

3RD SUNDAY OF *Easter*



Meal of Our Lord and the Apostles
by James Tissot, 1886-1894

“Simon, son of John, do you love me?”
He said to him, “Yes, Lord,
you know that I love you.”
He said to him, “Tend my sheep.”

John 21:16

Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

91 Maple Avenue, Morristown, New Jersey 07960

973-539-2141, Fax-973-984-0632

Visit our Website: www.assumptionparish.org

Email: assumption@assumptionparish.org

Pastor: Rev. Msgr. John E. Hart

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Lukasz Wnuk

In Residence: Rev. Jeider Barraza

Deacons: Brian Beyerl, John Brandi, Michael Hanly, Elliott Stein

Trustees: Kathleen Hyland 973-539-2860 / Bob Rohr 973-539-2693

Parish Coordinator—Linda Macios

Secretary—Liz Rotunno

Comptroller—Robyn Morris

Office Hours Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Friday 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Parish Registration: Call 973-539-2141 or visit the parish website at www.assumptionparish.org.

Assumption School: 973-538-0590; www.assumptionnj.org
Sr. Merris Larkin, S.C. Principal

Religious Education: 973-267-5638, Fax 973-267-4223

Email: RelEd@assumptionparish.org

Linda Macios: Director

Sharon Bertram: Coordinator Grades 6, 7, and 8

Lisa Sullivan: Confirmation—973-267-8519

Tara Speer: Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Sue Paradise: Secretary

The Religious Education program meets on Sundays, October-March. Kindergarten through 5th grade classes meet 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; 6th through 8th classes meet immediately following the 5:30 p.m. Sunday Youth Mass. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd classes meet September–April on Sundays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Confirmation groups meet once or twice per month on Sunday evenings.

Music Ministry—973-539-2141, extension 19
Claudia Nardi: Director, Karen Chiappini: Organist
Adult Choir, Youth Ministry Choir, Children's Choir

Holy Rood Cemetery—973-539-7501

Website: www.holyroodcemeterynj.com

Diana Loughman: Cemetery Director

Emerson Brito, Samuel Brito: Caretakers

Church Sexton—Doug Reisch

Deaf Interpreter - Kathleen Skaf

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday—4:15 to 5:00 p.m. or by appointment

Marriage: Arrangements should be made with a priest or deacon by registered parishioners **at least one year in advance** of the marriage date. Marriage arrangements should be made PRIOR to reserving reception facility.

Baptisms: Contact Liz Rotunno in the Parish Office to arrange your child's Baptism. For first-time parents, attendance at a Baptismal Preparation class is required. Prep classes are held on the second Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. in the Church.

Visitation of the Sick and Elderly: Please keep us informed so that we may be attentive to those who are ill at home or in the hospital. Eucharistic Ministers are available to bring Communion on Sundays.

Parish Ministries

Africa Surgery	Tom Johnson	973-292-3320
Altar Linens	Mike Cherello	973-267-6825
Altar Servers	Fr. John Hart	973-539-2141
Bereavement	Michele Cameron	973-769-9634
Bethany Ministry	Linda Macios	973-539-2141
Boy Scouts	Kevin Kelly	973-727-7082
Cub Scouts	Cassandra Nielson	973-452-3857
Centering Prayer	Fr. Ken Lasch	973-538-2653
Children's Worship	Linda Cannilla	973-540-1683
CYO Basketball	Kevin Bopp	917-861-2876
Endowment for Poor	Claudia Nardi	973-539-2141
Eucharistic Min.	Marybeth Wooters	973-538-6784
Family Promise	Brian Doherty	973-714-7674
Finance Committee	Dorothy Flynn	973-538-2634
Food Pantry	Claudia Nardi	973-539-2141
Gardening	Eileen Tecza	973-539-2141
Giving Tree	Brian Morgan	973-462-6972
Good Samaritan	Jeanette Fredericks	973-267-7152
Home School Assoc.	Jean Jabbour	973-809-8630
Holistic Health	Michele Cameron	973-769-9634
Homeless Solutions	Ralph Ferrara	973-769-6418
Knights of Columbus	William C. Duggan, Jr.	973-960-6417
Lectors	Andrea Bozzi	973-656-9864
Mental Health Liaison	Paul Boehler	973-722-4994
Men's Group	Peter Zaremba	215-518-4973
Moms and Tots	Henriette Kahn	973-539-1350
Nursing Homes	Mary Dibble	973-998-0838
Pre-Cana	Ken and Rosa Rose	973-539-9845
RCIA	Fr. John Hart	973-539-2141
Respect Life	Sue and	
	Dave O'Dougherty	973-993-3068
Safe Environment	Linda Macios	973-539-2141
Senior Citizens	Joan Kramer	973-539-4910
	Janet Dedrick	973-539-7811
Separation / Divorce	Deacon Elliott Stein	973-539-2141
Soup Kitchen	Annalese Rush	973-455-0391
Spiritual Direction	Karen Florance	973-476-5542
Ushers	Anthony Romano	973-267-5433
Village Angels/Tanzania	Johanna Burani	973-610-4856
Welcome /Hospitality	Moiria Clarkin	973-539-4390
Women's Cornerstone	Chrissy West	973-809-1646
Women's Faith Sharing	Gina Hurley	973-460-7241
Vocations	Deacon John Brandi	973-539-2141
Young Professionals	Fr. Lukasz Wnuk	973-539-2141
Youth Ministry	Lisa Sullivan	973-267-8519

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY	May 4
8:00 a.m..	Ana Sugaste
5:30 p.m.	Daniel Enriquez Kay Cavanaugh
SUNDAY	May 5
7:00 a.m.	People of the Parish
8:30 a.m.	Marianne Tobler Paul Alexander Consiglio
10:00 a.m.	Fr. Martin Rauscher John "Dan" Poling
12:15 p.m.	Kara Hyland Pereyra Brian McNally
5:30 p.m.	James and Elizabeth Rutan Kathryn Dalton
MONDAY	May 6
7:00 a.m.	Sarah Ciszewski
12:05 p.m.	Paula Rose Carducci (Living)
TUESDAY	May 7
7:00 a.m.	Louise Madden
12:05 p.m.	Carolyn Kubin
WEDNESDAY	May 8
7:00 a.m.	George Bishop
12:05 p.m.	Cornelius and Aileen Buckley
THURSDAY	May 9
7:00 a.m.	Barbara Snyder
12:05 p.m.	Peter Marcketta
FRIDAY	May 10
7:00 a.m.	Ralph Francavilla
12:05 p.m.	Albert Garcia Jr.
SATURDAY	May 11
8:00 a.m..	Lisa Yarosz
5:30 p.m.	Audrey Roast Sr. Linda Walsh
SUNDAY	May 12
7:00 a.m.	People of the Parish
8:30 a.m.	The Sexton and Tedeschi Families Gilberto Miranda
10:00 a.m.	Lisbeth Hernandez Mary Reisch
12:15 p.m.	Angela Brandi and Rose Uricchio Harry Costello
5:30 p.m.	Maria Perna Kathryn Dalton

GATHER IN PRAYER

- Pray the Rosary weekdays at 11:40 a.m.
- Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy after the 12:05 weekday Mass
- Pray the Perpetual Novena in honor of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal every Monday immediately following the 12:05 p.m. Mass.
- Eucharistic Adoration the first Saturday of each month 8:30 - 9:00 a.m. and the first Monday of every month at 5:30 p.m.

