



JESÚS
ascendio

JESUS
ascended

Something that I think of when it comes to The Ascension of The Lord is how inconceivable (to me) the disciple's reactions were. Although I certainly understand the great joy, amazement, and deep adoration they felt, both during and immediately after Jesus' ascension, I personally feel that it would be so difficult, and maybe even quite painful, to watch the Lord Jesus ascend and disappear after having shared just a few short years of His ministry on earth with Him. However, instead of despairing, they worshipped, returned to Jerusalem with joy, and continuously praised God in the temple, understanding His departure as the completion of His mission. And this is precisely why faith is such a profound thing. They fully comprehended that God the Father was directly carrying out this plan of salvation to save the world by lifting up Jesus to be seated at the right side of His throne in heaven. Despite the potential for sadness, the disciples were captivated, and "gazing into heaven" after he was lifted up, and they even felt secure enough to return to Jerusalem—a place of recent danger—to await the promised Holy Spirit. They truly understood that they would see Him again. That is the power of faith.



The importance of this event can hardly be comprehended. Jesus paved a path for His disciples to heaven so that we might follow Him throughout our earthly pilgrimage. Jesus promised, "And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself" (John 12:32). All people. The hope of salvation is open to everyone. The sinners and the saints. The Gentiles and the Jews. The marginalized and the privileged. The worthy and the unworthy. How powerful, and what a comfort His unconditional, inclusive love is. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, "Left to its own natural powers, humanity does not have access to the 'Father's house', to God's life and happiness. Only Christ can open to man such access that we, His members, might have confidence that we too shall go where He, our Head and Source, has preceded us" (CCC, 661). Truly, what a gift from God, all made possible by Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension.

The days between The Ascension and Pentecost are a time for Christians to appeal to the Father and the Son to stir up in our hearts a deep reverence for the work of the Holy Spirit in our personal lives. To quote St. Augustine's prayer to the Holy Spirit: "Breathe in me O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy. Act in me O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy. Draw my heart O Holy Spirit, that I love but what is holy. Strengthen me O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy." The ultimate objective is to transform your character, invite Him to guide your actions, submit your plans and desires, surrender your hardships, and allow Him to guide you rather than relying solely on your own strength. Yielding to the Holy Spirit to work in your life will result in a sense of wisdom, peace and calm.

Andrea Aleman

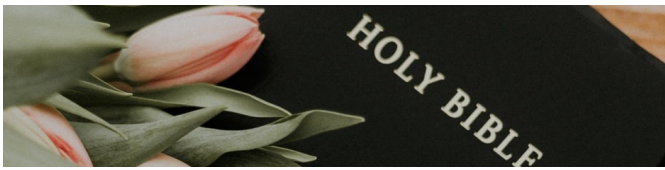
Algo en lo que pienso al considerar la Ascensión del Señor es cuán inconcebibles (para mí) resultaron las reacciones de los discípulos. Aunque ciertamente comprendo la inmensa alegría, el asombro y la profunda adoración que experimentaron —tanto durante la ascensión de Jesús como inmediatamente después de ella—, personalmente siento que habría sido sumamente difícil, y tal vez incluso bastante doloroso, ver al Señor Jesús ascender y desaparecer tras haber compartido con Él tan solo unos breves

años de su ministerio en la tierra. Sin embargo, en lugar de caer en la desesperación, ellos adoraron, regresaron a Jerusalén con gozo y alabaron a Dios incesantemente en el templo, interpretando su partida como la culminación de su misión. Y es precisamente por esto que la fe es algo tan profundo. Comprendieron plenamente que Dios Padre estaba llevando a cabo directamente este plan de salvación para redimir al mundo, elevando a Jesús para sentarlo a la diestra de su trono en el cielo. A pesar de la posibilidad de sentir tristeza, los discípulos quedaron cautivados —con la «mirada fija en el cielo» tras haber sido Él elevado— e incluso se sintieron lo suficientemente seguros como para regresar a Jerusalén —un lugar que recientemente había entrañado peligro— a la espera del prometido Espíritu Santo. Entendieron verdaderamente que volverían a verlo. Ese es el poder de la fe.

