



OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF JOLIET-IN-ILLINOIS

Most Rev. R. Daniel Conlon, Bishop

701 S. EOLA ROAD † AURORA, IL 60504

WWW.OLMERCY.COM

**OUR VISION: TO OFFER EVERY PERSON A LIFE-CHANGING ENCOUNTER
WITH JESUS, GROW DISCIPLES, AND SEND THEM ON MISSION.**

PARISH PRIESTS

Fr. Don E. McLaughlin, Pastor
Fr. Mark J. Bernhard, Parochial Vicar

TRANSITIONAL DEACON

Rev. Mr. Senovio Sarabia, Jr.

PERMANENT DEACONS

Deacon Tim Kueper
Deacon Tony Martini
Deacon Mike Plese
Deacon Phil Rehmer
Deacon Art Tiongson

PARISH OFFICE

(630) 851-3444
(630) 851-3468 FAX
Monday-Thursday.....8:30am-4:30pm
Friday..... 8:30am-1:00pm

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday.....4:00pm
Sunday.....7:30am, 9:00am
10:45am, 12:30pm, 5:30pm
Monday-Friday8:00am
Rosary prayed after all daily Masses

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

Schedule varies. Consult the Mass Schedule in the bulletin or website.

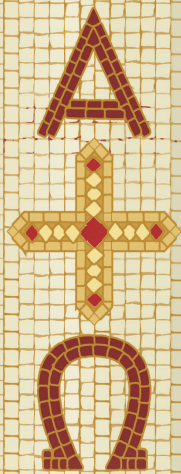
CONFESSIONS

Saturday.....3:00-3:45pm
1st Fridays of the Month....8:30-9:00am
Or by Appointment

PRAYER CHAPEL

Open Daily7:00am-8:00pm
Adoration.....Monday & Thursday
8:30am-6:00pm
Benediction.....Monday, 6:00pm

MAY
24
2020



Ascension
OF THE
LORD

Men of Galilee,
why are you standing there staring at the sky?
This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven
will return in the same way
as you have seen him going into heaven.

ACTS 1:11



From The Pastor's Desk...
Also Known as Chardonnay W(h)ines!

“Why are you looking at the sky?” Today we celebrate the Ascension of Jesus to heaven. For forty days after his resurrection, he had been appearing to his disciples and speaking with them about the Kingdom of God. We are told in today's Gospel that Jesus and the eleven disciples went to a

mountain in Galilee where he told them, **GO** and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit and to teach them to observe all that he commanded. This is why the disciples were asked as to why they were looking at the sky. It was time to get going!! Making disciples is our mission and vision here at Our Lady of Mercy. Since the shutdown of our church, offices and parish programs due to the Covid-19 pandemic, it has been a challenge in making disciples without the one-to-one or group in person contact. None-the-less, our staff has risen to the challenge!!

I want to applaud and recognize our staff who have been constant in their devotion to making disciples – this time electronically! First, I am so very grateful to Fr. Mark and Zara Tan for their outstanding work in providing for the livestreaming of Sunday and daily Mass, as well as programs to keep us spiritually nourish us during this time. Thanks to Mary Jo Trapani our DRE, Dave Miserendino our Youth Minister, and Candy Rice our EDGE Director, as well as their support staff Jean Rehmer and Jean Palasz who have kept parents, catechists, and children supplied with on-line faith formation content. Trust me, none of them have been sitting home twiddling their thumbs wondering what to do!

I also want to thank parishioner Nick Meriage owner of Creative Digital Masters and his team Ann Meriage, Fred Harris, Deanna Trampani and Maddy Rusen for the professional services of livestreaming our Sunday Mass. Nick donated our first livestream Mass and has discounted by half all our subsequent livestreamed Masses. Our weekday Masses are livestreamed at no charge.

Also, making disciples, congratulations to parishioners Jason and Carrie (Beelner) Nadziejko, 2003 graduates of the University of Iowa who were recipients of The University of Iowa's 2020 Fr. Ed Fitzpatrick Discipleship Award. Newman Singer alumni, they married in 2004, moved to Chicago and started a family in 2005. They settled in Aurora in 2007 and are currently the parents of two teenage girls. The family is involved at OLM as cantors, religious education instructors and altar servers. Both Jason and Carrie credit the Newman Center as being “a rock and constant” when they were college students and as adults raising a family. They said: “We looked for a parish family that exemplified that same stead and sturdy constant the Newman Center provided to us. We are thankful when we can use our time, talent and treasure to serve our faith family at OLM.” As recipients of the Fr. Ed Fitzpatrick Discipleship Award, the Newman Catholic Student Center at the University of Iowa has made a \$500 donation in Jason and Carrie's honor to Our Lady of Mercy Parish.

