

FIRST COMMUNION 2025

Fr. Leung is currently making plans for this year's First Holy Communion. If your child has reached 7 years of age and would like to receive First Holy Communion this year, please let him know.

Tentative date: 31st Aug (Sun)

BOOK PRESENTATION: "WHO AM I IN GOD? DISCOVERING OUR CHRISTIAN IDENTITY"

Join us on Next Sunday, 1st June 2025, after Mass during the community lunch, for a special book presentation by Dr. Sunny Hong, coauthor (with Fr. Michael Lim) of the newly released title *Who Am I in God? Discovering Our Christian Identity*. This inspiring book explores how our identity finds its true foundation in God.

The Legion of Mary and the men's group are organising a **PUBLIC ROSARY** this Saturday at 12pm in the city. We'll be meeting outside the Red Cross shop. All are welcome!

The NEXT COMMUNITY LUNCH will be held on 1st June (NEXT Sunday) after 10am Mass.

CASH & ONLINE DONATIONS 18 May - 24 May

First Collection: \$ 1831.45
Second Collection: \$ 1084
Building fund: \$ 148

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

SATURDAY CLASS

Topic: Gospel of St Matthew

Fr Boyce will be away for holiday,

Class will resume on
21st June (Sat) at 10:30am.

THURSDAY CLASS

Due to the evening Mass, class will be cancelled. And NEXT Thursday 5/6 will be the final session of the Adult Catechism Class. After that, there will be **NO MORE** Thursday classes.

If anyone is interested in becoming Catholic, pls speak to one of the priests!

LEGION OF MARY

It meets **EVERY MONDAY** at 6:30pm.

DONATIONS:

Cheque donations to:

FSSP Australia
PO Box 6241, Mawson, ACT2607

Bank Account Details:

For online donations **ONLY**

First Collection (Apostolate)

BSB 062 786 A/c No: 0002007

A/c Name: Priestly Fraternity of St Peter

Second Collection (Church)

BSB 062 786 A/c No: 00021179

A/c Name: Priestly Fraternity of St Peter

Church Building Fund

BSB 062 786 A/c No: 00029891

A/c Name: Priestly Fraternity of St Peter (Building fund)

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Denise Sheehan: 0401 404 539



St Michael the Archangel Latin Mass Chaplaincy, Canberra

Served by **The Priestly Fraternity of St Peter (FSSP)**

Chaplain:

Rev. Paul Leung, FSSP

Tel: 0405 527 880

Assistant Priest:

Rev. Brendan Boyce

Tel: 0414 055 633

Website:

<https://fssp-canberra.org>

Email:

canberra.fssp@gmail.com



Postal Address:

PO Box 6241,
Mawson, ACT 2607,
Australia

Presbytery Address:

374 Norton Rd,
Wamboina, NSW 2620.

Prebystery Tel:

6161 5320

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/FSSP-Canberra-St-Michael-the-Archangel>

Mass & Confession Schedule



Sunday:	8:00am	(Low Mass)
	10:00am	(Sung Mass)
Mon - Thurs:	7:00am	(Low Mass)
Friday:	6:30pm	(Low Mass)
followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 8:15pm		
Saturday:	9:00am	(Low Mass)

Venue: Sts. Peter and Paul Church, Garran
2 Boake Pl, Garran, ACT 2605

CONFESSION

30 minutes before all Masses until circa 5 minutes before Mass.
Also during Masses where two priests are available.

25th May 2025
5th Sunday after Easter

<div> <div>  </div> <div>CALENDAR</div> <div>  </div> </div>		
DATE	FEAST	LOCATION / TIME
Mon, 26th May	St Philip Neri	Garran, 7AM (Low)
Tue, 27th May	St Bede the Venerable	Garran, 7AM (Low),
Wed, 28th May	Vigil of Ascension	Garran, 7AM (Low),
Thurs, 29th May	Feast of the Ascension	Garran, 6:30PM (Sung),
Fri, 30th May	St Felix I	Garran, 6:30PM (Low) followed by Holy Hour until 8:15pm.
Sat, 31st May	Queenship of Our Lady	Garran, 8:30AM(Rosary) 9AM (Sung), 10:30AM (Confirmation)
Sun, 1st June	5 th Sunday after Easter	Garran, 8AM (Low); 9:30AM (Rosary) 10AM (Sung)



Sacrament of Confirmation

will be celebrated on

31st May 2025 (THIS SAT)

Time: **10:30am**

A lunch reception will follow immediately after the ceremony.
All are warmly welcome to join us for food and celebration!



DID THE ASCENSION REALLY HAPPEN?



The Ascension of Jesus is a central belief in Catholic teaching: that Christ, after His resurrection, was taken up bodily into heaven before the eyes of His disciples. Catholics affirm this as a literal, miraculous event and declare it in the Creed every Sunday. However, not everyone accepts this teaching. Some critics mock the event as outdated or implausible—comparing it to a rocket launch, as atheists often did in the 1960s.

Others, like theologian John Shelby Spong, interpret it symbolically, arguing that ascending into the sky doesn't lead to "heaven" in a modern scientific worldview. But thinkers like C.S. Lewis help us see that Jesus' bodily ascension may have been the first visible step into a reality beyond our dimensions, what Lewis called "super-sense and super-space." This challenges the materialist objection that miracles are impossible. Since miracles are supernatural by nature, they're beyond the scope of science, which deals only with natural laws. Philosophers like Alvin Plantinga argue that natural laws merely describe how God usually works in the world—not how He must always work. Since God created nature, He can also act beyond it.

If we accept the possibility of miracles, then Christ's ascension is no more unreasonable than His resurrection, which itself has strong historical support. Using the "minimal facts" approach developed by scholars like Gary Habermas, one can show that Jesus' crucifixion, the empty tomb, His followers' belief in the risen Christ, and St. Paul's sudden conversion are well-attested.

These facts point more convincingly to the resurrection than any natural explanation like hallucinations. Moreover, objections to the Ascension based on its source, mainly the writings of St. Luke, don't hold up. Luke clearly states he aimed to write accurate history, not allegory, and describes the Ascension in a sober, factual style.

Early Christian communities, including eyewitnesses of Jesus, accepted Luke's account without recorded objection. And respected historians and archaeologists, such as Sir William Ramsay have praised Luke as a highly reliable historian. Thus, taken together, the rational case for Jesus' resurrection and the credibility of the New Testament authors, especially Luke, give us strong reason to believe in the bodily Ascension as a real historical and miraculous event, one that marks Jesus' return to the Father and opens heaven to humanity.

REMINDER: THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR THE BUILDING FUND AT BOTH MASSES TODAY.