

St. Peter's Hamilton

Seventh Sunday of Easter (A)

17th May 2026

Our Parish Mission

All are welcome in this place

Behold Love's amazing grace

All are welcome

Bring your hopes, bring your dreams

Mercy flows and love redeems

It's 6.13am

I have just set up and opened up for the 7am Mass.

A busy day ahead. Please keep in your prayers our 28 children making their First Communion this Saturday. They have been practising all week. May God Bless all of them.

First Communions

Saturday 16th May St. Mark's 10am Mass

Comboni Missionaries

Fr. Franco Mastromauro

This weekend

Second Collection will be taken up for them.

Holyday of Obligation: Ascension Thursday

Today Masses are: 7am & 10am

Readings For Ascension Thursday

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11

Jesus is taken up to heaven in the presence of the apostles.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 47:2-3,6-9

Sing praise to God as he mounts his throne.

Second Reading

Ephesians 1:17-23

God raised Jesus from the dead and seated him at his right hand.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 28:16-20

Jesus charges his disciples to make disciples of all nations and promises to be with them forever.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel is taken from the conclusion of the Gospel of Matthew. Matthew's Gospel quickly moves from the disciples' discovery of Jesus' empty tomb, to Jesus' appearance to Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, to the commission that Jesus gives his disciples in today's Gospel. The Final Commission, as this Gospel is sometimes called, is given on the mountaintop. Throughout Scripture, the most important events happen on the mountaintop, and Matthew

has used this motif throughout his Gospel. Earlier in Matthew's Gospel, Peter, James, and John had seen Jesus transfigured on the mountaintop (Matthew 17:1-8). Also in the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus taught the crowds from the mountaintop in what we now call the Sermon on the Mount.

Here we are told that the eleven disciples go the mountaintop in Galilee, as Jesus had instructed through Mary Magdalene and the other Mary (cf. Matthew 28:9-10). They see Jesus, and both worship and doubt at the same time. Jesus approaches them and commissions them to baptize and teach, "to make disciples of all nations." It is a task which Jesus had previously prepared his disciples for; recall that Jesus had sent the twelve apostles to preach the Kingdom of God and to heal (cf. Matthew 10:1-15).

However, earlier the Twelve were sent only to the House of Israel; in this Final Commission, the eleven are told to go to "all nations." The mission of Jesus is now to be taken to all people; the task now is to baptize and to teach.

Jesus commissions his disciples to baptize in the name of the Trinity, one of the clearest attestations found in Scripture for baptism in the name of the Trinity. In the Acts of the Apostles and in the Letters of Paul, baptism is more frequently offered "in the name of Jesus."

The ending of Matthew's Gospel can be understood as the beginning of the Church. Jesus commissions his disciples to continue to teach in his name and to bring others into the community of disciples through baptism. The Gospel ends, as it had begun, with the promise that Jesus will continue

to be Emmanuel, "God with us" (cf. Matthew 1:23), for all eternity.

This Sunday's Readings

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 1:12-14

After Jesus' ascension to heaven, the apostles return to Jerusalem and gather in prayer with Mary, the mother of Jesus.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 27:1,4,7-8

The Lord is our salvation.

Second Reading

1 Peter 4:13-16

If you suffer for Christ, you will be blessed.

Gospel Reading

John 17:1-11a

Jesus prays for his disciples.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's reading is a prayer, which appears at the conclusion of Jesus' Last Supper discourse. At the end of the prayer, Jesus is arrested in the garden. The prayer might be read as Jesus' final commendation of himself to the Father. In the prayer, Jesus also expresses care and concern for his disciples.

Jesus' prayer reaffirms the complete union between Jesus and the Father. Throughout John's Gospel, Jesus has been presented as the Word, who pre-existed with the Father and was sent to do the Father's work on earth. In this

prayer we learn that Jesus' life and ministry have been directed toward one purpose, revealing the Father. When this work is accomplished, Jesus is to return to the Father to be glorified. Regardless of what happens to Jesus, in John's Gospel, Jesus and the Father are in charge. Even in the description of Jesus' death, Jesus does not simply die but instead hands over his spirit.

