



# CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER

**MAY 25,  
2025**

## CONNECT WITH US

📍 208 East Jefferson Street  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902

📞 Phone: (434) 295-7185

📠 Fax: (434) 220-1464

✉️ [office@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:office@holycomforterparish.org)

🌐 [holycomforterparish.org](http://holycomforterparish.org)

## MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil 5 PM

Sunday 8:30 AM + 11 AM + 2 PM

Monday + Friday 12 PM

Tuesday + Wed 8 AM

Thursday 6 PM

Saturday 8 AM

## ADORATION

Monday 1—3PM

Wednesday 6—9 PM

Thursday 7—8 PM

Friday 1—3PM

## CONFESSION

Sunday 1 PM

Mon + Wed + Fri 6:30—7:30 PM

Thursday 7—8 PM

## Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9 AM—4 PM

Please Send Bulletin Submissions  
by 3PM Monday  
[dre@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:dre@holycomforterparish.org)



## 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

[Jesus said to his disciples:] "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. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you." - Jn 14:26-27a

## Pastor

Rev. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi  
[jmlukyamuzi@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:jmlukyamuzi@richmonddiocese.org)

## Administrative Business Manager

Mary Frances Lilly  
[office@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:office@holycomforterparish.org)

## Receptionist/Office Assistant

Melinda Crews  
[reception@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:reception@holycomforterparish.org)

## Director of Liturgy and Music

Daniel Kirkland  
[music@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:music@holycomforterparish.org)

## Director of Religious Education

Melinda Wells (434) 295-6559  
[dre@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:dre@holycomforterparish.org)

## Outreach (434) 293-8989

Bridget Davis + Jack Engler +  
Heather Burns  
[outreach@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:outreach@holycomforterparish.org)  
Food Pantry: Mon, Tue & Wed  
10:30AM -12:30PM  
Soup Kitchen: Thurs 12PM-1PM

## MINISTRIES CHAIRS

### FINANCE COUNCIL Gary Krutul

[gkrutul55@gmail.com](mailto:gkrutul55@gmail.com)

Offertory Counters—Lee Faust

### PASTORAL COUNCIL Maria-Andrea Gerling Ospina

[maria.ospina@gmail.com](mailto:maria.ospina@gmail.com)

### LITURGY AND WORSHIP Daniel Kirkland

Lectors — Matt Freeman

Sacristans — Suzanne Bailey [slank@ntelos.net](mailto:slank@ntelos.net)

Ushers — Dennis Dougherty

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

Heather Burns [heather@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:heather@holycomforterparish.org)

Funerals and Works of Mercy Ministry

[mercy@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:mercy@holycomforterparish.org)

Homebound Eucharistic Ministry

[communionvisit@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:communionvisit@holycomforterparish.org)

Weddings [weddings@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:weddings@holycomforterparish.org)

Altar Flower Guild — Jeanne Mickiewicz

[Jean4greens@yahoo.com](mailto:Jean4greens@yahoo.com)

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Melinda Wells

Religious Education Committee—

Suzanne Bailey [slank@ntelos.net](mailto:slank@ntelos.net)

RCIA—Diane Auger Smith + Victoria Lannon

[dianeaugersmith@gmail.com](mailto:dianeaugersmith@gmail.com)

[gregnbuk@gmail.com](mailto:gregnbuk@gmail.com)

Regina Caeli Homeschool Cooperative —

Samantha VanDyke [samantha.kepler@gmail.com](mailto:samantha.kepler@gmail.com)

That Man Is You—Steven Sisman

[steven.sisman@gmail.com](mailto:steven.sisman@gmail.com)

Youth Ministry — Anna Sisman

[youthgroup@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:youthgroup@holycomforterparish.org)

### SOCIAL MINISTRIES Chuck McCurdy

[cwm@virginia.edu](mailto:cwm@virginia.edu)

Outreach (Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry) -

Bridget Davis [bridget@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:bridget@holycomforterparish.org)

Walking with Moms in Need —

Garrett Smith [gsmith@garrettsmithlaw.com](mailto:gsmith@garrettsmithlaw.com)

