



# THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

## Year A — 24<sup>th</sup> May 2020

The community of the Cathedral of St. Stephen acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which our parish stands.

Embracing  
Villa Maria Centre  
and  
St Patrick's  
Fortitude Valley



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Archbishop of Brisbane

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Mr Christopher Trikilis

**Sacristan**  
Mr Hayden Kennedy

**Cathedral Office  
Co-Ordinator**  
Ms Carmel Devery

**Local Safeguarding  
Representative**  
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Jesus said to his disciples:  
"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.  
I am with you always."

### Readings for today: Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:17-23; Matthew 28:16-20

Dear friends,

On this feast of the Ascension, I offer you two prayers. The first is the common prayer for the 5th anniversary of *Laudato Si'*, the encyclical of Pope Francis on the Care of our Common Home. Pope Francis invites us all to pray this prayer at noon today (24<sup>th</sup> May):

Loving God,  
Creator of heaven and earth and all that is in them, You created us in your own image and made us stewards of all your creation. You blessed us with the sun, water and bountiful land so that all might be nourished. Open our minds and touch our hearts, so that we may attend to your gift of creation. Help us to be conscious that our common home belongs not only to us, but also to all of your creatures and to all future generations, and that it is our responsibility to preserve it. May we help each person secure the food and resources that they need. Be present to those in need in these trying times, especially the poorest and those most at risk of being left behind. Transform our fear and feelings of isolation into hope and fraternity so that we may experience a true conversion of the heart. Help us to show creative solidarity in addressing the consequences of this global pandemic. Make us courageous to embrace the changes that are needed in search of the common good. Now more than ever may we feel that we are all interconnected and interdependent. Enable us to Listen and respond to the cry of the earth and the cry of

the poor. May the present sufferings be the birth pangs of a more fraternal and sustainable world. Under the Loving gaze of Mary Help of Christians, we make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen

The second is the prayer of entrustment of Australia to the care of Mary Help of Christians, on this her feast day. Mary Help of Christians has been the official patroness of Australia since 1844: O Immaculate Mary, Help of Christians, Queen of heaven and earth, and tender Mother of humanity, at this time when a pandemic threatens all your children, we entrust to you our nation, Australia, and all who live in this country. We commit to your intercession all the members of our community, beginning with the weakest ones, from the unborn to the sick, the disabled and the elderly. We commit to you our families, our young and old, and all who are vulnerable, those who are quarantined or anxious. We entrust to your Immaculate Heart those who have lost their livelihood or employment, our pastors and other essential service workers, and our leaders at this time. We implore your intercession especially for the protection of doctors and nurses and those who minister to the contagious sick in this crisis. Reign over us, Mother of God, and teach us how to make the Heart of Jesus reign and triumph in us and around us, as it has reigned and triumphed in you!

Fr. Anthony



Cathedral of  
St. Stephen  
249 Elizabeth St  
Brisbane



St. Patrick's  
58 Morgan St  
Fortitude Valley



Villa Maria Chapel  
171 St Pauls Tce  
Spring Hill

### Cathedral Parish Mass Times this week

**Monday to Friday:** 8.00am & 12.30pm (live-streamed)  
**Saturday** 11.30am – Marian Devotions (live-streamed)

### Sunday Cathedral of St Stephen

**Saturday:** Suspended until further notice  
**Sunday:** 8.00am; 10.00am (live-streamed)

**St Patrick's** Suspended until further notice  
**Villa Maria** Suspended until further notice

**Reconciliation:** **Monday to Friday** 10.00am-11.0am (in the Hanly Room)  
**Saturday** 10.00am-11.0am (in the Hanly Room)

**Exposition:** Suspended until further notice

**Benediction:** Suspended until further notice

**Songs of Easter Hope:** 5.30pm - Friday (live-streamed)

# MUSIC for THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (YEAR A)

## Processional Hymn

Alleluia! sing to Jesus!

1. Alleluia! sing to Jesus!  
His the sceptre, his the throne;  
Alleluia! his the triumph,  
His the victory alone;  
Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion  
Thunder like a mighty flood;  
Jesus out of ev'ry nation  
Has redeemed us by his blood.

3. Alleluia! bread of angels,  
Here on earth our food, our stay!  
Alleluia! here the sinful  
Come to you from day to day:  
Intercessor, friend of sinners,  
Earth's redeemer, plead for me,  
Where the songs of all the sinless  
Sweep across the crystal sea.

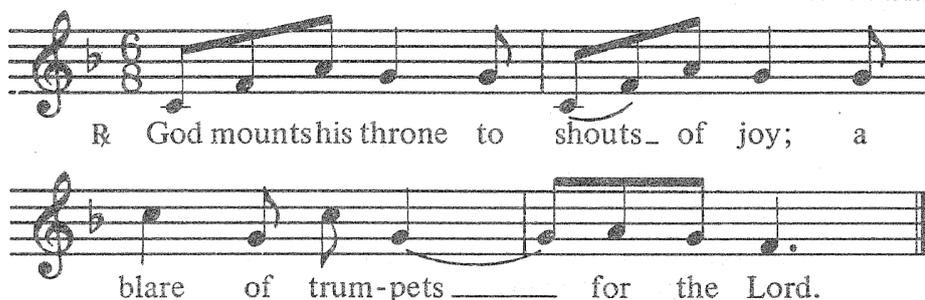
2. Alleluia! not as orphans  
Are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluia! he is near us,  
Faith believes, nor questions how:  
Though the cloud from sight received him,  
When the forty days were o'er,  
Shall our hearts forget his promise,  
"I am with you ever more"?

4. Alleluia! King eternal,  
You the Lord of lords we own;  
Alleluia! born of Mary,  
Earth your foot stool, heav'n your throne:  
You, within the veil, have entered,  
Robed in flesh, our great high priest;  
Here on earth both priest and victim  
In the eucharistic feast.

## Psalm

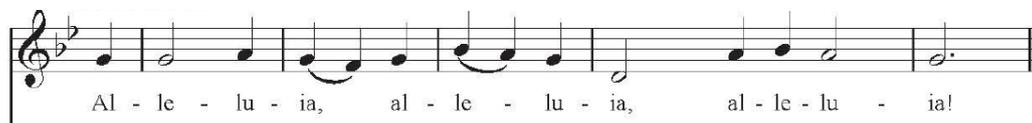
Robert Kreutz

Ps 46:2-3. 6-9



R God mount his throne to shouts of joy; a  
blare of trum-pets for the Lord.

## Gospel



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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## Communion Reflection

Christ is the heav'nly food

1. Christ is the heav'nly food that gives to ev'ry famished soul  
new life and strength, new joy and hope and faith to make them whole.  
We all are made for God alone, without whom we are dead;  
no food suffices for the soul but Christ, the living bread.

2. Christ is the unity that binds in one the near and far;  
for we who share his life divine his living body are.  
On earth and in the realms beyond, one fellowship are we;  
and at his table we are knit in mystic unity.

## Recessional Hymn

Filled with the Spirit's power

1. Filled with the Spirit's power, with one accord  
the infant church confessed its risen Lord:  
O Holy Spirit, in the church today  
no less your power of fellowship display.

2. Now with the mind of Christ set us on fire,  
that unity may be our great desire:  
give joy and peace; give faith to hear your call,  
and readiness in each to work for all.

3. Widen our love, good Spirit, to embrace  
in your strong care all those of ev'ry race:  
like wind and fire with life among us move  
till we are known as Christ's, and Christians prove.

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