La importancia de este acontecimiento es difícil de comprender plenamente. Jesús abrió un camino hacia el cielo para sus discípulos, a fin de que podamos seguirlo a lo largo de nuestra peregrinación terrenal. Jesús prometió: «Y yo, cuando sea levantado de la tierra, atraeré a todos hacia mí» (Juan 12:32). A todos. La esperanza de salvación está abierta para todos: para los pecadores y los santos; para los gentiles y los judíos; para los marginados y los privilegiados; para los dignos y los indignos. ¡Qué poderoso y qué consuelo es su amor incondicional e inclusivo! El Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica afirma: «Abandonada a sus solas fuerzas naturales, la humanidad no tiene acceso a la "casa del Padre", a la vida y a la felicidad de Dios. Solo Cristo puede abrir al hombre tal acceso, de modo que nosotros, sus miembros, podamos tener la confianza de que también iremos adonde Él, nuestra Cabeza y Fuente, nos ha precedido» (CIC, 661). Verdaderamente, ¡qué don de Dios!, hecho todo ello posible gracias a la muerte, la resurrección y la ascensión de Jesús.

Los días entre la Ascensión y Pentecostés constituyen un tiempo para que los cristianos imploren al Padre y al Hijo que despierten en nuestros corazones una profunda reverencia por la obra del Espíritu Santo en nuestras vidas personales. Para citar la oración de San Agustín al Espíritu Santo: «Inspirame, oh Espíritu Santo, para que todos mis pensamientos sean santos. Actúa en mí, oh Espíritu Santo, para que también mi trabajo sea santo. Atrae mi corazón, oh Espíritu Santo, para que ame solo lo que es santo. Fortaléceme, oh Espíritu Santo, para defender todo lo que es santo». El objetivo supremo es transformar tu carácter, invitarlo a guiar tus acciones, someter tus planes y deseos, entregar tus dificultades y permitirle que te guíe, en lugar de depender únicamente de tus propias fuerzas. Rendirse al Espíritu Santo para que obre en tu vida dará como resultado una sensación de sabiduría, paz y calma.

Andrea Aleman



Scripture Readings for the Week of May 17, 2026

Sunday	Feast of the Ascension Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9; Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23; Mt 28:16-20
Monday	Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab; Jn 16:29-33
Tuesday	Acts 20:17-27; Ps 68:10-11, 20-21; Jn 17:1-11a
Wednesday	Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab; Jn 17:11b-19
Thursday	Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; Jn 17:20-26
Friday	Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab; Jn 21:15-19
Saturday	Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Ps 11:4, 5 and 7; Jn 21:20-25

Special Collection This Weekend

This weekend we take up the Catholic Relief Services Collection to reveal Christ's love to our brothers and sisters in need. This collection makes grants to six Catholic agencies that provide relief and support for struggling communities and work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters both here and around the world. Envelopes are on the bulletin shelves for your convenience. Thank you!

Bishop's Annual Appeal Reminder

If you have not yet made a pledge to the Bishop's Annual Appeal, we encourage you to do so as soon as possible. Currently, pledges are at 25% of our parish goal. The Diocese will be mailing reminders in early June to all parishioners who have not yet responded.

Did you know that any amount raised over our parish goal is returned directly to our parish? Conversely, if we fall short of the goal, the parish is responsible for paying the difference from our operating funds.

Your support makes an important difference — not only in helping us reach our goals of 100% participation and \$104,588, but also in ensuring that the Catholic Church in Southwest Michigan can continue spreading the Gospel and serving God's people as Jesus Christ calls us to do.

Pledge envelopes are available in the pews and at the back of the church. You may also give online using the QR code printed in the bulletin.

Thank you for your prayerful support and generosity.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, May 16

5:00 p.m. † Maria Floes
7:00 p.m. People of the parish (Español)

Sunday, May 17

9:00 a.m. † Dan Mezak
11:00 a.m. Intention of Fr. Bob Flickinger,
51st anniversary of ordination

Monday, May 18

9:00 a.m. † Joann Skoropowski

Tuesday, May 19

9:00 a.m. † Patricia Howe

Wednesday, May 20

9:00 a.m. † Em Neper

Thursday, May 21 No Mass

Friday, May 22

9:00 a.m. † Gras Soergel

Saturday, May 23

5:00 p.m. † Richard Zelasko

Sunday, May 24

8:00 a.m. † Kim Tragna
9:30 a.m. † Shawn Way
11:00 a.m. † Deceased members of the armed forces
this Memorial Day weekend
5:00 p.m. † Maximino Ramirez (Español)

Mass Schedule Change Begins 5/23-24

Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Confessions	4:00-4:30 p.m.
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
	5:00 p.m. in Spanish		

Si aún no ha realizado su promesa de contribución para la Campaña Anual del Obispo, le animamos a hacerlo lo antes posible. Actualmente, las promesas recibidas representan el 25% de la meta de nuestra parroquia. A principios de junio, la Diócesis enviará recordatorios por correo a todos los feligreses que aún no han respondido.

