

The Ascension of the Lord Year A

SUNDAY June 1st 2014

Origin and Ascension: A Homecoming with a Passion

Just like most blokes in Queensland, we watched the State of Origin, and saw the Blues edge the Maroons by a small margin of four points, with excitement characteristically going down to the wire. As I squirmed in my seat at crucial passages of pray, and our comments and asides make up for a stadium-like atmosphere in our TV room, I wondered whether the three of us, from different ethnic backgrounds with different sporting exposures, are indeed cheering for the same team.

Familiar with the story of Jesus going to an origin game? He cheered rapturously when the Maroons scored, and erupted into a deafening hurrah when the Blues made their mark. He was equally loud in urging a team on the ascendancy, and equally dismissive when either team slackened and erred. So the guy behind him asked which team he was barracking for. And Jesus replied, "Neither of them. I just came to enjoy the game!"

Yes, we do not have to be fanatics to enjoy the game. Seeing the intensity of players' efforts makes the State of Origin game a captivating and entertaining spectacle. And while enjoying the Origin moment, I also wondered whether it has any inspirational import and relevance to the Solemnity of the Ascension which we celebrate this weekend.

Origin games are a homecoming affair, where players look back to their roots and connect with others from the same origin. Therein lies the passion that is not just shared amongst the players but with the multitude of believers and supporters who also share the same background.

The Ascension is Jesus' homecoming – his coming home into the divine glory in the heavenly domain. His sojourn on earth is over but his mission has just begun. The Ascension marks the time when the apostles and the disciples had to take up the cudgels for Jesus.

Another story tells that when Jesus ascended to heaven, the Angel Gabriel said to Jesus, "Master, you must have suffered terribly for those people down there." "I did," Jesus replied. Gabriel added, "Do they all know what you did for them?" "Oh, no," said Jesus, "not yet; just a few in Palestine know, but I have asked Peter and James and John and some others to make it their life's work to tell others about me, until everyone in every place knows what I have done." A look of doubt spread over Gabriel's face. "What if those you have sent grow tired and old? What if the people who come after them forget? Haven't you made other plans?" Jesus answered, "I haven't made any other plans. I'm counting on them."
Father Teri

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St Joseph the Worker Church

44 Imperial Parade,
Labrador

Sunday Mass

7.00 am

8:30 am

Weekday Mass

Monday -7.00am

Wednesday-7.00am

Each Friday - 10.30am

Mass at Gold Coast

University Hospital

Guardian Angels' Church

99 Scarborough St
Southport

Saturday

6.00pm

Sunday Mass

7.00 am

10.00 am

Weekday Mass

Friday 12.30pm

Reconciliation

Saturday - 4.30pm

Mary Immaculate Church

Edmund Rice Drive
Ashmore

Sunday Mass

8:30 am & 6.00pm

Korean Mass

Sunday 3.00pm

Last Saturday of the Month

6.00pm

Weekday Mass

Tuesday - 9.00am

Thursday - 5.30pm

Holy Hour. First Thursday
of the Month 4.15pm

PARISH GOLF DAY

Palmer Colonial Golf Club—Robina
Sunday, July 6, Tee off at 12noon sharp
Cost \$60 per person— 4 person Ambrose
18 holes of golf-electric cart-Dinner and Presentation
Everyone is welcome even if you have never played
golf before. Please RSVP and pre-pay your place in
field with Alan Waghorn phone 0416 145 054
or email Alan at alandme@optusnet.com.au
Entries close Sunday, June 29, 2013

The Ascension of the Lord Jesus



Forty day after his resurrection, Jesus called his eleven apostles together on the Mount of Olives, outside Jerusalem. Still not completely understanding that Christ's messianic mission had been spiritual and not political, the disciples asked Jesus if he was going to restore the kingdom of

Israel. They were frustrated with Roman oppression and may have envisioned an overthrow of Rome. Jesus answered them: *"It is not for you to know the time or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witness in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*(Acts 1:11)

Then Jesus was taken up, and a cloud hid him from sight. As the disciples were watching his ascent, two angels dressed in white robes stood beside them and asked why they were looking into the sky. The angels said: *This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.* (Acts 1:11)

This event, along with Christ's birth, crucifixion, and resurrection, is the one major event of His earthly ministry. To this day it is celebrated by Christians throughout the world 40 days after Easter.

