

# ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC CHURCH

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
MAY 17, 2009

MASS SCHEDULE  
SATURDAY VIGIL: 5:00 PM  
SUNDAY, 8:00, 10:00, 11:30 AM, 5:30 PM  
1:00, 2:30, 4:00 PM (SPANISH)  
MONDAY - FRIDAY: 6:15, 8:00 AM SATURDAY: 8:00 AM



LOVE  
ONE ANOTHER

*“It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the father in my name he may give you”*

~John 15:16



## PARISH MAILING ADDRESS

3030 Gus Thomasson Rd., Dallas, TX 75228

Office Hours: Monday through Friday

8 am—5 pm

972-279-6155

FAX 972-686-7510

Website www.spxdallas.org

St. Pius X Catholic School 972-279-2339

Diocese of Dallas 214-528-2240

www.cathdal.org

## PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Michael Guadagnoli

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Arturo Kanee

Deacons: David Leerson, John Schell  
Michael Shaw, Paul Powers

St. Pius X School: Dr. Carol Newman

972-279-2339

Religious Education: Josie Pacheco

972-279-2558

Early Care: Carolyn Blassingame

972-270-6266

Youth Ministry: Samantha Patterson

972-682-3585

## SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION:

Baptism: Parishioners registered for 3 months please call the parish office to register for the classes.

Reconciliation: Saturday, 3:30 - 4:45 pm

Matrimony: Call the church office at least 6 months prior to desired wedding date to make arrangements.

Ministry to the sick: Priest hospital visits, call the church office. For lay minister visits to the homebound, call Jim and Patsy Savidge at 214-327-5811.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults: Please call the church office for more information concerning RCIA for non-Catholics.

Ministry to the Needy: St. Vincent de Paul Society 972-278-4815

6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

Overused and misunderstood, love has become a synonym for like, enjoy, desire, and want. We love everything from a new restaurant, to a pair of shoes, to people we admire. But to really love means more than just liking someone, or enjoying his or her company. Love means sacrifice and commitment and change. It means we give of ourselves so that someone else will benefit. Love means we act like God acts.

How can you tell when two people are in love? A wise woman used to say that you just have to look in their eyes. Since the eyes were the windows to the soul, you could see the soul glowing in joy and happiness. It is more than a passing interest, physical attraction or a social friendship. Love changes people, making them happier, more content and full of hope.

How can you tell when someone loves God? A wise man named Jesus used to say that you just have to see what they do. When people love God, they also love others. They show respect, kindness, generosity and compassion. It is a love that seeks the good of all, friend and foe alike. We think and act as God does, giving of ourselves for the sake of others. You will know if that love is genuine because it will change hearts, making others happier, more content and full of faith, hope and love.

~James Gaffney, © 2009 Karides Lic. to St. George Publishing  
[jim@stgeorgepublishing.com](mailto:jim@stgeorgepublishing.com)

**ROGATION DAYS:** The Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday prior to the celebration of the Ascension of our Lord were known as Rogation Days (the “Lesser Litanies”), days set aside for special prayers and penance in order to beseech Our Lord for a successful harvest from fields and gardens. Rogation Days can help us to realize our dependence on God as well as our part in making good use of the land, our skill, and all the blessings God provides for us. Let us continue to thank God for the much needed rain and for the abundance with which He has blessed us.

**Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of Vocations**

In talking with your children, have you neglected to raise the call to Church ministry? The process of answering God’s call begins in childhood. Throughout adolescence and adulthood, the attitudes assumed in childhood begin to influence the course of one’s life. A vocation or a talent will not grow to fruition unless it is nurtured in childhood and adolescence by a parent. Often children talk about what they want to be “when they grow up”:

doctors, lawyers, athletes, nurses, movie stars, teachers, carpenters. They may talk about these roles, but do they ever talk about being a priest, sister or brother? You are the hand of God — encourage your children to consider Church ministry. Serra for priestly and religious vocations

- Talk positively and enthusiastically about activities of priests and religious.
- Encourage role playing for the very young, help them to think about ways in which they can care for and help people.
- Make prayer a normal part of family decision-making.



## WELCOME TO THE NEW SPX BULLETIN

**FORMAT!** We hope you will find contents our bulletin informative, timely, and, in some cases, inspirational. Please let us know what you think! Send your comments and suggestions to [spxbulletineditor@spxdallas.org](mailto:spxbulletineditor@spxdallas.org). If you or your ministry need to have information included in our weekly bulletin, please send the information to same email address 2 weeks in advance of the publication date. Don't forget to include the date you need the information published in the subject line of the bulletin.

