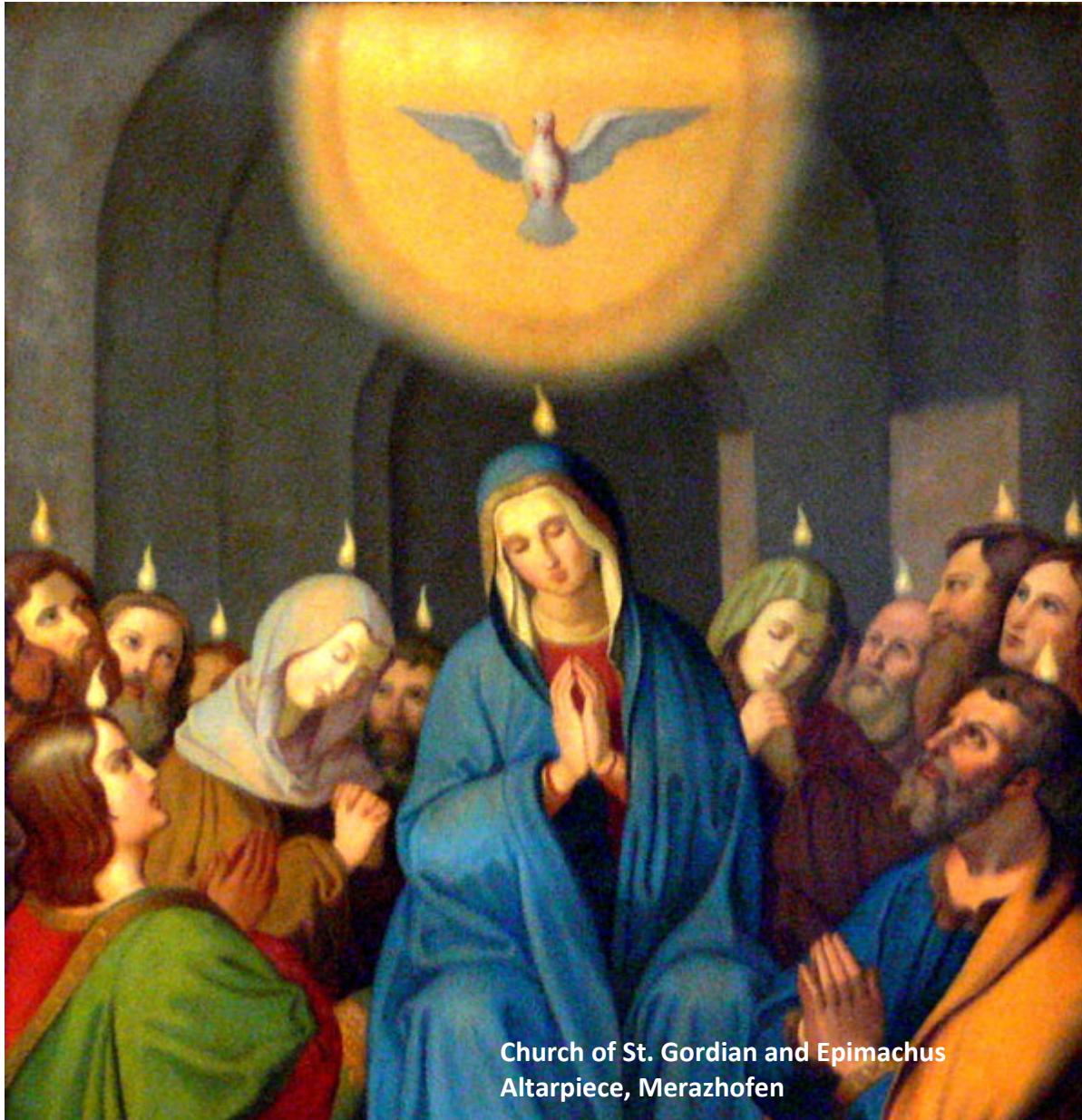


May 31, 2020

Pentecost Sunday



Church of St. Gordian and Epimachus
Altarpiece, Merazhofen

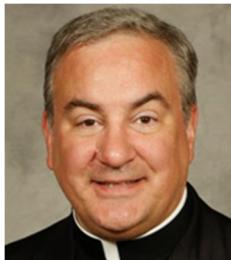
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PARISH STAFF

