



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.

■ The word of the Lord.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Mt 28: 19, 20  
Alleluia, alleluia! / Go and teach all people my gospel. / I am with you always, until the end of the world. / Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** Mk 16: 15-20  
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

*The Lord Jesus was taken into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God.*

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven, and said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised will be saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.'

And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

#### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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### WHAT DOES THE ASCENSION MEAN FOR US?

The ascension of the Lord is the pivotal link between Luke's Gospel and Acts – the story of Jesus and the story of the Church. The accounts of the ascension at the end of Luke's Gospel and the beginning of Acts are not exactly the same but the message is clear: 'they' (the apostles/witnesses) are to stay in the city/Jerusalem until clothed with power from on high/receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and, then 'he' (Jesus) was carried up to heaven/lifted up, and a cloud took him out of sight (Luke 24:49-51 & Acts 1:4, 8-9).

The letter to the Ephesians contains the plea 'to make every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit' and to build up the body of Christ. This is essential as the one who came down is the same one who ascended, who is calling all, whatever their gift, to work together in their ministry until they become mature in Christ.

Mark's account is thought to be a later addition to the Gospel. 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News', – reminiscent of Matthew's account of the commissioning of the disciples – 'to all creation' (v. 15). This message is vital for us to hear in these times of global ecological crisis. After speaking to the apostles, Jesus was taken up and assumed his rightful place at the right hand of God. In every way the ascension affirms the resurrection, Jesus' return to God and the launch of our mission guided by the Spirit.

Dr Rosemary Canavan

### FIRST READING

Acts 1: 1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

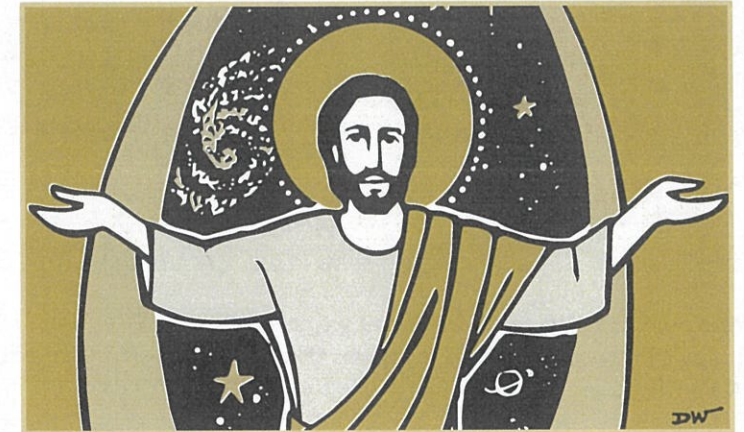
*Why are you standing here looking into the sky?  
Jesus has been taken into heaven.*

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 of 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.'

■ The word of the Lord.



**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Ps 46: 2-3, 6-9. R. v. 6

**R.** God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord. (or Alleluia!)

1. 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. **R.**
2. 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. **R.**
3. 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. **R.**

### SECOND READING

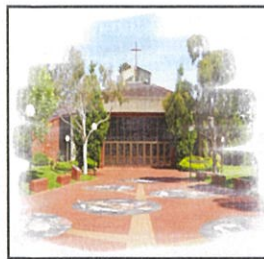
Eph 1: 17-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

*He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.*

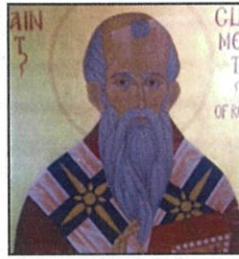
May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will 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,





# St Clement of Rome Church

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<https://www.facebook.com/stclementsparishbulleen>  
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**Parish Priest :** Very Rev Mark Reynolds EV (Episcopal Vicar for Catholic Schools)  
 Mark.Reynolds@cam.org.au

**Italian Chaplain:** Fr Vito Pegolo (0419 736 890), **School Principal:** Mr Michael Watt (9850 1216)  
**Parish Secretary:** Bernadine De Silva (9850 3262) **St Vincent de Paul Helpline** (1800 305 330)

**Parish Vision Statement :** Guided and inspired by the Holy Spirit, the Parish of St Clement of Rome seeks to be a community of authentic disciples of Jesus, living the Word of God. As a welcoming community, through humble service, we acknowledge our stewardship of God's creation and strive to promote the dignity of all God's people.

Welcome to St Clement of Rome as we celebrate The Ascension of The Lord  
 Today's theme is : The Lord Jesus was taken into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God  
 We invite you to reflect on this theme throughout the Mass.

We wish all the Mothers a happy and blessed Mother's Day !



Dear Lord,  
 On this special day, we show our gratitude for all Mothers.  
 We thank them for their all-encompassing love, for their commitment, care and kindness.  
 We thank them for their wisdom, for helping us grow and flourish.  
 We thank them for their strength, for their sacrifices, and for being there in times of need.  
 And we thank them for their encouragement, for being our cheer leaders and celebrating our achievements.  
 Lord, help Mothers know how much they are loved and appreciated.  
 We ask that you bless all Mothers, including those who are no longer with us today.  
 Amen.

### Safeguarding Policy update

We are pleased to announce the release of the updated Safeguarding Policy Version 2. This revised document replaces all previous versions, including the Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and May Our Children Flourish Child Safety Code of Conduct. The updated policy is now available on our website. We encourage everyone to familiarise themselves with the changes to continue promoting a safe and nurturing environment for all members of our community. Thank you for your continued commitment to safeguarding.



