



Holy Family Parish

The Ascension of the Lord (Year A)
Sunday 24th May 2020

FIRST READING : Acts 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 : Psalm 46

℟ *God mounts his throne with 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 : 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 : 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 commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

"The secret of happiness is to live moment by moment and to thank God for all that He,
in His goodness, sends to us day after day." ~ St. Gianna Molla

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

NOTICES FROM AROUND THE DIOCESE

ABORTION LAW REFORM

The Abortion Law reform bill was pushed through Parliament during the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic. A petition has been started "That the House of Representatives urge the Government to urgently hold a referendum to allow the New Zealand people the opportunity to have their say on whether the Abortion Legislation Act 2020 should be repealed". You can support this petition at https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/petitions/document/PET_97570/petition-of-pamela-mcilwraith-referendum-on-abortion-legislation

BISHOP PAT'S MESSAGE

Bishop Pat prepares a short video message each Sunday. It is available on the diocesan website

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/>

And the Diocesan Mass is still screening on Sunday on Shine TV at 2pm.

THE ASCENSION

"Our blessed Lord did not ascend to heaven immediately after the Resurrection but remained on earth for 40 days, speaking to the Apostles about the Kingdom of God. It was during these days that He gave the details of His Church, which He said would have its visible manifestation on Pentecost. 'And so the Lord Jesus, when he had finished speaking to them, was taken up to heaven, and is seated now at the right hand of God.' Seated is a figurative expression of eternal repose, which He has merited by His victory over sin. At the right hand is a symbol of His power of eternal intercession before His heavenly Father on our behalf. The Ascension of Christ is the assurance of our own ascension into heaven after the Last Judgment. Not yet ascended in body, we nevertheless enjoy the ascension of our minds in union with Him. We find our true home in heaven. It is to heaven that we look expectantly for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ to save us; He will form this humbled body of ours anew, modelling it into the image of His glorified body, so effective is His power to make all things obey Him. O heavenly Magnet, in each communion draw our body and blood to Thy own, that already following Thee in heart, we may later ascend with Thee in the flesh!"

~ +Archbishop Fulton Sheen

HOLY FAMILY PARISH NOTICES

Dear Friends,

It was wonderful to see so many with Eucharistic hunger come for Communion after Mass this past Sunday. As a priest, it was a joy to give the Lord to His people ☺

Here are some MORE updates...

I'll speak to this next Sunday during live-stream Mass also.

COMMUNION ON SUNDAYS — UPDATED

~ After Sunday Mass (approx 10:55am), Communion will be given to those who come to the main Church door to receive Our Lord, who have prepared themselves appropriately, as they wait in their cars on Taikata Rd.

~ Parking will NOT be provided on Church property, otherwise it will look like a large gathering at Church.

~ The live-stream Mass can be watched on your phone in your car, if you can; otherwise pray a Rosary or some other prayer.

~ If I don't recognize you, don't be offended if I ask you some questions to check that you are a Catholic before giving you Communion. ~ As you queue for Communion make sure to keep the 1m distance.

~ To avoid it looking like a large gathering, we'll queue around the Church building next Sunday. Wardens will be there next Sunday to help with this.

~ Please let the elderly go first, for obvious reasons. Communion took 35mins last Sunday.

~ If it's raining badly, stay in your cars. We'll work something out using the live-stream to allow people to see the queue, and when to come. Wardens will also come to your car to let you know when the queue is small.

~ There'll be another server in place next week to assist those who struggle to get back to their feet if they have kneeled. Server will be in PPE.

~ Return to your car to make your thanksgiving.

~ The Church will open after Communion is administered, but only 10 people at a time are allowed in, I'm sorry

CHURCH OPENING – UPDATED

~ The Church will be open daily for private prayer.

~ Mon-Tues, from 7:45am – until 4pm.

~ Sundays 11am – until 4pm.

~ No more than 10 people in the Church at a time.

~ Please disinfect your hands on your way in and out.

~ Keep the social distance of 1m.

~ Wear a mask if you have one.

~ Sign in and out using the sheets provided on the table and provide contact tracing info.

~ There will be no candles at the devotional areas and no kneelers there.

~ Bottles of Holy Water will be available to take home (please take only 1). There will not be an endless supply

CONTINUED IN NEXT COLUMN

NEXT SUNDAY:

31 May 2020

Pentecost (Yr A)

Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13;
Jn 20:19-23;

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

25 May: Ernest Henty

26 May: John Keating, Conrad Scanlan

27 May: Kathleen Dilmott,
Venus Tomlinson

28 May: John Hart, Dorris Smith,
Angeline Culas

29 May: Margaret Ryan, Margaret Savage

PARISH FINANCES (17th May 2020)

Parish	\$1046.67
Priests	\$523.33
Total AP's	\$1,570.00

DAILY MASS

~ Mass will continue to be Live-streamed at 10am (daily) and will not be open to the public.

~ The Church will be closed during Mass. Church will close at 9:40am.

~ After weekday Mass, Communion will be given at the door of the Church, like for Sunday Mass – but most likely at 10:45am.

CONFESSIONS

~ Confessions will be 11-11:30am Tues-Sat.
~ Sat 3:00pm – 4:10pm.

~ I will add another confessional time if needed.

~ Please wear gloves when coming to confession so as to reduce the possibility of infection from the surfaces that you touch.

~ Penitents will have to disinfect the Confessional after use, using the spray provided, by spraying the surfaces that they touch and wiping them.

God bless
Fr Jeremy

Live streaming from Holy Family

<https://www.facebook.com/HolyFamilyTeatatu/>

If you miss the live feed:

You can still watch a video of the Mass from our parish website

<https://www.teatatucaatholic.org.nz/>

POLLUTION HAS GONE DOWN SO MUCH SINCE THE LOCKDOWN THAT YOU CAN NOW SEE THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS

