

St. Joseph Catholic Church

1300 N. Main St., Bluffton | (260) 824-1380 | stjosephchurch@adamswells.com | stjosephchurchbluffton.org

Ascension of the Lord

ASCENSION: the act of rising to a higher level



The Ascension of the Lord takes place **forty days** after the resurrection of Jesus (Easter).

Technically, this day falls on a Thursday, but the celebration is transferred to the following Sunday.

On this day, Jesus was taken up to Heaven in his resurrected body in the presence of his apostles.

BIBLICAL REFERENCES

❶ While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven.
Luke 24:51

❷ So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God.
Mark 16:19

❸ As the apostles were watching, Jesus was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."
Acts 1:9-11

"Today our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven; let our hearts ascend with him."
St. Augustine of Hippo

The ascension is also professed in the Nicene Creed and in the Apostles' Creed:
"He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father..."

Jesus departs, he ascends to Heaven. He returns to the Father. But this does not mean a separation, for he remains forever with us, in a new way. **By his ascension, the Risen Lord draws the gaze of the Apostles - and our gaze - to the heights of Heaven to show us that the end of our journey is the Father...** Yet, Jesus remains present and active in the affairs of human history through the power and the gifts of his Spirit; he is beside each of us: **even if we do not see him with our eyes, He is there!** He accompanies us, he guides us, he takes us by the hand and he lifts us up when we fall down.... **The Lord is with us!**
Pope Francis, June 1, 2014

Pastor: Fr. David Violi

Fr. David's Email: frdavidvioli@gmail.com | **Sacramental Emergency Number:** (260) 296-0511

Administrative Assistant / DRE: Michelle Paxton | **Director of Sacred Music:** Teresa Smith

-(cut here)-

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
e-mail address: _____

New Parishioners, please send a Parish Registration Form We've Moved, here is our new information

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD - MAY 12, 2024

Saturday, May 11

8:00 a.m. Special Intention
8:30-9:00 a.m. *Confession*
4:00-4:45 p.m. *Confession*
4:35 p.m. *Rosary*
5:00 p.m. Darlene Coulardot +

Sunday, May 12

7:10 a.m. *Rosary*
7:30 a.m. Parish Family
9:40 a.m. *Rosary*
10:00 a.m. Marj Sanders +

Monday, May 13

No Public Mass

Tuesday, May 14

7:00-8:00 a.m. *Adoration*
8:00 a.m. Dorothy Booth +
8:30 a.m. *Confession*

Wednesday, May 15

6:00-7:00 p.m. *Adoration*
6:00-6:45 p.m. *Confession*
7:00 p.m. Steve Wagner +

Thursday, May 16

8:00 a.m. Georgia Johnson +

Friday, May 17

8:30 a.m. Mary Ann Flowers +

Saturday, May 18

8:00 a.m. Special Intention
8:30-9:00 a.m. *Confession*
4:00-4:45 p.m. *Confession*
4:35 p.m. *Rosary*
5:00 p.m. Mike & Debbie Lautzenheiser
50th Wedding Anniversary

Sunday, May 19

7:10 a.m. *Rosary*
7:30 a.m. Parish Family
9:40 a.m. *Rosary*
10:00 a.m. Rose Marie & Robert Bates +



MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon., May 13 - Easter Weekday - Our Lady of Fatima - Acts 19:1-8 / Ps 68:2-3b, 4-5acd, 6-7b / Jn 16:29-33

Tues., May 14 - Easter Weekday - St. Matthias, Apostle - Acts 1:15-17, 20-26 / Ps 113:1-8 / Jn 15:9-17

Wed., May 15 - Easter Weekday - St. Isidore - Acts 20:28-38 / Ps 68:29-30, 33-36b / Jn 17:11b-19

Thurs., May 16 - Easter Weekday - Acts 22:30; 23:6-11 / Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11 / Jn 17:20-26

Fri., May 17 - Easter Weekday - Acts 25:13b-21 / Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20b / Jn 21:15-19

Sat., May 18 - Easter Weekday - St. John I, Pope and Martyr - Acts 28:16-20, 30-31 / Ps 11:4-5, 7 / Jn 21:20-25

Sun., May 19 - Pentecost Sunday - Acts 2:1-11 / Ps 104:1ab, 24ac, 29bc-30, 31, 34 / 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25 / Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15

This weekend (May 11th/12th), the Church celebrates the **Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord**. Throughout most of the world, this celebration fell this past Thursday to mark forty days after **Easter Sunday**. In our diocese (and most of the United States), however, this solemnity is moved to the nearest Sunday to allow as many of the Faithful as possible to celebrate this great event of the Paschal Mystery.

