

St. Stanislaus

Parish Family

May 16, 2021
7th Sunday
Of Easter

PARISH STAFF

Msgr. John J. Siekierski, Administrator
Sister Gloria Jean Kozlowski, Director of Religious Education
Anne J. Ruiz, School Principal
Dora Castellanos, School Secretary
Heladia Rivera, Church Secretary

OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm (by appointment)

Office Closed: Wednesday,

Friday, Saturday & Sunday

TELEPHONE

Parish Office/Rector's 398-2341

Convent 397-7059

School 398-1316

MASSES

Saturday 4:30pm

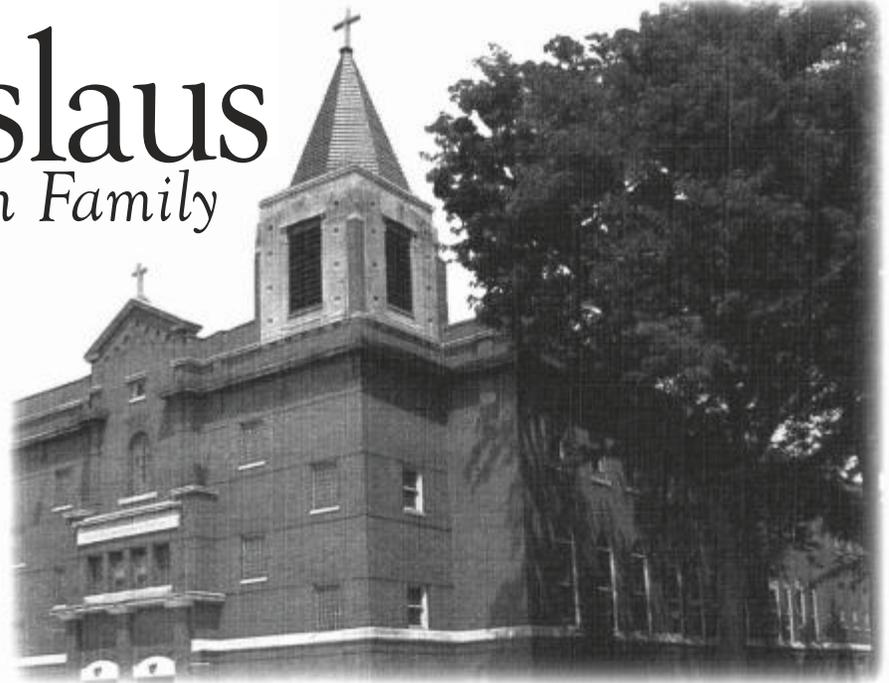
Sunday 8:30am

WEEKDAY MASSES

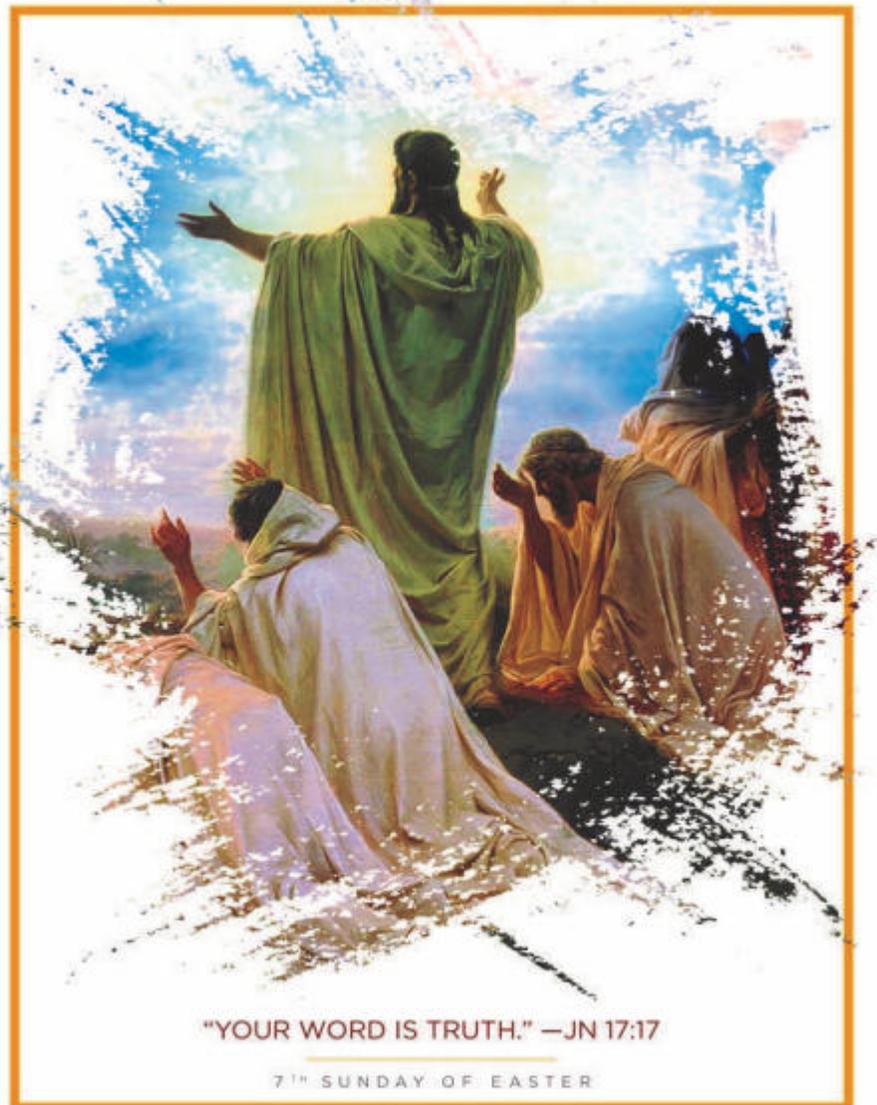
There are no weekday Masses or Word & Communion Services at this time.

CONFESSIONS

Confessions by appointment only.



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"YOUR WORD IS TRUTH." —JN 17:17

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS - 2002, 1986, 1970 CCD - L.P.

Liturgical Notes for the Week

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Easter is the greatest feast we celebrate in the calendar year, and our whole faith depends on this one single event. We know Christ died for our salvation, but if He had never risen, who would have followed Him? But we believe He did rise from the dead, proving He is God and Lord of all, for this reason the Church's Easter Season lasts ten more days than Lent — so that each of us may think upon these things. Now within this week we celebrate Jesus' ascension and will soon celebrate the coming of the Spirit at Pentecost. Jesus' death and resurrection earned for us a new life and a "New Jerusalem," but we're not there yet. Jesus' ascension and the arrival of the Spirit show us that same thing—where he has gone, we one day hope to follow—but