### Safeguarding Training Session at St Clement's Attention Parish volunteers (and potential volunteers)

On Sat 18th May at 10.30am, the Archdiocese Eastern Region Safeguarding Officer, Brech Burgess will be conducting a safeguarding training session for our Parish. This session will run approximately 75 minutes and will cover safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults including the elderly. With this training, volunteers will be able to update their working with children check, complete code of conduct 2024 and the online training module. Thank you for everyone who notified their attendance.

The Parish Council would like to invite all Parishioners to join us in the Clifton Centre for morning tea after the 9am Pentecost Mass on 19th May 2024. Please bring a plate if you wish to do so. We look forward to you on the 19th May.

**MASS TIMES, RECONCILIATION & OTHER SACRAMENTS**  
 Mass Times: Sat 5:30pm (Vigil), Sun - 9am & 11am (Italian)  
 Tues 9:15am (Italian), Wed-Sat 9:15am (unless informed)

Reconciliation: Sat 9.45am (and on request). Marian Devotions & Eucharistic Adoration : Sat 8.40am  
 Baptisms: Welcoming (3rd weekend) & Baptism (4th weekend) every month. Weddings: By Appointment

We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people, the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand.  
 We pay our respects to them for their care of the land. May we walk gently on this land.

### PARISH DIARY

Sat 18th May @ 9am—ASRE Eucharist classes  
 Sat 18th May 10.30am—Safeguarding meeting with Brech Burgess  
 Sun 19th May at 9am—Baptisms  
 Wed 22nd May @ 7pm—PPC meeting -parish office  
 Thurs 23rd May @ 9.15am—No Mass  
 Fri 24th May @ 9.15am—School Mass/Our Lady Help of Christians (Gr 2&4)

### Recent Deaths & Death Anniversaries

We pray for those who have died recently, and for the repose of the souls of **Katarina & Gregorio Sverko, Giuseppina Addamo, David Warrior, Olga Ross, John Jee, Mary Khiu** and all those, whose anniversaries occur at about this time. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

### After School Sacramental Program

The preparation classes for the Sacrament of Eucharist have been commenced. Please visit our website to see the information about our program. Thank you



### Annual Mass Count

The Second Mass count will take place this weekend at all the Masses. Collectors at weekend Masses are kindly asked to compile the figures and complete the forms please. Thank You for all your support in collecting these statistics.

### Healing Service—Sun 19th May 5.45PM—7PM at St Gregory the Great Parish, Doncaster

With Fr Brendan Maria and Sisters of Daughters of Carmel. Eucharistic Adoration with intention of healing . Details on the notice board.

### About Laudato Si' Week

Laudato Si' Week is a celebration held annually in **May** to mark the anniversary of Pope Francis' landmark encyclical on caring for creation. Sponsored by the Vatican's Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development, this global celebration unites Catholics to listen and respond together to the cry of creation, rejoice in the progress we have made in bringing Laudato Si' to life, and intensify our efforts through the Laudato Si' Action Platform as well as other opportunities for education and action.

In Laudato Si' Week 2024, let us gather in community to contemplate the wonder of creation and nurture seeds of hope for our 'suffering planet' (LD 2).

Laudate Deum is a reminder about the urgency of the Laudato Si' message and the need for both personal and cultural transformation amidst our ecological and climate crises.

This year's Laudato Si' Week theme is inspired by the symbol for Season of Creation 2024, 'firstfruits'.

Let us be seeds of hope in our lives and our world, rooted in faith and love.

**Covid 19 update :** Following the latest Liturgical guidelines, Face coverings remain optional within Places of Worship. They are recommended in crowd settings. No vaccination requirements for attendees. Please check the government website for updated isolation rules.

LITURGY ROSTER		SAT 5.30PM	SUN 9.00AM
11/12 May	<i>Sacristan</i>	John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
	<i>Commentator</i>	Rene De La Cruz	Mark Gregor
	<i>Reader</i>	Paul Sammut	Christine Landsberg
	<i>Special Ministers</i>	Martin Teh	Rita Gagliardi
		Enza Wilcocks	Fulvia Gerasolimo
		Warwick Wright	Gloria Ng
18/19 May	<i>Sacristan</i>	John Bruce	Francis & Gloria Ng
	<i>Commentator</i>	Paul Sammut	Christine Landsberg
	<i>Reader</i>	May Teh	Tim Landsberg
	<i>Special Ministers</i>	John Bruce	Maria Papalia
		Zina Scalzo	Shirley Pyndiah
		May Teh	Grace Cannatelli

### ROSTER—ITALIAN MASS 11AM

DATE	LETTORI	OFFERTORIO	MINISTRI DELL' EUCHARISTIA
19/05	J FAGGION P LOMBARDO	FAM. L VETTORETTO	C TRAVAGLINI T RECINELLA

### Thank you from CatholicCare Victoria

CatholicCare Victoria is deeply grateful for the support of our parish during last week's CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. Because of the generosity of our parish community, CatholicCare Victoria can continue the mission; to create transformational personal impact, and empower every individual to reach their full potential and live life to the full. Thank you for helping those in need! For more information about CatholicCare Victoria, please visit: [www.catholiccarevic.org.au](http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au)