**Ascension Sunday:** Our diocese has transferred the celebration of the **Ascension of Our Lord** to Sunday May 24, 2009.

### SPX Organizations meeting for Leaders on June 6, at 9:00 am in Communion Hall.

All the leaders will receive their annual letter concerning their organization's calendar for the 2009-2010 season soon. If your organization has elected a new leader, please contact Cindy immediately so that the letter is sent to the right person. All new calendars will be due by June 1<sup>st</sup>. If you do not turn in your calendar, your organization will not be recorded in the Room Reservation book. If you have any questions, please contact Cindy at 972-279-6155, Pastoral Office.

**Mark your calendars now! The Topical Bible Study class** for the first eight-week summer session will begin on Thursday, June 11th from 7:00 – 9:00 pm in Communion Hall. Deacons John Schell and Paul Powers, along with Earl Colomb, will help us understand "Spiritual Warfare" through the study of the Scriptures. Watch the bulletin for further details.

**Christian Living Series:** We meet today, Sunday, May 17th at 9:00 a.m. in Room 401. Coffee and donuts are served. Come join us.

**Over 55 Club Meeting on Tuesday!** The Over 55 Club will meet on Tuesday, May 19. Mass offered by Msgr. Weinzapel begins at 9:30 followed by the meeting in the Parish Hall at 10:15. Couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary will be honored. Remember your St. Vincent de Paul donations.

**Attention All 2009 High School, University, Vocational, Military Graduates:** We are proud of you and would like to honor your achievements. Please send us your graduation information and choice for higher education or higher education information with degree earned. Information may be sent to Alicia Mendoza, Development Director, at [amendoza@spxdallas.org](mailto:amendoza@spxdallas.org)

*Easter Duty Obligation: Holy Communion should be received worthily (after Confession, if necessary) anytime beginning on Easter Sunday, April 12th, through Trinity Sunday, June 7th.*

*Pray for vocations to grow in your family,  
especially to the Diocesan Priesthood  
and Religious Life*

## THIS WEEK AT ST. PIUS X

### Sunday, May 17

- 2:00 p.m. Filipino Mass, Communion Hall
- 5:30 p.m. Baptism Class (Sp), 401

### Monday, May 18

- 7:00 p.m. Rosary, Church
- 6:30 p.m. CCD Teacher Dinner, Parish Hall
- 7:00 p.m. ESL Classes, 202,203,204,205,206
- 7:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, 401
- 7:00 p.m. School Board Meeting, Media Center

### Tuesday, May 19

- 10:15 a.m. Over 55 Club Meeting, Parish Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Children's Choir (Sp), 404
- 7:00 p.m. Sacramental Class, 401
- 7:00 p.m. ESL Classes, 202,203,204,205,206
- 7:30 p.m. Legion of Mary, Spiritual L. Center

### Wednesday, May 20

- 9:30 a.m. Bible Study, Spiritual Life Center
- 6:30 p.m. Prayer & Praise, 401
- 7:00 p.m. Lector Meeting (Sp), 403
- 7:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus (Sp), 400
- 7:00 p.m. ESL Classes, 202,203,204,205,206

### Thursday, May 21

- 9:00 a.m. Quilters, Brownhouse
- 5:00 p.m. Choir (Sp), 404
- 7:00 p.m. Finance Council Meeting, Conf. Rm.
- 7:00 p.m. MOMS, Brownhouse
- 7:00 p.m. Rosary, Church
- 7:00 p.m. ESL Classes, 202,203,204,205,206

### Friday, May 22

- 3:00 p.m. Prayer Group (Sp), Church
- 6:30 p.m. Sports Banquet, Communion Hall
- 6:30 p.m. Bible Study (Sp), 403
- 7:00 p.m. Prayer Group (Sp), Parish Hall

### Saturday, May 23

- 9:00 a.m. ESL Classes, 202,203,204,205,206
- 11:30 a.m. Baptisms, Church

## MASS ATTENDANCE ON SUNDAY, MAY 3:

5:00 p.m. (Sat)	283	1:00 p.m.	878
8:00 a.m. (Sun)	366	2:30 p.m.	901
10:00 a.m.	636	4:00 p.m.	600
11:30 a.m.	532	5:30 p.m.	384

