

The Ascension of the Lord | May 16, 2021



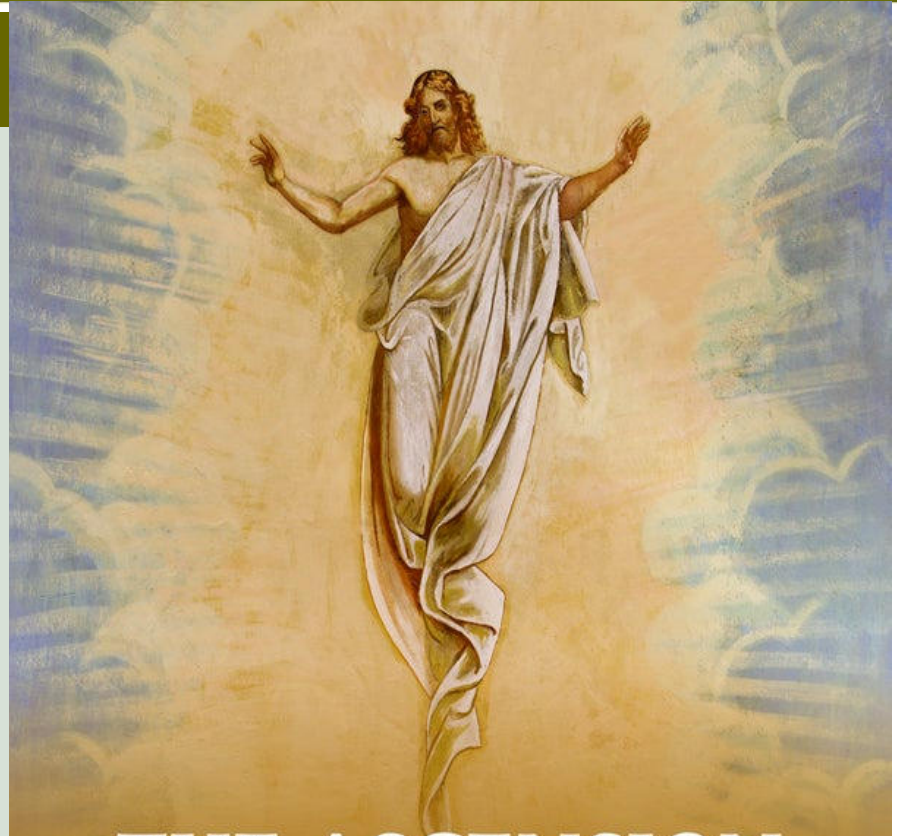
# SAINT JOAN of ARC NEWS

The members of St. Joan of Arc Parish are disciples of Jesus Christ, who recognize God's love for the world & are empowered by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Gospel to all people through joyful worship, life-long education, compassionate service, responsible stewardship, & active community living.

~ Mission Statement - Pentecost 1998 ~

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## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Jesus said to his disciples, "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." - Mk 16:15-16A

**PARISH CENTER**  
**22412 Overlake**  
**Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080**  
Phone: 586-777-3670  
Fax: 586-774-5528  
Website: [www.sjascscs.org](http://www.sjascscs.org)  
E-mail: [sjainfo@sjascscs.org](mailto:sjainfo@sjascscs.org)

**SCHOOL**  
**22415 Overlake**  
**Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080**  
Phone: 586-775-8370  
Fax: 586-447-3574  
Website: [www.stjoan.net](http://www.stjoan.net)  
E-mail: [info@stjoan.net](mailto:info@stjoan.net)

**FAITH AND FAMILY FORMATION OFFICE**  
**22415 Overlake**  
**Saint Clair Shores, MI 48080**  
Phone: 586-772-1282  
Fax: 586-775-8374  
E-mail: [repopffice@sjascscs.org](mailto:repopffice@sjascscs.org)

