



May 16, 2021

Ascension of the Lord (B)

Acts 1:1-11

Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13

Mk 16:15-20

Up in Heaven

The message of this feast is that Jesus was taken up into heaven. Just what does this mean? Is heaven “up there” along with the moon and the stars? Cosmology would question that. Today’s readings also say that Jesus is seated at God’s right hand. Is this science, or is it a concrete image used to explain something more marvelous than words can describe?

Traditionally the place of honor is at the dignitary’s right hand (decided by a right-hander, no doubt). That Jesus sits at God’s right hand means he enjoys the place of highest honor. The psalm response refers to this exalted place as the throne of God. “Throne” suggests king. Thus, the readings tell us that Jesus, who is now exalted with divine honor, is above everything else. Finally, to say that heaven is above means that it is beyond earth, perhaps not in actual distance but in distinction and glory. Thus, Jesus’ ascension means that the risen Lord is no longer limited by the

restrictions of earth’s space and time but now enjoys the highest honor with God everywhere and always.

This is the message the disciples were sent to preach. This is the message we also are sent to preach. But how are we to do it? By the way we live our lives. Emmanuel Célestin Cardinal Suhard of Paris (1874–1949) wrote: “To be a witness...means to live in such a way that one’s life would not make sense if God did not exist.” Do our lives show that we believe this?

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

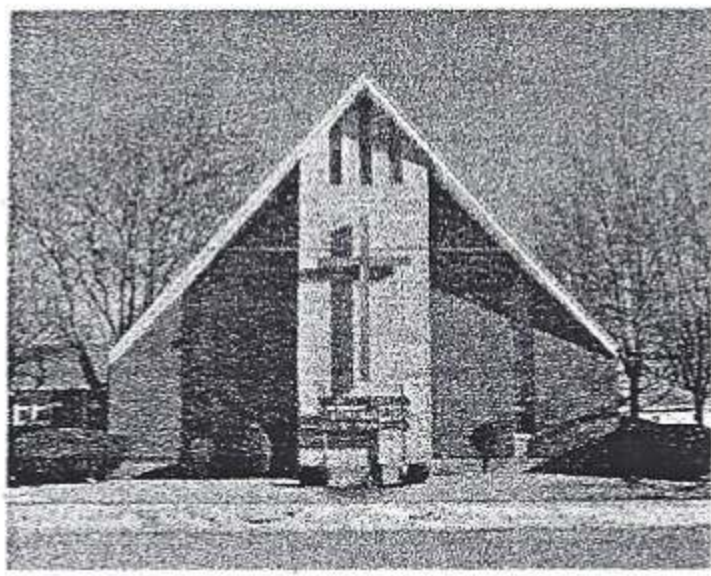
- ★ *Thank God for people in your life who mirror God’s generosity, forgiveness, and kindness to you.*
- ★ *Think about ways you might mirror God’s goodness to others.*



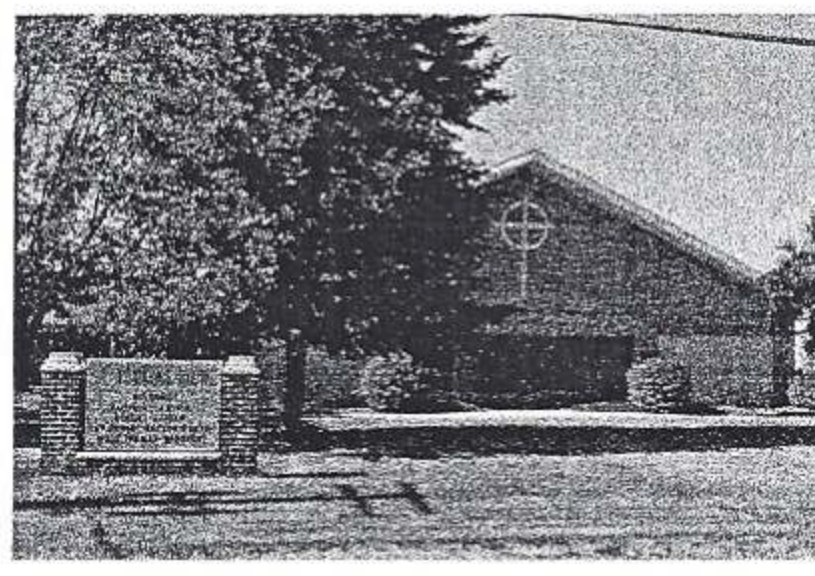
*[Jesus] said to them,
“Go into the whole world and
proclaim the gospel to every creature.”*