First Reading: Acts 5:27-32,40b-41

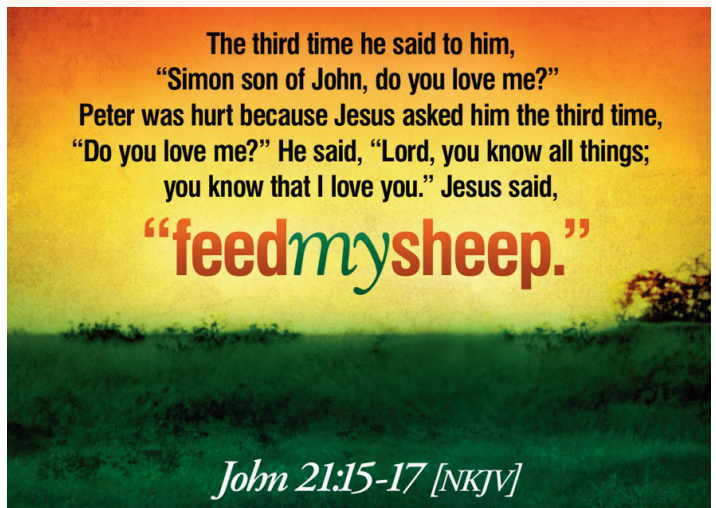
This weekend's first reading is a portion of the Acts of the Apostles. Although the preaching of the first apostles is warmly received by the people of Jerusalem, the high priest is displeased and arrests them. But after the intervention of a Pharisee named Gamaliel the apostles are released and resume their preaching.

Second Reading: Revelation 5:11-14

In our second reading, John of Patmos continues his message of comfort to a terribly persecuted church. He describes a symbolic vision of great majesty as the heavenly court glorifies both God and the raised Jesus.

Gospel: John 21:1-19

Our Gospel passage is from a second ending added to the Gospel of John shortly after the completion of the original version. Although the mysterious "beloved disciple" recognizes the raised Jesus even before Peter, a moving reconciliation between Jesus and Peter takes place. Whereas Peter had denied Jesus three times, he now declares his love for him three times, and is commissioned to shepherd Jesus' flock in close imitation of Jesus.



**We invite you to prayerfully reflect
on the Readings for the week of May 5**

Monday	Acts 6:8-15; Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30; Jn 6:22-29
Tuesday	Acts 7:51—8:1a; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab; Jn 6:30-35
Wednesday	Acts 8:1b-8; Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a; Jn 6:35-40
Thursday	Acts 8:26-40; Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20; Jn 6:44-51
Friday	Acts 9:1-20; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Jn 6:52-59
Saturday	Acts 9:31-42; Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17; Jn 6:60-69
Sunday	Fourth Sunday of Easter Acts 13:14, 43-52; Ps 100:1-2, 3, 5; Rev 7:9, 14b-17; Jn 10:27-30

PLEASE REMEMBER AND PRAY FOR THE RECOVERY OF:

Charles Arnolt, Charles Arteglier, Greg, John, and Tom Baxter, Paula Rose Carducci, Jim Cavanaugh, John Hyland, Kenneth Krause, Nancy Arteglier, Jim Mongey, Sister Marie Graziano, Elaine Metzger, Jack Guerriero, Francesca Kobylarz-Bongiorno, Barbara Ryan, Saletha Corbin, Ray Donovan, Calvin Zamarelli, Stephanie Trincanello, Pope Benedict XVI, Lyle Leeson, Rob Loia, Gail Muhammed, Harding Corbin, Antoinetta Bernardo, Noel Robinson, Thomas Devlin, Hester Davis, Manuel Regaldo Sydney, Marcia Ann Bowers, Mildred Crump, Ronnie Pennimpede, Terri Abrams, Philip Barrett, Louis Cicitta, Bill Duggan, John Jennings, Richard Julianno, Madeline Longo, Baby Genevieve Chitwood, Janet Friedman, Patricia Felix, Elijah Sideeq Williams and Jennifer Williams, Paul Staudt Sr., Romilda Chiga, Rebecca Russo, Regent Boisvert, Mary Antosiewicz, Dave DeMott, Rowland Lucid, Shirley DeRossi, Bonita Stein, Janet Stiles, Ruth Puoti, Alan Nadler, Michael Grogan, John Hefferon, Doris Bonanno, Kathy DiFiore, Baby Alexander Gedicke, Terrence Wanniski, Louise Fichot, Bob Gebhardt, Della Corbin, David Alston, Ricardo Gonzales, Jenny Reed, Tim Hart, Marla Paillet, Dawn Tezino, Rossana Wright, Wanda Barnett, George Corbin, Peter Bardes, Jean Morrow, Audrey Roast, Barbara Kiely, Roger Manshel, Michelle DeGirolamp, Florida McKoy, Gloria Dabal, Laurie Quinn, Vivian Hart, Debra Phillip, Anthony Maiorca, Maggie Miller, Joseph Jude Fischetti, Parker Ross, Liz Wilkey, Dale Knecht, Lou Henry, Andrea Wright, Martina Zuwolinsky, Keisha Smith-Johnson, David Baime, Dorothy Holman, Joe Garfall, James Frisby, Aminah Brister, Rose Champlin, the Mike Cattano family, Ding Aidi, Leonard Pergentile, J.T. Torisi, Kim McKeon, Patricia Lucas, Barbara Comerford, Stephen Mitchell, Mary McCoy, Yvette Decker, Alzene Harris, Grace Giles, Verney Seldon, Carl Sullivan, Tarleton Gillespie, Tim Michaels.

Please call the Parish Office at 973-539-2141 with the names of who you would like included in the prayers for the good health of the sick and homebound.