## Parish Directory / Liturgy Schedule

### ST. JOAN OF ARC DIRECTORY

**Parish Center**

Phone: 586-777-3670  
Fax: 586-774-5528

**School**

Phone: 586-775-8370  
Fax: 586-447-3574

**Faith Formation**

Phone: 586-772-1282  
Fax: 586-775-8374

**Pastor**

Msgr. G. Michael Bugarin  
gmbugarin@sjascs.org

**Business Manager**

Dina Ciaffone  
dciaffone@sjascs.org

**Athletic Director**

Charles Kaiser  
ckaiser@stjoan.net

**Associate Pastor**

Fr. Andrew Dawson  
adawson@sjascs.org

**Principal**

Kathy Kalich  
kkalich@stjoan.net

**Office of Faith &  
Family Formation**

Kristine Stewart Hass  
khass@sjascs.org

**Non-Resident****Associate Pastors /  
Weekend Assistants:**

Fr. Rich Bartoszek  
Fr. James Grau

**Assistant Principal**

Mary Pat Brennan  
mbrennan@stjoan.net

**Exceptional Children**

Mary Cal  
mcal@sjascs.org

**Permanent Deacons**

Deacon Tom Strasz  
tstrasz@sjascs.org

**Music Director**

Catherine Thomas  
cthomas@sjascs.org

**Youth Group**

Linda Lietaert  
llietaert@stjoan.net

Deacon Dom Pastore  
dpastore@sjascs.org

**Anthems Director**

Eleonore Ellero-Groth  
eleonoraellero@gmail.com



### LITURGY SCHEDULE

**Weekdays**

Monday thru Friday: 7:00 am

**Weekends**

Saturday: 4:00 pm & 6:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am  
& 12:00 pm

**Holy Day Masses**

Vigil Mass: (evening prior) 7:00 pm  
7:00 am, 12:00 pm, 7:00 pm

**Reconciliation**

Saturdays ~ 11:00am—12:00pm  
in the Sister Carol Center (adjacent  
to church)

**Holy Hour**

Thursdays in Church at 7:00 pm

**Rosary**

Monday - Friday after the 7a mass  
outside by the Holy Trinity statue.

### PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Center is open Monday—Thursday from  
8:30am-5pm and Friday from 8:30-4pm.

**MASKS ARE MANDATORY WITHOUT EXCEPTION**

For mass intentions or any service we may be reached at 586-777-3670 during these hours.

For any urgent needs when we are not open, please call our  
after-hours emergency number: 586-777-1342.

**Baptisms:** Please go to our website (stjoan.church) and fill out  
the Baptism request form.

**Marriages:** Arrangements should be made at the Parish Center  
at least six months prior to the desired date. Pre-marriage series  
required.

**Registration:** It is very important that every family and inde-  
pendent adult be registered in the Church in order to keep our  
records and mailings current. Please contact the Parish Office to  
register at your earliest opportunity.

**RCIA:** Please call the Parish Center (586-777-3670).

### INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PARISHIONER?

If you would like to become a parishioner of St. Joan of Arc, at  
this time please register at [stjoan.church](http://stjoan.church) and we will contact you  
by phone to get further information OR by calling us at 586-777-  
3670 during office hours.

### Live Streamed Broadcasts at St. Joan of Arc

Though we have returned to public masses we will  
continue our Live Stream Broadcasts of all celebra-  
tions.

- **Weekdays - 7 am Mass - (Monday thru Friday)**
- **Saturdays - 4 pm and 6 pm Masses**
- **Sundays - 8 am, 10 am & 12 pm Masses**
- **Thursdays - 7 pm Holy Hour**

**Go to: [livestream.stjoan.church](http://livestream.stjoan.church) to watch all live  
streaming and to view archived celebrations.**





**Lucy, You've got some 'splainin to do!"**

Okay, I've learned (thank you Google) that Ricky Ricardo NEVER said this often quoted line in the entire

series of "I Love Lucy," but it fit the title of my article, so I'm stickin' with it. He said things like, "Lucy, splain," and "Splain that if you can!" Well, I had some 'splainin" to do with something that happened to me recently.

Last week, I mentioned some of the challenges I've had in working through my parent's financial matters since my dad died. I've learned it's not so easy closing accounts and getting things nice and tidy. Plus, I'm busy at times, so things take me a little longer to accomplish. For example, one bank has been waiting for me to close one of my dad's IRAs before they remove his name from the account. It's on the list, just not at the top of the pile.

I have to give you the backdrop to what happened. A few days after my dad died, my mom went to Clinton Grove Granite Works in Clinton Township to order headstones/grave markers for both her and my dad. With my grandparents, my mom had pictures of my grandparents etched into the stones. She wanted to do the same for her and my dad. She decided to order her gravestone as well, just minus the final date, of course! It made sense to order them together because the stones would then age together over time. It made perfect sense! My mom found two great pictures she could use for the etching. She loved these particular pictures because they were taken years ago and they both look young! She particularly enjoyed the fact that they both would look forever young when someone looked at the pictures when they came to the grave.

Both headstones were finished at the end of April. My mom and I then used one of our Fridays recently to stop by Clinton Grove Granite to check out the final work before we paid the bill and set things in motion for the stones to be delivered to Resurrection Cemetery. When we got there, the headstones were outside, waiting to be viewed. It was pretty odd not only seeing my dad's grave marker but also one for my mom. I was supposed to bring a check from my

parent's checkbook to pay off the balance, but I flew out of the Parish Center so quickly that I forgot this little task. Clinton Grove prefers cash or checks to keep costs down. Given that I see our credit card fees, I understand why they would only accept cash or checks. Those fees get outrageous! While I didn't have one of their checks, I had some from my own account sitting in my wallet; I have them in my wallet for such emergencies. So I used one of those checks to pay off the bill. I figured I would then do a transfer from bank to bank to pay myself back. Easy peasy.

