St. Catherine of Alexandria

Mass Intentions

Easter Weekday

MON 5/25/20
† Carol Vermillion
(Tom and Gloria Hundt)

TUES 5/26/20
St. Philip Neri, Priest
† George A. Skosey and his parents,
George and Kathryn Skosey
(Linda Skosey)

Easter Weekday

WED 5/27/20

Easter Weekday

THURS 5/28/20

Easter Weekday

FRI 5/29/20

PENTECOST SUNDAY

SAT 5/30/20
† Catherine Reiter
(Diane Reiter)

SUN 5/31/20
8:00 am Mass at St. Joan of Arc
10:00 am † Arnold Schrang
(Kurt and Judy Schrang)

Financial Stewardship

THROUGH MAY 17, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COLLECTIONS</th>
<th>LAST WEEK</th>
<th>YEAR TO DATE</th>
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<td>Budget</td>
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Total Actual $ 7,858.50 $ 651,336.92
Surplus (Shortfall) ($ 2,841.50) $ 30,186.92

MANY THANKS!
Thanks to all who have been keeping up with their giving.
Keep those offerings coming:
• Mail in your envelope
• Make a donation online
• Call to set-up ACH (920-474-7000 ext. 100)
• Drop your envelope in our drop box

Together we will get through this pandemic crisis!
We are here to help!
Cindy Birkel
Business Administrator

Update your email with us!
Contact Cindy Birkel, 920-474-7000,
email: cbirkel@scsjcluster.org
or turn in the below to the parish office.

Name: ____________________________
Email: ____________________________
Mass Intentions

Easter Weekday

MON 5/25/20

St. Philip Neri, Priest

TUES 5/26/20

WED 5/27/20

† Shirley and Helen Griffin

THURS 5/28/20

† Margaret Strachota

FRI 5/29/20

Easter Weekday

PENTECOST SUNDAY

SAT 5/30/20

8:00 am † Rhonda Pyka

SUN 5/31/20

10:00 am Mass at St. Catherine of Alexandria

Financial Stewardship

THROUGH MAY 17, 2020

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>COLLECTIONS</th>
<th>LAST WEEK</th>
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Matching Funds: $480.00  $480.00
Goal: $30,000

Take Note! Last week you may have received a postcard from us regarding online giving. Although WeShare is our online vendor and we do encourage online giving, we did not authorize that mailing to our parishioners.

This past week, you should have received your financial statement and a letter from Fr. Mike. This was our intended mailing.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

Thanks,
Leisha Smith, Business Administrator

Update your email with us!
Contact Leisha Smith at 262-646-8078, email: lsmith@scsjcluster.org
or turn in the below to the parish office.

Name: __________________________
Email: __________________________
Today as we celebrate the feast of the Ascension of the Lord, we are reminded that Christ's saving work on earth continues through his disciples...and now through us.

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can bring peace to those who are hungry.

Today as we celebrate the feast of the Ascension of the Lord, we are reminded that Christ's saving work on earth continues through his disciples...and now through us.

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Memorial Day
Last Monday in May

In 1868, a national day was held to remember the dead of the Civil War and to pray for reconciliation. The idea had come from Southern women who visited battlefields in late spring to decorate the graves. Some people still call Memorial Day by its original name, “Decoration Day.” Memorial Day now honors all United States citizens who died in war. Every city and town has its war dead. Often they are remembered with a parade to a cemetery or to a war memorial.

In recent years Congress has proclaimed this as a day when the nation should strive for peace. As we honor those who have died, we look forward to the day when we will be willing to settle our disagreements without war. As Christians, we also pray today for all the innocent victims of war. Across the world, millions of people are homeless because their countries are ravaged by fighting. Those people are called refugees. Many of them are orphaned children. Some are hungry. All are suffering.

