

From the Pastor's Desk:

Dear Friends:

The feast of the Ascension of Our Lord is a Mystery. Scriptures tell us that Jesus left his disciples to go back to the heavenly Father and promised to return at the end time. He concluded his earthly ministry and with this began the mission of the church. In today's gospel the disciples were saying goodbye to Jesus and we heard the intimate moment of farewell between friends. As he prepared to depart from the earth he offered them his parting gifts: the gift of understanding so that they were able to comprehend the meaning of the Scriptures. He did promise that they would receive the power of the Holy Spirit and gave them his final loving blessing and told them that he would not abandon them but remain with them till the end of times. The reaction of the disciples shows a striking transformation. Luke tells us that they returned to Jerusalem with great joy, praising and worshipping God. They were now certainly different from the frightened little band that had gone into hiding, run away from all authorities in Jerusalem particularly after the crucifixion. Now they were transformed into new persons, strengthened with faith and with the hope of the future. The Lord instructed them to be his witnesses from Jerusalem to the ends of the world but they were also told to await the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Heavenly messengers were beside the apostles as an evidence of God's continued assistance. They assured the apostles that the Lord will come back to them as they had seen him go up to heaven accompanied by the clouds.

This Feast of the Ascension commemorates the elevation of Christ into Heaven by his own power in the presence of his disciples on the fortieth day after His glorious Resurrection. The Ascension of Jesus tells us that the Lord has completed His earthly work of our redemption. Through his numerous apparitions to hundreds of people between the Day of his Resurrection and the Day of His Ascension, Jesus proved two things: First, he proved that he was the promised Messiah that had come to redeem them. Secondly, he proved that through he who overcame death, those who persevere in their living faith shall also overcome death and inherit the Kingdom of God. The scripture readings of today particularly first and the third tell us about the Ascension. Jesus their beloved master was taken up from among their midst and the angels told them to go and search for him among the living and not among the dead. They are now called upon to think in a new way, to visualize Jesus as a universal person. They are totally assured that the Lord was with them and help them in their work.

God Bless You!

Fr. Madanu Lourdu Raju

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION ANNOUNCEMENTS



CCD: Catholic Christian Discipleship

On our Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, our guide led us up the Mount of Olives to visit the **Church of the Ascension** which commemorates the end of Jesus' time on earth when he was "taken up" into heaven. The attraction of the Chapel of the Ascension is that it marks the spot to venerate the stone on which Jesus was standing before the Ascension and where, legend has it, that Jesus left behind two footprints. Each of us touched this stone and offered a prayer in this church on the top

of Mount Olives. May we all one day ascend and be taken up to heaven.

Blessings & Peace ~ Sr. Marianna

OUR WEEKLY GIVING

Ss. Peter & Paul	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 1,340.00
Loose	192.00
Total	1,532.00
Total from May 27, 2018	1,132.72
Building Fund	60.00
Mission Cooperation Plan	570.00
St. Stanislaus	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 285.00
Loose	62.00
Total	347.00
Total from May 27, 2018	505.00
St. John	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 1,017.00
Loose	125.00
Total	1,142.00
Total from May 27, 2018	695.95
Building Fund	200.00
St. Michael	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 255.00
Loose	42.42
Total	297.42
Total from May 27, 2018	272.00
<i>(Totals include only the basic collection)</i>	

Called to Become Saints
Catholic Services Appeal 2018-2019

The Annual Catholic Services Appeal is underway through out the Diocese. The "fair share" responsibility is listed below. As of **May 1st**, we have collected:

	Payments & Pledges		
	Assessment	& Pledges	Amount Due
Ss. Peter & Paul	\$ 11,393.00	\$ 7,980.00	\$ 3,413.00
St. John	\$ 9,158.00	\$ 5,660.00	\$ 3,498.00
St. Stanislaus	\$ 5,234.00	\$ 5,234.00	PAID IN FULL
St. Michael	\$ 2,789.00	\$ 2,789.00	PAID IN FULL

OUR SPONSOR THIS WEEK

GILMAN MARKET

Complete Deli & Meat Department
Bakery - Liquor Dept. - Lottery Tickets
Open 7 Days - Sunday til Noon
(715) 447 - 8291

"We Are Called to Witness"

The 69th Annual Convention - Superior Diocesan Council of Catholic Women is Tuesday, June 18th from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Parish in Medford. The 2019 Annual Convention Registration forms are available in the Church office. The banquet on Monday evening, June 17th is \$25 and \$40 for the Convention on Tuesday, June 19th.