A few days after that Friday excursion, I remembered to initiate the transfer of funds from my parents' account to my account. Having all of my dad's passwords, I just went into their account. At first, I had to add myself as a payee. When I did this, it wanted to text or call me with an authorization code to verify my identity. When I saw the number they were trying to use, it was my parent's landline but with the old 810 area code rather than 586. So, I went into the account and updated their contact information! This was when I got snagged!

While I updated the information successfully, I couldn't then add myself as a payee without human intervention because I had just updated their contact information; it was a security measure. So I called the bank, worked through the voicemail prompts, and finally talked to a human person. Even though I'm on the account now, I just pretended to be my dad, thinking the process would be more straightforward. So I pretended to be George Bugarin (although I didn't have to pretend I'm George Bugarin because I AM George Bugarin ... albeit George Michael Bugarin). I gave my dad's social security number and answered all of the agent's questions. Then there was a pause, and she said she would be right back. I was on hold for a couple of minutes, and I busied myself with some other task on my computer. I didn't think anything of the pause. The agent finally came back and said there was a problem. While she didn't use these exact words, the concept was the same, "Well, we have a problem. According to our records, you're dead." "LUCY, You've got some 'splainin to do," was all I could think to myself! Good heavens, nothing is ever simple; all I wanted to do is check this off my task list. The real goal was to get this done before my mom asked if I paid

myself back. Usually, the answer to her question if I got this or that done is NO. Being that I need a few miracles every once in a while, I tried to get this one done quickly. I then had to explain everything to the lady. Once she realized I was on the account and could verify my identity, she removed the lock, which only got created when I updated the contact information. She just wanted to confirm that the George Bugarin she was talking to wasn't dead but very much alive. In the end, it all worked, and the money got transferred. I guess nothing is ever simple in Clark Griswold's world, even when you think you have the answers to all the 'splainin' you have to do.

## SJA's 52 Annual Raffle Update:

Thanks a million to everyone who has supported the raffle thus far. The response has been phenomenal. At last count, we were close to \$130,000 in raffle sales. THANK YOU!

Please remember that you can continue to turn in your raffle and applicable 100% tickets until 5 PM on Sunday, May 23. For every \$100 worth of tickets you return (or \$50 for seniors ... 65 years old or older), you earn a chance at the "Festival" 100% Drawings at this point. Thus, if you return \$200 worth of tickets, you can turn in 2 - 100% tickets (or 4 - 100% tickets if you are a senior)! On Festival/Raffle weekend, we will draw five (5) of the 100% tickets from the entire pool of tickets, and each will win \$500. Of course, you stand to win some of the main raffle prizes too!

With the Early Bird Drawing, the event took place in Church last Monday evening. The ONE lucky winner was Peggy Venditti. She, like many people, had multiple 100% tickets in the barrel. Much to my surprise, I pulled her name TWICE. Congratulations Peggy!

And, please remember to keep some room in your meal planning next weekend to stop by the SJA Food Fair. We will have ten food trucks on-site with lots of variety the entire weekend. I can't wait for the obligatory Elephant Ear! See the flyer posted elsewhere in the bulletin with all the details.

Enjoy the week. Know of my prayers.

In Christ,

gmb  
gmb@sjascs.org

# St. Joan<sup>of</sup> Arc

## Online Giving



Manage your  
Online Giving account  
with the app!

Download the Online Giving app  
today at [OLGApp.com](http://OLGApp.com)

**Donations**

**Payments**

Give online at  
**stjoan.church**  
or from the app

REGISTER THE APP WITH OUR ORGANIZATION ID#

**4719**





## Reporting Sexual Abuse

The Archdiocese of Detroit encourages individuals to report clergy sexual abuse of minors and others – no matter when the abuse occurred. Individuals may contact local law enforcement authorities and/or they may report to the Archdiocese of Detroit by calling the Victim Assistance Coordinator at 866-343-8055 or by emailing [vac@aod.org](mailto:vac@aod.org).

In addition, the Michigan Attorney General's Office can be contacted at its toll-free reporting hotline at 844-324-3374 (Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) or by email at [aginvestigations@michigan.gov](mailto:aginvestigations@michigan.gov).

More information about the Archdiocese's efforts to address abuse may be found at [protect.aod.org](http://protect.aod.org).

## SJA Is Asking For Your SMILE!

Make all your Amazon purchases through Amazon Smile!

You can use your current Amazon account and search for St. Joan of Arc. Visit [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) there are no additional fees and .5% of all sales will be donated back to our parish/school.



