

Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church

Ascension of our Lord



Congratulations, Fr. George!

OUR LADY OF MOUNT VIRGIN, GARFIELD, NJ



My Friends:

I hope and pray that you are as well as can be and above all healthy in this very trying time in our world. So much has happened to "rock our world, and yes, possibly our faith. Yet, we persevere in faith because God has neither abandoned us, nor ever will. Believe this in faith and hope!

This Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of The Ascension of our Lord. It is always celebrated in our Archdiocese and many others on the Thursday preceding this Seventh Sunday of Easter. In many diocese of the world this is a regular practice. Cardinal Tobin has transferred the obligation to attend the Solemnity of the Ascension to Sunday this year due to the current pandemic. This gives all who participate the opportunity to worship this Sunday as is our obligation.

We celebrate The Ascension of the Lord always during the Easter Season and The Assumption always on August 15th. Jesus ASCENDED and Mary was ASSUMED into heaven. So what is the difference?

Jesus ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN forty (40) days after Easter BY HIS OWN POWER. This is mentioned in the Bible.

The Blessed Mother WAS TAKEN UP TO HEAVEN BODY AND SOUL. Though there is not a direct mention of the Assumption in Scripture, there are several references to it and it is part of the Dogma of the Catholic Church.

Ascension/Assumption - Jesus is always with us and His Blessed Mother continues to intercede for us. We shall know more when we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost and the sending of the Holy Spirit which is the birthday of the church and the close of Easter Season, 2020.

With my continued prayers, know that I cannot wait to see you in person and am,

Loving you always,

Fr. Peter

AD MULTOS ANNOS REV. GEORGE M. REILLY!!!

We join in celebrating Fr. Reilly as he marks a milestone in his life this week. On May 28th, he celebrates the Sixtieth Anniversary of ordained priesthood in service to the Church of Newark. He was born in Bronx, N.Y on September 8, 1933. His parents then moved the family to Tenafly, N.J. Fr. Reilly did work for a very brief period of time prior to entering Immaculate Conception Seminary. He persevered and was ordained on May 28th, 1960. His first assignment was to St. Catherine's in Glen Rock for nineteen years followed by his appointment as Seminary Spiritual Director approximately ten and last as Pastor of St. Joseph Church, Oradell serving there for twenty-two years. Father retired from St. Joseph's after celebrating his fiftieth (50) anniversary.

I met Fr. Reilly thirty-two years ago on August 31, 1988, when I entered the seminary. He was my spiritual director until he was transferred to become Pastor of St. Joseph in Oradell. Upon my ordination on May 29, 1993 - I was sent to serve with him. I did so until my transfer to Most Blessed Sacrament in Franklin Lakes in 1999. I said to him when leaving St. Joseph that IF I was still a priest and IF I was a pastor and IF I had the space that he was to live with me upon retirement. It all came to pass in God's Divine Providence. He joined us at OLMV in July of 2010. He asked me at that time what I wanted him to do. I simply stated, "Retire!" As a good, holy, faithful and deeply prayerful man of God he did no such thing! He already disobeyed his new pastor! He entered full into the life of our church and has continued to serve our spiritual needs both on the front line and inside the rectory. I am eternally grateful to God that this has all come to pass.

On the Lighter Side: In the very beginning of my assignment to St. Joseph's, my first love, I asked him if we could get a dog for the house. He simply pointed to a stuffed dog in his room and stated, "There is your dog!" I left talking to myself. You can only imagine. Use your imagination, but not too much. You know what they say about payback! Ginny was on board here and they fell in love. Nina joined the staff seven years ago and now there was competition. They both adored him as people do. They would sit at his feet or go running to him for cover when they heard me raise my voice. He was grandpa to them. He buys them treats, walks them upon demand! They go to him and not me. He will sit for them if I am away even placing sometimes two on his bed if I was away for the night or late returning home. Go figure!

God has a sense of humor! I asked for one but he got two! As now his "pastor" I am eternally grateful for his presence in my life as are my family and the life of our parish. I am sure that you are too. I wouldn't have it any other way. I believe in Divine Providence for far greater reasons. Fr. Reilly - it is good knowing you. May God's continued grace blessings rain down upon you for years to come! AD MULTOS ANNOS! Love ya!

