



Holy Family Parish

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg



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West Newton, PA 15089

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Website: holyfamilywestnewton.org
St Anne Office.....724-872-3555
Faith Formation
(Office) at St Anne 724-872-3486
Faith Formation (Cell). . .724-984-9255
Email:
RLewis@dioceseofgreensburg.org

EUCHARISTIC LITURGIES

Holy Family
Tuesday ... 8 AM
Wednesday ... 8 AM
Saturday.....4 PM
Sunday.....11 AM
Holy Days & Civil Holidays:
Consult the Mass schedule in the
Bulletin
Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Saturday at 3 PM or by appointment

St Anne
Monday....8AM
Thursday....8AM
First Friday .. 8 AM (preceded by Exposition
of the Blessed Sacrament).. 7-8 AM
Saturday...4:30 PM
Sunday....8 AM & 11 AM
Holy Days & Civil Holidays: Consult the
Mass schedule in the bulletin.
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday at
3:30 p.m.

Save the Date:

Cantor Practice 5/23 6:30PM
Ascension Masses
Holy Family Vigil Mass 5/25 6:00 PM
St Anne, Rostraver 5/26 8:00 AM
St John, Perryopolis 5/26 9 AM
St John, Perryopolis 5/26 6 PM
Graduation Mass 6/5 11 AM



MAY 22, 2022

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

PARISH STAFF

The Reverend David J. Nazimek, pastor
dnazimek@dioceseofgreensburg.org
The Reverend Richard J. Zelik, OFM, Cap, weekend as-
istant
Angela Ehrhardt, Director of Faith Formation
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SUNDAY'S READINGS

First Reading:

'It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us not to place on you any burden beyond these necessities.' (Acts 15:28)

Psalm:

O God, let all the nations praise You! (Ps 67)
Or Alleluia.

Second Reading:

The angel took me in spirit to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. (Rev 21:10)

Gospel:

"The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you." (Jn 14:26)

Readings for the week of May 22, 2022

Sunday: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [4]/
Rv 21:10-14, 22-23/Jn 14:23-29

Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and
9b/Jn 15:26—16:4a

Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-
8/Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-
12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15

Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/ Jn
16:16-20 *Ascension*: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-
3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-
28; 10:19-23/Lk 24:46-53

Friday: Acts 18:9-18/ /Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 16:20-
23

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/ Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10/Jn
16:23b-28

Next Sunday: *Ascension*: Acts 1:1-11/ Ps 47:2-3, 6-
7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-
28; 10:19-23/Lk 24:46-53

Seventh Sunday of Easter: Acts 7:55-60/Ps 97:1-2,
6-7, 9 [1a, 9a]/Rv 22:12-14, 16-17,
20/Jn 17:20-26

Observances for the week of May 22, 2022

Sunday: 6th Sunday of Easter; St. Rita of Cascia,
Religious

Wednesday: St. Bede the Venerable, Priest and
Doctor of the Church; St. Gregory VII,
Pope; St. Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi,
Virgin

Thursday: St. Philip Neri, Priest

Friday: St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop

Next Sunday: 7th Sunday of Easter; St. Paul VI,
Pope; World Communications Day

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Saints & Celebrations for this week

May 26 Ascension of the Lord into Heaven –

Today's celebration of the Ascension of Jesus into Heaven can sometimes get lost and forgotten. I mean – it comes between two other very significant celebration in the life of the Church. Just 6 weeks ago we celebrated the greatest day on the liturgical calendar – the Resurrection of Jesus. In another 10 days we will commemorate the birthday of the Church with the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and Mary.

Today's celebration shows the Apostles being less fearful than they were when Jesus came to them on that first Easter evening. But losing Him today for a second time could not have been easy. In our first reading from Acts of the Apostles they are left staring up at Heaven, while the Gospel tells us that they leave the area rejoicing and filled with great joy. So which is it? Luke wrote both Acts and this particular Gospel account. Are the Apostles bewildered or filled with joy? Actually they are both.

The Apostles have journeyed with Jesus for 3 years. They have witnessed the miracles and the parables. They have also witnessed the resentments and the ridicule. They have just witnessed His torturous death to be followed by his glorious Resurrection. Truly – it has been a rollercoaster ride of giant proportions.

Such is the life of the disciple. Such is our discipleship even to this day as we gather to celebrate the moment between Easter and Pentecost. We are a people living in a kingdom established here on Earth – imperfect, not yet part of its fullness which will be found in the next life. I guess we could say that it is an in-between moment for the Church, and for each of us. How we choose to face such moments tells us how resilient our faith is, or whether there is work to be done to strengthen our reliance on Jesus and on His promises.

It's always going to be easier to have faith when things are going well. It's in those in-between moments that we learn a great deal about ourselves. It is O.K. to stop and stare at what is unclear or confusing – as long as we find joy in the journey, as the disciples in both readings eventually did. It is here that we discover the need to go deeper in our trust in Jesus' promise not to ever leave us orphaned.

