

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

William Dix / Rowland H. Pritchard
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Alleluia! Sing to Jesus. His the sceptre, his the throne.

Alleluia! His the triumph, his the victory alone;
Hark! The songs of peaceful Sion thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation, hath redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluia! King eternal, thee the Lord of lords we own,
Alleluia! Born of Mary, earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne.
Thou within the veil has entered, robed in flesh our great High Priest,
Thou on earth both priest and victim, in the Eucharistic feast.

Alleluia! Not as orphans, are we left in sorrow now.
Alleluia! He is near us. Faith believes nor questions how.
Though the clouds from sight received him
When the forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget his promise: "I am with you evermore"?

Reflection by Dianne Bergant CSA

The Feast of the Ascension is really a kind of liminal moment in the Easter season. It is a time between times; a moment when we have left one place in our journey, but have not yet arrived at a second. While the narratives that describe the Ascension fit well into the unfolding story of redemption, the feast itself celebrates one aspect of the resurrection itself, namely, the exaltation of Jesus. The readings help us through this paradox. They allow us to focus on this theological point while we commemorate a turning point in the life of the church. We do this by considering both the enthronement of Christ in the heavens and the new body of Christ on earth.

Today we stand awestruck, watching Jesus ascend into the clouds of heaven, there to be enthroned at God's right hand. Today we are overwhelmed by the divinity of the one whom we have known in his humanity. Amidst shouts of joy and exaltation, Christ is enthroned in heaven in both his divinity and his glorified humanity. Now he is present with us in a new way, in a new body, in the church. He teaches through its apostles and evangelists; he ministers through its prophets and pastors. Through us he continues to heal and to comfort; to forgive and to include. We have his power, the same power with which he performed marvels when he walked the earth. We have each other; together we make up the new body of Christ. from *Liturgyhelp.com*

RSCM Workshop: Come and hear Richard Connolly talk about his life's work and particularly his collaboration with the poet James McAuley to produce the landmark Australian collection of hymns entitled "Hymns for the Year of Grace". Join in singing hymns to the inspiring accompaniment of organist, Peter Jewkes.

Saturday, 30 May, from 1.30pm to 4.00pm (including afternoon tea).
Christ Church St Laurence, Railway Sq, Sydney. \$10 (members); \$15 (non-members)

"The Sacramental team member as Sacrament of Christ"

Presenter: Sr Virginia Bourke RSJ

6 sessions in basic Christian formation for the personal well-being of those involved in Sacramental Parish Teams.

In offering these sessions, IFM seeks to support Sacramental team members 'on active service' at the grassroots of parish community life. These sessions will be more reflective and interactive than instructional in approach. Participants' experience in ministry, their questions, concerns and hopes will be taken seriously as the starting point of reflection in the light of the gospel of Jesus and Catholic Tradition. As needed, basic aspects of Catholic spirituality and theology will be explored in user-friendly language and style.

Dates: Mondays, June 15, 22, 29, July 6;

Follow-up sessions: Mondays, October 19, 26

Cost: \$60.00 **Time:** 6.30pm - 9.00pm

Venue: Institute for Mission, 1-5 Marion St, Blacktown.

Bookings Essential: 9831 4911 or ifm@tpg.com.au

Interested in meeting and dazzling fellow young adults with your encyclopaedic general knowledge? **Come to YUCAN Trivia** for a night of talent, prizes and laughs. **Friday, 29 May** at St Patrick's Church Crypt, Grosvenor St, Church Hill (close to Wynyard station). Dinner will be served at 7pm. BYO drinks. Register before 28 May by transferring \$30 to Account No. 10432109 BSB 062443 with your name in the description. Contact Asha Towers: 0415 242 107 or go to www.yucan.org.au

Sunday, 7 June, 7:30pm:

For YOUNG ADULTS wanting to go further in their faith, searching for more or wanting to meet others who are keen to make a difference.... All are welcome to "YUCAN Dialogue" for Young Adults (20's and 30's)! **Our guest speaker is Marea Donovan**, President of Catalyst for Renewal and co-Chair of the Australia-wide Spirituality in the Pub. Marea Donovan will discuss the role of conversation and collaborative leadership in the church today. St Francis Xavier Parish Hall, Mackenzie St, Lavender Bay (Nth Syd) Donation \$5. For more information, go to www.yucan.org.au

PULPIT POINTS FOR THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

- Bishop hits out at sporting heroes as 'false gods'
- Security wall the 'saddest sight' in Holy Land for Pope
- WYD 'a time of unity' for Church and state - Bishop Fisher
- Tom's website invitation says 'come home'
- Jubilee finds Sr Judith 'home' and full of beans
- Kindergarten student in line for bravery medal
- National Catholic Media Congress
- Deo Gratias: Final instalment
- Govt 'misses chance to fix disparity in benefits'

Did you know?

The word 'apostle' comes from the Greek for 'one who is sent out'.

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