## Can Tab Recycling

We are back to recycling can tabs. All proceeds will benefit the Ronald McDonald House Charities.

**How you can help:** Spread the word! Let your family, friends, co-workers, and classmates know that their small pop tabs, food can tabs all can make a big difference for Ronald McDonald House Charities.

Donations can be dropped off in the buckets at church, brought to the Parish Center, or pick-up may be arranged by calling:

**Frank Poeschel at #586-776-8746.**



## Electronics Recycling Event



**Saturday, June 5, 2021 10am-2pm**

Holy Innocents/St. Barnabas Parish  
(Holy Innocents Site)  
16359 Frazho Road, Roseville, MI 48066  
(West of Gratiot)

### What we take for only \$5.00 a car load

All Computer Equipment & Attachments (Peripherals)  
Desktop PCs & Workstations: Notebooks, Laptops & Tablet PCs  
Flat Panel Monitors & Flat Panel TVs  
Printers: Both Ink, Laser And Copier Machines  
Speakers, Keyboards, Mice & Scanners  
Toner Cartridges & Ink Cartridges New & Used (Please Bag Used Cartridges That Are Leaking)  
Audio, Video & Projection Equipment (Stereo Recorders, etc.  
Cameras: Both Old Style & Digital  
PDAs & Cell Phones: Both Old Style & New Smart Phones  
Calculators, Desk & Hand Held Servers, External Hard Drives  
Drives: CD, DVD, Hard, Floppy, All  
All Cords & Wires: Computer, Electrical, Cable Type  
Miscellaneous Electronic Small Items:  
Digital Picture Frames, Clocks, Personal Music Players, Tablets, Toys & Video Games  
Microwave ovens, small appliances

**\*Sorry NO Batteries, CRT Monitors, CRT TVs, Light Bulbs or Wood**

**Fundraiser for Holy Innocents/St. Barnabas Parish**

## 8th Grade Can and Bottle Drive

The Class of 2022 is now responsible for the can and bottle drive.

This is an important fundraiser that helps defray the cost of their graduation events.

Bring your returnables in bags to the Parish Center - West SIDE DOOR - (near Father Andrew's House) please. There is a large plastic bin with a lid that they can be placed in..

Or you can arrange a pick-up by calling or texting Matt at 313-683-1972.

Thank you for your support.

The Class of 2022 ~



GET YOUR FREE DIGITAL TICKET FOR  
A SPECIAL LIVE STREAM SCREENING OF

PRAY

THE STORY OF PATRICK PEYTON

JUNE 3, 2021 at 7 pm ET

Register here for your free digital ticket:

<https://watch.showandtell.film/watch/pray-2021-06-03>

Your digital ticket is good through June 5 at 7 am

*This inspiring documentary  
profiles Hollywood's favorite  
priest who promoted the power of  
prayer among America's most  
iconic celebrities.*

email questions or to request notices of future events to [iCtheLight33@gmail.com](mailto:iCtheLight33@gmail.com)

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Facebook

@iCtheLight33

## Weekly Calendar of Events

### **Monday, May 17th**

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

### **Tuesday, May 18th**

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

8:30 am School Mass (5th –8th Gds) Live Streamed

### **Wednesday, May 19th**

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

8:30 am School Mass (1st –4th Gds) Live Streamed

### **Thursday, May 20th**

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

7:00 pm Holy Hour - Live Streamed

### **Friday, May 21st**

7:00 am Morning Mass - Live Streamed

12:00 pm Festival Spring Food Truck Event Opens

### **Saturday, May 22nd**

10:00 am Funeral – Peter Rubino - Live Streamed

11:00 am Reconciliation

12:00 pm Baptism of Zander Starr - Live Streamed

1:00 pm Baptism of Mary Werner - Live Streamed

4:00 pm Mass - Live Streamed

6:00 pm Mass - Live Streamed

### **Sunday, May 23rd**

8:00 am Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

10:00 am Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

12:00 pm Sunday Mass - Live Streamed

5:00 pm Spring Festival Raffle Drawing - Live Streamed

6:00 pm Festival Spring Food Truck Event Closes

## Words on the Word

### ***May 16, 2021 – Building the Future***

All hands on deck.

When a big, innovative job needs to get done, it helps to have people with different areas of expertise on the team.

One of the local automakers made headlines a few weeks ago in reports about a dedicated technology park that will specialize in research and development work around batteries, battery cell technology and battery manufacturing.

“The automaker is building on nearly two decades of battery expertise by centralizing a cross-functional team of 150 experts in battery technology, development, research, manufacturing, planning, purchasing, quality and finance to ... more quickly develop and manufacture battery cells and batteries,” according to one story on the initiative in *Industry Week*.

The center, to be located here in Michigan, is promising not only for those who are initially to be involved in the effort, but for the impact its work will have on future generations of car owners and consumers.

