THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHRISTCHURCH



The Ascension of the Lord 1 June 2025

From the Vicar...

Dear Friends

Alleluia, Christ is Risen!

This past Thursday was The Solemnity of the Ascension of Jesus Christ, also called Ascension Day, Ascension Thursday, or sometimes Holy Thursday. Celebrated on a Thursday, the fortieth day of Easter, although a lot of Christian denominations now move the observance to the following Sunday. You will notice we have done that this Sunday. There is a period known as 'Ascensiontide'. Ascensiontide refers to the traditional ten-day period between the Feast of the Ascension and the Feast of Pentecost. I am personally often hesitant at moving Feasts from the week to the Sunday. However, it is a shame to miss such important Feasts as the Ascension due to the decline in popularity of mid-week evening services. Ascension should at least be recognised because historically it is an important commemoration.

This is due to the ancient nature of the Feast. The historian Eusebius seems to indicate that it was celebrated as early as the 4th century. Many of the church Father's such as John Chrysostom, Gregory of Nyssa and Augustine of Hippo mention that it is Apostolic in nature, and so of great importance. There is a strangeness in the Ascension story for us modern readers. We know through the scientific endeavours of the past few centuries that heaven is not 'up there' nor hell 'down below'. However, I don't believe this knowledge dismisses the power and meaning of the Ascension. We will never know exactly how the Ascension took place, nor the mechanics of it. But what we do know is that Jesus appeared to the disciples in various ways following the Resurrection, and then said his final farewells and appeared no longer. We are told this was necessary so that the Holy Spirit might come and empower the Church for its mission and ministry. We often want to stay comfortable and remain where we are. The Ascension tells us that we must let go of the things we wish to hold on to in order that we may find the new life that will occur. As we come to the close of our Easter Season, we start to prepare our hearts for Pentecost, and pray that we might encounter God's Spirit afresh in our worship and in our lives.

Blessings,

Fr. Jadar

Fr Jordan

Copies of the music for the mass setting and hymns are available from the Sides People.

The Ascension of the Lord

1 June 2025

Celebrant 8.00 am: Fr Jordan Greatbatch

Celebrant 10.00 am: Fr Jordan Greatbatch Organ: Paul Ellis

Sidespeople: Robert Maclagan, Jane Ellis

Mass Setting: A New Peoples' Mass Dom Gregory Murray

Organ Voluntary: Elevatione Domenico Zipoli

Introit Hymn: 332

All hail the power of Jesu's name; Hail him, y
Let angels prostrate fall; Whom Da
Bring forth the royal diadem The God in
To crown him Lord of all. And crow

Crown him, ye morning stars of light, Who fixed this floating ball; Now hail the Strength of Israel's might, And crown him Lord of all.

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race, Ye ransomed of the fall, Hail him who saves you by his grace, And crown him Lord of all. Hail him, ye heirs of David's line, Whom David Lord did call; The God incarnate, Man divine, And crown him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget The wormwood and the gall, Go spread your trophies at his feet, And crown him Lord of all.

Let every tribe and every tongue To him their hearts enthral, Lift high the universal song, And crown him Lord of all.

Greeting:

Ki te ingoa $\ ^{\ }$ o te Matua, me te Tamaiti, me te Wairua Tapu. **Amine.** (In the name of the Father, and of the Son, $\ ^{\ }$ and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.)

Grace and peace to you from God. God fill you with truth and joy.

Christ is risen. Alleluia! He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The Mass of the day is introduced and the people are invited to call to mind their sins.

God has promised forgiveness to all who truly repent, turn to Christ in faith and are themselves forgiving. In silence we call to mind our sins.

Silence

Merciful God, we have sinned in what we have thought and said, in the wrong we have done, and in the good we have not done. We have sinned in ignorance: we have sinned in weakness: we have sinned through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry. We repent and turn to you. Forgive us, for our Saviour Christ's sake, and renew our lives to the glory of your name. Amen.

Kyrie, eleison. Kyrie, eleison. Christe, eleison. Christe, eleison. Kyrie, eleison. Kyrie, eleison.