A day of sorrow and mourning is hard to keep. We probably would rather celebrate the beginning of summer. But Memorial Day can bring with it much needed sorrow and forgiveness and peacemaking.
THE WITNESS OF ST. JOAN OF ARC

A century after her canonization, the French martyr’s life remains a model of Christian courage and public service.

Give me the command of a small army, and I will restore order throughout the country in the name of God!”

Hearing these words proclaimed by a 16-year-old shepherdess who could neither read nor write, Sir Robert de Baudricourt was stunned. Anyone else would have sent the audacious girl back to her flocks, but Baudricourt, a knight in command of a military garrison in the east of France, listened to her appeal. This was a miracle in itself, and many more would follow in the short yet dramatic life of Joan of Arc.

After leading an army in support of the French king, she was condemned to death for heresy by corrupt judges and burned at the stake May 30, 1431, at age 19. Twenty-five years later, her reputation was restored, but it took another five centuries before she was canonized a saint on May 16, 1920.

Joan played an integral part in the history of France, and her story is a rare case in which religious experience and political mission are intimately linked.

HISTORY AND MEMORY

Joan was born in 1412 in the village of Domremy, about 275 km (170 miles) east of Paris. (Today the town is home to a Knights of Columbus council, named, of course, after St. Joan of Arc.) The situation in Europe in Joan’s time was particularly troubled: The Western Schism, with its competing claims to the papacy, lasted until 1417, while the Hundred Years’ War would continue until 1453.

Factions in France had been battling for power—against England and against each other—for decades. By 1420, the queen of France had signed a treaty disinheritng her son, the dauphin (crown prince) Charles, and transferring the throne to Henry V of England.

Several years later, Joan had her first mystical experience at age 13—she heard the “voice” of St. Michael the Archangel, and later those of St. Catherine of Alexandria and St. Margaret of Antioch—and felt called by God to help alleviate the suffering of her country.

During two particularly intense years, she undertook a mission to expel English forces and place Charles on the French throne. Her banner was blessed in Blois, also home to a council of Knights; her suit of armor was forged in Tours, where a memorial stone in the cathedral recalls the Knights’ presence in World War I.

The city of Orleans, which had been under siege by the English for more than six months, was liberated in May 1429, just nine days after Joan’s arrival. It was the French army’s first significant victory, and a turning point in the war. Joan saw the coronation of King Charles VII at Reims Cathedral two months later.

The following year, a truce with England abruptly came to an end, and Joan was captured in the northern city of Compiegne, which she was helping to defend against a siege. She was eventually put on trial in Rouen, the capital of the Normandy region, and condemned as a heretic.

On the morning of May 30, Joan received holy Communion for the last time, in prison, and was led to the stake in the town square. Asking a priest to hold up a cross, she died with her eyes fixed upon the crucified Christ, crying out the name of Jesus.

Since Joan of Arc was the subject of two trials, much is known about her life. The first trial, conducted by ecclesiastical judges, condemned her. The second—the rehabilitation trial—concluded 25 years after her death, based on the testimony of people who knew her. The debates and statements of the trial were recorded, and nearly 600 years later, some of her saintly exclamations are remembered today.

A number of them appear in the Catechism of the Catholic Church: “We must ‘serve God first’” (223); “About Jesus Christ and the Church, I simply know they’re just one thing, and we shouldn’t complicate the matter” (795); “Asked if she know that she was in God’s grace, she replied: ‘If I am not, may it please God to put me in it; if I am, may it please God to keep me there’” (2005).

by Father Pierre Amar
Greetings of Gratitude from Mary Sue Reutebuch:
Director of Christian Formation-Family and Youth Programs

This week let's remember to be aware and thankful for the people who are sharing their gifts and bringing Christ to life in our lives!

Thank you Paul Fix for taking time each Friday to film Mass for our parish communities!

Each week with a skip in his step and a smile on his face, Paul Fix takes time out of his work day to tape Mass.

Not only is Paul generous with his time and God given talents, he is patient and joyful in his giving!