PLEASE PRAY FOR MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY AND THEIR LOVED ONES WHO HAVE SERVED, OR ARE SERVING, IN THE ARMED FORCES

CW3 Michael Benkosky Green Beret, Special Forces, Airborne Joint Forces; *Commander William H. Shipp*, Military Professor, Naval War College, Newport, RI; *Andrew Vasquez* US Army; *Andy Soucy* US Army; *Dan Lessnau* Former Marine and Veteran of the Viet Nam War; *Kevin Felix* US Military Colonel; *Lt. Tim Fleury*, US Navy; *Staff Sergeant William J. McSweeney* Retired Marine Served Around the World; *Matthew Gonabe*, Lt. US Navy Pilot Serving in the Persian Gulf; *David Ribardo*, 1st Lt. US Army Serving in Afghanistan; *Capt. Brendan Griswold* 82nd Air Borne in Afghanistan; *Capt. Patrick Flynn*, US Army 1st Infantry, Afghanistan; *Sergeant Richard Galluzzo* Serving in Afghanistan, *Lt. Thomas Keyes Jr.*; *Capt. Scott and Meghan Harra*, US Army in Afghanistan; *Captain Timothy Newcomb*, US Army Special Forces; *Col. Jason M. Barrett*, USMC in Iraq and Afghanistan; *Capt. Andrew Pineda* and *Capt. Laurence Pineda*, US Air Force, *SMSgt. John Bartow*, Stratton ANGB NY, *Douglas Reisch*, 1/325 Infantry, 82nd Airborne Division, *Daniel Baron*, US Navy, Hawaii, *CPT Schuyler Orecchio*, US Army, Special Operator 2nd Class *Patrick Gaven*, USN, Staff Sargent *Brent M. Betit*, ARNG, First Sgt. *Jeremiah Dempsey*, USAF, *Dr. Casey McCann*, Lt. Commander Navy; *1st Lt. J.D. Poling*, US Army, Gitmo, Cuba, *PFC Peter Mitchell*, USMC, *Dale G. Potter*, Retired Lt. Commander US Navy, and Major US Marine Corps.

GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRY

Need help? Our Good Samaritan Ministry can assist registered parishioners with various errands and services. Contact our May coordinator, Audrey Geraghty at 973.538.3134.

QUO VADIS WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

Vocations Discernment for young men 15-25. **“Quo Vadis – Where are you going?”** Where is the Spirit acting in your life? Where is the Lord encouraging you to go? Quo Vadis Days is a time of recreation, fellowship, and prayer to help you explore the Lord’s call in your life. Activities will include prayer, Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Liturgy of the Hours, Rosary, games, sports, talks, great food, and discussions. It is a time to share our faith and meet other young men seeking God’s will. Quo Vadis Days will be held **June 26- 28, 2019** at the Saint Mary’s Abbey Retreat Center in Morristown, New Jersey. There is no cost.

For more information and/or registration, contact the coordinators Fr. Edgar Rivera and David Monteleone in the Vocations Office at revedgar@patersondiocese.org and Dmonteleone@patersondiocese.org or by phone at (973) 777-8818, ext. #711.



PETER'S COMMISSION

Peter was distressed that Jesus had said to him a third time, “Do you love me?” and he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” (John 21: 1-19)

Today we read from John 21 and see how the Risen Lord Jesus appears to Peter and the other disciples on the shore of the Sea of Tiberias. This beautiful chapter should be read again privately during the week and I encourage us all to take the time to meditate on it again. Here is a reflection I hope you will enjoy.

Her mother came to live with her and her husband and family. She suffered from Parkinson's and her daughter wanted her to be cared for in the midst of her family who loved her dearly.

It has been seven years since her mom died — and her daughter still can't forget the “washcloth incident.”

It was seven months before her mother's death. The day did not begin well, first with a crisis at work she had to deal with, then cleaning up the portable toilet that had overflowed. Finally, she was able to take a shower up in the third-floor bathroom of their home. Finally, clean and ready to restart her day, she came downstairs. Her mother asked her for a washcloth. A simple, reasonable request — but that meant trekking back up to the third floor. In her mood, Mom might as well have asked her daughter to climb Mount Kilimanjaro. Already late, this one more task put her over the edge. She suddenly lost it with her mother. She knew her fury was misplaced, but she was too overwhelmed to stop herself.

Seven years later, the daughter still feels the pain of that moment. She writes:

“The tears still sting and slosh over my pail of remorse. I know that if she could, my mother would grab that pail and toss it out the window. She would forgive me; in fact, I believe she has forgiven me. But in a way, that makes it harder. Knowing of her unfailing love and grace makes me feel worse about my own failure. Of course, I am envisioning her at her very best, now in heaven knowing [and] seeing me with the eyes of God and I am remembering myself at one of my lowest moments . . .

“We might envision regret like the giant stone that sits at the mouth of the tomb. The stone is rolled aside, not away. It's still there, inches from the entrance, but it's not blocking anyone's resurrection. The stone that's rolled aside allows for feeding sheep, baptisms, and hopeful love of every kind . . . I hope to do the same — to leave the washcloth behind with the old grave clothes and inch my way forward in the light of Easter.” [From “Resurrection by inches” by Heidi Neumark, *The Christian Century*, May 14, 2014.]



In today's Gospel, Jesus enables Peter and the others to leave behind their “washcloths” back at the empty tomb. Jesus asks Peter three times — the same number of times that Peter denied him on Good Friday morning — to profess his love for him. We can hear the pain and hurt in Peter's voice, but also his conviction in his response after Jesus asks the third time: “Lord, you know everything. You know that I love you.” Jesus is not taunting Peter but calling him to move beyond the past to take on the challenges ahead. In forgiving Peter as he does, Jesus transforms Peter's regret and shame into understanding and commitment to the Gospel the fisherman has witnessed. As the Risen One restores Peter and the others to friendship, as he puts aside their failing him to be reconciled with them in peace, this Easter season is an invitation for us to put aside those regrets for the times we have failed and to realize how much we have learned and how far we have come from our own “washcloth” moments. (Connections)

In Christ's Peace,
Father John

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

If we are to follow the example of Peter in today's Gospel, we will live the connection between love and sorrow. Sometimes the path of love consists in recognizing the ways in which we have hurt others.

Adults: Is there someone in my family whom I have offended and to whom I should offer an apology?

Children: Do I understand that when I have made a mistake, Jesus asks me to say I'm sorry?

Use one of these suggestions or one of your own to respond to God's word this week.

In the home: Remember a quarrel or offense that happened in your family, and make a specific intention to express your love to the people involved.

In the workplace or in school: Identify someone who was brave enough to say they were sorry. Affirm them for doing so.

In the community: Determine whether there is any personal strain among the people in the groups to which you belong, and consider whether admitting your responsibility in the strain might improve the situation.

