



OUR LADY OF THE LAKE CATHOLIC CHURCH

2411 Bagnell Dam Blvd
PO Box 2390
Lake Ozark, MO 65049
Phone: 573.365.2241
Email: oloffice2018@sbcglobal.net
Website: ourladylake.diojeffcity.org

Sunday, May 16, 2021
The Ascension of the Lord

We envision a church where Jesus Christ is proclaimed in a way that when parishioners are gathered, all may encounter the Living Word in their midst.

Pastor
Msgr. Marion Makarewicz
NEW mmakarewicz@diojeffcity.org

Deacons
Paul Poulter
Jim Hankins

Director of Music
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Trust in Time of Change

by Msgr. Marion Makarewicz

We walk with the apostles during the Easter Season, especially as recorded in Acts. Some commenters have called the Acts of the Apostles the "Gospel of the Holy Spirit". We are so blessed to have a record of God's work through the Holy Spirit in the first years of the Church. Christ promised that the Holy Spirit would be with his Church always, until the end of the ages. I firmly believe and trust in that promise. In moments of stress and doubt, I sometimes forget this essential truth of our faith. Sometimes I can be plagued by what a spiritual director once called "functional atheism". I might be able to recite the prayers and quote the Scriptures, but in my day to day actions and plans, I act as if God isn't provident, omniscient, and omnipotent. We can be so quick to identify sin and evil but are hard pressed to proclaim God's presence in this world. Perhaps our own fear of the loss of control inhibits us from admitting that God really is in charge.

The people of Our Lady of the Lake will have a new pastor on July 1st. Father Ignacio Medina, currently pastor of St. Stanislaus, Wardsville, and St. Margaret, Osage Bend, will bring his wealth of pastoral



experience from over forty years of priesthood to the Lake. I will be moving to Kirksville, Missouri to become pastor of Mary Immaculate and the mission of St. Rose, Novinger. Msgr. David Cox will move to Wardsville to take over from Father Medina. The three of us are among more than thirty priests in the Diocese who have received new assignments. This is a significant action of the Holy Spirit in the Diocese of Jefferson City. I may not understand nor appreciate all the different people and places that are involved in the Bishop's decision, but I can attest that throughout my own priesthood, when I have put my trust

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WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to all our guests and visitors who have graced us with their presence at today's liturgy. We hope that you feel at home here; please let us know if we can be of any assistance while you are with us.

HEARING IMPAIRED

For those with moderate hearing difficulties, hearing assistance units are available in the Fellowship Hall behind the Sanctuary. Please ask an usher if you need one.

MISA EN ESPAÑOL

Todos los domingos a las 6:00 pm.
La reconciliación es el sábado de 4:00 pm a 4:50 pm, domingo de 5:30 pm a 5:50 pm, o con cita.
Por favor, consulte este folleto para las noticias en español.

BISHOP'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION

May we honor the Blessed Virgin Mary, our spiritual mother, this month by our support in charity for all mothers who struggle in poverty to raise their children.

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:00 pm, Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:00 am, & 6:00 pm in Spanish
No Daily Mass on Monday
Tuesday at 8 am, Wednesday at 6 pm
Thursday and Friday at 8:00 am
Reconciliation is Saturday 4:00 pm – 4:50 pm,
Sunday 5:30 pm – 5:50 pm, or by appointment

Parish Office Hours:
Monday – Friday
8:00 am – 4:30 pm

Honremos este mes a la Santísima Virgen María, nuestra madre espiritual, con nuestro apoyo caritativo por todas las madres que luchan en la pobreza para criar a sus hijos.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	May 15	5:00 pm	Vigil Mass
Sunday	May 16	8:00 am	The Ascension of the Lord
Sunday	May 16	10:00 am	The Ascension of the Lord
Domingo	Mayo 16	6:00 pm	La Ascensión del Señor
Monday	May 17	No Mass	St. Giulia Salzano
Tuesday	May 18	8:00 am	Pope St. John I
Wednesday	May 19	6:00 pm	St. Maria Bernarda Butler
Thursday	May 20	8:00 am	St. Bernardine of Siena
Friday	May 21	8:00 am	St. Christopher Magallanes
Saturday	May 22	5:00 pm	Vigil Mass
Sunday	May 23	8:00 am	Pentecost
Sunday	May 23	10:00 am	Pentecost
Domingo	Mayo 23	6:00 pm	Pentecostés

