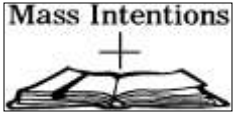




	<h3>Weekly Calendar of Events</h3>
Recognizable Offering..... \$5,236.43 Loose Cash ..... \$650.00 Total Weekly Offering ..... \$5,886.43 <b>Nepal's CRS Collection</b> ..... \$4,111.09 Mass Attendance May 9/10 ..... 389	5/17 Parish Blood Drive - 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Pancake Breakfast - 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. 5/18 Rosary - After morning Mass 5/20 Legion of Mary - 8:30 a.m. Vatican II - 6:30 p.m. 5/21 Adoration 8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. VBS Volunteers Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
	
May 18 - May 24 Monday ..... Mary Clawson Tuesday ..... Mary Kazda(+) Wednesday ..... Lois Lange(liv) Thursday ..... Eloi Demoruelle(+) Friday ..... Maria Livoti(+) Saturday ..... Pat Brown(+)(5:00 p.m.) Sunday ..... Mary Johansen(+)(8:00 a.m.) ..... St Peter Parishioners(10:30 a.m.)	<h3>Fill the Bottle</h3> Keep filling those baby bottles with your loose change. All donations will go to Family Life Ministries to support the Ronda Coon Home. If you need a baby bottle, they will be available at the Hospitality Cart.

 <h3>Memorial Day Parish Potluck Picnic</h3>	
Saturday, May 30 <sup>th</sup> from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Meat and drinks will be provided, all we ask is that you bring a side dish to share with your fellow parishioners. Please RSVP on the website or at the Hospitality Cart.	<h3>EJJYC SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM</h3> Please consider offering some of your time to assist with the Eleanor J. Johnson Summer Food Program. This is an excellent community service project for any of our high school or college students. Call Joni if you would like additional information or to volunteer.

	<h3>Time Flies...</h3> Two years have passed since we've updated our parish directory. For the next two weekends, following each Mass, you will have an opportunity to update your directory information. If you would like to have a new photo taken, just come to the parish center or you may use one from your own files and submit it through the instant church directory program. If you have any questions, please contact Joni, 830-2875.
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**“Come By Yourselves To An Out-of-the-Way Place and Rest Awhile.”**  
(Mark 6:31)

A ladies retreat is scheduled for July 9th – 12th. Father Cecil Spotswood, Chaplain for both the Carmelite and Visitation Monasteries in the Diocese of Mobile, Alabama will conduct the silent retreat. The suggested offering is \$150 (includes food and a private room). Contact the Visitation Monastery at 251-473-2321 for reservations or Karen Gallacher 850-587-3819 for additional information.

+

**Monday**  
May 18  
*Easter Weekday*  
Acts 19:1–8  
Jn 16:29–33

**Tuesday**  
May 19  
*Easter Weekday*  
Acts 20:17–27  
Jn 17:1–11a

**Wednesday**  
May 20  
*Easter Weekday*  
Acts 20:28–38  
Jn 17:11b–19

**Thursday**  
May 21  
*Easter Weekday*  
Acts 22:30; 23:6–11  
Jn 17:20–26

**Friday**  
May 22  
*Easter Weekday*  
Acts 25:13b–21  
Jn 21:15–19

**Saturday**  
May 23  
*Easter Weekday*  
Acts 28:16–20,  
30–31  
Jn 21:20–25

**Sunday**  
May 24  
*Pentecost*  
Acts 2:1–11  
Cor 12:3b–7,  
12–13 or  
Gal 5:16–25  
Jn 20:19–23 or  
Jn 15:26–27; 16:12–15

# May 17, 2015

# dear Padre

## Why does God give grace to those who don't deserve it?



Our priest says we can't earn God's grace, that God just gives it to us. That is so unfair. I've put in many hard, deliberate hours being generous, considerate, and understanding. The undeserving and unworthy are just that, yet God continues to give to them. Why?

**Grace is a theological word that describes God's giving us a share in his own divine life. It's a gift of his abundant love. Or, as the Catechism of the Catholic Church says, "Grace is a participation in the life of God....It depends entirely on God's gratuitous initiative....It surpasses the power of human intellect and will" (1997–1998).**

If you've already put in many hours of hard work being good, you're already living the effects of grace operating in you.

As for those you consider "undeserving" or "unworthy," the Lord is generous and loving to all. He excludes no one. Even calling a sinner to repentance is God's grace, but the sinner needs to accept the grace being offered.

St. Augustine knew that even the *preparation* of a person to receive God's grace is God's grace. Quoted in the Catechism, he said, "Indeed we also work, but we are only collaborating with God who works, for his mercy has gone before us....[W]ithout him we can do nothing" (2001).

FR. DON KIRCHNER, CSSR  
[sundaybulletin@liguori.org](mailto:sundaybulletin@liguori.org)










**FREE E-BOOK!**

Give a new grad—or yourself—the confidence to start a new chapter of life with inspiration from the saints. In the ebook *Letting Go, Letting God: 21 Centuries of Faith* (868269), Sr. Kathleen Atkinson reflects on saints and holy people who took risks and stepped forward in response to God's call. Visit [Liguori.org](http://Liguori.org) and use **special-offer code 15562** when you check out. This free offer ends June 30, 2015.