**POPE BENEDICT XVI INSTITUTE:
SCIENCE AND THE SOUL**

This three evening presentation, led by Dr. Christopher Blum, Academic, Dean and Professor at the Augustine Institute, will focus on Pope Benedict's views on the relationship between faith and reason. Each evening we will celebrate Mass at 7 p.m., enjoy an insightful lecture, and wrap up the night with refreshments and discussion.

Join us June 24th, 25th and 26th from 7 to 9 pm. Please register at insidethewalls.org/2019PBI

ASSUMPTION PARISH DIAPER DRIVE

The John Corr Family Resources Mission is in great need of **regular baby diapers particularly in sizes 3, 4, & 5**. Wipe packs are also requested and appreciated.

This wonderful charitable organization works to help local needy families with baby items, clothing, and diapers. The diaper supply is depleted and local families are in need today. The diapers are provided to the poor allowing them to use their meager funds to pay for rent and food. Donations may be dropped off in the garage behind church before and after each Mass on May 18th and 19th.

2020 MASS BOOK OPENS MAY 10

The Assumption Church 2020 Mass Book will open Friday, May 10, at 10:00 a.m. Please come to the Parish Office to schedule your Masses. Only those confined to the home should make requests by phone. No requests will be taken before May 10.

Parishioners wishing to schedule more than 3 Masses must call for an appointment to meet with the Parish Office staff. To schedule an appointment, please call the office at 973-539-2141.

AUDI A3 ULTRA CAR RAFFLE

Sponsored by the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist
The beautiful car you see in the church parking lot is being raffled off on June 9, 2019. Tickets are \$100 each for the car, which is valued at \$36,080. The proceeds will be going towards building 14 classrooms at the Bishop Frank Rodimer Center.

Purchase your tickets after all masses this weekend, or call 973-345-4070 for more information!

MAY CROWNING SUNDAY MAY 12

Children of all ages are asked to help pay tribute to the Blessed Virgin at our May Crowning on Sunday, May 12th at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Please bring a flower with you to leave at the statue of the Blessed Virgin.

All First Communicants of the parish are invited to take a special role in our May Crowning. Please wear your Communion day clothes, bring a single flower for Mary and join us in Rauscher Hall at 9:45 a.m. First Communicants will sit together in reserved pews at the front of the church.

The Diocese will honor the Mother of God at the annual May Crowning at the **Cathedral of St. John the Baptist** on Sunday, May 19th at 3:30 PM. All are invited. Parking will be available in the county lot.

BECOME A CATECHIST—FALL 2019

With more than 750 children of the parish to serve, we encourage you to please consider becoming a catechist—someone who echoes the faith—for one of our many Religious Education programs.

Volunteer catechists are needed for all age levels. This includes The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, grades K through eight, and Confirmation prep for grades nine and ten. Classes meet on Sunday mornings, Sunday evenings, and after school. Fridays, Faith and Family meets one Friday night per month. We are also seeking volunteers for Service of the Word for Children held at the Sunday 10:00 a.m. and Saturday 5:30 p.m. Masses.

Please contact the Religious Education office at RelEd@assumptionparish.org or call 973-267-5638.

BANNS OF ORDINATION

Rev. Mr. John Brandi is scheduled to be ordained to the Sacred Order of Presbyter on Saturday, May 11, 2019. Should you know of any reason why Deacon Brandi should not be ordained a priest, please contact Msgr. John Hart.

COME SEE THE LAFF LADY

The "Laff Lady, America's Funniest Grandma", a free Senior Living Program, will be presented at the Saint Francis Residential Community, 122 Diamond Spring Road, Denville, NJ; on Monday, May 6, 2019 at 2:00 PM in the Club Room. Discussion Topics will relate to the Laff Lady's life experiences and the aging process. Tours of our vibrant Senior Community will be available after the show. Contact Debra Shay at 973-627-5647 or e-mail debrashay@primehealthcare.com.

SEE THE "MIRACLE OF CHRISTMAS" NOVEMBER 2, 2019 IN LANCASTER

Join Fr. Lukasz Wnuk and Assumption Parishioners on November 2, 2019 on a trip to see the Miracle of Christmas at the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster PA. Your reservation includes transportation, a ticket to the show, lunch, and a snack on the bus. The cost of the trip will be \$100 per adult (13 year of age and older) and \$70.00 Per child (3 to 12 years of age*). Children under age 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

The day's agenda will be:

- 6:30 a.m. departure from Assumption Church
- 11:00 a.m. Miracle of Christmas show
- 2 p.m. Lunch at the Royal Buffet in Lancaster
- 6:30 p.m. arrive back at Assumption Church

Visit our website at www.assumptionparish.org to reserve your ticket, or complete a reservation form found in the rear of the church.

DR. ROBERT WICKS TO SPEAK AT SISTERS OF CHARITY LUNCHEON

The Sister of Charity of Saint Elizabeth are hosting their Annual Spring Lake Luncheon at the Spring Lake Golf Club, 901 Warren Ave., Spring Lake on Thursday, May 16 at 11:30 a.m.

Renowned psychologist and author Dr. Robert Wicks will speak on "The Simple Care of a Hopeful Heart: Lessons in Resilience, Self-Care and Compassion."

Cost for the Luncheon is \$125 per person and proceeds benefit the Sisters of Charity. Call (973) 290-5454 for more information.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - MORRISTOWN

The Knights of Columbus, George Washington Council 359, at 13 South Street in Morristown, NJ welcomes all Catholic Men age 18 and older to come join our growing council. Our council serves our Church's; Religious orders and Community charities throughout the year! We are an active council and have a lot to offer men of 18 and older by way of social contacts and events that will foster your relationship with our Church and our community! Come join us! Contact: Grand Knight William C. Duggan, Jr. at 973-960-6417, wcdugganjr@hotmail.com.

TRI-COUNTY SCHOLARSHIP FUND 27TH ANNUAL GOLF INVITATIONAL

Calling all golfers! Join us in continuing the tradition of providing K-12 scholarships to deserving and financially disadvantaged children. While you are having fun, you are giving a student the gift of an education through your support for this event.

Monday, June 3, Morris County Golf Club, 36 Punch Bowl Road. Register at www.tcsfund.org/golf-2019/.

MASS ATTENDANCE APRIL 27/28

8:00 p.m.	407
7:00 a.m.	119
8:30 a.m.	191
10:00 a.m.	295
12:15 p.m.	263
5:30 p.m.	173
Total:	1,448

FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

Assumption is a Tithing Parish

The collection for the weekend of April 27/28 was \$19,752. The collection for this weekend last year was \$22,423. The Easter collection to date is \$104,765.

