

Clergy: Msgr. Frank H. Rossi, Pastor
oloppastor@gmail.com
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9am-3pm
olopccc@sbcglobal.net
STAFF: Lynn Stacy, Director of Liturgy
 Diane Sanderson, Facilities Coordinator
 Annette Faircloth, Director Youth Ministry
 Cathy Favre, Bookkeeper



My dear parishioners:

Mother's Day: Today throughout these United States we focus our loving attention upon on mothers, thanking God for the gift of our mothers and all that they have done to love us and teach us throughout our lives.

The woman who is considered the driving force behind having a day dedicated to our mothers is Anna Jarvis. In 1902 she publicized a day to honor her mother and over the next few years lobbied politicians to name the second Sunday in May a day set aside in the U.S. to honor all mothers. In 1912 she wrote that the day is to be called "Mother's Day" and stated it was "to be in the singular possessive, for each family to honour their mothers, not a plural possessive commemorating all mothers in the world".

I am very happy that Anna made this distinction. Today is not a day for us to just imagine motherhood as an objective reality. Today is a day to remember our mothers (and those who were mother-like role models in our lives); the women who lovingly cared for us as children, had patience with us as teenagers, and were proud of us as adults. It is a day to reflect on some life-lessons they taught us and how we can most fully honor them by continuing to incorporate in our lives the love they gave us in their lives.

If you are blessed, like I am, to continue to have the presence of your mother here on earth, tell her that you love her and share with her a few meaningful life experiences that you carry in your heart. If your mother has been gifted with the promise of eternal life, pray the Lord to shower her with his divine love and to assure her that her love continues in your life and in the lives of those she loves.

To you mothers of Our Lady of the Pines Church, may the Lord envelop you with his deep and abiding love and may this day and this year be filled with countless blessings for you.

Holy Day of Obligation: Most of us remember the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord into Heaven as "Ascension Thursday" as Jesus ascended into heaven on the fortieth day of his resurrection, which places it on this past Thursday. Some countries and a few regions of our own country continue to celebrate the Ascension of the Lord on Thursday of the Sixth Week of Easter. For most of the United States, including Texas, the Ascension of the Lord has been transferred to the Seventh Sunday of Easter. Let me briefly explain why.

Every Sunday is a Holy Day of Obligation whereby Catholics are expected to attend Mass and commit sin if they do not (barring a grave reason). Until the 1960's there were 13 feasts that the Church considered of such great importance that they too were named holy days of obligation no matter on what day of the week the feast was celebrated (ex. Christmas, All Saints Day, Assumption of the Blessed Mother into Heaven, etc.). At Vatican II the bishops approved changes to the liturgy, including reducing the number of holy days of obligation from 13 to 6 by shifting many of the feasts to Sundays. When the Code of Canon Law was revised in 1983 some further changes to holy days of obligation were made. Among these were that the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord could be celebrated on the Sixth Sunday of Easter if the bishops of a region agreed to do so. The two reasons cited for allowing this change were the difficulty for Catholics in remote areas of the world to get to a church for Mass on a day other than Sunday, and the challenge for priests who serve multiple parishes to make "the rounds" of his parishes twice in one week for obligatory Masses. These are very significant issues in most of Africa and much of Central and South America. A third reason, and one the bishops were not too proud of, was that most Catholics were not attending Mass on Ascension Thursday and so were deprived of celebrating a very important event in the mission of the Lord.

Continued in next column

**May 12 - May 20, 2018
 Readings and Mass Intentions**

Saturday, May 12 4:30pm—Mass
 6:30pm—Spanish Mass
 Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10 [8a]/Jn 16:23b-28
Mass intention for Thelma Drouet
Sunday, May 13 9:00am—Mass
 Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23
Mass intention for the People of the Parish
Monday, May 14 4:30pm—Mass
 Monday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [8]/Jn 15:9-17
Mass intention for Ray Stewart
Tuesday, May 15 No Mass
 Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21 [33a]/Jn 17:1-11a
Wednesday, May 16 4:30pm—Mass
 Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68: 29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab [33a]/
 Jn 17:11b-19
Mass intention for Thelma Drouet
Thursday, May 17 8:30am—Mass
 Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [1]/
 Jn 17:20-26
Friday, May 18 9:30am—Communion Service
 Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab [19a]/
 Jn 21:15-19
Saturday, May 19 4:30pm—Mass
 6:30pm—Spanish Mass
 Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5 and 7 [7b]/
 Jn 21:20-25
Mass intention for A.D. Collins
Sunday, May 20 9:00am—Mass
 Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 [cf. 30]/1 Cor
 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25/Jn 20:19-23
 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15
Mass intention for the People of the Parish

