**Sunday Bible Study**

**The Ascension of the Lord**

**Readings:**

[**Acts 1:1–11**](https://biblia.com/bible/rsvce/Acts%201.1%E2%80%9311)[**Psalm 47:2–3**](https://biblia.com/bible/rsvce/Ps%2047.2%E2%80%933)**,** [**6–7**](https://biblia.com/bible/rsvce/Psalm%2047.6%E2%80%937)**,** [**8–9**](https://biblia.com/bible/rsvce/Psalm%2047.8%E2%80%939)[**Ephesians 1:17–23**](https://biblia.com/bible/rsvce/Eph%201.17%E2%80%9323) **or** [**Hebrews 9:24–28**](https://biblia.com/bible/rsvce/Heb%209.24%E2%80%9328)**;** [**10:19–23**](https://biblia.com/bible/rsvce/Hebrews%2010.19%E2%80%9323)[**Luke 24:46–53**](https://biblia.com/bible/rsvce/Luke%2024.46%E2%80%9353)

**In today’s First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles, St. Luke gives the surprising news that there is more of the story to be told. The story did not end with the empty tomb, or with Jesus’ appearances to the Apostles over the course of forty days. Jesus’ saving work will have a liturgical consummation. He is the great high priest, and He has still to ascend to the heavenly Jerusalem, there to celebrate the feast in the true Holy of Holies. The truth of this feast shines forth from the Letter to the Hebrews, where we read of the great high priest’s passing through the heavens, the sinless intercessor’s sacrifice on our behalf (see** [**Hebrews 4:14–15**](https://biblia.com/bible/rsvce/Heb%204.14%E2%80%9315)**). Indeed, His intercession will lead to the Holy Spirit’s descent in fire upon the Church. Luke spells out that promise in the First Reading for the feast of the Ascension: “in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit” (**[**Acts 1:5**](https://biblia.com/bible/rsvce/Acts%201.5)**). The Ascension is the preliminary feast that directs the Church’s attention forward to Pentecost. On that day, salvation will be complete; for salvation is not simply expiation for sins (that would be wonder enough), but it is something even greater than that. Expiation is itself a necessary precondition of our adoption as God’s children. To live that divine life we must receive the Holy Spirit. To receive the Holy Spirit we must be purified through Baptism. The Responsorial Psalm presents the Ascension in terms familiar from the worship of the Jerusalem Temple in the days of King Solomon: “God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord” (Psalm 47). The priest-king takes his place at the head of the people, ruling over the nations, establishing peace.**

**The Epistle strikes a distinctively Paschal note. In the early Church, as today, Easter was the normal time for the baptism of adult converts. The sacrament was often called “illumination” or “enlightenment” because of the light that came with God’s saving grace (see, for example,** [**Hebrews 10:32**](https://biblia.com/bible/rsvce/Heb%2010.32)**). Saint Paul, in his Letter to the Ephesians, speaks in terms of glory that leads to greater glories still, as Ascension leads to Pentecost: “May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened,” he writes, as he looks to the divinization of the believers. Their “hope” is “his inheritance among the holy ones,” the saints who have been adopted into God’s family and now rule with Him at the Father’s right hand.**

**This is the “good news” the Apostles are commissioned to spread—to the whole world, to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem—at the Ascension. It’s the good news we must spread today.**

***The St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology***

***Visit our webpage!***

[***www.saintanthonyblueridge.com***](http://www.saintanthonyblueridge.com)

**St. Anthony “Wish List”**

**☺ ☺☺☺☺☺☺☺**

***Renovations for “Tony’s Place”- Our CCD building is in great need of repairs! If you would like to donate towards this wish, please write “Tony’s Place” on the bottom of your check & drop in collection basket. Throw your loose change in the Big Coke Bottle too! Thank you in advance!***

**☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺**

**2nd Collections for June & July**

**June 2nd- Catholic Communications**

**June 9th – Local SVDP**

**June 30th –Peters Pence- (Not tax deductible)**

**July 14th – Mission Co-op**

**July 28th – Local SVDP**

**K-12 Religious Education**

***Classes began Wednesday, September 19th.***

**Interested in joining the Knights of Columbus?** 

[**www.kofc.org/join**](http://www.kofc.org/join)