MARK 16:15

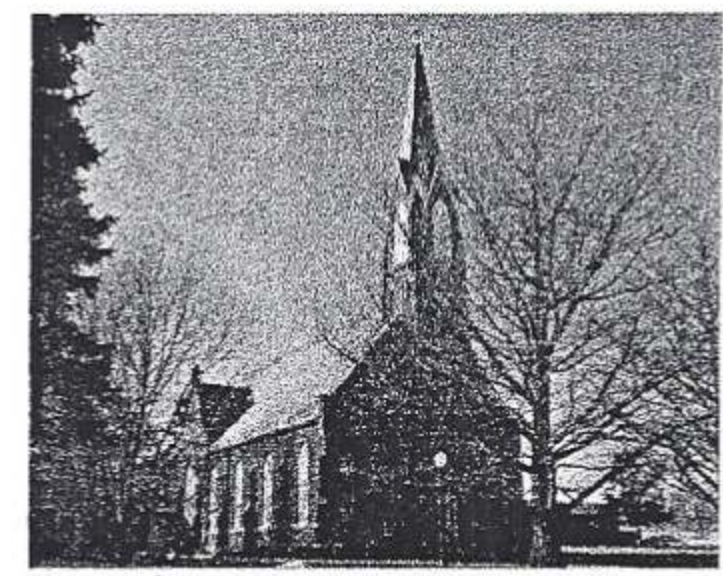
CNS PHOTO, ANDREW ROZARIO, CATHOLIC STANDARD



Holy Trinity Catholic Church



St. Thomas More Catholic Church



St. Patrick Catholic Church

****Main Office****

Holy Trinity Church & Rectory

212 S. Main St.

PO Box 159

Cherry, IL 61317-0159

Phone: (815) 894-2006

Office Email: HolyTSP@gmail.com

Website: www.bureaucatholic.org

And on Facebook at

"Bureau Catholic Churches".

Mass Schedule

Weekdays - Wednesday 5:30pm and

Thursday - 9:00am

Saturday Confessions - 3:15-3:45 PM
or by appointment

Sunday Mass - 9:00AM

***Pastor of the Three Churches**

Fr. Patrick Fixsen

Email: frpat.fixsen@gmail.com

****Upcoming Events At Church****

No Events Scheduled

****Emergency Phone****

For All Three Churches

815-664-8241

St. Thomas More Church

302 Chestnut St.

Dalzell, IL 61320

Phone: (815) 663-6201

Email: StTMoreDalzell32@gmail.com

Mass Schedule

Weekday Mass -

Tuesday & Friday - 9:00AM

Saturday Vigil Mass - 4:00 PM

**Sunday (Last Chance) Mass -
5:30 PM (Suspended)**

Adoration Room

Open Monday-Saturday 9AM-8PM

Sunday - 9AM - 6PM

Divine Mercy Prayers

Every Friday 3:00PM (Outside Lent)

****Upcoming Events At Church****

No Events Scheduled

St. Patrick Church

(Office at Holy Trinity Church)

106 Church St.

Arlington, IL 61312

Phone: (815) 894-2006

Mass Schedule

Sunday Mass - 10:30 AM

***3 Churches Pastoral Assistant**

Julie Hollinger

Email: JulieHTC@outlook.com

****Office Hours****

Holy Trinity - Tues, Thurs, & Fri.
- 9AM-12PM

St. Thomas More -

Wed - 9AM - 12PM

****Facebook:** Use Link on Home
Page - www.bureaucatholic.org

****Upcoming Events At Church****

No Events Scheduled

**Daily Mass Intentions for
Masses the Week of May 17, 2021**

Monday

****Facebook Link - 4:00PM**STM**

† No Mass

Tuesday

****Facebook Link - 9:00AM**STM**

† Harry Leggett

Wednesday

****www.bureaucatholic.org/Facebook Link - 5:30PM**HT**

Special Intention

Thursday

****www.bureaucatholic.org/Facebook Link - 9:00AM**HT**

† Nellie Cattani

Friday

****Facebook Link - 9:00AM **STM**

† Avalonne Moskalewicz

Next Weekend's Mass Intentions

Weekend of May 22-23, 2021

Saturday:

****Facebook Link - 4:00PM **STM**

Offered For

† For The Parishioners

Sunday:

****www.bureaucatholic.org/Facebook Link - 9:00 AM**HT**

† Rita Hoscheid

St. Patrick, Arlington - 10:30 AM (No Streaming)

† Geraldine Sondgeroth

****St. Thomas More, Dalzell - 6:00 PM (Last Chance Communion)**

† No Mass (Only Holy Communion)

(Recommendation Watch Our Mass Online Or EWTN Mass Before Receiving Communion)**

Latest Offering's

Holy Trinity - \$0.00
St. Patrick - \$0.00
St. Thomas More - \$0.00

Visit Venerable Fulton Sheen At Cathedral in Peoria

Monday - Friday 12pm - 2pm
Saturday 3pm - 5pm
(Re-Opened Again)

Ministry Schedule For Next Weekend

Holy Trinity

LECTOR

Saturday - 4:00PM - ?
Sunday - 8:30AM - ?

SERVERS

Saturday - 4:00PM -
?

Sunday - 8:30AM - ?

COUNTERS

Sunday - 8:30AM -
? & ?

Mass Intentions

We are in need of Mass Intentions for weekday Masses. The Masses on the web are a great occasion for family members not living in this area to pray with us for family members who have died. Please consider having a weekday Mass for a deceased member of your family and thank you. Mass intentions can be paid through our online giving program, mail or dropping by our office.

