



## St Catherine Labouré Gymea Parish

# The Ascension of the Lord into Heaven

28 / 29 May 2022

Year C

*"I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord;  
I will come back to you,  
and your hearts will be full of joy.*

**John 14:18**

### FROM THE CATECHISM

#### What is the Ascension?

**659** "So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God."<sup>532</sup> Christ's body was glorified at the moment of his Resurrection, as proved by the new and supernatural properties it subsequently and permanently enjoys.<sup>533</sup> But during the forty days when he eats and drinks familiarly with his disciples and teaches them about the kingdom, his glory remains veiled under the appearance of ordinary humanity.<sup>534</sup> Jesus' final apparition ends with the irreversible entry of his humanity into divine glory, symbolized by the cloud and by heaven, where he is seated from that time forward at God's right hand.<sup>535</sup> Only in a wholly exceptional and unique way would Jesus show himself to Paul "as to one untimely born", in a last apparition that established him as an apostle.<sup>536</sup>

**660** The veiled character of the glory of the Risen One during this time is intimated in his mysterious words to Mary Magdalene: "I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."<sup>537</sup> This indicates a difference in manifestation between the glory of the risen Christ and that of the Christ exalted to the Father's right hand, a transition marked by the historical and transcendent event of the Ascension.

**661** This final stage stays closely linked to the first, that is, to his descent from heaven in the Incarnation. Only the one who "came from the Father" can return to the Father: Christ Jesus.<sup>538</sup> "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man."<sup>539</sup> Left to its own natural powers humanity does not have access to the "Father's house", to God's life and happiness.<sup>540</sup> Only Christ can open to man such access that we, his members, might have confidence that we too shall go where he, our Head and our Source, has preceded us.<sup>541</sup>

#### In your charity, please pray for our recently deceased;

*Laurence "Larry" McDonnell, Helen Rosario, Rita Bernadette Pickard, Ederina Fabian, Margaret Hammel, Anita Reid, Martin Tonitto, David Wright, Frank Murray, Biagio 'Bill' Parrino, Terry Halls, Arthur Ollenrenshaw, Suzanne Miller, John Keys, Michael Malvern, Rex Watson.*

#### We remember those whose Anniversaries we commemorate at this time:

*Gary Allibon, Cec & Mary Baz, Jim Borg, John Bradley, Joe Caputo, Jim (James) Casey, Paul Charman, Fred Cobcroft, Ken Connolly, Tracy de Lyall, Roy & Mary Esplin, Kevin Fennell, Mary Garland, Fr. Peter Gillam, Bill Godfrey, Rod Halter, Amy Humphries, Felicity Ketel, Lean Family, Kathy Little, Lionel & Bev Hurst, Aileen McDonnell, David Morrison, Sid & Sylvia Mullen, Anna & Joe Natoli, Troy Quinliven (5th Anniversary), John Joe Sammut, John Vincent Sidgreaves, Antonio Sorbara, Betty White, Fr. Reg Wilson (1st Anniversary), The Holy Souls.*

#### We pray for all the sick of our Parish Community and their carers. Especially:

*Catherine Bassiuoni, Gerry Banister, Jean Bell, Helen Bridges, Pamela Buckley, Patricia Butler, Hugh Casey, Elaine Coughlan, Patricia Cutcliffe, Alice Elliott, Dorothy Fraser-Bell, Jeff Greenaway, Patricia Gordon, Melina Grieco, Maree Hinton, Gloria Klein, Doug Maybon, Evie Morgan, Anthony Morris, Julia Quach, Marie Rayner, Tony Ryan, Evelyn Spiteri, Yin Kwan Tsang, Lindy Webb, Maree Whitaker, Gary Wood.*

**EUCCHARISTIC PROCESSION (GYMEA):** Sunday 19th June is the great **Feast of Corpus Christi, the *Body & Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ***. I am hoping to arrange a Eucharistic Procession after the 9:30 am Mass down the high street of Gymea finishing with Benediction outside the Church.

**WALK WITH CHRIST (CITY):** **On the same day, 19th June, The Archdiocese of Sydney is restarting the annual "Walk With Christ" through the City.** This is always a marvellous event that gives tremendous public witness to our faith. If at least 45 parishioners from our parish are interested in attending this event, the Evangelisation Office will pay for a private bus to transport parishioners to and from the event. It would be wonderful if over 100 parishioners from Gymea would join Fr Ronnie and I in attending. I anticipate a departure time from Gymea at 12:30pm and we should return to Gymea by 5pm. **If you are interested in coming along with us on the free bus, please sign your name on the sheets at the back of the Church by this Friday, 3rd June.**



**CONFIRMATION PRACTICE SESSION NEXT SUNDAY:** During the final session next Sunday, 5th June, the children will practice receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation in the church with their parents.

