

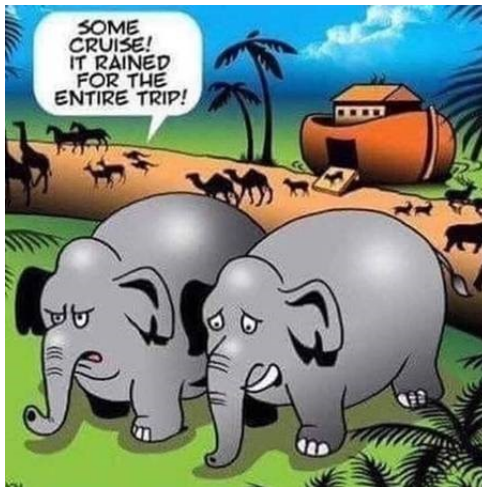
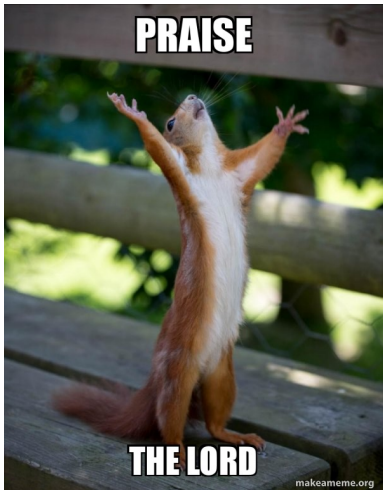
NEW WORSHIP AREA UPDATE

Still on schedule to be completed September 2021



Our new worship area is finally “dried in”

HVAC, electrical, and inside framing work are being done and the outside masonry should begin this coming week.



ONE LINERS

God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called.

Don't put a question mark where God put a period.

The task ahead of us is never as great as the Power behind us.

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Ascension of the Lord

May 16, 2021 Year B

Feast of the Ascension of the Lord,

May 16, 2021

Today we celebrate The Ascension of the Lord. In other words, Jesus after completing his mission on earth returns to his Father. But we are not celebrating the end of Jesus' mission because before he ascended to heaven, he entrusted his mission to the Church through the Apostles. The Gospel of today begins with: "Jesus said to his disciples: Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature".

Therefore, the one thing we cannot say about today's feast, the Ascension of the Lord, is that the apostles felt themselves orphaned at the departure of Jesus. In no way did they consider themselves orphans, so that they felt abandoned by Jesus when he ascended to heaven. They felt reassured of his ever presence, and that from then on, the work of spreading the Gospel is their mission. For the Apostles, the Ascension meant three things 1) **It was an ending.** One stage was over, and another had begun. Formerly Jesus was with them physically. Now his presence is that of a firm faith knowing he is still working with them. 2) **It was a beginning.** They are to take the place of Jesus and continue his work. 3) The Ascension gives the disciples **the certainty that they had a friend not only on earth but also in heaven.** There awaits them and us the same Jesus who on earth was so kind, compassionate, and forgiving. We will go to him at the end of our life on earth as well. These three points apply to all of us, we are now entrusted with the continuation of the work of Jesus on earth, and we know he is with us in all that we do.

The Ascension is not a farewell feast; we are not lamenting the absence of Jesus. Rather we celebrate the new way Christ became present to his people through the gift of his Spirit. For sure, Christ ascended to his heavenly Father, we no longer experience his physical presence, but he is closer to us now than he ever was before. When Jesus was on earth, he was limited like us in space and time. This is no longer true of him. He is now present to us in a very powerful manner. We can turn to him in any place, in any situation knowing he is there for us.

In Acts of the Apostles (1:8), our first reading today we heard: 'you will be my witnesses ...even to the ends of the earth'. So, today's Feast, like that of Pentecost which we will celebrate next Sunday, are feasts of Christian maturity. They are a call to continue Jesus' mission in today's world and the difficulties we face there. The power of the Spirit is with us. In Acts today Jesus warned his disciples to stay in Jerusalem until they were clothed with power from on high, the promise of the Father. It is as if Jesus were saying to the disciples: 'please do not claim to be working on your own, with your powers, because you will fail, but wait to be filled with the power of the Spirit, and then you will be my true witnesses.

We must not look up to heaven lamenting the absence of the Lord like the disciples did in the first reading today. We must face here on earth what God asks us to do and keep our feet firmly on the ground. We must set out to bring his gospel, his Good News to the ends of the earth. This is why all Christians must take up in one way or another, roles of responsibilities in the Church. And there are many ways one can be involved in the mission of the Church. There are many ministries in which one can play a role in spreading the Good News.

Therefore, rather than seeing the Ascension just as the departure of Jesus, we should see it as the sending of the Church on a mission (in place of Jesus). Rather than seeing the Church as an orphan as a result of the Ascension of Jesus it needs to be seen as being given adult status by God, as being given responsibility to witness to Jesus Christ through the power of his Spirit.



Very Reverend Gerald Kaggwa, V.F.

