

St. Mary's Our Lady of the Lake

*Christ Centered + Biblically Grounded + Sacramentally Nourished +
Serving Our Neighbors in Christian Love*

May 24, 2020 ~ Seventh Sunday of Easter

www.rcda.org/livestream

GLORY



Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come. Give glory to your son, so that your son may glorify you."

JOHN 17:1

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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Call the Parish Office, or if at the hospital, contact the Chaplain Office's office

Trustees

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Vincent Russo

Pastoral Planning Chair

Rob Bohm

Church Sexton

Frank Liberati ~ 607-644-5958

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John Sansevere ~ 607-435-9137

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Ascension OF THE LORD

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord –
May 21, 2020

On Thursday, May 21st, 40 days after Easter, we celebrated the Ascension of the Lord which is a Holy Day of Obligation (this year the dispensation is still in effect due to COVID-19). The three days before Ascension Thursday are sometimes referred to as the Rogation days; Rogation Days, in the Roman Catholic church, festivals devoted to special prayers for the crops. We here in the rural area often recall these days and the feast of St. Isidore. He is the patron of farmers, and his feast day is May 15th. Prayer: *God, through the intercession of St. Isidore, the holy Farmer, grant that we may overcome all feelings of pride.*

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 28:16-20 Proclaimed and homily by Deacon Richard Brown

<https://youtu.be/qrc5GGN9wwI>

"Solomon prayed for prudence and wisdom so that he might govern God's people rightly. Because his request was unselfish, God granted what he sought. When we pray, we should make sure that our desires are not motivated by selfishness. We should only want those gifts that help us most to serve others."

— Rev. Jude Winkler

Sixth Sunday of Easter: We hope you enjoy the Gospel and Homily for the Sixth Sunday of Easter by Deacon Randy Vèlez on You Tube:

Gospel ~ https://youtu.be/P4bXC_94Hr8

Homily ~ <https://youtu.be/MPx2Z-YkSbg>



Tomorrow is Memorial Day, May 25th, 2020 honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. St. Mary's Cemetery is currently open HOWEVER, if visiting this weekend please wear masks and keep social distancing (6 feet apart). If there are others present, please keep your visit short so all may have an opportunity, who wish, to pay their respects. Thank you.

Gracious God, On this Memorial Day, we pray for those who courageously laid down their lives for the cause of freedom. May the examples of their sacrifice inspire in us the selfless love of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Bless the families of our fallen troops, and fill their homes and their lives with Your strength and peace. In union with people of goodwill of every nation, embolden us to answer the call to work for peace and justice, and thus, seek an end to violence and conflict around the globe. We ask this through your name. - Author Unknown

Thank you for your generous offertory support.

May 17th:

Mailed donations = \$1,660.00

E-Giving = \$480.01

FINANCES We have finally submitted our annual budget to the diocese; our fiscal year is July 1 through June 30. It is a lean budget, we plan to postpone any major projects in the parish and work with what we have to maintain the property.



Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You have already come, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

The bulletin is on the parish website <https://stmaryscoop.org> We are mailing it out to those who cannot access the internet website. If you know of anyone who is not getting the bulletin, please call the office at 607 264-3779.

Pray for the sick and homebound of our parish:
Fr. Peter Pagonas ~ Ivy Bischof ~ Maureen Brennan ~
David Butler ~ Vin Cronin ~ Mary Devenpeck ~
Robert Davenport ~ Richie Davy ~ Stephen Markuson ~
Senator Jim Seward ~ Bradley Smith ~ Sarah Tarr

Pray for members of the military from our families
Liam Dolan-USMC ~ Ryan Barrow
Please call the Parish Office to add any names.



Please pray for the souls of parishioners who
have died and are being buried this spring:

Margaret Fenton,
Mary Maranzana,
Rosalie Weir

Something Has Happened-

www.henrinouwen.org

One of the experiences of prayer is that it seems that nothing happens. But when you stay with it and look back over a long period of prayer, you suddenly realize that something has happened. What is most close, most intimate, most present often cannot be experienced directly but only with a certain distance. When I think I am only distracted, just wasting my time, something is happening too immediate for knowing, understanding, and experiencing. Only in retrospect do I realize that something very important has taken place. Isn't this true of all really important events in life? When I am together with someone I love very much, we seldom talk about our relationship. The relationship, in fact, is too central to be a subject of talk. But later, after we have separated and write letters, we realize how much it all meant to us, and we even write about it.