Have a blessed week!

Fr. Ed

PARISH PRIESTS

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Jean Rehmer, RE Secretary (6-12) & RCIA
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Len Eickhoff, Buildings & Grounds
630-631-1676 lene@olmercy.com

Liturgy Schedule & Mass Intentions

Monday, May 25 - Memorial Day

8:00 AM † Deceased Veterans
† Mary Ellen Feldman, by Family

Tuesday, May 26 - St Philip Neri, Priest

8:00 AM † Carole & Mike Brogan, by
Tom & Margaret Mary Powers

Wednesday, May 27 - St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop

8:00 AM † Danny Podczerwinski, by Family

Thursday, May 28 - Easter Weekday

8:00 AM † Margaret Nowak, by Family

Friday, May 29 - Easter Weekday

8:00 AM † Jessie Zec, by Family

Saturday, May 30 - Easter Weekday

4:00 PM **Vigil - Pentecost**
† Penny Simoncelli, by Father Don McLaughlin
† Mike & Carole Brogan, by Pat & Tom McHugh

Sunday, May 31 - Pentecost Sunday

7:30 AM † Mary Ellen Feldman, by Family
9:00 AM † Betty Miller, by Mike & Lori Coit
10:45 AM The People of Our Lady of Mercy
12:30 PM Int of Joliet Seminarians
5:30 PM † Elizabeth Irefo, by Family

MASS INTENTIONS

Since the reduction of Sunday Masses due to the closure of church during the COVID-19 pandemic, those intentions are offered by the other priest con-celebrating the 8:00am weekday Mass.

Due to the Governor's stay-at-home order, all Masses are closed to the public.

BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL LAMPS

Votive lamps will burn this week before the Blessed Sacrament for the following intentions:

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Megan Gabaldon | 9. The Feldman Family |
| 2. The Sick | 10. Medical Professionals |
| 3. Ailani Banuelos | 11. Special Intention-C.H. |
| 4. Benjamin R Gragasin | 12. Fr Don McLaughlin |
| 5. First Responders | 13. Fr Mark McLaughlin |
| 6. Dcn Bob & Betty Vavra | 14. Dcn James Guarascio |
| 7. Dcn Senovio Sarabia | 15. The Pluskota Family |
| 8. The Deceased | 16. The Homeless |

If you wish to have a candle burning for your intention in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, you will find envelopes on the shelf in the Narthex near the Priest's Sacristy or in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

We remember in prayer those in service to our country

TSgt Leah Harvey, USAF
Airman Melanie Hodges, US Navy
Nicholaus Laurie, US Marines
SSG Sean Murphy, USMC
Capt. Tara Trammell, US Army
Roberto Ramos, US Army
Lt. Joshua Puscas, US Navy
Capt. Keith Harris, USAF
SSG Gina Maro, USAF
Juan Gabriel Sindac, USAF
Aaron Godinez, US Marines
SPC Mason Webber, US Army
LC/Cprl Ryan Ludwig, US Marines
Capt. Brian Strohmaier, US Army
Elizabeth Pattermann, US Marine
Ensign Marion Eunece Bautista, US Navy
SSG Karla Venegas, US Army
SSG Jeremy Norris, US Army
Capt. Carmen Lockett, US Army

We pray for our sick, confined and their families

Please contact the Parish Office if you or your **immediate** family member wish to be added to the Sick List.

Mark Hoeksema
Wayne Draper
Ailani Banulos
Julia Schremp
Billy Walowski
Kathy Walowski
Flo Paprzycki
Helga Manglinong
Michael Dandan
Charlene Oates
Maria Luna
William Nimmow

Jill Brisceno
Lexi Brisceno
Michael Butler
Hailey Hartnett
Thomas F. Sterling
Henrietta Pineda
La Moua
Valerie Plesha
Hedy Sterling
Diane Pazos
Diane Ramonas
Diane Singer
Joyce Craig

John Swanston
Robert Ciulla
Bridget Garry
David Bakke

Please note: Due to the government legislation regarding patient privacy, names of people to be prayed for at Mass or in the Bulletin can be listed only if that person, or in the case of their incapacitation, the person delegated to their medical care, calls to give permission.



DESDE EL ESCRITORIO DEL PASTOR.....
¡También conocido como Chardonnay W(h)ines!