Pastor's Note: Thank you for your most generous sacrificial giving to our vibrant parish and for your enthusiastic participation in the life of the Church of the Assumption.

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This month, parishes throughout our Diocese are conducting the annual Peter's Pence collection in support of the work of our Holy Father. I ask you to be as generous as possible to this good and worthy cause.

Through the Peter's Pence Collection, we stand in solidarity with Catholics all over the world to support the charitable works of our Holy Father. Contributions to this collection support Pope Francis as he reaches out to those suffering the effects of war and violence, natural disasters, and religious persecution.

Pope Francis has told us that "mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instills in us the courage to look to the future with hope." Please prayerfully consider participating in this collection when it is taken up in your parish.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Arthur J. Serratelli,
Bishop of Paterson

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED

A great big thank you goes to all who helped to make our church a beautiful place to worship throughout the Triduum and Easter Sunday. We thank the following individuals for lending us their hands, time, and talents: Dr. Tom Emmer, Debbie Elorette, Bruce Dedrick, Janet Dedrick, Moria Clarkin, Dan Ginty, Eileen Tecza, Andrew Arzenberger, Stacey Arzenberger, and Conor Lenahan.

Thank you to our deacons, choirs, readers, ushers, altar servers, altar linen ministers and ministers of Holy Communion for their service and dedication in enhancing our liturgies. Thank you to all those who worked on setting up, participating in, and cleaning up after our Easter Liturgy for Children at the school. We thank those who helped to prepare our RCIA candidates for their reception into our faith at the Easter Vigil and those who provided baked goods that were enjoyed after Mass.

Thank you to Doug Reisch for his attention to details behind the scenes, and to Assumption's staff members for bringing it all together. Alleluia!

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD

Richard Bradley
Brother of Msgr. Edward Bradley
Cousin of Tom Bradley

Chip Harrison
Husband of Lynn

Tom Konicke
Father of Jill Butkus

LOYOLA DAYS OF PRAYER

Can We Heal Our Ailing Church?

Thursday, May 16, 2019, 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Loyola Jesuit Center, Morristown, NJ. Cost: \$40 Includes breakfast, lunch, Reconciliation and Mass. Led by: Judy Schiavo, Spiritual Director **Register at** www.loyola.org.

Ascension of Jesus (Holy Day)

Thursday, May 30, 2019, 9:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m. Loyola Jesuit Center, Morristown, NJ. Cost: \$40 Includes breakfast, lunch, Reconciliation and Mass Led by: Rev. Tom Marciniak, S.J. **Register at** www.loyola.org.

Loyola Day of Prayer (Pentecost)

Monday, June 10, 2019, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Loyola Jesuit Center, Morristown, NJ. Cost: \$40 Includes breakfast, lunch, Reconciliation and Mass. Led by: Anna Graziano, Spiritual Director, **Register at** www.loyola.org

ANNUAL SPRING PLANT SALE

TO BENEFIT THE GREENHOUSE AT ALLEGRO SCHOOL

The Allegro School Greenhouse will hold its annual spring flower and plant sale on **Saturday, May 11th from 10-1pm** just in time for Mothers' Day! The greenhouse is located in the rear of the Allegro School located at 125 Ridgedale Avenue in Cedar Knolls with access from the driveway on Cedar Knolls Road. Plant choices will include annuals (begonias, geraniums, petunias, impatiens and many more). Various size hanging baskets, flats and pots will be available as well as organic vegetable and herb plants. If you cannot make the sale, please call Rebecca at the Greenhouse 973-267-8060 ext. 0177 to arrange purchases throughout the months of May and June during open hours.

Plant sale proceeds benefit the Greenhouse program at the Allegro School. Allegro School and Programs is a nonprofit organization that provides lifespan services for persons on the autism spectrum. For more information please visit www.allegroschool.org

WIEGAND FARM GOLF CLASSIC

Catholic Charities Wiegand Farm Golf Classic will be held at Crystal Springs Resort on June 24th. This event has become one of the biggest and best golf outings in the United States. Please visit www.ccpaterson.org/wiegand for more information or to sponsor or attend.

ASSUMPTION SCHOOL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Join us on May 20, 2019, for the Second Annual Assumption School Golf Open. Spend the day on the historic, Seth Raynor-designed course at Morris County Golf Club in Morristown, NJ, and enjoy it's beautiful facilities, friendly staff, and first-class amenities. Shamble format, hole-in-one contest, raffle prizes. Space is limited...We can't wait to see you! Register at www.birdeasepro.com/assumptionopen.

VISING NURSE ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

If you're seeking an interesting and fulfilling volunteer role, the VNA has many options available including:

- Friendship House — assist with activities at the social adult day care center in Boonton Township
- Hospice — support those in the final phase of life and their loved ones (No experience necessary, training will be provided)
- House Call Groceries for Seniors — shop for a Morris County homebound local resident weekly or every two weeks
- Friendly Visitors — provide companionship for elderly Morris County VNA clients who live alone
- Juniors Helping Seniors — volunteer assignments designed for high school students
- Clerical Work — help the staff at VNA's headquarters in downtown Morristown

For more information, please visit our website, or contact Rachel Enderle at (973) 451-4128, renderle@vnannj.org.

HOLY ROOD MEMORIAL DAY MASS

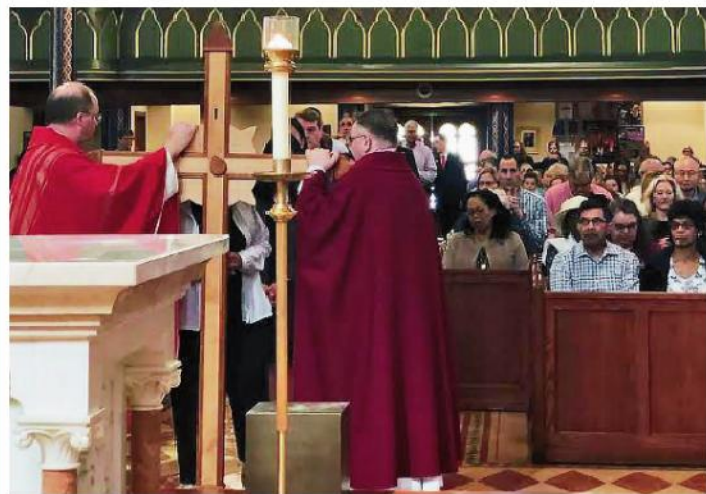
The annual Memorial Day Mass will be held at Holy Rood Cemetery on Monday, May 27 at 9:00 a.m., honoring our loved ones and all those who died for our freedom. Mass will be followed by light refreshments. All are welcome to attend.



