

# Resurrection Parish

May 17, 2020

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

A Catholic Christian Community

## Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 5:30 p.m.  
Sunday 8:15 and 10:30 a.m.  
Mon. Wed. Fri. 8:30 a.m.  
Tues. 7 p.m.

## Reconciliation

Tues. 6:30 p.m.  
Sat. 4:45 p.m.  
or by appointment.

3000 Videre Drive  
Wilmington DE 19808  
302-368-0146  
www.resurrectionde.org



## Rev. William Graney, Pastor

Rev. Gregory Corrigan, Assoc. Pastor	ext. 102
John Falkowski, Deacon	ext. 115
Fran Huhn, Retired Deacon	ext. 110
Ruth Sanders, Liturgy/Music	ext. 106
Nancy Maloney, Christian Formation	ext. 104
Elaine Little, Youth Ministry	ext. 107
Tina Donald, Bookkeeper	ext. 105
Debbie Seymour, Admin. Asst.	ext. 0

Parish Office: 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Mon. - Fri.  
6:00-8:30 p.m. Mon. - Thurs.

## Pastoral Council

Sharon Gidumal	Executive Officer
Mary Beth Coté	Asst. Executive
Pat Sormani	Secretary

## Baptisms

Please contact Deacon John.

## Marriage

Contact clergy one year prior.

## Pastoral Care of the Sick

For hospital and home visits  
contact clergy or the office.

## Becoming Catholic

Learn more by contacting  
Fr. Bill, Fr. Greg, or  
Deacon John

Spirituality Outreach Stewardship



From Fr. Bill

As a visitor or student drives onto the campus of St. Mark's one sees a sign "This is Home". Such short sayings say much and have the potential of triggering various thoughts. A student might spend as many waking time at school as at the family home. The saying can suggest that the feeling of warmth and security of home can be felt in the students' life and experience at the high school.

As homilists have mentioned the Gospel according to St. John has many such short phrases. These are easy to remember and also trigger many ideas that fill out the meaning of the phrase. In John 14, Jesus says: "I am the way and the truth and the life." We can carry that phrase around in our mind and heart for the rest of our lives. "Jesus is The Way." I would put on a lawn sign. But the last time I put a sign on my lawn which pointed out the direction to Resurrection Parish, I was reported to the County and sent a notice to cease. So, Jesus is the Way. Imitate Jesus. Or as Matthew 11:29 records: Learn from me for I am gentle and humble in heart. Also, in our prayer we can take on the mind and heart of Jesus as we share the communion that prayer provides.

The lives of the Saints supply endless examples of how they followed Jesus in a great variety of ways. Some emphasize various aspects of Jesus life. The Gospel can be a yardstick (what's that) to guide us as we examine our lives.

During the past weeks, you took the opportunity to listen to various homilists or other sources of reflection. This disruption seem to have come without warning. I hope we had some balance in our time to get in touch with the Bible and Jesus the Way.

## Looking Ahead: What to Expect When We're Back in Our Churches

Whenever the current restrictions are eased and we are able to gather for Mass again, it is important for all of us to understand that things will not immediately “go back to normal.”

Both Governor Carney of Delaware and Governor Hogan of Maryland have announced the development of multi-phased guidelines with the goal of easing restrictions in the coming weeks and months.

We know the desire to participate in the liturgy and receive the Eucharist is incredibly strong and we are exploring ways to address this concern, while continuing our care and concern for the physical and spiritual health of all. We ask everyone to please continue to be patient and charitable as we work through these difficult times.

While specific details of “when” and “how” public Masses will resume are still being determined, the following things will be important for parishioners to consider:

- **The general dispensation from the Sunday Mass obligation will remain in place.** Regardless of when restrictions are lifted in Delaware or Maryland, there will understandably be people, especially people in vulnerable or at-risk groups, who will feel it is safer to stay home than attend Mass. Potential limits on crowd sizes that are allowed in parishes will also play a part. The faithful are encouraged to keep the Lord’s Day holy by participating in a parish livestream Mass.

- **When our churches begin to reopen, physical distancing will likely still be in place.** The six feet separation restriction will likely still be required. You may be asked to wear a face covering, as recommended by the CDC. If you are in a vulnerable category (i.e., older adult, 65 years and older; person who is immunocompromised), you may continue to be encouraged to remain home. Anyone who is ill, or suspects he or she is ill, should refrain from participation in public activities, including Mass. In addition, in light of CDC monitoring recommendations, anyone who arrives at the church and is exhibiting symptoms may be asked not to attend Mass out of an abundance of care and caution for others. Parishes may have procedures for receiving communion that maintains this distancing.

