



Encounter

VICTOR HARBOR/GOOLWA CATHOLIC PARISH

THE ASCENSION OF
THE LORD - YEAR B

A living, vibrant
faith community

Vol 12 : No 25

VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

OUR VISION:

To build a faith community
centred on the loving relationship
of Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
expressed in personal lives and
communal parish activities.

OUR MISSION IS TO:

- Develop relevant and prayerful Eucharistic celebrations
- Foster the experience of a personal relationship with God
- Provide Faith Formation opportunities
- Care for each other particularly the sick, lonely, aged and disabled
- Witness to God's love for our earthly common home and all its creatures that abound

WE WILL:

- Reach out to those in need
- Be committed to Catholic Social Justice principles
- Pray and work together with Christian Churches and all people of goodwill
- Engage with young people
- Care for our environment towards a sustainable future
- Strengthen bonds with First Nation peoples

MASS TIMES

• VICTOR HARBOR

Weekend - Saturday 6.00pm;
Sunday 11.00am.
Weekdays - Tuesday, Thursday,
Friday 9.00am

• GOOLWA

Weekend - Sunday 9.00am.
Weekday - Wednesday 9.30am

RECONCILIATION

St Joan's, Victor Harbor - Saturday
11am - 11.30am, or by appointment.

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.'

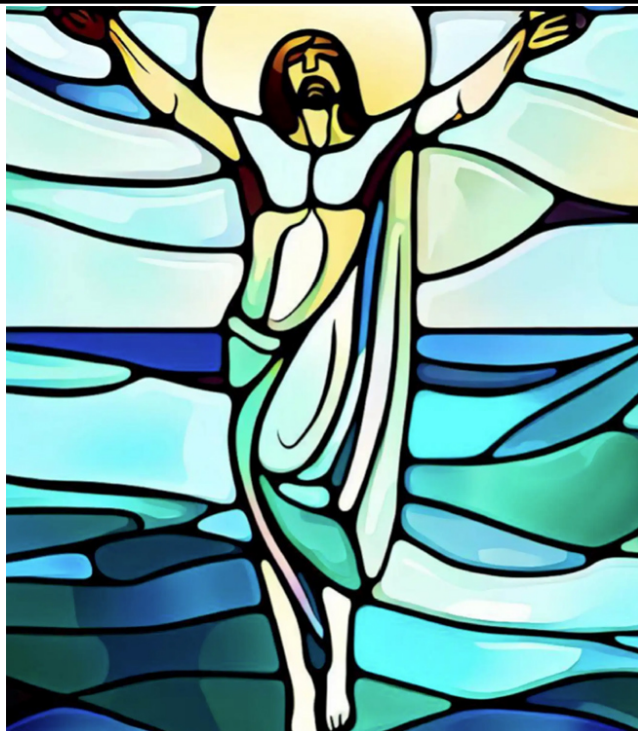
Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom of Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be 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.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 46:2-3, 6-9

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.



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 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!

(Continued page 4)



Bulletin Board

SPECIAL INTENTIONS (These names will be removed after one month. To keep names on this list please contact Parish Office)

John Wallace, Claire Hamish, Jeffery Family, Natalie Millar, Ann Tee, Bailey Smallacombe, Charlie Nicolson, Jane Lloyd, Geoff Munro, Eileen McCoe, Len Peake, Neil Cumming, Dave Rivers, Clancy Retallick, Mollie Davis, David Lee, Ann Hannagan, Cath Howard, Trudi McNamara, Allen Odgers Elizabeth Nance, Jesse Walker J. Millar, Rose Munro, Andrew Nichols, John Slagter, Patricia Harris, William Ash, Eloise Ash, Gavin Schumacher, Jim Ryan, Leonie Hassan, Fr Vinh Tran

HOLY FATHER'S 2024 PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR MAY: FOR THE FORMATION OF MEN AND WOMEN RELIGIOUS AND SEMINARIANS:

Let us pray that men and women religious and seminarians grow in their own vocational journey through human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, that leads them to be credible of the Gospel.



