

ASCENSION  
*of the Lord*



**ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
 14936 W. Wilmington - Peotone Rd.  
 Manhattan, Illinois 60442  
**7th SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
 May 17, 2026

**Most Reverend Bishop Dennis Spies**  
 Administrator

**Office Phone 815-478-3440**

**Facebook St. Patrick Church of Wilton Center**

**Website: [www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org](http://www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org)**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Mass is celebrated on Saturday evening only

<b>May 16</b>	<b>5:45pm</b>	<b>ASCENSION OF THE LORD</b> +Gladys Meyer req. by The Family +Grace Niemiec req. by The Family Parish Family of St. Patrick
<b>May 20</b>	<b>5:30pm</b>	<b>+Ulman Family req. by Family</b> <b>+Dan Phelan req. by Dennis &amp; Linda Cakora</b>
<b>May 23</b>	<b>5:45pm</b>	<b>+Bob &amp; Carmen Elken req. by Ed &amp; Judy Phelan</b> <b>+Gladys Meyer req. by Family</b> Parish Family of St. Patrick
<b>May 25</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>In Cemetery—( Weather permitting)</b> <b>Remembering All Who Served</b>

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

	<b><u>Lector</u></b>	<b><u>Minister</u></b>
May 16 - 5:45pm	Sherrie Ashley	P. Engler
May 23 - 5:45pm	Jerry Kinsella	C. Kinsella
May 30 - 5:45pm	Mark May	L. Cakora
June 6 - 5-45pm	Jim Kreske	C. Smith

**SERVERS & USHERS**

Please volunteer at the Mass you are attending

**MEMORIAL DAY MASS**  
**MAY 25 - 10:00AM -**  
**IN CEMETERY**  
**IN CASE OF INCLEM-**  
**ENT WEATHER MASS**  
**WILL BE**  
**CELEBRATED**  
**IN CHURCH**

**Scripture Readings  
For the Week of May 17, 2026**

**Sunday Seventh Sunday of Easter** Acts 1:12-14; Ps 27:1, 4, 7-8; 1 Pt 4:13-16; Jn 17:1-11a

In those places where the observance of the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord has been transferred to the Seventh Sunday of Easter, the Mass and readings of the Ascension are used.

Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9; Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23; Mt 28:16-20

**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, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab; Jn 17:11b-19

**Thursday** Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 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 and 7; Jn 21:20-25

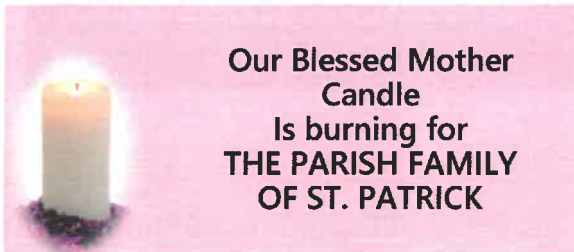
**Sunday Pentecost Sunday** Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23



Please remember in your prayers DAN PHELAN who entered Eternal life. Remember also his family as we commend his soul to the Lord. It is holy and wholesome to pray for the dead.

**HOLY FATHER INTENTION FOR  
MAY**

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.



**Our Blessed Mother  
Candle  
Is burning for  
THE PARISH FAMILY  
OF ST. PATRICK**

**WEEKLY OFFERING FOR  
5/10/2026**

**Sunday - \$1,385.00**

**Maintenance - \$600.00**

**Gutter Repair- \$600.00**

**Kankakee Storm Damage - \$865.00**

**Our weekly budget goal is \$1211.54**

**Thank you for your faith filled support.**

**Please Remember our sick: especially:**

Dan Phelan, Greg Harnois, Jim Kreske, Ann Marie & Tori Jasinski, Lisa Price, Barbara Schriver, Joe & Carol Price, Bernice & Dominick Marino, Tom Lane, Peggy Schiesow, Haley Donzella, Ken Smith, Laura 'Hanson, Steve Niemiec, Nancee Long, Shay Phelan, Lisa Bernard.

**PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE TO HAVE A  
LOVED ONE ADDED TO THE PRAYER LIST.**



# MEMORIAL DAY

**MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED**

**IN OUR CEMETERY AT 10:00AM**

**IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER**

**MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED IN  
CHURCH**



## Healing From the Inside Out

Your support of the Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal funds counseling services at Daybreak, Catholic Charities' shelter for those experiencing homelessness. In two years, nearly 200 clients have received therapy, coping skills, and the compassionate care they need to heal — and hold on to — a stable home.



Are you widowed and still hurting?