- **Attendance at Mass and church spaces may continue to be limited.** It is expected that restrictions for any large gatherings will remain in place. Only a certain number of pews or chairs may be available for use. Hymnals may be removed, and paper worship aids utilized.

- **Liturgical changes will likely remain in effect.** For those able to attend Mass, similar practices like those in March will likely remain in place, e.g., distribution of Holy Communion under one species, no exchanging of the sign of peace, no holy water fonts, etc.

In time, each parish will be asked to assemble a parish plan for reopening based on CDC recommendations that addresses the parish’s local circumstances in each phase set forth by the governors. Even though parishes will take all reasonable precautions, and sanitize as best they can after each liturgical celebration, including the restrooms, there will still exist the risk of infection for anyone who attends a public Mass as we move through the various phases of easing restrictions. No one should expect that they will be safer in church than in any other public space.

**Safety concerns, in addition to the virus itself, will determine the timeline.** During Mass on Tuesday, April 28, 2020, Pope Francis prayed for prudence as communities begin lifting their lockdowns. The Holy Father said, “At this time, when we are beginning to receive instructions for coming out of quarantine, we pray that the Lord would give his people – all of us – the grace of prudence and obedience to the instructions so that the pandemic does not return.” As this process unfolds, there will certainly be challenges, but the safety of our communities will remain the benchmark. As the Diocese moves forward, we request that parishioners stay informed and stay flexible to any updates.

Please keep in mind, we will all experience challenges and frustration as we navigate through these weeks and months ahead. Each parish, based on their local circumstances, may implement guidance from the Diocese differently.

Let us continue to keep those sick and afflicted with the COVID-19; those on the front-lines (medical professionals) caring for the sick; those who have died as a result of the virus; and all of our fellow parishioners and parishes in our prayers in these days ahead.

### Diocese of Wilmington

For more resources please visit:

[www.cdow.org/coronavirus](http://www.cdow.org/coronavirus)

### INTENTIONS

#### will be prayed at a private Mass

No public Masses will be held in Delaware or Maryland’s Eastern Shore while the nation confronts the threat of coronavirus.

+Grace DeSimone	+Martin Kelly
Parish Community	



God is the source of all healing and hope, to whom we lift up in prayer the needs of the sick and those who care for them. *Lord, allow your healing hand to assist*

Eva Skripchuk, Burt Strasser, JD Howell, Jack & Jane Tabaka, Bill Dorsey, Joseph Hemphill, Alyssa Stover, Chet Andruskiewicz, Jim Gambort, Candi Smith, Sean McCormick, Janice Kane, Ralph Culver, Cass Thomas, Patty Calhoun, Katie Fink, Beth Bell, Julie Edmiston, Anna Catriew, Annabelle Capritta, Patricia Barber, Joey (Morton) Scruggs, Steven Huhn, Ed Donaldson, Kathie Wisniewski, Ginnie Marzouca, Fran Huhn, Rick Markel, Peggy Wessel, Andy Werner, Wayne Bunting, Bea Mercatante, Lorraine Sturfels, Ann Amsler, Hindey Singer Moser, John and Anne Callahan, C.D. Malmgren, and others mentioned in our parish book of intentions

### LITURGY



For resources for your prayer and reflections at home, see Resurrection's **Keeping the Seasons** page: <https://www.resurrectionde.org/keeping-seasons>. Sunday prayer services for households, along with discussion starters and puzzle sheets for children are included.

#### In the face of the Covid 19 Pandemic -- Let Us Pray:

*As we pray for the needs of the world, we take up our call to Mission and our call to live as the Body of Christ.*

**For those who have contracted the corona virus** – may there be appropriate health care for them and may they be healed and restored to full health.

**For our own country** – may our leaders act with sound judgement, may citizens work together cooperatively and do as they have been asked by the government, to reduce infection rates.

**For children who can no longer attend school** –with the help of family, may they establish routines that will continue their learning and may this be a positive time of growth for them.

**For health workers** – may they have time to rest and recover from their work, may they be protected from the virus, and may their work bear the fruit of healthy and grateful people and communities.

**For people who are isolated and lonely at home, especially the elderly** – may they sense the care of others who attempt to reach out to them and may the peace of God's incarnate Word console them.