Vigil Mass
 The Ascension of the Lord
 The Ascension of the Lord
 La Ascensión del Señor
 St. Giulia Salzano
 Pope St. John I
 St. Maria Bernarda Butler
 St. Bernardine of Siena
 St. Christopher Magallanes
 Vigil Mass
 Pentecost
 Pentecost
 Pentecostés

Jim & Jimmy Phillips
 Ralph Franklin
 Tiffany Andres
 Parishioners

 Terri Southward
 Jim Tapella
 Bill Tweedie
 Eydie Riley
 Richard Boczek
 Edith Grieco
 Stat & Frances Louise Statton
 Parishioners

PARISH COLLECTION

May 9, 2021

Envelope	\$11,886
Loose	\$ 1,400
Total	\$13,286
Last Year	\$ 6,169

THANK YOU



ADMINISTRATION

Chair: Bob Cotter

The next Administration Commission Meeting is Thursday, May 20th at 5:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited.

Are you curious as to what the Commission does? Check out the page on our website:

<https://ourladylake.diojeffcity.org/commissions/administration-and-facilities/>

Click the minutes button in the right hand column to see what they have been up to.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY

1st Reading – Acts 1:1-11
 Psalm – 47:2-3, 6-9
 2nd Reading – Eph 1:17-23
 Gospel – Mk 16:15-20

MONDAY

1st Reading – Acts 19:1-8
 Psalm – 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab
 Gospel – Jn 16:29-33

TUESDAY

1st Reading – Acts 20:17-27
 Psalm – 68:10-11, 20-21
 Gospel – Jn 17:1-11a

WEDNESDAY

1st Reading – Acts 20:28-38
 Psalm – 68:29-30, 33-36ab
 Gospel – Jn 17:11b-19

THURSDAY

1st Reading – Acts 22:30; 23:6-11
 Psalm – 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11
 Gospel – Jn 17:20-26

FRIDAY

1st Reading – Acts 25:13b-21
 Psalm – 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab
 Gospel – Jn 21:15-19

SATURDAY

1st Reading – Acts 28:16-20, 30-31
 Psalm – 11:4-5, 7
 Gospel – Jn 21:20-25

SUNDAY

1st Reading – Acts 2:1-11
 Psalm – 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34
 2nd Reading – 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13
 Sequence – Veni, Sancte Spiritus
 Gospel – Jn 20:19-23

WEEKLY PARISH SCHEDULE

MONDAY, MAY 17

TUESDAY, MAY 18

Mass in Church & Online | 8:00 am
 Rosary in Church & Online | 8:45 am
 K of C Rosary & Meeting | 6:30 pm

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19

Wednesday Workshop | 9:00 am
 Adoration & Benediction | 5:00 pm
 Mass in Church & Online | 6:00 pm

THURSDAY, MAY 20

Mass in Church & Online | 8:00 am
 Administration Comm. | 5:00 pm

FRIDAY, MAY 21

Mass in Church & Online | 8:00 am
 Adoration | 8:30 am – 4:00 pm

SATURDAY, MAY 22

Reconciliation | 4:00 pm
 Mass, Baptisms & Christian Initiations in Church | 5:00 pm

SUNDAY, MAY 23

Mass in Church | 8:00 am
 Mass in Church & Online | 10:00am
 Reconciliation | 5:30 pm
 Misa en Iglesia y Online | 6:00 pm



We are grateful for your support of our church. Online Giving allows you to make contributions to our church without having to write checks or worry about donations. The site lets you set up automatic contributions and enables you to change the timing or the amount of your gift at any time. Go to: ourladylake.diojeffcity.org and click the Donate Now button on the top bar to sign up.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Contact: Gary Chaput

The next Council meeting is Tuesday, May 18th at 7 pm with the rosary beginning at 6:30 om in Bestgen Hall.

MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

K of C Council #10381 at St. Patrick Church in Laurie is inviting all councils to attend the Feast of Mary, Mother of the Church. Bishop Shawn McKnight will celebrate mass, 7:00 pm at Mary, Mother of the Church National Shrine. Afterwards, there will be a short social reception for everyone in St. Leo's Hall where desserts, coffee and lemonade will be served.



ourladylake.diojeffcity.org/knights-of-columbus/

LADY KNIGHTS

Contact: Melodi Graessle

The Ladies Auxiliary would like to invite any woman of the parish, age 18 or older, to join our organization. Our members support the Knights in fundraising events and activities. It is an excellent way to support our church and community. Please contact current Vice President Karen Blevins for information at (573) 291-1363 or kdblevins1966@gmail.com. We gladly welcome all inquiries!



ourladylake.diojeffcity.org/parish-life/organizations/ladies-auxiliary-2/

PARISHIONER NEWS



Flowers at the Altar this weekend are in Memory of Jim & Jimmy Phillips.

BEST WISHES

We wish the best to parish-ioner Tim McDermott as he leaves us to move near family. He has been a boon to our Social Concerns Commission. Thank you for your involvement in our community.



We pray for the repose of the soul of our brother in Christ, Richard Corwin, father of Jamie Corwin.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

What Now?



Outreach to Divorced Catholics

FREE Workshop:
The Essential Keys to Recovering from Divorce
Wednesday, May 26th at 7:00 p.m.
Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, Fellowship Hall

This FREE workshop will help any divorced Catholic recover from divorce by giving a better understanding of how to cope with the emotional pain, providing key insights into how their faith can help them recover, and offering a variety of tips and techniques for dealing with life after divorce.

Please register at:

<https://ourladylake.diojeffcity.org/outreach-to-divorced-catholics/>

Any questions, please call the Church Office - 573-365-2241

MINISTERS COMMISSIONED

Monsignor will be commissioning Sara Barlett as an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist at the 10 AM Mass this Sunday.

We are very grateful for those who volunteer their services to help with all our liturgies. If you would be interested in assisting in any position: Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Mass Coordinator, Usher, Streamer, or Altar Server please contact Mary in the office.



Congratulations to Elaina Gagnon who will celebrate her First Holy Communion this weekend.

Are you or a family member ill, in the hospital, or homebound and would like to be included in the Prayers of the Faithful at Mass, on the Prayer Chain, or in the bulletin? Please contact the office at 365-2241 or email ourladylake@sbcglobal.com. Names will be listed for one month unless the office is notified that continued prayer is needed.

NOTES FROM VICKI

Dear Children of God!

I am writing for the younger ones today to talk about Spring and renewal of the Earth. The most popular birth during Spring is calves, where you see them in the pastures bedded down in the grass. They look like tiny dark spots all curled up to stay warm. They are brand new lives! Their momma cows have told them to stay put until she comes back from grazing. Then the babies get a drink of milk and all is well! How fun and simple to jump around in the sunshine and run to mom when she calls. I remember growing up on a cattle farm that when all the calves were about six weeks old, they would line up at one end of the pasture and run together to the other end! They were enjoying life by kicking their heels up, running and calling out to each other in that high pitched calf voice. My dad called them the 'kicking team' and would name them for the current football players. One of them was called Joe Namath, I remember. Dad's favorite was 'The Refrigerator.' (Ask your parents or grandparents about that one) There was a lot of work taking care of those animals; we checked them three times or more every single day, seven days a week and holidays and weekends. They depended on my dad and I for their safety and well-being. It is our responsibility to take care of God's creations. Calves grow up and more are born; the cycle of life.

The real rebirth, though, is in ALL OF US! In 2 Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come." As you are baptised, receive First Communion and then are Confirmed as a young person you receive the greatest gifts of the Sacraments! God has made you new by forgiving your sins and sealing you with the Holy Spirit. As all these things take place, you are given the Fruits and the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. You will learn what these are, but for now there are a group of our youngest parishioners who are receiving their First Holy Eucharist, and their lives are opening onto a vast plain of love and mercy. Faith isn't immediate and fully understood until we meet God Himself, but the journey is that of learning, trusting and receiving love and mercy along the way. WE are the rebirth! WE are the new beginnings! WE are Christ-like as we show the same love and mercy we are given.

Nine young parishioners and their families will be seated in the pews next Sunday, May 23rd, for a Special First Communion Mass at noon. Seating restrictions make it necessary to hold a separate celebration, but they will still receive the blessings and prayers from the community of Our Lady of the Lake. This will be the first class that celebrates together and they will feel the extra closeness of The Trinity as they drink the cup and eat the bread together for the first time. Jesus will be in them, now and forever. God's greatest gift is that of Jesus, who showed us how we should live each day. Deuteronomy 6:4-5, known as the Shema (or God is One) , says, "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might." Experiences you will have in life will teach you how important it is to lean on God at all times! You will find that life is much easier when you Let Go, Let God and depend upon Him for all the answers. Of course, you must do your best and live as a good person, but He will actually SHOW you what is best for you. Each time it happens, and it will, you grow in faith. You are reborn again in love and mercy. You are able to pass on more love and mercy yourself because you are so grateful for His generosity! It is a truly magnificent cycle of rebirth and gratitude, all because God loves us more than we can ever imagine.