Fr. Michael McGovern, *Pastor*
Dr. Gregory K. Webster, *Deacon*
Deacon Peter LeTourneau, *Operations Director*
Ms. Annette Wynn, *Coordinator of Religious Ed.*
Mr. Alex Fries, *Music Director*



REOPENING SAINT RAPHAEL

My thanks to all the parishioners who have stepped forward and offered to help re-open St. Raphael. We will begin with opening the church for confessions this week. Please be aware that only ten (10) people can be in the church at a time, you must sanitize your hands when entering the building and we must maintain social distance (6 feet apart). We are using the sacristy at the west end of the church for confession. We are also asking that people who come for confession remain standing while they speak with the priest through the screen. Please take time for personal prayer and complete any prayers given as a penance outside the church building. This will help us maintain a safe environment for everyone.

Updated information about when the church will be open for services and how you can register for services will be available on our parish website (www.straphaelcatholic.org) and our Facebook page.

WHEN WILL WE BEGIN HAVING MASS?

We will continue offering Mass on our website and Facebook page for the immediate future. Having Mass in church open to the public will require people to register in advance because we can only have ten people in church for any given liturgy. The mechanics of doing this will be announced on our website and Facebook page. Those who make a "reservation" will have assigned seating in the church. The earliest I think we can have Mass is June 6 or 7. I wish I could offer more exact information as I write the bulletin, but we need more volunteers to sign up to help us and be trained. If you are in good health and under the age of 65, please contact the office: rectory@straphaelcatholic.org. Steve Laky and Ric Allen are the co-chairs for our reopening team and they will help train new volunteers.

NEW PASTOR FOR SAINT RAPHAEL

Cardinal Cupich will be appointing a new pastor for St. Raphael this week. I hope that we can share the priest's name and a brief biography with everyone as soon as possible. The new pastor should begin serving here on July 1. Please keep our entire parish in your prayers this week.

ORDINATION AS BISHOP

On Wednesday, July 22, Cardinal Cupich will ordain me and then install me as the ninth Bishop of Belleville. While the Cathedral of St. Peter in Belleville is large, due to the coronavirus, we will only be having a small group of people present in person for the ordination. While I regret that very few people will be there in person, I appreciate the folks who have assured me that they will be united in prayer that day. We are working on making the ordination liturgy available on a live stream beginning at 2:00pm CST on the diocesan website: www.diobelle.org. Also, there is a good chance that EWTN will broadcast the liturgy on their network. More details will be available in the coming weeks and will be shared on our parish website: www.straphaelcatholic.org.

A Blessed Pentecost,

Fr. Mike McGovern

mmcgovern@archchicago.org

PENTECOST

Today we celebrate the great feast of Pentecost, fifty days after Easter. Far from being simply an attractive epilogue to the death and resurrection of Jesus, Pentecost is its very completion and goal. During His last hours with His apostles, Jesus' thoughts turned again and again to an event which was to be the focus on which the Last Supper, the Crucifixion, the Resurrection and Ascension were to converge: the Descent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost.

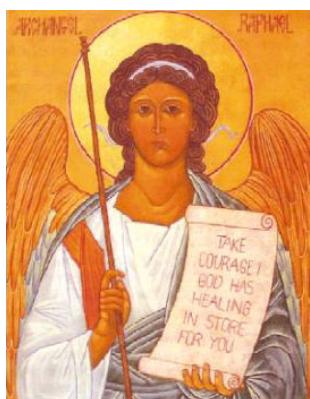
Pentecost is the climax of God's pursuit of us. It's appropriate that it should end with the flashing of fire. Instead of just leaving us a moral code, God sends the Holy Spirit to dwell within us so that it can be truly said that God lives in us and we live in Him. In John 20:22 the Spirit is beautifully depicted as the breath of the Risen Christ. Just as God breathed into the nostrils of the first man the breath of new life (see Genesis 2:7), the Lord now breathes into our souls the breath of life, His essence. The Trinity dwells in us. Alleluia!

