

# Bishop's Good Works Appeal

Across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, people turn to the Church for care, hope, guidance and belonging. Through the Bishop's Good Works Appeal, our Diocese supports vital ministries including

Holy Spirit Seminary, Catholic Care, the Ephpheta Centre and the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine. Over the coming weeks, this Appeal will support Holy Spirit Seminary at Harris Park, helping form the future priests our Diocese will need in the years ahead. Your generosity provides education, spiritual formation, pastoral training and safe accommodation for seminarians as they answer God's call. Please give generously at [parracatholic.org/appeal](http://parracatholic.org/appeal) or scan the QR code. Thank you for supporting the future priests of our Church



## Pray for Persecuted Christians in Nigeria

Christians in Nigeria continue to suffer greatly for their faith, yet many persevere with deep trust in Christ and devotion to Our Lady. *Aid to the Church in Need* invites you to join with John, a Catholic farmer in Nigeria, in praying a decade of the Rosary this week for persecuted Christians and all who suffer for their faith.

Watch **John's moving testimony** and **download a free Red Rosary Prayer Card** to unite your prayers with the suffering Church throughout the world. visit [www.rebrand.ly/RedRosary26](http://www.rebrand.ly/RedRosary26)

*Last chance to secure your place at.....*

## *Our Parish 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner Dance*

**Date: Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June at St Mary's Band Club**

**Time: 7:00pm-11:30pm**

**Tickets: Adult ticket - \$80**

**Child ( 3-10 years) - \$35**

**Please scan the QR code to book**

*Tickets are non- refundable*



### **SAFEGAURDING NOTICE:**

#### ***Concerned about safety of a child?***

- Identify the harm.
  - If it is an emergency ring 000
  - What harm is it? Physical, neglect, domestic violence, emotional?
  - Contact someone in charge
- 3 R's: Reassure, Report & record**



Francis Alphonse at Chrysalis Law Group provides a range of legal services.

Home visits for the elderly or infirm at no extra charge in selected areas.  
Ph 8046 7666  
Email [francis@chrysalislegal.com.au](mailto:francis@chrysalislegal.com.au)

# SACRED HEART PARISH

SOUTH MOUNT DRUITT

*Celebrating 50 years of walking together in Faith*



## The Ascension of the Lord 17th MAY 2026

### *From Fr Marcus' Desk.....*

In many countries of the world, the Ascension of the Lord is not celebrated on its traditional day, the Thursday of the Sixth week of Easter, but on the following Sunday. As we approach the end of the Easter Season, we remember liturgically this enigmatic moment in the earthly life of Jesus. Luke, this year's evangelist, tells us that *he parted from them, and was carried up into heaven*. He tells us again in the first reading from the Acts: *he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight*.

Let us consider the verb "lifted up" and how it might give hope to our lives. While the first three Gospels all describe the Ascension, this event does not appear in John. In fact, the fourth evangelist offers us a radically different way of describing the moment. There are three references in John to Jesus being "lifted up from the earth": all refer to the crucifixion which is somehow identified with the exaltation. Lifted up on the cross is at the same time lifted up in glory.

The Mass prayers of the Ascension remind us of a central fact: "the Ascension of Christ ... is our exaltation" (Collect); "we pray ... that we too may rise up to the heavenly realms" (Prayer over the Offerings); "that Christian hope may draw us onward to ... you" (Prayer after Communion). This is our hope, our desire, our destiny. Meanwhile, however, we are left behind to shoulder our responsibility, but not before we have received the power of the Holy Spirit. The Ascension may be seen as the celebration of our coming of age, when, no longer accompanied by Jesus in the same way, we must dedicate ourselves with maturity and courage to the spreading of the Gospel.

People are sometimes discouraged by the fact that God does not magically intervene to put right the problems of the world. But has he not left us with the challenge to grow up and exercise the gifts he has given us, and supremely, that of the Holy Spirit whom we shall celebrate next Sunday at the culmination of the Easter season? For those who do not observe the Ascension this Sunday, the gospel of the seventh Sunday of Easter is taken from the priestly prayer of Jesus at the Last Supper. He implores the Father *for those who believe in me through their (the apostles') word*. He expresses the profound and constant union between the Father, the Son and those who believe. He prays for the unity of believers among themselves, so that his message may touch the world. It is a message pertinent to every level of human life. As we await the Spirit of truth, we can remember the words of Pope Leo addressed to the diplomatic corps on May 16 this year: "truly peaceful relationships cannot be built, also within the international community, apart from truth".

