



“ So then the Lord Jesus, after he spoke to them, was taken up into heaven and took his seat at the right hand of God. ”

MARK 16:19

The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord
Thursday, May 10, 2018
A Holy Day of Obligation



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Mass Intentions

for the Week
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**THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
 MAY 6, 2018**

SATURDAY, MAY 5

The Mass of Anticipation for the 6th Sunday of Easter

5:00PM Monsignor John W. Lolio—6th Anniversary

SUNDAY, MAY 6

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

7:30 AM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

9:00 AM Edward F. Doorley III—13th Anniversary

10:30AM Sandra & Richard Ponte—Memorial

5:00PM Jacqueline Lefebvre—Memorial

MONDAY, MAY 7

Easter Weekday

7:30AM Edward & William Sullivan—Memorial

TUESDAY, MAY 8

Easter Weekday

7:30AM Philip Manosh—Memorial

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9

Easter Weekday

7:30AM Michael Monteleone—13th Anniversary

The Vigil of the Ascension of the Lord

5:00PM Nurys Medina—1st Anniversary

THURSDAY, MAY 10

The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

7:30AM Rose Knott—Birthday Remembrance

9:00AM All Deceased Grandparents

7:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

FRIDAY, MAY 11

Easter Weekday

7:30AM Souls in Purgatory

SATURDAY, MAY 12

Easter Weekday: St. Nereus & St. Achilles, Martyrs; St. Pancras, Martyr

8:30AM Mary M. Cooper—Birthday Remembrance

The Mass of Anticipation for the 7th Sunday of Easter

5:00PM The Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy Church

SUNDAY, MAY 13

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

7:30 AM All Mothers

9:00 AM All Mothers

10:30AM All Mothers

5:00PM All Mothers





Dear Parishioners:

OLM Second Graders are in First Communion Boot Camp! Each afternoon they gather to rehearse and practice for the big celebration of First Holy Communion next Saturday.

We have 64 students making their First Communion this year. Our Religious Education Second Graders celebrate First Communion at 10:00am on Saturday and the OLM School Second Graders celebrate First Communion at Noon. It is a great celebration of faith and family as these children receive Jesus Christ truly present in the Eucharist for the very first time in their young lives.

These students have been extremely well prepared by our excellent teachers. We are grateful to Mrs. Mickey St. Jean, our Directress of the OLM First Communion Program and the teachers in our OLM RE Program, Mrs. Jane Burley and Mrs. Margaret McGrath.

In particular, I thank our OLM School Second Grade Teacher, Mrs. Mary Ryan. After twenty-five years of teaching at our parish school she is to retire this June. We are truly grateful for her dedication over the years. Mrs. Ryan is an outstanding Catholic teacher and we give thanks for the excellent preparation she has provided for First Communion.

Next Sunday is Mother's Day and we offer all masses for all mothers. We also mark the special day of motherhood at the 10:30am Mass with the May Crowning of the Blessed Mother. It is truly a beautiful ceremony and a moving tribute to our parish patroness and the Mother of the Church, the Blessed

Virgin Mary.

As our First Communion Class continues to prepare, please pray for them and their families. We pray that they may continue to grow in dedication and love of the Eucharistic Lord. We pray they and their families continue to celebrate Holy Communion with great joy and a lively faith next Saturday and then every Sunday of their lives!

OLM School celebrates its annual Grandparents Day this coming Thursday, May 10th. With 295 students, we expect a couple of hundred grandparents to join us from near and far. They begin the day in church and then spend time with their grandchildren in the classroom. This special day is truly a great occasion of fun, faith and family.

This Thursday we also celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord Jesus. The Ascension refers to *"the entry of Jesus' humanity into Divine Glory in God's heavenly domain, forty days after Easter."* It occurred 40 days after the Lord's Resurrection on Easter Sunday and took place in broad daylight on the Mount of Olives, in the presence of His Apostles and disciples. At His Ascension, the Lord Jesus ascended Body and Soul into heaven.

The Ascension is a Holy Day of Obligation for all Catholics. Therefore, as it is for every Sunday, Catholics are obligated to attend Holy Mass. Join us in celebrating the Ascension on Wednesday at the 5:00PM Vigil Mass on Ascension Thursday at the 7:30am, 9:00am or 7:00PM Holy Day Masses. Please bear in mind that the 9:00am Holy Day Mass is the OLM School Mass

and our students are to be joined by many grandparents. So please be sure to arrive early!

This Sunday we end our Religious Education Classes at OLM for the year. The program resumes again in the fall. We thank the many families who participate in our program and also the many dedicated volunteers who teach the children the Catholic Faith. Please pray for our RE families that they may stay close to the Lord Jesus and remain faithful by attending Sunday Mass.

May is a month dedicated to Motherhood. In particular we honor our Blessed Mother with Devotions in the Month of May each Monday night at 7:00pm. It is a great devotion as we gather as a parish family before the Eucharistic Lord and pray the mysteries of the Holy Rosary accompanied by beautiful music.

May Devotions are a great opportunity for us to spend some time away from the noisy distractions of the busy world and reflect and pray through Mary to Jesus. Pick up your beads and join us! Pope Leo XIII tells us: *"The Rosary is the most excellent form of prayer and the most efficacious means of attaining eternal life. It is the remedy for all our evils, the root of all our blessings. There is no more excellent way of praying."*

See you on the Ascension! Do good. Be well. God Bless. Pray the Rosary. Go Sox! Go Bruins! Go Celtics!



Can a Catholic do Yoga?