not yet. "Already, not yet" is one of the overlooked paradoxes of our Christian faith. This odd in-between time is hard to wrap our heads around. To wit: most of us view heaven as the ultimate and final destination of our souls, but isn't the ultimate goal we say in the Creed the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come? As we prepare for the coming of the Holy Spirit among us in our Pentecost novena this year let us pray for the gifts of understanding and appreciating the faith that we were blessed to be baptized into. The following two articles invite its readers to think about today's celebration of The Ascension of the Lord—which is also the Second Glorious Mystery of the Rosary —so that we can better know and understand the gift that is ours and thus rejoice and be glad.

Of Unexpected Returns

My principal image of the Ascension, I confess, is fantastical, almost cartoonish, I would guess I'm not alone in this. We stand mute as Jesus, like a birthday balloon breaking free in a sudden gust of wind, is lifted into the clouds. "Why are you standing there looking at the sky?" Well, why wouldn't we? What just happened is rather remarkable! But another image, no less fantastical, emerges in the New Testament: the promise that Jesus will return to the earth "in the same way" as he gone into heaven. As rational adults, we know that the balloon unloosed in the wind is utterly lost to us. Hence that dread feeling when it flies past our grasp, and then we try, and inevitably fail, to console the child. But the Gospel invites us to see precisely through the eyes of the child—passing through grief and the puzzlements of critical reason to behold, with a kind of "second innocence," the wondrous truth being offered to us.

