



Mass
Intentions

BREAK OPEN THE WORD

Acts 1:1-11

Eph 1:17-23

Mk 16:15-20

Saturday, May 16

5p Ann Johnson (D)

7p

Sunday, May 17

8a Mary Scheer (D)

10:30a People of the Parish

Monday, May 18

No Mass

Tuesday, May 19

8:30a Communion Service

Wednesday, May 20

6:30p Communion Service

Thursday, May 21

8:30a Communion Service

Friday, May 22

8:30a Communion Service

Saturday, May 23

5p Nancy Ehrman (D)

7p

Sunday, May 24

8a Rosey Molina (D)

10:30 a People of the Parish

The feast of the Ascension is our day to remember all that the Easter season has been. It's a chance to recap our moments of encounter with Christ and our own calls to conversion. There's no reason we can't take time to do our own sky-gazing, knowing that there's more out there than a void. Nobody can tell us that we have to handle snakes (nobody needed to tell me), but if we are open, the Spirit will lead us to be witnesses from wherever we are standing to the ends of the earth.

The Ascension might be our most whimsical feast. The story has nothing of the heaviness we heard at the Last Supper, when Jesus spoke of going away and being lifted up. When we look to the disciples as role models, we can be encouraged by their never-ending need to learn and be reconverted to Jesus' message. We remember that as so many of them were martyred, faith did not deliver them from every danger.



Luke's introduction to the Acts of the Apostles, his second volume on the Christian story, is packed with theology sometimes disguised as anecdote. We get a sense of his approach as soon as he says that his first book dealt with "all" that Jesus did and taught. That statement alone intimates that each incident he is going to bubble up with enough meaning to tell the whole story in a nutshell. (I remind you of how John ended his Gospel by saying that the whole world could not contain all the books necessary to describe everything Jesus did.)

Readings for the Week

Monday: Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6- 711ab; Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27;
Ps 68:10-11, 20-21; Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38;
Ps 68:29-30, 33-36ab; Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11;
Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11; Jn 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-2,
11-12, 19-20ab; Jn 21:15-19

Saturday: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31;
Ps 11:4, 5, 7; Jn 21:20-25

Sunday: Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a,
16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5;

Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-30;
Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39

Superficially, Luke begins Acts by retelling the story of Jesus' departure, but in reality he's recapping Jesus' entire history: his "appearance," a second 40-day sojourn, a reminder of John the Baptist, teaching about the kingdom of God and the promise of the Spirit. As usual, the disciples (we might want to place ourselves here, along side the disciples) miss the point as they ask about the fulfillment of their expectations for the kind of kingdom they understand. Jesus responds that they are looking for knowledge that is beyond their power to imagine. Rather than seek the fulfillment of their own hopes, he tells them, they should wait for the power of the Holy Spirit, the power that will enable and impel them to communicate his message beyond the limits of their most far-reaching expectations.

The celebration of Christ's ascension focuses our attention on just exactly what Christians are to do now that the historical Jesus is no longer with us. This is Luke's introduction to the life we live: believing in Christ without having known the historical Jesus.

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Your Invited!



Fr. Leo Patalinghug

For more information please contact
Jennifer Seppi
(301) 646-4994.

**PASS THE WORD TO
YOUR FAMILY AND
FRIENDS**



Please join us as we welcome Fr. Leo Patalinghug, host of Grace Before Meals, to St. Francis of Assisi on Wed., May 20. Fr. Leo will be the main celebrant for Mass at 6:30p.m. followed by an exploration into Theology of the Body and true love from the Catholic perspective during his presentation of "The Logic of Sexuality: Language of Compassion."

Fr. Leo has been featured on ABC, CBS, NBC, PBS, EWTN and even the Food Network where Fr. Leo defeated a world famous chef in a cooking competition

Women's ACTS Team Sign Up

Any women who have attended an ACTS retreat are invited to sign up to be on team for the August 20-23 St. Francis Women's ACTS Retreat. The cost is \$170. Our initial formation meeting will be Thurs. May 28 at 6:30 p.m. Future meetings will be 6:30-9 p.m. every Monday evening beginning June 1. Please prayerfully consider the commitment. If you are interested and can make the 13 meetings and commissioning Mass on June 4 at 6 p.m. contact us on or before May 18.

