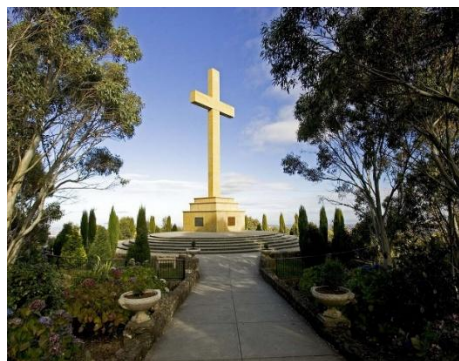




**WELCOME TO THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF
ST AMBROSE WOODEND,
ST AMBROSE RIDDELLS CREEK,
ST BRIGIDS GISBORNE,
ST MARY'S LANCEFIELD/ROMSEY &
ST PATRICK'S MACEDON**

FEAST OF THE ASCENSION - YEAR A

17th May, 2026

WEEEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday – 5pm Woodend, 6pm Gisborne, 6.30pm Lancefield

Sunday - 8am Riddells Creek, 9am Romsey, 11am Woodend and Gisborne

PLEASE NOTE: St. PATRICK'S MACEDON CLOSED FOR STORM DAMAGE REPAIRS

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Please see the Mass schedule below

ANOINTING MASS – 1st Saturday of the month 10.30am St Mary's Romsey

RECONCILIATION 10am – 10.30am 2nd Saturday of the month Woodend, 3rd Saturday of the month Gisborne, 4th Saturday of the month Lancefield

HOLY HOUR AND EVENING PRAYER 7pm – 8pm 1st Friday of the month. See Mass schedule for church

PARISH STAFF

Parish Priest: Fr John Healy, 0439 033 750, john.healy@cam.org.au

Assistant Priest: Fr Zaher Al Mhanna, Zaher.Almhanna@cam.org.au

WOODEND: Secretary Bernadette Petruccelli, PO Box 347, 47 Urquhart St Woodend. Ph: 0409 436 441, benadette.petruccelli@cam.org.au

LANCEFIELD: Secretary Tammie Dalglish, 27 Chauncey Lancefield. Ph: 03 54292130, lancefield@cam.org.au

GISBORNE: Secretary Tammie Dalglish, PO Box 467, 66 Aitken St Gisborne. Ph: 03 54282591, gisborne@cam.org.au

OFFICE HOURS

Woodend: Monday and Friday 9am – 4pm, **Lancefield:** Wednesday and Friday 8am – 5pm,

Gisborne: Tuesday and Thursday 8am – 5pm

PARISH WEBSITES

Woodend: www.stambrosewoodend.com.au

Lancefield: www.melbcatholic.org/s/lancefield

Gisborne: www.melbcatholic.org/s/gisborne

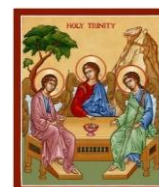
SCHOOL COMMUNITIES **St Ambrose Woodend:** www.sawoodend.catholic.edu.au , **St Mary's Lancefield:** www.smlancefield.catholic.edu.au , **St Brigid's Gisborne:** www.sbgisborne.catholic.edu.au , **Holy Cross New Gisborne:** www.hcnewgisborne.catholic.edu.au

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday 19th	5pm Mass Gisborne	5pm Mass Woodend
Wednesday 20th	9:15am Mass Gisborne	9:30am Mass Woodend (school)
Thursday 21st	9:15am Mass Gisborne	9:30am Mass in Romsey
Friday 22nd	8:30am Borders Mass – Assumption College Kilmore	
	9:15am Mass Gisborne	10:15am Mass Lancefield (school in attendance)
Saturday 23rd	10:00am Reconciliation Lancefield	

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During 2026 our focus as a community of faith will be based on the
image of the Trinity. An image reflecting the community of the
Father, Son and Holy Spirit, calling us to be community of
WELCOME and HOSPITALITY.



The Living Word

The Ascension of the Lord, Year A

17 May 2026

First Reading Acts 1:1-11

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 to 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. R. v.6

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

(R.) *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

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, 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!

Gospel Mt 28:16-20

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, and teach them to observe all the commandments I gave to you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'



Reflection by Fr Michael Tate

Our Risen Lord Jesus Christ could have continued to appear to groups of followers, century after century – until now!

But, he didn't, because the disciples had to be weaned of his Risen-mode of appearance among them lest they think that the victory over Death is meant for human beings alone.