To Comprehend the Glory

If you loved me, our Lord says, you would be glad, because I am going to the Father. In other words, if you could comprehend the glory that is bestowed on you by the fact that I, who was begotten of God the Father, was also born of a human mother; that I, the Lord of eternity, chose to become mortal with mortals; that I, the Invisible, have shown myself in visible form; that I, who have the nature of the everlasting God, have assumed the nature of a slave: if you had knowledge of these things, I say, you would indeed be glad that I am going to the Father. The truth is that this ascension of mine is a free gift to you; it is your lowly existence that is raised up in me to the Father's right hand. But I who share the Father's nature dwell with him inseparably; when I came to you I did not leave him, and now that I am returning to him I do not abandon you. Rejoice, then, because I go to the Father, for the Father is greater than I; I have united you to myself, and have become the Son of Man to enable you to become the children of God. -*St. Leo the Great, Sermon on the Pentecost. (ca.400-461) was elected pope in 440 and was named a Doctor of the Church in 1754.*



Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus Christ, right before your Ascension into heaven you told your apostles to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth upon receiving the Holy Spirit. May I be similarly inspired to spread your Gospel message in word and deed, according to your will for me. And may I do so prudently and joyfully, with your help, your guidance, and your grace! And remembering this glorious event, help me to seek what is above, Heaven, where you are seated at the right hand of God the Father! Amen.

Scripture Reflection

God remains where love remains. When a believer realizes without doubt that God is love, it is a powerful moment. Being able to place our resurrection trust in this fundamental truth allows us to experience God's presence in all of our experiences: the good and the bad, positive and negative, life enriching and destructive events we encounter. It is no wonder that St. Paul so accurately tells us that it is love that endures all things and lasts. How can God not endure or ever fade away? Because he is God, Jesus also guarded and protected his disciples as the endearing shepherd who always had their best interest at heart. If we become too immersed in the world, we lose touch with these deeper realities. We can become so preoccupied with preserving what we have created or think that we need, forgetting that it is not building our city that really matters, but God's. Jesus clearly did not belong to the world and, by virtue of his resurrection, he tries to get us to understand that we do not either. The truth brings us to other worldly, more divine places and takes our eyes off of the concerns that often captivate our fears and storm our senses. Life can easily erode our faith. Think of your life over the last couple of weeks. What challenged your faith and distracted your divine glance? Even being overly stimulated with technology and social media can erode our sense of confidence and cause us to forget who we really are. We need to distance ourselves from the world in order to experience the joy that Christ offers. The world will never like the word of God. It is too challenging and too perplexing. The world mistakenly believes that it can survive on its own. It is a mistaken judgment that may cost people a lot in the end. It is all so very simple: God remains when we love one another. If in all the business of our lives and all that each day brings, the good and the bad, we follow the call and path of love, we will walk with God. There is nothing to fear and anxiety finds no home.

Inspiration For The Week

When Jesus was physically with his disciples, he guarded and protected them. One of his greatest desires was that they share his joy completely. God's love is the source of all things and their sustenance. As we conduct the normal routines of our lives it is easy to get caught up in the immediacies of this world and lose focus. We become very self and worldly dependent, forgetting that God wishes to guard and protect us. The joy the resurrected Christ can offer cannot be found in this world. It takes a bit of faith to realize that God's will is a constant in our lives and that God desires only the sustenance and goodness of both our bodies and our souls. We need to trust in God's constant and rejuvenating love. This radical resurrection trust allows us to experience the joy of God's presence in all of the good and the bad, positive and negative, life building and life destructive events that we encounter. God remains where love remains.