Holy Hour

You might remember that during Lent we had one hour adoration prior to the Thursday 5.30 pm Mass at Mary Immaculate. It was good to see how many Parishioners would come to spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament even if it meant only 5 or 10 minutes. Sometimes towards the end of the adoration there were 30-40 people praying quietly before the Lord. I believe that this positive response to the exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament needs to be continued so for this reason we are going to have the Holy Hour (adoration and quiet prayer) every first Thursday of the month prior to our 5.30pm Mass. The Holy Hour will begin at 4.15pm and then at 5.15pm there be the Benediction. The first Holy Hour will be on Thursday, June 5, 4.15pm at Mary Immaculate
Father Jan

Sacraments in our Parish

On Thursday, June 12, Bishop Brian Finnigan will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on 70 children in Mary Immaculate church Ashmore. There will be two ceremonies that evening. The first ceremony will be at 5.30pm and the second ceremony at 7.30pm. Consequently there will not be any 5.30pm Mass on Thursday June 12. Parishioners are very welcome to join the children and their families at either Confirmation ceremony.
Sister Helen

First Communion Sunday

On Sunday, June 15, at 10.30 Mass 70 children will receive their First Communion in Mary Immaculate church. First Communion Sunday is always a wonderful occasion for our parish community.

Any parishioner who would like to help with a special morning tea for the children is asked to contact Sister Helen helenw@scp.org.au

All parishioners are encouraged to pray for the children and their families as they continue to prepare for their Sacraments.

Invitation from Father Jan



In appreciation of all your work in the Parish, I would like to invite all parish volunteers to a THANK YOU BBQ to be held in the grounds of Mary Immaculate Church on Friday, June 27, from 5.30pm. Did you know: Volunteers are involved in many ways in our Parish. Jobs such as gardening, grounds, office work, letter writing, cleaning, preparing the liturgical space each week. As well as the jobs more visible to us each Sunday like: greeters, hospitality, sacristans, readers, musicians, ministers of communion. Please let the Parish Office know on 55 102 222 by Friday, June 20, if you are coming.
Father Jan

Marian Valley Canungra

Join the celebrations with the Croatian Annual Pilgrimage for the Feast of St Anthony of Padua and Fatima Day at Marian Valley Canungra on Friday, June 13. Bus will leave Sacred Heart Church, Fairways Drive, Clear Island Waters at 8.15am. For bookings call Viviane on 55 359 623.

Mass at Gold Coast University Hospital

In the Gospel of St Mark we read that wherever Jesus went, into villages or cities or farms, people laid the sick in the market-places, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed. Today like the people mentioned in St Mark so many of us want to be touched even by the fringe of Jesus' cloak and be healed. Through her Sacramental life the Church continues this mission of healing to our world today. Due to the Sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation, many people receive the same healing of bodies and souls that once Jesus offered to the villagers and town people whom St Mark recalled in his Gospel.

As you know in our Parish we have one of the biggest Hospitals in Queensland, there is no need to persuade anyone that in this place many people, who are our parishioners, (even for a short time) should be given a chance to meet Jesus in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. **For this reason we are going to celebrate Eucharist in the hospital Chapel every Friday at 10.30am. The first Mass will be celebrated on Friday, June 13.** I believe that Sacramental presence in the hospital on a regular basis is important, first of all for the patients, the chaplaincy team, the hospital staff and for us the Southport Parish. Fathers Dom and Teri are more than happy to say Mass at the hospital so we will have an extra Mass in our weekly timetable. I am aware that, because of the parking problems, not many Parishioners will be able to attend this Mass but if you can, please come along to pray together and ask God for his healing. We have a good reason for this because as the preface of the Eucharist for the anointing says; **"In the splendour of his rising your Son conquered suffering and death and bequeathed to us his promise of a new and glorious world, where no bodily pain will afflict us and no anguish of spirit."**



Today we welcome into God's Family

Ava Cassandra Baisas daughter of Jeffrey and Michelle Baisas

William Robert Rabbetts son of Christopher and Amanda Rabbetts

Imogen Mary Coman daughter of Anthony and Melissa Coman

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THOSE WHO HAVE JOURNEYED TO THE FATHER.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Majorie Collins, Evelyn Moore, John Rego, Mary Ward.