Fr. Mike

Altar and Rosary Sodality (ARS) Women's Group

Please remember to send a check
to the Rectory for the **Diaper Drive**
this weekend. Thank you.

The Social Committee is working on groups of four for online card games and the Book Club plans to hold its next meeting via Zoom. Also watch our tab on the church website (Ministries—Parish Life) for pending updates to include our calendar and a list of committees. Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 22. All women of the parish are welcome to join us.



Thank You!

Thanks to Marietta Centko and Rob Borelli for cleaning up the Fellowship area, taking down old decorations and replacing them with summer ones.

Fellowship is missing all our friendly faces and lively conversations. Make sure to reach out to your church family by phone or email!

Attention all Parishioners! Our New Pastor Needs Your Help!

To help our new pastor get to know us more quickly, Fr. Mike has asked us to prepare one informal parishioner booklet to give to the new pastor when he arrives. We would like to include the following for each parish family: 1) Photo; 2) Names of everyone in the photo; 3) E-mail address; 4) Phone number; and 5) any ministries in which family members are involved. Please mail to:

Nancy January @ nanjanil@sbcglobal.net;
or mail hard copy to: Nancy at 40790 N, Lester Lane, Wadsworth, IL 60083.

Thank you for helping us to make the transition for our new pastor a bit easier!

**Please pray for those in our parish
and community who are sick:**

Annabelle Diaz
Paula Emmerth
Dean Pedersen
Bob Geske
Rod Loomis
Residents of Rolling Hills

**Father's Day
Spiritual Bouquet Masses**

If you would like Father Mike to pray for your fathers on Father's Day and also have them listed in the bulletin, please email or US mail a list of your fathers by June 8.



Please indicate if the father is deceased or living. If you write by US mail, please print and give us your name and a contact number.

The Sorrowful Mysteries

This week, we enter into the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary. They are, first, The Agony of Our Lord in the garden; second, The Scourging at the Pillar; third, The Crowning of Thorns; fourth, The Carrying of the Cross and The Crucifixion of Jesus; and the fifth, The Death of Our Lord Jesus Christ on The Cross.

During the Agony in the Garden of Gethsemane, after the Last Supper, Jesus prays to The Father that he might not have to go through His suffering. He asks that The Father take this cup from Him. Ending His Praying, He says to The Father, 'Thy will, not my will be done.'

The second sorrowful mystery is the scourging of Jesus at the pillar. Our Lord is brutally scourged by the soldiers. He suffered this torture for all of us for the forgiveness of our many sins and for our salvation.

Third, The Crowning of Thorns. The soldiers made a crown out of thorn branches and placed it on Jesus's head, and then proceeded to beat it with a stick into His head. They mocked Him and spit on Him saying, 'All hail The King of the Jews'. May we all pray for humility as Jesus was so humbled.

Fourth, The Carrying of The Cross and The Crucifixion of Jesus. As Jesus stood up after being crowned with thorns, they placed the heavy cross on His scourged shoulder. He then carried this wooden cross, falling three times on the way to Golgatha. There they crucified Our Lord.

The Fifth and last sorrowful mystery is The Death of Our Lord. After three hours of unimaginable suffering on the cross, Jesus cried out His last words, 'Father into your hands I commit My Spirit.' He died for the forgiveness of our sins and for our salvation. He knew and loved us all, you and me, by offering His Life for us!

-Karen Swambar

Pentecost Sunday

May 31, 2020

Mass Intentions

Week of May 31, 2020	Intentions for:	Requested by:
Saturday, May 30, 2020	The Siron Family † Bob Bajko	Evelyn Ong Donna and Paul Pavelski
Sunday, May 31, 2020	Parishioners of St. Raphael The Archangel John Tebben	The Tebben Family
	Norma and Pat Lucansky 63rd Wedding Anniversary	The Lucansky Family
Monday, June 1, 2020	† Mary Stefanski	Annette Wynn
Tuesday June 2, 2020	† Laura Reid	Richard McGovern
Wednesday, June 3, 2020	† Anna Wywialowski	Annette Wynn
Thursday, June 4, 2020	† Anne and George Centko	The Centko Family
Friday, June 5, 2020	AJ Wenn	Lorraine Wenn
Saturday, June 6, 2020	The Siron Family † Tony Ondricka	Evelyn Ong The Boutell Family
Sunday, June 7, 2020	Parishioners of St. Raphael The Archangel	
	† Jeffrey Hutchings	William and Irus Hutchings
	† Luigi Borelli	Rob Borelli

If you would like to have a Mass said for a beloved family member, friend, or special intention, please call the parish office at 847.395.3474. (†Deceased)

Father McGovern will offer Masses privately for the Intentions listed above.