In many ways, it's not unlike the work that God is asking all of us to get involved with, each using his or her own talents to contribute to the larger effort of bringing people to him.

An outcome that works to the good of everyone involved.

“And he gave some as apostles, others as prophets, others as evangelists, others as pastors and teachers, to equip the holy ones for the work of ministry,” we hear from Paul's letter to the Ephesians, in one of the choices for today's second reading, “for building up the body of Christ, until we attain to the unity of faith and knowledge of the Son of God, to mature to manhood, to the extent of the full stature of Christ.”

That's the biggest and most important job of all, to be sure.

And a great one to get charged up about.

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## Mass Intentions / Weekly Readings

### Mass Intentions

- Monday May 17, 2021 Easter Weekday (White)**  
7:00 a.m. Bernard J. Champine and Joan Linden
- Tuesday May 18, 2021 Easter Weekday Saint John 1, Pope and Martyr (White/Red)**  
7:00 a.m. Vince Troia and Daniel Benedis
- Wednesday May 19, 2021 Easter Weekday (White)**  
7:00 a.m. Mary Spath and a Special Intention for Peter Nagy
- Thursday May 20, 2021 Easter Weekday Saint Bernardine of Siena, Priest (White/White)**  
7:00 a.m. Theresa and Raymond Brazier and James Kosakowski
- Friday May 21, 2021 Easter Weekday Saint Christopher Magallanes Priest and Companions, Martyrs (White/Red)**  
7:00 a.m. David Kurty and a Special Intention for Julius Baur
- Saturday May 22, 2021 Easter Weekday Saint Rita of Cascia, Religious (White/White)**  
4:00 p.m. Barnard Swantek, Ricky Banasinsk, John G. Spath, Souraya Nehro-Moses, Bonnie Batche, Helen Sadler, Mary Stolarski and Special Intentions for the Thomas Family and the J. Champine Family  
6:00 p.m. Saint Rita
- Sunday May 23, 2021 The Ascension of the Lord (White)**  
8:00 a.m. For the Intentions of St. Joan of Arc Parishioners  
10:00 a.m. Special Intention for Courtney Jurek and Patrick Urso  
12:00 p.m. Erveill Mozingo, Judy and John Frahm, George J. Bugarin, Kathleen H. Doak, Urbano Segota, Allen Pittoors, Ralph Teneglia, Dr. Dan Guyer

### Weekly Readings

#### Monday, May 17

Acts 19:1-8  
John 16:29-33

#### Tuesday, May 18

Acts 20:17-27  
John 17:1-11a

#### Wednesday, May 19

Acts 20:28-38  
John 17:1-11a

#### Thursday, May 20

Acts 22:30, 23:6-11  
John 17:20-26

#### Friday, May 21

Acts 25:13b-21  
John 21:15-19

#### Saturday, May 22

Acts 28:16-20, 30-31  
John 21:20-25

#### Sunday, May 23

Acts 2:1-11  
1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13  
John 15:26-27, 16:12-15



### I Am The Resurrection & The Life

"Heavenly Father, welcome home those who you have called from this world and grant peace and consolation to their families."

**William Richards  
Maria Collamar**



"I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year: Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown. and he replied: Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way."

*Minnie Louise Haskins*

### Light of the Spirit Prayer Group 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at

**St Basil the Great  
Community Room  
22851 Lexington Avenue  
Eastpointe, MI 48021**

**We pray the Rosary @ 6:30 pm, followed by a meeting at 7pm.**



**We hope that you can join us!**





**Card Woes:** So it's no secret that I've had Mothers' Day card issues this year. But the saga continues. I knew at the start of the month I had to get a Mothers' Day

card in the mail. It arrived Monday, late by a day (or 2 months, depending on how you look at it), but not too bad considering the guesswork involved in international mail in these Covid days. But I knew also that I needed to buy a birthday card for my dad. His birthday is May 13, which at the start of the month affords me some time to sort that out. And I was on the ball! I was at the store and looking at the cards. I have no issue with spending money on my parents, but they should get something for it, and I turned my nose up at an \$8 birthday card. I can do much better on Amazon, I thought, and there's plenty of time. So that was my plan.

Did I do it? No. All this month I've had the sense that it was really early in May, perhaps the 2nd or the 4th. Then on Tuesday I was in my office and I looked at the calendar and realized, "It's the 11th today! I have two days!" Now, my dad has always been from a certain era and has always remained there. "He was never young!" my mom would say, "He wasn't young when I married him." Fifty years later, this July and he's *definitely* not now. I'm sure he still thinks the Pony Express is in operation here in the US. But I thought it was not wise to count on it. So I set about looking online for a UK greetings card ordering website. My dad will be pleased to see his card arrive (one day early!) courtesy of the Funky Pigeon website. Maybe the Pony Express is no longer around, but you can still get your mail delivered by pigeon, apparently.

