



HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord ♦ May 24, 2020

"Go and make disciples... I am with you always." — Matthew 28:19-20

Pastor

REV. KYLE J. SANDERS

ksanders@arch-no.org

Sacramental emergencies

985-237-0972

Office

985-839-4040

Monday-Thursday 8 am - 4:30 pm

Friday 8 am-1 pm

Location / Mailing Address

1220 14th Ave

Franklinton, LA 70438

Website

www.holyfamilyfranklinton.org

Parish Email

holyfamilyfranklinton@arch-no.org

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil: 5 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am, 11 am

* also streamed on Facebook page

* no hay Misa en español

Weekday Masses

Mon/Tues/Wed: 6:30 pm

Thurs/Fri/Sat: 9 am

* also streamed on Facebook page

Confessions

* Saturday 3-4 pm (drive-by)

and by appointment

Eucharistic Adoration

First Friday of each month,

9:30 am-4:30 pm

Marriages

Contact Fr Kyle at least six months prior to anticipated date.

Baptisms

Contact Fr Kyle: 985-839-4040

Charitable Outreach

Friends of St Francis: 985-201-5882

Religious Education

Renée Herbert: 985-630-1121

Youth Ministry

Eddie Boudreaux: 985-630-9997

Bulletin Deadline

Tuesday, noon.

From Our Pastor

THE MAGNIFICAT AND THE WORD OF GOD, PART 7 REFLECTIONS ON POPE BENEDICT'S *VERBUM DOMINI*

There is one final line in the first part of Mary's Magnificat that we need to cover before we look at its parallels to the Song of Hannah in 1 Samuel. And to me, in this one line in verse 50 of the first chapter of Luke's gospel, we find Mary, who is filled with the Holy Spirit, begin to make a prophecy about who her Son will be, and that he will fulfill the reversals that Hannah originally prayed and Mary made her own. To understand this verse we have to look at it in the context of the whole song.

The first lines are expressive of Mary's humility. We have seen their Scriptural roots over these past few weeks. "My soul magnifies the LORD, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has regarded the

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CONGRATS, CLASS OF 2020!

Adrianna Bolotte

Bowling Green High School

Hannah Forbes

Bowling Green High School

Katie Herbert

South La. Community College

Kayla LeBlanc

Syracuse University

Jack Morse

Franklinton High School

Nicholas Ordoyne

Franklinton High School

Jacob Simms

Franklinton High School

Schuyler Thiebaud

Franklinton High School

HOLY FAMILY IS VERY PROUD OF YOU! WE PRAY FOR YOUR BLESSING!

<< From Our Pastor, from front page <<

low estate of his handmaiden. For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name" (Luke 1:46-49). Mary is relating to God; she is praising him for the gift that she has received in her womb. She is humbled at such a gift and is aware that this gift of her Son is greater than any gift man has yet received. She may be even be recalling in her memory the very day the Holy Spirit overshadowed her. Such a mystical and physical experience has happened only once in all of history. You can tell she can barely contain the joy she has.

In verse 50, her mind and her heart turn outward. She begins to reflect out loud what this gift will mean. How this gift of her Son isn't just for her but is for all generations; this gift is for the weak, the hungry, those who, like her, are lowly in the eyes of the world. This gift she holds in her womb will fulfill all that was promised to Abraham and his descendants. She starts this prophecy by saying, "And his mercy is on those who fear him from generation to generation."

There are two things which reveal Scriptural influence in the beginning of Mary's prophecy: the concept of the fear of the Lord, and how something can affect generations to come. I'll start with the second one. For this, we need to go back to the Ten Commandments in the book of Exodus, specifically the curse connected with betraying the first commandment. "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven alone, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me" (Exodus 20:1-5). Christ, who is the fulfillment of the Law, comes rather to bring mercy from generation to generation. No longer shall there be a curse, but rather a blessing, a blessing of the full mercy of the Father.

It is, however, a conditional blessing "to those who fear him." The concept of fear of the Lord is riddled throughout the Old Testament, especially in the Wisdom literature (Psalm, Proverbs, the Book of Wisdom, and others) and in the prophets. Pope Francis provides a good explanation of fear of the Lord: "[Fear of the Lord] does not mean being afraid of God: we know well that God is Father, that he loves us and wants our salvation, and he always forgives, always; thus there is no reason to be scared of him! Fear of the Lord, instead, is the gift of the Holy Spirit through whom we are reminded of how small we are before God and of his love, and that our good lies in humble, respectful, and trusting self-abandonment into his hands. This is the fear of the Lord: abandonment in the goodness of our Father who loves us so much."¹

Married Couples Retreat
Growing Together in Faith & Love
June 12 - 14

Would you like to break away with your spouse and spend quality time enriching your marriage?

Then join us on one of our upcoming retreat
at the beautiful St Joseph Abbey's
Retreat Center in Covington, La.

504-830-3716 FaithandMarriage.org



The beauty of this prophecy is that it is intimately connected to the humble praise Mary gives at the beginning of her song. She herself is the great beneficiary of God's mercy through her own "humble, respectful, and trusting self-abandonment." She is proclaiming that all who do the same will experience the awesome mercy of God; and this is offered to every generation through her Son who is Savior and Redeemer.

¹ Pope Francis, General Audience, 11 June 2014.

F. Kyle

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Happy Easter!
¡Cristo ha resucitado! ¡Sí, él ha resucitado! ¡Aleluya! ¡Feliz Pascua!

"Why do you stand there looking up to heaven?"

"Oh I don't know, we just saw Jesus float up in the sky until he disappeared... Coulda been that..."

Do we not know what the Ascension truly means because we don't celebrate it?

Or do we not celebrate it because we don't know what it means?

As Jesus told His disciples, "It is better for you that I go. For if I do not go, the Advocate will not come to you. But if I go, I will send Him to you" (John 16:7). Why would we not want to celebrate such a key event in the kingdom of heaven?

Understanding the Ascension is critical to our understanding the entire Paschal Mystery, especially the part we play in it right now. Here's why:

1. **The Kingdom:** It's really with the Ascension that Jesus establishes the Kingdom. Although Jesus lived His entire life in fulfillment of God's Kingdom promises, the Ascension is key. That's why the Bible records Jesus going up into heaven, and, arriving in heaven, He sits down at the Father's right hand (Ps. 110:1; Heb 1:3). His rule has begun. The Kingdom is here! With His birth the King arrives. With His life, death, and resurrection the King redeems. With His Ascension the King rules. If you stop short of the Ascension, the story dies.
2. **The Priest:** And, having returned to the Father, Jesus also serves forever as our true High Priest (Heb. 9), the perfect priest who cleansed the people from their sins and will always represent them before the Father. The Ascension breaks the cycle of God's people continually needing a new priest to offer a new sacrifice. With the Ascension, Jesus becomes our true priest forever.
3. **The Spirit:** In one of the most amazing statements in the Bible, Jesus says "It is better for you that I go" (Jn. 16:5). There may be some people who could make the world a better place just by leaving it. But Jesus? How can his departure be good for us? Because the Ascension is when Jesus sends the Holy Spirit to God's people. His departure is good news because the Spirit is good news. So, having promised to send the Spirit once He was gone, that's exactly what He did. After Acts 1 comes Acts 2 – Jesus ascended and the Spirit came. Good news!
4. **The People:** But now, an interesting question: Why did Jesus need to leave in order to send the Holy Spirit? Couldn't the Spirit have come while He was here? Of course, God could have done things differently. So why like this? Perhaps Jesus ascended and sent the Spirit to empower His people so that we could do what we were always supposed to: *image God in creation as His people*. Jesus could have continued doing that for us; He does it far better than we ever could. But God's plan was never to carry out our role for us. He wants us to do it. So perhaps the Ascension is about God creating space for His people to be fully His people and carry out our calling in the world.
5. **The Future:** Finally, the Ascension is a powerful reminder of our destiny. Here it's important to remember that Jesus did not stop being human when He ascended. His humanity was not just a costume donned at Christmas and discarded at the Ascension. Jesus represents us as our High Priest forever specifically because He remains one of us forever. So the Ascension points to our destiny as humans – sharing in His rule over creation and manifesting His glory everywhere.

The Ascension is not an optional add-on to the story, a piece that we might discuss if we have any time after dealing with the "important" parts. The Ascension is critical. The Ascension is when the King rules, the Priest redeems and represents, the Spirit comes, the People serve, and the future shines with the brilliance of God's plan. Jesus didn't just ride off into the sunset, leaving us to clean up the mess here. Jesus ascended to the right hand of the Father so that God's plans could be accomplished. Once we truly understand that, we'll know why it truly was better for us that He go... *and why we celebrate!*

Mass Intentions

5/23 5 pm †Harold Carriles
†Craig Estave
†Toni Carriles Hedrick
†Shirley LeBlanc
Jean Lugo
†David Scott

5/24 8:30 am Archbishop Gregory Aymond
Manette Bateman
†Brandi Sander
†Denise Weber

5/24 11 am Our Parishioners

5/24 3 pm †Robert Pierce

5/25 6:30 pm the needy of our parish

5/26 6:30 pm all the Christian faithful

5/27 6:30 pm †deceased parishioners

5/28 9 am †Rita Anderson

5/29 9 am †Brandi Sander

5/30 9 am Aidan Ibarra



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn
May 24-30 in memory of
Brandi Sander
by request of
Sierrah Sander

Next week's special collection

PETER'S PENCE

Provides funds for Pope Francis to give aid at his discretion, anywhere in the world he believes the need is great. Envelopes are on the bookshelf in church.



Please pray for:

Robert Boudreaux, Jim Bradle, Flo Clemons, Beverly Creel, Juliette Daly, Paula Davis, Estave Family, Lisa Falcon, Mike Gaillard, June Gonsoulin Georgusis, Wayne and Miriam Gonsoulin, Betty Jane Henry, Keaton Family, King Family, Jan LaBorde, Larry Lambremont, Henry and Tina Lirette, Jean Lugo, Adele Johnson Mendel, Yvonne Newcomb, Willie O'Bryant, Marie Oswald, Mickey Power, Linda Schomburg, Al Triche, Nick Tullier, Ronnie Watson, Lawrence Williams, Jackie Wright, Fr Otis Young, Steven Zeringue

Military (deployed): Cody Westmoreland.

Names stay on the list for three months.

To add someone, call 839-4040 or email holyfamilyfranklinton@arch-no.org.

Q:
How do I reserve a Mass intention for someone?

A:
(1) call our office, 985-839-4040. It's open Monday-Thursday, 8 am-4:30 pm; Friday, 8 am-1 pm. Or...

(2) place your offering in a weekend collection, clearly marked "for Masses." Include a note with the person's name and whether they are living or deceased. Be sure to also include your own name and number in case we need to contact you. Or...

(3) mail your offering and above info to Holy Family, 1220 14th Ave, Franklinton, LA 70438 (attention Sue).

This week's Scripture readings

Mon 5/25 Acts 19:1-8
Bede: Priest, Psalm 68:2-7
Doctor of the Church John 16:29-33

Tues 5/26 Philippians 4:4-9
Philip Neri Psalm 138:1-3,7-8
Priest John 17:1-11

Wed 5/27 Acts 20:28-38
Augustine of Canterbury Psalm 68:29-36
Priest, Bishop John 17:11-19

Thurs 5/28 Acts 22:30; 23:6-11
Easter Psalm 16:1-2,5,7-11
Weekday John 17:20-26

Fri 5/29 Acts 25:13-21
Paul VI Psalm 103:1,2,11,12,19-20
Pope John 21:15-19

Sat 5/30 Acts 28:16-20,30-31
Easter Psalm 11:4-5,7
Weekday John 21:20-25

Sun 5/31 Acts 2:1-11
Solemnity Psalm 104:1,24,29-31,34
of 1 Corinthians 12:3-7,12-13
Pentecost John 20:19-23

Stewardship Report

regular collection \$ 2,580.00

building fund \$ 202.00

Thank you for your sacrificial giving.

To set up online giving,
one-time or recurring, visit:
holyfamilyfranklinton.org/donate