EASTER AT ASSUMPTION

We are now in the glorious Easter Season, in which we remember Christ's Resurrection and reflect upon his appearances to his disciples, his Ascension and his sending down the Holy Spirit.

And for each of us, every time we attend Holy Mass and recognize Christ in the breaking of the bread, we celebrate his life, death and resurrection, as we wait in joyful hope for His coming to us again!



THE BLUE MASS

At 5:30 Mass on April 27, over 400 people, including many state and local dignitaries attended the Blue Mass here at Assumption Church, recognizing in memorial the lives and service of law enforcement personnel, including local hero Captain Brian McNally, USMC and NJ State Trooper.

Please remember in your prayers all those in Law Enforcement and their families, who place their lives in the service of our welfare.





Roar VBS will be hosted at Assumption Church from **August 5 to August 9**. At Roar, kids discover that God is good even when life gets wild. Kids participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, make and devour yummy treats, experience one-of-a-kind Wild Bible Adventures, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them of God's love, and test out Sciency-Fun Gizmos they'll take home and play with all summer long. Plus, kids will learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings. Each day concludes with the Safari Celebration that gets everyone involved in living what they've learned.

Roar is for kids from pre-k 4 to grade 3 (fall 2019) and will run from 9 to 11:30 a.m. each day. Teen volunteers must be in grade 6 (fall '19) or older. Online registration at www.assumptionparish.org is open.

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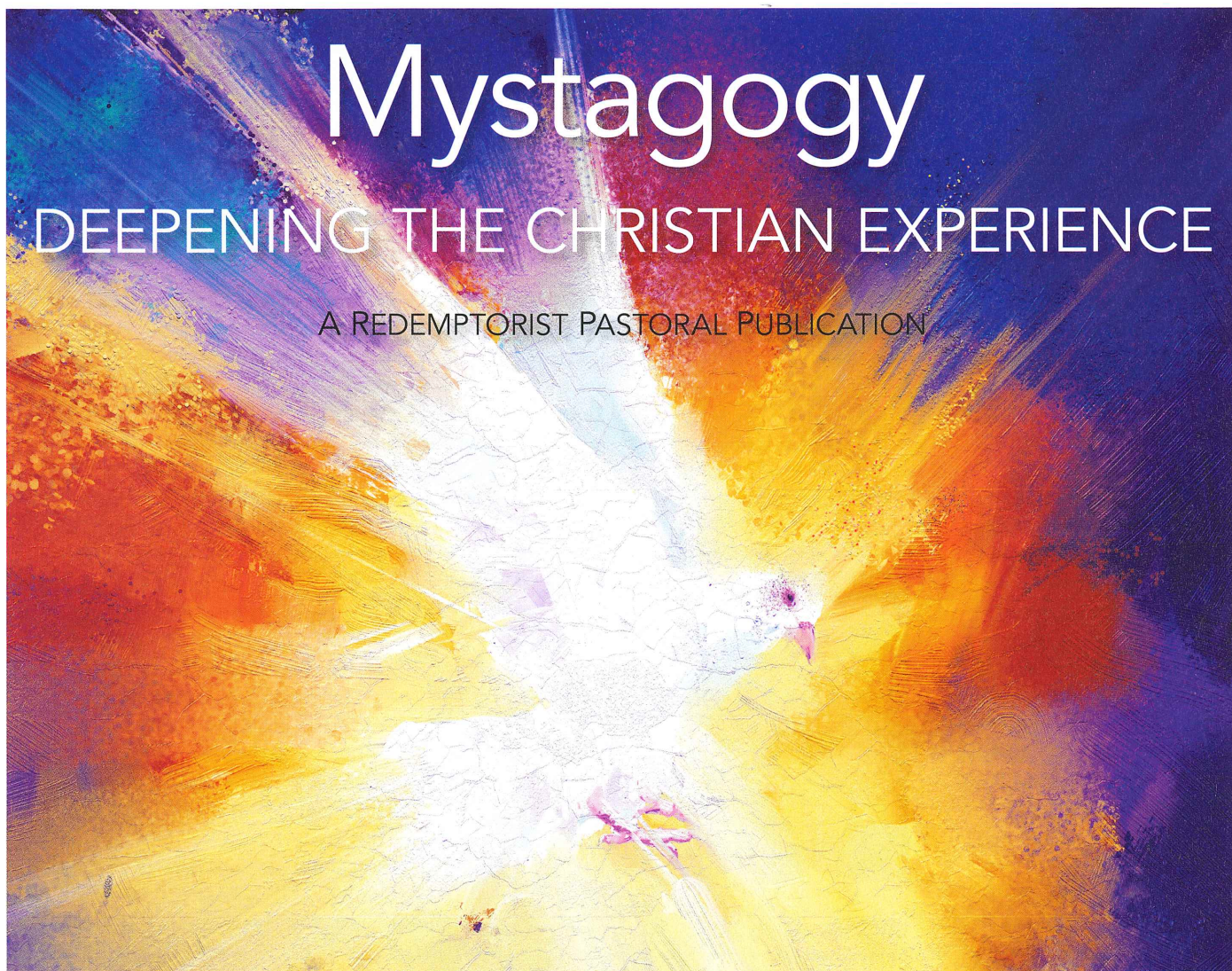
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MAY 2019

Mystagogy

DEEPENING THE CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE

A REDEMPTORIST PASTORAL PUBLICATION



The drama of contemporary culture is the lack of interiority, the absence of contemplation. Without interiority, culture has no content; it is like a body that has not yet found its soul. What can humanity do without interiority? Unfortunately, we know the answer very well. When the contemplative spirit is missing, life is not protected and all that is human is denigrated. Without interiority, modern man puts his own integrity at risk.

—ST. JOHN PAUL II, 2003

Mystagogy is one of the greatest treasures of the Church, one we've neglected far too long and one that would benefit everyone—even long-standing and cradle Catholics.

An admirer of Carmelite spirituality and a student of St. John of the Cross, St. John Paul II could see that “interiority,” or contemplative dimension, had been in decline or missing for a long time in the world and within Catholic parishes and communities. Furthermore, he could see that this decline or lack in our civilization was the cause of many contemporary problems.

For this reason, the practice of mystagogy was revived in the wake of the Second Vatican Council as a way to reforge the link between theology, mysticism, and Christian experience and open the contemplative dimension to modern Catholics. But has it worked? Saint John Paul II clearly didn't think so, and the extent to which our young people are dropping away from the practice of their faith since the 1960s seems to suggest he was right. Mystagogy is one of the greatest treasures of the Church, one we've neglected far too long, and one that would benefit everyone—even long-standing and cradle Catholics.