Wake up each day, smile and just say, "Thank you, dear Jesus." You will feel like running and kicking in the sunshine!

Blessings and Prayers,
Vicki

Getting Closer to God

Eph 4: 11-12 "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, for building up the body of Christ,"

Which one are you?

KIDS CORNER



This Sunday is the feast of the Ascension of the Lord. Here is a cute craft to do showing Jesus rising on a cloud to heaven:

<https://www.catholicteacherresources.com/arts-and-crafts-the-ascension-of-jesus/>

You can also celebrate with the yummy cloud cookies. Use your favorite cutout cookie recipe, frost the tops, and add cotton candy.



EDUCATION COMMISSION

Chair: Linda Adams

The next Education Commission will be Thursday, June 3rd at 6 PM in Fellowship Hall. All with interest are welcome to attend.

2021 GRADUATES

As we honor our graduating seniors this year, we would like to provide them with a resource for continuing their faith journey if they are choosing a college path. Newman Centers provide pastoral services and ministries to their Catholic communities, in particular to the Roman Catholic student population within universities throughout the world.

Check here for more information: <http://www.newmanconnection.com/locations>



ADVENTURE, FAITH, SERVICE, AND FRIENDSHIP!

Summer registration for men's, women's and co-ed teen programs are now open!

CAMP MACCABEE
DIOEFFCITY.ORG/CAMP-MACCABEE

Camp Siena
DIOEFFCITY.ORG/CAMP-SIENA

CHRISTpower
DIOEFFCITY.ORG/CHRISTPOWER

Camp Maccabee is for young men entering their freshman or sophomore year.

Camp Siena is for young women who will be attending high school in the fall.

CHRISTpower is for ALL teens who will be attending high school in the fall.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

Chair: Deacon Jim Hankins

Call the office to join us at the next Social Concerns Commission Zoom meeting on Thursday, June 10th at 6 pm.

If you know of anyone who may need assistance with grocery delivery, rides to doctor appointments, or other small errands, please notify Deacon Jim or the office staff.

THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE



Requesting pictures for the Memorial Day Collage
Family members or anyone you know that gave the Ultimate Sacrifice In Combat
Pictures can be of individual in Uniform or non-Uniform
Please include name and war they participated in.

Drop off these pictures with information at the Church Office in Care of Deacon Jim Hankins no later than Tuesday, 25 May 2021
Also, include your name so we can return the picture after Memorial Day Collage is taken down
Thank You and Blessings Upon Those Who Gave The Ultimate Sacrifice

Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you tells him, "Go in peace, stay warm and well fed," but does not provide for his physical needs, what good is that? ~ James 2:15-16

HOPE HOUSE

Bring your CAN to Church.



Please remember to bring your unused, nonperishable, non-expired food donation each week.

Week of May :
12 Bags, 44 Cans, and 30 Misc.
Plastic & Paper Bags are needed.
Please no more egg cartons.

"Our Lady" Volunteers next scheduled work day is **Thursday, May 27th.**
Sign up by calling 365-0099 (ask for store manager).
More info:
www.hopehouseofmillercounty.org
To learn more contact:
573-365-0099
or
www.hopehouseofmillercounty.org

BOOK CLUB

Our Lady of the Lake Book Club
Next Meeting will be:

Tuesday, June 8th at 6:30 p.m.

We will have our next in-person, social distanced meeting (will also be available via zoom) at the Church Fellowship Hall. The book being discussed is:

The Kitchen Boy
by Robert Alexander.
ALL ARE WELCOME!

If you would like to zoom the meeting or have questions please call or text
Lusica - 915-490-5765
by May 7th.

If you and your family would like to present the gifts for the offertory procession during the weekend Masses, please sign up in the blue binder located at the Welcome Center. This would be a wonderful way to commemorate a birthday, anniversary or other special occasion.