I mentioned in my homily last week that I was often my mother's son, or my father's son, depending on the degree to which either disapproved of what I'd done. I have to admit that I do share my dad's affinity to bygone days. In our efforts to simplify our world by our technologies, we seem to have created a lot of complications too. And don't misunderstand, I know that I benefit from, and enjoy, many of these modern conveniences, but a part of me is still fascinated by the relics of days gone that populate little country antique stores all over the place. While Monsignor's office always has some piece of computer equipment he's working on, my office has

this piece:



I picked-up this L.C. Smith typewriter for \$25 maybe 15 years ago. It types, has inked ribbon that I replaced and it types. It's 118 years old and weighs 40lbs. It actually pre-dates the days of typewriters with bells that told you that you'd reached the end of a line as you typed. This model required that you really pay attention and catch it at exactly the right moment so that you can manually turn the roller to the next line and push the carriage to the left again. Otherwise, you type one big black ink mark in the same spot at the end of the line. Typing is a finger work-out, with those big keys and you have to be accurate or you get your finger jammed between the keys. And of course there is no delete key.

I like to stop by those odd little antique stores - you never know what you might come across. It's always an eye-opener as to how the world has changed. But in many it's not really the world that has changed, but the way we live in it. It's not the people who have changed - our needs are the same - but the ways we have tried to create solutions and answers to those needs. Some have hit the mark, others have missed. Some have served their purpose but are not obsolete and replaced. But the object left behind serve as reminders of the efforts of those who have gone before us to meet our needs.

This Sunday and next (Pentecost) we hear the last of our Sunday readings from the book of the Acts of the Apostles. The stories in Acts may seem like the early tales of the bygone days of our faith. But the efforts of the Apostles to witness to the incredible things they had experienced during their time with Jesus was how they were offering solutions to common human needs - a need for love, for hope, for joy, for a sense of awe at the faithfulness of God. We could learn much from browsing their store for a while. Their solutions were basic and bold but they changed the world.

**Ascension Sunday:** Today, the Church of the Archdiocese of Detroit celebrates the

Ascension of our Lord, marking the ascent of Jesus to His Father in Heaven. The traditional day to celebrate this feast used to be last Thursday, but it has been moved in many dioceses to this Sunday. In so doing, it can become lost and feel like "just another Sunday mass," whatever that means (no Sunday is "*just another*" Sunday mass - it's always a celebration of Christ's Easter victory, all year round). Pope Francis reminds us that in Jesus we have an advocate with our Heavenly Father: "*He always defends us! Don't forget this!*"

The Ascension of Jesus into heaven acquaints us with this deeply consoling reality on our journey: In Christ, true God and true man, our humanity was taken to God. The Pope eloquently describes how important it is for us to understand why Christ had to ascend back to heaven to be with his Father. According to Pope Francis: "*Christ opened the path to us. He is like a roped guide climbing a mountain who, on reaching the summit, pulls us up to him and leads us to God.*"

His are sure hands into which we can place all our anxieties and simply trust. Secondly, Pope Francis observes that Luke writes in his Gospel that "*having seen Jesus ascending into heaven, the Apostles returned to Jerusalem 'with great joy.'*" There seems to be a mismatch between the event of the Ascension and the disciples' reaction. They lose their spiritual guide and leader, but they respond with joy! Their hearts have finally caught-up with what Jesus has been telling them to expect. Their intellect had prevented them at times from understanding, but now their hearts are enlightened by faith and are operating out of that faith, manifesting itself in joy.

Let's always see today, not as the moment that Jesus became a little more remote or even absent from us, but rather as the day that He became alive in a new way, beyond His physical Resurrection. The Ascension does not point to Jesus' absence, but tells us that He is alive and here in our midst in a new way. May we join the disciples in sharing their joy as we await a new out-pouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, God dwelling within us, in just a week from now.

You are in my prayers this week.

Fr. Andrew      adawson@sjascs.org

## An Act of Spiritual Communion

It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion which is a source of grace.

Spiritual Communion means uniting one's self in prayer with Christ's sacrifice and worshipping him in his Body and Blood. The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass.

Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.

## A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

*My Jesus, I believe that you are present  
in the Most Holy Sacrament.*

*I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.*

*Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,*

*Come at least spiritually into my heart.*

*I embrace you as if you were already there*

*And unite myself wholly to you.*

*Never permit me to be separated from you.*

Amen.



