parish Lunch!
This is a wonderful opportunity to gather once a month
to enjoy great company and good food.
Each one pays for their own meal and drinks.

When: Sunday 18 June - 11:30am

Saturday 19 July - 6:30pm

Sunday 17 August - 11:30am

Where: The Family Inn

Everyone is welcome—bring your family and friends!
This initiative aims to foster fellowship and strengthen
our community ties.

For more details and/or to RSVP contact **Allison** on **0411 013 032**.

Looking forward to seeing everyone there!

**If you would like to attend our next lunch, you are invited to
write your name on the sheet located at the back of the church,
this is to assist Allison with the booking reservation.**

Diocesan Retreat Opportunities

The diocese is hosting two retreat opportunities for adults
of all ages to engage more with this Jubilee Year of Hope.
Take the time to step away from your usual routine to experience
a diocesan retreat - a sacred space for prayer, reflection,
renewal and encounter with God.

Registrations are now open.

**For more details and to register, see the two options
of retreats below:**

August 16: parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-16-august/

November 15: parracatholic.org/events/diocesan-retreat-15-november/



GROUP

We are working to engage young people aged between
12 and 35 to join our group.

We encourage our youth to come onboard.

If you would like to join us, we invite you to write
your contact details on our Youth Group Register located
at the back of the church.

**The next Youth Group Meeting will be held on:
Wednesday 25 June 2025 at 7pm in the Parish Meeting Room.**

For more details please contact:

Nazli Guler on 0426 243 016

Thank You for Supporting our Holy Spirit Seminarians

Bishop Vincent and our Holy Spirit Seminary, thank you for your
generous support in the formation of our future priests.
Our Bishop's Good Shepherd Appeal will support our seminarians to deepen
their relationship with God and commit more fully to their spiritual calling,
so they may serve our faith community.



If you haven't had a chance to donate, please visit parracatholic.org/appeal. Thank you.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tue - Wed - Thu - Fri - Sat 9:15 am

Novena to our Lady of Perpetual Succour

Every Wednesday 7:00pm

ROSARY at 3:00pm on the last Saturday
of every month at Ermington Shopping
Centre (near the Post Office).

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday (Vigil) 5:30 pm

Sunday 8:00 am & 10:00 am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 8:30 am - 9:00 am

ADORATION (EXPOSITION)

Saturday 8:30 am

BAPTISM

**1st & 3rd Sunday of the
Month 11:30 am**

PARISH TEAM

Fr. Vincent Savarimuthu
Parish Priest

Maritza Graciela
Parish Secretary
Tue/Wed/Thur/Fri
9:30am to 5:30pm

Deacon Leon
Finance Secretary
Thur
10am to 2pm

Sacramental Coordinator	Lynette Rodrigues
Catechists Coordinator	Diane O'Shea
Childrens Liturgy Coordinator	Allison Markarian
Lectors Coordinator	Glenys Oxlee
Senior Server Coordinator	Anton Massillamany
Finance Chairman	Ron Della Vedova
St Vincent De Paul President	Ron Della Vedova
Rydalmen Coordinator	Mark Bannister
Social Celebrations Coordinator	Nancy Grugan
Parish Pastoral Council Chair	Allison Markarian

PARISH SCHOOLS

St. Mary's Primary School
1 Myrtle Street, Rydalmere NSW 2116
Ph: (02) 8844 5700
Email: StMarysRydal@parra.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Mr. Richard Blissenden

St. Patrick's Marist College
171 Kirby Street, Dundas NSW 2117
Ph: (02) 8841 7900
Email: stpatsdundas@parra.catholic.edu.au
Principal: Mr. Paul Ryan