Financial Blessings

YOUR GIFTS TO YOUR PARISH LAST WEEK IN THE COLLECTION AMOUNTED TO.....\$2,965.00

Adult envelopes issued.....294 (May, 2021)

Adult envelopes used.....86/30% (May 9, 2021)

Thank You for your continued support! May God Bless You!

Catholic Services Appeal/CSA 2021

Many sincere thanks to the 19 families of our parish who made a pledge/gift last week in the amount of **\$7,535.00** toward our Catholic Services Appeal parish goal of **\$24,294.00** We need **\$16,759.00** to reach our Parish Goal. Please be generous in helping our parish reach its CSA goal. Thank you and God bless you and yours. — Msgr. John

Everyday Stewardship

Where do you get the best night's sleep? For me, it's in my own bed. I don't even really know why. There's something about the texture of the sheets, the groove I've worn in the pillow. The mattress seems to recognize my shape. I've got a job that sees me traveling often and I've stayed in plenty of nice places. But there's just no sleep like the sleep you get at home. There's a feeling that we have when we're at home. Our bodies seem to recognize it when we walk in the door. There's a relaxation that kicks in, a peace that falls over us. I think that's what Heaven will be like. It won't be pleasure or happiness — those words aren't enough to describe what it feels like to be at home, are they? It's more than that. If you ever wonder why there is pain in this world, it's because we're not at home. That's not to say we don't belong here. Through God's mercy, this beautiful world is where we live out our earthly existence, and those existences can be filled with amazing relationships and profound experiences. In fact, we might enjoy our time here so much that we don't want to leave. But there's a reason this life has so many things that don't make sense: loss, fear, anger, sickness, hatred. It's because we weren't made for this place. For our souls, it's like a never-ending night in a hotel bed.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Seventh Sunday of Easter — May 16, 2021

Go. Proclaim.

Jesus going to heaven did not give the disciples permission to go home, put up their feet, and dream about the good old days. Jesus said: Go everywhere! Proclaim the gospel! I will work with you.

- ◆ Where will I go to do mercy work?
- ◆ What good news of Jesus making a difference in the world can I speak?
- ◆ How will I trust in Jesus that I am not alone by these words and works _____?



MAY 16, 2021 •
7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Monday, May 17

Tuesday, May 18 - St. John I, Pope & Martyr

Wednesday, May 19

Thursday, May 20 - St. Bernardine of Siena, Priest

Friday, May 21 - St. Christopher Magallanes, Preist and Companions, Martyrs

Saturday, May 22 - St. Rita of Cascia, Religious

4:30pm †Anthony & Emeterio Jr. Jimenez int. Jimenez Family

†William & Frances Radzinski int. Joan Gajdos Health & God's Blessings for our Parishioners

Sunday, May 23 - Pentecost Sunday

8:30am †Teresa Tomczyk int. Radziwiecki Family

†Ted & Mary Radziwiecki - Wedding Anniversary int. Son & Daughter-n-law

†Glenn Evans int. Wife & Family

Quote from Pope Francis

Rivers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is ...

Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you.



Why Do We Do That? Catholic Life Explained

Question: What is the meaning of the letters that professed religious have after their names?

Answer: The Catholic Church includes hundreds of religious communities. The priests, religious brothers, religious sisters, and nuns of these communities (which are often referred to as "religious orders") are committed to particular spiritual traditions and often to a particular charism (such as teaching, healthcare, social work, or pastoral care). To help identify a person as a member of a particular religious community, the custom developed of including post-nominal letters that provide a sort of shorthand for the name of the community that the priest, brother, sister or nun is part of. So, for example OSB after a person's name would indicate that they are a member of the Order of St. Benedict (the Benedictines), just as SJ would indicate that a priest or brother is a member of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) or RSM would show that a woman is a Sister of Mercy.