Through the cross of Christ, ♣ God have mercy on you, pardon you and set you free. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. God strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in life eternal. **Amen.**

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

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. Amen.

Let us pray. (silence)

Gladden us with holy joys, almighty God, and make us rejoice with devout thanksgiving, for the Ascension of Christ your Son is our exaltation, and, where the Head has gone before us in glory, the Body is called to follow in hope. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First Reading: (sit) Acts: 1:1-11 Johnann Willliams

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptised with water, but you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: 47

R. Sing praises, sing praises to God: sing praises, sing praises to our king. Clap your hands, all you peoples, cry out to God with shouts of joy. For the Lord most high is to be feared, and is the great sovereign over all the earth. **R.**

God has gone up with shouts of triumph, the Lord has gone up with a fanfare of trumpets. Sing praises, sing praises to God: sing praises, sing praises to our king. **R.**

For God is the king of all the earth: sing praises with your utmost skill. God reigns over the nations, God is seated on a holy throne. **R.**

Second Reading: (sit) Ephesians 1:15-23 Rachel Watson

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.

God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: (stand)

Alleluia, alleluia. Go and teach all nations, says the Lord; I am with you always, until the end of the world. **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

The Lord be with you

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

The Lord bless you

Praise and Glory to God

Gospel: Luke 24:44-53 Deacon Robert Jamieson

Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

This is the Gospel of Christ. Praise to Christ the Word.

Sermon: Fr Jordan Greatbatch

Affirmation of Faith:

(Stand)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (all genuflect or bow) was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became fully human. (stand)

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, and has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection

of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Intercessions: Jenny Daniels

Rest eternal grant unto them, № O Lord: And let light perpetual shine upon them. May they rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with you, blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

The Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you. And also with you.

At the Peace all may exchange a non physical greeting with those near them.

E te whanau, we are the body of Christ.

By one spirit we were baptised into one body.

Keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace:

Amen. We are bound by the love of Christ.

Offertory: Adrienne Curtis, Dorothy Burrows

The Preparation of the Gifts

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made.

It will become for us the bread of life. Blessed be God for ever.

By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity. Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands.

It will become our spiritual drink. Blessed be God for ever.

Offertory Hymn: Christ triumphant ever reigning

Christ triumphant, ever reigning, Saviour, Master, King!

Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,

hear us as we sing:

Yours the glory and the crown, the high renown, the eternal name.

Word incarnate, truth revealing, Son of Man on earth! power and majesty concealing by your humble birth: Yours the glory and the crown,

the high renown, the eternal name.

Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated,

victim crucified!

death is through the cross defeated,

sinners justified:

Yours the glory and the crown, the high renown, the eternal name.

Priestly king, enthroned for ever high in heaven above! sin and death and hell shall never stifle hymns of love:

Yours the glory and the crown, the high renown, the eternal name.

So, our hearts and voices raising through the ages long, ceaselessly upon you gazing, this shall be our song:
Yours the glory and the crown, the high renown, the eternal name.

Pray, sisters and brothers, that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God, the almighty One.

May the Lord receive the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.

We offer you this sacrifice, Lord, on the feast of your Son's Ascension, begging that through this holy exchange of gifts we may rise with him to the joys of heaven. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord is here.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Let us give thanks and praise.

It is right indeed, it is our joy and our salvation, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise through Christ your only Son.

For after his Resurrection he plainly appeared to all his disciples and was taken up to heaven in their sight, that he might make us sharers in his divinity.

Therefore with the faithful who rest in him, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and singing...

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. 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.

All glory and thanksgiving to you, holy Father. Send your Holy Spirit, that these gifts of bread and wine which we receive may be to us the body and blood of Christ, and that we, filled with the Spirit's grace and power, may be renewed for the service of your kingdom.

On the night before he died, your Son Jesus Christ took bread; when he had given you thanks, he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup; when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them, and said: Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins; do this as often as you drink it, to remember me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Glory to you, Lord Christ: your death we show forth; your resurrection we proclaim; your coming we await. Amen! Come, Lord Jesus.

