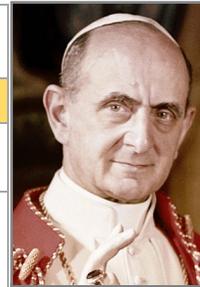


ASCENSION OF THE LORD
May 24, 2020 ~ Bulletin No. 22 ~ Vol. XXXVI

CALENDAR ~ May 23-31, 2020

Sat 23	5:00pm	Mass for ROS Tom Jaski by the Skudlarick Family
Sun 24	9:00am 11:30am 3:00pm 7:30pm	Mass for ROS Hugh Morgan, Sr. by Peggy Keyes Mass for ROS Alfred Urban by Knights of Columbus Mass for the Parish AA Meeting, call 289-6336 for information
Mon 25	9:00am 7:00am	Mass for ROS Jeanne Lednovich by the Giggie Family Men's Prayer Group
Wed 27	7:00pm	Mass for ROS Michael & Phyllis Sharik by Dave & Mary Sharik
Thurs 28	12:10pm 1:00pm 7:00pm	Mass for ROS Kathleen Kottar by Giuliana Riley Eucharistic Adoration, Chapel Rosary and Benediction, Chapel
Fri 29	12:10pm	Mass for ROS Bobbie Bridges by Maxie & Joannie Jolley, and Ruth Ann Connelly
Sat 30	5:00pm	Mass for ROS Dr. Robin Pendleton by Dianna Pendleton
Sun 31	9:00am 11:30am 3:00pm 7:30pm	Mass for ROS Tony Johnson by Kate Johnson Mass for ROS Ed Jacunski by Knights of Columbus Mass for the Parish AA Meeting, call 289-6336 for information



From the Holy Fathers

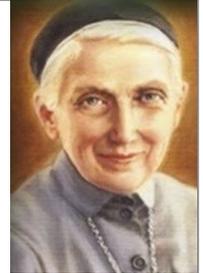
"Idleness or boredom has no place in the life of a Christian."

~ Saint Pope Paul VI ~

Wisdom of the Saints

"Be like a bright ray of sunshine that has warmth and light for every creature."

~ Saint Ursula Ledochowska ~
Feast May 29



For Annulment Information Contact:

Rachel Harrill 1-828-447-1908 or
Email: Rachel_harrill@yahoo.com

Announcements

COLLECTION CONTRIBUTIONS

We encourage parishioners to make their contributions by mailing them in to:

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION RC CHURCH
1024 W. Main Street
Forest City, NC 28043

You can make online donations through the following link:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/immaculateconceforestcity>

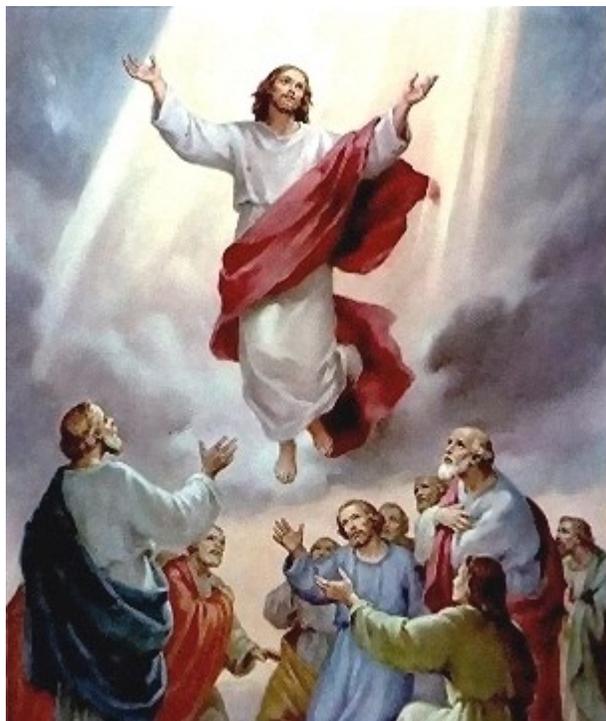
Collection Information: May 17, 2020

\$9,690.00 Weekly Regular Offering
\$ 569.00 International Combined Mission
\$ 30.00 Building Repair



24-Hour Eucharistic Adoration

will be held from after the 12:10pm Mass on May 28 through the beginning of the 12:10pm Mass on Friday, May 29. