# *May 21, 2023*
# *Ascension of the Lord*

**Teach to All the Nations — God is with Us for Eternity**

Today's Gospel is taken from the conclusion of the Gospel of Matthew. Matthew's Gospel quickly moves from the disciples' discovery of Jesus' empty tomb, to Jesus' appearance to Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, to the commission that Jesus gives his disciples in today's Gospel.

The Final Commission, as this Gospel is sometimes called, is given on the mountaintop. Throughout Scripture, the most important events happen on the mountaintop, and Matthew has used this motif throughout his Gospel. Earlier in Matthew's Gospel, Peter, James, and John had seen Jesus transfigured on the mountaintop (Matthew 17:1-8). Also in the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus taught the crowds from the mountaintop in what we now call the Sermon on the Mount.

Here we are told that the eleven disciples go the mountaintop in Galilee, as Jesus had instructed through Mary Magdalene and the other Mary (cf. Matthew 28:9-10). They see Jesus, and both worship and doubt at the same time. Jesus approaches them and commissions them to baptize and teach, "to make disciples of all nations." It is a task which Jesus had previously prepared his disciples for; recall that Jesus had sent the twelve apostles to preach the Kingdom of God and to heal (cf. Matthew 10:1-15). However, earlier the Twelve were sent only to the House of Israel; in this Final Commission, the eleven are told to go to "all nations." The mission of Jesus is now to be taken to all people; the task now is to baptize and to teach.

Jesus commissions his disciples to baptize in the name of the Trinity, one of the clearest attestations found in Scripture for baptism in the name of the Trinity. In the Acts of the Apostles and in the Letters of Paul, baptism is more frequently offered "in the name of Jesus."

The ending of Matthew's Gospel can be understood as the beginning of the Church. Jesus commissions his disciples to continue to teach in his name and to bring others into the community of disciples through baptism. The Gospel ends, as it had begun, with the promise that Jesus will continue to be Emmanuel, "God with us" (cf. Matthew 1:23), for all eternity.

*Reflection from https://www.loyolapress.com/

## Ascension of Our Lord

On the fortieth day of Easter, the **Ascension of the Lord** commemorates Christ's bodily ascension into heaven and is celebrated this weekend on the Seventh Sunday of Easter. The weekdays from the Ascension up to and including the Saturday before Pentecost prepare for the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.

The Ascension completes Jesus' earthly mission and signifies his enthronement as heavenly king. Jesus has completed his Father's mission and he now rules with all authority and intercedes with all sympathy as our mediator and high priest.

*For those that signed up for the*

***Dinner at Miller's Amish Farm on Wednesday, May 24th,***

*there is an informational sheet and directions to Miller's on the table in the vestibule.*

**The Holy Cross Catholic Charities Mobile Food Pantry**

**Thursday, May 25th, 10 a.m.—Noon**

**Food Boxes Available & Distributed While Supplies Last using a drive-through format**

***With prayer, we seek God's power to heal the scourge of abortion in our city and world.***

***Coffee, Cookies, & Fellowship***
*after Sunday 8:30 a.m. Mass*
***All Welcome!***

**Parenting Night — Adoption & Fostering**

Gathering for Families that have Adopted or Fostered Children and Those Interested in Learning More

**Wednesday, June 7, @ St. Bernard's Community Room from 6-8 p.m.**

**Holy Cross Parish-Wide Picnic & New Parishioner Welcome**

Sunday, June 11th, from 1 p.m.-4 p.m.
@ Maple Park Pavilion, Wagoner

*Please sign-up in the vestibule to indicate the number in your family attending, so food can be planned. Hamburgers & Hot Dogs and Water provided! Please bring a side dish or dessert to share and drinks for your family!!*

**Diocese Jubilee Picnic**

**Celebrating 50 Years for the Diocese of Tulsa & Eastern Oklahoma**

**Saturday, June 24, 3-10 p.m.**

*Procession from St. Henry to Redbud Festival Park Kick-Off, Loads of Music, Food/Beer Sales, Children/Youth Activities, T-shirt & Cookie Competitions.*

**Bishop Konderla is celebrating a 25th, 40th, 50th, and 50th+ Wedding Anniversary Mass**
**Sunday, June 25, 2:30 p.m. @ Holy Family Cathedral**
**followed by a reception in Heiring Auditorium**

If you, or a couple you know in the diocese, is celebrating one of these milestone anniversaries this year, please email religiousformation@dioceseoftulsa.org by June 1, so an invitation to the Mass and Reception can be sent.

May is devoted to Mary, Queen of Heaven, providing an opportunity to focus on our relationship with the Holy Mother of Christ. As our mother, Mary has much to teach us and endless love to give. The month of May is one rich in tradition and a beautiful time of the year to honor our heavenly mother.

*Save the Date!*
***Parish-Wide Town Hall/Missions Sunday***
***Sunday, July 9th, @ 5 p.m.***
*Pizza and Drinks Provided*

**Confirmations and Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Konderla @ Holy Cross**

**Saturday Vigil Mass, July 15th, 5 p.m.**

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for
**MAY**
**For church movements and groups**
We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own spiritual gifts at the service of needs in the world.

| May 20 (Vigil) | May 21 | | May 27 (Vigil) | May 28 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Paul Rodriguez<br>Kay Rodriguez | Mike Hickman<br>Chris Holland | **USHERS/GIFT BEARERS** | Carolyn Greer<br>Sherry Ruyle | Rosalina Empuerto<br>Raul Empuerto |
| Larry Chekofsky | Makenna, Liam, Carlos, & Amelia | **ALTAR SERVERS** | Larry Chekofsky | Liam, Carlos, & Makenna |
| Mike McMahan | Bille Cummings | **EUCHARISTIC MIN** | Mary Feichtinger | Chris Holland |
| Kay Rodriguez | Paul Stuart | **READERS** | Judy Helms | Chris Holland |