**Lord, hear our prayer.**

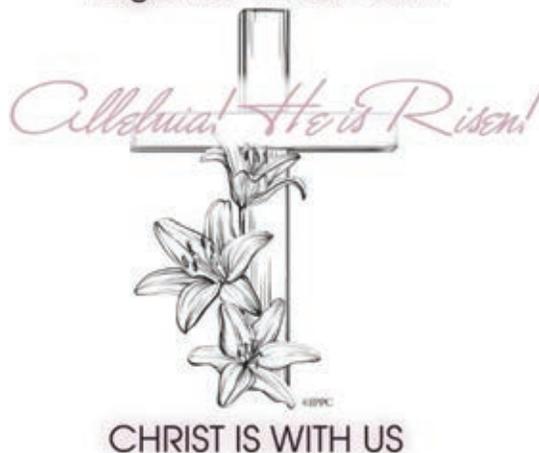
### PARISH LIFE

The Parish Life Committee is missing you. We are sad that there will be no Parish Picnic on Sunday, May 17. Perhaps you can have a picnic lunch at home and send a picture to be posted on the Parish Life section of the parish web page. Please send photos to [office@resurrectionde.org](mailto:office@resurrectionde.org)



Peace and Joy!  
Linda

Together in our Faith



2020 Annual Catholic Appeal – Seeing Christ in the Faces of Others



In today's Gospel, Jesus says to His disciples, *"If you love me, you will keep my commandments"*.

Scripture teaches us that serving Christ is a fundamental part of our Catholic faith and that serving the Lord means serving others. When we give of ourselves on behalf of others, the Holy Spirit works through us and Jesus is served.

In these continuing difficult times, it becomes clearer that our role as Church is more critical than ever in helping those in need. Bearing witness to poverty, illness and injustice and responding in the spirit of Christ are the hallmarks of the many ministries supported by 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.

To learn more about the Annual Catholic Appeal, visit [www.cdow.org/annualcatholicappeal](http://www.cdow.org/annualcatholicappeal)



**Prayer Chain:** Anita Delaney is now leading our Prayer Chain. If you have prayer requests, or are interested in being a member of the Prayer Chain, please contact Anita

Delaney at [anitade143@verizon.net](mailto:anitade143@verizon.net).

## CHRISTIAN FORMATION PROGRAM



**Our K to 5 Elementary Program and Sacramental Preparation Classes are suspended at this time. We miss you and send our love.**

**We Are Remote!** Check your emails for remote learning updates. Contact

Nancy Maloney, CFP Coordinator, at [nmaloney@resurrectionde.org](mailto:nmaloney@resurrectionde.org) or 368-0146 ext. 104.

## YOUTH MINISTRY

We pray that you are all hanging in there with your remote learning. You've got this! Remember when you get frustrated or sad that God is always there ready to listen.



### Middle School and High School Youth Group

**May 17 Zoom meeting 7 p.m.** Contact Elaine for the meeting code. We will see how well we know each other with another Kahoot all about us!

*High school students:* If you would like your own Zoom gathering to check in with one another or to discuss a topic of interest, contact Elaine and she will make it happen.

### Blessing of Graduates later this summer



Elaine will see to it that we have some sort of blessing before school resumes in August/September.

**In the meantime if you have a son or daughter who graduated in the winter or will graduate high school or college this spring, please send their name and the school in which they are graduating to [elittle@resurrectionde.org](mailto:elittle@resurrectionde.org)** Their names will be listed in the bulletin or a bulletin insert no earlier than May 17. If it is an advanced degree (MBA, Law School, Med School, etc.) Please include the degree as well.

### TAKING IT HOME by Deacon John

How can someone still be present to us even after death? This question is at the heart of our gospel this weekend. Jesus knows that his death is immanent, but he assures his disciples that, even though he will physically die, he will not abandon them. He will not leave them "orphaned."

Jesus, however, is not only speaking to his disciples when he says that he will not leave them orphaned. He is also speaking to you and me. How can that be? Well he will be with us as he was with his disciples through the power of another, the Advocate, the Spirit of Truth. This is the very same Spirit that is also available to us so that Jesus will be with us always. And this Spirit is not something just imagined nor something hoped for in another lifetime, but it is a Spirit that is present and available to us now in our lives as it was available to the disciples. But again we ask; how is this possible? We ask this question because we are a people of the material world, where the physical presence of a thing is the only presence that we believe we can know. But in the mind of Jesus there is always another way that people remain present to one another. It is through the power of the Spirit.