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The Ascension of the Lord ABC 1  
*Acts 1: 1-11*

### Until We Meet Again

**We have many ways of saying goodbye. “So long.” “See you later.” “Take care.”**

Goodbyes are softened with the promise of another meeting. **“Till we meet again.” The time between the goodbye and the reunion is filled with joyful hope and anxious waiting.**

Surely the disciples wondered if they had the tools they needed to survive that time. Jesus had been their leader, visionary, messiah, and friend. Without him, life would lose its center.

**Jesus’ goodbye came with two promises. He promised the Holy Spirit would guide the disciples in his absence, and he promised that he would come again.** That left them in an in-between kind of time. After the goodbye, they waited for his coming again.

**In fact, that’s where we are too. We are in between the visits of Jesus, a time of hope and anxiety. We often wonder if we have the tools we need to survive. We need vision and companionship on life’s long road.**

We have at our disposal the first promise of Jesus, the gift of the Holy Spirit. That Spirit will guide us through times of loneliness, into good decisions, amid the sorrows of sad goodbyes. The Spirit is our center.

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The Ascension of the Lord ABC 2  
*Ephesians 1:17-23*

### Power Source

Nations build up their power through politics, weapons and wealth. Strong leaders can unite their people to promote a cause. Mighty arsenals can overcome enemies. Money can buy influence and technology. Nations feel secure when they hold power.

As citizens, we sometimes take false hope in the security of our nation. It is nearly impossible to guard against every attack, to control every enemy and to protect our national treasures. It is tempting to rely on the standards of national power: politics, weapons and wealth.

The Letter to the Ephesians takes another view of power. It assumes that all power belongs to God, not to people, and that God has assigned authority to Christ, **“raising him from the dead and seating him at his right hand in the heavens.” God put all things beneath the feet of Christ “and gave him as head over all things.”**

But Jesus is no politician. He owns no weapons. He possesses no earthly wealth. His dominion differs from that of temporal rulers. Believers of every nation put their trust in Christ. They follow his teachings. Most importantly, they believe he is the victor over death. Jesus has conquered death, the enemy of every human. With Jesus as our head, we enjoy unparalleled freedom and release from all our fears.

Those who follow Christ put their trust in other forms of power—perfect love of God and neighbor.

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Weekend of May 23/24

#### 5:00 p.m.

Altar Servers: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
Extraordinary Ministers: Doug Hoover, Elizabeth Baldwin, Joanna Farnum, Alice Thompson, Mary Van Dorn  
Lectors: Ron Berthelette, Eric Van Dorn  
Ushers: Bob Flanagan, Joni Flanagan, Rachel Metruck  
Greeter: Liz Simmons  
Sacristan: Dan Brenton  
Elijah Cup: Lois Lange

#### 8:00 a.m.

Altar Servers: Jared Dunn, Matthew Flores  
Extraordinary Ministers: Eric Miller, Maria Bridges, Paul Johansen, Patsy Soto  
Lectors: Don Dineen, Joshua Soto  
Ushers: Jim Guris, James Johansen, Gary Jordan, Arnold Soto  
Greeter: Alma Battaglio  
Sacristan: Jean Jordan  
Elijah Cup: L.P. Henley  
Coffee & Donuts: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

#### 10:30 a.m.

Altar Servers: Austin Wise, Alyssa Wise, Abigail Zaleske  
Extraordinary Ministers: Alicia Grecco, Mike Brennan, Petey Brennan, Rick Grecco  
Lectors: Pete Kuhns, Nadine Kuhns  
Ushers: Brian Prescott, Ray Schlitt, Patrick Sweeney, Jim Wise  
Greeter: Terri Turnbull  
Sacristan: Bill Roth  
Elijah Cup: John Fay  
Coffee & Donuts: Ron and Donna Fetter

#### Pilgrimage Information Session

After all the Masses on May 16 and 17 there will be a Holy Land Pilgrimage information gathering in the Parish Center classroom. I will be showing a 12 minute video of the pilgrimage to the Holy Land in March 2000 that Pope St. John Paul II longed to make before his death.

I will also address any concerns regarding security. If you have thought about going but security questions are a concern for you, I recommend you attend one of these gatherings. I will also respond to any questions you may have concerning the pilgrimage.

Fr. Paul

Saint Peter Parish Prayer Chain: For prayer needs, please contact Susi Evers at saintpeterparishprayerchain@gmail.com or call her at 664-9165.

Hospitalized Parishioners: If you or a family member are hospitalized, please call the Parish Office, otherwise we have no way of knowing who in our parish is there.

*In Your Daily Prayers, Please Remember our parishioners who are deployed and:*

Monday Johanna Adam\*, Charles Cummings\*, Gene Bauchwitz\*, Peter Cleary, Ashley Matyac, Fay Stockbridge, Steve Lange, Mike and Jeanne Trueting, Gary Jordan Jr.