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"BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL SHOWCASE"

Mrs. Lind's First Grade Class enjoyed a fun Stem project! Each student constructed a cat house to protect Fuzzy the kitten from her puppy family members!



Some of our proud St. Bede Students enjoyed the popular "Kids Café Quarantine Kitchen" this past week. They whipped up and baked some delicious fruit bars!



Dear Friends in Christ,

These fifty days of Easter, leading to Pentecost, are marked by unprecedented suffering, as humanity has fallen victim to a perilous contagion. In addition to the threats to our physical wellbeing, we are suffering spiritually as the Covid-19 pandemic has required restrictions of our worship and active participation in the sacramental life of the Church. Surely, there have been moments in history when governments and rulers have persecuted Christians and banned their public worship. This is not one of them. Rather, the present restrictions come in response to an extreme medical emergency as local, state and federal authorities – specifically public health officials – legitimately fulfil their responsibilities to safeguard human life and the common good. They have based their reasonable guidance on careful consideration of empirical data and the best available disease-mitigation practices as they seek to contain the pandemic's rampage through our communities.

While everyone must exercise good citizenship in observing these restrictions, I call on the Catholic faithful, as advocates for justice and charity, to comply with these regulations. From the first pages of Scripture we learn that we indeed are “our brother’s keeper,” a truth that must inspire us as we are called to sacrifice. We should also be motivated to cooperate with public safety norms, given our reverence for life and human dignity. This is, at its heart, a moment to proclaim the breadth and depth of what it means to be pro-life, particularly as this virus preys on the most vulnerable in our midst.

The good news is that a plan for a gradual reopening of our churches has now taken shape. However, since our movements will be restricted as that plan unfolds in different phases, your pastors and bishops will continue for the present time to offer Mass in private each day and to livestream and broadcast Masses from our parishes and the archdiocese. I am particularly grateful to ABC-TV, Univision and Polvision in Chicago for giving us airtime every Sunday. These celebrations surely are not the same as gathering in our churches for Mass, but I know from hearing from many parishioners that they provide a great deal of solace and support in this time of uncertainty.

We must be honest. We expect this situation to continue for some weeks, and any plan for reopening our churches for public worship must include every precaution to ensure public gatherings do not create a second wave of contagion, thus squandering the gains made through our sacrifice in these days.

With those realities in mind, I am heartened to announce that we have reached an agreement with the Office of the Governor on a multi-phase Plan for re-opening our churches for the celebration of the sacraments, private prayer, adoration and Mass. As I share the Plan with you, both by way of an Executive Summary and the full Plan*, I want to assure you of my prayers for you and your family's personal, material and spiritual wellbeing. I also express my appreciation to the many people on the archdiocesan staff and in the Office of the Governor for the many hours they have given to designing and fine tuning this agreement. Again, I call on all Catholics to seize this moment to exercise faith-filled citizenship in a way that reflects our deep regard for life, our calling as disciples of Jesus and our love of country.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Cardinal Blase J. Cupich

*For the Executive Summary and the full Plan, please go to:
archchicago.org, News and Events, Reopening Plans

LIST OF RESOURCES FOR THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/

Get the latest updates on the outbreak from the CDC

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html

Illinois Department of Public Health

<http://dph.illinois.gov/>

Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH)

Sign up to receive the latest updates on the local COVID-19 response from the CDPH

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/VwvbSW5/coronavirus>

CDPH Coronavirus Hotline: 312.746.4835

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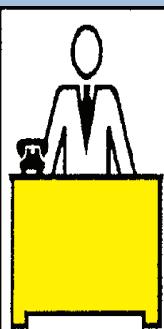


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