TODAY'S MASS

First Reading:

Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11

Responsorial Psalm:

*Good mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.*

Second Reading:

Ephesians 1:17-23

Gospel: Mark 16:15-20

*Father suggests you say the Prayer for
Spiritual Communion during communion* ➡

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,

I believe that you are truly
Present in the Most
Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things
And I desire to possess
You within my soul.

Since I am unable at this
Moment to receive You
Sacramentally,

Come at least spiritually
Into my heart.

I embrace You as being
Already there, and unite
Myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be
Separated from you.

Amen.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

*Patricia O'Shaughnessy, Tony Meushaw, Elizabeth Gallagher,
Larry Gullickson, John Harlow & Father John Boddie*



PARISHIONERS

Peggy Williams, Lois & Skip Kramb, Marianne Krop, Tom Foley, Toni & Nikki Traynor, Suzanne Sitterding, Veronica O'Leary, Michele Meanely, Jack & Louise Petralia, Tom Wash, Paul Pearce, Lynn & Jim Vajda, Min Tassone, Grace Anderson, Natalie Smith, Lorie & Sal Messina, Pat Paul, Georgia Beville, Margaret Hock, Anne Dunn, Michelle Chmiel, Tom & Cindy Jessee, Karen Dame, Mike Lokie, Steve Kirsch, Marilynne Cerullo, Tom Hawksworth, Mary Ann & Kenneth Gulick, Nancy Wirth, Chris Henkel, Vincent Recupido, Bettie Hodge, Bob & Ingrid Borden, Laurie King, Becky Nunn, Bill & Linda Gray, Carol Smith, Pat & Lee Reamy, Janine Jaboulay, Anne Paparella, Carole McPherson, Colin Walsh.

FAMILY OF PARISHIONERS

Ramon Placiente, Jillian Messina, Karen Tatum, Lynn Messina, Dave Hersh, Mike Shea, Krop Family, Pam Tibbs, Sherry Newton, Aquela Parker, Khloe Nipper, Bernie Smith, Virginia Talke, Phil Melancon, Ray Kostaskey, Doris Melancon, Dominick Perry, Kimberly Lavinder, Doug Meuse, Michele Brune, Noele & Mike Anglin, Anita Bomberger, Drinkwater Family, Kathy Shepherd, Lucy Walker, Suzanne Whelan, Jim Rundle, Rundle-Kehl family, Doris & Arthur Green, Rachel, Brian & Marcus Pittman, Robbie Beasley, Sandra Bush & Children, Mary Gray, Denis Popp, PJ Schwedler, John Calvin Barnard, Colleen O'Rollins, Michael Reamy, Natash Walsh, Ellen DeMaurez, Michele MacFarland, LC Warren, John Vajda, Sandy Alter, Andy & Iris Hetzer.

FRIENDS OF PARISHIONERS

Matt & Marianna Parowski, Penny Hoar, David Taylor, Gene Tunney Walker, Joe McInerney, The Butt Family, Greg Chambers, Bristow Family, Peg Meushaw, Dave Gunn, Chuck Taylor, Paula Harcum, Cathy Kirkland, Remy Maine Miller, Jessie Debusk, Ryan & Jeanne Norris, Donna Newcomb, Vickie Hogge, Maria Franzoni, Pumpkin Brownley, Rita Blommel, Brenda Knupp, Ashely Scott & family, Susie Loustaunau, Elizabeth Panzer, Linda Cryer, Tyra Freed, Valerie McCarthy, John Rychtarik.

If you would like to add someone to the Prayer List please contact the office by email or phone.

MAIL IN OFFERTORY, AND ON LINE DONATIONS: May 16, 2021

Collection: \$ 2,912

Second Collection:

Total Offertory Collection Year to Date \$ 98,077

Total Budget Projection: \$ 91,994



Our second collection today is for the New Worship Area.

We signed the following principle check this week: \$275 Lawn Care.

BIRTHDAY'S FOR MAY



1st-Pat DeGroot, 2nd-Cynthia Taylor, 3rd-Scott Kauffman, 5th-Lynn Vajda, 6th-Camdyn Putney, Matt Sherwood & Marilyn Atienza, 8th-Donna Lange, 9th-Denise Miller, 13th-Marilyn Cox & Mike Harvey, 17th-Lee Hollingsworth, 18th-Don Delagrang, 21st-Richard Cox, 22nd-Spike Nunn, 24th-Jennifer Miller, 27th-Lynne Richardson, 29th-Charlie Hock.

ALTAR FLOWERS



The flowers on the altar today were donated by Scott & Kathy Kauffman in memory of her mother,

Patricia O'Shaughnessy,

former parishioner, who died six years ago.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

We have published an update to our directory which includes our new parishioner families. We finally get an opportunity to recognize them without a face mask on. Please pick up a copy when you depart Mass.

MAY IS MARY'S MONTH

The month of May is dedicated to The Blessed Virgin Mary.