Total Attendance: 4580



## SCHOOL NEWS

Do you sometimes wonder why some of our students are not in their “regular” school uniform but instead are wearing a blue tiger t-shirt and jeans (casual uniform)? We have special privileges for our students who work hard to make good grades. Students who make all “A’s” and are on the “A” honor roll at the end of each 9-week grading period are allowed to wear the casual uniform and shoes of their choice each Friday during the following 9-week period. Students on the “A-B” honor roll are allowed to wear the casual uniform each Friday also. Then on the Monday following each grade report, students who completed and turned in all their homework in every subject for that grading period are allowed to wear the casual uniform. So, when you see one of our students in his/her casual uniform, please congratulate them for their hard work and dedication to being the best student they can be!

Everyone is welcome to join us for our year-end band program at 10:00 a.m. May 20 in the gym. Our students have learned a lot this year, so we expect a great program! We thank our band teachers Katrina, Matt, Cindy, and Tony from The Music Learning Band Program for working with our students!

We invite everyone to come visit and learn about the excellent education that is provided in your parish school. We have a strong academic program, a rich faith formation program, a safe, caring environment, numerous extracurricular programs, and a loving, highly qualified staff. It is our mission to educate and nurture the entire child – spiritually, academically, physically, and socially. If you have always thought Catholic education was out of your reach for financial reasons, please come talk to us so that we may show you how affordable it can be. You may schedule a visit by calling the school office at 972-279-2339.

## SPX YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Ministry Web Page – Have you ever checked out the SPX Youth Web Page before? You really should! There is a lot of information on upcoming events as well as pictures from previous events. You can also download forms for most upcoming events on the “permission forms” link. Just go to [www.spxdallas.org](http://www.spxdallas.org) then click on the “Youth Ministry” link. Check it out today and don’t miss out on all of the fun!



**summer SNAC**  
SUNDAY NIGHT AFTER CHURCH

ANNOUNCING SUMMER S.N.A.C. NITES!!!  
Summer S.N.A.C. Nites - Each Sunday evening during the months of June and July we will have Summer S.N.A.C. Nites. (Sunday Nights After Church). Each week will have a different theme but you can always count on something to eat and lots of fun and fellowship. The Youth Room will open on Sunday nights at 6:45 p.m. and will close at 8:30 p.m. Come by and check it out! It's open to everyone currently in grades 5-12.

Coming up this summer!

Fun in the Sun at Hawaiian Falls - June 23 – Don’t miss out on this fun and relaxing day at Hawaiian Falls in Garland. Open to students of the parish that will be in grades 5 - 8 in the fall of '09. Families are welcome to join us. Cost is only \$13.00 per person and includes entrance into the park and lunch. We’ll meet at St. Pius at 10 a.m. and return when the park closes.

PARENTS!!! Are you interested in chaperoning one of the Youth Ministry events going on this summer? Did you know that if you attend a Youth Ministry event as a chaperone you go for FREE? And, if you have younger children that you need to bring they can join us for the same price as the teens. Think about coming and being a part of our summer fun.

## SPX RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The CCD program congratulates the 269 students who celebrated First Communion on May 2nd & 9th. The Confirmation Mass for 82 students was celebrated on May 4th. We would like to thank all our teachers for their hard work and dedication.



Special thanks to Fr. Guadagnoli, Fr. Arturo and all our parish community for keeping these students in their prayers.

## EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION CENTER

**Positions Open:** The Early Care Center has positions open for classroom teachers and kitchen personnel. Applicants must be at least 18 years old, have at least a high school diploma or GED, and speak English. Experience is preferred, but will train qualified applicants. Please apply in person at the Center office at 2721 San Vicente between the hours of 7:00 am and 4:00 pm. No telephone calls please.

**Hot Fun in the Summer Time!** We are now registering for our summer camp for children 4 through 12 years old. Enrollment will be limited so please reserve your child’s spot now. Camp will begin Monday, June 8 and end Friday, August 21. Again this summer we will have an action packed summer with swimming lessons everyday included at no extra charge. For more information, please stop by the Center office or call 972-279-3232.



