

St. William Parish

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May 24, 2020 ~ The Ascension of the Lord



Pastor's COLUMN

Beginnings and endings are important. Sometimes we even ritualize these events, such as with baptisms and funerals. But there are other important beginnings and endings throughout our lives too. Today we celebrate such an event – the Feast of the Ascension. Today we hear about the risen Lord commissioning his disciples to go out to all the nations, making disciples by baptizing and teaching others. Even though there is no physically graphic ascension into the clouds spoken of in Matthew's version, this is the last appearance of the risen Lord to his disciples. In reality, the story of the ascension is not so much about Jesus magically rising into the air and being taken away by clouds, as it is about the last time he was seen by his disciples. He commissions them to evangelize, to tell the good news, and make disciples on their way by baptizing. We, like the disciples, are sent on mission – to live the gospel values that Jesus incarnated, to teach all nations, to make and be disciples to one another. May our lives of service and sacrifice for others be such a witness that others are drawn to Christ through us. For then we may be assured that we are living the Paschal mystery.

Beginnings and endings are important. This past week a letter was sent to all parishioners outlining the cautionary measures and necessary changes that will be in place as we return to Church next weekend.

These have also been posted on our parish website. Please review these in anticipation of gathering to celebrate Eucharist next weekend. Every effort is being made to provide the safest environment for us to worship and pray together. It will be a great joy to welcome you back next weekend as we mark an end of being absent from the Eucharist and begin to offer our praise and thanks as a community once again. However it is important to remember that the presence of this virus remains, therefore, for those who are at greater risk or are apprehensive to gather, the dispensation to attend Sunday Mass remains in place. It is our plan to live-stream Mass from St. William every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. through our parish website beginning next week. Additional details will be forthcoming and your patience is asked as we work out all the technological demons!



*Looking forward to see you next weekend!
Fr. Balash*

WITH SINCERE GRATITUDE...

Many thanks to all who continue mail, drop off, or use myEoffering to make their current weekly contribution. Your response in these unusual circumstances has been overwhelming and most generous. I very much appreciate and am grateful for your support in helping us to meet our financial obligations.

THANK YOU!
Fr. Balash

OFFERTORY SUMMARY ~ May 17, 2020 (WK 46)

	LAST WK	YTD
Sunday Collection	\$ 6,800.00*	\$ 330,144.00*
Amount Needed	\$ 7,100.00	\$ 326,600.00
Difference	\$ (300.00)	\$ 3,544.00
Performance	96%	101%

*Includes MyEoffering: \$ 632.00 LASTWK — \$ 33,028.00 YTD
Envelopes ~ 152 out of 552
Children's Envelopes ~ \$ 6.00 (4 out of 62)

Pot-of-Gold: #199 drawn on 5/20/20.
Winner! Bob & Marcia Kane: \$606.00

Scripture that will be proclaimed **THIS WEEKEND**
or visit www.usccb.org for the Readings

~ May 24, 2020 ~
The Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1: 1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I dealt with all that Jesus did and taught until the day he was taken up...

Ephesians 1: 17-23

Brothers and sisters: May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a Spirit of wisdom...

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...

Scripture that will be proclaimed **NEXT WEEKEND**
or visit www.usccb.org for the Readings

~ May 31, 2020 ~
Pentecost

Acts 2: 1-11

When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky...

1 Corinthians 1: 3-7, 12-13

Brothers and sisters: No one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit. There are different kinds of spiritual gifts...

John 20: 19-23

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were ...

†† RECENT DEATH ††

Our Sincere Sympathy

In your prayers for the departed, please remember

Mary Ann Prebonick
Mother of Steve Prebonick

May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

SUSPENSION OF MASS ENDS NEXT WEEKEND... DISPENSATION CONTINUES

The Bishops of Ohio extended the temporary suspension of all Masses and liturgies through May 29. It will end next weekend as we gather to celebrate the Solemnity of Pentecost on Sunday, May 31st. The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass continues for all Catholic faithful within the Diocese of Youngstown especially for those who are sick, or at high risk of becoming sick. Anyone who is symptomatic or who has been exposed to another with the virus within 14 days should not attend Mass in accordance with national, state and local health directives.

"SHEPHERDING ONE ANOTHER"

In anticipation of returning to Church on May 30/31, our "shepherds" are reaching out this week to all parishioners as your "contact" to provide updates and information about parish happenings and to also make sure everyone is doing OK in these unusual circumstances. These courtesy phone calls are just another way to stay in touch as we physically distance!!