The first 23 days fall within the liturgical season of Easter, which is represented by the liturgical color white-the color of light, a symbol of joy, purity and innocence (absolute or restored). The remainder of the month (beginning the

Monday after Pentecost) is in Ordinary Time which is represented by the liturgical color green. This symbol of hope is the color of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection.



CELEBRATION TIME

The COVID-19 Pandemic has changed our life, and made us forego many of the things we were used to. As a community we haven't met for any social gatherings since February 2020. That's a long time for a Church Family like ours which is founded on fellowship and celebrating together. We are almost losing our identity as a warm, welcoming Parish.

But things are starting to ease up, we are not yet out of this pandemic, but there is hope that each day takes a step towards returning to some kind of normalcy. It is in this spirit of hope and a yearning to regain our family spirit that we are planning to have a Church picnic today, starting with Mass at 12:30.

This will be a moment for us to celebrate the many blessings the Lord has given us despite these trying times. One thing to celebrate is the gift of new members who have joined our Parish since last year. We did not have a time to welcome them. This will be that occasion to know them better and welcome them officially as part of our Parish family.

So please, mark your calendars, let us come together after a long time and celebrate the beginning of a new life, and thank the Lord who has kept us all safe from this virus.



MEMORIAL DONATIONS

For I know the plans I have for you,
declares the *Lord*,
plans to *prosper* you,
and not to *harm* you,
plans to give you
hope and a *future*.
Jeremiah 29:11



Memorials still available:

Sanctuary Tile \$11,500

Pews and Choir Chairs \$250

Sound System \$8,500

What a future we have! Our new church continues to appear before our eyes. Without you, it would not be possible.
Thank you to all the parishioners for their generous commitments.

CHURCH INFORMATION

Since we began celebrating Mass for all parishioners exclusive of alphabet restrictions, our attendance weekly has been about 70-75 persons. This past Sunday we had 86 people.

Please consider arriving for Mass as early as 15 minutes before hand to ease the accountability issue.

At the same time that we ask you to arrive earlier, we would also ask that you minimize the socializing (a dichotomy-come early and don't talk) so we can ascertain who is seating where and reduce the risk of transmitting any infections.

WHAT WILL BE YOUR LEGACY?

As Catholics we rejoice with faith in the resurrection. Yet we also know the passage from life to death can be stressful on those who survive us.

You can ease some of that stress by acting now to put your estate plan in order. Who will be executor of your estate? Who will decide how your personal treasures are distributed? In addition to their own grief, can you imagine your loved ones struggling to find life insurance papers, bank accounts and other critical documents?

By creating a legal will or living trust, you can provide your next-of-kin with a peace of mind, knowing that you have already determined how your estate will be distributed and who will care for minor children. They will still grieve, but they won't face the daunting task of making



Potential, Purpose, Promise



KICKOFF SUMMER GATHERING

It's time we gathered and celebrated again in a social manner. Ascension Sunday, May 16th, marks the one year anniversary of our celebrating Mass with parishioners in attendance.

If you are staying with us today, We will supply fried chicken, cole slaw, lemonade, and sweet tea.

For those so inclined, we will have a 50/50 raffle as well.

All COVID-19 protocols will be followed.

ALUMINUM CANS



Because of construction, we have relocated our aluminum cans' receptacle bin to the right side of the Yard Sale Building as you face it. Please continue to bring your cans and deposit them there. When we collect a large amount, we will take them to the Middlesex Metals for recycling and cash. All proceeds will be used for parish beautification.



ANNUAL COV GOLF TOURNAMENT

Golfers, donors, and parishioners are asked to mark their calendars for the annual Fr. John Boddie Memorial Golf Classic to be held on Friday, June 4 at the Piankatank River Golf Club in Hartfield.

This event, hosted by COV is a four-player captain's choice competition open to all. Team prizes will be awarded in each of three flights.

Golfers will also compete for individual prizes.

The \$85 per person entry fee covers use of the practice range, golf cart rental, green fee, on-course beverages, and dinner in the Steamboat Restaurant.

Registration begins at 11:00AM with a shotgun start at 12:00. Proceeds are shared equally between local charities and the church's capital fund. To register or for more information, please call Gary at (571) 215-2407.

The following persons have graciously given donations:

The Bliley's, the Foley's, the Dorman's, Johnny Fleet, the Forte's, the Bury's-Title Associates, and Hurd's Hardware.

Because of space limitation, we have rescheduled the silent auction until the new Worship Areas is completed.

Several parishioners have already provided items for it and they are: Peggy Williams, Eileen O'Brien and Georgia Beville. Gift certificates from Chesapeake Donuts, Something Different, and Bubba' Shrimp Shack (purchased by Peggy Williams) are now available as raffle Prizes. As we receive more donation, we will continue to publish them.



NEW PARISHIONER

A hearty welcome to our new parishioner

Terry Skovera
Lancaster, VA



ADDRESS CHANGE

Janine Jaboulay
Saunders Assisted Living
7407 Walker Ave Apt 212A
Gloucester, VA 23061
804-647-2334