Haiti—Robert O'Brien [raobfpc@gmail.com](mailto:raobfpc@gmail.com)

Uganda—Gregory Lannon [gregnbuk@gmail.com](mailto:gregnbuk@gmail.com)

Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Holy Trinity

Conference — [info@svdp-ht.org](mailto:info@svdp-ht.org)

K of C—Nicholas Pierson [gk3670@vakofc.org](mailto:gk3670@vakofc.org)

### PARISH COMMUNITY LIFE Elizabeth Gilbert

[parishlife@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:parishlife@holycomforterparish.org)

Holy Comforter Sociable Seniors 55+ —

Barbara Cassidy [bcc32968@gmail.com](mailto:bcc32968@gmail.com)

### BUILDING AND GROUNDS Greg Gerling

[ggerling1@netscape.net](mailto:ggerling1@netscape.net)

### MAINTENANCE Ed Mickiewicz

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT:** We, the members of Holy Comforter Parish, united in faith by God, nourished by Jesus through the Word and the Eucharist, and guided by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, believe that we are called to worship, formation, service, and evangelization within our parish, our local communities, and all those in need.

# PRAYER & WORSHIP



## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

### SATURDAY (5/24)

8 AM Mass

5 PM Vigil Mass

### SUNDAY (5/25) Sixth Sunday in

#### Easter

Altar Flowers Donated Anonymously

8:30 AM Mass

11 AM

12:30 PM RCIA

1 PM Confession

2 PM Mass

### MONDAY (5/26)

Memoria Day Office Closed

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

12 PM Mass

1-3 PM Adoration

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

### TUESDAY (5/27)

8 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

### WEDNESDAY (5/28)

8 AM Mass

10:30-12:30 PM Food Pantry

6 PM Choir

6-9 PM Adoration

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

### THURSDAY (5/29)

12-1 PM Soup Kitchen

6:00 PM Mass

7 PM Confession

7-8 PM Adoration

### FRIDAY (5/30)

12 PM Mass

1-3 PM Adoration

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

### SATURDAY (5/31)

8 AM Mass

5 PM Vigil Mass

6 PM Solemn Marian Procession

### SUNDAY (6/1) Ascension of

#### The Lord

Altar Flowers donated Anonymously

8:30 AM Mass

11 AM Mass

12:30 PM RCIA

1 PM Confession

2 PM Gregorian Mass

#### **Prayer for Pope Leo XIV**

O God, shepherd and ruler of all the faithful,

look favorably on your servant Leo, whom you have set at the head of your Church as her shepherd; grant, we pray, that by word and example

he may be of service to those over whom he presides

so that, together with the flock entrusted to his care,

he may come to everlasting life.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

God, for ever and ever. Amen.

#### **Act of Spiritual Communion**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I

desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive

You sacramentally, come at least

spiritually into my heart. I embrace

You as if You were already there and

unite myself wholly to You. Never

permit me to be separated from you.

Amen

## SAINTS OF GOD

5/24 Saint Mary Magdalene de Pazzi

5/25 Saint Bede the Venerable

5/26 Saint Philip Neri

5/27 Saint Augustine of Canterbury

5/28 Saint Pierre Toussaint

5/29 Saint Madeleine Sophie Barat

5/30 Saint Joan of Arc

5/31 Visitation of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

6/1 Saint Justin Martyr

## WELCOME NEW PARISHIONER

We welcome you to join our Holy Comforter Parish Family. Registration Forms are in the Office and on the Commons Credenza.

