

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 17, 2020

From the Priests' Desks:

Dear brothers and sisters of Sacred Heart:

"I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you . . . because I live and you will live (Jn. 14:15-21). Today's Gospel reading is a small but important part of what we have come to know as the "Farewell Discourse," that lengthy passage from St. John's Gospel which describes Jesus' final words to his disciples. It is a reading which the Church has appropriately placed shortly before the Solemnity of the Ascension—the day on which we commemorate the end of the earthly career of Jesus and his return to the Father, where he has promised to prepare a place for all of those who respond to his call with open and generous hearts. The setting for our reading is the Last Supper, and the occasion is the otherwise joyful celebration of the Passover, the Jewish feast of national liberation. The somber note, of course, is Jesus' imminent passion and death, and his physical separation from that intimate group of friends—the twelve apostles—who had shared so much in his earthly ministry. They had heard his words about the kingdom, and about how its members were to conduct their lives—the primacy of love; the need for repentance, forgiveness, and reconciliation; the gift and the challenge of faith. They had seen his miracles, called "signs" by St. John—the control Jesus exercised over the forces of nature, the healing of the sick, the casting out of evil spirits. Perhaps most of all they had felt the magnetism of his personality—the strength of his commitment to the Father's will; the depth of his compassion for each person he met; the genuineness of his self-giving to others.

Now all of that seemed to be ending. Jesus said that he would be leaving them shortly, and from the apostles' point of view, things clearly wouldn't be the same. There would be a great emptiness in their lives that would be impossible to fill, because there never was, nor could there ever be another Jesus of Nazareth. But in the same moment Jesus announced his departure, he promised the arrival of "another Advocate to be with you always." That Advocate, of course, was the Holy Spirit, whom the disciples would recognize in the experience of Pentecost. It was in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, whom believers would acknowledge as the Third Person of the Holy Trinity, and who would bring the Church into existence and initiate the life of strengthening and healing grace, that Jesus promise was fulfilled. The Spirit would come, but would believers be ready to accept this divine gift? "If you love me," Jesus said, "you will keep the commandments."

In these days, when we cannot be together physically, it is the Spirit who keeps us united in faith and in charity.

Although we cannot celebrate Baptism, Confirmation, Matrimony or, most of all, receive the Holy Eucharist sacramentally—nor even properly bury our beloved dead—we can still receive the graces of the Sacraments in our hearts by keeping the commandments and responding to the Spirit's promptings by serving the common good of our spiritual family: by praying for one another and supporting one another in any way that we can. Are we orphans? Not at all! Jesus promised not to abandon us; let us promise in turn that we will always be there for each other.

Fr. Michael Rafferty, OAR
Fr. John Gruben, OAR

Gospel Reading

John 14:15-21

Family Connection

The mystery of the Trinity can be difficult for us to grasp. Today's Gospel invites us to consider how the three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—work together so that God's salvation is made known to us. Jesus' mission is continued through the activity of the Holy Spirit in the lives of his disciples. We have received this same Spirit through our Baptisms. The Spirit, living and working within us, reveals the mystery of God's love for us. Just as the first disciples were not left orphaned, we are not orphaned; we remain in God's embrace through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Gather your family and invite each family member to say what he or she knows about the Holy Spirit. Read aloud today's Gospel, John 14:15-21. What does Jesus say the Holy Spirit will do for the disciples? Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, we come to share in the love of God made known to us in Jesus. Pray together, thanking God for this gift of the Holy Spirit by praying the [Prayer to the Holy Spirit](#).

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

**MAY 21st IS ASCENSION THURSDAY
A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

MASS

**THURSDAY, MAY 21st
12:00pm Noon**



HOLY MOTHER PRAY FOR US

Pray for us, loving Mother,
and gain for our nation and world,
and for all our families and loved ones,
the protection of your holy angels,
that we may be spared the worst of this illness.
For those already afflicted, we ask you to obtain the
grace of healing and deliverance.
Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful,
wipe away their tears and help them to trust.
In this time of trial and testing, teach all of us in the
Church to love one another and to be patient and kind.
Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to
our hearts.
We come to you with confidence,
knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother,
health of the sick and cause of our joy.
Shelter us under the mantle of your protection,
keep us in the embrace of your arms,
help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus.
Amen.

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday, MAY 17
Monday, MAY 18
Tuesday, MAY 19
Wednesday, MAY 20
Thursday, MAY 21
Friday, MAY 22
Saturday, MAY 23
Sunday, MAY 24

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You were already there, I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You; permit not that I should ever be separated from You. Amen

CARDINAL'S APPEAL 2020

ALERT

Now more than ever the Archdiocese of New York needs your support. The virus which we realize has impacted us all makes your support if possible, even greater. Parishes are only as strong as its parishioners. As you are aware a church's resources come only through the generosity of its parish family. When things start to return to normal parishes needing support through the Archdiocese can only get it through the funds the Appeal makes yearly. Please consider donating today. Bless you all and pray for an end to this virus. To date we have raised \$51,756. towards our goal of \$122,500.

ST. JOSEPH REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Attention 8th Grade Boys!

St. Joseph Regional High School is currently accepting qualified applicants for admission to the: Class of 2024 Knights Bridge Academy (A unique academic program that helps graduating 8th grade boys who could benefit from another year of preparation before beginning 9th grade.) We encourage you to visit www.sjrnj.org or email admissions@sjrnj.org to inquire about becoming a Green Knight!

