

PREPARE FOR THE SPIRIT

The Ascension of the Lord

[Acts 1:1-11](#)

[Psalm 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9](#)

[Ephesians 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13](#)

[Mark 16:15-20](#)

As he is about to ascend to the Father, Jesus promises his friends that they will not be left alone. He assures them that the Spirit is to come, and that the only way to remain united with him – since he will no longer be *physically* present – is to follow the Spirit.

We can tell by their question that the disciples are in desperate need of this Spirit, for it is clear that they are still waiting for the restoration of Israel and, therefore, they do not yet understand God's plan. They do not yet grasp what Jesus came to accomplish.

The Spirit must come, then, in order to guide and instruct them, so that they can assume their places in God's plan.

In order for the Spirit to do its job, however, the disciples will need to become receptive to its movements. This means that they must let go of their old ideas. Otherwise, they will busy themselves doing what they *believe* to be correct, but they will be without the Spirit's guidance.

This opening of mind and heart begins immediately. "Why are you standing there looking at the Sky?" they are asked after Jesus disappears from sight. A similar question was posed to the women at the empty tomb: "Why do you look for the Living One among the dead?"

In order to encounter the Spirit, the disciples must stop looking in places where the risen Christ cannot to be found. They must stop waiting for the Spirit to tell them what they already know. They must let go of preconceived notions about what God wants. They must ready themselves for surprises.

The same is true for us. We, too, have our preferred ideas, projects, and plans. It doesn't matter how good or how noble they are, however. If they do not fit into God's plan, we will struggle in vain to find Christ alive in them.

The physical absence of Christ opens up the entire world to the activity of the Spirit. It is up to us to welcome this activity.

Stephen J. Sauer, S.J.
Pastor

**Teen's
Encounter Christ Retreat
June 27-29**

The Archdiocesan CYO/Youth and Young Adult Ministry Office is sponsoring a Teens Encounter Christ retreat **June 27-29**. Those who have completed their junior year of high school, as well as college students and young adults are welcome.

Apply at www.tecneworleans.com or call
507-836-0551.

May Social & Dinner

Please plan to join us for our monthly social and dinner following the 7:30 p.m. Mass on **Sunday, May 31**, in Lenes Hall. The Vanderbrook, Francingues and Krentel families are generously sponsoring this month's event. We look forward to seeing you there!

Summer Employment Opportunity

Anyone interested in helping the parish office on a part-time basis during the summer months is asked to contact Cathy Brown in the parish office (504) 529-1477 Ext. 223. Applicants must be competent in Microsoft Office skills and comfortable learning other computer applications.

Marriage Encounter Weekend

If you'd like greater depth, growth, and passion in your relationship, you'll like the difference a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend can make! Their upcoming weekend will be held June 5-7 at the Holiday Inn in Slidell, La. For more information, please call 1-888-469-3735 or email: registration@wwme-nogl.com or visit the website: www.wwme-nogl.com.

Adoration

**Please join us for Adoration
First Friday of each month
June 5, 2009
8:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.**

Prepare for Pentecost

Next Sunday, **May 31**, is the Feast of Pentecost. Help to prepare yourself and your family for a deeper indwelling of the Spirit through prayer and fasting during the week ahead. Pamphlets containing a Novena for the purpose have been placed at the entrance of the church.

Parish Prayer List

If you would like to place a loved one's name on the parish prayer list, please contact the parish office. As a practice, names are removed from the list every three months unless they are renewed.

Also, we will begin to publish the names of parishioners and loved ones who have passed away. Please contact the parish office so that we may publish your loved one's name.

Mark Your Calendars!

The Feast of Corpus Christi is June 14.
**We will continue our tradition of Mass at
Immaculate Conception Church followed by a
procession to the cathedral. Please plan on joining us!**

Altar Flowers

Would you like to remember a loved one, a special intention, or a special occasion (birthday, anniversary, graduation, etc.) by sponsoring flowers? What a wonderful way to show your love by having flowers placed in their honor on our beautiful altar.

Please call Cathy in the church office for
more information: 529-1477,
Ext. 223

Altar Servers Needed

Those interested in becoming altar servers, ages 10 and up, are invited to call the parish office.

PRESIDER SCHEDULE

Saturday, May 23

4:00 p.m. Fr. Stephen Sauer, S.J.

Sunday, May 24

8:00 a.m. Fr. Stephen Sauer, S.J.
 9:30 a.m. Fr. Paul Osterle, S.J.
 11:00 a.m. Fr. Paul Osterle, S.J.
 7:30 p.m. Fr. Raymond Fitzgerald, S.J.

Saturday, June 6

4:00 p.m. Fr. Paul Osterle, S.J.

Sunday, June 7

8:00 a.m. Fr. Paul Osterle, S.J.
 9:30 a.m. Fr. Fran Pistorius, S.J.
 11:00 a.m. Fr. Stephen Sauer, S.J.
 7:30 p.m. Fr. Stephen Sauer, S.J.

Prayer List

Anne Accardo	Gilbert St. Germain
Lourdes Armbruster	Jim Washington
Sea Barry	Allison Webb
Alfred Stephen Berry	Justin Webb
Musette Mary Buckley	Whitney Welsh
Ed Burks	Keri White
Kelsey Favrot	Gerald A. Wilson
Rosealie Foster	
Gina Gauthreaux	
Pamela Hatton	
Maggie Hebert	
Juliann Kiefer	
Tara Stoulig Monistere	
Beverly Morris	
Karen Oxmann	
Darlene Peters	
Desmond Peters	
Lauren Read	
Vince Rocky Russo	
Wescoat Sandlin	
Steve Schmedtje	

EACH MASS IS OFFERED FOR THE INTENTIONS OF ALL PRESENT AND FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Tuesday, May 26

7:30 a.m. Margaret Bienvenu Laborde
 Noon Fernando M. Davila, Jr.

Wednesday, May 27

7:30 a.m. Michel L. Tyler
 Noon Bryan Patrick Bennen

Thursday, May 28

7:30 a.m. Michel L. Tyler
 Noon Humphrey McCarron

Friday, May 29

7:30 a.m. Pamela Hatton
 Noon Herbert Thurber

Saturday, May 30

4:00 p.m. Albert Baxley, Sr.
 Frances Ferran
 Danny Fitzpatrick
 Zachary Tyler
 In Thanksgiving

Sunday, May 31

8:00 a.m. Thomas Glenon Murphy
 7:30 p.m. Sandra Bourg
 Beverly Kundt
 Sue Sevier
 In Thanksgiving

Bible Study

Come join your fellow Parishioners for fellowship and study of the bible **Tuesday, May 26** at Billy & Mary Kay Zahn's home (1336 Carrollton Avenue, Metairie, La. (504) 376-5095) and **Wednesday, May 27** following the Noon Mass in the Parish Office.

Wedding Banns

May 23, 2009

Cherie Reid & Oliver Zerod
 Kathi Garbin & William Vincent

May 30, 2009

Stacey McDaniel & Brett Lala

June 5, 2009

Kathryn Foster & Benjamin Moscona

Weekly Collections

May 17: \$7,750.00