#### **TO REQUEST MASS INTENTIONS:**

**Contact the Parish Office 434-295-7185**

**Reception@holycomforterparish.org**

### **MASS INTENTIONS**

#### **SATURDAY (5/24)**

8AM Giuse Tam Nguyen (Fr. Joseph Mary)

5 PM Chris and Karen Sacco (Fr. Joseph Mary)

#### **SUNDAY (5/25)**

8:30AM Melinda Crews and Her Intentions

11AM Members of the Parish

2PM Gallagher Family (Fr. Joseph Mary)

#### **MONDAY (5/26)**

12PM † Normand Auger (Therese Auger)

#### **TUESDAY (5/27)**

8AM Diane and Garrett Smith in Honor of Their Wedding Anniversary (Therese Auger)

Simon Ospina (Paula Ospina)

#### **WEDNESDAY (5/28)**

8AM † Rose Namuiebi (Fr. Joseph Mary)

#### **THURSDAY (5/29)**

6 PM Vincent Musubire (Fr. Joseph Mary)

#### **FRIDAY (5/30)**

12PM Deceased Members of the Parish and Benefactors of Holy Comforter

#### **SATURDAY (5/31)**

8AM The Ill and Homebound

5 PM Gunter Muller and Family (Fr. Joseph Mary)

#### **SUNDAY (6/1)**

8:30AM Members of the Parish

11AM Kevin Haag and Family (Fr. Joseph Mary)

2PM † Pam, † Jackie, † Gilber Peglow (Mona Peglow)

# PARISH NEWS



## GIFTS FROM GOD

### GIFTS FROM GOD

Week Ending May 18, 2025

Offertory \$11,406

Weekly Offertory Budget (\$9,100)

Above Weekly Budget \$2,306



### IS IT TIME TO REVIEW YOUR LEVEL OF OFFERTORY GIVING?



A long-time parishioner called the office recently to apologize. He said when the parish began accepting contributions online in 2015, he set up recurring payments and has made no increase in his gift since then! The following week he brought in a “make-up” check!! We are so grateful to him. Our operating costs have been steadily rising over the last several years, which has required us to withdraw \$100,000 from our savings this year to meet our obligations.

If your weekly gift to Holy Comforter should be updated, please know how much that increase in support is needed, especially at this time. **Thank you and may God bless you abundantly.**

### SECOND COLLECTIONS FOR MAY

**ALL MONTH** Catholic Virginian + Christian Formation + Justice and Peace

**5/11/2025** Outreach

**5/25/2025** Maintenance Fund

### PARISH SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

Copies are available in the Commons, in Flocknote, and on our Website.

**2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal: *Sharing His Love with Others* We have reached our \$27,280 parish goal! Thank you for your support!!**

Brochures and return envelopes are available in the pews and in the Commons.

## LITURGICAL NOTES

**Entrance (*Vocem iucunditatis*):** Spread the news with a voice of joy; let it be heard, alleluia; speak it out to the very ends of the earth; the Lord has liberated his people, alleluia, alleluia.

**Offertory (*Benedicite, gentes*):** O nations, bless the Lord our God, let the voice of his praises resound; he has restored my soul to life and he has not suffered my feet to stumble; blessed be the Lord who has neither rejected my prayer nor turned his mercy away from me, alleluia.

**Communion (*Spiritus Sanctus docebit vos*):** The Holy Spirit will teach you, alleluia; all the things that I have said unto you, alleluia, alleluia.

*This weekend's Offertory is similar in tone and substance to last weekend's Offertory, which was characterized by a bard-like telling of the mercy of God. "Benedicite gentes" is not as rapturous as the "Iubilate Deo", but it is still a call to listen attentively to the wonders God has worked in the life of Christ, Who is the fulfillment of this Psalm, and every Christian with Him. Our own baptism and renewed conversion through the Sacrament of Penance and the occasional acts of Faith, Hope, or Charity are an opportunity to declare bountifulness of God's mercy, Who has "neither rejected [our] prayer nor turned his mercy away from [us]". These Offertories are two side of the same coin – one expressing elation and one sober joy. Both have their place in worship and in our spiritual lives. Ask God in a special way this week to enliven your heart with gratitude for the things He has done in your life. Just as we are saddened when someone we have shown kindness to laments that they are unloved, so too, according to the spiritual write Jacques Phillippe, is God distressed when we look inward and neglect His many tender gestures of love to draw us back or tokens of His eternal affection for us. Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever! Daniel Kirkland, Director of Liturgy & Music*