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD



**CCD
Corner**

About the Gospel: *Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

Matthew 28:18-20

Question of the Week: *What Good News about Jesus could you share with someone?*

Family Prayer: *Christ Jesus, we know that you are with us always. Work through us as we try to be your disciples, sharing your good news with others in all that we do. Amen.*



*Jesus prays for us
so that we may be with Him.*

Directions: Circle the words that will help you be with Jesus in heaven and put an X over the things that will not.

Fighting Washing the dishes

Love Set the table Feed pets

Helping with dinner Play outside

Cheating on a test Walk dog

Make fun of somebody Care

Cleaning your room Gossip

Make new friends Be mean

Ignore your parents Pray

Include all in games on playground

Updated directives regarding Catholic Cemeteries
approved by Cardinal Tobin for the Archdiocese of Newark.

- On Mother's Day, **Sunday, May 10**, all archdiocesan cemeteries will be **open for visitation** from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and will be open for visitation every Sunday, thereafter.
- Beginning on Monday, May 11, up to **10 family members** will be permitted to attend a burial service. (Currently, two family members only are permitted.) Until further notice, all committal services are limited to immediate family only and not to exceed the recommendations of New Jersey Executive Order No. 107 (2020) and Administrative Order 2020-04, that gatherings of 10 persons or fewer are permitted.
- Beginning on Monday, May 18, cemetery visitation will be permitted weekdays, Monday through Saturday, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., after all interments are completed.
- **Memorial Day Masses** at our all archdiocesan cemeteries are postponed until further notice. Announcements are forthcoming regarding a live-stream or video of Memorial Day Mass at Holy Cross Cemetery.
- **All** persons entering archdiocesan cemetery and mausoleum premises **must wear a facemask and practice social distancing** as per the state's mandate. Signs will be posted in cemeteries.

We urge all to please adhere to these guidelines for the protection of all. It would be disappointing to all if prior restrictions were reinforced if state and local mandates are not followed.



Music Notes

"When they had gathered together they asked him, 'Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He answered them, 'It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by His own authority.'" **HIGHLY RELATABLE CONTENT.** The question on everybody's lips these days: *When is this going to end?!* Fortunately, we've started to see a descent in the curve and people are slowly but surely beginning to reopen, all while maintaining strict social distancing measures to preserve everyone's safety. Hopefully you've been able to safely stop by the church for some socially-distanced quiet prayer and reflection. We do not know the times or seasons that life will return to normal - we do not know if a second wave is in our future, requiring us to return to stricter measures. Only God knows - these seasons are established by His own authority. But rest assured, if we follow the rules and stick together even when we're apart, it won't be long before God **"restores the kingdom,"** and we can go back to full worship together. Until that day, have faith, fam. And like the psalm says, *"Sing praise to God, sing praise."*

MAY 24, 2020



Congratulations Fr. George!

Dear Fr. George - Congratulations on your 60th anniversary in the Priesthood! I am so thankful that God chose you as my brother's first Pastor. He would not be the fine person or priest he is today, if it were not for your wise and loving guidance. He has often said that God blessed him with two fathers - our biological one, and YOU. Love, Michele

Dear Fr. George,
Congratulations as you celebrate your 60th Ordination Anniversary! We are so lucky that you moved to Garfield when you "retired!" Thank you for all that you do for us. May God continue to give you His richest blessings. Love, Renée

Dear Fr. George,
Sending you Congratulations and best wishes on your Diamond Jubilee Anniversary. You have been a loving & spiritual blessing to so many people for the past 60 years. Thank you for your friendship, prayers & kindness, and for being a very special part of our lives. May your days ahead be filled with many blessings. God Bless you! Love, Joanne & Gene

Dearest Father George,
God bless you on your 60th Ordination Anniversary! May you continue to be sustained by His grace and may your life in God's service always be filled with joy.
Love,
Rose Todaro and Danielle Duda and Families

Father Reilly tends to our flock with patience, calm, and a dry sense of humor! Frequently seen with Nina in tow, he serves our community with quiet humility and diligence. Thank you Father, for your many years of dedicated service and for always being there for our parish. Love, Evan