**STATE SCHOOL HELPERS NEEDED:** If you have 30 minutes to spare on either a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday please consider assisting catechists in state school class rooms in bringing the Church to the state school children.

**PENTECOST SUNDAY:** Pentecost Sunday is next Sunday: the birthday of the Church!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO KERRY GINMAN:** Our parish secretary, Kerry Ginman, celebrated her 60th birthday last week. Kerry is such a gift to our parish! I am often told by people at the Chancery Office that we are blessed to have one of the most competent and efficient parish secretaries in the Archdiocese. I would like to personally acknowledge what a blessing she is and to thank her for all she does for our parish. Please say a special prayer for her!

**WINE & CHEESE NIGHT (CWL):** To formally inaugurate the CWL in this parish and to begin to think/plan about the year ahead, the members (and women interested in joining) are invited to a **wine and cheese social/discussion hosted by Fr Greg at the presbytery on Friday, 10 June at 6:30 pm.** The evening will commence with a short-time of prayer in the church, asking Our Lady's intercession on this new group in our parish. Please meet in the Church. Please **RSVP** to Fr Greg directly either by ringing the parish office or via email:

gregory.morgan1987@sydneycatholic.org

**NEXT "LECTURE" SERIES:** Fr Greg will be giving a three-part series of talks for the Archdiocese titled **"Simple Suggestions to Spiritual Obstacles: Rekindling our Prayer Life after "Pandemic Procrastination"**. These talks will be delivered at St Cath's on three consecutive Thursdays (**21 & 28 July, and 4 August**) from 7.30 pm to 8.45 pm; but people across the Archdiocese will join us via Zoom.

Please mark the dates in your diary. The working titles for these three talks are as follows:

- **Lecture One, 21 July:** *Silence – The Antidote to Spiritual Blindness & the Pathway to Truth*
- **Lecture Two, 28 July:** *Self-Knowledge – The Antidote to Spiritual Deception & the Pathway to Prudence*
- **Lecture Three, 4 August:** *Self-Sacrifice - The Antidote to Spiritual Acedia & the Pathway to Joy*

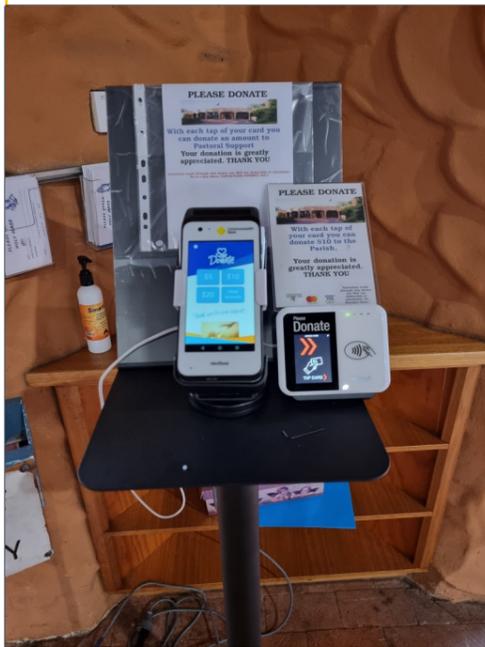
The original lecture series on **'Reclaiming the Power of Language'** will likely be held in the city at a date TBC.

**To Register please go to:** [www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events/](http://www.gomakedisciples.org.au/cas-events/).

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** For Cleaning of the Church, pews and carpet, etc. and also to assist the Altar Society ladies preparing the Sanctuary - both groups work to a monthly roster with 5th Sundays doubling up. This is a wonderful way to make a positive contribution to our parish and to meet a small group of wonderful parishioners. Please speak to Fr Greg or contact the Parish Office.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST:** The next Men's Breakfast will be held **Saturday, 18 June (the third Saturday of each month)**. It is a great opportunity for men to catch up over a hot breakfast before hearing an inspirational talk on a topic of our Catholic Faith! This weekend we heard a talk on The 4 Last Things. Next months topic is to be confirmed.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Our inaugural, though henceforth annual, "Labouré Lecture and Parish Dinner" will take place on **Friday, 25 November**. A distinguished guest speaker will be invited. Details to follow but please save the date in your calendars now.

**NEW TAP & GO MACHINES:**

You may have noticed the new “Tap & Go” terminals as you enter the Church. In a (post-) pandemic world, less people are carrying cash. The machine to the left goes to the “First Collection”, which covers the upkeep of the parish clergy, housekeeping expenses, and cleaning costs. At the recent clergy conference, it was

mentioned by the Vicar General that over 80% of parishes in Sydney do not have enough income in the First Collection to cover such expenses. Thus, it is the surplus of the 20% that make up for the short-fall. I would like to hope that our parish, given its tradition of generosity, might be able to alleviate some of that burden. The terminal to the right goes to the “Second Collection”, which supports maintenance/refurbishment costs, insurance, and staff salaries, and charitable/catechetical works of the parish. Thank you for being such a generous parish!

