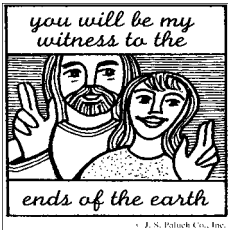


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The Ascension of the Lord May 28, 2006

Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.— Mark 16:16



Upcoming Parish Events

**Mon. May 29—
Bible Study &
Prayer Group,**
7:30 pm, Chapel

**Tues May 30—
Parish Council Mtg.**
7:30 pm, Scanlan
Hall

**Wed. May 31—
Brotherhood Way
Colloquium on the
Da Vinci Code, 8-
10 pm, Church**

**Fri. June 2 —
AACC Youth Group,**
6:30 pm, Scanlan
Hall

Prince of Peace,
8:30 pm, Scanlan
Hall

**Sat. June 3—
Burmese Mass,**
10:00 am

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

by Father Andrew Johnson

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. After being raised from the dead, Jesus appeared to his disciples and to as many as five hundred people at one time. He promised to send the Holy Spirit to be with his Apostles to strengthen them and be their companion in their ministry. Jesus commissioned them to go out into the world and baptize people in His name, using the Trinitarian formula: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. We do not know if the Apostles were enlightened with an understanding of the Trinity, but they baptized in the name of the Holy Spirit as the Lord had asked. The theologians in the early Church debated among themselves for several centuries trying to understand what the Trinity was all about. The trinity was our single God – the God of Abraham revealed by Jesus as three persons in One nature. When Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to His Apostles it was His way of delivering on His promise to be with them even after ascending into heaven to take His place at the right hand of God the Father. His presence in the Eucharist was also His way of being physically present to us always.

After His resurrection, Jesus appeared in person for a period of forty days on earth. By tradition and Holy Scripture the day of the Ascension would have been a Thursday. Some dioceses celebrated this last Thursday. Pentecost Sunday would be ten days later. In San Francisco, we are celebrating the Ascension of Our Lord today instead of last Thursday. And Pentecost, when the holy Spirit came down to the Apostles, we will celebrate next Sunday.

It is fitting to relate today's celebration of the Ascension to those who have recently made their Confirmation and to those who have been recently baptized into our Church through the RCIA process. As the Holy spirit came to the Apostles and strengthened them for their ministry and gave them the presence of Jesus as their companion, so also the same Holy Spirit came to those receiving Confirmation and Baptism. Jesus will be their companion from that day forward in all that they do, in their prayers, their works and sufferings. This is an awesome realization and another one of the great miracles and mysteries of our Church.

As the Apostles were witnesses for Jesus so also each of us is to be His witness because we have been gifted by the Holy Spirit through the Sacraments of Confirmation and Baptism with the Spirit of wisdom and revelation. Therefore, we are to live our lives in a manner worthy of the commission we have received from our Lord.

As part of our joyous celebration today, let us remember in our prayers those who have recently received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Baptism. The thirty-seven young men and young ladies in our parish who were recently Confirmed have entered a new and exciting chapter of their lives in the Church and their Faith. We will also celebrate the graduation of our 8th graders on June 2nd.

It is important for them and for our Church and school that our communities joyfully support them with our prayers and good example.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK, SAINTS & SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday, May 28— The Ascension : Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47; Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 [1-7, 11-13]; Mk 16:15-20
Monday: Memorial Day; Acts 19:1-8; Jn 16:29-33
Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27; Jn 17:1-11a
Wednesday: The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary; Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16; Lk 1:39-56
Thursday: St. Justin; Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Jn 17:20-26
Friday: First Friday; ss. Marcellinus and Peter; Acts 25:13b-21; Jn 21:15-19
Saturday: First Saturday; Vigil of Pentecost; Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Jn 21:20-25
Sunday, June 3—Pentecost Sunday Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25; Jn 20:19-23

Full Plate Program: Thanks for your support of this program. Pls. bring your donations of canned foods and dry goods & place them in the green bins at the church entrance. Menu items: 1 box of cereal, 1 can of stew or chili, 1 can of tuna or chicken, 1 container of 100% juice. No glass items, please. Thanks.