Fr. George, Congratulations on 60 years! Your wisdom always brings me such comfort! Love you! Denise

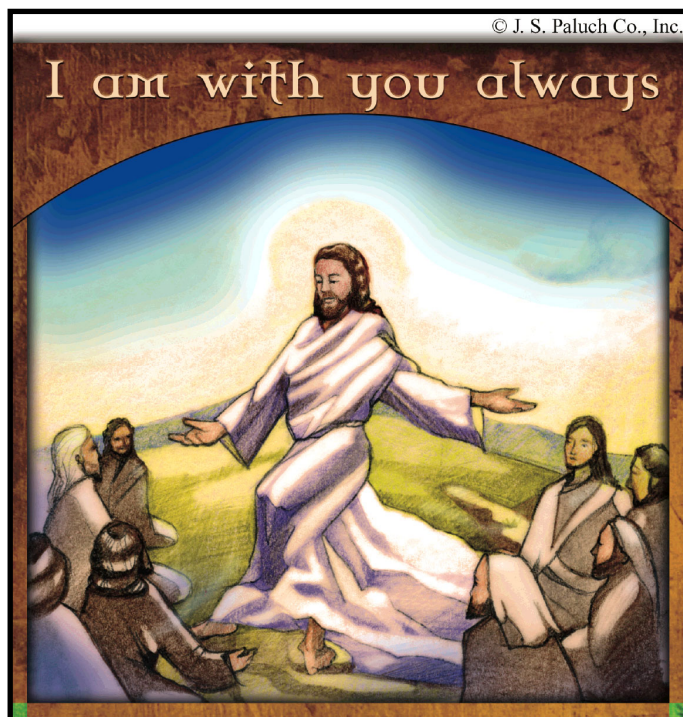
Congratulations Fr. George! *Tanti augeri* on your 60 years of service! May God continue to bless and keep you safe. Love The Ingraffia Family

Congratulations Fr. George on your 60th Anniversary to the Priesthood. Also, a heartfelt thanks for your service to Our Lady of Mt. Virgin Church. OLMV has meant a lot to my family and myself my entire life and to have someone with your dedication is an honor to us all. To our Pastor, Fr. Peter on your 27th Anniversary to the Priesthood and Fr. Marco for your two years with us. May God continue to bless you all. Paulette Vita

You have been a blessing to all of us here at Mt. Virgin.
Loving you always,
Your friends from the Parish Life Ministry

Congratulations Fr George Riley on you 60-year Anniversary, God Bless you always! Bert Lobel

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD



SPIRITUAL RENEWAL/EVANGELIZATION

To Evangelize is to live out our Baptism Call! Through the words of Bishop Oscar Romero, we are sharing our search for a deeper knowledge of the love of God - to Evangelize: *"To each of us Christ is saying: If you want your life and mission to be fruitful like mine, do as I do, no one is more alone than a selfish person. But if you give your life out of love to others, as I give mine for all, you will reap a great harvest."*

May 24, 2020 - The Ascension of the Lord

"I am praying for them"

John 17: 9

Prayer is the foundation of our Faith and the foundation of Stewardship. Pray in good times and in bad. Prayer is always the first best option in any situation, not just the last resort. Pray for friends and family and for those that don't treat you very well. Pray to give praise, to thank and to ask God for help. Pray to see what God wants you to do with the gifts He has given you.

Hi Church Family. It's Linda Tintle, choir member. I am looking for a room, studio, or apartment. I must be out of my friend's basement by July 1st, as she has already rented it for the next year. Anywhere in northern NJ would be fine. I have a very bad back and need a minimum of stairs. Thanks very much and please spread the word. 201-463-1961 or cheftintle@gmail.com

THE OBSERVANCE OF THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Easter is not a day nor only a week of Sundays but rather a Pentecost, a celebration of fifty days. For fifty days the Church rejoices in the Paschal Mystery of the Lord's death, resurrection, return in glory (ascension) to the Father and descent of the Holy Spirit.

The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord is an important element of the Easter event. Sometimes it is missed because it falls during the week.

