


# Ascension of the Lord

## Thoughts from Fr. Scott



Greetings and welcome back. I pray everyone is doing well and anxiously awaiting the day when things completely open up again. These days have been and continue to be filled with great anxiety and it seems an abundance of fear. We, the faithful of the Lord Jesus, should be more settled than most. Through prayer and faith, we can trust in the loving mercy of God and realize these days are not for panic. Rather, they are for us to witness to the Hope that is Christ Jesus. Being people of faith in these days is most important but we also need to be people of reason and common sense. As we act with faith and use our reason we will be able to navigate these days safely and with great trust in God's will for us.

Certainly you are aware our Archbishop, and all the Bishops of Michigan, issued directives about resuming Masses. You can find the directives on the Archdiocesan website [www.aod.org](http://www.aod.org) if you desire to read them. We will follow the directives and are able to resume Masses here at Lakes this weekend. Our weekend liturgical schedule will remain the same 5 p.m. on Saturday and 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. on Sunday. We are able to accommodate about 250 people at any one time in the Church so as to keep proper social distance. Also, we have returned to our regularly scheduled daily Mass Monday through Friday at 8:15 a.m. We will be live-streaming the 5 p.m. and 9:30 a.m. Masses until further notice. You can watch the Masses on Facebook or our website [www.ollonline.org](http://www.ollonline.org) and they are posted there to watch at any time. If you are not feeling well, have a compromised immune system, or simply are not comfortable with coming out to a public gathering at this time, I ask you to stay home. The Archbishop has given everyone in the Archdiocese a dispensation from our obligation to attend Mass through September 6, 2020. This means you should not "push it" and try to attend in person if you feel uneasy in any way. It also means you absolutely should not use Mass attendance as a means of

"meeting your neighbor just because." Coming for the liturgy at this time is about hearing the Word of God and receiving Him in the Eucharist for the salvation of your soul. Again, coming to Mass or not during this time is about loving God and neighbor; meaning your eternal salvation. It is not about using your faith to prove political points of view or to take a stand one way or another.

Just a few practical notes about our return to public worship. In addition to the directives and for the foreseeable future the following principles will apply to our local situation at Our Lady of the Lakes. The layout of our Church building allows us to "safely social distance" with about 250 people in attendance. This number will be enforced at all liturgies. Additionally, we have set up St. Joseph's Hall for overflow, where the other priest will celebrate a full Mass, if we are in need. I believe the crowd will be greatest at 9:30 and 11, but we shall see. Fr. Christopher and I will be ready to do extra duty if the need arises. We will do our best to accommodate all who wish to enter and pray. We will also make adjustments once we see how things progress. The congregation will not be offered the Precious Blood during this time. We will only distribute the Eucharistic Host in the hand; this is a respiratory virus and we should not be breathing on one another. Confessions will continue to be heard at 3:30 p.m. on Saturdays. Finally, please use common sense and treat everyone with respect, now is not the time to "prove anything."

During this time of returning to public worship we have been asked to consider and plan to bring the elect, those in the RCIA, into full communion. Additionally, we are to plan for the reception of Holy Communion for those who are waiting to receive for the first time. These liturgies for these groups of people, the RCIA and First Communion, will be celebrated on dates yet to be determined. They will happen in due course. As for the celebration of Confirmation, we are waiting for the

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Archdiocese to direct us as this requires a Bishop to confer the sacrament. As soon as we hear about this path forward we will let you know. In short, I ask your prayers for the staff, Fr. Christopher and me during this time. We will do our best to lead and help everyone return to worship in the safest way possible. If you need to contact us at the parish office, please call. We are present but on reduced hours. So, just leave a message if no one answers and we will return the call as soon as possible.

Our Mass on Monday morning May 25<sup>th</sup> will be celebrated at 9:00 a.m. as it is Memorial Day. I invite you to join us for Mass to pray for our country, those who sacrifice to protect our freedom and those who died protecting the same. Hopefully, everyone will enjoy time with their family and celebrate the many gifts given to us from God our Heavenly Father.