Recurring Special Church Events

Wednesday's - Mass/Rosary - 6PM

(On Website)

(After Wednesday HT Evening Mass)

Friday's - Divine Mercy Chaplet -

On Facebook- 3PM -

St. Thomas More Adoration Chapel

In May

Holy Water Available

When Easter comes, we have the great occasion to bless holy water for our personal use. While we are still not able to have holy water in the fonts at the entrance of the church. Some holy water bottles have been purchased for our parishioners and filled with holy water for you to take home and use. They are available after Mass or if you would like to call the office and we will figure out some way to get them to you.

New First Communicants

Congratulations to the five new First Communicants at our Mass this last Sunday, April 25th at Holy Trinity. May Our Lord's Real Presence always bless them!

Collection Envelopes

Also we still have many envelope boxes in our office. If you haven't received yours yet, please let us know how we can get them to you! We can get them to any of the three churches for you to pick them up. Thank you!

St. Thomas More Ravs

A BIG Thank You is in order for the Rav Twisters for their contribution to keep St. Thomas More Church financially stable. Everyone has enjoyed the tasty ravs but now it is time for the Rav Twisters to rehabilitate their fingers! And enjoy the summer!

Thank you to everyone who supported the church through the purchase of the ravs!

Confessions

The next confessions will be:
Saturday - May 22 - 10:30-11:15pm -
at St. Patrick Church in the chapel.

This Week's Update

Just as the Apostles were given the very important mission of spreading humanity's need for Jesus Christ in peoples lives, so are we who are baptized. It sure isn't an easy task in a world that is so full of evil today!

But we have something that wasn't very prominent at the time of Jesus' Ascension, we have Jesus in the Holy Eucharist to give us strength and focus in our mission. The very same mission that was given by Jesus Christ to show the love of God to the world using special gifts that He has given to each of us.

Unfortunately, after over 2000 years since He ascended back to heaven, the church has let the devil enter it to complicate things. While Jesus is still here, we have to pray more, we have to read the Bible more, and we have to really pay close attention to what Jesus is telling us to do and how we should live.

The church exists because of people praying and conforming their lives to the will of God. It isn't the church buildings that make the church. It is the people who live dedicated prayer lives and live the teachings of the church. Unfortunately, many people today have moved away from this dedication to Christ. But it can return if people refocus their lives and stop supporting evil in our society. This is where the church leadership can and should speak up to point out evil in our society. In the meantime, pray unceasingly and rededicate your lives to Christ, instead of the world. Continue to have a Blessed and Happy Easter! Fr. Pat Fixsen

Dear Padre,

My neighbor, a fundamentalist Christian, said I won't be saved unless I accept Jesus as my personal savior. Didn't Jesus become my savior when I was baptized?

Your neighbor is probably referring to John 3:7, when Jesus said, "You must be born anew" (*Common English Bible*). Jesus is talking about a spiritual rebirth; we must have a spiritual birth in order to be saved. As you noted, Catholics believe this happens at baptism. In John 3:5, Jesus says,

"Unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, it's not possible to enter God's kingdom."

We are saved by the waters of baptism. But for Catholics, it's not merely a one-time event. We continue to accept or reject the salvation offered us by the decisions we make every day.

Your neighbor used the words "personal savior." Catholic Christians go even deeper through the sacraments. We develop and nurture a very personal relationship with Jesus by regularly receiving the Eucharist. In the sacrament of reconciliation, we admit we have sinned and ask Jesus to forgive us. And in the sacrament of confirmation, our relationship is "sealed" with the gift of the Spirit.

Many Catholics also celebrate the sacrament of marriage. The couple's personal relationship with Jesus is deepened through the love the couple shares.

So, tell your neighbor you are indeed saved by Jesus. And because you are saved, you deepen that relationship with Jesus by living a sacramental life.

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



PHOTOGRAPHEEU / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

The Ascension tells us that Jesus, although he ascended to heaven to dwell gloriously at the right hand of the Father, is still and is always among us: this is the source of our strength, our perseverance, and our joy, from the presence of Jesus among us with the strength of the Holy Spirit.

ASCENSION SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2020



Calendar

Monday

MAY 17

Easter Weekday

Acts 19:1-8

Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday

MAY 18

Easter Weekday

Acts 20:17-27

Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday

MAY 19

Easter Weekday

Acts 20:28-38

Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday

MAY 20

Easter Weekday

Acts 22:30; 23:6-11

Jn 17:20-26

Friday

MAY 21

Easter Weekday

Acts 25:13b-21

Jn 21:15-19

Saturday

MAY 22

Easter Weekday

Acts 28:16-20, 30-31

Jn 21:20-25

Sunday

MAY 23

Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-11

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

or Gal 5:16-25

Jn 20:19-23

or Jn 15:26-27;

16:12-15

Know Someone Overly Anxious About Sin?

Since 1964, the Redemptorists' *Scrupulous Anonymous* free monthly newsletter has ministered compassionately to those struggling with scrupulosity. To subscribe, visit ScrupulousAnonymous.org.