

The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

The Lord ascends with the sound of a trumpet!

Masses For The Week

Sun 12 The Ascension of the Lord

08:00 am Mother's Day Remembrance

Thr 16 Easter Weekday

12:05 pm +Gilbert & June Leyendecker (Sandra Leyendecker)

The Ascension of the Lord

In the Ascension, we find the completion of Christ's earthly mission—our redemption is accomplished. In his Passion, Jesus lovingly bears the weight of the whole world's sin. In his Crucifixion, he is raised up that he might defeat death. In his Resurrection, he unveils the life to come. And today, he, the "pioneer and perfecter of faith" (Heb 12:2), is raised up in glory, opening our path into the heavenly sanctuary. Thus, the Ascension, as Saint John Paul II said, "indicates the goal to which personal and universal history is hastening:" heavenly glory. We are indeed bound for heaven, and the Ascension reminds us that our gaze is to be fixed on Christ in glory even as we labor tirelessly for him in this present age.

The Sanctuary Candle



This Week will be Burning for +All Souls in Purgatory (Sandra Leyendecker)

Good News!

May 12, 2024

Ascension of the Lord (B)

Acts 1:1-11 / Ephesians 1:17-23 or Ephesians 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13 / Mark 16:15-20

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

As a child, I remember our back yard had a fruit tree planted by my grandfather. Each year the tree bore apples and pears, both on the same tree. My grandfather explained that he had planted an apple sapling and then had grafted a pear branch onto its trunk. What continues to intrigue me about that tree is how the very same nourishment, the same sap out of the earth and traveling up the trunk, would produce such different fruits.

It is much like the power of the Holy Spirit given to human beings at the time of the ascension. Various gifts make themselves known, at times in the same person, over the course of a lifetime. A friend loved being a mom and raising a family. After the children had grown and went on their way, she went back to school and became a nurse. A local pastor was a pediatrician. After his wife died, he decided to become a priest. John Grisham, educated as an attorney, began writing novels. All apples and pears, the fruit of God's Spirit.

We tend to ask young people what they would like to be when they grow up. A better question might be to ask what they think God would like them to be. However someone might answer such a question, what is important is to do it with "humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve unity of the spirit through the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:2-3)—all prompted by God's Spirit. ●

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Blue Mass

TO HONOR THE WORK OF ALL PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL

The Diocese of Laredo will be celebrating the Annual Blue Mass at San Agustín Cathedral on Monday, May 13, 2024 at 12:00 pm, noon. The Annual Blue Mass honors men and women in law enforcement who admirably fulfill their duty to serve and protect our community. Everyone is invited to attend!

LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Olga Gonzalez, Cristina Zarate, Mina Aldaco, Mario Garcia, Ramona Alaniz, Edna Flores, Ana Maria Finley, Mary G. Finley, Margarita Inocencio, Lucia Rodriguez, Maria Teresa Cassiano, Dotty Guffey, and Rodrigo Medina.

A PRAYER FOR MOTHERS



O patient God, you never tire of waiting for each of us to grow into the person you created us to be. Bless mothers as they wait. Give them wisdom to know when to offer help and when to be silent. Help them to love as you do, willing always to forgive and encourage. Grace them with faith to see their children not only as they are but also, as the beautiful reflection of yourself that they are becoming.

Mary Van Balen Holt

2024 Catholic Sharing Appeal Report as of April 2024 IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH



\$ 10,635.00 - Our Gifts to Date
\$ 14,075.00 - Our Pledges to Date
\$ 2,996.00 - Our Parish Goal
28 - Families Participating

I am with you even to the end of the world

Last Sunday's Collection
Envelopes: \$ 996.00

Loose: \$ 24.00

Children's Envelopes: \$ 2.00

Total Sunday Collection: \$ 1,022.00

Total Expenses Last Week: \$ 632.90

Dear Padre

May 12, 2024

What were the main changes brought about by the Second Vatican Council?

It has been sixty years since the Second Vatican Council and we are still learning from what Pope John Paul II called the "fundamental event in the contemporary Church" and "the constant reference point of every pastoral action." Vatican II's sixteen documents focus on a wide variety of topics, touching almost every conceivable aspect of Church and Christian life. Four of the documents bear the title of "Constitution" and contain the core formulations of the council's teachings.

The most visible change might be in how we worship. But even more fundamental is the emphasis on the Church as the "people of God." Baptism admits all to the same journey of faith, initiating each person with differing talents and abilities into the mission of the Church. Thus, the faithful must be "led to that fully conscious, and active participation in liturgical celebrations which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy. Such participation by the Christian people as 'a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a redeemed people' (1 Peter 2:9; see 2:4-5), is their right and duty by reason of their baptism" (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy [Sacrosanctum Concilium], 14). The hierarchy continues, but it is to hear and serve God's people; "servant leadership" is the way to exercise authority in the Church of Vatican II. ●

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

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