ANNIVERSARY: Mark O'Dea, Rosie Azzopardi, Marle Cross, Paolo Di Leo

ALL PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS WHO ARE SICK AND IN NEED: Gary O'Connell, Jack and Ross McAlpine, John Stowers, Ernest James, Leah Joy Layosa (baby) Jack Keniry, Michael Murray, Noel Mahoney, Albert Bussac, Don Shipman, Alex McKinnon, Colleen Blanch, Tony Sheehan, Joe Vohar, Karen Percic, Susanne and Peter Turner, Tim Howard, Michael Skinner, Angela Taylor, Barbara Bill Welle snr. Trudi de Vries, Doss O'Niell, Yvonne See, Jack Kennedy, Christine Wheldon, Lynn Rann, Bernadette Fagan, Bong, Tanie and Gie Ubaldo, Babes Valenzuela, Vicky Smith, Lee Henry, Mary Porrill.

Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community. Amen

This Weeks Feast Days

Thursday, June 5, St Boniface.

Saturday, June 6, St Marcellin Champagnet

Marcellin was a typical illiterate French peasant when, as a young boy, a visiting priest suggested to him that he might like to train for the Catholic priesthood. Although poor, his family made the sacrifice to send him to a seminary. Marcellin found the early years of his studies towards the priesthood extremely difficult. He was no natural scholar but through sheer will and hard work, combined with prayer and the never failing support of his mother and aunt, he was finally ordained as a priest in 1816. During his studies Marcellin and a group of other seminarians had discussed forming a religious order under the patronage of Mary, the mother of Jesus. This dream was realised in the church of Our Lady of Fourvieres, the day after their ordination. The group of young men together dedicated themselves to Mary as 'The Society of Mary'. Thus, the Marists were born.

Worth a Smile

A husband read an article to his wife about how many words women use in a day. 30,000 to a man's 15,000. The wife replied, 'The reason has to be because we have to repeat everything to men'... The husband turned to his wife and asked, 'What?'

Christian Meditation Day

"Ancient way of Prayer for the Modern World" Presented by Kathryn Houston, who has led retreats throughout Australia, UK and Ireland. Saturday, July 19, 10.00am to 2.30pm. Parish Hospitality Centre, 50 Fairways Drive, Clear Island Waters. Bookings : Judith Keller 55 827 945. \$10 Donation

Choir Practice

Choir Practice will begin again on Monday, June 15, 7.00am at Mary Immaculate Church. New members would be warmly welcomed—no auditions just an enjoyment of singing together is required. We will be starting to prepare for the afternoon session at the Music Workshop in September.

Hospital Ministers Needed

Three Extraordinary Ministers of Communion are urgently needed to assist with the distribution of communion on Sundays at the University Hospital. The group is down to three ministers. It is hoped that numbers can be increased so any one minister would only be needed every five weeks. The task takes one to two hours. Contact: Tony Gardner 55 313 969.

Annual Leave for Father Teri

Father Teri will be away on Annual Leave from Tuesday, June 3 We wish him safe travel with blessed and joyous time with his family and friends. During Fr Teri's absence to keep the Sunday timetable as usual Fr Frank Devoy is going to help Father Jan and Father Dom on weekends. We are very grateful for Fr Frank's generosity in giving us a hand while Fr Teri is away.

PARISH DATE CLAIMERS FOR 2014

First Sunday of each month, Morning Tea at the "Annex" after 8.30am Mass at St Joseph the Worker, Labrador.

Each First and Third Sunday of the Month, 11.30am Charismatic prayer Meeting, Guardian Angels Church.

Southport Parish Book Club, meets First Monday of the month 10.00am. Mary Immaculate meeting room.

Bridge, every Wednesday 9.30am to 12 noon in the Meeting Room at Mary Immaculate. Beginners welcome.

Rosary and Novena at 6.00pm on the First Wednesday followed by Mass at 7.00pm at St Joseph the Worker.