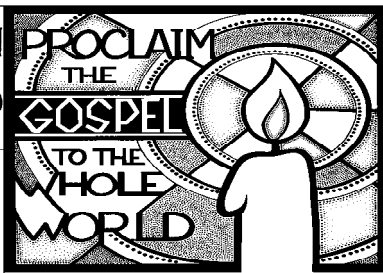
***A big thank you to the Ragasas & everyone who coordinated and helped with the May crowning of the Blessed Mother after all the Masses today. A fitting end to the month of May, the month of Mary, our Mother. Thank you very much for making it happen!**

***Our appreciation and thanks also to Josephine, Merly and everyone who sold roses on Mother's Day. Must have been a long day for them but the sale netted \$400! Thank you.**

***Teen Resource Fair:** Youth, teens and families are invited to the **Community Potluck & Barbecue on Tuesday, June 6 at St. Cecilia, Lower Church. Time: 7:30-9 PM.** Come and find out about job & recreational opportunities for the summer! Bring a side dish to share!

***A new priest, Father Rick Vandewater, is coming soon** to help Fr. Labib serve the Arab American Catholic Community. Father Rick served in Ramallah, & Jifna/Palestine, Zerka, Ader/Jordan. He consecrated his life at the service of the Arab Catholics at the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem. He was ordained priest in 1982 and has a doctorate in Holy Scriptures from Fribourg University, Switzerland. Fr. Rick is originally from North Carolina.

***Help a good cause, get a shot at one of the 10 37" LCD TV's.** Odds are 1:150! \$50 per ticket. Drawing will be on June 3rd at 8 PM. Refreshments will be served and the 8 PM choir will perform. Main purpose of the raffle is to raise funds for the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Each family is requested to sell or buy 2 tickets. **Tickets are available after each Mass on Sundays.**



Pilgrimage to Rome & Italy

*Fr. Andrew and Fr. Govindu are planning a **Pilgrimage to the Shrines of Italy** this Fall for 11 days **November 12-22.** The travel agency has proposed a Pilgrimage for 11 days to the Shrines in Rome (including an audience with the Holy Father), Giovanni Rotondo (Padre Pio), Lanciano (Miracle of the Eucharist), Assisi, Florence, Venice & Milan at about \$2,680, (includes airfare). Pls register your names, preferably by the end of this month. Contact Fr. Andrew or Elvira, our Parish Secretary, for further info and registration.

ALMA VIA

*Needs a **receptionist:** Demonstrated good people skills, ability to multi-task and computer literacy a plus. Please call 337-1339 for more information.

OTHERS

*Do you have a legal problem? Come to the **free legal clinic** on June 6, 6-8 PM at the Manilatown Center on the corner of Kearny & Jackson Streets (868 Kearny), SF. Call Carmen Choy (415) 703-5654 to make an appointment by June 2nd, walk-ins welcome, however, doesn't ensure a lawyer that you need will be present. Sponsored by FBANC, APILO & Manilatown Ctr.



Mark your calendars: **Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) training** for 6 Thursdays starts on 06/01/2006 6:30-9:30 PM in church. Pls call the office for more info.

MASS INTENTIONS

May 28— June 3, 2006

05/28 Sun	10:00 am	Angel & Remedios Reyes
	8:00 pm	People of STM
05/29 Mon	8:30 am	Maximo Racelis †
05/30 Tues	5:30 pm	Rita Small, Sp. Int.
05/31 Wed	5:30 pm	Josephine Ryan†
06/01 Thur	5:30 pm	Marion Silva, Sp. Int.
06/02 Fri	8:30 am	J.A Tiberti†
06/03 Sat	8:30 am	Pacencia Rescordado†
06/03	5:00 pm	Josephine Ryan†

Please call the office to schedule. Participating in the Mass you offer is preferred.



All the sick people in our parish especially Florentino Sotto, Jr. , Rolando Pineda, Brian D'Arcy, George Crawford, Restituto de Guzman,

Michael Karney, Majida Totah, William & Deena Tannous. We also pray for **all the deceased members** of our parish.

Pls. give us names of the sick in your family, and your beloved departed; names will be changed as needed.

Thank you for your contributions. Please remember us in your prayers.

Your offerings for the weekend of **May 28:**
\$4,034

Your response to the **Catholic Charities Appeal (local):**
\$991



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Actual Construction and Repairs Money in Bank is \$108,212

*Please continue to support our Construction fund. We need to repair the Skylight, upgrade the lights in the church and upgrade Carroll Hall. **Thank you!***