WORSHIP COMMISSION

Chair: Annette Miller

MEETING

The next Worship Commission meeting will be Tuesday, May 25th at 6:30 pm at Fellowship Hall with a zoom option. We are always looking for members with a heart for helping with the liturgy, prayer, liturgical formation, or art and environment. Please call the office to join us.

MINISTRY TO HOMEBOUND AND HEALCARE FACILITIES



As the health care facilities begin reopen to visitors, we are in need of those who can take the Eucharist to those in need. Our parish works with St. Anthony and St. Patrick to cover Lake Regional Hospital. We are responsible for Tuesdays and Fridays.

The other facilities in our parish boundaries include Osage Beach Rehab and Health Care, Ozark Rehab and Health Care, Arrowhead Senior Living, Golden Gate Estates, and Stonebridge Senior Living's Lakeside Meadows. We also have a number of homebound seniors who would like to receive on a weekly basis.

We are looking for a number of folks who are fully vaccinated and are willing to be commissioned as a Eucharistic Minister. Please contact the office.

"I was sick, and you visited Me"
Matthew 25:36



Taizé Prayer will take place on Wednesday, May 26 from 5:00 - 6:00 pm. A worship aid will be available for the livestream for parishioners at home.

ADORATION



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is available every Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

All others are invited to attend Adoration anytime throughout the day. If you are able to commit to a regular weekly time slot on Fridays, please contact Debbie Noland or Mary or Kelly in the office 365-2241.

The goal is to have at least three persons committed to a period of adoration so that if there are occasions when someone can't make it, there will always be someone present. If you foresee not being able to attend during your committed hour, please contact the others who have signed up for that period to ensure that someone is there.

"So you could not keep watch with me for one hour?" Matthew 26:40

PRAYERS NEEDED



May they place their trust and confidence in the Lord Jesus Christ:

Marilyn Thompson, Mary Ann Russell, Don Harding, Mary Burke, Debbie Noland, Rose Bouzek, Michelle Harris, David Kneeter, Ruth Watts, Jane Grening, Elijah Torres, Patricia Casper, Dr. Charles Peterson, Msgr. Michael Wilbers, Don Harding, Joseph Schutzenhofer, Gunther Skaletz, Tim McDermott, Adam Hinrichs, Debra Ehlers, Dennis Wedding, Mary Burke, Clark Gruninger, Pat Caswell, Dr. Robert Mason, Lucille Needham.

PRAYERS FOR THE MILITARY

LCDR Christopher Boehm
Major Brad Bustin
Major Meg Bustin
Capt. Dan Collini
Sgt. John Cobb
CPO Matt Culver USN-SEAL 6
E4 Cody Griffy
E7 M/Sgt. Amanda Hammond
E4 Aaron Helms
Major Michael Lucky
1st Sgt. Christopher Metz
1st Lt. Thomas Nelson
SPC Austin Nye
Jayson D. Osborne (Air Force)
CW4 Kent Rackers
A1C Logan J. Rackers
Tech. Sgt. Kevin Reilly
S/Sgt. Adam Rentsch
S/Sgt. Daniel E Reynolds
SPC Chris Riley
SPC John M. Schneider
1st Lt. Adam H. Still
Sgt. Justin C. Thomas
S/Sgt. Matthew Willis
LCDR Tony Wolfe
Lt. Nicholas Zahn
A1C Jacob Zahn

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

Please inform the office if there are any changes from active duty. If a name is on this list, please make sure that Deacon Jim Hankins has the information to post on our wall of honor.



Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the divine power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen

DEACON'S CORNER

As a child, did you ever play the game of "Hide and Seek"? During the day, the neighborhood kids would all get together, choose someone to be "it", and have them count to a certain number, such as 25 or 50. Everyone would then scatter to a hiding place where no one else could find them. After counting you would venture out and tried to find your friend. After a while everyone knew the best hiding places and of course you would check these first. Usually, the places you were sure someone would be were sometimes empty! Bummer! How about looking for Jesus? Are we looking for Jesus in the right places where we thought he would be?

During the Triduum, we relived and experienced the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ. The Last Supper, arrest, scourging, trial, bearing His cross, execution and finally, death. A truly emotional event to spiritually relive.

Then comes a truly glorious event on Easter Sunday when Jesus rose from the dead as he said he would. Conquering sin and death for us!