"¿Por qué están mirando al cielo?" Hoy celebramos la Ascensión de Jesús al cielo. Durante cuarenta días después de su resurrección, había estado apareciéndose a sus discípulos y hablando con ellos sobre el Reino de Dios. En el Evangelio de hoy se nos dice que Jesús y los once discípulos fueron a una montaña en Galilea donde les dijo: **VAYAN** y hagan discípulos a todas las naciones, bautizándolos en el nombre del Padre, y del Hijo, y del Espíritu Santo y enséñenles a observar todo lo que él mandó. Es por esto que se les preguntó a los discípulos por qué estaban mirando al cielo. ¡Era hora de ponerse en marcha! Hacer discípulos es nuestra misión y visión aquí en Our Lady of Mercy. Desde el cierre de nuestra iglesia, oficinas y programas parroquiales debido a la pandemia del Covid-19, ha sido un desafío hacer discípulos sin el contacto individual o grupal. ¡Sin embargo, nuestro personal ha aceptado el desafío!

Quiero aplaudir y reconocer a nuestro personal que ha sido constante en su devoción por hacer discípulos, ¡esta vez electrónicamente! Primero, estoy muy agradecido con el Padre Mark y Zara Tan por su excelente trabajo proporcionando la transmisión en vivo de la Misa dominical y diaria, así como en programas para mantenernos espiritualmente nutridos durante este tiempo. Gracias a Mary Jo Trapani nuestra Directora de Educación Religiosa (DRE), Dave Miserendino nuestro Ministro de la Juventud, y Candy Rice, nuestra Directora de EDGE, así como a su personal de apoyo, Jean Rehmer y Jean Palasz, quienes han mantenido a los padres, catequistas e hijos con contenido en línea para la formación de la fe. ¡Créanme, ninguno de ellos ha estado sentado en casa haciendo girar sus pulgares preguntándose qué hacer!

También quiero agradecer al feligrés Nick Meriage, propietario de Creative Digital Masters y su equipo Ann Meriage, Fred Harris, Deanna Trampani y Maddy Rusen por los servicios profesionales de transmisión en vivo de nuestra Misa Dominical. Nick donó nuestra primera Misa en vivo y ha descontado a la mitad todas nuestras Misas posteriores transmitidas en vivo. Nuestras Misas diarias son transmitidas en vivo sin costo.

También, haciendo discípulos, felicitaciones a los feligreses Jason y Carrie (Beelner) Nadziejko, graduados de la Universidad de Iowa en el 2003, que recibieron el Premio 2020 "Discipulado del Padre Ed Fitzpatrick" de la Universidad de Iowa. Los ex alumnos de Newman Singer, se casaron en el 2004, se mudaron a Chicago y comenzaron una familia en el 2005. Se establecieron en Aurora en el 2007 y actualmente son padres de dos chicas adolescentes. La familia participa en OLM como cantores, instructores de educación religiosa y monaguillos. Tanto Jason como Carrie atribuyen al Newman Center como "una roca y constante" cuando eran estudiantes universitarios y como adultos criando una familia. Ellos dijeron: "Buscábamos una familia parroquial que ejemplifique esa misma constante estable y robusta que nos proporcionó el Newman Center. Estamos agradecidos cuando podemos usar nuestro tiempo, talento y tesoro para servir a nuestra familia de fe en OLM". Como beneficiarios del Premio "Discipulado del Padre Ed Fitzpatrick", el Newman Catholic Student Center de la Universidad de Iowa, hizo una donación de \$500 en honor de Jason y Carrie a la Parroquia de Our Lady of Mercy.

¡Que tengan una semana bendecida!

