

Seventh Sunday of Easter June 2, 2019

From the Desk of Rev. Fr. Anthony C. Ekanem, MSP:

You may be wondering why we are not celebrating The Solemnity of the Ascension of our Lord, this weekend. Here is a little explanation.

In the states of Alaska, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Baltimore and Washington, the Mass of the Ascension of our Lord is celebrated on the 7th Sunday of Easter. Since 1999 many dioceses in the US have transferred the Ascension to the 7th Sunday of Easter. Only a few, have retained the celebration on the original day that marks the 40th day of the Resurrection, which was last Thursday. These Ecclesiastical provinces include Boston, Hartford, New York, Newark, Omaha, and Philadelphia continue observing Ascension on Thursday of the 6th week of Easter..

What does the Ascension of the Lord mean to us?

Ascension is a solemnity that sustains the hope of Christians that one day we shall be with Christ. In the CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH, it teaches us that “Jesus Christ, the head of the Church, precedes us into the Father’s glorious Kingdom, so that we, the members of His Body, may live in the hope of one day being with Him for ever” (nos. 666 – 667). This is what Jesus promised His disciples while he was still with them here on earth.

This is the sublime promise of our Savior. The Holy Spirit will always guide us in the right direction. It is our greatest source of encouragement, strength and consolation, as we labor in the Lord’s vineyard. It is with absolute certainty that we are guided in our efforts by the Holy Spirit. He is our divine and infallible guide to God in the teachings and precepts of the Church. Our Church celebrates the event of Christ’s glorification & His fulfilment of the salvation plan.

In Romans 8:34, St. Paul says “Who will condemn? It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised, who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.”

In John 14:3, Jesus says “And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you may be where I am.”

In Acts 1:8, it states “But you will receive power when the holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

St. Teresa of Avila beautifully expressed this in the following words:

Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
Compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are his body.
Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.
— St. Teresa of Ávila

As we begin these summer months, look to the Holy Spirit to enlighten us especially as we make our vacation plans so that we can remember to at least locate a nearby Church to worship when we are away from home and remember to continue to support our home parish. For it is the Spirit that spurs us on to make the right move in any situation.

Today’s message is very simple, irrespective of our knowledge and human capacities, we need a divine help in order to succeed. This divine help will come from the Holy Spirit to whom we must we pay attention to all the time.

Once again congratulations to our sisters and brothers, who were confirmed on Friday before last, here in our Church. We pray as you have become an adult in Christ through the healing of the Holy Spirit, that you may lead an exemplary life. Remember, this is the month of the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus Church. Happy summer!

Stewardship

Tithing - God’s Plan for Giving Sunday For 05/26/19 our Offering was \$3,600.00.

Our Second collection this week is for Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa.

2019 Cardinal’s Annual Stewardship Appeal Update

Goal: \$39,500

Total Amount Paid: \$25,070.00

Total Amount Pledged: \$29,817.00

Number of Families: 82

Thank you to all of the families who have already contributed to this year’s Cardinal’s Appeal.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

If you haven’t had the chance to make your contribution, there is there still time. You can use the pledge letters that have already arrived at your home. And if you have not received one or have never made a pledge before, it is very easy to do so online.

Just go to cardinalsappeal.org, click on Donate, select an amount, and direct your gift to our Church:

Immaculate Conception, Yonkers

Sundays Readings:

First Reading: *Acts of the Apostles 7:55-60 p. 32* Stephen was filled with the Holy Spirit as he looked up to heaven. He said he saw Jesus standing in glory at God’s right hand. This so angered onlookers that they stoned him to death.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 97:1-2, 6-7, 9, p.32*

“The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth!”

Second Reading: *Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20, p. 33* John heard the voice of the Lord saying, “I am the Alpha and the Omega...the beginning and the end.”

Gospel: *John 17: 20-26 p. 33* Jesus prayed, “may all be one as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me.”

Registration 2019-2020

Starts on Saturday

June 15, 2019 - July 31, 2019 (Wednesday & Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 pm) Classes will begin September 7, 2019

All are welcome to our Up Coming Events

- Joanne Kunny’s Memorial Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, June 15, 2019 at 10:00 am here at St. Mary’s where she faithfully served. The family members are inviting everyone to come and join us as we pray for the repose of her soul. Thank you.
- *Church Family Directory:* As we are brainstorming on how to go about getting the exact count of how many people are registered with us, we are looking into having a Parish Family Directory. If you are not registered, this is the time to contact the parish office, or use our registration form at the back of our parish bulletin. Thanks.

Mass Schedule for the week of

June 1 to June 8, 2019

Special Intentions for this week

Saturday, June 1, 2019:

12:05 pm – Available/Disponibile

5:00pm - Leonard N. Spano + *Grace De Luca Salvatore Gagliardi

7:30pm - Legion de Maria

Sunday, June 2, 2019:

7:30 am – For Parishioners

9:00 am – Jose Jugien Dilsa *Jose & Milagros Disla

11:00 am – Julius P. Rodiruguez *Julius Rodriguez & Family

Monday, June 3, 2019:

8:15am - Available/Disponibile

12:05pm Available/Disponibile

Tuesday June 4, 2019:

8:15am - James Mahoney (healing) *Fred Pisculli jr.

12:05pm – Available/Disponibile

Wednesday, June 5, 2019:

8:15am - Available/Disponibile

12:05 pm – Daniel Fitzgerald + *Domini Pisculli

Thursday, June 6, 2019:

8:15am - Available/Disponibile

12:05 pm – Available/Disponibile

7:00 pm - Progeda Cordero + *Grupo Sagrado Corazon De Jesus

Friday, June 7, 2019:

8:15am - Available/Disponibile

12:05 pm – Available/Disponibile

7:30 pm—Sagrado Corazon De Jesus

Saturday, June 8, 2019:

12:05 pm – Available/Disponibile

5:00pm - Anthony & Margaret Mary Felicissimo *Tony Felicissimo

7:30pm - Available/Disponibile

+ Indicates deceased * Indicates the person (s) who requested the Mass.

FATHER'S DAY

A 9 DAY Novena of Masses for all our fathers, living and deceased.

The Novena of Masses will begin on Sunday, June 16 - Monday, June 24. This is a great opportunity to remember those great men who have that role in our life. We encourage you to use the envelope in your package or one from the pew. We will place all those envelopes on the Altar at every Novena Mass as we offer intentions for beloved fathers. Thanks!

~Request a Mass Intention~

Those wishing to honor a loved one during the celebration of Mass may pick up Mass cards in the parish office. Mass cards are available for the living and deceased and provided opportunities for prayerful remembrance of anniversaries, birthdays, and other special intentions. Masses are usually booked at least several months in advance so if you want the Mass, it is very important that you call the parish office well ahead of time.

Have you offered Mass for your Mother yet?