Unfortunately, for most of us when talking about Spirit and other things of this nature, we immediately jump to thinking in terms of the paranormal. But anyone who has suffered the loss of a loved one has, I think, been able to take some comfort in the fact that the spirit of the deceased is still present to them in some way, as we pray at the Catholic funeral mass, "Life is not ended but merely changed." For when we love someone dearly, when we are in a relationship with someone, we leave tell-tale imprints of ourselves on each other's hearts. We create images of ourselves that are embedded in our hearts that help us to keep the memory and spirit of that loved one alive in our hearts. Yes, physically the body of the person is no longer present, but the persons' spirit, the essence of who she/he was, the gifts, qualities and even some of the physical attributes become available to our consciousness.

And in much the same way this is how Jesus remains present to us. When we love someone dearly that love is a participation in a much deeper love, the divine love of God for God's creation. This is what Jesus acknowledges when he says, "whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love her/him and reveal myself to her/him." To love Jesus is to love one another, and when we love one another we participate in that divine communication between Father and Son, which the Spirit as the tell-tale imprints and lasting impressions embedded on our hearts, helps to keep alive for us. So even though physically neither the Father nor the Son are present to us, when we love with a love that cuts to our hearts, a love filled with the qualities and gifts of the unconditional love of Jesus, the Spirit enables the essence of Jesus to become available to our consciousness and "we are in Christ as Christ is in the Father." And as St. Paul says, nothing, not even death can separate us from this love and this is most especially true even now in the midst of this virus. Believe it! See it!



**ASCENSION SUNDAY –  
EASTER TIME**

**GOSPEL -- MATTHEW 28:16-20**

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then Jesus approached and said to them, “All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

**GOSPEL REFLECTION**

The short gospel passage for May 24, the Ascension of the Lord, is taken from the final words of the gospel of Matthew. It is known as “The Great Commission” as Jesus is portrayed commissioning his disciples to go out to the world and spread the good news. They are charged to “Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations.” This is the basis of much of the missionary work of the Church that has gone on ever since then.

The focus of today’s feast is much more on the first reading than the gospel. The opening verses of the Book of Acts, from the author of Luke-Acts, describe the final instructions of Jesus to his disciples and then his “lifting up”. The Luke-Acts writer is the only gospel writer to actually describe the Ascension. The fact that the other gospels don’t discuss the Ascension in any detail at all is a good indication that this description should not be taken literally.

However, the message of the Ascension is a powerful one. It reminds us that Jesus, the human incarnation of God on earth, was limited to a specific time and place in history. Despite the physical limitations of his life on earth, Jesus ensured that his message and ministry would continue through those he had taught. Knowing that the disciples would need time to grieve and come to terms with all that had occurred in a relatively short space of time, Jesus promised that the Spirit would come upon them in the days to come. That visiting of the Spirit upon the disciples at Pentecost was the motivation to set about doing what Jesus had charged them to do. Without the Ascension, there is no Pentecost.

**TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH:** In both the gospel passage from Matthew and the passage from the Book of Acts, Jesus commissioned his disciples to go out to the whole world. In Matthew, it is to “all the nations” and in Acts it is “to the ends of the earth”. Both writers make it abundantly clear that the message of Jesus is not exclusively for the people of Israel, but for all people everywhere. Within only a very few years, early Christian communities had sprung up all around the Mediterranean. Once Christianity became the religion of Rome it spread to all the corners of the Roman Empire.

**NOT THE ONLY ASCENSION:** The description of Jesus being taken up into heaven is a close parallel to the description of the great prophet Elijah also being taken up to heaven. Chapter 2 of 2 Kings describes Elijah speaking to his disciple Elisha in similar words to those used by Jesus to his disciples. The Jewish tradition had no belief in an individual resurrection and so the idea of Ascension was to recognize the greatness of the prophet. He was to be united with God in Heaven rather than having to wait for the great resurrection of all people at the end of time.

**YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES:** A witness in a court of law is called to give evidence about a matter; to “testify” to the truth of what they have seen or what they know to be true. Some people are very good at being a “witness” to their faith by testifying to others about what they believe. Many others provide witness to their faith by simply living what they believe. Living a life based on Christian principles, including regular prayer and worship in your life, working for justice in the world, and taking time to celebrate the beauty of everyday life is a powerful witness to others.

- Q. In the gospel passage, what is it that Jesus commissioned his disciples to do?*
- Q. How does your local community seek to “spread the good news” to others?*
- Q. What are some of the actions of being a witness that might speak louder than words?*

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**What's My Name?**  
 The #WHATSMYNAME Movement asks everyone to simply ask drivers "What's my name?" before entering their vehicle to make sure it is the car they are supposed to enter.

**#WHATSMYNAME**  
 In Remembrance of Samantha Josephson

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