ST JOAN'S SOCIAL CLUB will hold their next meeting on Tuesday 14th May at 1.30pm in the Annex. All welcome

VINNIES MEETING

Thursday 16th May at St Joan's, VH, 9.30am (after Liturgy of the Word)



VINNIES WINTER APPEAL

Envelopes are available at St Joan's (this weekend 11th/12th) and St John's (18th/19th). If you can make a contribution, please either take an envelope and return your donation to the following week's 2nd collection, or go online www.vinnies.org.au or phone 13 18 12.

All donations go to South Coast people. Thank you for caring!

Please pray for Peter Butler who is in hospital after a stroke. Sue Butler is a member of Vinnies.

STRUGGLING TO FIND A HANDYMAN?

Look no further. Graham Ferris, whom Victor parishioners will recognise by his Motor Home parked outside our Church on Sundays, is offering **Handyman Services for the area of Goolwa through to Encounter Bay.** Painting. Repairs, Installations and many more etc.

Contact details: Graham Ferris

Mobile: 0448003286

Email: ferrisgj@hotmail.com

EARTHCARE GROUP MEETS!

Our Earthcare Group is now meeting regularly on the third Thursday of each month.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 16th May at 3pm in Port Elliot.

All are welcome. Come along and share your thoughts and ideas about caring for our planet. Ring Fran on 0415 124 010 for more information.



BIGGEST MORNING TEA

DATE: Thursday 23rd May 2024

TIME: 10.00AM TO 12NOON

LOCATION: Catholic Church, Gardiner St Goolwa



The Catholic and Lutheran Churches of Goolwa join together to raise money for Cancer research. The other Churches too are hosting events - all in the name of the **"Combined Churches of Goolwa"**. Media coverage inspires many of us to get involved and also informs the public about Cancer Council SA's life-changing cancer research, prevention and support programs. Programs made possible because of generous people like you. Let's make the most of this opportunity to help research and support the Cancer Foundation. On the morning there will be :

- **Morning tea.**
- **Guest Speaker: Theme "Living with Cancer".**
- **Raffle prizes will be drawn.**
- **Bookings will assist seating and catering.**
- **Secure your seat by donating \$5.**
- **Raffle tickets available.**

If you cannot join us a donation would be appreciated. **RSVP: Sunday 19th May.**

Vivi 0439 430 486 or

Betty 0423 635 400 (Lutheran)

COMORO GARAGE SALE

SATURDAY 18th May

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ON 17/18th May.

CAN YOU HELP?

Lists are available in the porches of our Churches with times when volunteers are needed. Please consider helping with this important event.

DONATIONS TO COMORO GARAGE SALE

Please deliver all donations to St Joan's on Friday 17th May from 9.30 onwards. There will be no pick-ups this year.

TYPES OF DONATIONS NEEDED

Bric-a-brac, Books, Plants (NO CLOTHES THANK YOU)



NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

15th - 21st May

We give thanks and pray for all our parish volunteers without whom our parish could not function and all our parishioners who are involved as volunteers in the wider community. May God bless your generosity

PARISH COLLECTION 4th & 5th April

1st (Presbytery) \$1,159.00
2nd (Parish) \$1,402.80

VICTOR MORNING TEA 12th May

Mothers' Day - No morning tea

19th May

A. Temme, F. Hanna

VICTOR MEET & GREET May Saturdays

M. Farmer, H. Anderson

May Sundays

R. Reid, L. Sunman

GOOLWA MEET & GREET May P. Kennelly

May MORNING TEA

M. Burfitt, P. Stone, A. Fawcner

ST JOHN'S MUSIC GROUP

Practice 3.00pm Wednesday.
Claire Williams 0429 008 199

Bulletin Board



RESPONSORIAL PSALM The ASCENSION of the LORD

**God mounts His throne to 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.



The ASCENSION of the LORD 12th May



Thank God, we have the good fortune to know, and reason and faith convince us of this truth, that death is not the end of man. It is rather the real beginning. Today's

feast - the Ascension of our Lord in his human nature - to his Father's and our Father's home, is the confirmation and guarantee of this doctrine of our faith. We shall all rise from the grave with new, glorified bodies and ascend to heaven, as Christ did. There we'll begin our true life of eternal happiness.