Have you ever wondered what the second collection is for and when to plan on it? Below is a schedule for the next few months of 2020; please do the best you can for those most in need.

Sunday, June 7: Catholic Communications Campaign

Sunday, July 26: Holy Father

Rescheduled to Sept. 13 (from Good Friday): Holy Land

Sunday, September 27: Catholic University Collection

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A Rose Is A Rose, ABM Fire Equipment, Chestnut Park Rehabilitation, Connell, Dow & Deysenroth Inc., Council Rock Brewery, Edward Sickler Memorial, Five Star Urgent Care, Greener World Landscape, Leatherstocking Region Fcu, LJ's Sassy Boutique, Mirabito Energy Products, Northern Catskill Dental, Southern Tier Dermatology, Tillapaugh Funeral Services

CATHOLIC IQ

- 1) What persecutor of the church was stopped by a bright light on the road to Damascus?
a) Caiaphas,
b) Saul,
c) Peter,
d) Gamaliel
- 2) What is the distinction of Cornelius, a Roman Centurion
a) most honored commander in the Roman army,
b) the last man to see Peter alive,
c) the first Gentile to become a Christian,
d) the only man shorter than Zacchaeus
- 3) Who had a vision in which he was commanded to eat non-kosher foods?
a) Paul,
b) Peter,
c) Agrippa,
d) Oscar Mayer

Answers from last week's questions

- 1) "Suddenly there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm...and it filled the house where they were meeting. Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them" (Acts 2:2-3) When did this happen?
b) at the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit filled the disciples
- 2) Peter and John met a lame beggar and said they had no money for him. What did they give him instead?
c) healing
- 3) Among the seven deacons the apostles chose to help them were Philip, five men you've never heard of, and one other. Who was the other deacon?
b) Stephen



*Next weekend, May 30 & 31,
we celebrate Pentecost, the
coming of the Holy Spirit.*

SUNDAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING:

All these devoted themselves with one accord to prayer. (Acts 1:14a)

PSALM:

I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living. (Ps 27) or Alleluia

SECOND READING:

Rejoice to the extent that you share in the sufferings of Christ, so that when his glory is revealed you may also rejoice exultantly. (1 Pt 4:13)

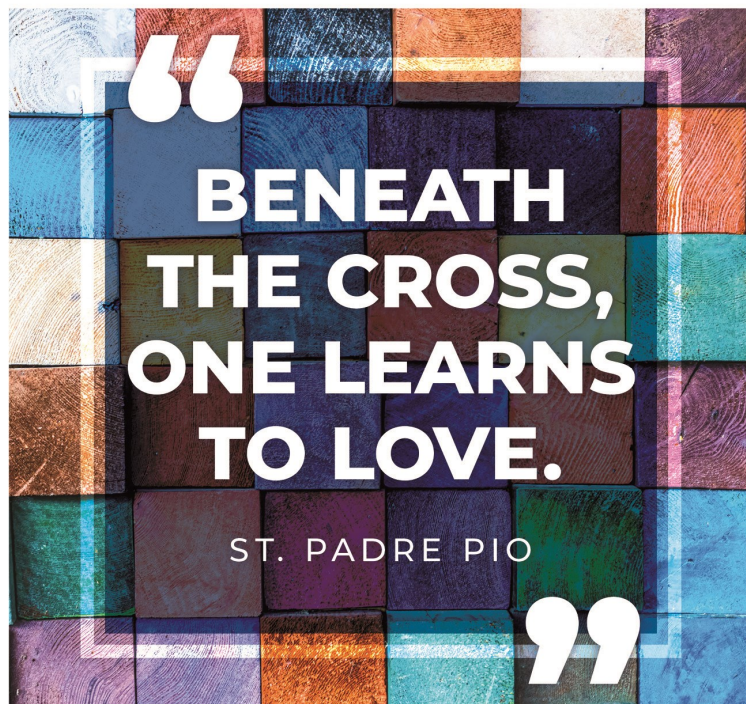
GOSPEL:

"I glorified you on earth by accomplishing the work that you gave me to do. Now glorify me, Father, with you, with the glory that I had with you before the world began." (Jn 17:4-5)

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OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 24, 2020

- Sunday: The Ascension of the Lord; 7th Sunday of Easter; World Communications Day
Monday: St. Bede the Venerable, Priest and Doctor of the Church; St. Gregory VII, Pope; St. Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi, Virgin; Memorial Day
Tuesday: St. Philip Neri, Priest
Wednesday: St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop
Next Sunday: Pentecost Sunday



REFLECT

FIRST READING

Those closest to Jesus in his life gathered together in the immediate aftermath of his resurrection and ascension. What sort of mixed emotions do you think they experienced?

