



Assumption Catholic Church

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May You Find Christ Here...May You Bring Christ To The World!

May 24, 2020

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord
And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.



Mass Schedule:

Saturday, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, 12 noon

Friday, 9:00 a.m.

Pre-registration is currently required

Fr. Thomas A. Sebastian, Administrator

tanatharackal@gmail.com, 681.404.2521

Rev. Larry Hammel, Deacon

Kelli Wittman, Office Manager

Linda Davis-Kyle, Organist & Choir Director

Angela Bowers, Organist

Kelley Kuhn, Director of Religious Education

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday

9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Bulletin Deadline:

Wednesday, 12 noon

Sunday Reflection – The Ascension of the Lord

Why did Jesus leave his disciples forty days after his resurrection? Forty is a significant number in the Scriptures. Moses went to the mountain to seek the face of God for forty days in prayer and fasting. The people of Israel were in the wilderness for forty years in preparation for their entry into the promised land. Elijah fasted for forty days as he journeyed in the wilderness to the mountain of God. For forty days after his resurrection Jesus appeared numerous times to his disciples to assure them that he had risen indeed and to prepare them for the task of carrying on the work which he began during his earthy ministry.

Jesus' departure and ascension into heaven was both an end and a beginning for his disciples. While it was the end of Jesus' physical presence with his beloved disciples, it marked the beginning of Jesus' presence with them in a new way. Jesus promised that he would be with them always to the end of time (Matthew 28:20). Jesus gives his followers the same power he received when the Holy Spirit came upon him and anointed him at the beginning of his mission (John 1:32-33). The Gospel is the power of God, the power to release people from their burden of sin, guilt, and oppression, and the power to heal, restore, and make us whole. Do we believe in the power of the Gospel to change and transform our life? Let us pray: Lord Jesus, through the gift of your Holy Spirit, you fill us with an indomitable spirit of praise and joy which no earthly trial can subdue. May I witness to those around me the joy of the Gospel and the reality of your great victory over sin and death.

Readings for Next Sunday, May 31 (Pentecost Sunday)

Acts 2:2-11

1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13

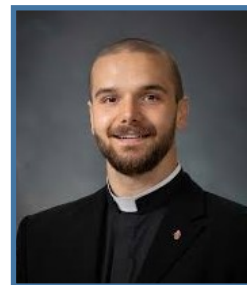
John 20:19-23

A Message from Phillip Szabo

Dear Parishioners of Assumption Parish,

I miss you all very much and I hope that you are doing well.

Thanks to God's grace and your prayers, I will be ordained as a transitional deacon on Saturday, May 30th in Saint James the Greater Catholic Church! God is good! After five years of seminary formation, I can hardly wait to begin my service to God's Church as a deacon.



I wish that I could invite you all to come to the ordination in person, but, as you can imagine, the COVID-19 restrictions have significantly limited the number of guests that are allowed to attend. However, the ordination ceremony will be broadcasted live on the diocesan website and on their Facebook page for those who would like to view the ordination in the safety of their homes.

Lastly, I promise to come visit you some weekend as soon as I am able. If I am really good, maybe Fr. Thomas will even let me preach!

Thank you again for all of the prayers and support that you have given me over the past 5 years. Your work has paid off! Now, I look forward to serving the Catholic Church in West Virginia for the rest of my life!

May God bless you all!

Phillip Szabo

Phillip's ordination will be broadcast live on Saturday, May 30th at 11:00 AM on either of the following websites:

Diocesan Website - <http://www.dwc.org>

Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/DioceseofWheelingCharleston>

Welcome Deacon Larry!



Our newly assigned Deacon, Larry Hammel, was born in New York City in 1935. He grew up on Long Island and attended both parochial and public schools. He went on to attend the University of Notre Dame (no, he did not play football but

enjoyed the home games).

Following graduation with a degree in civil engineering, he went on to MIT obtaining an advanced degree in transportation engineering.

Thereafter he worked for a traffic engineering firm on Long Island.

Larry and Marianne, his wife, were married in 1959 and he was promptly drafted into the Army. His tour of service was spent at the Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland. Upon completing his service, Larry worked in transportation planning for the Washington Metropolitan area.