But, as St Paul says, the Risen Lord is the One who 'fills all creation' with His power radiating out from his Risen Humanity.

However, dis-appearance is not the same as absence. We believe that Our Risen Lord is present in many modes, including as St Paul says '... the Church which is His Body'.

That is why the figures in white rebuke the disciples: 'Why do you stand looking into Heaven?'

The Disciples had, rather, to ready themselves to be the Spirit-filled body of Jesus Christ in their own time and place. As we do.

We might pause for a moment to stop staring into Heaven, to ready ourselves to receive the Holy Spirit as at Pentecost in order to be 'The Church which is His Body.'

mtate@bigpond.com

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EVERYONE WELCOME

Ministry	16/05/26	17/05/26	17/05/26
	6pm	8am	11am
Reader	J. Farrugia	M. Henry	D. Egan
Spec Min	L. Wilson	-----	V. Firman
Flowers	<i>K. Page & L. Debono</i>	-----	-----
Location	Gisb	R/Creek	Gisb
Ministry	23/05/26	24/05/26	24/05/26
	6pm	8am	11am
Reader	N. Spiers	P. Lawry	K. Page
Spec Min	L. Scott	-----	D. Egan
Flowers	<i>J. Shumack</i>	-----	-----
Location	Gisb	R/Creek	Gisb

Could those listed on the roster please advise if you are unavailable.

ST PATRICK'S CHURCH MACEDON

will be closed until further notice for repairs.

COLLECTIONS AT MASS

1st Collection – Priest & Presbytery
2nd Collection – Thanksgiving & Church.

CHILD PROTECTION

is everyone's responsibility

The St. Brigids Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy can be found on the Parish Website or via the parish office.

All children leaving the church during Mass must be accompanied by a parent.

Child Safety Committee

Fr. John Healy
Fr. Zaher Al Mhanna
Tammie Dalgleish

Baptism

As arranged with the Parish Secretary on the 4th Sunday of the month.

Marriages

Arranged by appointment with at least 6 months' notice. Please contact parish office.

Funerals

Contact Fr. John directly.

Thanksgiving

Any parishioner wishing to join the Thanksgiving program is invited to contact Tammie at the parish office to arrange. Thanksgiving contributions by envelopes, Direct Debit or Credit Card welcome.

Welcome

St. Brigids Parish community warmly welcomes visitors and new parishioners. We invite new parishioners to introduce yourself to Fr. John, fill in a census card located in the church foyer and place in either collection or contact Tam directly at the parish office.

Volunteering Ministries

A current Working with Children Check is required to volunteer within the parish.

Help is always welcome!

CONTINUING PRAYER LIST:

Please pray for the following who are in continuing need of our prayers:

**Eileen S, Corrine V, Anthony S, Fran S, Jonathan S,
Helen K, Diane M, Marg P, Beth T, Willow O,
Fleur H, Thomas C & Michael W.**

R: We pray for ourselves and the special needs of all in our parish community. We pray for those who are sick, those on our parish prayer list and for all who care for them. For the faithful departed: for those who have died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially **Dr. Frank Power.** ☩

CELEBRANT We bring our prayers to a close as we pray,

All **GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

**AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING, IS NOW, AND EVER SHALL BE, WORLD WITHOUT END.
AMEN.**

Collections last week Presbytery \$749 Thanksgiving \$1033
1st collection: Presbytery & Priest 2nd collection: Thanksgiving (envelope)

OFFERTORY PROGRAM

We enter our third week of our Offertory Program. As you came into Church you would have seen some envelopes. If you recently filled out a census card we have your current details. If your name is not there, take a blank envelope which contains the same information. In the envelope is a letter from Fr John and a pledge card reflecting the financial contribution you would like to make to help cover Parish expenses. We discovered during the week that some of the information regarding the amount you had pledged was incorrect. We apologise for any concerns that may have caused individual parishioners. A glitch in our system caused incorrect information to be shared. If you would like an updated statement of your giving, please contact the Secretary.

TUESDAY EVENING MASS TIME CHANGE: WOODEND

During these colder months the 6pm Tuesday evening Mass at Woodend has moved to 5pm. This will take effect immediately.

CHANGES TO WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

To enable our schools to celebrate Mass there will be, at times, changes to the weekday Mass Schedule. When Holy Cross School celebrates Mass there will be no morning Mass at St Brigids. When St Mary's School celebrates Mass the time of Mass in Lancefield will move from 9.30am to 10.15am. These changes will be in "What's happening this week."