Catholic Women's League, Meeting Second Friday of each Month, Guardian Angels Meeting Room, followed by Mass

Care and Concern, Meet Fourth Monday of each month, Mary Immaculate Meeting Room, 10.30am

SPY. Southport Parish Youth. Meet in the meeting room at Mary Immaculate on the last Friday of each month. 6.30pm

Thursday, **June 12, 2014.** Confirmation

Sunday, **June 15, 2014.** First Eucharist

Friday, **June 27,** Parish Thank You Social

Sunday, **July 6,** Parish Golf Day at Colonial

Sunday, **July 20,** ARTICO Concert. *'The Art of Song'*

Sunday, **July 27,** Blessing of the Cars. Have your car

blessed after 8.30am Mass at Mary Immaculate.

Sunday, **August 10,** Parish Car Rally

Saturday, **September 13,** Music Workshop at

Mary Immaculate 9.30am to 4.00pm

Saturday, **November 29,** Fundraising event for Ethiopia

Mission, Gold Coast Little Theatre

Holy Father's Intentions for June

Universal: That the unemployed may receive support and find work they need to live in dignity.

For Evangelization: That Europe may rediscover its Christian roots through the witness of believers..

Are you a Extraordinary Minister of Communion?

Would you like to volunteer one hour of your time each Thursday between 10 and 11.00am to assist with the distribution of communion to residents at De Paul Villa Aged Care.

This is our third request for help with this ministry.

We have approximately 167 Ministers of Communion in our parish. Can someone please help!

Please call Carol on 0414 323 466 if this is you.



HYMNS

ALLELUIA! SING TO JESUS

Alleluia! sing to Jesus! His the sceptre,
his the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory a lone;
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation
Has redeemed; us by his blood

Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left
in sorrow now;
Alleluia! he is near us,
faith believes, nor questions how:
Though the cloud from sight received him,
When the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise,
"I am with you ever more"?

PENITENTIAL RITE

WATER OF LIFE

*Water of Life, cleanse and refresh us,
Raise us to life in Christ Jesus.*

GLORY TO GOD

Refrain:

*Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good
will.*

We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory.
Lord God, heavenly King, O God,
almighty Father. **R**

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
You take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us
You take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
You are seated at the right hand
of the Father,
have mercy on us. **R**

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the
Father. **R**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

God mounts his throne, to shouts of joy
A blare of trumpets for the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

GIFTS PROCESSION HE IS LORD

He is Lord, He is Lord,
He is risen from the dead
and he is Lord.
Every knee shall bow
Every tongue confess
That Jesus Christ is Lord

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of
your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name
of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Save us, Saviour of the world, for by
your Cross and Resurrection, you
have set us free.

AMEN

Amen, Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sins
of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins
of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins
of the world, grant us peace.

COMMUNION PROCESSION

HERE I AM LORD

I the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send? **R**

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?

I have heard you calling

in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

I will hold your people in my heart.

I the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send? **R**

I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE

I am the bread of life,
You who come to me shall not hunger
And who believe in me shall not thirst
No one can come to me, unless the
Father beckons

*And I will raise you up,
and I will raise, you up,
and I will raise you up,
on the last day!*

The bread that I will give
is my flesh for the life of the world,
And if you eat of this bread,
You shall live forever,
you shall live forever **R**

Unless you eat of the flesh of the Son of Man
And drink of His blood,
and drink of His blood,
you shall not have life within you. **R**

Yes, Lord, I believe, that you are the Christ,
the son of God who has come into the world

RECESSIONAL

GLORY BE TO GOD IN HEAVEN

Glory be to God in heaven,
peace to those who love you well:
On the earth let all your people
speak your grace, your wonders tell:
Lord, we praise you for your glory,
Mighty Father, heaven's king;
Hear our joyful adoration
and accept the thanks we bring!

Only Son of God the Father,
Lamb who takes our sin away.
Now with God in triumph seated,
for your mercy, Lord, we pray:
Jesus Christ, most high and holy,
Saviour you are God alone.
In the glory of the Father
with the Spirit: Three in One!

This News Sheet is proudly
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MAX'S MITRE 10
Australia Fair.

THE WORD OF THE LORD FOR

NEXT SUNDAY

Genesis 11:1-9

Romans 8:22-27

John 7:37-39

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