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

*Melinda Wells, Director of Religious Education*  
[dre@hollycomforterparish.org](mailto:dre@hollycomforterparish.org)

### HOLY COMFORTER'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** Please contact Melinda Wells, DRE

- ◆ **THEME: ANGELS...WHO ARE THEY?**
- ◆ **PLACE: CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL**
- ◆ **DATES: JULY 28—AUGUST 1**
- ◆ **TIME: 9:00 AM—12:00 PM**
- ◆ **AGES: 5 Years—10 Years**

**SAVE THE DATES!** This year's Vacation Bible School promises to be another fun filled five days with wonderful catechesis for the children. *Volunteers are needed!* **REGISTRATION BEGINS JUNE 14!**

## NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

### ASCENSION OF THE LORD

**First Reading** *Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11*  
Jesus is taken up to heaven in the presence of the Apostles.

**Responsorial Psalm** *Psalm 47:2-3,6-9*  
Sing praise to God as he mounts his throne.

**Second Reading** *Ephesians 1:17-23*  
God raised Jesus from the dead and seated him at his right hand. **Gospel Reading** *Luke 24:46-53*

Jesus is taken to heaven and the disciples remain in Jerusalem awaiting his sending of the Spirit.

May 25, Sixth Sunday in Easter

# PARISH NEWS



## PLEASE PRAY FOR

### PARISHIONERS

(Includes ill, injured, homebound, and caregivers)

Ann Carothers, Phil Carr, Teresa Cook, Connie Flamm, Kelton Flinn, Jolene Green, Colette Hall, Jim and Bobbie Hoskins, Ann Jackson, Mary Nguyen, Mae Trentanove, Alicia Vinklerek, Mary Wheeler, Denise Wilcox, and Mary Ann Ziminski.

### FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Leroy and Felicia Anderson, Blanding Attey, Ben and Katherine Barahona, Mary Benfante, Christine Bentejac, Hope Brown, Stephen Crews, Brad and Debbie Ferguson, Max and Hadley Burch, Kaylee Carter, Petra Vera Chavez, Molly Clarke, Stephanie Crews, Nancy Joan Debiese, Jimmy Dominguez, Linda Doyle, Gene Flamm, Fr. Gerald Fogarty, Sue Gilbert, Paula Goodburn, Genevieve Halfen, Margaret Heritage, Maddie Hermack, Liana Haseltine, Mark Rowland Huckabe, Kajihara Family, Betty Kapeluch, Kelly Lembo and Family, Joan Lincks, Mike & Sibylle Llewellyn, Shannon and Coty Lockett, Chelsea Massey, Dot McAllister, Michael McNeil, Geraldine Newton, Fr. Richard Mooney, Melodie Mougeolle and Children, Robert Maute, Stephen McAdams, Lia Thoms Price and Family, Lawrence Randolph, Randall Saathoff and Family, Maya Sanchez, Coby Savona, Matthew Schrank and Family, David Schrank and Family, Joseph Schrank and Family, Tara Singh, Aiden Smith, Christopher Tomaselli, Paul and Meghan Thoms, Scotty Thoms, Alicia Vinklerek, Brendan and Maria Walsh, Don and Lisa Wells, and Residents and Staff of Blue Ridge Juvenile Detention

### MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY

Matthew Mickiewicz, Benjamin Schrank, Elijah Schrank, Jonathan Schrank, and Joey Smith.

*If you would like your family member/fellow parishioner added, email to Works of Mercy Ministry [mercy@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:mercy@holycomforterparish.org) or call the church office at 434-295-7185.*

**To request Holy Communion or a visit from  
Father Joseph Mary, please call the office  
434-295-7185 or email  
[reception@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:reception@holycomforterparish.org)**

**CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL** has job openings for the 25-26 school year for a Librarian, and Substitute Teachers. Please send resume, Diocesan application, 3 letters of reference, and a copy of your teaching license to Charlottesville Catholic School, Attn: Vada Fallica, Principal; 1205 Pen Park Road, Charlottesville, VA 22901 or to [v.fallica@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:v.fallica@cvillecatholic.org).

**THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RICHMOND** is seeking a full time Administrative Assistant for the Office for Evangelization, Richmond, VA. For the full ad and how to apply, please go to <https://bit.ly/3GHLNpg>. The Office for Evangelization is also seeking a full time Program and Marriage Preparation Coordinator for the Office for Evangelization, in Richmond, Virginia. Please see <https://bit.ly/4cNBz2S> for the full ad and how to apply. Contact Kelly Shumate, HR Generalist/Recruiter [jobs@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:jobs@richmonddiocese.org) for any questions.

## MINISTRIES

**For Outreach:** In the month of April, we handed served 305 lunches in Soup Kitchen. We thank you for your ongoing support through your donations, time, and contributions to Outreach. For the month of May, we are asking for donations of canned fruits. The USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and leader. God Bless!

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, HOLY TRINITY CONFERENCE:** Thank you to all who donated during the Eastertide fundraising effort. Your generous support allows us to continue to help our neighbors in need. You can donate at our website, <https://www.svdp-ht.org/>

**PARISH LIFE:** Please join us for our annual **PENTECOST PICNIC** on Sunday June 8th at 430pm at the McIntyre Park Shelter behind the YMCA. It will be a potluck picnic so please bring a dish to share!

**ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: How has Vatican II informed our roles as members of the Church?** Read and discuss several documents from the Second Vatican Council with Fr. Nicholas Hartman, O.P. of St. Thomas Aquinas University Catholic Church at Holy Comforter (LL) 2:30-4:00pm. Third discussion is June 21 (tentative) [Lumen Gentium (the Church)--Part 1, selected excerpts]; June 28 (tentative) [Lumen Gentium (the Church) Part 2, see [https://www.vatican.va/archive/hist\\_councils/ii\\_vatican\\_council/index.htm](https://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/index.htm) for a free print-out or purchase from a variety of online sites. Contact Suzanne Bailey 434-326-3166/[slank@ntelos.net](mailto:slank@ntelos.net) **"Band of Brothers (BOB) is finishing up Year 1 of "That Man is You".** Starting in June, BOB will start meeting outdoors at Washington Park on Saturday mornings from 6:30-7:30 am, to read St Augustine's confessions alongside Custos, a 33 day consecration to St Joseph. Please text Steven Sisman 434-465-5783 if interested.

**HOLY COMFORTER MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP:** ALL rising 6th-8th grade students are invited to the annual diocesan EPIC Middle School Youth Rally this August 9, 2025, at Saint Joseph's Villa, Richmond. Be inspired by the EPIC lives of young saints! From inflatables to Mass, talks to a service project, you won't want to miss this EPIC summer day. Registration is \$55 per participant and is open through June 27. Forms are in the Commons and returned to Anna Sisman or Melinda Wells, DRE **HAITI:** "The vision of the New Jerusalem calls us to restoration, even in Haiti's turmoil. The August Golf Tournament and vehicle repairs reinforce resilience. The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, walks alongside all who pursue justice and healing. As the apostles sought wisdom, Haiti's faithful must hold fast to hope, knowing divine truth remains unshaken. Peace dwells within those who work for renewal. God bless and pray for Haiti, Bob [bobfromm@usairforce.vet](mailto:bobfromm@usairforce.vet)"

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CHESTERTON ACADEMY OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST** You're invited to join us at Holy Comforter Catholic Church on Sunday, June 1st at 6:00 pm for the **CASJE SPRING CONCERT** in collaboration with HC's Music Ministry. Light refreshments to follow. Tours of CASJE will also be available (Come see the progress on our expansion). Please feel free to invite your family, friends, and neighbors. All are welcome!