**ADORATION:** Remember, our parish has Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament available every day Tuesday - Saturday from 8:30 am - 9:10 am.

**ALTAR SERVERS:** A number of parishioners have commented on how wonderful it is to see children serving at Mass again. Fr Ronnie has very graciously trained the first group but we would always welcome some more volunteers. If your child has made their First Holy Communion, perhaps you might discuss with them whether they would like to serve at Mass, regularly or on occasions. Please approach for Fr Ronnie or myself (Fr Greg) if interested.

**NEW PARISH “APOLOGETICS” GROUP:** (What is “apologetics”? Etymologically, the word means to “speak in defence” – in this case of the Catholic faith. Perhaps more than ever, knowing how to defend your faith in public and appreciating the intelligence of the Church’s teachings is a grave imperative.) Our first apologetics series will be hosted on **Wednesday evenings, beginning Wednesday, 1 June**. The topic is “Christ and the Eucharist” and will run for 10 weeks. The evening will begin at 7pm with a video presentation followed by time for discussion and will finish around 8pm. All are welcome. A special invitation is extended to our RCIA candidates.

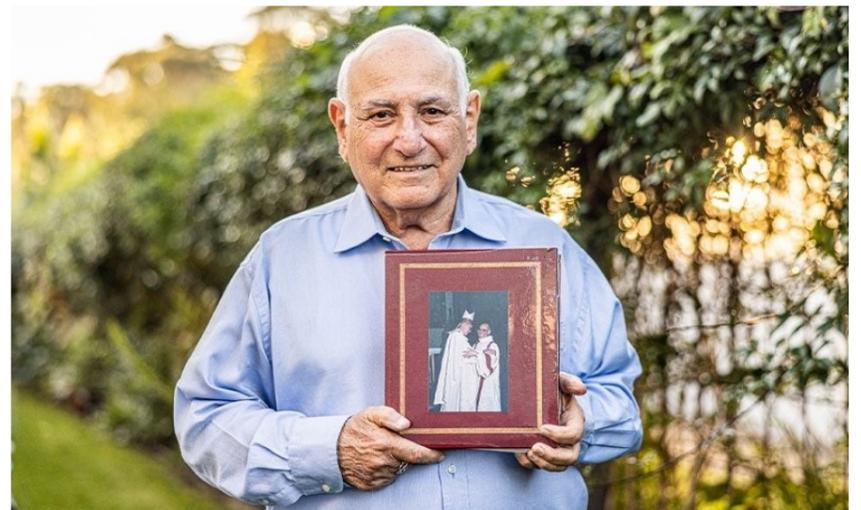
**LEGION OF MARY:** Our Parish is blessed to have a longstanding Legion of Mary group, which meets every Thursday morning after the 9.15 am Mass. We are always on the look out for new members. Please get involved (or just come and see!) and do pray for our Legion members too! They do such wonderful works in honour of Our Blessed Mother.

**FRIENDSHIP CLUB:** Next Friendship Club Meet the third Friday of the month at Gynea Bowling Club. New members welcome – email them (*address on back page*) for more information....

**MEDJUGORJE PRAYER GROUP:** Did you know we have a wonderful group of faith-filled parishioners who gather each Thurs evening at 6pm in our church, to say the Rosary & pray & reflect on Our Lady’s messages to the world. Email them (*address on back page*) for more information or simply come to a Meeting. Why not join them, everyone is welcome!

**CONFESSIONS:** A reminder that confessions are available **before & after every weekday Mass** including Saturdays) Please approach Fr Ronnie or myself if you wish to receive this Sacrament.

**FROM THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY: PARISH HERO AND PIONEER PERMANENT DEACON PAUL NAGGAR** by Marilyn Rodrigues



Paul Naggar with a photo of his Ordination to the Diaconate by Cardinal Clancy. Photo: Alphonsus Fok

Deacon Paul and Julianne Naggar say that following the promptings of the Holy Spirit has never steered them wrong.

The proud parents of Peter and Clare and doting grandparents to Liam have also accompanied and served thousands of parishioners over the years at All Saints’ Liverpool, while Deacon Paul has also served Holy Spirit, Carnes Hill, St Joseph’s, Moorebank, Mary Immaculate, Bossley Park, and St Anthony’s, Austral.