This weekend we celebrate the feast of the Ascension; an important feast for our consideration and hope. This feast is about Christ ascending so He may send us the Holy Spirit for guidance. This feast is also about our letting go of attachment in this world in order to freely seek Him, the Truth and the glory of the Kingdom of Heaven. Christ desires us to be reconciled to the Father and where He ascends we hope to follow. This event gives us cause for rejoicing, knowing that what we await is the fulfillment of our hope. Indeed, The Lord mounts His throne with shouts of joy. He does this to send us the Holy Spirit so that we may gain the Kingdom when our earthly lives are done.

*God Bless and have a great week!*  
*Fr. Scott*

**Thought for the week:** The Ascension of our Lord calls us to let go of physical attachment and let God inspire. This process is what we call "having faith."

## FR. CHRISTOPHER'S CONTEMPLATION

Hello and happy Sunday!

I pray that everyone has been doing well. As I sat down to write this article I realized that it has been about 11 weeks since we have gathered as a parish community for public Masses and this weekend is an answer to our prayers. As many if not all of you know, this weekend we have begun to resume public Masses here in the Archdiocese, though in reduced numbers. This is a day to celebrate and an answer to our prayers. Therefore, as a parish community, I want to encourage us to take a moment and thank God for the answer to our prayers with Masses resuming and for all of the many blessings we have received in these weeks.

As I have mentioned in my bulletin articles and homilies, this time of quarantine was not a punishment. It was an opportunity for us to grow in faith, in our belief and desire for Jesus in the Eucharist. God has been working

something greater here. As I have mentioned before, this Lent, Holy Week, and Easter are not one we will soon forget. The pandemic took us deeper into the desert of Lent than many of us wanted or would have liked. The school year did not go the way we had planned. Nor did the spring sports seasons. Things do not always go the way we planned them. Especially with the Lord. We tell God our plans and He laughs. Not at us, but rather because He knows what greater things He is going to work. He knows the abundance of graces He will shower down upon us that we can't even imagine.

As we begin to come back to public Masses, receive the sacraments, and start to open things up as a society, I want us to live as thankful and prayerful people. This week in prayer I want all of us to take some time and call to mind all of the many blessings we have received from God during these days of quarantine. To look back and see where God has been guiding us, blessing us and carrying us through this time. So often (myself included) we can miss what God has been doing in our lives because it is so subtle. This is why we need to regularly take time in prayer to call to mind all of the many blessings of God and offer prayers of thanksgiving. To be a thankful people who acknowledge that the blessings in our lives do not come from ourselves, but rather from God

I know in my life, like many of you, has changed pace during these days. It has been a time to re-set priorities, to add in a little more prayer, to simplify life a bit, and to see what is really important and what matters. Like Fr. Scott, I have missed leading all of you in Sunday Masses and have found graces in finding new ways to minister to you from a distance and helping me to grow in praying for you. This time has also helped me to connect more with friends and family with all of the many video calls, phone calls, and zoom meetings. This re-set and opportunity to hand over my will to God's in these days has been a tremendous grace for me and I pray that as you read this many of your own graces come to mind.

Again this week, your homework is to take time in prayer to recall all of the blessings you have received during this time of quarantine and pandemic and offer a prayer of thanksgiving to God. When we get in the spiritual habit of prayers of thanksgiving, it helps us to realize that it is God who blesses us each and every day as His beloved sons and daughters and not ourselves. May God continue to shower this community of faith with His love and blessings as we go forward in faith and joy.

*Dear Our Lady of the Lakes Mask Makers,*

*Thank you all so much for working so hard and sewing us handmade masks. You protected us and our residents and you did it with love. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for caring for us. We hope you are all staying well.*

*Sincerely,*  
*Liz Vachon and the Canterbury on the Lake Staff*

## MASS SCHEDULE

**MONDAY, MAY 25, 2020**

*St. Bede the Venerable*

ACTS 19:1-8 JN 16:29-33

9:00am...†**Patricia Blust** requested by her Family  
9:00am...†**Gary Molaski** requested by Martino Casetti

**TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2020**

*St. Philip Neri*

ACTS 20:17-27 JN 17:1-11a

8:15am...†**Jacob Jarman** requested by the Fluegel Family  
8:15am...†**Herman & Theresa Junglas** requested by Vi Kravetz