Please join us.

What: Attend a Joyful Again!

2 day Workshop & Spiritual Retreat

When: May 30th & 31st 2026

Where: St Joan of Arc Parish

No Overnight Accommodations available

For further information,

call: 708-354-7211.

e-mail us at [info@joyfulagain.org](mailto:info@joyfulagain.org)

website: [www.joyfulagain.org](http://www.joyfulagain.org)



**Watch the video and see  
the good your donation to the CMAA  
brings to our community**

## The 2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal

PARISH GOAL: 10,500.00

AMOUNT PLEDGED: \$4,085.00

AMOUNT PAID: \$3,335.00

DONORS - 22

## The Great Commission

*"He would be everywhere, whenever his friends gathered to pray. He would continue to act through them just as he promised: forgiving sins, sharing mercy, bringing young and old into the embrace of eternal life through Baptism, and feeding their very souls with himself, the Bread of Life. He would remain on earth through his Church." (Great Adventure Kids Catholic Bible Chronicles, by Amy Welborn, p 265)*

There is one command at the end of the Gospel of Matthew; to go and make disciples. A disciple doesn't just believe, but acts. He imitates his leader. As we recognize in James 2:26 that faith without works is dead, we are called to live our faith out in our daily life. By doing so, we inspire others to follow similarly.

Catholic Social Teaching explains, "No one can be a Christian merely for his own benefit. Coming to Jesus, seeking his friendship, and following him also means publicly professing faith in him, allowing him to speak to us and commission us. All of us must be 'messengers' and 'witnesses' of the Gospel." (DOCAT 235)

So that we might proclaim the Kingdom of God in word and deed, God gives us the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Having wonder and awe of how good God is, we will seek to please Him by sharing this same goodness. We show what we believe by loving one another.

In the end, God will measure our lives by how much we love. How much we love Him will show by spilling over to how much we love those that he has placed in our path. Christ lives in us through our words, healing, sharing, acts of kindness and mercy. Unconditionally serving one another is essential to true love.

## The Ascension of the Lord TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

There was a curious custom years ago that perhaps developed in an age when Easter was seen less as a baptismal season than as a kind of tour through the deeds of the Risen Christ. The paschal candle, sign of Christ's presence, was removed from public view on Ascension Thursday, banished to the baptistery.

Ascension day does speak of the hidden aspects of Christ's life among us, but it does not have much to do with God's absence. Christ has not shed his human life like an inconvenient shell, but rather has taken humanity into heaven. The theologian Karl Rahner said that it is a festival of "the nearness of God." In vanishing from our sight, Christ has become utterly available to all at every time and every place, and is "closer to us than he ever was."

Today is the feast of believing that beyond our final breath is a presence that waits for us, a banquet prepared, a tender homecoming embrace. Rahner said that today is a festival of the future of the world, a day for anticipating the world's true destiny, and therefore hardly a day to be going around hiding candles! - - Rev. James Field

## Do We Doubt?

“When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted.” Does this describe you and me as well? The commissioning of the disciples by Jesus Christ should be like a lit match that ignites the faith within each of us. Yet, just like the disciples, we worship, but we doubt.

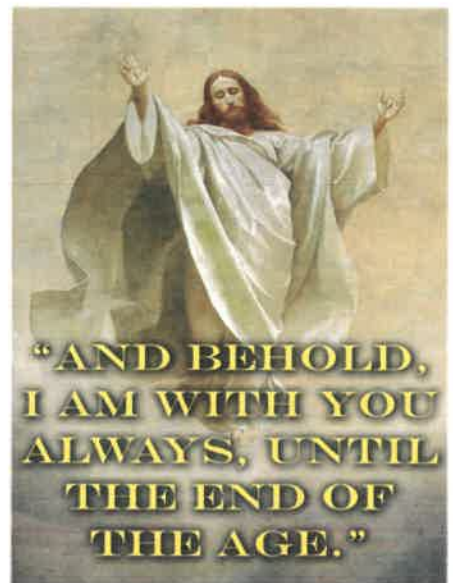
How do we get beyond the doubt? God has given us so many examples and intercessors to keep us on the right path. We have a jealous enemy who does so much to keep us constantly confused by distorting or destroying our efforts, in hopes that we will tire and turn away. That is why Saint Paul urges us to “pray without ceasing” (see 1 Thessalonians 5:17).

When we truly put God first, this becomes easier and easier. I’m not saying that I have perfected my prayer life, but taking just one step in the right direction can make a big difference. Just saying "Jesus, I love you" as many times as you can during your daily routine brings Him to the forefront so you can receive the love He sends back to you.