ALBERTUS MAGNUS HS

Join Us for Falcon Fridays

May 29th, June 12th and 26th -11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Visit with us for a virtual look into how Albertus Magnus makes a difference in the lives of our students:

www.albertusmagnus.net/VirtualAdmissions

<https://www.albertusmagnus.net>

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npower@albertusmagnus.net

OFFICE OF THE VICAR GENERAL ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK

CHILD PROTECTION

Anyone who needs to report an alleged incident of sexual abuse of a minor by priest, deacon, religious or lay person serving in the Archdiocese of New York is asked to contact Sr. Eileen Clifford, O.P. at 646-794-2949 or e-mail at victimassistance@archy.org. In keeping with the Archdiocesan policy regarding sexual abuse of minors, this information is provided to ensure that our children remain safe and secure.

Cualquier persona que necesite denunciar algún incidente de abuso sexual de un menor por un sacerdote, diacono, religioso/a, o laico que esté trabajando en la Arquidiócesis de Nueva York, se le pide que, por favor contacte con Herman Eileen Clifford, O.P. en el teléfono 646-794-2949. También se pueden comunicar con ambos por correo electrónico: victimassistance@archy.org. De acuerdo con las normas de la Arquidiócesis respecto al abuso sexual de menores, esta información se proporciona para asegurar que nuestros niños permanecen seguros.

CRISIS PREGNANCY HOTLINE

GOOD COUNSEL HOMES

For Pregnancy emergencies call

Any time of day: 1-800-723-8331

www.goodcounselhomes.org



Please pray for those who are ill and have asked us to pray for them:

Keith Alanis, Jenna Applebaum, Theresa Anselmi, Michael Brady, Elias and Marina del Castilla, Angie Clifford, Robert Conly, Comerford Family, Teresa & Tom Consolo, Mirella Cosentino, Joe Davey, Anthony DeFrancesco III, Matthew DeMayo, Cledha Desir, Mary Discini, John Duffy, David Eckert, Cynthia Finneran, Sr., Ginny Figula, Stefanie Gaudelli, Arlene Gentile, Mark Goldman, Debra Gravina, Senan Halpin, Roy Harris, Clement Hayes, Mr. Harris, Domenic & Anthony Iannaccone, Rob Incognoli, Bob Janson, Fran Janson, Anna Kasperska, Eileen Kennedy, Fred Lemoine, Elizabeth Lempka, Vasily Lockhart, Roberta Lynch, Laura Mack, Rosemarie Manthey, Matthew Luludis, Marie Marasuilo, Thomas Mathai, Jeanne Matera, Richard McCarthy, Rosemary McCormick, Debra McGovern, Catherine McMenamin, John McLoughlin, Jacob Mendelsohn, Ken Meyer, Florence Mohan, Joseph Mikulka, Barbara Neilson, Robert Nunes, Thomas O'Connor, Jennifer O'Hara, Pat O'Neill, Nancy Overend, Shace Paljusevic, Peter Princi, Etta Rooney, Claudia Spallanzani, Joseph Pasculli, (Baby Ty) Reilly, Michael Shumway, Jean Simons, Roberto Sorgo, Maureen Starke, Shaun Stein, Janet Tamburro, Richard Vanadio, Barbara Veraldo Strano, Phyllis Varacalli, Kali Villela, Robert Vogt, Fr. Wing, and Vladimir Zaslavsky.



FOR OUR ARMED FORCES & FIRST RESPONDERS OF ALL KINDS, AND OUR DOCTORS & NURSES

We pray for all the men and women serving our country AND especially the sons and daughters, grandchildren and loved ones of our parishioners.

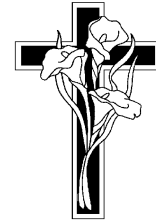
ALTAR MEMORIALS MAY 17, 2020

Sanctuary Lamp In Memory of ALL THOSE LOST TO COVID - 19



Let us pray for our deceased parishioners, and family members and loved ones: Especially: Elizabeth Phillips, Norma Prosser

BOOSTER CLUB WEEK 13-DAVID & JEAN ECKERT. SR.



ALL MASSES WILL BE SAID PRIVATELY BY OUR PARISH PRIESTS DUE TO COVID-19

ALL MASSES AND SERVICES WILL BE LIVE STREAMED ON OUR WEBSITE:

WWW.SACREDHEARTPARISH.ORG

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY MASSES WILL BE LIVE STREAMED AT 12:00PM AND SUNDAYS AT 12:00PM

SATURDAY, VIGIL MASS

5:30pm -Andrew Columbia

SUNDAY, MAY 17

7:00am - All Parishioners

8:30am - Dianne Messina

10:00am - All Those Married 25 & 50 years

11:30am - Catherine Greeley

1:00pm - Harry Leggett

5:30pm - Parish Memorial Society

MONDAY, MAY 18

7:00am -

9:00am - Mario Varano

7:15pm - NO Novena

TUESDAY, MAY 19

7:00am -

9:00am - Anthony Collins

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

7:00am - Sr. Mary Keane

9:00am - John F. Collins

5:30pm - Vigil Mass -Edward R. Miller

THURSDAY, MAY 21 ASCENSION THURSDAY

7:00am - Special Intention Anna Kasper

9:00am - Special Intention - Alan Petukh

12:10pm - Special Intentions Sisters of Life

7:30pm - Immaculate Heart of Mary Prayer Group

FRIDAY, MAY 22

7:00am -

9:00am - Lena & Joseph Ciaccio

SATURDAY, MAY 23

9:00am -

SATURDAY, VIGIL MASS

5:30pm -John F. Clifford

SUNDAY, MAY 24

7:00am - All Parishioners

8:30am - William Curtin

10:00am - Frances & Peter Marconi

11:30am - Edward Fryns

1:00pm - Marge Gladkowski

5:30pm - Parish Memorial Society