

May 9 (Sixth Sunday of Easter) and May 16 (Ascension of the Lord)

Love JOHN 15:12
EACH OTHER
AS I HAVE *loved* YOU

They were his close friends.
He had chosen them.
But sad they were.
And sad was he.
Risen, the Lord must leave the earth.
Yet he loved them so much
he could not lose them from his life.
He would place his Spirit deep within them.

And within the rest of us.

Soul of Jesus,
constant companion,
teacher of all good, remind us
what Jesus said and did, and who he is;
how he loves us and makes his home
within us.
And the only thing he asks
is that we love one another.

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SANCTUARY LIGHT

May 9 – Alvin and Mildred Simon
May 16 – Theodore and Matilda Mistler
May 23 – Tony Wagner
May 30 – Ron Moorman

MASS INTENTIONS

May 8 – Jim Schuler
May 9 – Trudy Bauerle
May 15 – Paul and Marjorie Haurert
May 16 – Phil Gehl
May 22 – Lucille Simon
May 23 – Gary Stier
May 29 – Ralph Biehle
May 30 – Wayne Schutte

4/20/21-5/3/21 PARISH SUPPORT

Sunday & Holy Day Collection	\$5492.00
Easter Collection	\$ 25.00
Criterion Collection	\$ 20.00
Communications Campaign Collection	\$ 20.00
Home Mission Collection	\$ 248.00
Capital Improvement Donations	\$1475.00
Cemetery Collection	\$ 90.00
Education of Future Priests Collection	\$ 50.00

**IT IS SO GOOD TO SEE SO MANY OF YOU
RETURNING TO CHURCH. THANK YOU!**



ASCENSION OF THE LORD

**“WHAT ARE YOU DOING
GAZING HEAVENWARD?”**

Fr. Ronald Witherup states in his book “Easter to Pentecost” that the Ascension was an extraordinary moment of leave-taking. The disciples most likely dreaded the event since they would be left alone with the mission. But Jesus tells them that he must go in order for the Spirit to descend upon them. What would have been your feelings in such a situation? How do you view your task on earth now? How will you go and teach all nations believing that God is with you always?



MODEL OF WORKERS – We must not simply intend love. We must labor to fulfill love’s demands. Beneficence, laboring for the good of another, in Joseph’s case was direct labor for God. Working in Adam’s curse by the sweat of his brow was replete with purpose as it was all done to feed, to clothe, to shelter God Himself.

Risen Lord, your death, resurrection and ascension are good news for us. Help me to share this message of hope with all people. (From Hopeful Meditations for Every Day of Easter through Pentecost, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney)

OFFICIAL APPOINTMENT – Archbishop Thompson has appointed Father Binu Mathew administrator of St. John Parish, Osgood. This appointment becomes effective on Wednesday, July 7. The last weekend Fr. Bill and I will be present for Mass there will be July 3. Your prayers are appreciated during this time of transition.

After 30 years of serving in two and three parishes at a time, I look forward to returning to one parish. In all the parishes I have seen the face of God, and for this I thank my God.

MASS CHANGES – The holy water fonts are now in their usual places if you choose to bless yourself as you enter church. Greeters will begin to take up the collection following the Prayers of the Faithful; the gifts of bread and wine will also be brought forward; lectors will be assigned, as well as one server and one Eucharist Minister who will take the Eucharist to the hall as needed.

At this time, there will be no social distancing on the St. Joseph side of church and the choir. We will continue to social distance on the Blessed Mother side and the hall. **This is to accommodate the needs of all parishioners and not to cause any separation. Mask wearing is still strongly recommended.**

Archbishop Thompson said that we would be given a month's notice before the dispensation is lifted.

The Today's Missal and music books will be placed in the pews after May 23.

CHURCH CLEANING – The ladies of the parish will return to cleaning the church each weekend beginning the first weekend of June. Nothing special needs to be used in the cleaning of the benches. Would the chairpersons please call your committee members to remind them? We are appreciative of your willingness to clean church each week.

Thank you to Dana Newhart and her family who took on extra cleaning during this time of the virus. We are most grateful!

BULLETINS – Beginning today, the bulletins will no longer be mailed but will be placed in the usual places in church. There is also a gold wired basket on the outside lobby near the door with bulletins. You are also able to read the bulletin online.

ELEMENTARY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – The children will attend their last class for this year on Wednesday, May 12. The Awards Program will be held in church at 7:20 PM.

Catechists will meet on May 19, 7:00 PM, for an end-of-the-year meeting.

JUNIOR HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – Enjoy your summer months and stay close to God! Give thanks to God for ALL His gifts to you by attending Mass each week.

SECOND COLLECTION – The second collection on May 15 and 16 is for the Catholic Communications Campaign. Half of the collected funds remain in this Archdiocese, and the other half supports communication projects in the United States and around the world.

WEDDING – I will be out of the parish the weekend of May 22-23 attending my nephew's wedding in Indianapolis.

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS – The Ascension tells us that Jesus, although he ascended to heaven to dwell gloriously at the right hand of the Father, is still and is always among us: this is the source of our strength, our perseverance, and our joy, from the presence of Jesus among us with the strength of the Holy Spirit. (Ascension Sunday, May 24, 2020)

BOB RUST MEMORIAL DINNER – This drive-thru dinner to be held on May 21, 4:00–7:00 PM, will benefit the Decatur County Right to Life, your choice of grilled pork or chicken breast. Tickets are required. Contact: Patricia at 812-614-2528, Carol at 812-614-0680, or Kate at 812-614-0987.

REFLECTIVE QUESTIONS – Do I live as if I am Christ's presence on earth, aware that I am his missionary? Do I understand that God's love requires a generous response?

THE LORD'S LAUGHTER – As the 1932 election approached, Franklin D. Roosevelt was considered such a shoo-in against the incumbent Herbert Hoover that one voter wired Hoover: "VOTE FOR ROOSEVELT AND MAKE IT UNANIMOUS." (Linda Rosenkrantz, *Telegram!*)

HOW ARE WE CALLED?

Pope Francis has called us to confront complex questions and seek thorough answers. Using this thorough process, how can we address some of the questions we face?

- How am I called to respond to bitter conflicts within my extended family?
- How am I called to interact with the person who delights in goading me?
- How am I called to love the family member who is gay or lesbian?
- How am I called to help the homeless person at the corner?
- How am I called to interact with the person in a wheelchair whose speech is hard to understand?
- How am I called to alleviate the desperation that leads a woman to choose abortion?
- How am I called to honor human dignity, not only of crime victims, but of those who perpetrate the crime?

As followers of Christ, we will always find ourselves being called upon to respond to situations that may not be as clear-cut as they appear on the surface. Although the path may be demanding, we have the support of the Church and Christ as an example of how to do the hard work. Pope Francis has called us to labor together. Faith grows only when it is stretched. A call of faith is not a static request; to follow Christ means to get up, pick up your cross, and act. True discipleship — though difficult — is worthwhile, because it draws us closer to the heart of Christ, the source of our calling. (Kathleen M. Basi)



PUZZLE


A lasting promise



Before ascending into heaven, Jesus speaks a final promise to the disciples.



Directions: Use the picture clues to find the letters. Then write that word below to complete Acts 1:8, NIV.

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

"But you will receive _____ when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

ACTS 1:8, NIV