¿Sabía que cualquier monto recaudado que supere la meta de nuestra parroquia se devuelve directamente a la misma? Por el contrario, si no alcanzamos la meta, la parroquia es responsable de cubrir la diferencia utilizando nuestros fondos operativos.

Su apoyo marca una diferencia importante: no solo al ayudarnos a alcanzar nuestras metas de lograr un 100% de participación y recaudar \$104,588, sino también al asegurar que la Iglesia Católica en el suroeste de Michigan pueda continuar difundiendo el Evangelio y sirviendo al pueblo de Dios, tal como Jesucristo nos llama a hacerlo.

Los sobres para realizar las promesas de contribución están disponibles en las bancas y en la parte posterior de la iglesia. También puede realizar su donación en línea utilizando el código QR impreso en el boletín parroquial.

Gracias por su apoyo espiritual y su generosidad.

Faith Formation Update

We joyfully congratulate the children of our parish who received their First Holy Communion this month, most of them during the 5:00 and 7:00 Masses on May 9. After months of prayerful preparation, they celebrated receiving Jesus in the Eucharist for the very first time, surrounded by their families, friends, and our parish community.

We are deeply grateful to our catechists, parents, clergy, and volunteers who guided these children in faith formation. Please keep our young disciples and their families in your prayers, that they may continue to grow in love for Christ throughout their lives.



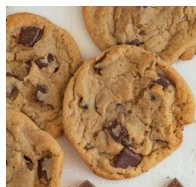
¡Nos alegra mucho felicitar a los niños de nuestra parroquia que este mes recibieron su Primera Comunión, la mayoría durante las Misas de las 5:00 y 7:00 el 9 de mayo! Después de meses de preparación y oración, celebraron por primera vez la recepción de Jesús en la Eucaristía, rodeados de sus familias, amigos y toda nuestra comunidad parroquial.

Agradecemos de corazón a los catequistas, padres, sacerdotes y voluntarios que acompañaron a estos niños en su camino de formación de fe. Sigamos orando por ellos y sus familias, para que crezcan siempre en el amor a Cristo y a la Eucaristía.

Bake Sale Next Weekend!

The Women's Service Guild annual Memorial Day Bake Sale is next weekend after all the Masses. Parishioners are invited to provide a tasty treat to support this effort. Please bring your treats in a disposable container to the Mass you will be attending that weekend, and leave them on the tables in the South Lobby. Be sure to label any treat containing nuts, or if it is gluten free.

Don't worry—if you're not a baker....bring some cash and purchase a treat for yourself!



God mounts his throne to shouts of joy;
oh, sing your praises to the Lord

Visiting the Homebound

Right now, St. Basil Visitation Ministers are serving twenty-five homebound parishioners by visiting them, praying with them, and offering Holy Communion. If you know of a homebound parishioner who would like to receive spiritual care visits, please contact Tom Eggleston with their information, 269-637-2404.



Visitar a los confinados en casa

En este momento, Ministros de Visitación de San Basilio sirven a 25 feligreses que son hogar atados. Ellos recen con ellos, les visitan, y les ofrecen la santa comunión. Si le conoce a un feligrés hogar atado que quisiera recibir cuidado espiritual en casa, contacte a Tom con su información, 269-637-2404 ext. 1112.

Can You Help?

Food Pantry

Please take non-perishable food items to First Congregational Church, 651 Phoenix Street. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10:00 a.m.—noon

Personal Care Pantry/Baby Care

First Assembly of God, 06500 Blue Star Hwy. Wednesdays 10:00 – 1:00

We Care In the Name of Christ

Monday thru Thursday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Closed Fridays 269-637-4342

St. Vincent de Paul

Volunteers are needed to work in the thrift store at 245 W. Monroe St., Bangor. Monday, Friday, Saturday, 10 a.m.—2 p.m. Call Kathleen Hutchins at 269-568-5122

Craft Supplies for South Haven Rehab

Throughout the month of May, place your craft supplies in the tall basket located in the South Lobby. Our friends at South Haven Nursing and Rehab appreciate it!



