

The Ascension of the Lord

Year A - Sunday, 17th May 2026

Entrance Antiphon Acts of the Apostles 1:11

Men of Galilee, why gaze in wonder at the heavens?
This Jesus whom you saw ascending into heaven
will return as you saw him go, alleluia.

First Reading Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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.'

The Word of the Lord

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.**

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 Ephesians 1:17-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

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.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 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 Matthew 28:16-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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.'



The Gospel of the Lord

Communion Antiphon Matthew 28:20

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

St. Laurence O'Toole, Leongatha and St. Joseph's, Korumburra

St Laurence O'Toole Leongatha

St Kevin's Meeniyon

St Joseph's Mirboo North

St Andrew's Tarwin Lower

Parish Safeguard Officer: Sam Wright

<https://www.catholicparish.app/leongatha>

Parish Priest: Fr Stanly Devasia

Parish Secretary: Ann Hemming
37 Ogilvy St. (PO Box 166) Leongatha 3953

Telephone: 5662 2020

Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs 8.30-4.30

Closed All Day Wednesday & Friday

Email: leongatha@cdsale.org.au

St Joseph's Korumburra

PO Box 90 Korumburra 3950

Telephone: 5662 2020

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Parish Safeguard Officer: Pamela McKillop

<https://www.catholicparish.app/korumburra>



<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61576079216409>



WEEKEND MASSES	
<p>Leongatha Saturday 5.30pm Sunday 11.00am</p> <p>Tarwin Lower Mass— Mass on Saturday before 3rd Sunday at 4.00pm Liturgy with H/C Saturday 4pm before 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th Sunday.</p> <p>Mirboo Nth Mass— Mass 1st Sunday at 4.00pm Liturgy with H/C 9.30 Sunday 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th</p> <p>Meeniyon Mass— Mass Saturday before 2nd & 4th Sunday at 4.00pm Liturgy with H/C 9.30am on 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday's</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Korumburra</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sunday 9.30am</p>

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Recently Deceased: Helen Allen

Anniversaries: Patrick Wilson, Salvatore & Rosaria Materia
The deceased Clergy of the Diocese of Sale

Eternal rest grant unto them , O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace."

PARISH ROSTERS		
LEONGATHA:	23rd May	24th May
Flowers:	Shirleyanne Wright	
Cleaning:	N Dortmans	
Greeting:	A Vaughan	L Dal Santo
Reader:	P&J Charles	J Salvatore
Special Minister	M Thomas	S Seabrook
	J Bleaser	G Bolge
	R Yates	N Hawkins
	KORUMBURRA:	
31/05 Cleaning:	M Trewin	
24/05 Greeter:	D Matthews	
	May	
Reader:	A Whiteside	
Commentator	D Jackson	
Sacristan	Denise, Frank, Mark	
Special Minister	Jill & Anthony	
Altar Server	D Brookes	
Laundry:	T Ferrone	
Flowers:	A Whiteside	

The Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary

St. Laurence O'Toole Church Leongatha

Saturday: Before 5.30 pm Mass—5.00pm

Sunday: Before 11am Mass—10.30am

We are a child safe parish. Any children, young persons and adults at risk have a right to feel safe and be safe. If you are concerned about any form of abuse, or believe that someone is at significant risk, you should immediately raise your concerns with one of our Parish Child Safety Officers. They can be contacted through the Parish Office. Telephone 03 56 622 020

Weekday Mass or Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion Times		
KORUMBURRA		
Wednesday	School/Parish Mass	9.30am
Friday	Mass	9.30am
LEONGATHA		
Tuesday	Mass	5.00pm
Wednesday	No Mass	
Thursday	Mass at Woorayl Lodge	11.00am
Friday	School/Parish Mass	9.30am

Vocation Prayer 2026

HEAVENLY FATHER, Lord of the harvest, we earnestly ask you to bless our diocese and the Church with many priests, deacons and religious who will love you fervently, and gladly and courageously live their lives in service to your Son's Church under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Bless our families and parishes that we may be given the grace and strength to live our baptismal vocation to be holy, as You are. Bless us that we will respond to your invitation to be living witnesses and disciples of hope as we discern our life in your son, Jesus Christ.

Bless young men and women to respond openly and generously to your invitation to become ministers of your Word and Sacraments, or to serve You faithfully in the covenant of Marriage, or the dignity of single life.

Mary, Mother of the Church, the model of every vocation, help us to say "yes" to the Lord who calls us to cooperate in the divine plan of salvation.

AMEN

OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD

St Laurence's Parish:

(Amount Pledged per Week)	\$2,309.00
Pledged amount received last week	\$1,485.00
Church Loose (1st collection)	\$267.95
Presbytery (2nd collection)	\$765.65

St Joseph's Parish

(Amount Pledged per Week)	\$864.00
Pledged amount received last week	\$1,583.00
Church Loose(1st collection)	\$142.90
Presbytery (2nd collection)	\$257.95

Newcomers or Update Details

Welcome and thanks for worshipping with us at Korumburra and Leongatha Parishes.