Mary McDuffie fmcduffie@gt.rr.com
Jan Childress mchild@gt.rr.com
Angela Hebert amhgig@gmail.com



Please include in your email: 1) Name 2) Address 3) Phone #'s 4) E-mail 5) Parish where registered 6) Parish where you made your retreat 7) Number of ACTS teams served.

MEN'S ACTS RETREAT

REGISTRATION IS UNDERWAY FOR THE JUNE 25-28 MEN'S ACTS RETREAT AT THE HOLY FAMILY CENTER. THE COST IS \$170 BUT FINANCIAL NEED SHOULD NOT PREVENT YOU FROM REGISTERING. SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE. A \$50 DEPOSIT WITH YOUR REGISTRATION FORM HOLDS A PLACE FOR YOU. IF GOD IS CALLING YOU TO MAKE THIS RETREAT, REGISTRATION FORMS ARE AT THE CHURCH OFFICE AND CHURCH WEBSITE. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT:

MIKE COLE - (409) 853-2939
MCOLE3313@SBCGLOBAL.NET
FRANK PRITCHARD - (409) 332-0718
FPRITCHARD1@ALLSTATE.COM
PAUL LAPEYROLERIE - (409) 988-3449
PLAPEYROLIE@SBCGLOBAL.NET



A WEEK WITH THE BIBLE



Holy Family Retreat Center, 9920 N. Major Dr.
Our 17th year with Sr. Carol Perry, S.U.

Cost: \$50/person, \$80/person for both am & p.m.
presentations

Pre-register by **June 1** for any of the three

IS JESUS REALLY RELEVANT?

Monday - Thursday Evenings
June 15-18, 2015 7 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

After all, people say, he lived 2000 years ago. Isn't his message a bit out of date? Perhaps the problem is we haven't really heard that message which is startlingly modern. We need to reconsider it as the gospels have recorded it.

THE FAMILY OF DAVID

Monday - Thursday Mornings

June 15-18, 2015 10:00 am - 11:30 a.m.

There is no richer section of the Old Testament than the family of David, their allies and their enemies as they attempt to understand what God is asking. Since this is the heritage of Jesus it colors both Testaments.

WEEKEND RETREAT

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

Friday - Sunday, June 19-21,

These were the first words that Jesus addressed to his disciples in John's gospel. What might we respond today if he stood before us? The retreat will consist of the Liturgy of the Hours, conferences, Eucharist, confession and quiet time. Registration begins at 4:00 pm on Friday, opens with a light supper at 5:00 pm and ends with lunch on Sunday.

Cost: \$165/person (single), \$125/person (shared)
\$35 deposit

**July 13-17, 2015 - St. Francis of Assisi VBS
SonSpark Labs, "Discovering God's Plan 4 U = Jesus!"**

**July 13-17, 2015, Mon.- Fri. 9 am-12, for ages 3 years old
(3 YR. OLDS MUST BE POTTY TRAINED) - just completed 4th grade**

Registration Fee: \$10 per child, which includes a VBS tee shirt, snacks, crafts and Fridays hotdog lunch for participants and their family.
(Make checks out to St. Francis Church)

Child's Name: _____
Age or Grade (just completed): _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

Tee Shirt for participating child: Child size: XS (2-4) ___ S (6-8) ___
M (10-12) ___ L (14-16) ___ XL (18)___ Adult size: S ___ M ___ L ___

Parent's Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone#: _____
Emergency Contact Person: _____
Phone#: _____

Please list any Health Conditions, allergies to medications and/or foods, and medications currently taking that we should know about:

I, the undersigned, do hereby authorize the emergency room physicians to render such treatment as may be deemed necessary in an emergency for the health of the child. I will not hold the Diocese of Beaumont, St Francis of Assisi or any individuals financially responsible for the emergency care and/or transportation for said child.

Date: _____ **Parent Signature:** _____

Insurance Information:

Name of Insurance Company: _____
Policy Carrier: _____
Policy Number: _____

Please return this form to St. Francis Church as soon as possible.

