

May 21, 2017

Sixth Sunday of Easter

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 20

5:00 p.m. Parishioners of Saint Theodore Church

Sunday, May 21

8:00 a.m. +**Maria and Gregorz Karkoszka**
By Family

10:30 a.m. +**Carmella and Frank Cennazaro**
By The Gallo Family

Monday, May 22 *Saint Rita*

8:45 a.m. +**Daniel Jukins**
By Dad

Tuesday, May 23

8:45 a.m. +**Michael P. Reape**
By Mary Kovacs

Wednesday, May 24

NO MORNING MASS

6:30 p.m. **Blessings for Susan Reynolds**
By Joanne and Ivins Smith

Thursday, May 25 *The Ascension of the Lord*

8:45 a.m. **Blessings of Health for Keira Hedges**
By Family

6:30 p.m. **Blessings of Health for Mary Rupell**
By Family

Friday, May 26

8:45 a.m. +**Jacqueline Jukins**
By Husband

Saturday, May 27

5:00 p.m. +**Nettie, Joseph Jr., and Joseph Roche**
By The Wyker Family

Sunday, May 28

8:00 a.m. Parishioners of Saint Theodore Church

10:30 a.m. +**Cesar Landaeta**
By Brian and Gerry Moss

But this glimpsing takes a bit of explanation. A lot of people wear some sort of help for their vision—glasses, contact lenses, or even the long term correction of laser surgery. Try to recall your very first pair of glasses and what it was like to look around you. The entire world was new for you.

The Ascension, for the disciples, was one of these moments of clarity and vision. They saw something that they had never seen before, and it wasn't just because it was their Lord riding on a cloud. They knew that Jesus had become a human being just like them, that he had skin that bled when it was cut, that he laughed, and ate, and drank, and loved. And they were all amazed when he had been raised from the dead, because no human had done that before. But in the Ascension he adds something new. He takes humanity with him to heaven. In Jesus' rising up to heaven on that cloud, he took not only his own, resurrected human body. He took what would be the disciples'; he what will be mine and yours. Human skin went up to heaven, not just as a soul but as a body too.

And for the first time in their lives, the disciples saw their own bodies—their own humanity—as they really are in God's eyes—worth eternity, beautiful, and groaning for resurrection. That is a spectacular moment of clarity. No wonder they were looking up at the sky. They had just seen Christ's body go to heaven; and they knew he would do the same for them on the last day.

It is only once the disciples had this perspective, and had the chance to keep looking up into the sky reveling in their new vision, that the two angels appear to them and tell them to get going. It was only their new vision in Christ that prepared them to receive the Holy Spirit and lead others to discover the glory of their persons in the eyes of God. They needed their own spiritual vision correction and Christ on a cloud had provided it.

This is the feast when we not only commit ourselves to going out and doing works in the name of our Ascended Lord, today is when we look up at the sky and realize that in watching our Lord rise up in human flesh, that our very vision of salvation is being changed. We can see more; we can see further; we can see visible signs of invisible grace. And with that vision, most importantly we can see ourselves as in God's eyes we are. We can see that Christ can take

The Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation May 25)

The disciples must have been so stunned when they looked up into the sky and watched Christ being carried away on a cloud. There they were, staring at this most

amazing sight and two angels in white appear to say "Why are you staring?" And we can be too quick to jump to the conclusion, because they had work to do, spreading the Good News to all of the nations. Yes, that's true. But if we are too quick to start in on the doing—even doing for the sake of Jesus—, then we can miss the being, the glimpse of *who* they were that the disciples received when they looked up into the sky.



your earthly body and mine and not only raise them from the dead, but lift them up to him in glory. Why? Because his earthly body is already there. Jesus will send us out the church doors again this day to do His work in the world through the week, but before we go, let's not forget our time here at the divine eye doctor. Christ is ascending to glory before us; he's changing our vision, too.

.Church & Religious Education Calendar

Bible Study: Every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.

May 25: Holy Day of Obligation- Ascension of the Lord

May 27/28: Special Collection: National Shrine of Immaculate Conception Dome

May 29: Church offices closed



Stephen, Bridget M., Savannah Paine, Bobby Gross, Keira Hedges, Peter, Zachary, Logan Peter Saksa, Anna Paine, Anna Saksa, Lauren Lane, Jay

Mildrum, Philip Kinney, Kerry Kraft, Peter S., Mary Supple, Mary Rupell, Patty Mahoney, Susan Reynolds, Millie B.



Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in service of the United States of America. Over two dozen cities and towns claim to be the birthplace

of Memorial Day. While Waterloo N.Y. was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May 1966, it's difficult to prove conclusively the origins of the day.

Regardless of the exact date or location of its origins, one thing is clear – Memorial Day was borne out of the Civil War and a desire to honor our dead. It was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his General Order No. 11. “The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land,” he proclaimed.

The date of Decoration Day, as he called it, was chosen because it wasn't the anniversary of any particular battle.

The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war).

It is now observed in almost every state on the last Monday in May with Congressional passage of the National Holiday Act of 1971 (P.L. 90 – 363). This helped ensure a three day weekend for Federal holidays, though several southern states have an additional separate day for honoring the Confederate war dead: January 19th in Texas; April 26th in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi; May 10th in South Carolina; and June 3rd (Jefferson Davis' birthday) in Louisiana and Tennessee.

Helping Children in Need

“Sweet Sleep” Comforter Collection for Haiti – Children in Haiti sleep on the bare floor, and when they can sleep on a comforter, they call it “sweet sleep”. We're collecting comforters, blankets, and quilts for the children of Haiti. If you have a gently used or new comforter to donate, please...Drop off: In the narthex on the chairs under the signs When: May 1 through June 4; Contact: Lari O'Donnell, [908-310-9376](tel:908-310-9376). The comforters will be donated to the Kindest Hearts Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to rebuilding Haiti, one town at a **time**. www.kindesthearts.org

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