Padre Ken

"EMPUJADOS" A LA MISIÓN

Hay un personaje encantado en Las historias del Dr. Dolittle llamado "Pushmi-Pullyu" [equivalente a Mempujas-Tehalo]. Es una bestia con dos mitades idénticas, con una cabeza en cada extremo. Sea cual fuera la dirección en que camina la bestia, un extremo "empuja" y el otro "hala". La fiesta de hoy refleja algo parecido en la vida de la Iglesia. En el libro de los Hechos de los Apóstoles, es la Ascensión de Cristo la que llama al Espíritu Santo, quien a su vez envía o "empuja" a la Iglesia a realizar su misión. Tal es el mensaje que hoy oímos decir a los ángeles cuando dicen a los amigos de Jesús que no se queden mirando hacia las nubes, sino que se pongan en acción. Es el mensaje del mismo Jesús en el Evangelio según Mateo, cuando los envía a bautizar: "yo estaré con ustedes todos los días, hasta el fin del mundo" (Mateo 28:20). Y es este mensaje, con fe llena de confianza en Jesús que ha ascendido con gritos de gozo, el que "nos empuja" hacia nuestro destino final. La vida del discípulo fiel, enviado al mundo con su misión, es la que un día conocerá la misma gloria resucitada y ascendida. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: Hch 19:1-8; Sal 68 (67):2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab; Jn 16:29-33
Martes: Hch 20:17-27; Sal 68 (67):10-11, 20-21; Jn 17:1-11a
Miércoles: Hch 20:28-38; Sal 68 (67):29-30, 33-36ab; Jn 17:11b-19
Jueves: Hch 22:30; 23:6-11; Sal 16 (15):1-2a, 5, 7-11; Jn 17:20-26
Viernes: Hch 25:13b-21; Sal 103 (102):1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab; Jn 21:15-19
Sábado: Hch 28:16-20, 30-31; Sal 11 (10):4, 5, 7; Jn 21:20-25
Domingo: Vigilia: Gn 11:1-9 o Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b o Ez 37:1-14 o Jl 3:1-5; Sal 104 (103):1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29-30; Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39
Día: Hch 2:1-11; Sal 104 (103):1, 24, 29-31, 34; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23

“PUSHED” OUT ON MISSION

There is a delightful character in the original *Dr. Dolittle Tales* called the “Pushmi-Pullyu.” It is a beast with two identical halves, with a head at each end. No matter which direction the beast walks, one end is the “push me” and the other is the “pull you.” Today’s feast is a bit like that in the life of the church. In the book of the Acts of the Apostles, it is the ascension of Christ that calls for the Holy Spirit, which consequently sends or “pushes” the church out on its mission. This is the message that we hear from the angels today as they tell the friends of Jesus not to look up into the clouds, but to get busy. It is the message of Jesus himself in Matthew’s Gospel, as he sends them out to baptize. He also tells them, “I am with you always, until the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20). And it is this message, confident in faith that Jesus has ascended to shouts of joy, that “pulls” us along to our final destiny. The life of the faithful disciple, sent into the world on mission, will one day know the same risen, ascended glory. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — Jesus tells the disciples that they will be witnesses to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:1-11).

Psalm — God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord (Psalm 47).

Second Reading — May the Father of glory give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation (Ephesians 1:17-23).

Gospel — Jesus instructs the Eleven to baptize and teach people of all nations (Matthew 28:16-20).



St. Vincent de Paul Society

Today as we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord we are reminded that Christ’s saving work on earth continues through his disciples.... and now continues through us.

During this difficult time please remember that the work of St. Vincent de Paul continues. We are answering calls and helping families. So if you wish to make donations to SVDP Society at Our Lady of Mercy you can mail in the SVDP donation envelope or make a note on your check. Thank you for helping us help others in need.

God bless all the parishioners at OLM and your families. Please know you are in our prayers - be well and safe.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab; Jn 16:29-33
- Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27; Ps 68:10-11, 20-21; Jn 17:1-11a
- Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68:29-30, 33-36ab; Jn 17:11b-19
- Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11; Jn 17:20-26
- Friday: Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab; Jn 21:15-19
- Saturday: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Ps 11:4, 5, 7; Jn 21:20-25
- Sunday: Vigil: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5; Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29-30; Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39
Day: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23



Exploring the Ascension through the Eyes of a Young Disciple

What is the Ascension?

The ascension is the fourth pivotal life event of our Lord Jesus. First, Jesus' birth and His fully human and divine life as God-with-us, reveals his supernatural power in the flesh. Jesus' total self-sacrificing love at His passion and crucifixion follows second, with His resurrection from the dead aptly occurring third. Forty days after His resurrection, we come to the bittersweet end of His earthly life, and His being ascends to live gloriously with God forever.

Children growing up in strong Catholic households generally have an understanding of Jesus' life, passion and crucifixion, and resurrection. If not by title, they can retell these essential stories of our faith with key details. However, when teaching about Jesus' Ascension, I frequently observe confused faces. I believe this happens in part because both stories are Gospel events that tell of Jesus being raised and lifted up, and when first learning the words resurrection and ascension, it can be tricky keeping the stories straight when their Gospel titles have the same ending sound. As parents, you can help your children not only grow beyond their innocent confusion, but also guide them to find special meaning in our Lord's ascension into heaven.

Here are some ideas for exploring the Ascension of Jesus with your young disciple(s):

Start by tapping into their experiences of this concept with familiar examples of how things/ people ascend.

Brainstorm a list that could include kites, hot air balloons, birds, an airplane, walking upstairs, climbing a tree or mountain, or using an elevator or escalator at a mall.