**NEED FORMS IN BY JUNE 1, 2015, SO I CAN
ORDER THE SUPPLIES.**

PLEASE REGISTER EARLY

SPACE IS LIMITED TO 65

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Orange Christian Services Annual Fund Raiser

Orange Christian Services just celebrated its 35th Anniversary of serving all of Orange County. St. Francis Parish Social Ministry is helping OCS with their annual golf fund raiser. OCS receives regular support from their 43 member churches but does not receive funding from United Way.

Due to dwindling food support from SETX Food Bank and rising costs of food, gas, utilities and housing, OCS must find other sources of income and depends greatly on the Annual Golf Tournament to bolster its financial situation. In conjunction with the golf tournament each year, donation envelopes are placed in the pews at St. Francis for parishioners to donate funds which will be used to purchase food from the SETX Food Bank at a greatly reduced cost. A \$10 donation will buy 62 1/2 pounds of food from the food bank and \$100 buys 625 lbs. Could your family afford to contribute \$10 or more to purchase food for the needy in Orange County? If so, please use an envelope in the pew or from the bulletin the weekend of May 23-24. Envelopes can be placed in the collection basket or dropped off at the church office. Orange Christian Services



Food Drive

thanks you in advance. The generous parishioners of St. Francis donate more to this fundraiser than any of the other 42 churches.



Altar flowers for May 16, 17 were donated by:

Darren and Dawn Abshire

In honor of:

Taylor Abshire

Happy 18th Birthday

And

Shirley Reinoehl

In thanksgiving for all of God's Blessings

Blessed Mother flowers were donated by:

Paul and Rebecca Daniels

In honor of:

Our many blessings

Adventures in Art
For Children
and Adults
St. FRANCIS CHURCH
July 20-23, 2015



Art Lessons by:
Mrs. Cindy Claybar

Cost- \$60

Session I
8:30-11:30 a.m.

Session II
12:30-3:30 p.m.

Adults
6-9 p.m.

Please register in
the church office
9-3 pm., M-F.

BISHOP'S FAITH APPEAL REPORT

179 families have pledged \$77,060 which is 99% of our goal from 28% of our parishioners

We have still not reached our goal for pledges to the 2015 Bishop's Faith Appeal. We are close, but just reaching the goal isn't enough. Based on our history of payments versus pledges, we need additional pledges of \$7,700 or 10% above the goal.

Why is that necessary? Every year there are people who move out of town, or have their financial situation change, or die. The additional pledges above the goal allow us to cover the pledges that are not completed. If you have not made a pledge, please consider doing so.



Saturday, May 16

Reconciliation 4-4:45 p.m.

Mass 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Sunday, May 17

Mass 8 a.m.

Mass 10:30 a.m- Graduation Mass

Sonlight Choir- 6:30 p.m.

Monday, May 18

Adult choir 6 p.m.

Tuesday, May 19

Communion Service 8:30 a.m.

Men's faith sharing 5:45 a.m.

Women's faith sharing 6:15 a.m.

Wednesday, May 20

Communion Service 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, May 21

Communion Service 8:30 a.m.

Book Club 7 p.m.

Friday, May 22

Communion Service 8:30 a.m.

Girl Scouts 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 23

Reconciliation 4-4:45 p.m.

Mass 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Sunday, May 24

Mass 8 a.m.

Mass 10:30 a.m

Sonlight Choir- 6:30 p.m.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE REPORT

May 10, 2015

Amount needed each week

\$11,873.00

Weekend regular collection
(including building fund)

\$10,795.00

Short Goal

1,078.00

Year to date totals May 10, 2015

Amount needed \$522,412

(\$11,873. x 44 fiscal weeks)

Total Sunday collections to date

\$507,887

Year to date shortage \$ 14,525



Scan for Online Giving Link

Online giving is an excellent way to fulfill your obligation to support St. Francis parish. Go to www.stfrancisorangetx.org and click the online Giving link. UPCOMING SPECIAL COLLECTION- Catholic Communication Campaign (May 17)