In the **Ascension** of the Lord, the Church realizes that her true home is heaven (Philippians 3:20-21). The Lord's departure is not to be seen as an ending, but truly as a beginning. As the Apostles gaze heavenward, they do so with hearts full of anticipation for the promised coming of the Holy Spirit (John 14:15-31). This is a pivotal moment preparing for the foundation of the Church at Pentecost.

The nine days between the **Ascension** and **Pentecost** is truly a novena as the Apostles prayerfully prepare for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. May we imitate their example and spend these days until Pentecost prayerfully opening our hearts to receive and accept the gift of the Holy Spirit into our lives today. The Holy Spirit will lead us until we too "*will be taken up in the clouds to meet Christ, and be with our Lord forever!*" (1 Thessalonians 4:16)

In addition to the **Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord**, we, as a nation, also celebrate **Mother's Day** this weekend. We wish a Happy Mother's Day to our mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, and all women who have acted as mothers to us throughout our lives. In the words of St. Teresa of Calcutta: "*How grateful we must be to God for this wonderful gift of motherhood that brings such joy to the whole world.*"

After Masses this weekend, we have a special gift of carnations to give to the women of our parish as a sign of our love and gratitude for you. Thank you for your presence in our lives and for how you live out, in your own God-given way, the great gift of motherhood in your lives. These carnations also serve to support women throughout our entire area, coming from a fundraiser for the Northeast Indiana Right to Life that our parish helps to support.

PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

On May 1st, we held our last Parish Council meeting for the year before our summer break. I wish to give a special "**Thank You!**" to our entire Parish Council, and, in a special way, to Abraham Herr and Andy Vachon who have now completed their three-year term on the Parish Council. As the Parish Council serves as an advisory committee to the pastor, each member serves a three-year term to help ensure we hear from a wide variety of voices.

With their terms completed, we are now accepting nominations for the two open seats on the Parish Council. Please see this weekend's bulletin insert for more information about the Parish Council and what is asked of those who sit on the Parish Council. I encourage you to spend time prayerfully discerning whether or not you are called to nominate yourself or another parishioner. Nominations will close at the end of June.

After nominations are made, I will confirm that those nominated accept the nominations. Afterwards, two names will be drawn at random (Acts 1:26). Our Parish Council meetings will resume in August. As we will be entering our 150th Parish Anniversary (1875-2025), I will be relying heavily on our Parish Council this coming year to help in the planning of our sesquicentennial.

PENTECOST SEMINARIAN COLLECTION

Next weekend is one of only two "second" collections that we take up at the request of the diocese throughout the year. Our annual "**Pentecost Seminarian Collection**" envelope helps to provide for the education of our future priests. On behalf of our seminarians, "**Thank You!**" for your generosity and for your continued prayers for our future priests. It is my prayer that this collection will one day soon serve to aid future seminarians from our own parish!

~In Christ,
Fr. David



Becky Biberstein, Michael Green, Frances Carr, Tom Richhart, Troy Cook, Bobbie Jackson, Bonnie Burns, John Houlihan, Kimberly Abney, Sydnee Bradburn, Leanne Lee, Jeff Tillman, Richard Payne and Ron Dresser.



ANNUAL BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN
Helping Hands Pregnancy & Resource Center

We invite you to take a baby bottle home and fill with loose change or any donation. Please make checks payable to Helping Hands as 100% of the donations will be donated straight to them. Thank you for your generous support!

G.I.R.L.'s Night Out

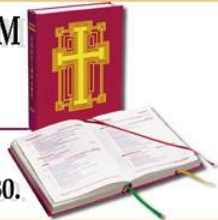
The G.I.R.L.'s Night Out group will have their monthly meeting on **Tuesday, May 14 at 7:00 PM** in the Parish Conference Room.

If you are in need of a ride, please call the Parish Office at 260-824-1380. All women of the Parish are Welcome!

New Lector Training, May 23rd at 6:30 PM

Lector Ministry

For more information, please call the Parish Office (260) 824-1380.