(Fr Edmond Power OSB)

**Sunday Masses: The Ascension of the Lord**  
**Saturday 7:30 pm Sunday 7.30 am & 9.00am**

**Weekday Masses:**

Mon 18<sup>th</sup> May: 9:10am- **Mon of the 7<sup>th</sup> week of Eastertide**  
 Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May: 9:10am- **Tues of the 7<sup>th</sup> week of Eastertide**  
 Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May: 7pm- **Wed of the 7<sup>th</sup> week of Eastertide**  
 Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May: 9:10am- **Thurs of the 7<sup>th</sup> week of Eastertide**  
 Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May: 9:10am- **Fri of the 7<sup>th</sup> week of Eastertide**  
 Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May: 9:10am - **Saturday of the 7<sup>th</sup> week of Eastertide**

**Pastoral Director: Deacon Roderick Pirotta**

**Assistant Priests: Fr Marcus Hazelman: 0405 453 902**

**Fr Taliai Hausia: 0404 322 560**

**Parish Chairperson: Teresa Samuels**

**Parish Secretary: Donna Gauci (Wed & Thurs Only)**

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**Baptisms & Weddings: By arrangement only**

**Sacred Heart Primary School:**

**email: [sacredheartmtdruitt.catholic.edu.au](mailto:sacredheartmtdruitt.catholic.edu.au) Tel: 9625 8733**

**LECTOR'S ROSTER**

| LECTORS   | 6PM                                     | 7:30AM                             | 9AM                                  |
|---|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <i>16<sup>th</sup> /17<sup>th</sup> May</i><br><i>The Ascension of the Lord</i>               | Herminia Villarica<br>Gloria Cardoza    | Thomas Merjudio<br>Joaquim Mendes  | Maria Fe Verceluz<br>Pelenatita Mafi |
| <i>23<sup>rd</sup> /24<sup>th</sup> May</i><br><i>Pentecost</i>                               | Pio Vergara<br>Wendy Farquharson        | Vinod Nagaraja<br>Sangeeta Kumar   | Sosefo Vaisima<br>Monica Uhatafe     |
| <i>30<sup>th</sup> /31<sup>st</sup> May</i><br><i>The Most Holy Trinity</i>                   | Edna Gemzon<br>Jeric Salazar            | Phil Tonks<br>Herbie Cruz          | Fadi Antown<br>Jovita Bugayong       |
| <i>6<sup>th</sup> /7<sup>th</sup> June</i><br><i>The Most Holy Body &amp; Blood of Christ</i> | Luisito Villapana<br>Herminia Villarcia | Elijah Merjudio<br>Thomas Merjudio | Aloysius Wong<br>Matthias Wong       |

**CHURCH CLEANING ROSTER**

|                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> May  | SAMOAN COMMUNITY       |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> May  | STELLA TAATAO & FAMILY |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> June  | NELSON & LYDIA         |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> June | JERRY & GLORY          |

# PARISH NOTICES

**1. Let us keep in our prayers all the candidates who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this Sunday at 11am.** *“ May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope” Romans 15:13*

Thank you to Bishop Vincent for celebrating this special day with our Parish.

**2. The Bishop’s Good Shepherd Appeal this weekend.** Please find donation envelopes in pews or scan the QR code on the back page to donate.

**3. Parish community groups are invited to host Sunday Fellowship morning tea after the 9am Mass. If you’re community can assist, please see Deacon Rod. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring parishioners together in friendship, welcome new faces and strengthen our parish community.**

**4. The National Count of Attendance for 2026** will continue this week with the counting of male and female attendees. Thank you to all for your cooperation.

**5. This is the last weekend to secure your tickets for our Parish 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary dinner dance before ticket sales close next weekend. Please scan QR code in bulletin to get your tickets!**

For your diary....



*Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus*

*Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm*

*Mass celebrated by Rev Fr Peter Williams VG*

## **PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY:**



**SICK:** Leonie Baybay, Aida Aniscol, Maria Llave; Fe Llave, Boyet Llave; Fara Vargas; Stella Edwards & Maria Belisario; Dalveno Bronsan;

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Sonny Tresmaria; Prudencio Fronda; Betty Masilang; Patricia Borre; Jachino De Almeida; Norma Labrador; Nieves Arela Empleo; Floris Jovida; Clemencia C. Feliciano; Teodoro Ambas;

**DEATH ANNIVERSARIES:** We pray for all those names who appear in the Parish memorial book for the month of May