Understanding Mystagogy

First, what is mystagogy? This Greek word means “leading or guiding into mystery.” The mystery in question here is the fundamental one at the heart of Catholic Christianity—the Incarnation and its extension into our lives through the seven sacraments. The sacraments are mysteries because they are works of the Holy Spirit, communicating divine grace, working invisibly on us through visible symbols. The supreme examples of this are the three sacraments of initiation—baptism, confirmation, and Eucharist.

In the early Church, sacramental initiation or induction of new Christians took place behind closed doors, in secrecy. (In Greek, *mystery* refers to the closed mouth of the one who keeps a secret.) The reason for this secrecy may have been to protect Christian communities from persecution or to prevent the sacraments from being mocked and misunderstood by outsiders who lacked the eyes of faith. In any case, the initiations themselves and the mystagogical teaching associated with them were taken extremely seriously. Church Fathers have left us long treatises on mystagogy.



Early Christians were persecuted and often mocked for their practice.

Deepening the Christian Experience

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) promulgated by the Congregation for Divine Worship in 1987—one fruit of the liturgical renewal prompted by Vatican II—spoke of four stages or steps for initiation into the sacraments and the full liturgical life of the Church and four associated periods of maturation.

The first stage or step is the period of inquiry that leads to a person's becoming a formal candidate for instruction in the faith. The second is the period of catechesis or formal instruction, which may last several years. The third is an intense time of “purification and enlightenment” which occurs during Lent and often leads to baptism and reception into the Church during the Easter liturgy. The fourth, says the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, “goes through the whole Easter season and is devoted to the post-baptismal catechesis or mystagogy. It is a time for deepening the Christian experience, for gaining spiritual fruit, and for entering more closely into the life and unity of the community of the faithful” (RCIA 7d).

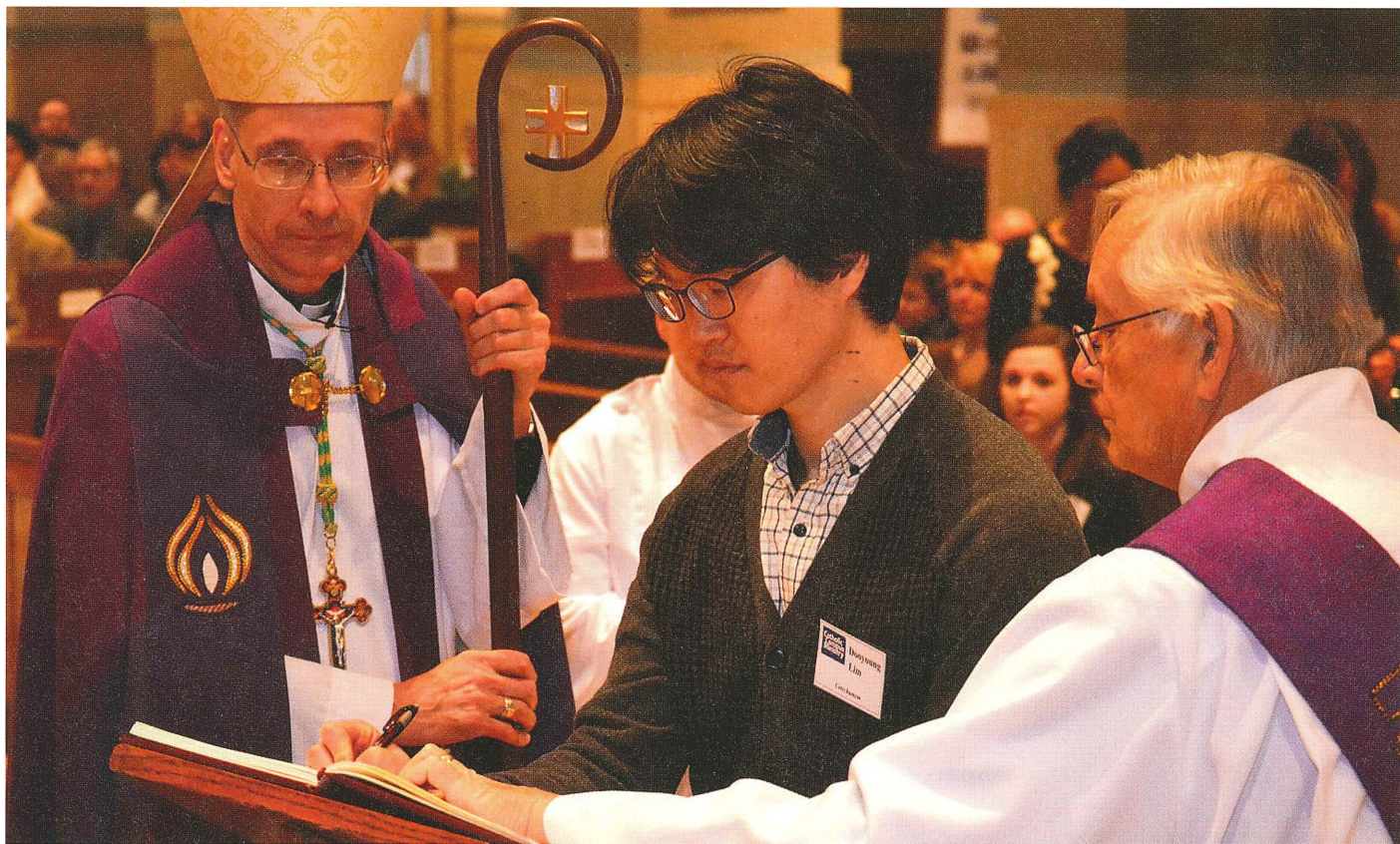
This fourth period interests us for the purpose of this discussion, because it is here—in deepening the Christian experience—where parishes often fail. Perhaps we'll discover that if only we can get this right, we'll find that mystagogy can't be confined to the period from Easter to Pentecost, or to the one-year period after reception into the Church, or to the small group of the newly baptized.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* describes mystagogy as “proceeding from the visible to the invisible, from the sign to the thing signified, from the ‘sacraments’ to the ‘mysteries’” (CCC 1075). This is something we need to do at all times, not just at Easter, but it's difficult—life

hinders and distracts us with its overwhelming emphasis on visible, material surfaces. More than any previous generation, we constantly need to relearn our way to the interior, the “thing signified” by the sacraments. Mystagogy can help us do this.

Living Prayer: A Model of Mystagogy

The *Catechism* helps us begin by providing a model of mystagogy, for example, in its explanation of the meaning of baptism (CCC 1217–1228 and 1234–1245). But mystagogy isn't just about interpretation; it's mainly about prayer. Here the fourth part of the *Catechism* is especially helpful—for example, the commentary on the Lord's Prayer (CCC 2759–2856).