In Luke 24, it states that some of Jesus' followers to include Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James with other women went to the tomb with spices and coming upon the stone rolled back they went in and did not find the body of Jesus. Jesus, who had died was now gone, lost from them. Jesus was not in the place we thought he would be! Now what? Being perplexed with not finding Jesus there in the tomb when suddenly two men were standing by them in dazzling apparel. They stated, why do you seek the living among the dead? Jesus is not here, hiding, but

risen. If Jesus was no longer there, where was he at? Where was he hiding from them?

Jesus was not hiding! He revealed himself to the Apostles and to others as prescribed by God His Father. Jesus stayed with us for 40 days – these 40 days are the Easter Season! Again, not hiding, but physically on this earth!

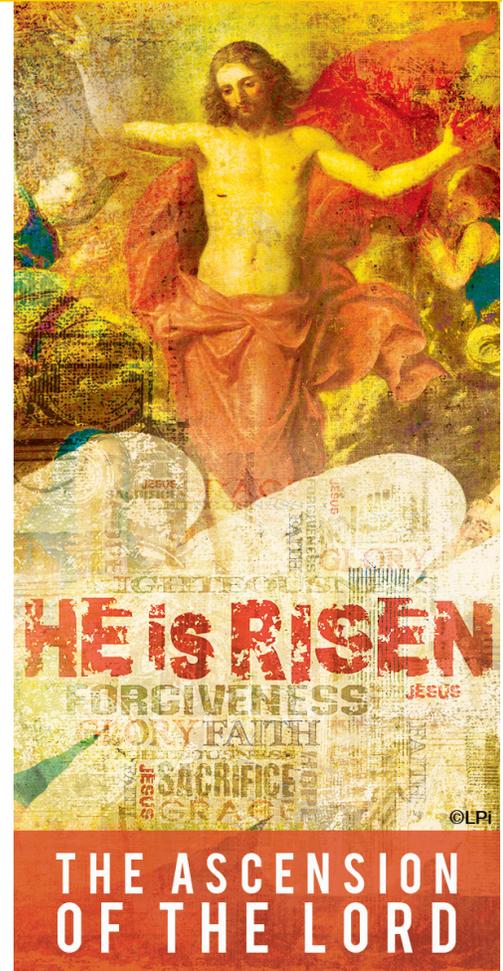
After 40 days, Jesus ascended into heaven. In Acts 1:8, Jesus brought his disciples together and stated that they would receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon them and will be His witnesses in Jerusalem, all of Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

After saying these things, and as the Apostles were looking upon Jesus, he was lifted, and a cloud took him out of their sight. Gone from them again? Was Jesus hiding from us? How would we find him?

As within the tomb, two men stood by them in dazzling white robes while the Apostles were gazing into heaven. They stated in Acts 1:11, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

So at both the beginning of the Easter Season, at our Lord's resurrection, to its finality, the Ascension, we have two men, angels in dazzling white helping us with the "Hide and Seek" game with Jesus. They announce that Jesus is among the living and will return the same way as the Apostles saw Him go into heaven.

Today, Sunday, 16 May 2021, we celebrate the Ascension of Jesus. And just as we look for someone in a "Hide and Seek" game, we at times need



to look for Jesus. He is always ready to be found! Where? At Mass in the consecrated Host. In the Church's tabernacle! We can always go to His house and find Jesus there!

In praising Jesus for our Blessings or in times of trouble, distress, and agitation, we can go and always find and be with Jesus in his House! Until the end of time!

Blessings - Dcn Jim

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND

What do you want to know about the Catholic Faith?

Is there a question about the Mass that has been nagging you?

Have you ever wondered what is the reasoning behind our traditions?

Deacon Paul Poulter is writing blogs on the website to answer just these types of questions. He asks that you call him with your questions at: 573-378-9220.

¿Está usted o un miembro de su familia enfermo, en el hospital o confinado en su hogar y le gustaría ser incluido en la Oración de los Fieles en la Misa o en el boletín? Comuníquese con la oficina al 365-2241 o envíe un correo electrónico a ourladylake@sbcglobal.com. Los nombres aparecerán en la lista durante algunas semanas, a menos que se notifique a la oficina que se necesita una oración continua.

in the power of the Holy Spirit, my hope has not been disappointed.

