

From the Pastor's Desk:

Dear Friends:

Today we celebrate the feast of the Ascension of Our Lord. After his resurrection, having spent forty days with his disciples, our Lord ascends to his beloved Father. Indeed this feast of the Ascension of Jesus to his Father is a Mystery and not easy to grasp but at the same time it marks the beginning of the Mission of the Church. In today's Gospel we have the farewell scenario between the disciples and Jesus and we read the intimate moment of separation between friends. As he prepares to depart from the earth he offers them his parting gifts: the gift of understanding so that they can now fully comprehend the meaning of the Scriptures; the promise that they will receive the power of the Holy Spirit; a final loving blessing and promise that he will not abandon them but be with them till the end of times. He gives them the command to preach the Good News to all nations. The reaction of the disciples indicates a striking transformation. Luke tells us that they returned to Jerusalem with great joy, praising and worshiping God. They were now certainly different from that little group of disciples in the cenacle, hiding from all authorities in Jerusalem, afraid of them. Now they are new persons, strengthened with faith, filled with joy and carrying the hope of the future. The Lord instructed them to be his witnesses from Jerusalem to the ends of the world.

Jesus gives his mission to all the believers: "Go out to the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature." This mission is not given to a select few but to all believers. To be a Christian is to be a proclaimer and an evangelizer. There is a difference between preaching and proclaiming. "We preach with words but we proclaim with our lives." As we celebrate the Lord's return to His Father in Heaven – His Ascension – we are being commissioned to go forth and proclaim the Gospel of life and love, of hope and peace, by the witness of our lives. On this day of hope, encouragement and commissioning, let us renew our commitment to be true disciples everywhere we go, beginning with our family and our parish, "living in a manner worthy of the call (we) have received."

God Bless You!

Fr. Madanu Lourdu Raju

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FORMATION:

We often speak of the Paschal Mystery. By the Paschal Mystery we mean the Passion, Death, Resurrection and Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ by which Jesus accomplished our redemption and is now "seated at the right hand of the Father in glory."

Jesus' glorious Ascension signified the completion of his time on earth, which is celebrated by the Church forty days after the Resurrection and ten days before the Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit. Our Lord Jesus Christ gave us hope by promising that "when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also" (John 14:3).

+ Parents, if you would want your child to attend a Summer Vacation Bible School, the Totus Tuus (Totally Yours) program is being taught by trained young people in Ladysmith from July 9 -14 and in Medford from July 16-21. You can register with the parishes directly to find out their times. There is a day time for the younger grades and an evening time for teens. Save the dates!

Blessings and Peace,

Sister Marianna

OUR WEEKLY GIVING

Ss. Peter & Paul	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 1,331.00
Loose	7 1.00
Total	1,402.00
Total from May 22, 2016	1,195.00
Building Fund	2 60.00
St. Stanislaus	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 480.00
Loose	1 11.00
Total	5 91.00
Total from May 22, 2016	5 37.00
Catholic Home Missions	5.00
Building Fund	1 30.00
St. John	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 611.00
Loose	9 5.01
Total	7 06.01
Total from May 22, 2016	8 13.55
Trinity Dome Collection	9 3.41
St. Michael	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 197.00
Loose	1 63.00
Total	3 60.00
Total from May 22, 2016	2 82.00

(Totals include only the basic collection)

2016/2017 Catholic Services Appeal

Contributor Status Report as of 5/1/2017 - updated by the Diocese of Superior

	Assessment	Amount Paid	Amount Due
Ss. Peter & Paul -	\$ 11,078.00	8,873.00	\$ 2,205.00
St. John -	\$ 8,374.00	5,945.00	\$ 2,429.00
St. Stanislaus -	\$ 5,461.00	5,057.00	\$ 404.00
St. Michael -	\$ 2,323.00	2,323.00	Paid in Full

OUR SPONSOR THIS WEEK



At the request of Bishop Powers, there will be a **Special Collection** to provide relief for our affected brothers and sisters in the Barron County area. More information to follow.