While it is true that even for good Christians the death of a beloved one is a cause of sorrow and tears, this is natural as we still are of the earthly. Yet the certitude that our beloved one has gone to his true life and will be there to meet us when our turn comes, is always at the back of our minds to console and comfort us. What all human beings want is to live on forever with our dear ones. Death breaks that continuity but only for a little while. That break is necessary for the new life to begin. *Catholic Culture*

PRAY FOR THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE AND THE HOLY LAND



A MOTHERS' DAY PRAYER



Lord we thank you for our mothers who mirrored your love and care for us.
They gave us life and sustenance and for that gift we are forever grateful.

We pray for mothers everywhere, including those who struggle in their role and those who are no longer with us. And in this month of May, Mary's month, we remember the woman who accepted the role of Mother of God.

May she inspire and encourage all mothers and may she especially care for all women experiencing violence in their relationships.

Another mother, Dr Joanna Howe, a Professor of Law and mother of five continues her work to educate, inform and inspire Australians on the issue of abortion. You can read about her work and join in on

<https://www.drjoannahowe.com/about-dr-joanna-howe>

SOUTHERN CROSS APPEARANCE!



Congratulations to Meredith Cunningham and Mary Izzo who appeared in an April Southern Cross article about our

sister relationship with Comoro and our Comoro Garage Sale. The article was written by Katie Spain, a senior journalist who now lives on the Fleurieu and is part of our parish. She is always on the look out for local articles. Welcome Katie.

POPE FRANCIS SPEAKS TO PARISH PRIESTS

Pope Francis published a letter recently addressed to all parish priests in the world. "Before all else, I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation for the generous work that you do each day, sowing seeds of the Gospel in every kind of soil." Pope Francis wrote. "The Church could not go on without your dedication and your pastoral service."

We pray for our own parish priest, Father Vinh.

KEEP THE DATE

Saturday 15th June. The new research centre called the Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth (CLLMM) is holding a day of science. It is located at 92 Barrage Road, Goolwa. More details to follow.

THIS WEEK: 11th & 12th May

VICTOR HARBOR Saturday 6pm

Commentator: L. Blacket
R.1 M. Mulvihill
R.2 C. Sutherland
EMHC E. O'Connell

Sunday 11am

Commentator: P. Clingan

R. 1 R. Reid
R. 2 W. Baker
EMHC J. Baker

GOOLWA 9am

Commentator: J. Ryan

R. 1 A. Fawcner
R. 2 R. Lee
EMHC M. Ryan



NEXT WEEK: 18th & 19th May

VICTOR HARBOR Saturday 6pm

Commentator: T. White
R.1 L. Blacket
R.2 C. Huppertz
EMHC M. Farmer
Sunday 11am

Commentator: P. O'Brien

R. 1 S. Duong
R. 2 K. Dudley
EMHC L. Sunman

GOOLWA 9am

Commentator: M. Riddle

R. 1 E. Bourne
R. 2 M. Riddle
EMHC T. Siciliano

VICTOR HARBOR/GOOLWA PARISH

NGARRINDJERI and
RAMINDJERI land

CATHOLIC PARISH HOUSE

32 Seaview Road (PO Box 464)
VICTOR HARBOR SA 5211
Telephone: 8552 1084 (*Please leave a message if the Office is unattended - we will get back to you asap*)
Email: catholicvhg@bigpond.com
Web: www.victorgoolwacatholic.org.au

PARISH TEAM CONTACTS

• PARISH PRIEST

Fr Vinh-Quang Tran
(*Fr Vinh is currently on leave*)
Email: Vinh2511@bigpond.com

• PARISH MANAGERS

Mr Ray Klecko (0438 364 870)
Mrs Pat Clingan (0410 593 617)
Email: Parish_manager@bigpond.com

• PARISH NEWSLETTER

Please forward items for the newsletter to the Parish Office - 8552 1084, catholicvhg@bigpond.com
(*All items for the newsletter by Wednesday evening*)

• PARISH TREASURER

Mr Merv Mallett (0412 103 443)
Email: parish_treasure@bigpond.com

• CHILD PROTECTION

Child Protection Unit (8210 8159)
Goolwa (Cathy May 0401 584 237)
Victor Harbor (Office 8552 1084)

• CSHW SA (Safety, Health, Welfare)
Cathy May (0401 584 237)

KIDS' CORNER

"... the Lord worked with them and confirmed the word through accompanying signs." (Mark 16: 20)

Jesus performed a lot of miracles. He walked on water, healed the sick and even raised the dead. He did these signs to show people that he was the Son of God who loved them.