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2020**

*St. Augustine of Canterbury*

ACTS 20:28-38 JN 17:11b-19

8:15am...†**Nancy Kerton** requested by B. Radziewicz,  
B. Rankiewicz, & B. Tomko  
8:15am...†**Tom McMahon, Sr.** requested by his Family

**THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2020**

ACTS 22:30; 23:6-11 JN 17:20-26

8:15am...†**Dale Slahta** requested by Kerry Slahta  
8:15am...†**Raymond Smiecinski**  
requested by the Funeral Luncheon Team

**FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2020**

ACTS 25:13b-21 JN 21:15-19

8:15am...†**Lawrence & Pauline Day** requested by their Family  
8:15am...†**Carol Oliver**  
requested by Jerry & Janice Cudnohufsky

**SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2020**

ACTS 28:16-20, 30-31 JN 21:20-25

5:00pm...†**Stan Haak** requested by Art Robak  
5:00pm...**Int. Fr. Scott Thibodeau on the Anniversary of his Ordination** requested by the OLL Staff

**SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2020**

*Pentecost Sunday*

ACTS 2:1-11 1 COR 12:3b-7, 12-13 JN 20:19-23

8:00am...†**Deceased Members of the Arabucki Family**  
8:00am...†**Andrew Clark** requested by OLL Staff  
9:30am...†**Rose Augustyn** requested by their Daughter  
9:30am...†**Donald Myas** requested by Bernie Tomko

11:00am...†**Mary Lackamp** requested by the Ross Family  
11:00am...†**Jean Tinson** requested by the Scheuer Family

12:30pm...†**Carl Roselli** requested by Mike & Maureen Boyd  
12:30pm...**Parish Family of Our Lady of the Lakes**

Be assured that every intention is being prayed for by Fr. Scott and Fr. Christopher as they celebrate their private daily Mass.

## LIVE STREAM SCHEDULE

The following are times for the Live Stream of Masses on Facebook. To watch live, go to **Facebook.com/OLLwaterford**. After the Live Stream has finished they will be posted on our website **OLLonline.org**.



**SATURDAY, MAY 30**

5:00pm

**SUNDAY, MAY 31**

9:30am

Live Stream Masses will take place as long as necessary.

## PARISH RESOURCES

Visit **www.OLLonline.org** and select option **Parish**, to hear or view Our Lady of the Lakes liturgical services such as:

- Saturday and Sunday Masses
- Homilies
- Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotion

Weekend Masses are Live-Streamed on our Facebook page:

**Facebook.com/OLLwaterford**

Weekly bulletins can be found at:

**www.ollonline.org/parish/bulletin**

**Our Parish App: Text "app" to 88202**

**DiscoverMass.com**

## 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.



# SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT



The new normal - Monday meetings on Zoom! I don't know what it would be like to be doing this in a world without technology, but I'm so happy I get a chance to see these faces every Monday morning for an hour! I'm also so grateful that Our Lady of the Lakes has the capability to provide each student with iPads, so moments like these are possible.

ALLIE SELDEN, 6TH GRADE TEACHER



**Now Enrolling PK-11 for  
2020-2021 School Year**

To learn more visit  
[ollonline.org/school](http://ollonline.org/school) or email  
[admissions@ollonline.org](mailto:admissions@ollonline.org)

## STEWARDSHIP

### STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

#### THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

The Holy Spirit connects today's Scripture readings. In St. Matthew's Gospel, the evangelist shares when Jesus proclaims to His followers: *Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.* What a powerful message from Christ to evangelize. This *Spirit of wisdom and revelation*, stated in St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesian community, results in knowledge of the Father and Son. In this true gift of the Holy Spirit, we learn that evangelization is what we do and stewardship is how we do it. With the strength and guidance of the Holy Spirit, we, as faith-filled stewards, have unlimited ways to evangelize — to share our faith with those we meet. Seek out the Alpha and ChristLife programs in your parish to draw closer to Christ.

## CHRISTIAN SERVICE

### FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION

*for households with children*

**May 27, June 10, June 24 from 12:30-3:30pm**

**Morse Elementary, 475 Cherry St., Troy**

Households with children who are in need of food are encouraged to attend upcoming drive-thru food distribution sponsored by Gleaners Community Food Bank.