It is in these in-between moments that we also realize that we are never alone in facing any challenge that is before us. Even though Jesus' human form ascended into Heaven, He is still here with us as He promised – not only present in word and sacrament, but also present through the Holy Spirit Who has come into the world. The Holy Spirit dwells within and among us. By God's grace, may we have all that St Paul prayed for – for those who lived in Ephesus: "*May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Glory, give you a Spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge of Him. May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened, so that you may know what is the hope that belongs to His call, what are the riches of glory in His inheritance among the holy ones, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power for us who believe.*"

Matters of Sexual Misconduct Information

If you have any suspicion about the sexual abuse (or any other type of abuse) of a minor child by anyone - please contact PA ChildLine immediately at 1-800-932-0313. If the alleged abuser is functioning in a parish, school or diocesan position as clergy, religious, paid staff or volunteer you are also requested to contact the Bishop's Delegate for Matters of Sexual Misconduct after you have called the ChildLine number and made the report. The Bishop's Delegate may be reached at 724-837-0901, ext. 1221.

WORSHIP TOGETHER

6th Sunday of Easter

Helen Keller was one of the most famous Americans of the twentieth century. Her work as an advocate for peace and human rights is proudly remembered. These words of hers sum up the message of today's Gospel passage: "When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has been opened for us."

Helen Keller knew what that felt like. Illness as a baby had left her both deaf and blind. Unable to communicate, she would bite and kick in frustration. When she was seven her despairing family employed a young woman called Annie Sullivan to be her companion, even though Annie herself was almost blind. Patiently she would place an object in Helen's hand, a doll for example, and into the palm of her other hand trace out the letters D-O-L-L. The child was uncomprehending and her tantrums grew more violent, but Annie persisted. She remained constantly at her side to calm and encourage.

The breakthrough came when she placed Helen's hand under running water and traced W-A-T-E-R into her other hand. Suddenly Helen realized – everything has a name. Insistently, she stamped the ground, wanting to know what that was called, too. By the end of that day she had learned thirty words; within six months over six hundred. Words brought meaning to her dark, silent world, though it took twenty-five years for her to learn how to speak. All that time Annie Sullivan stayed at her side, ever the patient teacher, encourager and friend.

In today's Gospel passage we encounter the disciples at a dark time. They simply could not comprehend why God might allow their Messiah to be killed before His mission was fulfilled. With their hopes of a glorious future dashed, nothing made sense. It felt as though the door of hope had slammed shut. They were looking so long at the closed door that they were not seeing the glorious possibility opening up before them. Jesus tried patiently to explain. The Holy Spirit was going to be their constant companion, bringing His teaching to mind, helping them to understand and interiorize it. Jesus was not only preparing a place for them in Heaven, He was preparing a place within them for Himself and the Father to make their home.

St John's Gospel, written in Greek, uses a particular word for the Holy Spirit: the word "paraclete". Literally, it means "called to one's side" just like Annie Sullivan was called to Helen Keller's side by her parents to help. God's Spirit is the patient teacher at our side, guiding and encouraging. The experience of God's inner presence not only brings enlightenment, helping us make sense of the events of our lives, it transforms us as people, calming and sanctifying. Jesus speaks of it as "shalom", the Hebrew greeting which means more than peace. Shalom conveys a sense of well-being; of things "starting to come together". This was Jesus' parting gift to His disciples.

Much has been written about the life of Helen Keller and her companion Annie Sullivan, and there have been films and TV dramas, as well. One of them was called *The Miracle Continues*, which seems like a good title for today's Gospel. People with disabilities continue to find inspiration and support from their friends as well as to discover strength and resources within themselves. And as we become aware of the Spirit of Jesus at our side and at home within us, the miracle continues for all of us. Life may seem very dark and confusing at times, closed in, even. Patiently, however, the Spirit traces those words of Jesus into our hearts and minds, helping us to make sense of the events of our lives, shaping us to fulfil our potential as God's own holy people. God's word, dwelling deeply within, changes us until it is Christ Himself Whom people see in us.

We are called to the sacred work of companioning others, to be at the side of suffering people as advocates for those who cannot speak up for themselves; as one who encourages the despairing; guides to the lost; and comforters to the hurting. It requires us to keep trying when people give up on themselves and to forgive when they seem ungrateful. This is how Jesus loves. It is why we must allow all that He teaches to become part of who we are: if you love Me, Jesus tells us, you will keep My word.

VOCATION MINISTRY NEWS CONGRATULATIONS!

To – Andrew Hamilton, ordained this Saturday, May 20, 2022 to the order of Diaconate for the Diocese of Greensburg. And to Deacon Chris Pujol who will be ordained to the order of Priesthood on June 4, 2022. Thank You for answering God's call to you. May God continue to bless you in your ministry.

4:00 PM | Saturday, May 21

Lector: Keegan

Eucharistic Minister: DeBlasio

11:00 AM | Sunday, May 22

Lector: Null

Eucharistic Minister: Houseman

4:00 PM | Saturday, May 28

Lector: Hughes

Eucharistic Minister: Keegan

11:00 AM | Sunday, May 29

Lector: Beneccio

Eucharistic Minister: Beneccio

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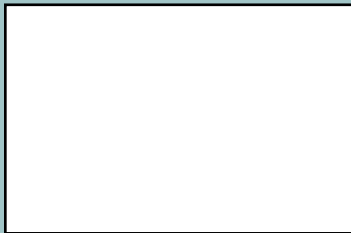
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