**CHESTERTON ACADEMY OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST SUMMER POETRY CAMP** June 23-27, 2025 9am-12am, Rising 9th-12th graders. Cost is \$100 Join Mr. Isak Bond to learn the tools and techniques of the best poets. The week will conclude with an "open mic" poetic celebration of words featuring camp members' own original writing. Please registration at <https://www.chestertonsje.org/>. For details, please contact Linda Kenny [lkenny@chestertonsje.org](mailto:lkenny@chestertonsje.org) 434-381-4284

# FROM THE PASTOR



## **THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY and THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS**

Part III

Rev. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi

**“Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene” John 19:25**

When Jesus was on the cross near death, in His last moments, He saw His mother standing next to St. John and profoundly declared, **“Woman, behold, your son...Behold, your mother.”** In these brief words Jesus puts John into Mary's care, and Mary into John's care. The significance of His words of course is that the Mother of the Redeemer, to our great amazement, became the Mother of the redeemed as well...Mary became our Mother! The Gospel accounts don't refer to our Lady again until after the Ascension, when St. Luke tells us at the beginning of the Acts of the Apostles that she was present in the Cenacle with the Apostles, the holy women who had followed our Lord from Galilee, and several of his relatives (Acts 1:12-14). Unlike everyone else, Mary firmly believed her Son's words when he foretold his resurrection from the dead on the third day. Thus, from earliest antiquity, Christians have liked to think that Mary spent the night of Saturday to Sunday morning in vigil, awaiting the moment when Jesus would fulfill his promise. We can easily speculate that Mary, with the help of John (who had not left her side since he had received her as mother at the foot of the Cross), had also tried to reunite the Master's disciples, to strengthen their faith and hope, especially those who had been cowards in those sorrowful moments.

While waiting for the new day to dawn, the Lord's Day, as it soon came to be called, Mary was ever more deeply immersed in prayer. The faith and hope of the newborn Church was concentrated in her. Christian tradition has long taken it for granted that the first

appearance of the risen Lord to his Mother was not to help her to believe but to reward her for her fidelity and to console her in her sorrow. Then, as the hours passed, the news spread from mouth to mouth—first among the disciples, who heard it from the women returning from the tomb, and then in ever wider circles. But in Jerusalem, Christ's Crucifixion had failed to put to rest the animosity of the priests and the elders. The Apostles faced a serious accusation: that they had stolen and hidden their Master's body. Perhaps that is why the angels reminded the women (so that they might pass it on to the disciples) of what Jesus himself had told them before the Passion: that they should return to Galilee (Mk. 16:7).

That first Sunday saw frequent trips back and forth between the Cenacle and the empty tomb, ending with the appearance of Jesus to the Apostles in the Cenacle. A week later, he would appear to them in the same place (Jn. 20:19 ff). Then they would have started back to Galilee, accompanied by Mary, along the roads they had often traveled in the joyful company of Jesus. Awaiting further meetings with the Master, the Apostles returned to their work as fishermen (Jn. 21:1 ff), while our Lady, staying in the house in Capernaum where she had previously lived, continued to strengthen them all in faith and love.

Each encounter with the Lord (the Evangelists relate only some of them) increased the disciples' joy and optimism regarding the future. Then, as the moment for the definitive departure drew near, Jesus met in Jerusalem with his closest followers to give them his last instructions and advice. One afternoon, after their final meal together, they went to the Mount of Olives, with Jerusalem at their feet. There they had their last family gathering with the Master. Their hearts must have been sad since they thought they would never see him again. But our Lord, knowing what they were thinking, assured them that he would stay with them in a new way. He told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to await there the promise of the Father (Acts 1:4). Then he ascended into heaven to share in God's lordship in his Sacred Humanity. As St. Luke recounts in detail: **“He took them out as far as Bethany and lifting up his hands he blessed them. And as he blessed them, he withdrew from them and began to ascend into heaven. They adored him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy”** (Lk. 24:50-52). With them was the Mother of Jesus, who was also the Mother of each of them. Closely united to her, they awaited the coming of the promised Holy Spirit.

**To be continued...**

*Should you have any questions about our Catholic Faith, please contact Melinda Wells, DRE, [dre@holycommunionparish.org](mailto:dre@holycommunionparish.org)*

**May 25, Sixth Sunday in Easter**



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