*Please stay in your vehicle* to limit exposure. Please arrive with an empty trunk so a volunteer can place groceries there.

Guests without vehicles are welcome to walk up, while maintaining six feet of social distancing, and should be prepared to carry 20-30 pounds or have a cart.

## FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Well, here it is folks; this is what it all boils down to for us. Jesus cannot make it any simpler for us to understand. What He is saying is that all power was given to Him and what does He do...He turns around and says; here I give it to you so that you can help me do my Father's work. Now, we may not always get it right, but He knew that we wouldn't before He handed that command on to us. He knew that when He told us to go out and make disciples of all nations that we wouldn't always succeed or do it right, yet He is sending us out still. You and I, this very day, are being asked to bring others to our Lord. That may seem impossible with the current state of affairs but perhaps, just the opposite is true.

In the Archbishop's letter, Unleash the Gospel, he spoke of soft entry points for us to use to invite others into the church. I purpose that all these online opportunities are just that; soft entry points that we can use to invite others to Mass with us. I think that the online celebrations of Mass, the May Crowning, the Eucharistic Adorations and the Rosaries are all great ways that are easy for people to reconnect or connect to the faith. Then when we open back up, if they are armed with the experience of these prayers they will feel more comfortable to attend in person. Please, do as Jesus has asked of you and invite others to "watch parties" of these events with you.

Likewise, even though we did not get the chance yet to have a proper end to this past year of formation (which we will somehow, someday), we have begun the registration process for the upcoming year. Tell your neighbors, your children that have children that you just want to help Jesus do what He has asked you to do, and therefore you are spreading the word of our school and parish opportunities for our children to grow in the education of their faith. Pass the word on that we are preparing now to open in the fall (whatever that may look like) by registering our students now. Registration forms will be available beginning next week on the parish website and in hard copy in the church and parish office. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to our formation office at [jean.hartman@ollonline.org](mailto:jean.hartman@ollonline.org) or by calling the parish center.

Stay safe and centered in Christ

Peace and prayers,  
Jean Hartman, DRE

### Our Lady of the Lakes PRAYER REQUEST LINE

248-623-0274

[ollprayerteam@OLLonline.org](mailto:ollprayerteam@OLLonline.org)

Touch "Prayers" in our Parish App

## OUR PARISH LIFE TOGETHER

### REST IN PEACE

Remember those who have  
gone before us

#### Angela Rivera

*"Happy are those who have  
died in the Lord;  
Let them rest from their labors  
For their good deeds  
go with them."*



Our thoughts and prayers are with their families. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

### BAPTISMS

Please welcome to our Christian Community:

#### Magdalena Valdovinos

Parents: Francisco and Mary (Leddy) Valdovinos-Mora

She was recently Baptized at Our Lady of the Lakes. May God Bless her, protect her and guide her throughout her life.

### PRAY FOR OUR SICK

*Please keep in your thoughts and prayers this week the  
sick members of our Parish:*

Baby Celie	Ben Darmofal	Irene Pawlowski
Rob Amos	Irene Delasko	Mark Pidgeon
Beverly Armstrong	Joyce Delasko	Tania Price
Joe Batwinas	Norma Erdman	Scott Przybylowicz
Christian Bodenmiller	Adam Figurski	Carol Raymond
Mikela Bodenmiller	Patty Fincannon	Roxy Ryan
William Bodenmiller	Jennifer Gaffey	Dennis Ritter
Bill Boeneman	Gary Garza	Holly Sanders
John Boncella	Katie Geary	Roger Smith
Margo Brown	Bill Grace	Tress Ann Smith
Chuck Campbell	Suzanne Grimminger	Joe Sutherland
Janet Cobert	Linda Hemphill	Kenneth Turner
Dean Coleman	Jeff Hotchkiss	Theresa Villereal
Cheryl Coulter	Patrick Hull	Ralph Vogan
Sarah Coulter	Tim Nepjuk	Lucy Wilhelm
Brady Cullen	Frank Pardington	Pat Zurbriggen
Kevin Dalley	Carol Pawlowski	

May they find peace, strength, and comfort in God's care.