Tuesday Lynn Graham\*, Charlie Cospelisch, Anthony Michael Merrique, Faye Clark, Bobby Stockbridge\*, Stacie Tippett

Wednesday Gordon Pritchard\*, James Smith\*, Steve Powell\*, Ken and Bette Dellner\*, Caroline Frederick, Mario Donato\*, Steve Jordan, Pam Holt, Steven Wesley Bryan

Thursday Gene and Pam Bauchwitz\*, Robert Welniak, Frank Crowder\*, Theresa Stegall, Harrison Bowie\*, Connie Jordan, Lucille Kesler, Clare Van Zelfden, Mary and Gene Valentine\*

Friday Lloyd Biehl\*, Doug Babiak\*, Sharon Lewis, Shannon Anderson, John Paul Wilson, Betty Keever, Vera Thornburg\*

Saturday Peter Adams\*, Mary Anyel\*, Michael Hebert, Joel Grieves\*, Ronald Smith Jr., Dan Brenton\*, Skye Mahosky\*

Sunday Maureen O’Neil\*, Michael Adam\*, Theresa Fowler\*, Mary Beth Downer, Greg Babiak, Tony Kelly, Jeff Harp

\*Indicates our parishioners.

Please call the church office if you or a family member can be removed from this prayer list.

Holy Land Pilgrimage  
November 2-10, 2015  
\$3248.00

Your journey of faith and renewal will bring you as close as humanly possible to the places where our ancestors in the faith experienced God, in the hope that you, too, will receive some of the blessings of this Holy Land.

You will see the home of Jesus, Mary and Joseph in Nazareth, where the Word of God became flesh. You will experience the beautiful land around the Sea of Galilee where Jesus performed miracles you will stand inside the tomb where he rose from the dead. The Scriptures will come alive for you in a way you cannot imagine when you journey to the land of Jesus’ birth.



“But they went forth and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the Word with accompanying signs.” With those words St. Mark closes his Gospel — our Gospel reading on this day, the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. This has not changed as we, the followers of Jesus, continue to preach everywhere with the support and presence of the Lord.



We are all called to discipleship, and practicing good stewardship is a great way to be the disciples Jesus expects us to be. Part of our discipleship involves evangelization — that is, living out the Good News, the Word, in all we do. No matter where we are or what we are doing we represent Jesus and we represent the Church. The Ascension was the close of Jesus’ physical ministry on Earth, but it was not the end of His ministry.

That is where His followers and Apostles continued, and where we need to continue today. In his exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis reminds us of this call to evangelization: “Anyone who has experienced God’s saving love does not need much time or lengthy training to go out and proclaim that love.” Stewardship-discipleship-evangelization are calls to action, to continue Christ’s presence on Earth.

### Living Stewardship Now

Explore the opportunities in your parish for praying with others: prayer groups, Eucharistic Adoration, rosary group. Praying together can strengthen the habit of personal prayer.

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## 2015 May Crowning Of Mary’s Statue



2nd Annual Corpus Christi Procession  
At the Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel  
19 North Palafox Street—Pensacola

Sunday, June 7th  
The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ  
Immediately following the 11 a.m. Mass

The Basilica parish will host the traditional Corpus Christi Procession on the Feast of Corpus Christi, Sunday, Jun 7th. Bishop Gregory Parkes will be the celebrant of the Mass and lead the procession. The procession will encircle the Basilica block concluding with a period of adoration and Benediction. All are welcome.



# Ascension of the Lord

♦ May 17, 2015 ♦

Part of my ministry involves sitting with families as they plan a funeral service for a loved one. There are often long pauses as thoughts flood their minds and memories fill their hearts. They share stories and grief. We pick readings and songs and talk about prayers.

Inevitably, we talk about what will happen after the funeral. I tell them grief is a process, that everyone does it differently, and that it would be good to be gentle with each other. In my experience, it takes about six weeks just for the reality to begin setting in and to begin adjusting to this new situation. Things don’t get better; they get different, and we go on.

I can only imagine how the disciples felt when Jesus, whom they loved, was crucified in front of them. They had only just begun their grieving. I can only imagine the joy they felt when he appeared after his resurrection, eating with and teaching them again, giving them everything they needed for what was to come.

I can’t help but wonder how they felt when he left them again, ascending into heaven—not dead, but so very clearly not with them in the same way.

We celebrate Jesus’ ascension just past the six-week mark from Easter. I like to think the reality of the death and resurrection has just started to sink in and that we’re learning to move on in this new situation.

It’s no accident that Jesus’ last command to us is to live that new reality and tell the world about him.

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY  
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

### Today’s Readings

- Acts 1:1–11
- Eph 1:17–23 or
- Eph 4:1–13 or
- 4:1–7, 11–13
- Mk 16:15–20
- or
- Acts 1:15–17,
- 20a, 20c–26
- 1 Jn 4:11–16
- Jn 17:11b–19



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