One of the best things about gratitude is the more you choose it, the easier it gets. The more you practice gratitude, the more you notice things to be grateful for. The thankfulness muscles respond to exercise!

Psalm 9:1
I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

It can be easy to focus on what's missing in life right now. My daily goal, sometimes I fail but I am getting there 😊, is to notice what I do have and pause to give gratitude. The discipline here is to really immerse myself in gratitude not only by writing down a list of things or people I am grateful for, but by thanking everyone who crosses my path. Whether I thank the delivery person for the box, or family member for folding laundry or helping to clean up after a meal, it becomes the habit. I have found that my joy level increases when gratitude flows. Truthfully, and perhaps it's a bit selfish, one of the best ways I experience joy is to bring joy to others. So you might want to ask yourself, How can I lift other people's spirits?
Then, act on it!
Greetings from Holly Cerveny, Principal at St. Joan of Arc Parish School

Kindergarten Class of 2020

You are invited to St. Joan of Arc Parish School’s Virtual Book Fair!

Are you running out of reading material for yourself, children, or grandchildren? Would you like to support a local small business?

Books & Company has curated a selection of books just for our school and clustered parishes, with titles for kids, teens, and adults, and a selection of religions books. Get your summer reading here!

The process is easy:
1. Click on the link for the SJOA Book Fair at booksco.com.
2. Browse the list of titles selected for us, or any books on the website.
3. Pay online with a credit card online and enter SJOA in the Coupon space.
4. When you receive the email your books are ready, pick them up curbside at Books & Company—1039 Summit Ave, Oconomowoc—262-567-0106

Contact the school office with any questions!
SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

God Most High

God Most High,
you gave authority over heaven and earth
to your Son.
He now fills all creation with his presence
to the glory of your name.
He guides and governs us
as the head of his body, the Church,
and he brings our needs before you.

In him we pray—
deeper our love for you,
fill us with the knowledge and wisdom
we need
to live as true disciples,
and strengthen our hope in the age to come.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, May 24, 2020
For All Time

Today's Readings: Acts 1:1–11; Psalm 47:2–3, 6–7, 8–9; Ephesians 1:17–23; Matthew 28:16–20. In both Jewish and Gentile writings revered people were sometimes shown being taken up into heaven. Their ascension was a metaphor for divine approval. Luke draws on this imagery to show not only that God approves of Jesus but that Jesus shares God’s power. Having ascended, Jesus is spiritually and sacramentally present at all times and in all places.

In Acts, the disciples are uncertain what to do once Jesus has ascended. Two men dressed in white must explain the significance of the event, just as in Luke’s Gospel two men in white explained the significance of the empty tomb. In Matthew’s account of the Gospel, the disciples are also uncertain about all that is happening. They worship the Risen Lord, but “they doubted.” Perhaps they struggled to believe that Jesus really would remain with them.

When we feel hesitant and doubtful, we are reassured by those first followers of Jesus, who also struggled yet went forth to share the Gospel. They chose to trust their Lord. They embraced the Spirit he sent them and rejoiced in their deepening knowledge of God and God’s love for the world. By remaining one with Christ, who has authority over all, they became part of God’s new creation and now share in the Father’s glory. It is now our turn, as fellow members of Christ’s Body, the Church, to show others that Christ remains in the world and to invite them to be part of his reign.
THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, May 25
Fill Us
Although Jesus’ disciples think they understand him, Jesus insists that their understanding is incomplete: during his passion, they will abandon him. Only with the gift of the Holy Spirit will they find the courage to stay faithful. By contrast, Paul encounters men who have not heard of the Holy Spirit but who are well prepared to receive this gift. We need both the Spirit and the formation of our faith community to guide us forward. Pray for the Spirit to fill you and your faith community.