This is how I witness the “apostolic” Church on a very practical level. The Holy Spirit is not just some indeterminate power that somehow adds a mysterious and entirely transcendent aspect to how we live and move and have our being. Think about it. It was through the power of the Holy Spirit that the most practical and consequential action of God took place. Mary conceived Jesus in her own body and the Word was Made Flesh. We can presume what the neighbors had to say about this. May Saint Joseph be blessed because he spared Mary the shame that could have been poured out upon her by those who had no clue to what God was doing.

The Holy Spirit brought the disciples out of hiding to boldly go forth and preach the Gospel of repentance and salvation. They stepped out into the square on Pentecost, and everyone thought they were drunk. It didn’t look pretty. The early Church found itself in prison cells, in exile, disowned and shipwrecked. In the eyes of the world, the whole Christ Event was folly. And it will always look that way to those who lack the insight that only comes through love, compassion, and mercy.

The time of pastoral change in the life of a parish is an invitation to deepen our understanding and appreciation of our communion as Church. We are the people of God. We are the Body of Christ. Our pride and our ego are loath to admit we depend on or belong to anyone else. That’s how Satan tricked Adam and Eve. If the Fall was the greatest expression of wanton individualism, then redemption must respond as communion and community. I know I take so much pride in the good that the Catholic Church accomplishes throughout the world. Each day I am inspired by the holiness of the faithful. But what brings me the greatest joy is walking with a person who, having recognized his or her need for repentance, experiences true peace and reconciliation which can only come from Our Father in

heaven.

Once, the apostles asked Jesus to turn away the crowd because they were worried that they wouldn’t have enough food. I imagine it went something like this: “Send them away, and once they are gone, we can eat the little we brought along without feeling guilty.” It wasn’t that they didn’t have compassion. I think it was more that they lacked faith in the power of Christ. And so they would respond to this problem by ignoring the needs of the many folks who hungered and thirsted for God. We know what Jesus said, “Just start feeding them with what you have and God will take care of the rest.”

Those first steps of charity and generosity, real and practical signs of our trust in God, are sometimes hard to take. Sometimes God might have to push us a bit to knock us off balance to take those first steps. He has done it before. Abraham was asked to leave his ancestral home and go to a foreign land. The drama of Leah and Rachel rivals anything you might see in a soap opera. Moses lived the life of a prince and lost it all in a fit of vengeful rage. Bathsheba lost her husband through the treachery of the King. All these biblical figures seemed to be hoodwinked by God. And yet each had a significant role in the plan of salvation.

You know that verse, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Now that is an expression of disbelief! So yes, Kirksville, Lake Ozark, and Wardsville might not inspire awe in the way that Mount Horeb or Bethlehem might. But the same Spirit of God is at work in these small, Midwestern towns. In the Gospels, faith is not so much a type of knowing as a type of being. People don’t “have” faith as much as live faithfully. Our faith finds its expression in my many acts we engage in each and every day out of fidelity to the Gospel. Do we simply show up in answer to Christ’s call? Do we speak words inspired by the Gospel that uplift, heal, and reconcile? Do we go where the Father is leading us, like Abraham, Moses, Peter, and Christ himself who was

always led by the Spirit?

My trust in God’s providence help me put my hands in the hands of Bishop McAuliffe and promise obedience to him and his successors. It was quite terrifying. But I welcomed that opportunity to make that leap of faith into the hands of God Himself. The love of God wasn’t some abstract ideal. I experienced that love first of all in my family and friends. But what really allowed me to say yes to Christ’s invitation to become a priest was that I could count on the company of believers no matter where I was assigned. The people of Our Lady of the Lake have been given the gift of faith—fidelity to the mission of evangelization and sanctification. That faith will sustain you and lead many more to know the light of Christ.

MINISTERIO EN ESPAÑOL

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ORACIONES NECESARIAS



Que ellos depositen su confianza en el Señor Jesucristo:

Marilyn Thompson, Mary Ann Russell, Don Harding, Mary Burke, Debbie Noland, Rose Bouzek, Michelle Harris, David Kneeter, Ruth Watts, Jane Grening, Elijah Torres, Patricia Casper, Dr. Charles Peterson, Msgr. Michael Wilbers, Don Harding, Joseph Schutzenhofer, Gunther Skaletz, Tim McDermott, Adam Hinrichs, Debra Ehlers, Dennis Wedding, Mary Burke, Clark Gruninger, Pat Caswell, Dr. Robert Mason, Lucille Needham.



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