It is with great joy to God that you are invited to join the Most Rev. Kevin J. Farrell at the ordination to the Priesthood of Rev. Mr. Vincent C. Anyama. The Rite of Ordination will take place at the Cathedral Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe at 10:00 a.m. on June 13th, 2009. A light reception will follow the ordination in the Grand Salon of the cathedral. Father Anyama will celebrate his first priestly Mass at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Richardson on June 13th, 2009 at 12:15 p.m. Let us join our Bishop in thanking God and remembering always to continue to pray for Vocations.



## SCOUT EVENTS

**Clean out those closets!** Troop 746 is collecting donations for their spring garage sale. Please drop off any resellable items at the scout room on Friday, May 29th from 5:30p.m. to 8:30p.m.. Then come shop with us the next day at the Elks Lodge parking lot at 4201 Gus Thomasson.

## SAFE ENVIRONMENT

NEW ON-LINE SAFE ENVIRONMENT SCREENING FORM are available on the St Pius website in English and Spanish. **PRIOR TO ATTENDING A TRAINING SESSION:** Follow the Safe Environment link and under Forms, Policies, Manuals--click the option to complete the form on-line. The completed form is then sent electronically to our Safe Environment Director.

Veteran volunteers needing to complete their annual training requirement should visit our website for several options. We have three streaming videos with self tests and a module from the Texas Dept. of Family and Protective Services on "Adult Abuse". All parish volunteers are required to have annual training! Questions can be directed to Ginger Farrell at gfarrell@spxdallas.org or by calling 972-279-6155.

**Safety Concern: ALL children leaving the sanctuary MUST be ACCOMPANIED by an ADULT (this includes the foyer and restroom areas of the church). Our ushers will be sending your child back to their pew if they are without a guardian!**

*FAMILY LIFE CAN BUILD VALUES integral to a strong vocation — whether to priesthood, religious life or marriage. Teaching your children to value commitment, service and prayer will help them make strong vocation decisions as adults and live out those vocations with success and fulfillment.*

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, May 16

5:00 p.m. +Rebecca Rhodes (Danielson Family)

### Sunday May 17 *Sixth Sunday of Easter*

8:00 a.m. +Bobby Russell (Claire Family)

10:00 a.m. +Mark Logsdon (Roger and Marty Fox)

11:30 a.m. Pro Populo

1:00 p.m. +Juanita Herrera (Children)

2:30 p.m. Monica Lozano (Robert and Norma)

4:00 p.m. +Alejandro Mendez (Mendez Family)

5:30 p.m. +Robert Russell (Joy and George Kasper)

### Monday, May 18 *Pope John I*

6:15 a.m. Mary Eriken (Florence Eriken)

8:00 a.m. +All Souls (Tien Nguyen)

### Tuesday, May 19

6:15 a.m. +Robert Russell (Joy and George Kasper)

8:00 a.m. +Dana Meara (Denise Lucas)

7:00 p.m. +Jesus Olvera (Carmen Olvera)

### Wednesday, May 20 *St. Bernadine of Sienna*

6:15 a.m. +Mary Lavolpicella (Armstrong Family)

8:00 a.m. +Robert Russell (Joy and George Kasper)

### Thursday, May 21

6:15 a.m. +Dana Meara (Thomas and Ann Stone)

8:00 a.m. +Robert Russell (Joy and George Kasper)

### Friday, May 22 *St. Rita of Cascia*

6:15 a.m. +Janet Beckham (Beckham Family)

8:00 a.m. +Jennie Patrono (Beckham Family)

### Saturday, May 23

8:00 a.m. +Robert Russell (Joy and George Kasper)

5:00 p.m. +Carmen Trevino (Santos Trevino)

### Sunday, May 24 *The Ascension of the Lord*

8:00 a.m. +Thomas Martino (Ed and Lena Prasifka)

10:00 a.m. +Ruth Nauret (Walter Weicicoskia)

11:30 a.m. Jane Tarant (Jim and Patsy Savidge)

1:00 p.m. Pro Populo

2:30 p.m. +Gregorio Loera (Cuevas Family)

4:00 p.m. +Jesus Montoya (Mother)

5:30 p.m. +Robert Russell (Joy and George Kasper)

## VISITS TO THE SICK

Please let us know when a member is ill or elderly, or in the hospital or facing surgery. If possible please do not wait until it becomes an emergency, when a visit and prayer and perhaps the administration of the Sacrament of the Sick may be appropriate and helpful, so that we can do our best to attend to the people in need.