SECOND READING

Peter encourages those who suffer for the faith to "glorify God." When have you experienced this type of redemptive suffering?

GOSPEL READING

At the conclusion of his farewell discourse, Jesus offers a prayer of petition to the Father for his disciples. How do you find Jesus' words comforting?

EVERLASTING EASTER

The Easter season is almost over. This season is always a tougher one for us Catholics. We get Advent and Lent: preparation. We are on board with Christmas, mainly because we like to keep up our decorations until someone tells us the exact day we must take them down. But Easter as a season is a bit more difficult to observe. The rest of the world has moved on. There are no Easter eggs left in store windows and all those religious movies on television have given way to reruns or season-ending episodes. It just feels like Easter anywhere ... except in the Church.

The truth is that it should feel like Easter all year-round in the Church. Every Sunday, we celebrate a mini-Easter. Our Lord is ALIVE! He is risen and alive, and we need to celebrate. We also need to be about the work of the Lord. We are an Easter people who bear witness to his resurrection through our stewardship. If he had never risen, then we would be called to nothing by no one. But he lives! As this Easter season is drawing to a close, it is prudent to reflect on what his death and resurrection mean for each of us. How has it changed us? How does it motivate us? It doesn't look like Easter in most corners of the world, so it is up to us to bring a little Easter to every place we go and to everyone we meet.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

WHY DO WE KNEEL AT MASS?

Since the beginnings of the Church, kneeling has been a key posture of prayer. We see Sts. Peter and Paul in the Acts of the Apostles kneeling in prayer. Early in the 4th century, the Council of Nicea prohibited kneeling on Sundays and special feasts. Kneeling began more as a posture of penance for our sins, but in the history of the Church, it has become more a posture of reverence and solemn prayer.

You will notice that the times we kneel at Mass are tied to the consecration of the holy Eucharist. We kneel in both anticipation of what will occur and then in awe of what has taken place: Jesus Christ becomes truly present to us under the guise of bread and wine. The profoundness of this event has over time led the Church to mandate in the current General Instruction of the Roman Missal that kneeling is the only posture allowed during this time. The sheer awesomeness of the holy Eucharist leads us to fall to our knees in wonder and thanksgiving.



MAY 24, 2020

LIVE THE LITURGY

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Being real people of faith comes with a price. Have you ever been seen as unpopular, out of sync or peculiar because of your faith? St. Peter tells us, "If you are insulted for the name of Christ, blessed are you." If being a Christian comes easy for us, then we ought to rethink how we approach our faith. Developing habits of prayer, living in accord with the Gospel, setting time aside each week for the practice of our faith, seeing our relationship with Christ as the center and focus of our families all come with sacrifice. We are going to look differently than other folks and we ought to. We are going to find ourselves doing less of the things we are "supposed to do" and more of the things we know we "ought to do or want to do." This often means resisting secular tides and putting our boats into different waters. If this is what helps us know the one true God, then so be it. It also brings us to eternal life.



PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

Our parish is grateful for your continued support at this time. Thank you!



7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

GOSPEL MEDITATION

ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

What does faith and religion do for us? Ultimately, they remind us of some truths we conveniently forget: we are created by a loving God, we have imperfections, we sin, we need to be forgiven, we have a mission and a purpose, it's not just about us, and we hunger for the joy of salvation. These are human truths that are not dependent upon whether we like them. Ignoring them places us on the paths of comfort and satisfaction as we blindly pursue the busyness and superficiality of our empty lives. Instead of pursuing supernatural and lasting pleasure, we choose things that are easier and quicker to obtain: sex, drugs, travel, houses, cars, fame, popularity, self-achievement and satisfaction, physical enjoyment, and the like.