In today's Gospel we also note the distinction found in John's Gospel between the world and the disciples. The disciples are in the world, but they are separate from it because they have been given to Jesus. They are chosen from the world to be in service to the world for its salvation. This salvation has been accomplished in Jesus because Jesus has revealed the Father to the world, but the disciples will be sent by Jesus to make both the Father and Jesus known to the world. Jesus' prayer is for the disciples' work in the world.

Next Weeks Mass Programme

Monday: No Mass

Tuesday : 10am Mass

Wednesday: 10am Mass

Thursday: 10am Mass

Friday: 10am Mass

Saturday: 10am Mass

This Week's Rota

Readers

4pm Vigil: M. Rodgers

9.30am: P, Davies
11am: L. McIntosh

Eucharistic Ministers

4pm Vigil: A. Conway, B. Cornes & M. Halbert
9.30am: K. O'Neill, M. Devanney & C. Bonnar
11am: S. Russell, K. Flynn & M. McGuire

This Weekday 10am Mass Readers Rota

Tuesday: P. Davies
Wednesday: B. Cornes
Thursday: P. McKeown
Friday: J. McCluskey
Saturday: A. Devlin

Please pray for the following:

Sick:

Margaret Callaghan Doreen Cleary, Neil Boyle,
John Rielly Molly Strang, James Clark,
Fr. Michael McLaughlin, Patricia Henderson,
Joanna Maier (Connecticut USA), Therese Gilgunn Tressy
Callaghan, Suzanne McMurray,
Mary Coyle, Lesley Watson (Spain) Maureen McHugh,
Margaret Burke, Marie White, Kathleen Daly,
John McGuire, Jill Brown, Karen Pritchatt,
Louise Newton, Faith Lyndsey, Jill Brown,
Marie McGuire, James Morton, Paul Kearney,
Thomas Daly, Andrew McCluskey,
Premature Baby Vincent McDowell,
Bill Allan, Gudren Berk (Germany),

Jaqueline McReynolds, Mary Morrison, Helen Howarth (Easterhouse), Margaret Loan, Avril McCluskey, Carol Corr, Thomas Kennedy, and all our sick.

Recently Dead:

Stephen Sweeney, Gerard McKee (Shotts), Tony McClenaghan, Marion Allan, Orlaith Doyle (County Wexford).

Month Minds & Anniversaries:

Christine Archibald, Frank Lyttle, George Steven, Jean Steven, Ann & Hugh Rodgers, Ann Cleland, Elizabeth O'Donnell.

Please if you could make sure all month minds and anniversaries are handed in no later than Wednesday Night. If they come in after that they will be read out at Mass on Sunday. If the recently dead come in after the Wednesday deadline they too will be read out at Mass on the Sunday.

Confirmation 2026

St. Peter's & St. Mark's
18th June 2026 7pm
Bishop Toal

Powerpoint Remote Control:

I am also looking for Volunteers to move the power-points on during the Sunday Masses,

Vigil 4pm, 9.30am & 11am.

It is very easy to operate, if we get enough volunteers for each Mass we would put a wee rota together. It would take a wee bit of pressure off me.

Gift Aid

If you wish to sign up for Gift Aid. It is a great way to help the parish financially, costing you absolutely nothing. If you wish to sign up contact myself or Doreen Lee and we will give you the form and hand it back as you can and we can get it organised. As I said it costs you nothing, but helps the parish so much.

Baptism/Wedding Meetings: THURSDAY 6pm & 7pm. JUST
TURN UP

The Bulletin is available by email

I can't thank you enough for your generosity to the Parish. I really appreciate it. Please keep it up, Once again Thank You.

Fr. Frank