Share that God the Father's powerful love allows Jesus, the Son of God, *to be Lord in heaven, and Lord in our hearts!*

We do not have to be afraid of dying because *Jesus has ascended to heaven to prepare a special place for us in his Father's house for those who love Him.*

We know and feel real things we cannot see, *like our parents' and friends' love so we can trust in the Lord's love for us.*

The disciples needed to say goodbye to Jesus' earthly presence. As Jesus left them, *they turned closer to each other to remember His personal love for them and all He did and taught them to share with others.*

Read the accounts of the Ascension of Jesus: *Matthew 28:16-20, Mark 16:19, Luke 24:50-53, Acts 1:9-11, John 14:1-11 (Jesus' prepares our place in heaven.)*

Using child-friendly images online, *show pictures of Jesus' Nativity, Crucifixion, Resurrection, and Ascension. Offer a "sneak peek" of what we celebrate a week from Ascension Sunday - Pentecost!*

Wonder with them: What does it feel like to say goodbye?
Imagine with your children the different feelings the disciples must have felt while watching Jesus ascend into heaven.

Recall together what Jesus expected of the disciples upon his leaving? *Discuss ways you as a family can "Go and make disciples" with the power of your words and actions.*

Help your child *learn or review The Apostles' Creed, by looking up and reading the Gospel stories that name what we believe about Jesus in this prayer.*



May is National Blood Pressure Month

The month of May is an opportunity to raise awareness about hypertension or high blood pressure. It is known as the “silent killer” as symptoms of hypertension often go unnoticed. If high blood pressure is not controlled, the risk of heart problems such as stroke or heart attack increases.

Do you know your numbers? When was the last time you had your blood pressure taken? Do you know what is considered optimal blood pressure? The upper number (systolic pressure) measures the pressure in the arteries when the heart beats. The lower number (diastolic pressure) measures the pressure between heart beats. Normal blood pressure is less than 120 and less than 80 mm Hg. An elevated blood pressure is between 120-129 and less than 80 mm Hg. Hypertension Stage 1 is between 130-139 or 80-89 mm Hg. Hypertension Stage 2 is 140 or higher or 90 mm Hg and higher. A hypertensive crisis is 180 mm Hg or higher and/or 120 mm Hg or higher.

To control or lower high blood pressure, your physician may prescribe medications and recommend a heart-healthy lifestyle that includes: choosing heart-healthy foods, maintaining a healthy weight, managing stress in healthy ways, being physically active, getting enough good-quality sleep and not smoking.

There are guidelines for eating a heart-healthy diet to manage blood pressure and reduce the risk of heart attack and stroke. The American Heart Association recommends a diet rich in fruits, vegetables, whole-grains, low-fat dairy products, skinless poultry and fish, nuts and legumes, non-tropical vegetable oils AND to limit the intake of saturated and trans fats, sodium (salt), red meat, sweets and sugar-sweetened beverages. Please keep in mind that depending on your medical health and conditions, some of the recommendations may not be for you.



Another consideration for healthy eating to lower pressure is the DASH diet which stands for Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension. It emphasizes the right portion sizes, variety of foods and nutrients. It encourages the reduction of sodium (salt) in the diet. The standard DASH diet recommends that you may consume up to 2,300 milligrams of sodium per day. The lower sodium DASH diet recommends that you consume up to 1,500 milligrams of sodium a day. You may want to read the labels of the foods you are eating and learn what amount of sodium foods contain naturally and keep a log for a day or so to see what amount of sodium you are consuming daily. Your kidneys would appreciate this as too much salt makes the kidneys work harder to remove the excess fluid from the body. This excess fluid can increase blood pressure. For further information on blood pressure, check out the websites for the American Heart Association and the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute.

Open HEARTS Ministry

During Mental Health Awareness Month, take the time to learn about the support and resources that the Open HEARTS Ministry of Our Lady of Mercy can provide. The mission of the ministry is to offer Hope, Empathy, Awareness, Renewal, Trust and Support to those experiencing mental or emotional health challenges. The ministry offers spiritual support, hotline and resource referral information, physical health and wellness programs, information on mental health and suicide prevention trainings and opportunities to get involved with other ministries to strengthen connection to God and fellow parishioners.

The Open HEARTS Ministry prayer: *God of compassion, love and comfort. Open my heart so that I can graciously receive your support and the support of those who care for me. Help me find peace, calmness and serenity through the Holy Spirit. Help me to know in my heart that you will be with me throughout my journey. Strengthen my mind, my body, and my soul, with your healing touch. Lord Jesus Christ, grant me the courage to cherish every moment because every single breath is a blessing from you. Give me the power to persevere and find the inner strength to be healed. Thank You, Dear Lord. Amen. St. Dymphna, Pray for us.*

For questions or support, please contact Janice Hurtado Aeppli at 312-217-7872 or at olmopenhearts@yahoo.com or Jolene LeRoy RN Director of Pastoral Care at 331-707-5380 or at jolenel@olmercy.com.