TOTUS TUUS SUMMER YOUTH CAMP

Middle & High School– June 16-June 20 * 6:45-8:30 p.m.
 Grades 1-6– June 17-June 21 * 9:00 a.m. - 2:40 p.m.

Theme: **The Apostles' Creed**
 Mysteries: **The Glorious Mysteries**

Preparations are underway for the Totus Tuus Summer Youth Camp.

Please refer to the bulletin board in the narthex for Registration Packets, Volunteer Packets, Host Home Information, and MORE!

Don't miss the opportunity to be a part of an exceptional week!

PARISH CALENDAR

- **Sat., May 11** - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sun., May 12** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / Mass 10:00 a.m.
- **Tues., May 14** - Adoration 7-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30 a.m.
- **Wed., May 15** - Adoration - 6-7:00 p.m. / Confession 6-6:45 p.m. / Mass 7:00 p.m.
- **Wed., May 15** - Choir Practice - 7:30 p.m.
- **Thurs., May 16** - Mass 8:00 a.m.
- **Fri., May 17** - Mass 8:30 a.m. / Adoration 9:00-6:00 p.m. / Mass 6:00 p.m.
- **Sat., May 18** - Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confession 8:30 a.m.
- **Sat., May 18** - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sun., May 19** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / Mass 10:00 a.m.
- **Tues., May 21** - Adoration 7-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30 a.m.
- **Wed., May 22** - Adoration - 6-7:00 p.m. / Confession 6-6:45 p.m. / Mass 7:00 p.m.
- **Wed., May 22** - Choir Practice - 7:30 p.m.
- **Thurs., May 23** - Mass 8:00 a.m.
- **Fri., May 24** - Mass 8:30 a.m.
- **Sat., May 25** - Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confession 8:30 a.m.
- **Sat., May 25** - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sun., May 26** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / Mass 10:00 a.m.
- **Mon., May 27** - Memorial Day - Office Closed

Weekend of May 18 & 19



5:00 Dan Lautzenheiser
7:30 Donna Geisel
10:00 Adult Choir



5:00 Michelle Paxton
7:30 Barb Ault
10:00 Monica Harris



5:00 Volunteer to take Holy Communion to the Choir Loft
7:30 Volunteer to take Holy Communion to the Choir Loft
10:00 Tammi Helm, Jeff Miller, Jacque Johnson



5:00 Angel/Zoe Soto, Volunteer
7:30 Jacquelyn Mayer, Charlene/Anna Lynn Felger
10:00 Charlie Andrews, Like Miller, Sam Smith

St. Joseph Parish Finance Report for the Weekend of May 4 & 5

Adult Envelopes- \$2,602.00
 Loose- \$187.00
 Repair/Rainy Day Fund- \$3,120.83
 Votive Candles- \$167.41
 Ascension- \$5.00
Total- \$6,082.24

Our weekly budget is \$5,116.40

We are \$965.84 ahead of our budget for the month of May.

St. Vincent de Paul Fund- \$10.00

Online Giving for April - \$5,900.00
 We ended the month \$6,857.62 ahead of our budget.

Your gifts to St. Joseph Parish are greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Online Giving for St. Vincent de Paul Fund for April - \$300.00

To set up Online Giving through Our Sunday Visitor, please visit:
<https://www.osvhub.com/stjosephchurchbluffton/giving/funds>

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FUND REPORT - April 2024

Housing- \$2,494.60
 Utilities- \$167.06
 Total Charitable Donations- \$2,661.76

Thank you for helping us help others!

WELCOME, DAUGHTER OF GOD

Eleanor "Ellie" Wade passed through the waters of Baptism, was sealed by the Holy Spirit in Confirmation, and received her First Holy Communion on Thursday, May 9th, 2024, by Fr. David Violi.



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 Matt Hayes, and Brigitte Washburn
 260-824-9377

Dan Gordon, Parishioner
 Matt Hayes, Parishioner
 St. Vincent de Paul

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Juan & Rosa Ortiz, Family, Parishioners

Sam Haiflich & Lisa Haiflich: The Haiflich Team

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 sam@bkmrealestate.com
 lisa@bkmrealestate.com
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 IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

"Saint Joseph was a just man, a tireless worker, the upright guardian of those entrusted to his care. May he always guard, protect and enlighten families."
 - St. John Paul II

Before you speak....

THINK!

T - is it true?
 h - is it helpful?
 i - is it inspiring?
 n - is it necessary?
 k - is it kind?