



## Holland Park Mount Gravatt Parish

† St Joachim's Church, 41 Yuletide Street, Holland Park West † St. Agnes' Church, 1227 Logan Road, Mt Gravatt

† St Joachim Primary School, 41 Yuletide Street, Holland Park West † St Agnes' Primary School, 29 Tudor St, Mt Gravatt

The Ascension of the Lord

Year A

May 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> 2026

### PARISH PRIEST

Fr Thomas Varkey

### PARISH SECRETARY

Dot Lomax

### SACRAMENTAL COORDINATOR

Mary Ginty

### MUSIC COORDINATOR

Yolanda Apelt

### LITURGY COORDINATOR

Sr. Helen Dyson

### PARISH FINANCE CHAIR

Ron Pugh

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday

8:30am – 4:00pm

### PARISH DETAILS

P O Box 281

1227 Logan Road Mt

Gravatt Qld 4122

Telephone: 07 3349 2280

E: hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au

### WEBSITES

[www.hollandparkmtgravatt.catholicparish.com.au](http://www.hollandparkmtgravatt.catholicparish.com.au)

### FACEBOOK

St Joachim's & St Agnes' parish

### PARISH SCHOOLS

St Agnes': 07 3349 5130

St Joachim's: 07 3397 9087

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL WELFARE

1800 846 643

### OUTSIDE HOURS SCHOOL CARE

St. Agnes & St. Joachim

07 3367 6300

### SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE

Lyn Russo: 0474 297 201

(Safeguarding purposes only)

### *Go in peace to love and serve the Lord*

When I was a boy, Sir Edmund Hillary came to speak at my school. I can remember the fuss surrounding the visit of the first person to scale Mt Everest. And though there is now a school of thought that holds that he was beaten to the summit by Tenzing Norgay, his Tibetan colleague, there was an aura around this New Zealander who had been to the top of the world.

Some of my usually dour teachers were in awe of Sir Edmund. There was more than a little hero worship going on that day. Rather surprisingly in his address Sir Edmund did not say very much about his adventure to the peak. He was much more interested in what we do to each other on the plains than what he did on the mountain top. He spoke about justice, peace and the dignity of humanity. I can vividly remember him sending us out at the end of his speech to create a better world for all people everywhere. When questions came, there were several about whether he felt closer to God at the top of Mt Everest, and although he said he did, he mentioned there were life and death moments on the way up and down, where God's presence and companionship were much more real to him.

Hillary's visit to my school is not far from what happened to the disciples in today's Gospel. Matthew tells us that the eleven men who worshipped Jesus were commissioned by him to go out to the world and they were promised that he would stay with them until the end of time.

Worship is a word Catholics don't use all that often. While other denominations describe their liturgy as 'worship', we tend to use it only in a more secular way like in 'hero worship' or 'not an altar at which I worship'. The concept behind this word, however, is an important one. To worship God is to admit that we are not God. We are creatures and our worship is directed toward our Creator, Saviour and Sustainer.

Whether we realise it or not we are commissioned to go out to the world at the end of every liturgy, 'Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.' This changes our worship. We are not here just for ourselves. Mass, which comes from a word meaning 'to be sent', indicates that our liturgy is about celebrating what God has done in the world in and through us, and is a preparation for what God still wants to accomplish.

Finally, we continue to experience the abiding presence of Christ in our daily lives or else we wouldn't be here. God, as revealed in Jesus Christ, is not distant to our lives or impervious to our needs; we believe in a Companion-God who seeks our company as much as we need his.

In this Mass, then, let's thank God for the mountain top of Christ's Ascension that lifts us up out of our everyday life to celebrate that we are creatures, not the Creator. Let us hear again Christ's call to each of us to move away from the complacency of a spiritual cafeteria to a church moving out to change the world. And let's rejoice in Christ's presence which abides before us, behind us, over and in us, within and without, now and forever. Amen.

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**Parish News**

**WE REJOICE** with the Burchill and the Dela Pena and Evans families as they celebrate the baptism of Oliver, James and Cruz in the parish this weekend.

**COUNTERS** Maureen's team.

**ST JOACHIM'S MEAL ON WHEELS** team is rostered on this Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL MEETING** will be held on Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> commencing 4:00pm in the Parish Centre.

**FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S MASS** - Our monthly Family and Children's Mass will be held on Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at the 9:00am Mass.

**NO WEEKDAY MORNING MASS** this coming **Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> May.**

**Together We Can**

*domestic & family*  
**VIOLENCE**  
Prevention Month



This annual initiative aims to raise awareness of domestic and family violence and coercive control, highlight the support services and send a clear message that violence in our community will not be accepted. No matter our role within the parish/community, there are simple things each of us can do to prevent DFV and to ensure that your community is one that listens to, believes and supports those who have been impacted by domestic and family violence.

On Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup> we will be holding a short Prayer Liturgy after the 9:00am mass to remember those who have lost their lives to DFV, to pray for healing of victim-survivors and for those who continue to live in fear.

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM**  
**FIRST COMMUNION FAMILY SESSIONS**

For children already enrolled in the Sacrament of Eucharist, Family Sessions will be held as follows:

Parents & Children are required to attend ONE of the following sessions:

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 6.00pm – 7.30pm at **ST JOACHIM'S CHURCH**

**OR**

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May 6.00pm – 7.30pm at **ST JOACHIM'S CHURCH**

Please remember to bring the yellow book and your pencil case.

For more information contact Mary at [sacpr.hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:sacpr.hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au)

or phone the parish office on 3349 2280



**FESTIVAL OF PENTECOST** with guest speakers Fr Nev Yun, Pat Keady, Steffanie Le and Len Airey will be held at Church of 12 Apostles, Jindalee on Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:30am- 4:30pm. BYO lunch, M/Tea provided. Enquiries can be directed to Len 0421 977 849; Audrey 0435 558 390 or [secretary@ccrbrisbane.org.au](mailto:secretary@ccrbrisbane.org.au). Presented by Emmanuel, Awaken Ministries and Catholic Charismatic Renewal Brisbane.

**A PRAYER SERVICE FOR WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY** will be held at the Cathedral of St Stephen on Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> commencing 11:00am. Light refreshments will follow in the Hanly Room.

**UPPER MT GRAVATT WISHART COMMUNITY** extend an invitation for all to attend **National Reconciliation Week Service.**

**A time for Reflection. A time for Prayer.**

**Date: Thursday, 28 May \*\*Time: 6.30 pm**

**Place: St Bernard's Catholic Church \*\* 4 Klumpp Road, Upper Mt Gravatt**

**Tea and coffee afterward**

**Celebrating National Reconciliation Week – May 27- June 3**



Weekday Masses			
Date	Day	Time	Location
May 18	Mon	8:00am	St Joachim's
May 20	Wed	6:00pm	St Agnes'
May 21	Thurs	<b>NO MASS</b>	St Agnes'
May 22	Fri	9:00am	St Joachim's
Weekend Masses			
May 23	Sat	5:00pm	St Joachim's
May 24	Sun	7:30am	St Joachim's
May 24	Sun	9:00am	St Agnes
May 24	Sun	6:00 pm	St Agnes

**SACRAMENTS AND SPECIAL LITURGIES**

**RECONCILIATION - Every Saturday**

**Every Saturday 4:30pm St Joachim's Church**

**HOLY ROSARY**

**Every Wednesday 5:30pm St Agnes Church**

**MASS OF ANOINTING - First Friday**

**9:00am St Joachim's Church**

**ADORATION - First Wednesday**

**6:30pm at St Agnes'**

**BAPTISM, WEDDINGS, AND FUNERALS**

**by appointment**

**BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION**

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month**

**CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY**

**Children's Liturgy of the Word: 1st and 3rd**

**Sunday 9.00am at St. Agnes' Church**

**Family and Children's Mass on 4th Sunday of**

**the month at 9.00am at St. Agnes**

**EVENTS & MEETINGS AT PARISH CENTRE**

**May 19 Tuesday St Vincent de Paul Meeting**

**New to the parish**  
**Register via Flocknote**  
**by scanning the QR**  
**code.**



**Parish Office Time change**  
**over the next few weeks...**

From Mon. 12<sup>th</sup> to Fri. 22<sup>nd</sup> May  
Open 9am-2.30pm.

**Usual office hours will resume**

**from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May, Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm.**

**Thank you for your patience during this time.**