

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD IS CELEBRATED THIS SUNDAY!

Dear friends in Christ,

This weekend, we observe the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. This event happened the 40th Day after the Resurrection and in many places is still observed on that day: Ascension Thursday but in most places in the United States, it is now observed on the following Sunday. In 2018, Pope Francis offered these reflections on this great feast to ponder:

This Solemnity embraces two elements. On the one hand it directs our gaze toward heaven, where the glorified Jesus is seated at the right hand of God (cf. Mk 16:19). On the other, it reminds us of the mission of the Church: why? Because Jesus, Risen and Ascended into heaven, sends his disciples to spread the Gospel throughout the world. Therefore, the Ascension exhorts us to lift our gaze toward heaven, in order to return it immediately to the earth, to implement the tasks that the Risen Lord entrusts to us. It is what we are invited to do in the day's Gospel passage, in which the event of the Ascension occurs immediately after the mission that Jesus entrusts to the disciples. It is a boundless mission — that is, literally without boundaries — which surpasses human strength. Jesus says, in fact: "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to the whole creation" (Mk 16:15). The task which Jesus entrusts to a small group of common men lacking great intellectual capacity seems truly too bold! Yet this small company, insignificant compared to the great powers of the world, is sent to bring the message of Jesus' love and mercy to every corner of the earth.

But this plan of God can be accomplished only with the strength that God himself grants to the Apostles. In this sense, Jesus assures them that their mission will be supported by the Holy Spirit. And he says this: "you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8). This is how this mission was able to be accomplished, and the Apostles began this work which was then continued by their successors. The mission that Jesus entrusted to the Apostles has continued through the centuries, and continues still today: it requires the cooperation of all of us. Each one, in fact, by the power of the Baptism that he or she received, is qualified in turn to proclaim the Gospel. Baptism is precisely what qualifies us and also spurs us to be missionaries, to proclaim the Gospel.

The Lord's Ascension into heaven, while inaugurating a new form of Jesus' presence among us, calls us to keep eyes and hearts open to encounter him, to serve him and bear witness to him to others. It is a matter of being men and women of the Ascension, that is, those who seek Christ along the paths of our time, bringing his word of salvation to the ends of the earth. On this journey we encounter Christ himself in our brothers and sisters, especially in the poorest, in those who suffer in their very flesh the harsh and humiliating experience of old and new forms of poverty. As at the beginning the Risen Christ sent his Apostles with the power of the Holy Spirit, so too does he send all of us today, with the same power, so as to establish concrete and visible signs of hope. Because Jesus gives us hope. He went to heaven and opened the gates of heaven and the hope that we will reach it. POPE FRANCIS



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST COMMUNICANTS AT ST JUDE

This weekend at St Jude, we rejoice as children receive the Body and Blood of the Lord for the first time. Congratulations to our first communicants, their families, and all those who helped prepare them for this day! First Holy Communion is a very special time not only for the first communicants and their families but also for the whole Church and especially our parish. The specialness of this day reminds us of how important this holy food, the bread of life, is for us as Christians. May the wonder, awe, and joy of these First Communicants renew us in our love for this sacrament and give us new fervor in giving thanks and praise to God. We look forward to Corpus Christi, later this spring, when children from Holy Innocents and St. Anthony will celebrate their First Communion and receive this wondrous gift of the Lord's real presence.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE MADE THEIR ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL PLEDGES!

Many thanks to all who have returned their ACA pledge card or made a pledge on-line. Your generosity is amazing! If you haven't made a pledge already, we still need everybody's help to meet our goal. You can make your pledge at:

www.archseattle.org/giveaca

Your gift will go a long way toward passing on the Gospel in Western Washington.

Thank you!

Blessings on your week!

Fr Johnson

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

ST JUDE Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9AM-4PM, Friday 9AM-12PM

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
May 18	May 19	May 20	May 21	May 22	May 23	May 24
No Daily Mass 10:00am Women of Faith 11:00am Funeral Mass for Joan Miller	6:00pm May Crowning	8:30am Confessions 9:00am Daily Mass 7:00pm Gospel Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm House of Prayer	9:00am Daily Mass 12:15pm Steps to Freedom 1pm Rosary Cenacle 1pm Ojeda-Herrera Wedding 5:30pm Microsoft Mass 6:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm KoC-4 th Degree 7:00pm SVdP Meeting	9:00am Daily Mass 9:30am-9pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10:00am Guardians & Angels	11:00am Funeral Mass for Linda Grund 3:30pm Confessions 5:00pm Saturday Vigil Mass	9:00am Sunday Mass 11:00am Sunday Mass Coffee & Donuts after both Masses

HOLY INNOCENTS Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9AM-4PM, Friday 9AM-12PM

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
May 18	May 19	May 20	May 21	May 22	May 23	May 24
	9:00am Daily Mass 3:00-6:30pm Food Pantry Open	10am-12noon Food Pantry Open 6:00pm Daily Mass 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	9:00am Daily Mass	9:00am Daily Mass 10:00am Choir Rehearsal 6-6:45pm Confessions 6-8pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	4:30pm WOW Meeting	8:00am Sunday Mass 10:30am Sunday Mass

ST ANTHONY Office Hours: May 19, 2026 Tuesday 9AM-12PM

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May 19	May 20	May 21	May 22	May 23
6:00pm Adoration & Rosary	7:30-9:30pm AA Meeting	6:00pm Bible Study		5:00pm Saturday Vigil Mass

ASSISTANCE TO THOSE IN NEED

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

- St. Jude SVdP: Helpline assistance: 206-767-6449
- Holy Innocents: King County Crisis line at 211
- To learn more or to join the ministry contact:
 - Connie Dunn at Holy Innocents: connie@conniedunn.com
 - Diane Murphy at St Jude: svdp@stjude-redmond.org
- To donate furniture or household items email: svdpfurniture@stjude-redmond.org

SAFE PARKING AT ST JUDE

Safe Parking Helpline: 425-658-4982
safeparking@stjude-redmond.org

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Holy Innocents:
 Contact George Doty 360-668-2224
Dotyga@aol.com
 St Jude:
knightsofcolumbus@stjude-redmond.org

ONLINE GIVING ALL YEAR LONG

Donating online is easy! Use your phone camera to scan your parish's QR code below.



ST JUDE

You can also donate online on our website www.stjude-redmond.org. Our St Jude Parish Finance Council thanks you and asks for your continued generosity!



HOLY INNOCENTS

As a reminder... At Holy Innocents, we have two Stewardship Campaigns, our operations budget and our building loan. You can make a donation to either or both of these through our online giving platform found at our website www.holyinn.org. Thank you for your ongoing generosity toward supporting our parish.



ST ANTHONY