He and Marianne then returned to New York where he continued his career in transportation planning in both the public and private sectors, with a license as a professional engineer. Larry retired from engineering in 1992.

The Hammels have four adult children and eight grandchildren, living from upstate New York, the Washington metropolitan area, to Tennessee and Texas.

Larry was ordained a permanent deacon in 1984 for the Rockville Center Diocese in New York. He served in two parishes on Long Island. After retiring from engineering, he became a hospital chaplain at two Catholic hospitals on Long Island where he became a board certified Chaplain by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

To be closer to family, Larry and Marianne relocated to northern Virginia where Larry was assigned as a deacon in the Arlington Diocese. His current assignment is at St. Francis de Sales in Purcellville. When the Hammels purchased a small cabin in Romney, Larry was also assigned to Our Lady of Grace in 2002 by the Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston.

Larry currently coordinates prison ministry in Loudoun County for Catholic Charities of Arlington Diocese. In addition, he is an on-call hospital chaplain and leads spiritual workshops in the mental health unit of the hospital. Larry spends half of his time in the Arlington Diocese and the other half in our Diocese.

Given the fact that Assumption Parish shares a pastor with Our Lady of Grace, Bishop Brennan has expanded Larry's services to include our parish, effective last month.

We are very happy to have him as part of our parish family!

Welcome Back!

We welcome back to Mass all of you who have chosen to return, and we look forward to when it is safe for all of our church family to be together again!

We ask that you be mindful of the changes that have been made for the safety and health of all, and appreciate your patience as we adapt to these changes.

Let us continue to pray for an end to the coronavirus pandemic, and that God heal the sick, strengthen those who care for them and help us all to persevere in faith.

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday, May 23

4:00 p.m. - The Harbor Family

Sunday, May 24

8:30 a.m. - Betty Fraley †

Monday, May 25

9:00 a.m. - Those Who Have Died
Serving Our Country †

Tuesday, May 26

No Mass

Wednesday, May 27

6:00 p.m. - Julie Alt's Intentions

Thursday, May 28

12 noon - Angela Dorsey †

Friday, May 29

9:00 a.m. - Don Quinn †

Saturday, May 30

4:00 p.m. - Mary Wagoner's Intentions

Sunday, May 31

8:30 a.m. - Katie Kuhn's Intentions

Second Collection Next Sunday

The Diocesan collection next Sunday, May 31, is for Peter's Pence. This collection provides Pope Francis with the funds to carry out his charitable works around the world to benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression and disasters.

Fr. Ivan Ordination Anniversary

Fr. Ivan will be celebrating the 62nd anniversary of his ordination to the Priesthood on May 24. If you would like to send him a card or note, his address is:

Fr. Ivan Lebar TOR
PO Box 40
Loretto, PA 15940-0040

May and June Poor Box Donations

The beneficiary for poor box donations received in May and June will be the Faith in Action Food Pantry.



Fr. Thomas will offer a Mass on Monday, May 25, at 9 a.m. at our church in celebration of Memorial Day.

Note: The Parish Office will be closed Monday in observance of the holiday.

Pre-Registration for Mass Continues

To ensure we maintain social distancing guidelines and to avoid more parishioners attending than we can safely accommodate, we will continue to pre-register for Masses for the foreseeable future.

As a reminder, you can register by email, phone, or online through **SignUp.com** (visit our church website for the link or go to: <https://signup.com/go/LNZufWb>).

Additional Ushers, Cleaners Needed

If you are interested in helping our church during this transitional time by being either an usher, a cleaner, or both, please contact the Parish Office. And thank you to those who have already volunteered!

CCD Teachers Needed

We are in need of teachers for Grades 1-2 and Grades 3-4 for the 2020-2021 CCD year. Unless we have new students register, class size for Grades 1-2 will be six; Grades 3-4 will be ten. Also, if you are interested in being an aide in any classroom, you're welcome to sign up too. Another option is team teaching if two people would like to collaborate in one of the open classrooms. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Parish Office by email or phone.