MONTH OF MAY

To celebrate this month dedicated to Mary you are invited to a scriptural reflection on the rosary and benediction. As our Lancefield & Romsey Churches are dedicated to Mary, we will celebrate this month dedicated to Mary on:
Sunday 24th May at 3pm at St Mary's Church Lancefield
followed by a cuppa. **All are welcome.**



What's happening this week in the Parish

Mon 18/05/26 Confirmation Candidates Visitation by Fr. John at St. Ambrose and St. Mary's
Thu 21/05/26 7pm - Confirmation meeting – parish families – **Woodend**
Fri 22/05/26 11am – Funeral – Mr. Michael Langmaid - **Gisborne**
Sat 23/05/26 10am – Reconciliation – **Lancefield**
Sun 24/05/26 12pm – Baptisms - **Gisborne**
Sun 24/05/26 3pm Rosary and Benediction – St. Mary's **Lancefield**

Note: See front page of bulletin for Mass times.

PARISH PASTORAL NEWSLETTER

The latest edition of our Parish Pastoral Newsletter is available in our Church entrance.

One copy per family. Catch up on the latest news across the Parishes of the Macedon Ranges.

The National Mass Count of Attendance for 2026 will be taking place over the first four weeks of May.

Crossword

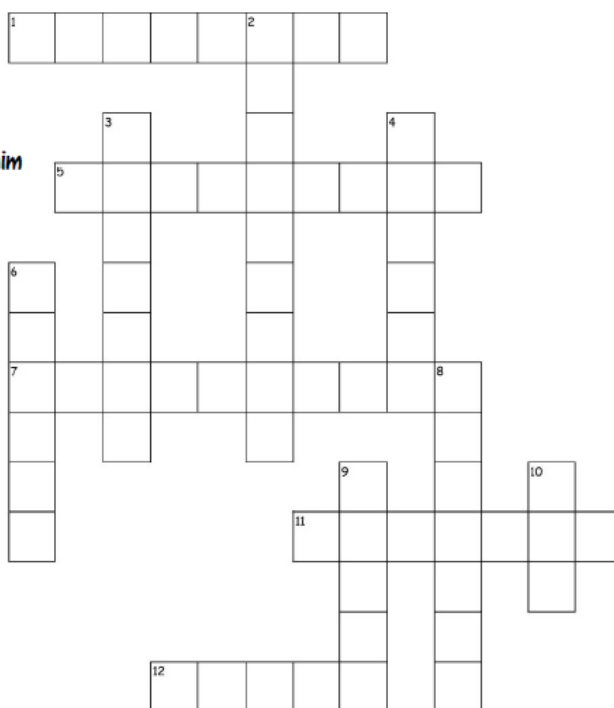


Across

- 1: the high place where Jesus told his disciples to meet him
 5: gave thanks and praise to God
 7: all things
 11: large groups of people that belong to different countries
 12: educate

Down

- 2: power over others
 3: didn't believe
 4: God's Kingdom
 6: the number of disciples who witnessed Jesus' ascension into heaven
 8: the name of the town where Jesus met his disciples
 9: our world
 10: finish



ASCENSION

How many words can you make from the letters in the word ASCENSION?

PRIEST & PRESBYTERY BY DIRECT DEBIT

If you would like to contribute to the Priest & Presbytery expenses, you may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

**St. Brigid's Presbytery Account
NAB**

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 6672 72303

Please use your surname as the reference.

WEEKLY SOCIAL CARDS NIGHT

St. Brigids Parish House – Tuesday
 7:30pm start - Entry \$10 per player
 Light supper served on completion of play
EVERYONE WELCOME

KARATE CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Thursday evenings 6pm - 1st TWO
 lessons free then \$5 per class
 No term commitment required;
 pay as you come.
 Enq: Kathryn Aprile—0404 340 892

THANKSGIVING BY DIRECT DEBIT

If you would like to contribute to the Thanksgiving Program, you may do so by direct debit to the acct below:

**St. Brigid's Church Account
NAB**

BSB: 083 347

Acct: 6742 95773

Please use your surname and your TG number as the reference.

SCRIPTURE STUDIES

Thursday – 10am
 For all enquiries please contact
 Bernie 0414 890 377

OPEN HOUSE

Meet after 11am Sunday Mass at the
 Kaffee Bar for a coffee and chat.
Everyone Welcome!