## PARISH SICK LIST—REQUEST FOR PRAYER

If a family member would like to place the name of a loved one (relative) on the Parish Sick List or would like the name to be included in the Prayers of the Faithful, please call the office at 972-279-6155. For Prayers of the Faithful: The name of the sick person will be announced for ONE weekend only (per instance). Afterwards, the name will be placed on the Parish Sick List. A copy of this list will be placed on the Altar and the sick person will be remembered privately by the priest celebrating the Mass. The Parish Sick List will run for the entire calendar year. Names may be removed at the request of family members. We ask that family members call for relatives. Any requests from "friends" or non-family members will be confirmed with a family member of the sick person before being placed on the Prayers of the Faithful.



**Junta de líderes de todos los grupos de San Pío X el 8 de junio, a las 9:00 a. m. en el Salón Comunión.** Todos los líderes pronto van a recibir una carta acerca del calendario 2009-10. Si su grupo ha elegido un líder nuevo, por favor, llama a Cindy inmediatamente para que la carta llegue a la persona correcta. El último día para entregar calendarios es el 1° de junio. Si no entregas tu calendario, tu grupo no tendrá salón reservado para sus juntas. Si tienes preguntas, por favor, llámale a Cindy a la oficina de la iglesia 972-279-6155.

**Renovación Carismática Católica aquí en San Pío.** El Padre Arturo dirige un grupo de oración todos los viernes a las 7:00 p.m. en el Salón Parroquial; favor de traer Biblia, pluma y cuaderno.

**BUSQUEDA Para una Madurez Cristiana.** El retiro se compone de temas y dinámicas dirigidas especialmente para jóvenes de 18 a 30 años que sean solteros (no divorciados) sin hijos. Próxima Búsqueda 22, 23 y 24 de mayo; para más información favor de llamar a Cynthia Cruz (972)693-8660.

**¡Atención Jóvenes!** ¿Quieres que Jesús sea el centro de tu vida? Ven y Diviértete con nosotros, Juventud Católica de Jesús para jóvenes en grados 6-12. Este y todos los domingos de 2 p. m. – 4 p. m. en el salón para jóvenes dentro del salón para jóvenes dentro del salón Comunión. ¡Te esperamos!

**VISITAS A LOS ENFERMOS:** Por favor llámanos cuando un miembro está enfermo o viejito o en el hospital o va a tener una operación. Si es posible, por favor, no esperes a que sea una emergencia, cuando una visita, oración o talvez el Sacramento de la Unción de los enfermos pueda ayudar, y hacer lo mejor que podamos para atender a la gente que lo necesite.

**Lista de enfermos en la Parroquia:** Si un miembro de la familia quiere poner el nombre de un familiar en la lista de enfermos de la parroquia o quiere agregar el nombre en las peticiones de los fieles, por favor llama a la oficina 972-279-6155. En las peticiones de los Fieles: el nombre de la persona enferma se mencionará solamente UNA vez. Después pondremos el nombre en la lista de los enfermos de la Parroquia. Una copia de esta lista estará en el altar y la persona enferma será recordada privadamente por el sacerdote que celebra la Misa. Esta lista se usará por todo el año. Los nombres se pueden quitar de la lista por la solicitud de algún familiar. Pedimos que algún familiar llame por sus parientes. Cualquier amigo o persona que no sean de la familia será verificado por algún familiar de la persona enferma antes de escribir su nombre en las peticiones de los fieles.

**EL PRÓXIMO DOMINGO ES DÍA DE LA ASCENSIÓN DEL SEÑOR. LAS LECTURAS SON: HECHOS 1:1-11; EFESIOS 4:1-13; MARCOS 16:15-20.**

**REGÍSTRENSE PARA SER MIEMBROS DE LA PARROQUIA.** Para el beneficio de la iglesia y también para su beneficio, ya que siendo miembro de la parroquia lo ponemos en nuestra computadora y cuando lo necesite podemos hacerle una carta que compruebe el tiempo que usted ha vivido en este país y también su buen carácter moral. Algunas personas han venido a nuestra oficina a pedirnos una carta para inmigración pero cuando buscamos sus datos y no los encontramos, les decimos que no podemos darles ninguna carta. Algunos nos lo piden como un favor o ayuda PERO NO PODEMOS MENTIR; otros se molestan e insisten, pero aunque lo sentimos mucho no podemos ayudarles. La conclusión es: favor de llenar la forma de inscripción aquí en la iglesia los domingos o en la oficina de lunes a viernes de 8:00 a.m. a 5:00 p.m. Y así, podemos ayudarles.