Other common examples include:

DC = Daughters of Charity

FSC = The Brothers of the Christian Schools/Christian Brothers

OCist = The Order of Cistercians

OCD = Order of Discalced Carmelites

OFM = The Order of Friars Minor (the Franciscans)

OFM Cap = The Capuchin Franciscans

OP = The Order of Preachers (Dominicans)

OSF=Franciscan Sisters

SC = Sisters of Charity

SDS = Society of the Divine Savior (Salvatorian Priests and Brothers and Salvatorian Sisters)

SSND = School Sisters of Notre Dame

SVD = Society of the Divine Word (Divine Word Missionaries)

Question Of The Week

First Reading:

In the immediate aftermath of Jesus' ascension, and as a means for healing within the group, Peter and the apostles discerned Matthias as the replacement for Judas. What are some areas in your faith life that need healing in order to feel whole?

Second Reading:

John testifies that his community has "come to know and to believe in the love God has for us." Do you think your faith community shares a similar conviction of faith in the love of God?

Gospel:

We hear Jesus' prayer to his Father for the protection of the disciples, especially against "the evil one" in the world. Where do you personally experience evil in the world today?

Community Events

Indiana Department of Health
 March 31st began the sign up for Indiana residents older than 16 years of age to receive the vaccine. You may now schedule your Covid-19 vaccine appointment by visiting ourshot.in.gov or call 211 to find a site near you.



If anyone is interested in helping the Food Bank of NWI's Mobile Market in the area of East Chicago, please contact Sarah Barnard at 219-980-1770 ext.316 for more information on how you can help. Or you can always find more information on their website at www.foodbanknwi.org



St. Stan's Website

The website committee request your help in obtaining old photos of the 40's, 50's, or 60's of a special event (occasion) taken place here at St. Stan's Church. The photos will be used in the upcoming website. We would scan the photos and then they'd be returned back to you. If any one has any of these treasures, please call the rectory at 219-398-2341.



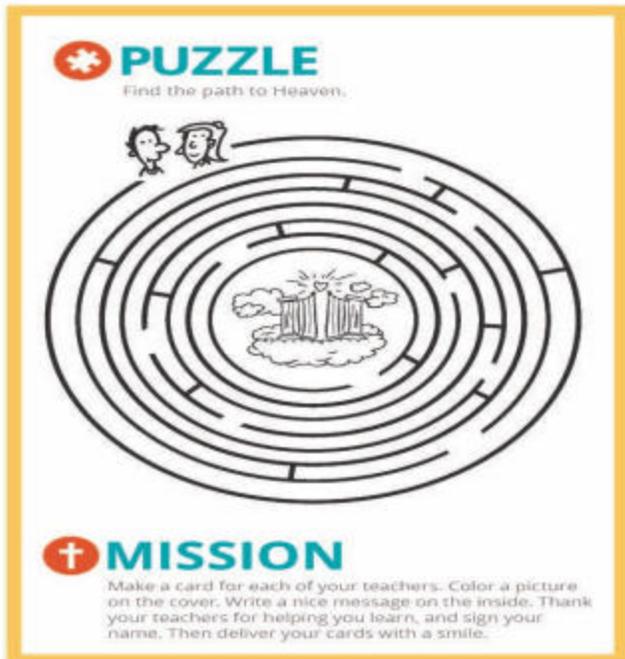
Prayer

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Help us to recognize the evil latent in a communication that does not build communion. Help us to remove the venom from our judgments. Help us to speak about others as our brothers and sisters. You are faithful and trustworthy, **May our words be seeds of goodness for the world:**

where there is shouting, let us practice listening; where there is confusion, let us inspire harmony; where this is ambiguity, let us bring clarity; where there is exclusion, let us bring solidarity; where there is sensationalism, let us use sobriety; where there is superficiality, let us raise real questions;

Where there is prejudice, let us awaken trust; where there is hostility, let us bring respect; where there is falsehood, let us bring truth. Amen.

Prayer of Pope Francis for 2018 World Communications Day (inspired by the traditional Franciscan "Peace Prayer")



7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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