The first permanent deacon ordained for the Archdiocese of Sydney by Cardinal Edward Clancy, Paul last week celebrated 25 years of ministry devoted to preaching, assisting at Mass, celebrating weddings and baptisms, preparing couples for marriage, supporting the grieving and officiating at funerals.

...continue reading in *The Catholic Weekly*.

**PARISH DIRECTORY:**

**Parish Priest:** Father Gregory Morgan  
**Assistant Priest:** Father Ronnie Maree  
**Presbytery:** 123 Gymea Bay Road, Gymea  
**Secretary:** Kerry Ginman  
**Office Hours:** Monday to Thursday being:  
 8:30 am - 12 noon then 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm  
 Friday: 8:30 am - 12:30 pm then closed.  
**Office & Presbytery telephone:** 9525.9993  
**Email:** office@stcaths.org.au  
**Website:** [www.stcaths.org.au](http://www.stcaths.org.au)  
**Facebook:** <https://m.facebook.com/St-Catherine-Labour%C3%A9-Parish-Gymea-108678858244000/>  
**YouTube:** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiprf67dfGwEtt6hduzy7Og>  
**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** Kerry  
**Email:** safeguarding@stcaths.org.au  
**St Catherine Labouré Parish School**  
**Principal:** Jodie McKay  
**School Office:** 9524.9706  
**Email:** info@sclgymea.catholic.edu.au

**PARISH DIRECTORY:**

**Sacramental Programme: Karen**  
**Email:** sacramentalprogramme@stcaths.org.au  
**Catechist Coordinator: Karen**  
**Email:** catechists@stcaths.org.au  
**Youth (Music) Coordinator: Genevieve**  
**Email:** youthministry@stcaths.org.au  
**Gymea Music/Choirs Clare (Coordinator)**  
**Email:** musicgymea@stcaths.org.au  
**Legion of Mary Mike (President)**  
**Email:** legionofmarygymea@stcaths.org.au  
**Medjugore Prayer Group Bruno**  
**Email:** medumedjugorjeprayegroup@stcaths.org.au  
**St Catherine's Friendship Club:**  
**Email:** friendshipclub@stcaths.org.au

**MASS TIMES**

**Monday - Saturday** 9.15 am  
**Saturday** 5 pm Vigil Mass  
**Sunday** 7:30 am, 9:30 am & 5 pm

**CONFESSION TIMES**

**Mondays - Saturdays**  
 Before and after every weekday Mass (including Saturdays)  
**On Saturdays** 4:30 pm - 4:55 pm

**ADORATION TIMES**

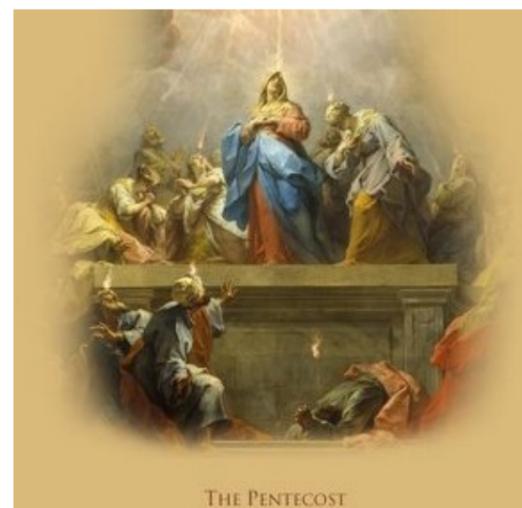
**Tuesdays - Saturdays**  
 8:30 am - 9:10 am  
*(Fridays and Saturdays:  
 9:00 am Benediction)*



4 / 5 June 2022

***Pentecost Sunday - Year C***

	Saturday Vigil 5.00pm	Sunday 7.30am	Sunday 9.30am	Sunday Evening 5.00pm
<b>Acolytes &amp; Ministers of Holy Communion:</b>	Kevin Bourke Julie Banister Jodie McKay	Sam Keir Judith Rumsey Doreen Vernon	Graham Ward Michele Anthony Carole Venier Peter Cobcroft	David Gormley Amelia Paras Paul Marsden
<b>1st Reader &amp; Psalm:</b>	Jim Gothard	Judith Rumsey	Barbara Foster	Joan Pinto
<b>2nd Reader &amp; Intercessions:</b>	Maureen Pocock	Adele Greenaway	<b>CHOIR</b> Carole Venier	Ronald Paras



**The Altar Society: Group 1:**  
 Maureen Huckstep, Jacqueline Parker, Jeanette Brennan & Maria Black.

**Altar Servers:**

**Audio-Visual Operators:** Pauline Natalie Hugh Faye & James  
**SENIOR CHOIR**

**The Clean Team: Group A:** Mary Vee Tondi, June Digby, Hazel & Larry Lange.



May God and our Lady of Lourdes care for and protect us all.