Therefore, loving God, recalling your great goodness to us in Christ, his suffering and death, his resurrection and ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate our redemption with this bread of life and this cup of salvation. Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving which we offer through Christ, our great high priest.

Remember, Lord, your Church, spread throughout the world, and bring her to the fullness of charity, together with Peter our Bishop, and all who minister in your name.

Remember also our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection, and all who have died in your mercy: welcome them into the light of your face.

Have mercy on us all, we pray, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, with blessed Joseph, her Spouse with the blessed Apostles, and all the Saints who have pleased you throughout the ages, we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life, and may praise and glorify you.

United in Christ with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing, honour and glory be yours, here and everywhere, now and for ever. Amen.

The risen Christ is in our midst, so with

Christ we pray.

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours, now and for ever.

Amen.

Kua ākona nei tātou e tō tātou Ariki,

ka īnoi tatou:

E tō mātou Matua i te rangi

Kia tapu tōu Ingoa.

Kia tae mai tōu rangatiratanga.

ki runga ki te whenua, kia rite anō ki tō te rangi. Hōmai ki a mātou ājanei

he taro mā mātou mō tēnei rā.

Murua ō mātou hara.

Me mātou hoki e muru nei

i ō te hunga e hara ana ki a mātou.

Aua hoki mātou e kawea kia whakawaia;

Engari whakaorangia mātou i te kino: Nōu hoki te rangatiratanga, te kaha,

me te korōria,

Āke ake ake. Āmine

Eucharistic Ministers: Carol Fraser, Michael Graveston

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

We who are many are one body, for we all share the one bread.

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

Behold I am with you always, even to the end of the age, alleluia.

This is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Happy are we who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

For Communion, leave your seat by the side aisle and come down the central aisle. You are encouraged to use the hand sanitiser.

Anthem: Day by Day Martin How

Communion Hymn: 128

Eternal Monarch, King most high, Whose blood hath brought redemption nigh,

By whom the death of Death was wrought And conquering grace's battle fought:

Ascending to the throne of might, And seated at the Father's right,

All power in heaven is Jesu's own, That here his manhood had not known. Yea, angels tremble when they see How changed is our humanity; That flesh hath purged

what flesh had stained,

And God, the flesh of God, hath reigned.

Be thou our joy and strong defence, Who art our future recompense: So shall the light that springs from thee Be ours through all eternity.

O risen Christ, ascended Lord, All praise to thee let earth accord, Who art, while endless ages run, With Father and with Spirit One.

Let us pray. (silence)

Almighty and eternal God, you have entrusted to us here on earth the mysteries that foreshadow heaven. Draw our gaze upward where Christ, who shares our human nature, sits in glory at your right hand and lives and reigns with you for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Notices

Solemn Blessing:

May almighty God bless you, for on this very day his Only Begotten Son pierced the heights of heaven and unlocked for you the way to ascend to where he is. **Amen.**

May he grant that, as Christ after his Resurrection was seen plainly by his disciples, so when he comes as Judge he may show himself merciful to you for all eternity. **Amen.**

And may you, who believe he is seated with the Father in his majesty, know with joy the fulfillment of his promise to stay with you until the end of time. **Amen.**

And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the Son, r and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and always. **Amen.**

The Mass is ended. Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace. Alleluia! Amen. We go in the name of Christ. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Final Hymn: God Save the King

God save our gracious King! Long live our noble King! God save the King! Send him victorious, Happy and glorious, Long to reign over us, God save the King.

Organ Voluntary: Crown Imperial William Walton

7.00pm Evensong and Benediction

Please pray for...

The Sick:

Fr Geoff Paterson, Ashley Forman, Charles Barltrop, Jamie McDermott, Terry & Betsy McKay.

Claire & John Preston, Lois Peters, Denis Coulter, Betty Mechen, Suzanne Keys, Ghislaine Brewer-Quirke, Lesta Smithson, Pamela Hindin-Whitewood, John Bertken, Peter Easterbrook, Anne Fenton, David & Sandra, Philip Souter, Deb Smith, Andrew Lawson.

Anniversaries: (Wed) Jenny Harrison, Priest (Thurs) Kate Read, Isabel Richards

(Fri) Florence Coulter (Sat) Elsie Stansfield

THIS WEEK NOTICES

EFTPOS is available by the North door if you wish to make a donation.