**God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a
 blare of trumpets to the Lord. (Ps 47)**

(continued)

By transferring the solemnity to Sunday, Catholics were not in the state of sin for missing Mass on a holy day of obligation and they were able to celebrate the Lord's ascension into heaven. This same rationale was used to approved to not have holy days of obligation fall on two consecutive days. So, when an otherwise holy day of obligation (other than the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Nativity of the Lord) falls on a Saturday or a Monday the obligation to attend Mass is rescinded, thought the feast is celebrated on that day.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Msgr. Frank H. Rossi
 Pastor

Sun. May 13 <i>Ascension of the Lord</i> 9:00am—Mass <i>Blessing of Mothers</i> Mother's Day	Mon. May 14 4:30pm—Mass	Tues. May 15	Wed. May 16 11:00am— <i>Stewardship Meeting</i> 4:00pm—Rosary 4:30pm—Mass	Thurs. May 17 8:30am—Mass 9:00 <i>Divine Mercy Chaplet</i>	Fri. May 18 9:30am— <i>Communion Service</i>	Sat. May 19 3:45-4:15pm— <i>Confessions</i> 4:30pm— <i>Vigil Mass</i> 6:30pm— <i>Spanish Mass</i>
Sun. May 20 <i>Pentecost Sunday</i> 9:00am—Mass <i>Blessing of Graduates</i>	Mon. May 21 4:30pm—Mass	Tues. May 22	Wed. May 23 4:00pm—Rosary 4:30pm—Mass	Thurs. May 24 8:30am—Mass 9:00 <i>Divine Mercy Chaplet</i>	Fri. May 25 9:30am— <i>Communion Service</i>	Sat. May 26 3:45-4:15pm— <i>Confessions</i> 4:30pm— <i>Vigil Mass</i> 6:30pm— <i>Spanish Mass</i>

Honoring our Graduates

The parish would like to honor all parishioners graduating from high school and college/university this year, with a blessing at the 9:00 am Mass on Sunday, May 20. Please provide the pastor/parish office with the names of graduates and whether they are graduating from high school or university so that we can prepare a parish gift to honor our graduates.

Newman Connection

Statistically 80% of U.S. college-age Catholic young adults stop actively practicing their faith at some point in their college years. Only less than half of these Catholics will return to the practice at some time in their adult life. Newman Connection is a Catholic non-profit organization which attempts to support college enrolled Catholics in continuing to practice their faith by connecting them with the Newman Center of the college they are attending. Parishioners with children who will be attending college in the fall, or are presently attending college, are asked to provide the parish office/pastor with the parishioner names and colleges so that the Newman Connection can provide this information to the colleges. Let us do all we can to help keep our young adult parishioners connected to their Catholic faith.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for: Nelda Leathem, Maureen Peltier, Rosemary Urban, Rick Vining, Merle Kucera, Rebecca Duckworth, Kiley Bourque, Chase Ellis, Kimberly Ellis, Lloyd Balestra, Father Bill Ryan, Avery Madison, Evelyn Schima, Billy Bowlin, Jr., Mitzi McElvain; Frank Cuccia, Sr., Lottie Faircloth, Susan Fitzgerald, Davie Marold, Debra McBee, Rosa Davis

Repose of the soul: Mandy Boudreaux, Todd Puckett; Lonnie Gaspar,

Names will remain on the prayer list for two weeks. You may list names in the Prayer book in the vestibule of the Church and your intention will be offered at daily Mass.

Weekly Stewardship

May 5 & 6 Weekly Offering \$ 5,099.32
 Average Weekly Cost \$ 3,152.00
 Excess/Deficit \$ 1,947.32
 Thank you for your generosity.

**Altar Society
 End of Year Dinner**

June 5, 2018 6:00 pm
 Z's Fillin Station

RSVP: 283-3163 or Office: 283-5367

**Adult Faith Formation Classes
 Sundays after Mass**

4 Signs of Dynamic Catholics by Matthew Kelly
 Led by Madeline Arnett

"THE FILM MASTERFULLY SHARES THE TENDERNESS, HUMANITY, AND REVOLUTIONARY THINKING OF POPE FRANCIS, AND SHOWS THAT HE IS A MAN WHO PRACTICES WHAT HE PREACHES."

— THE VATICAN —

FROM AWARD WINNING DIRECTOR
 WIM WENDERS

**POPE FRANCIS
 A MAN OF HIS WORD**

For information on Group Sales, visit
www.PopeFrancisTickets.com or call (800) 585-1892