



**ST  
FRANCIS  
XAVIER  
CATHOLIC  
PARISH**

OUR PARISH MASSES						
Weekday					Saturday	22 <sup>nd</sup> May
18 <sup>th</sup>	May	Tues	9.00am	Mass	5.00pm	Vigil Mass
19 <sup>th</sup>	May	Wed	9.00am	Mass	4.30pm	Reconciliation (till)
			6.00pm	Rosary		
Sunday					23 <sup>rd</sup> May	
20 <sup>th</sup>	May	Thurs	9.00am	Mass	7.00am	Mass
21 <sup>st</sup>	May	Fri	9.00am	Mass	9.00am	Mass

**The Ascension of the Lord** **Year B** **16<sup>th</sup> May 2021**



**Eyes Opening**

Jesus had prepared His apostles prior to His Ascension. He told them two major ways to connect to Him and with Him: Abiding in His love to receive life from Him and keeping His

commandment to receive the Father's love. Further, on several occasions, Jesus opened the eyes of His disciples. He opened the eyes of Mary of Magdala. She met Him near the tomb and thought He was a gardener. Jesus called her name and she recognized Him (Jn 20,16). He opened the eyes of two of His disciples, who were on the way to Emmaus. Seeing Jesus hold the bread and say the blessing when He broke it and gave it to them, *'their eyes were opened and they recognized Him... They said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us? Lk 24:30-32.*

He then opened Thomas's eyes. Instead of touching his eyes, Jesus asked Thomas to touch the wounds on His hands, and his eyes of faith opened. On the outskirts of Bethany, Jesus was taken up into heaven. The text gives no hints, however, I would have no doubt that Jesus' apostles all would have their eyes wide open, glued to Jesus' figure lifting up on high. They were speechless seeing Jesus' figure become smaller and smaller, and finally disappear into the blue sky.

From that day onwards, Jesus' apostles had imprinted His living image in their hearts. That image opened their eyes of faith and would accompany them into their mission field. They missed the man Jesus, but in their heart, they would always have Him as their Lord and God. They now began what Jesus had commissioned them to do: *Go out to the whole*

*world; proclaim the Good News to all creation'. v.15.* Their view of the world would not as large as we now know. It would not take them long to bring the Good News to the Gentiles.

St Mark told us, Jesus' apostles joyfully preached everywhere. In proclaiming the Good News, they always remembered what Jesus had told them, that they would have both friends and enemies. In His name they would cast out devils, and have the gift of tongues and cure the sick. Their enemies would make use of snakes and poison to cause them physical harm and interrupt their work. Placed into the context of John's preaching then, snakes and poison referred to people rather than serpents. *'Brood of vipers, how can your speech be good when you are evil? For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart'. Mat 12,34.*

Snakes and poison in this context refer to people's hearts. Jesus' disciples were given the gift of tongues to counter the 'viper-tongue' who would strongly reject, and condemn their preaching. The apostles were given the gift of laying their hands on people, not to cause harm, but to give comfort and to heal the sick and that was the sign of God confirming they were true Jesus' disciples. The apostles were given the gift of eye opening to see the work of the Advocate working in them, and to see God's goodness in others and avoid harmful situations. Jesus' Ascension means He is no more confined in a specific place. We don't see Him but He is present everywhere, always by the side of His disciples. Jesus had perfected what the Father sent Him to do. He passed on the same mission to us. We are not alone in our mission if we abide in Him and obey His gift, the Advocate, Whom He would send, to be with us.

**Fr Vudinh Tuong  
Parish Priest**

**WEEKLY INFORMATION**



*Thank you to all our Volunteers*

Volunteers are everyday people, from all walks of life and of different backgrounds and together your selfless actions enable our Church to function and thrive everyday even in our current situation of COVID.

We would like to thank all our Volunteers for all the help you give to the St Francis Xavier Parish.

We couldn't do it without all of the hard work that each and every one of you put in.

Fr Tuong and Michelle



## WEEKLY INFORMATION

### Feast Days for this Month

- The Ascension of the Lord – 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021;
- Pentecost Sunday – 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021;
- Our Lady, Help of Christians – 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021;
- The Most Holy Trinity – 30<sup>th</sup> May 2021;
- The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) - 6<sup>th</sup> June 2021;



### Healing Mass

There is no Healing Mass for the first Friday in June 2021.

### Responsorial Psalm

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

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Go and teach all people my gospel.

I am with you always, until the end of the world.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

## PASTORAL MATTERS



### Prayer for the Sick

Hudson Mc Hardy, Keith Auld, Lin Merrian, Marj Robbin, Kim Shadwell, Jackie Ledger, Amy and Reagan Whiteman, Sarah Kathleen Jones, Phil O'Dwyer, Peter Eddy, Angus Eddy, Michael Hancock, Almira Ann James, Finley McHardy, Nyaweir Ring.

### Reading – Pentecost Sunday – 23<sup>rd</sup> May

1<sup>st</sup> Reading

Gen 11:1-9

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

Rom 8:22-27

Gospel

Jn 7:37-39



### Baptism at St Francis Xavier, Goodna

The next Baptism will be 15<sup>th</sup> May 2021 (Saturday)

Please keep in touch with the Parish Office as the current restrictions may change at any time.

Baptisms are held on the third Sunday of each month during the 9am Mass. Please contact the Parish Office for more information.

### Home Visit

Due to COVID, the priest is not currently available for any home visits. Please contact the parish office for any further updates.

### Reborn in Eternal Life 17<sup>th</sup> May – 23<sup>rd</sup> May

Souphalack Manavanh, Wladyslaw Witowski (Bobi), Robert Leary, New born Son, Billy Wright, Fr John McGrath, Tony Ryan, William Van Den Heuvel, Frank Rilarto, Cornelia Maria Hedrick, Ivan (Peter) Fuller, Vivian Clarke, Vera Eustace, Olwen Locke, Fred Law, Clare Ogilvie Forbes, Cecilia Galligan, John James Winters, PS Sam, Kath Caldwell.

### Recently Deceased

Jean Smith, Doreen Wright, John Mortimer, Taulapapa Kapekeni Pati, Tuioti Taulapapa Peleipu Feagaiga.



**Loop System** The Church is fitted with a loop system. If you wear a hearing aid, set the control to the 'T' to obtain a better sound.

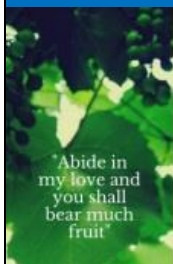
## WEEKLY KNOWLEDGE

### 2021 Confirmation

Confirmation classes is on Rehearsal the 15<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 3.30pm

Actual Confirmation Ceremony is Friday the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2021 7.00pm

## INFORMATION



### WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY PRAYER SERVICE

### *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*

The annual Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian  
Unity will be held at:

Cathedral of St Stephen  
249 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane City  
Friday 21st May 2021  
11am-12pm

All Catholics are welcome to join in praying for Christian unity as representatives of seven different Christian traditions lead prayer.

To register for this event, head to [tickets.org.au - Australia's Premier Ticketing System For Organisations](https://tickets.org.au) or you are most welcome to offer some prays at home.

**St Francis Xavier Primary School**  
Goodna  
**Contact us**  
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*Kids who care*

### PARISH CONTACTS

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Website: [www.stfrancisxaviergoodna.org.au](http://www.stfrancisxaviergoodna.org.au)  
Parish Clergy: Fr Vudinh Tuong PP  
Parish Secretary: Michelle Castell  
Current Office Hours: Tues – Fri 9am to 3pm

*Funeral services with  
faith, dignity  
and compassion*

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