ASCENSION OF THE *Lord* MAY 24, 2020

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.

Matthew 28:19

MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS

Today we celebrate the ascension of Jesus into heaven, his departure after the Crucifixion, the Resurrection, and all the appearances to the disciples. Acts and Ephesians look back at the time just before Jesus leaves and then at its immediate aftermath, still trying to understand what has happened and what is expected of those who were left behind. The readings remind us that the disciples are still not certain what all this means to them. But one thing is certain: Jesus is gone and they are struggling with what to do next. Matthew tells us that even as they believed in Jesus, they doubted. Jesus responds to their doubt with a call to work. He tells them to “make disciples of all nations.”

UP, UP AND AWAY

The reading from Acts gives us a pretty complete description of the Ascension. Jesus was lifted up and taken from their sight but not before the disciples ask lots of questions about what will happen. The disciples are still thinking that the kingdom of Israel will be restored. Jesus answers them with a promise of power from the Holy Spirit and a commission that they be witnesses not just to Israel but to the ends of the earth. But the disciples are still thinking small. Jesus knows that the meaning of his death and resurrection is not small. Ephesians offers a glimpse of the great gifts of Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection. The disciples cannot even imagine what this means for them as they stand staring into the sky. Jesus tells them one more time that their work is to tell everyone about his life and work, to baptize them, and to teach them his commandments.

NEVER CAN SAY GOOD-BYE

The disciples still thought this was just about their life and their world. They are reminded by Jesus that what they have lived through with him, his life, death, and resurrection, is greater and more far-reaching than they can yet imagine. This is not just about the kingdom of Israel. This is about all nations. This is not just about witnessing in Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria. This work will take them to the ends of the earth. It is an enormous undertaking that we and the disciples have been given. It seemed impossible to the disciples then and it seems impossible to us now. But it is not. It is possible because we are not alone in this work. Jesus is with us not for a day or a week or even our lifetime. Jesus is with us always, until the end of the age.

TODAY’S READINGS

Acts 1:1–11
Psalm 47:2–3, 6–9
Ephesians 1:17–23
Matthew 28:16–20

PARISH SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Fiscal Year-to-Date Information (as of 5/10/2020)

Actual Year-to-Date Collections:	\$ 1,351,419
Fiscal Year-to-Date Budget:	\$ 1,408,000
Amount Short of Budget:	\$ (56,581)

5/10/2020 Sunday Collection:	\$ 28,697
Sunday Goal:	\$ 32,000
Amount in Short of Goal:	\$ (3,303)

We have received 80% of our Budgeted Collection during this lockdown period.

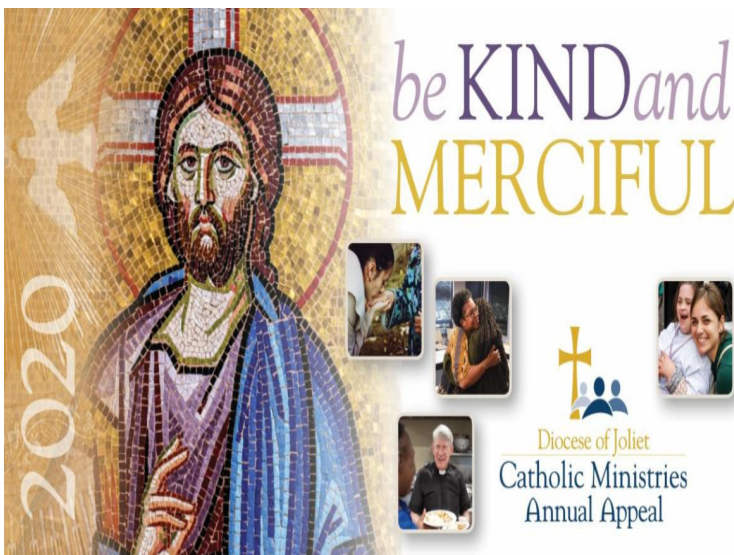
We have had over 190 parishioners sign up for on-line giving during this time, an increase of over 100% since the Lockdown began.

Thank you for your generosity!!

Please remember Our Lady of Mercy Parish in your will and estate planning.