**or**

**Call Tom Brown @**

**678-787-3028**

**\*\*PLEASE NOTICE\*\***

**Fr. John will be on retreat from June 7th to June 10th. Fr. Yander will be here to celebrate the Masses for the Saturday Vigil and**

**Sunday Mass.**

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PRAYERS FOR OUR

PARISHIONERS

***Pray for the soul of*:**

**Alanna Popovich, Bill Adamson, Glenn McFarland Jr., Linda Traupane, Billy Shaw, Louise Ciamillo, Bobby Wayne, & Amber Aiello’s grandma.**

 ***Please pray for:***

**Rose Schwartz, Kathy Suvada’s daughter Nikki, Gene Bishop, Virginia Hastings, Ruth McCart, Patti LaRosa, Bob Bender, Mary Arp, Matt Guilfoyle, Lorraine Reynolds, Lou Ciamillo & Family.**

 ***Please pray for:* the safety of our marines, soldiers, sailors Luke Malonis, Sean Hastings, Phillip Thomas, John J. Banaghan, Carlos Rodriguez, Christopher, Greg Langas, Jeff Longhurst, Nicholas Horton, Josh Adkison, Chris Jones, David Rogers, Anthony Clark Yebba, Edward Bowen, Matthew & Patrick Mills, Michael Waranis, Clayton Cornell, Taylor Biggers, Anthony Difiore, & Donald P. Lozano. PLEASE LET US KNOW IF A NAME NEEDS TO BE ADDED OR REMOVED FROM THE LIST. We will delete names after 30 days**

**RCIA & Adult Classes**

**RCIA- Sundays 9am-10am. -See Fr. John**

**Adult Ed: Every Sunday morning @ 9:30am in the parish hall with Dcn. John.**

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**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Mon. June 3rd -9:00am Mass**

***Jack & Barbara Cotter- Sp. Int. “Mass of Thanksgiving” ![C:\Users\nbailey\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\H5SZIAJA\Praying_Hands[1].jpg]()***

**Tues. June 4th – 9:00am Mass**

***Bobby Bond- Sp. Int. “Healing” ![C:\Users\nbailey\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\H5SZIAJA\Praying_Hands[1].jpg]()***

**Requested by: Cory Bond**

**Wed. June 5th - 9:00am Mass**

***Louise Ciamillo-RIP ![C:\Users\nbailey\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\H5SZIAJA\cross___rose_by_hitenshi16-d6gzdot[1].png]()***

**Requested by: Dcn. John & Betty Mason**

**\*\*First Fri. June 7th –**

 **NO 7:00pm Mass**

***Fr. John on retreat***

**Sat. June 8th – NO 9:00am Mass**

***Fr. John on retreat***

**Sat. June 8th – 4:00pm Mass**

***Mona Corn.-RIP ![C:\Users\nbailey\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\H5SZIAJA\cross___rose_by_hitenshi16-d6gzdot[1].png]()***

**Requested by: Gene Bishop**



**If you would like to have flowers in memory of or in honor of someone, please call the office.**



**Last week’s Collections**

**05-18-19 Offer. $ 1682.00**

**05-19-19 Offer. $ 3001.00**

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**We thank you for your continued support of our parish! If you missed a prior collection, you may drop your envelope in the next collection. We are so grateful for our wonderful parishioners and visitors!**

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**Knights of Columbus**

**Charity Golf Tournament and**

**Golf Ball Drop!**

**Saturday June 8, 2019**

**At Copper Basin Golf Club in Copperhill TN.**

**If you would like to play in the Golf Tournament the price is $45 per golfer, or $160 foursome. $1200 Cash prize for Golf Winners. Includes Golf, Cart, Lunch & Gift Bag. Prizes for closest to the pin, Longest Drive, & putting**

**Register at the Club or call Bob Soph @ 828-494-4859. Golf Ball Drop at 12:30pm**

***Be on the lookout for one of the Knights of Columbus selling tickets for the Golf ball drop in the vestibule after the Masses or you can purchase tickets in the office during the week.***

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***Food Donations***

***Don’t forget to bring in your non-perishable food items and put in the big green box in the vestibule.***

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***Funeral for Gerry Healy***



***Funeral will be here at St. Anthony on June 15, 2019 at 11:00am with a reception to follow downstairs.***

***Office will be closed Thursday June 6th from 1:45 to 4:30pm***