Spiritual Communion via Televised or On-Line Mass

The Act of Spiritual Communion is made when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion at Mass. The way to make an Act of Spiritual Communion is listed below and can be adapted based upon personal and family needs:

1. Gather with others in your household and begin a time of prayer with the sign of the cross.
2. Watch Mass on television or on-line, or if unable, take time to read and reflect upon the readings from Sunday Mass. Scripture readings can be found at www.usccb.org. A schedule of televised Mass is available at www.doy.org under Media tab.
3. Share prayer intentions quietly or aloud.
4. Pray the Lord's Prayer.
5. Offer a prayer for healing, strength, or forgiveness or any prayer available during the coronavirus pandemic. If viewing Mass, offer a prayer during the normal time of Communion.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

6. Close with the sign of the cross.

PARISH OFFICE AND BUILDING UPDATE

Regular Parish Office hours have resumed, Monday through Friday – 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. You are still encouraged to conduct any business by phone or mail and are asked to use the mailbox ONLY AFTER HOURS to drop your contribution. It is asked that no one enter the church building without checking at the office first so that we can maintain proper and frequent cleaning and sanitizing. Finally the main hallway of the building is currently under remodeling. The cement block walls have been covered with drywall and is currently being finished and plastered. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Congratulations to the Class of 2020

*May God continue to bless you
as you continue on your journey.*

Tyler Betker, Bristol
Dominic Dutton, NDCL
Aidan Farley, WGH
Isabella Homchosky, Bristol
Kiley Karafa, Champion
Olivia Lane, Champion
Nathan McCue, JFK
Scott Mintus, JFK
Krysstal Randolph, Champion
Luke Zigarovich, Champion



GUIDELINES FOR THE RESUMPTION OF MASS

This past week a letter along with a copy of “Directives and Guidelines for the Resumption of Mass” was mailed to all parishioners. A copy of this information can be found on the parish website. You are kindly asked to review these in anticipation of returning to Mass next weekend. Please note that special instructions regarding seating arrangements and the distribution of Holy Communion will be posted and reviewed before each Mass next weekend.

NAIM Club

The event for June 11 has been cancelled.

SUMMER MASS SCHEDULE BEGINS NEXT WEEKEND

“WELCOME BACK” SUNDAY!

A reminder that our Summer Mass Schedule will begin on “Welcome Back” Sunday, May 31. Masses for the summer will be 5:00 pm Saturday, 8:30 am and **10:30 am.**

LIVE-STREAM MASS FROM ST. COLUMBA EVERY SUNDAY

Every Sunday Mass is live-streamed for from Saint Columba Cathedral at 10:30 a.m. on WFMJ-TV’s website. Go to www.wfmj.com and click on “Weekly Faith Services.”

Online Mass

Daily Mass is available at www.CatholicTV.org

LITURGICAL MINISTER UPDATE

As the celebration of Mass resumes next weekend, liturgical ministers needed for each Mass will be contacted by phone for the time being. You will be called and asked to fulfill your role for the coming weekend. A new schedule will be issued sometime later this coming summer. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

A PRAYER FOR ALL OF US DURING THIS TIME

by Pat Maciejewski

Lord, God,
creator of all good things,
help us in these days of concern and unrest,
of the unknown and maybe even panic.
Be with all medical personnel,
and all in charge of keeping us safe and calm.

We trust in you, O Lord,
to give us the strength and courage,
words and actions,
that we might need in the days and weeks ahead.

Keep us prudent in caring for ourselves,
our loved ones, and all others,
We implore you, O God, to send
your healing and spirit into the whole world.
Remain with us, grant us peace.

AMEN



Thank you for your support!

Thank you for the outpouring of support for the 2020 Youth Ministry Mother’s Day Flower Sale. A record number of 177 hanging baskets were purchased.

*Saint William
Youth Ministry*



“Welcome Back”

Sunday

May 30 – 31

Solemnity of Pentecost

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

All are welcome to join us as our parish family gathers to pray, sing, and celebrate giving thanks to God for His blessings and goodness.

Special precautionary measures will be in place to ensure a safe environment, however for those most vulnerable, especially those who are sick, or at high risk of becoming sick or who remain uncomfortable; the dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains in effect for all Catholics for the time being.

Further details and information are available on the parish website.



New! New! New!

LIVE-STREAM MASS FROM ST. WILLIAM

Beginning next weekend, May 31 Mass will be live-streamed from St. William every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Access will be available through the parish website: www.stwilliamchampion.org and the parish Facebook page.