## *Happy Birthday!*

James Ruyle 5/2
Greg Troxel 5/6
Maria Elena Herl 5/7
Henry Leonard 5/12
Issac Ervin 5/14
Blake Jameson 5/14
Amelia Wright 5/17
Candace Stuart 5/23
Robert Bond 5/24
Mark Jameson 5/25
Elijah McCaw 5/28

### Weekend Collections May 13-14

| | |
|---|---|
| General Collections | **$1,905.00** |
| Capital Improvement | **120.00** |
| **TOTAL** | **$2,025.00** |
| **Pro-Life Special Collection** | **425.00** |

**Daily Mass Readings—May 21—27***

| | |
|---|---|
| Sunday | Acts 1:1-11/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20 |
| Monday | Acts 19:1-8/Jn 16:29-33 |
| Tuesday | Acts 20:17-27/Jn 17:1-11a |
| Wednesday | Acts 20:28-38/Jn 17:11b-19 |
| Thursday | Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Jn 17:20-26 |
| Friday | Acts 25:13b-21/Jn 21:15-19 |
| Saturday | Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39 |

*Daily Readings (and link to full biblical text) also available on Holy Cross Website:

**www.holycross-wagoner.org**

To place information in the bulletin or on the church website, contact Karol Watson, karol_watson@yahoo.com or 918-640-5819

For issues/help with Flocknotes, contact Kay Rodriguez, msrod@sbcglobal.net or 405-659-0507

### FOR THE SICK AND SUFFERING

Jean Podeyn, sister of Jackie Spieker
Judy Wright, parishioner
Becky Harding, parishioner
Meredith Zehr, parishioner
Hope Watson, parishioner
Donna Senner, parishioner
Bill Scrimsher, parishioner

**WE PRAY TO THE LORD**

### Holy Cross Mission Statement/Prayer

Almighty God, the mission of Holy Cross Parish is to bring the love of Jesus Christ to our community and the world. As your disciples, help us to touch the hearts of everyone in a way that enhances human spirituality and will bring all people into the fullness of your Kingdom. Through Christ, our Lord, Amen!

| | *Altar Linens* | *Altar Flowers* |
|---|---|---|
| *May* | Rosemary Kotas | Rosemary Kotas |
| *June* | Mary Feichtinger | Sherri Moe |

**Stay Connected — Stay Informed with your Catholic Faith & your Holy Cross Family**

*Daily Readings, Daily Prayer of the Day, Bulletins, Catholic & Holy Cross News/Events*

**www.holycross-wagoner.org, Holy Cross Catholic Church - Wagoner OK (FB) & https://holycrosscatholicchurch5.flocknote.com/dashboard**


Finding solutions for your financial need.

Seth A Yoder
Financial Advisor
114 East Cherokee
Wagoner, OK 74467
918-485-0992

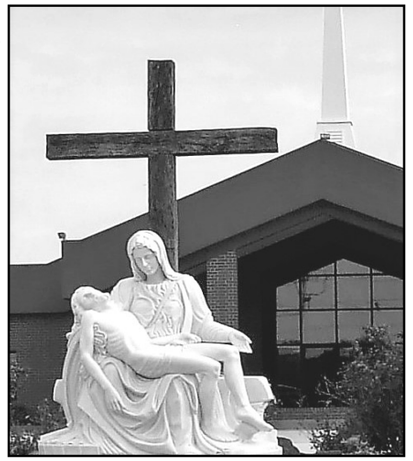
Edward Jones
edwardjones.com


# Holy Cross Catholic Church

Holiness -Disciples -Community
Wagoner, Oklahoma


P.O. Box 710 / 708 SW 15th St.
539-209-9988

***Email*: holycrosswagoner@gmail.com**
***Website*: http://www.holycross-wagoner.org**
***Facebook*: Holy Cross Catholic Church—Wagoner, OK**

## *May 21, 2023*
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| | |
|---|---|
| **Pastor** | Very Rev. Leo Ahanotu<br>holycrosswagoner@gmail.com<br>539-209-9988 |
| **Visiting Priests** | Fr. Gabriel Garcia &<br>Fr. Alessandro Calderoni |
| **Deacons** | Dcn James Ruyle (Retired)<br>jandsruyle@gmail.com<br>918-485-8228 |
| **Secretary** | Earlyne Hutchens<br>earlynehutchens@gmail.com<br>918-894-0474 |
| **Religious Education** | Mary Feichtinger<br>maryfeichtinger@yahoo.com<br>303-519-0605<br>Kay Rodriguez (Youth Group)<br>msrod@sbcglobal.net<br>405-659-0507 |
| **Parish Council** | Karol Watson<br>karol_watson@yahoo.com<br>918-640-5819 |
| **M&M Society** | Kathy Gordon<br>nursek.gordon@gmail.com<br>918-606-2488 |
| **Men's Group** | Seth Yoder<br>seth.yoder@edwardjones.com<br>918-869-9129 |

## MASS TIMES

**Saturday Vigil — 5:00 p.m.**
**Sunday — 8:30 a.m.**
**2nd & 4th Sundays (Latin) — 10:30 a.m.**
**Tuesday & Friday — 5:00 p.m.**
**Wednesday & Thursday — 8:30 a.m.**
**First Sat. of Each Month — 8:30 a.m.**

**ADORATION AND BENEDICTION**
**Fridays following 5:00 p.m. Mass**

**CONFESSIONS**
**30 minutes before weekend Masses**
**Or by appointment/request**

**THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS**

**Breaking Bread Book**
**Pages 150-152**

**Vatican II Hymnal**
**Pages 500-502**