**CELEBRACIÓN DE QUINCEAÑOS EN SAN PÍO X.** En nuestra parroquia San Pío X daremos la oportunidad a todas las jovencitas y jovencitos de celebrar sus 15 años. Cada segundo domingo del mes en la misa de 2:30 el Padre dará una bendición después de la Comunión a quienes cumplan 15 años. Harán la renovación de las promesas bautismales, el Padre les dará una bendición especial, consagración a Jesús y a María por parte de los(as) quinceañeras, bendición y entrega de un rosario y una Biblia, y se les regalará una rosa a las quinceañeras. No tiene que ser miembro de la Iglesia, solamente llámenos a la oficina de la Iglesia para darnos el nombre de la persona que cumple 15 años. Vamos a hacer esta celebración mensualmente; no tendremos quinceañeras privadas.

**AMBIENTE SEGURO:** Todos los niños que salen de la Iglesia tienen que ser acompañados por un adulto (esto incluye el pasillo de entrada a la iglesia y los baños). Los acomodadores van a regresar con sus papás a los niños que vean solos. Cuando entre o salga de los baños tenga cuidado porque una persona puede estar al otro lado de la puerta.

**IGLESIA CATÓLICA SAN PÍO X**  
3030 GUS THOMASSON RD., DALLAS, TX 75228  
972-279-6155 FAX 972-686-7510  
WWW.SPXDALLAS.ORG

**PÁRROCO:** Rev. Michael Guadagnoli  
**VICARIO:** Rev. Arturo Kanee  
**SECRETARIOS:** Lilia Luna y Martha Cano

**MISAS EN ESPAÑOL:** 1:00, 2:30, 4:00 pm en la tarde

**CONFESIONES:** Todos los sábados de 3:30 a 4:45 de la tarde

**MATRIMONIO:** Por favor, llame a la ofician de la iglesia por lo menos 6 meses antes de la fecha planeada.

**BAUTISMO:** Para Bautizar a sus hijos los papas tienen que ser miembros de la parroquia por lo menos 3 meses. Por favor, llame a la oficina para inscribirse para las clases de Bautismo.

**MINISTERIO DE VISITACIÓN A LOS ENFERMOS:** Nuestros Ministerios van a llevar la comunión a los enfermos ya sea en casa o en el hospital. Si tiene un enfermo en la familia y desea recibir la comunión, llama a la oficina de la Iglesia 972-279-6155.

**MINISTERIO DE AYUDA A LOS NECESITADOS:** San Vicente de Paúl 972-278-4815



Q. WHY DOES EASTER KEEP GOING ON AND ON? THE LILIES ARE LOOKING PRETTY TIRED AT MY CHURCH!

A. As long as your “alleluias” are ringing out loud and clear, don’t worry. It’s not about the lilies – and by now maybe they can be replanted out in the parish garden so they can bloom again in late summer. Easter began as a single day, the Pasch, which later grew into three days, the Triduum. It took a few centuries for forty days to be tacked on before it, and fifty days behind it. But, technically, the fifty days of Easter are looked upon as one great day that rolls on and on.. It just has fifty sunrises and fifty sunsets - on the liturgical calendar it is treated as one great day of the Lord. The fifty days have their roots in the fifty days between Jewish Passover and the great feast of Pentecost, and that fits well with the way Luke describes the encounters of the Risen Lord with the disciples. For forty days they experienced his presence in a profoundly intimate way, for ten days they had to deal with his leaving, and then at Pentecost a rush of insight erupted into the church that Jesus’s promise of “I will be with you always” could be trusted. It is often true, though, that the parish works so hard to prepare and celebrate the Triduum that it’s hard to pump much Easter energy into the next seven weeks. It’s also true that in the United States, we’re very good at preparing for holidays, but we’re not so good at extending the celebration. Christmas is packed away very quickly, and Easter evaporates even faster at the mall and elsewhere. Yet, there are ways of extending Easter joy. One of the great works of the season is called “mystagogy,” which means “reflection on the mysteries.” We help the newly baptized assimilate their new life, and so we can take plenty of time to celebrate what God has done for us in Christ. It’s not about the lilies – you’re the one who’s going to live forever!!