

FaithAustralia

local books on faith and theology

James FitzPatrick omi with illustrations by Dorothy Woodward. *50 Days of Glory: From Resurrection to Pentecost*. Strathfield: St Pauls Publications, 2009. 64 pages. ISBN 9781921472251.

There are not enough books that help us to celebrate Easter with sustained vigour: well at least now there is another to fill the void! The author offers us fourteen prayer meditations for the fifty glorious days of the season of the resurrection. Each meditation has a similar format, with a reading for the scriptures from the resurrection narratives and texts, a reflection on the reading, a meditation comprising silence, a further short reading from the scriptures, and a set of questions to ponder, with the entire session brought to a close with a short thanksgiving and prayer. Each part is well integrated into a single whole, well suited to the Paschal season. No part is too long, the shape is elastic and easily modified for the group, and the overall effect is to bring the prayer of the believer into deeper contact with the word of God.

Many of the readings reflect the Sunday lectionary passages, and so will be both familiar to the reader and reinforce the liturgical offerings. As well, the fourteen meditations move from Easter Sunday through to the celebration of the Ascension and the illumination of the descent of the Spirit.

The book is easily manageable, suited to private meditation and group prayer, liturgically apt and biblical.

Review by Gerard Moore

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