### PENTECOST SUNDAY – MAY 23 B

#### Reading 1 – Acts of the Apostles

When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven staying in Jerusalem. At this sound, they gathered in a large crowd, but they were confused because each one heard them speaking in his own language. They were astounded, and in amazement they asked, “Are not all these people who are speaking Galileans? Then how does each of us hear them in his native language? We are Parthians, Medes, and Elamites, inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya near Cyrene, as well as travelers from Rome, both Jews and converts to Judaism, Cretans and Arabs, yet we hear them speaking in our own tongues of the mighty acts of God.”

#### Responsorial Psalm 104

**R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD, my God, you are great indeed! How manifold are your works, O LORD! the earth is full of your creatures.

**R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD be glad in his works! Pleasing to him be my theme; I will be glad in the LORD.

**R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

If you take away their breath, they perish and return to their dust. When you send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth.

**R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.**

#### Reading 2– 1 Corinthians

Brothers and sisters: No one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit. As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.

#### Alleluia

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

#### Gospel – John

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.”



May 16, 2021

## Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11 | Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13 |  
Mk 16:15-20

### GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

"Why are you standing there looking at the sky?" the Apostles are asked. Well, hello! The risen Jesus, who had once again walked among the Apostles, "was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight." Of course the disciples would look up, to gaze once more upon the Son of God whom they loved. Today's feast reminds us, however, that to look for Jesus is not to stand around looking up, but to engage with others in the world in which he remains present. Even as he sits "at the right hand of God," Jesus dwells among and within us. For God is not some distant figure, but One who desires to walk alongside us in the person of his Son, Jesus, and give us the gift of the Holy Spirit as our help and advocate. Even in times when we experience doubt, complacency, or simply feel distant from God, Jesus is at our side. Once we open our hearts to his presence, we cannot help but share the Good News of God's love in our families, workplaces, and everyday encounters with others.

### GO EVANGELIZE

#### PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

For anyone wishing to grow in their understanding of what evangelization looks like, today's readings offer as good a playbook as any. As we celebrate the Ascension, we may be tempted to see it as a kind of "farewell party" for Jesus. But while on the surface, it may appear that Jesus "left" the Apostles, he promises to remain with them through the gift of the Holy Spirit. What does that mean for us? Today's Gospel sums it up, quoting Jesus' words immediately before he was taken up to heaven: "Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature." As Catholics and Christians, that's our bottom line. I read somewhere that "proclaim" goes beyond mere words, and encompasses living out the Gospel by sharing God's love. Jesus remains at our side, encouraging us to use the gifts God has given us to build up the Church.

**PRAY** Today's feast reminds us that we have an advocate in Jesus and the Holy Spirit. As you enter a challenging situation or even just a typical day, remember to ask Jesus to give you a "spirit of wisdom."



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## Prayers Needed

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Geri Beaugrand  
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Rose Marie Carroll  
David Clinchoc  
Richard Coatney  
Ed Cole  
Mary Ellen Cooper  
Victoria Cornwell  
James Czech  
Joan DeDene

Catherine DeRose  
Nick DiCresce  
Julie Doty  
Marie DuPont  
Louise Fetherolf  
Nora Anne Francis  
Sylvia Gentile  
Mary and Don Godfrey  
Jane Gora  
Larry Graham  
Geoffrey Greve  
James Gutowski  
Rich Hanselman  
Alleyn Hunt

Joan Ireland  
James Kammer  
Bruce Kaselitz  
Marilyn Kiefer  
Pat Kohlitz  
Edward Krappmann  
Al Kraska  
Dotty Lubinski  
Janet Malaski  
Christopher Manning  
Joan Mannino  
Lee Majewski  
Dee Misuraca  
Jennie Mooney

Jessica Nehro  
Margaret Obrzut  
Mark Oumedian  
Toni Pantano  
Fern Pascany  
Sandra Pletos  
Salvatore Promesso  
Sr. Alice Riegel  
Suzanne Roland  
Jennifer Rose  
Victoria Rydholm  
Alex Scapini  
Al Schaller  
Kathleen Smith

Cathy Spindler  
Ingrid Stemmerich  
James Thompson  
Maxine Uniewski  
George VanBecelaere  
Audrey VanBecelaere  
Eileen Wallace  
Audrey Weekley  
William Woodruff  
Chuck Wolschlager



**Pray for the Sick List:** Please note that we regularly clear the “Pray for the Sick List” because the list grows beyond our space allocation and we don’t always hear from people when they’ve gotten better. If you would like to add a person please call the Parish Center front desk at 586.777.3670 or send an email to our general inbox at [info@sjascs.org](mailto:info@sjascs.org).

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# Bringing Home the Word

Ascension of the Lord (B)

May 16, 2021

## Sent to be Missionaries

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

The beginning of the Book of Acts presents a summary of the life of Christ and. How he called and taught the apostles in the Holy Spirit. After his resurrection, Christ kept the apostles in Jerusalem, where they prayed together with the Virgin and awaited the coming of the Holy Spirit which would give them power to witness to him beyond the city and into the outlying countries and regions, just as the Gospel reading commands.