Although the obligation of Mass attendance has been suspended this year because of the pandemic, the Ascension of the Lord is a very important part of Paschal spirituality. For that reason, the Bishops of the Metropolitan Province of Newark (i.e. the State of New Jersey) have, for this year, joined most of the country in assigning the observance to the Seventh Sunday of Easter.

Even though for most live-streaming will be the medium for observance, we are delighted that these three solemnities, Easter, Ascension and Pentecost are all taking place on Sundays.

Catholic Charities Bins To Open Again



Sentinel Management has notified Catholic Charities that our Donation Bins are anticipated to be open as of May 18th.

We are grateful for your patience and look forward to your continued support. We need clothing, small appliances, shoes, linens, sheets, towels, stuffed animals, novels, toys, knickknacks, and children's books.

We pray for an end of this virus in our society and throughout the world.

Thank you with all our heart.

MAY 24, 2020

My Friends, All Mass Intentions for Daily Mass are being prayed for privately. Our Sunday Mass can be found on our website: **www.mountvirgin.com** or on **www.youtube.com** and type in Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church, Garfield, NJ in the search bar.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, May 24

Virginia & Joseph Caratenuto - r/b Judy
Rosalia Rinaldi - r/b Nicolina & Tina Mastropaolo
Anthony Sferruzza - r/b Debbie & Peter Latona

Monday, May 25

In Honor of San Pio

Tuesday, May 26

Thomas Sciarillo - r/b Peter S. Pirog

Wednesday, May 27

Benjamin Datnowitz - r/b His Daughter, Barbara

Thursday, May 28

Marie Prelich - r/b John Prelich & Family

Friday, May 29

Divine Mercy, Blessed Mother and Sacred Heart - r/b Giovanna & Anna Zingone

Saturday, May 30

Perpetual Memorial Mass
Lino & Ginetta Passador - r/b The Family

Sunday, May 31

Connie Santa Lucia - r/b Emil Ciliento and Florence Mazzer
Cira D'Angelo - r/b Her Family
Maria L. Pucci - r/b Her Husband, Tony

Please remember all the deceased of the parish.

PRAYER

O Christ Jesus, when all is darkness
and we feel our weakness and helplessness,
give us the sense of Your presence,
Your love, and Your strength.
Help us to have perfect trust
in Your protecting love
and strengthening power,
so that nothing may frighten or worry us,
for, living close to You, we shall see Your hand,
Your purpose, Your will through all things.

Unknown, but often attributed to St. Ignatius of Loyola

In Loving Memory...

The Altar Candle will be offered during the month of ***May*** in loving memory ***Rose Vita*** as requested by ***Maria and Salvatore Ingrassia***.

The Blessed Sacrament Lamp will be offered during the month of ***May*** in loving memory ***Rose Vita*** as requested by ***Carol Buono and Family***.

The San Pio Candle will be offered during the month of ***May*** in ***Honor of Padre Pio*** in loving memory of ***The Deceased Members of the Miceli Family***.



The Ascension of our Lord

"He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him from their sight."

Acts 1:9



Caitlyn Manger, Jay McNulty, Splendor Rastelli, Vincent Pipitone, Paul & Connie Munier, Tommy Briggs, Maddie Kelble, Carole Tedesco, Nicholas Nunno, John Nordyk, Jamie P., Genevieve Triola McClory, Gabriel Perrelli, Susan Perrelli, Marge Latona, Suzie & Alberto Furnari, Lisa Scaravelloni, Andrea Scalera, Lorraine & Ed Ransom, James Michaels and Mary Lentini.

***** Please call Renée, Joanne or Susan at 973-772-2295, if there is anyone you would like to be added to the prayer list.***

Heal Me

My God and Father, healer of the sick,
I turn to You in my time of need. Hear my prayer.
O God, grant me the courage to bear my pain,
and the confidence to hope that I shall be well
for I rely on Your love.

Bless the efforts of my Doctors and Nurses.
Endow them with your wisdom to heal.
Bless the efforts of all who seek to restore me to health.
May it be Your will to restore me to health, that I may
complete my years in happiness and well-being.
Permit me to return to my loved ones and to my tasks.
Bless me with insight and strength
to serve You wholeheartedly.

Amen