If you are new to the Parish or have changed your details or need Thanksgiving Envelopes, please complete your details and drop the form on a Collection plate or drop off to the Parish Office.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

New Parishioner Change of Address or Phone #

Thanksgiving: Envelopes or Electronically

SOCIAL JUSTICE STATEMENT PRAYER

O God of justice and mercy, look upon the struggling families of Australia crushed by the rising cost of living - parents skipping meals, choosing between medicine and power, fearful that one more bill will break them.

Lord Jesus, born in poverty, teach us to see You in every exhausted worker, every pensioner going cold, every young adult trapped at home.

Holy Spirit, move the hearts of lawmakers, employers and landlords to choose fairness over profit and the common good over excess.

Strengthen your Church to be a voice for the voiceless

and a true refuge for the poor,

Mary, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, and St Joseph, protector of workers,

intercede for us that rents and

wages may be just and fair

and no child in this land go

hungry or without a home.

Turn our nation to solidarity and hope - that honest work may always provide bread,

and no one be forced to choose

between dignity and survival.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen

A CONCERT WITH ANDREW CHINN

COMPOSER OF...
*These Hands · Rainbow · May God Be In My Heart
 Together As One · In The Beginning · An African Blessing
 Ubuntu · Rise Up! · We Are God's Hands · Pilgrims of Hope*

Appearing at...
 St Joseph's Primary School, Korumburra
 Monday, May 18, 2:25pm
 School Library
ALL WELCOME

www.butterflyhouse.online
 Online resource for Catholic Primary school teachers!
 Now used in more than 1200 schools

More than 5000 concerts in schools across Australia, New Zealand, USA, and Canada

Parish/Diocese News

National Mass Count will continue this weekend. This helps the Church understand attendance and plan for the future. Thank you for your cooperation as attendance is recorded at each Mass.

Website: Websites are available to view for both Leongatha and Korumburra Parishes. Please see the link
Korumburra— <https://www.catholicparish.app/korumburra> Leongatha <https://www.catholicparish.app/leongatha>

Stay Updated on Diocesan Events: There are many **exciting events** happening across our **Diocese!** Stay informed and up to date by visiting the **Diocesan Events Page**. It's a great resource to find details on upcoming celebrations, gatherings, and important dates. **Visit:** <https://www.cdsale.org.au/events>

LEONGATHA PARISH:

Farewell & Wishing Well for Kiki: As Kiki prepares to return to Mauritius, we thank her for her friendship and contribution to our parish community. We wish her safe travels and God's blessings for the future.

A wishing well box has been placed in the church foyer for anyone who would like to leave a donation or farewell message for Kiki. Thank you for your kindness and generosity. A cuppa will be held after the 11am Mass on Sunday 24th May. Please bring a plate to share.

St Laurence's Mass Ministries - We are very thankful to those who are currently involved in our parish Masses as Welcomers, Readers, Special Ministers and hospitality at monthly Cuppas. You are much appreciated.

We would love to see more people get involved, especially our younger and newer parishioners. As baptised Christians we are all encouraged to get involved in our parish community. A new Roster will begin in July. A sign-up board will be available in the foyer. Please consider putting your name down to help. Any necessary training will be supplied. If for any reason current helpers cannot continue, please record this on the sign-up sheet too or you will be included in the new roster.

Gospel Reflection Group meets on Mondays during the school term from 1.30-3pm in the Parish Centre. This is a small friendly group that reads the coming Sundays Gospel then discusses and relates it to their everyday life, finishing with a cuppa. Everyone is most welcome.

Wednesday Adoration and Prayer: we invite you to come and join our Hour of Prayer on Wednesdays 10 to 11 noon (after 9.30am Mass if available) in St Laurence's church. We begin with a hymn, prayer and the Rosary, then have quiet adoration and person prayer in from of the Blessed Sacrament. All invited to participate for part of or full session.

St Laurence's Mothers' Prayer Group - prayer group for those wanting to pray for their children, grand-children or nieces and nephews etc. To be held after 9.30 Mass on the second Friday of the month in the Parish Centre. You are most welcome to join this group united in prayer to save our children.

KORUMBURRA PARISH:

Cuppa first Sunday of the Month

To subscribe to the weekly bulletin please use the link to join <https://www.catholicparish.app/subscription?id=0010I00000B2zMDIAZ&req=subscribe>



May is a special time in the Church — a month devoted to Our Blessed Mother and a beautiful invitation to grow closer to her through prayer and reflection.

Our Lady reminds us of the power of the Rosary, calling us to prayer, repentance and trust in God's mercy. In her gentle presence, we find comfort, guidance and a path that leads us closer to Christ.

Interfaith Experience with St Joseph's and St Laurence's Staff

The staff from both our local primary schools are heading to the ARK Centre in Hawthorn (a modern Jewish orthodox community-based centre & synagogue) and the Blackburn Gurdwara (a Sikh place of worship) on Monday May 25 for an interfaith excursion. There are still seats available on our bus so we invite interested parishioners to join us for the day. Our bus departs Leongatha (Brumley St. outside the St Laurence's school gate) at 7:45 am and Korumburra (Guys Road in the bus zone outside St Joseph's School) at 8 am. Women are asked to bring a head scarf. Costs include \$12 for morning tea and a donation towards lunch at the Blackburn Gurdwara. Please contact Catherine Riseley if you are interested - 0418175503