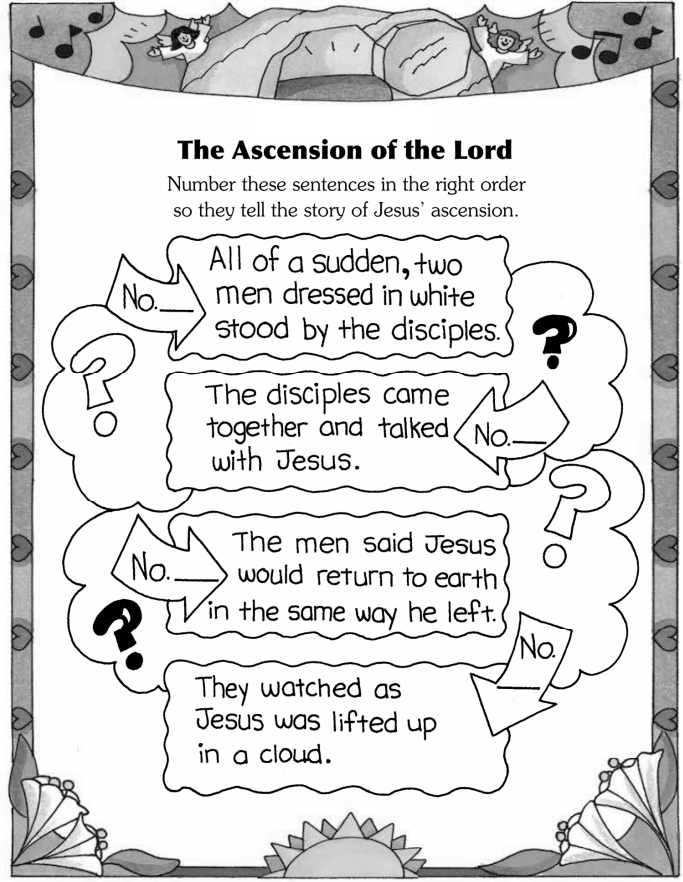
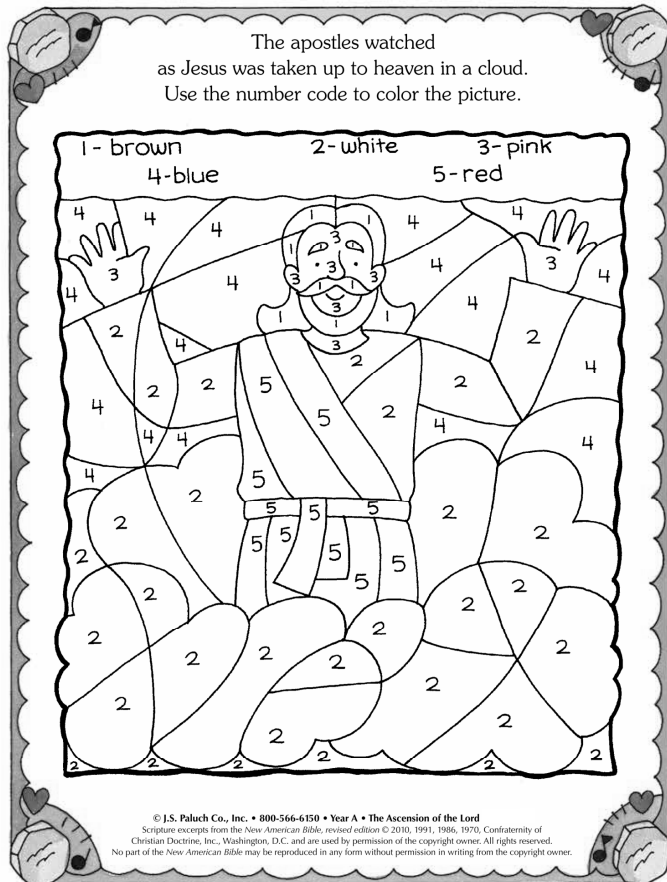
Construction loan for building the Parish Life Center

April, 2009	\$1,950,000
March, 2020	\$ 843,642
April, 2020	\$ 831,220

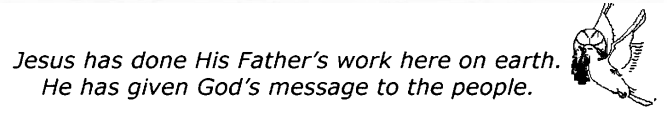


It is very important that these pledges be paid so that our parish will reach our goal. Once we have reached our goal in paid pledges, 70% of the additional funds received will be returned to the parish for our use.