Marriage Blessings

Ryan and Olivia Peterson
joined in Holy Matrimony
May 9

WSG Rummage Sale

Drop off dates are July 18-22 (it'll be here before you know it), and the sale is July 29-31.



We will take sports equipment, small tools, household items, linens, jigsaw puzzles, shoes, jewelry, clean useable clothing, yard ornaments, and other items.

Questions about what we accept? Call or text Mary Lou at 269-767-1850. Thank you!

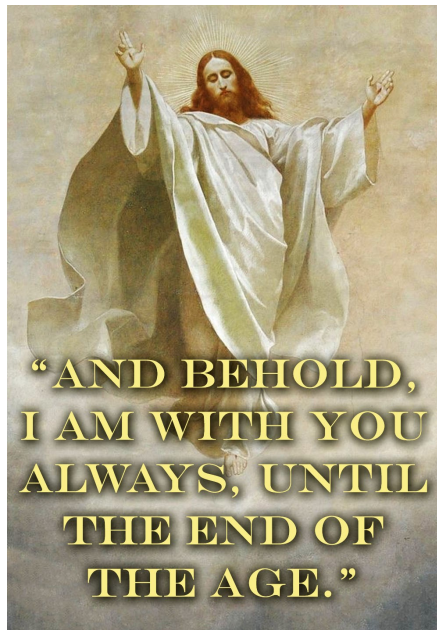


Furniture Collection Success!

Many thanks to those who were able to contribute the tables/chairs, nightstands, dressers, and microwaves to our friends at Catholic Charities of Kalamazoo! The individuals who reside at the Ark Cottages enter this program with very little material support so these items will help ensure their apartments feel like home.

Mission Statement

Called by Baptism, nourished by the Eucharist, and inspired by the Holy Spirit, our mission is to live the Good News of Christ through Worship, Evangelization, Service, Spiritual Formation, and Stewardship.



This week's bulletin sponsor
Walt Sicard Car Company

The advertisements that appear in this bulletin completely defray all publishing costs which the church would otherwise incur. Please patronize our bulletin sponsors and thank them for their kind generosity.

St. Basil Catholic Church Directory

513 Monroe Blvd. South Haven, MI 49090

Parish Office 269-637-2404

Fax..... 269-637-8374

www.SaintBasilCatholicChurch.org

Parish Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday,

Thursday..... 9:00 a.m. — 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday 10:00 a.m. — 6:00 p.m.

Friday..... 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:00 p.m.,

7:00 p.m. (en Español)

Sunday9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,

& Friday.....9:00 a.m.

No Mass on Thursday

Confessions Saturday 4:00-4:30 p.m.

- ▶ So that we all may be fully present at Mass, please silence your cell phones.
- ▶ We ask that you be considerate of others if you are coughing or sick by refraining from the handshake of peace. This is thoughtful consideration for the rest of the parish community.

Eucharistic Adoration

Friday.....after morning Mass,
with Benediction at 12:00

Parish Staff

Pastor.....Fr. Evelio Ramirez

Parochial Vicar.....Fr. Jacob Sundararaju

Deacon.....Deacon John Lohrstorfer

Deacon.....Deacon Jeronimo Mendez

Retired Deacon.....Deacon Bill VanDril

Pastoral Associate.....Tom Eggleston

Office Manager.....Andrea Aleman

Music/Liturgy Coordinator, Organist, and

Bulletin Editor.....Cecilia Wondergem

Maintenance Manager.....Jake Filbrandt

Director of Faith Formation.....Susan Bippley

Coordinator of OCIA.....Geraldyn Monacelli

Parish Pastoral Associate for Hispanic

Ministry.....Sister Leidy Zuniga Balanta

Pastoral Associate for the

Collaborative.....Rick Hardy

Low-Gluten Hosts

We offer low-gluten hosts at ALL Masses, both weekend and daily. They are available at the front of church (and also in the back on weekends). Simply ask the Eucharistic minister.

Mass In Our Collaborative

St. Peter, Douglas, MI

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

Mon., Tues. Thurs., Fri. 8:30 a.m.

San Felipe, Fennville, MI

Thursday 6:30 p.m.

Sunday 12:30 p.m.