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FROM THE DESK OF FR. RICH

Today, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord.

Today's first reading takes us back to the beginning verses of the Acts of the Apostles and sets forth the themes that Luke is going to develop throughout this, the longest book of the New Testament.

His major theme is the role of the Holy Spirit, who enables the apostles to be effective witnesses to Jesus.

The Holy Spirit is mentioned 57 times in the Acts of the Apostles.

Ephesus was an ancient city located on the western coast of what is today Turkey. Paul visited there several times.

Today's passage, which is near the beginning of the letter to the Ephesians, is a prayer asking God's blessings upon that community.

Many thoughts in this prayer are connected to today's feast of the Ascension.

For those who may be wondering why we are celebrating the Solemnity of the Ascension this weekend and did not on Thursday, May 14th, it is because many years ago the ecclesiastical Provinces of Boston, Hartford, New York, Omaha, and Philadelphia chose to retain the celebration of the Ascension on its proper day, while all other Provinces, including Chicago, have transferred this Solemnity to the Seventh Sunday of Easter which would be today.



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

St. Eugene Church
Mondays 4 - 6 pm.
Benediction at 5:45 pm.

CHURCH ETIQUETTE

In order to fully partake in the Mass, the Priest should be the last one in and the first one out.

Dress Appropriately ~ remember, you are in God's house.

I'd like to congratulate our 8th graders who received their "Ribbons" after the 9:00 a.m. Mass this past Wednesday. We also had our school's May Crowning Ceremony on Friday, May 8th, which was both a tribute to our Blessed Mother and an honor for our eighth graders that participated in the May Crowning Court of Honor.

These events are all part of the end-of-the-school-year transition process for them as they prepare to take leave from grammar school while making their transition to high school – a time we all remember fondly. It won't be long now before they will be celebrating their Graduation on May 29th. Congratulations, Class of 2026.

I have heard from many parishioners regarding their gratitude for the new large screen television that has been installed at Our Lady, Mother of the Church worship site. After months of waiting it has finally arrived and will now be able to assist us in a variety of ways at our weekend liturgies along with other opportunities as well. Thank you, Lisa Keeney, for getting this project completed.

I also want to thank, parishioner, Jerry Kolaski, for his creative carpentry skills in fabricating and getting the missing "t" replaced on the "Our Lady, Mother of the Church" sign located on Lawrence Avenue. Thanks so much Jerry!

Thanks also, to Ralph Cantal for keeping the plantings around the statue of the Queen of Peace watered regularly. Looking forward to the warmer weather and the additional plants that will be added to beautify our much beloved shrine area.

I want to extend our parish's congratulations to Fr. Greg Rom as he celebrated his 51st ordination anniversary this past Thursday, May 14th. I also want to congratulate Fr. Robert Carlton who celebrates his 7th ordination anniversary this coming Tuesday, May 19th. May God bless you both with many more years of faithful service to His people!

Have a great week everyone!

Fr. Rich Yanos