The last two verses of today’s Gospel serve as the mission statement for the parish I belong to. To keep our mission before us, we read it at each leadership meeting. We have also added our core purpose, core values, what we strive to be, and where we are succeeding. “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...” can be overwhelming words for many of us. They require that we step out of our comfort zone, something we tend to enjoy so much that we become totally wrapped up in it, sometimes so tightly that we are unable to move.

I do not doubt the power of Jesus Christ, nor should you. We have been given many examples throughout our lives, and it is our duty to continually praise and thank Him for all He has done for us. Take a moment to consider your life and where you can see Jesus with you throughout it. When you doubt, what replaces it? Faith, belief, confidence, knowledge, and trust.

Jesus has given us the greatest gift; He has not only ascended but, He is “with [us] always, until the end of the age.” In times of uncertainty, open the Bible and start reading. He is right there. - By Marti Garcia



## Background Music: Life, Love and Prayer

“I live and you will live,” Jesus tells his disciples. You and I are both alive right now, so this seems easy to wrap our heads around. This is life, right? I’m living it right now. Is there more to life?

The fullest life that Jesus reveals is so much more profound than we could have known without His revelation to us: “I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you.” Jesus is in the Father, and we are IN Jesus, and Jesus is IN us! The One Who is the Way, the Truth, and Life itself dwells in us, and we dwell in Him, in the Father. This “mutual indwelling” that is true life is harder to wrap our heads around. But Jesus was very clear that this is the whole point of the Kingdom, and that God’s joy is to dwell with us, because He loves us and created us precisely for this.

What is love? How do we love the Lord we cannot see? Jesus tells us that the one who keeps His commandment loves Him. What is Jesus’ commandment? To love one another as He loved us. And if we love Jesus and love one another for love of Him, we will be loved by the Father and we will truly know Jesus. Loving one another as Jesus loved us is a tall order – He loved us infinitely, loved us all the way to the Cross and beyond, pouring Himself out utterly for us. He “loved me and gave himself for me,” as St. Paul says (Gal. 2:20), and continues to take care of me in every single moment.

The world in which we live and the busywork of much of our lives does not easily resonate with the vibration of divine life and love. Sin has obscured this and made it hard to keep in mind. But praying and loving (true, self-sacrificing love) re-tune our hearts and minds so that they again vibrate with the eternal rhythm of the divine, so that it can become the “background music” of all we think and say and do! The Advocate, the Spirit of truth, poured into our hearts remains with us always, and keeps us open to the will of the Father in every circumstance and situation.

How do we attune ourselves to this Holy Spirit? Prayer. In prayer, we are still enough to listen for love and conform our heart to its demands. In prayer, we give the Spirit opportunity and permission to continue and complete His work in us, so that we walk

**MASS IS CELEBRATED WEDNESDAY AT 5:30PM  
COME AND PRAY FOR OUR PARISH**

## The Ascension of the Lord Look, Up in the Sky!

Around holidays, people tend to look fondly back on past celebrations and romanticize old relationships. For some, remembering the past is the best part of their holiday. That is the image we get from the first reading as the apostles look up to heaven after the Ascension. They think it is Jesus' last Resurrection appearance and that they will never see him again. Maybe they were still amazed at seeing him ascend that way. Or maybe they were remembering all the things he said and did with them.

We too sometimes look at the great feasts of Christmas and Easter in that way. We may dwell on the beauty of the decorations, on the innocence of the baby Jesus, on the horror of his passion and death, or on the wonder of his resurrection. Then when the holy day is over, we go back to our normal routine. Perhaps we need an angel to chide us for "looking at the sky."

The angels were trying to tell the apostles two things. One was that Jesus would return as he left – in glory. This was not a time to say goodbye but a time of hope; the Lord who had changed their lives so radically would change the world next. While they certainly should remember Jesus and all he taught them, they should also expect to see him again. Once they received the Holy Spirit, they would see how Jesus was present in the church, the mystical Body of Christ.

The second thing the angels were telling them was to begin following Jesus' command to spread the Good News to all nations. They would soon realize that Jesus was alive in them, not just as a fond memory, but with the power of his Spirit. With this power they would do mighty deeds in Jesus' name and be his witnesses to the world.

Because of what the apostles accomplished, we are now Jesus' witnesses to the world. We celebrate his death and resurrection not as a fond memory, but to encourage each other to spread the Good News. We too have the hope of seeing Jesus come in glory, even as we see him now with the eyes of faith.

Tom Schmidt