Tuesday, May 26
Imitators
There are similarities between Paul’s journey to Jerusalem and Jesus’ preparations for his passion. In John’s account of the Gospel, Jesus gives a long farewell discourse in which he talks with his disciples about all that is going to happen. Paul also makes a formal farewell before facing the hardships that await him. As he says goodbye, Paul urges his listeners to imitate Jesus just as he has. Hear more of Paul’s heartfelt words by reading all or part of his letter to the Philippians.


Wednesday, May 27
Set Apart
In the Gospel passage, the word world refers to all that opposes God. As Jesus continues his prayer to the Father, he speaks about how his followers are set apart from the world. He prays that God will further consecrate or sanctify them to continue his work of sharing the truth of God’s love. Paul also was set apart for God’s work, and he reminded others to remain steadfast in holiness. In what concrete ways can you set yourself apart from the world?


Thursday, May 28
That All May Be One
Religion, sadly, often divides people instead of uniting them. The Pharisees and Sadducees disagreed on whether there was any kind of afterlife. Disagreements about beliefs and practices persist among Christians today. Such division compels us to bow our heads and echo Jesus’ prayer for unity.


Friday, May 29
In the Hands of Others
In Luke’s Gospel account, Jesus tells his disciples that they will be handed over to kings and governors (21:12–13). In the passage from Acts, Paul is in the hands of the local governor who consults on his case with the king. In today’s Gospel passage, Jesus tells Peter that one day Peter will be arrested and crucified. Centuries later, Christians still come into conflict with those in authority. Pray for those who are attacked or imprisoned because of their faith.


Saturday, May 30
The Work Continues
As we near the end of our Easter season, we hear the conclusions to the Acts of the Apostles and the Gospel according to John. Paul has arrived at Rome, in fulfillment of Jesus’ prophecy that his followers would be his witnesses throughout the world. Today Christian missionaries have crossed oceans to enter new regions and share the story of salvation. John’s Gospel notes that Jesus said and did far more than any book could contain. The Jesus who has risen, ascended to his Father, and filled us with his Spirit continues his mission through us. May the good work we do in Jesus’ name fill more volumes than could ever be written.

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DEACON
DEACON LARRY NORMANN
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bfrederick@scsjcluster.org

ELLEN HEITMAN
(St. Joan of Arc)
eheitman@scsjcluster.org

Catholic Formation

ST. JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC SCHOOL
3K-8TH GRADE..............................................(262)646-5821

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Administrative Assistant/Bulletin Editor
Mary Jackson........................mjackson@scsjcluster.org

Parish Nurse
Linda Skosey..........................lskosey@scsjcluster.org

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K4-11TH GRADE...........................................(262)646-5979

DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN FORMATION
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YOUTH MINISTER
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Administrative Assistant
Mariah Navis..................mnavis@scsjcluster.org

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Administrative Assistant
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Susan Javes............................sjaves@scsjcluster.org

RCIA Assistant
Mary McCurdy....................mmccurdy@scsjcluster.org

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Administrative Assistant
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Susan Javes............................sjaves@scsjcluster.org

RCIA Assistant
Mary McCurdy....................mmccurdy@scsjcluster.org

Sacraments

Individual Reconciliation Wednesdays, 6 pm at St. Joan of Arc

Baptism Preparation and RCIA: Contact Ellen Heitman

Marriage Preparations: Please make arrangements with pastor at least 6 months prior to tentative marriage date

Address
Phone: (920)474-7000
Fax: (920)474-4661
W359N8512Brown Street
Oconomowoc, WI 53066
sc-office@scsjcluster.org

St. Vincent de Paul 262-443-7856

Address
Phone: (262)646-8078
Fax: (262)646-8079
120 Nashotah Rd.
Nashotah, WI 53058
Email: sj-office@scsjcluster.org

St. Vincent de Paul 262-443-7856

Download our new Cluster App: Find “WeConnect Parish App” in Apple’s App Store or the Google Play Store and add it to your smartphone or tablet.