Parish Goal	\$ 146,700
Amount Pledged	\$ 161,046
Amount Paid	\$ 95,150
Remaining Balance	\$ 65,896
Rebate Amount	\$ 0
# of Families Pledged	635



Jesus prays for us so that we may be with Him.

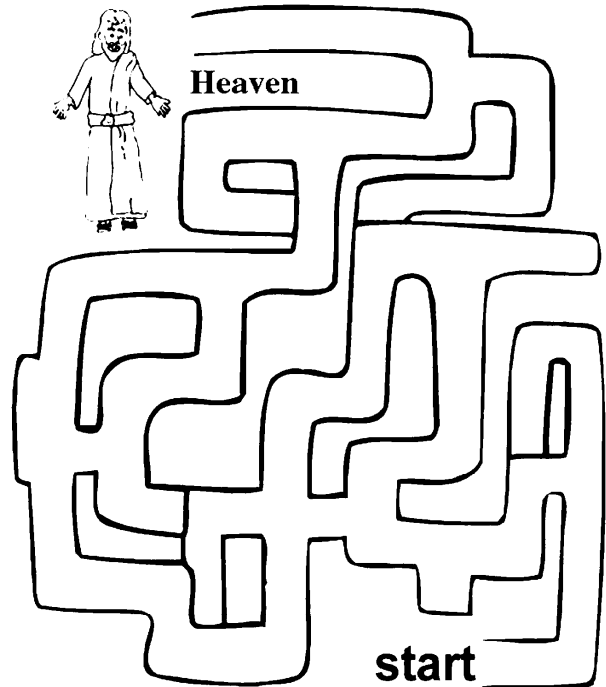


Jesus has done His Father's work here on earth. He has given God's message to the people.

Directions: Circle the words that will help you be with Jesus in heaven and put an X over the things that will not.

Directions: Help Jesus return to God in heaven.

- Fighting** **Washing the dishes**
- Love** **Set the table** **Feed pets**
- Helping with dinner** **Play outside**
- Cheating on a test** **Walk dog**
- Make fun of somebody** **Care**
- Cleaning your room** **Gossip**
- Make new friends** **Be mean**
- Ignore your parents** **Pray**
- Include all in games on playground**





Food Service Coordinator St. John Vianney Villa In Naperville

The Diocese of Joliet is seeking to hire a Food Service Coordinator at the St. John Vianney Villa in Naperville. The Food Service Coordinator will design/develop the weekday menus and prepare healthy, hot meals for lunch and dinner Monday through Friday for the priests residing at St. John Vianney Villa. He/she will watch over the Villa and report any issues to the Facilities Manager, order supplies, shop for food, etc. Must have excellent culinary skills and the ability to relate well with others. Must be dependable. This is a full-time benefited non-exempt position. Normal work week Monday through Friday 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Requires flexibility of schedule if needed. To view a full job description, visit: <http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/hr/listjobs.php>

Applicants meeting the necessary qualifications, please email a cover letter, resume and salary requirement to: humanresources@dioceseofjoliet.org

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday 3:00-3:45pm; Reconciliation services held seasonally.

SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Contact the Parish Office so we may help you in any way possible.

HOSPITALIZATION: If you anticipate a hospitalization or are admitted to an area hospital and would like a visit from a priest or Eucharistic Minister, please notify the parish office.

BAPTISMS: Registered parishioners wishing their child baptized must attend a parent meeting held the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Baptisms are held at 12 noon the first Saturday of the month and at 2:00 p.m. the second Sundays of the month. Baptisms are not celebrated during Lent.

WEDDINGS: The bride, groom or either set of parents must be registered members of the parish for at least six months prior to scheduling a wedding. Weddings may be scheduled no less than six months out in order to fulfill the diocesan marriage preparation requirements. Contact Diane Reiter, ext. 221.

NEW PARISHIONERS: We welcome you! Please register by attending our "New Parishioner Registration/Welcoming" meeting the last Sunday of the month at 11:00 a.m. For more info call: 851-3444, ext. 221.

HOSPITALITY: "Hospitality" weekend is held in the Parish Life Center Multi Purpose Room after all Saturday/Sunday Masses on the last full weekend of each month (excluding December).

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, Voicemail-ext. 400

CHURCH NAME AND NUMBER—

The Church of Our Lady of Mercy #512124

ADDRESS—

701 S. Eola Road
Aurora, IL 60504

PHONE—

630-851-3444

CONTACT PERSON—

Diane - Ext. 221

SOFTWARE—

Microsoft Publisher 2002

PRINTER—

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SUNDAY DATE OF BULLETIN—

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS—

Please print and ship 50 copies of the bulletin.

Fed Ex: Deliver inside Door B
on the North side of Church