Yoga has traditionally been understood as a holistic discipline originating in Hinduism whose purpose is to seek enlightenment through a series of exercises that unite the body, mind and spirit. There are various kinds of yoga, but the form most familiar to Westerners is Hatha yoga, which seeks to ready the body for Enlightenment through bodily postures.

First, we should not ascribe superstitious magical effects to a physical action based only on its external performance. In other words, moving the body into certain positions does not produce a spiritual effect on its own. A person may kneel to plant flowers or kneel to pray to God. Kneeling becomes an act of worship within the proper context and with the proper intention. Granted these postures may have various physiological or psychological benefits. When speaking about posture the 1989 CDF document *Some Aspects of Christian Meditation* observes: "Some physical exercises automatically produce a feeling of quiet and relaxation, [and] pleasing sensations." The risk is to mistake these purely natural and physiological effects of yoga postures for spiritual effects. The document continues: "To take such feelings for the authentic consolations of the Holy Spirit would be a totally erroneous way of conceiving the spiritual life."

Second, traditional yoga as a spiritual path contradicts Catholic spirituality given its implicit philosophical presuppositions such as Monism and Gnosticism (among others). Monism is a philosophy that contends that all that exists is one. In this world view there is only an apparent distinction between persons and things. In Hinduism, Enlightenment is the realization and attainment of oneness. In this the self disappears into the absolute. Perhaps one familiar example of monism found in Yoga is the expression *So'ham*, which means: "I am He" (i.e. I am the universal Self). Meanwhile Gnosticism seeks to free oneself from the material realm because it is evil or illusory. Yoga, practiced spiritually is meant to detach oneself from the material world, since attachments inhibits oneness.

As Hindus themselves will tell you, if taken traditionally or spiritually, then yoga is incompatible with Christianity. Further, there is a danger trying to syncretize and co-opt non-Christian spiritualities for Christian use (and shows a disrespect for the beliefs of other cultures). Yet most yoga practices today are "yoga" in name only. So yoga practiced purely as a physiological or psychological way of improving one's health and not for spirituality is permissible, since bodily movements in themselves have no spiritual or metaphysical power. Still the Catholic must always be on the lookout for incorrect philosophical and spiritual ideas creeping their way in

If you have questions about the Catholic Faith, please send them to Fr. Barrow via email at associate@olmparish.org

Weekly Collection

April 29, 2018

Weekly.....	\$12,828.00
EFT.....	\$2,390.00
	Total=\$15,218.00
Outreach.....	\$203.00

If you have been away on vacation or visiting another parish, we kindly ask you to please make up your missed budget envelopes. We depend solely upon your weekly support to meet our weekly parish expenses.

Thank you for your generous support!

Please remember Our Lady of Mercy Church in your will or estate.



Second Collections
This Week: Building & Grounds

2018
CATHOLIC CHARITY APPEAL
Supporting the work of the Church

2018 Parish Goal=\$193,864
Pledged to date=\$171,795
 % of Parish Goal=89%
 Total Donors to date=423
 Average Gift=\$406
 % of Parish Participation=21%

Thank You for Your Generous Support!



We offer our prayers and condolences to the families of **Raymond O. Petteruto** and **Robert McCaffrey** whose Masses of Christian Burial was celebrated here last week.

The Ascension of the Lord

A Holy Day of Obligation for Catholics



Mass Schedule

Wednesday, May 9

Vigil Mass of the Ascension at 5:00pm

Thursday, May 10

Holy Day Masses at 7:30am,

**9:00am (OLM School Mass
with Grandparents) & 7:00pm**



This Week at OLM School

- Thursday, May 10: Grandparents Day Celebration
- Thursday, May 10: Ascension Holy Day Mass at 9:00AM with Grandparents!
- Friday, May 11: OLM Band Field Trip to Six Flags
- Saturday, May 12: OLM School First Communion Mass at Noon
- Sunday, May 13: May Crowning Ceremony at 10:30am Mass

Discover the OLM Difference!

www.olmschool.org



Marian Devotions **Mondays in May at 7:00PM**

Join us for Eucharistic Adoration,
Rosary & Meditative Music.



Life is Just Better
When You Pray
the Rosary



- May 6: Last Class for Grade 2 only, 10:00am -11:00am and Last Class for Grade 8 only, 6:00pm-7:00pm
- May 12: First Communion Masses at 10:00AM for RE & 12:00PM for OLM School
- May 13: First Communion Class May Crowning Ceremony at 10:30am Mass

6th Sunday of Easter



Easter was the church's first celebration to be noted in a special way beyond the weekly keeping of Sunday and, by the second century, seems to have been adopted by all Christian communities.

This fifty-day celebration of resurrection, ascension and descent of the Holy Spirit developed out of the Jewish *Shavuot* or Feast of Weeks, a fifty-day period following Passover.

Because the first Christians were Jews, it should not surprise us at all that we maintain reflections of that heritage.



This bulletin insert was written by Marion Eagen, a liturgist and musician in the diocese of Scranton, Pa. © 2002 Resource Publications, Inc., 160 E. Virginia St. #290, San Jose, CA 95112, (408) 286-8505. All rights reserved.

Best Wishes to our newly baptized



Azariah Tristin Hazard,
And his parents, Harold and Kristen.

"Dearly beloved, this child has been reborn in baptism. He is now called a child of God, for so indeed he is." – The Rite of Baptism



PRIESTHOOD
CONSIDER THE CALL



Please join us for the Ordination to the Sacred Order of the Diaconate of

Eric David Silva

by the Most Rev. Robert C. Evans
Auxiliary Bishop of Providence
Saturday, May 26, 2018 at 10:00AM
Cathedral of Saints Peter & Paul
Providence, RI