

**NOTE: Some links embedded in this document have been disabled.  
We apologize for any inconvenience.**

## A WORD FROM FR. LEWIS ...

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HS  
JMJ

### The Solemnity of the Ascension

Dear Saints-in-the-Making,

As we celebrate this weekend the joy of our Risen Savior Jesus Christ seated at the right hand of God in His Divinity and His humanity, we also prepare our heart and soul for the Solemnity of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit descends upon the Apostles. I encourage you to pray the Novena to the Holy Spirit found here in [this link](#) so as to prepare spiritually for this glorious day.

Our flag is at half-staff this weekend in honor of those almost 100,000 Americans who have died from the effects of the novel Coronavirus. We keep them in our prayers. Our flag will remain at half staff on Monday, Memorial Day, in honor of those who gave their life in defense of our country and its freedoms. We commend them to God, the Lord of love and mercy.

You have all endured much these past two months and have drawn more closely to God and shared in our Lord's Passion as a result of the closure of the parishes to public worship. As your servant-Priest, I am very proud of your perseverance and confident trust in God. With the Governor's including church services in Phase 1 of *Maryland Strong* and the Diocese's own guidelines *Restoring Public Celebration of Mass*, I announce to you with Paschal joy the glorious news that Mass will be celebrated publicly for the first time, with the reception of the Most Holy Eucharist, on the Vigil of Pentecost, May 30, all the more reason to pray the Novena to the Holy Spirit cited above.

In the interest of the common good, we need to begin slowly and prudently. Therefore, please read carefully [my letter](#) to the parish vetted by our Parish Council about our own phased re-opening, *BE Parish: Bridging the Gap*, as it explains thoroughly our procedure and protocol in moving forward as well as the necessity of contacting the parish office ahead of time to communicate your interest in attending the public celebration of Mass. For those who are more comfortable remaining at home at present and those most vulnerable or at risk, the Bishop's dispensation from the obligation of Sunday Mass still stands. To hear Bishop Malooly's message to the faithful as we prepare to once again open our churches and hold public Masses, click [here](#).

Please know of my continued prayers for all of you as well as my joy-filled hopes of seeing you all again soon.

God love you. I do.

Fr. Lewis

Click [here](#) to access the readings and Order of the Mass for the Feast of the Ascension courtesy of Magnificat.

## OTHER NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

### REMEMBERING IN PRAYER THIS WEEK...

Patricia Brady ~ Peggy Brittingham ~ Joan & Frank Mollick ~ Kathleen Green ~ Patricia McWilliams ~ Helen Dill ~ Cheryl Harris ~ Judy Edmonston ~ Edie Crank ~ Patricia Freedman ~ Michael Alt ~ Michael Keating ~ Christina Jewell ~ Debbye Jackson ~ Kenny & Debbie Winn ~ Clark Johnson ~ Janet Kibler ~ Karen Coward ~ Kelly Presnell ~ Ron Safchick ~ Rita Miedl ~ Nelson Owens ~ Roy Dean ~ Tobey McWilliams ~ Agnes Metzler ~ Cynthia Makas ~ Ernie Blazejak ~ Alex Wood ~ James Coleman ~ George Simacourbe ~ Delaney Tull ~ Su Lappin ~ Al Buccalo ~ Maria & Keith Poptanich ~ Mark Sellman ~ Ben Shirley ~ Georgia Smithmyer ~ Doris Sharp ~ Kevin Flynn ~ Frances & Edward Cartrette ~ Rob Pasciak ~ Ann Blazejak ~ Gage & Shawn Kelley ~ Benjamin Pin & Family ~ Ruth Susini ~ Rita Kucharski ~ Julia Seiler ~ Ginny Lewis ~ Butch Petroski ~ Michael Petroski ~ Ruth McCullough ~ Mary Jo Clancy ~ Gary Stewart ~ Jeffrey Kinnamon ~ Carmen Guzman ~ Gavin Hood ~ Craig Kelley ~ Ron Champagne ~ Larry Close ~ Anne Ogletree ~ Joan Dent ~ Rose Marie Wood ~ Theresa Morcombe ~ Mike Cirillo ~ Connie Walton

**Do you know someone in need of prayer? *Let us know and we'll add their name to the list.* Has someone on the list experienced healing? *Let us know if we can remove their name and offer prayers of thanksgiving.***

### JUNE MASS INTENTIONS & MASS CARDS

**Here is a link to a list of the current Mass intentions through June 30th.**

If you are in need of a Mass card, please contact Lori Parks ([lparks@beparish.com](mailto:lparks@beparish.com)). Cards can be mailed to recipients on your behalf or to you directly.

### PARISH OFFERINGS, ONLINE GIVING and HELP IF YOU NEED IT

During this time when our churches are closed, many of our expenses continue. We also recognize that these times may find our parish families facing difficult financial circumstances. As you are able, offertory and other weekly collection donations can be mailed to the Parish Office (PO Box 459, Ridgely MD 21660). Or, you can sign-up for **WeShare**, our parish's online giving platform, by visiting this link (and [here](#) is a simple guide to online giving). Should you have any questions about offertory or online giving, you can contact Marie Freeman at [mfreeman@beparish.com](mailto:mfreeman@beparish.com). Most importantly, if you find yourself in need of financial assistance, especially for things like food, rent, or utilities, please contact the Parish Office via e-mail ([parishoffice@beparish.com](mailto:parishoffice@beparish.com) or [frlewis@beparish.com](mailto:frlewis@beparish.com)) or by phone (410-634-2253).

### 2020 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL ~ Seeing Christ in the Faces of Others

*"No one has ever seen God. Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us, and His love is brought to perfection in us." 1 John 4:14.*

The Annual Catholic Appeal, with its theme, *"Seeing Christ in the Faces of Others"* continues throughout our diocese. Funds raised through the Appeal bring hope, comfort, compassion, and love into the lives of many people. Appeal supported ministries touch thousands of individuals and families throughout Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore providing essential service that knows no race,

no age, no social class, but rather knows only those who come to the Church for help are special in the eyes of Our Lord. Now more than ever, these ministries are needed. Your support demonstrates your compassion and concern for God's people and your willingness to share your blessings with those in need.

During the week of June 1, you may receive a mailing from Bishop Malooly inviting your participation in the Annual Catholic Appeal. For those of you who have given to this year's Appeal, thank you for your generosity. For those who have not, please prayerfully consider supporting this important effort. You may visit [cdow.org/annualcatholi...](http://cdow.org/annualcatholi...) to learn more about the Annual Catholic Appeal. And, be sure to view **this brief video** offering moving testimony from recipients of featured Appeal supported ministries.

### **MAGNIFICAT OFFERING SPECIAL \$5 SUBSCRIPTIONS**

In an effort to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus, when we return to public worship you will not find hymnals in the churches. Therefore, we would like to share with you that MAGNIFICAT is offering **special \$5 subscriptions** to enable the faithful to follow the liturgy with personal copies of either a printed or digital edition of MAGNIFICAT. New or returning subscribers can choose between a **3-month print subscription** (including digital access) or a **6-month digital subscription** (online or iOS and Android App). **Details are available at [magnificat.com...](http://magnificat.com...)**

**MAGNIFICAT includes daily prayers for morning and evening, texts of the Mass, meditations on the daily Gospel, lives of saints, spiritual articles, art commentaries, and more. Complimentary access is currently available for all MAGNIFICAT editions and *MagnifiKid!* through May.**

***\*NOTE: Subscriptions ordered in May will begin with the July issue. Digital access is immediate.***