We may also find ourselves falling victim to more negative responses to what life brings us: anger, envy, lust, pride, gluttony, greed, and apathy. Human hearts can become so hardened to the truth that violence becomes the response of first choice. Being a Christian is hard! Yet, as Pope Francis reminds us, the Church



needs to be a field hospital that has to be prepared to provide people with the remedy they need. What we need is Jesus Christ. The Church, with all of the glory of the sacraments, exists to help make Christ present and real for us. Once we find Christ, we find joy. Joy is a matter of the heart that is beyond pleasure and happiness. It is not found in some earthly satisfaction, only in Christ.

Once we accept that we are destined to be in Christ, then we will discover eternal life. Namely, "that they should know you, the only true God, and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ." It is easy

to conveniently forget truth and pursue illusions immediately within our grasp, but at what price? A man celebrating 60 years of marriage remarked that it took so much effort and so many attempts to convince his wife that they were meant to be together. Even his friends told him he was foolish. He easily could have given up and pursued other interests. He chose to persevere and is so grateful that he made that choice because he now has a pearl of great price. Do we see a value in persevering in our faith regardless of the cost? If we don't take the risk, we could lose more than we know.

"Now glorify me, Father, with you, with the glory that I had with you before the world began. I revealed your name to those whom you gave me out of the world. They belonged to you, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word."

- Jn 17:5-6

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SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Local businesses and sponsors that advertise on bulletins need you now more than ever before. Please encourage and remind others to show their support during this time.

MAY 24, 2020

3 EASY STEPS

TO KEEPING YOURSELF & OTHERS HEALTHY!

We are cautioned to be especially careful during the Coronavirus outbreak. Here are some simple ways to keep sickness away.



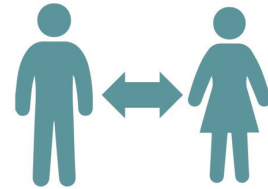
WASH YOUR HANDS

Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water. If you can't wash your hands, use hand sanitizer frequently.



DON'T TOUCH YOUR FACE

Especially around the eyes, nose and mouth. If you must sneeze, use a tissue or your arm.



KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

Practice social distancing during this epidemic and stay away from large groups. Instead, call, email or check up on family and friends using social media.



7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Remember in Your Prayers

ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY THE CORONAVIRUS
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD



*Compassionate and Loving Father,
In the face of confusion and concern
impart to us the calm of Your presence.*

In You allow us to find hope and healing.

*Be with those who serve the sick and
give them Your caring hands.*

*Be with those who lead and give them
Your spirit of wisdom.*

*Be with those who have fallen ill and
give them Your comforting heart.*

*Wrap Your arms around our world
and hold us in Your love.*

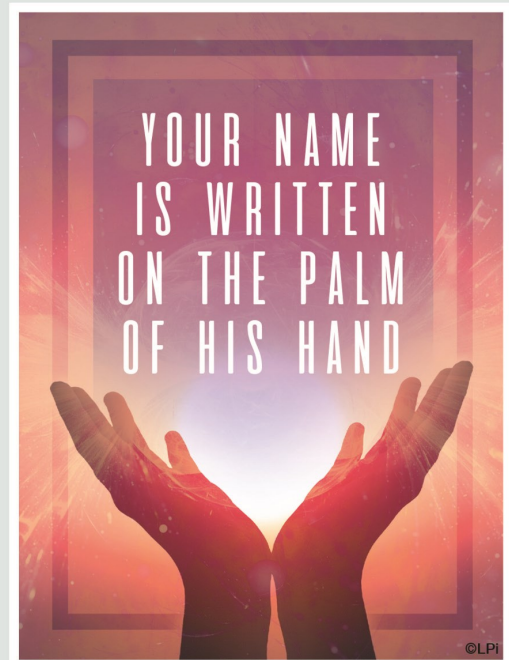
*Allow us at this time of trial to then
serve as instruments of that love
to all we meet.*

*We ask this in Your Name.
Amen*

*Jesus raised his eyes to
heaven and said, "Father,
the hour has come. Give
glory to your son, so that
your son may glorify you,
just as you gave him
authority over all people,
so that your son may give
eternal life to all you gave
him. Now this is eternal
life, that they should know
you, the only true God,
and the one whom you
sent, Jesus Christ."*

- Jn 17:1-3

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