This Spirit given to them by Christ is a spirit of mission and witness. When

Jesus was finished speaking, when his revelation had finished, he was taken to heaven. And the apostles were left standing there, looking up after him.

That looking up can be interpreted as a longing for Jesus' presence that was no longer in human form. Things had radically changed. Jesus' mission had finished, and now theirs was beginning. Their situation is the same as ours. We are sent on a mission!

An essential element of being Christian is to understand that we are sent into the world to build Christ's kingdom. We are his missionaries, his representatives. He counts on us to go into the world and bring his message to all his beloved children just as he did—with preaching, testimony, and love. Jesus doesn't send us to be comfortable, professionally successful, and wealthy. He sends us to be missionaries! +

## Sunday Readings

### Acts 1:1-11

When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight.

### Ephesians 1:17-23 or Ephesians 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13

I, then, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received, with all humility and gentleness.

### Mark 16:15-20

[Jesus] said to them, "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature."

*Christ counts on us  
to go into the world  
and bring his message  
to all his beloved children  
just as he did.*

## 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



## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

## QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

- Do I live as if I am Christ's presence on earth, aware that I am his missionary?
- If Jesus were in my family, social, and professional situations, what would he do?



# Not Right or Wrong—Just More

By Fr. Bruce Lewandowski, CSsR

When I was in the college seminary, a venerable old Redemptorist came for a visit and said, “I met the seminarians, and I am not impressed.” I heard other comments about “the seminarians” during my nine years in the seminary, but none as memorable as the one made by that aging Redemptorist concerned about the future of his beloved congregation.

Maybe Pope Francis’ comment that some seminarians are like “little monsters” was born out of the same kind of feeling—concern for the future of the Church. Most, if not all, Catholics at some point find themselves worrying about the future of the Church. So, we look to the future leaders of the Church—seminarians—to get some indication of where the Church might be headed.

A sense of eagerness was evident in most of the men during my time in the seminary. We were eager to serve God and God’s people, to bring people closer to Christ in the Church.

I sense a different direction or emphasis in some seminarians today. Certainly, they are eager to bring people closer to Christ and the Church, but there’s something else: They feel called to reform the Church. I’ve heard them say things like, “Nothing good happened after Vatican II” and “Vatican II was a mistake.”

Maybe some *Bringing Home the Word*



readers feel the same way. Some of the criticism is focused on liturgical practice and the reform of the Mass, but there’s something else: the implication that there’s a right way—and a wrong way—to be Catholic.

*Catholic* is commonly understood to mean “universal.” *Universal* means “widely dispersed, present everywhere.”

*Catholic* also refers to a group of people set apart from others by their agreed-upon beliefs and practices.

I think most people, seminarians included, would agree with these two definitions and be content to stop here.

But there is still another definition: *Catholic* is how we live our faith in the world. *Catholic* means “elastic.” The Church stretches to welcome people of all kinds—and as many as possible. From the Church’s beginning, an inherent inclusivity enables saints and sinners, rich and poor, conservatives and liberals to be one in Jesus Christ. The Church by its very nature relates to everyone and everything. This is the Catholic Church described in the 1965 Vatican II document *Gaudium et Spes*, the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World.

As for seminarians and the future of the Church, St. Paul gives some solid advice: “To the weak I became weak, to win over the weak. I have become all things to all, to save at least some” (1 Corinthians 9:22).

There is no right or wrong way to be Catholic. We’re all just called to be more Catholic. +



*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

*Most, if not all, Catholics at some point find themselves  
worrying about the future of the Church.*

## WEEKDAY READINGS

May 17–22

**Monday, Easter Weekday:**  
Acts 19:1–8 / Jn 16:29–33

**Tuesday, Easter Weekday:**  
Acts 20:17–27 / Jn 17:1–11a

**Wednesday, Easter Weekday:**  
Acts 20:28–38 / Jn 17:11b–19

**Thursday, Easter Weekday:**  
Acts 22:30; 23:6–11 / Jn 17:20–26

**Friday, Easter Weekday:**  
Acts 25:13b–21 / Jn 21:15–19

**Saturday, Easter Weekday:**  
Acts 28:16–20, 30–31 / Jn 21:20–25





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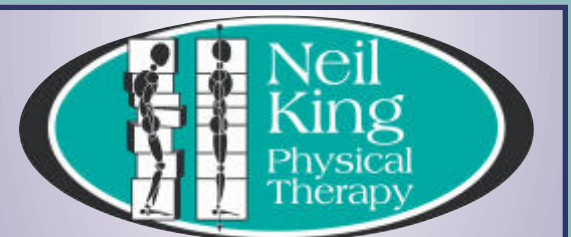
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