A catechumen signs the book of elect. (CNS PHOTO/MSGR. TIM STEIN, CATHOLIC REGISTER)

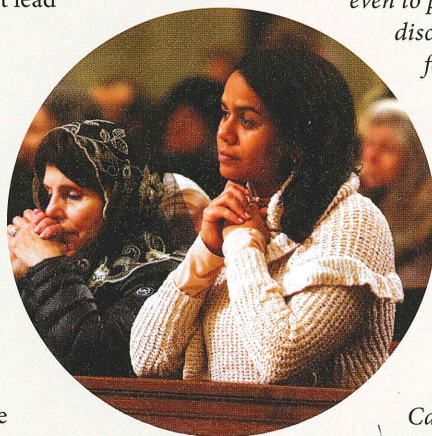
Prayer has never been easy even though it should be the easiest thing in the world—as easy as breathing. That’s a good simile, because prayer supplies the “oxygen” for Christian lives, which quickly die without it. Prayer can seem hard because we get in its way—we postpone it, we allow ourselves to be distracted, we fill up the space that prayer might occupy with a thousand less important things. But God’s life is one of constant interior communication, perfect and eternal. We receive this life of God into ourselves at baptism in the form of the indwelling Holy Spirit. If we want to pray, we must let the Holy Spirit lead us.

How can we find our way deeper into the tradition of living prayer? How do we let the Holy Spirit lead us into prayer? Everyone has to find his or her own solution, but the starting point is always the same: the growing desire for God, nourished by frequent reception of the sacraments. But a mystagogy class can surely help. It’s often a mixture of study, discussion, and silent prayer followed by social time. Some groups like to use the Divine Office (the daily prayer of the Church) or the simpler framework of prayers and reflections offered by publications, like *Liguorian*, the magazine of Liguori Publications. Some groups focus exclusively on unpacking the riches of the Easter Triduum; others reflect on the *Lectionary* readings for each weekday or each Sunday.

In an address by Pope Francis to participants at the Plenary Assembly of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments on February 14, 2019, the Pope speaks to the role pastors and the laity hold in bringing the liturgy to life.

Since the liturgy is an experience extended to the conversion of life through the assimilation of the Lord’s way of thinking and behaving, liturgical formation cannot be limited to simply offering knowledge—this is a mistake—though necessary, on liturgical books, nor even to protect the dutiful fulfillment of the ritual disciplines. In order for the liturgy to fulfill its formative and transforming function, it is necessary that the pastors and the laity be introduced to their meaning and symbolic language, including art, song and music in the service of the mystery celebrated, even silence.

—POPE FRANCIS,
PLENARY ASSEMBLY, FEBRUARY 14, 2019



CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Ongoing study of the *Catechism* is also essential. Catholics never outgrow the *Catechism*—indeed, they become capable of reading it at ever-deeper levels. The *Catechism* divides Christian prayer into three types: vocal prayer, meditation, and contemplation (see CCC 2700–2719).

Vocal prayer brings the body into line with the spirit by expressing the spiritual word in voice and gesture. Meditation involves the imagination, the eyes of the heart, by which we penetrate gradually to the inner meaning of the words and images of faith. Finally, contemplation is the prayer of silent union with God, a beginning or foretaste of the life of eternity.

As we progress in prayer through each stage, we become more sensitive to the symbolic richness and spiritual meaning of the sacraments of the Church. Pope Francis affirms the important role the CCC holds in the life of the Church and the faithful:

The Catechism of the Catholic Church itself adopts the mystagogical way to illustrate the liturgy, valuing its prayers and signs. Mystagogy: this is a suitable way to enter the mystery of the liturgy, in the living encounter with the crucified and risen Lord. Mystagogy means discovering the new life we have received in the People of God through the Sacraments, and continually rediscovering the beauty of renewing it.

—POPE FRANCIS,

PLENARY ASSEMBLY, FEBRUARY 14, 2019

Saint John Paul II told us to “put out into the deep” (*duc in altum*, from Luke 5:4). He was reaching out to souls in a new evangelization, but the same applies to our own spiritual life: If we don’t develop, we’ll have nothing to offer others. Superficial Christianity is like tumbleweed: It blows away on the wind. To go deeper and plant our roots below the surface, we must persevere; if we do, the faith that seemed so routine and familiar becomes richer and more exciting. Genuine mystagogy leads us ever deeper into the mystery of God’s life lived in us.

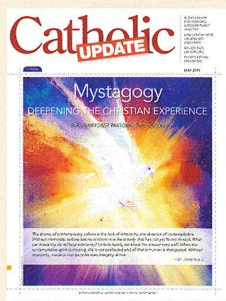
This Update was adapted from “Mystagogia Today: From Initiation to Formation” by Stratford Caldecott, originally published in Liguorian (Liguori Publications) in April 2013.

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Resources to Enhance Your Understanding

If you feel ready to move on from the *Catechism* and the prayerful reading of *The Roman Missal* and the *Lectionary*, plenty of great texts are available to help you and/or your study groups go further.

- Dionysius’ *The Ecclesiastical Hierarchy*, for example, has classic commentaries on the liturgy by Maximus Confessor and Thomas Aquinas.
- Jean Corbon’s *The Wellspring of Worship* offers a more modern explanation. Corbon authored four parts of the *Catechism*.
- Scott Hahn has written many books about the liturgy. Particularly helpful are *Letter and Spirit: From Written Text to Living Word in the Liturgy* and *Living the Mysteries: A Guide for Unfinished Christians*, coauthored with Mike Aquilina.
- *Jesus of Nazareth* is a three-volume set written by Pope Benedict XVI. Before he became Pope, when he was Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, he also wrote *The Spirit of the Liturgy*.

The great merit of books like these is that, by showing how closely related liturgy is to Scripture, they show how each illuminates the other and how both relate to the way we lead the Christian life. The last thing any of us wants is for the study of mystagogy to turn into only an academic pursuit or something remote from everyday life. On the contrary, if we’re doing it right, it overflows in kindness and mercy for our fellow men and women. As St. James reminds us, “If it does not have works, [faith] is dead” (2:17).

Genuine mystagogy leads us ever deeper into the mystery of God’s life lived in us.

IMPRIMATUR: MOST REVEREND MARK S. RIVITUSO, AUXILIARY BISHOP, ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS, MARCH 11, 2019.

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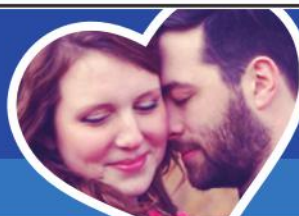
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