When Jesus left the earth and ascended into heaven, he continued to do miracles through his disciples. After all, he had given them a big job: to convert the whole wide world!

Miracles still happen through Jesus today. They may not always look like what you read in the Gospel stories, but they are there. Keep your eyes open for miracles. They show us that God is with us.

(Continued from page 1)

GOSPEL

Mark 16:15-20

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.

UP, UP, AND AWAY

One of the very first homilies that I was supposed to preach as a newly ordained priest was the Solemnity of the Ascension. I was to preach at the children's liturgy. I stopped at the local shopping centre and picked up a dozen helium balloons to use as visual aids with the children in my homily. While driving to the church, the balloons somehow broke loose from one another in the back seat of my car. In my attempt to gather them all together as I drive into the car park of the church where all the children could see me as they waited in the steps, I ran my car into a metal post. The post stood firm. My car crashed to a stop. My nose was broken by the impact, my car inoperable, and my sermon went un-preached. I'm not sure what happened to the balloons.

There is a clear message in all of this besides the need to be a careful, undistracted driver. The message is quite simple. On our journey to heaven, there are going to be things that will surprise us, block our way, and might even stop us cold in our tracks. When that happens, broken and shaken up, we have to pick up the pieces and start all over again. We cannot give up.

So since that first Ascension "sermon" more than 30 years ago, I have bought balloons numerous times to use,

carefully brought them to church, and let them go as part of my sermon.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Jesus said to them, "Go into the world. Go everywhere and announce the message of God's good news to one and all. Whoever believes and is baptised is saved; whoever refuses to believe is damned."

"Time to go." We all know what that means. If you come from a family like mine, it means we're now entering into a period of goodbyes that make us loiter in the doorway for another half hour. Sooner or later, though, we're going to finish that final conversation, give that last hug, say the last I-love-you, and wish the travellers a safe journey home. And then they're gone. For a moment, there's an almost visible space in the room shaped just like Aunt Ida and the kids. That same shaped emptiness is curiously echoed in the heart. Even the silence sounds curiously like the folks who just left.

The disciples standing around after the Ascension must have experienced something like that. A Jesus-shaped space where he stood, a Jesus-sounding silence where he'd spoken. There was a space in their hearts, too, that would always long for him to fill it. And yet the same must have been true of them as it is for us when we take leave of loved ones. Their presence remains brilliantly in their absence. They're not here but are hardly gone for good. You can't kill love off that easily. Love never leaves the room. *GPBS eNews*

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

(13 - 20 May)

- **Monday, 13:** Monday, 7th week Easter (Acts 19:1-8; Jn 16:29-33)
- **Tuesday, 14:** St Matthias (Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Jn 15:9-17)
- **Wednesday, 15:** Wednesday, 7th week Easter (Acts 20:28-38; Jn 17:11-19)
- **Thursday, 16:** Thursday, 7th week Easter (Acts 22:30, 23:6-11; Jn 17:20-26)
- **Friday, 17:** Friday, 7th week Easter (Acts 25:13-21; Jn 21:15-19)
- **Saturday, 18:** Saturday, 7th week Easter (Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Jn 21:20-25)
- **Sunday 19:** PENTECOST SUNDAY (Acts 2:1-11; Gal 5:16-25; Jn 15:26-27, 16:12-15)

PASTORAL CARE

If you need a priest for anointing prior to medical treatment or if you are ill (not necessarily life-threatening) or for last rites please contact: (08) 8552 1084 or in an emergency 0438 364 870.