Parish Lunch—Pegasus Arms 12.00 noon.

Needlework Group— Tuesday 7.00 pm at Judith's house. Contact: Ros Calvert for details 0272428282.

Meditation Group—Wednesday 12.00 noon in the church. Contact: Therese Aitchison 0212516282.

Bible Study—Thursday 11.00 am and 6.00 pm, Parish Lounge.

Pray the Rosary—Thursday 12.00 noon.

Inasmuch Basket—please continue to donate staple household groceries to support the work of the **City Mission**. The Outreach would like any donated waterproof clothing.

Mass on Monday

There will be no Mass on Monday until further notice.

Town Hall Annual Organ Curator's Free Concert

2.30 pm Monday 2 June 2025 (King's Birthday public holiday), Christchurch Town Hall Auditorium with Martin Setchell and Sea-am Thompson playing the organ and Thomas Eves on Trumpet. Admission free please book online at nzorgan.com.

RSCM Music Sunday Celebration

2.00 pm Sunday 15 June Christ's College Chapel. An International Event Celebrating Church Music, featuring the Choirs of: Christ's College, St Michael's Church School, St Mark's School, Medbury School and St Peter's School.

Health & Safety Regulations: In an emergency, use the closest exit and assemble in the drop-off zone. In an earthquake, drop down and shelter behind or under a pew, covering your head. Follow instructions.

NEXT WEEK Pentecost 8 June 2025

8:00 am Mass Celebrant: Fr Jordan Greatbatch Server: Hugh Munro

10.00 am Mass **Celebrant:** Fr Jordan Greatbatch

Preacher: Fr Jordan Greatbatch

Servers: SD: Jenny Daniels MC: Thomas Visakan

Th: Hugh Munro **Cr:** Eyob Habte **Ac:** Callum Robertson, Robert Calvert-Griffin

First Reading: Sue Shannons Acts 2:1-21
Second Reading: Jenny Daniels Romans 8:14-17

Second Reading: Jenny Daniels Romans 8:14-17 **Gospel:** Deacon Robert Jamieson John 14:8-17

Eucharist Ministers: Jenny Daniels, Carol Fraser

Sides people: Carol Fraser, Kathleen Campbell

Intercessions: Fr Peter Williams

Offertory: Gloria Moyle, Sue Shannons

Morning Tea: Gail and Tim Chiswell

Sacristan: Eyob Habte

Sacristv: -

Livestream: Jane Evans
Flowers: Sue Shannons

Evensong Server: Robert Calvert-Griffin

Evensong Readers: Ros Calvert, Johnann Williams

CONTACTS

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Safe Ministry: Jane Evans jee.evans@xtra.co.nz 0276603634

Website: www.stmichaelandallangels.nz

Facebook: SMAAChristchurch

Parish Bank Acct: St Michaels Churchwardens A/c no - 03-0855-0263594-000

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PASTORAL CARE TEAM COORDINATOR - Gloria Moyle 0274355347

The Anglican Parish of

St Michael and All Angels,

Christchurch

This Sunday The Ascension of the Lord—1 June 2025

8.00 am Said Mass 10.00 am Sung Mass

7.00 pm **Evensong and Benediction**

Monday Feria

No Mass

Tuesday The Martyrs of Uganda, 1886

8.30 am Morning Prayer

12.35 pm Mass

Wednesday Feria

8.30 am Morning Prayer

12.00 pm Meditation Group

12.35 pm Mass

Thursday Boniface, Bishop of Mainz, Missionary, Martyr, 754

8.30 am Morning Prayer

11.00 am Bible Study

12.00 noon Rosary Group

12.35 pm Mass

6.00 pm Bible Study

Friday Ini Kopuria, Founder of the Melanesian Brotherhood, 1945

8.30 am Morning Prayer

12.35 pm Mass

2.00 pm School Service

Saturday Feria

Next Sunday Pentecost—8 June 2025

8.00 am Said Mass 10.00 am Sung Mass

7.00 pm Evensong and Benediction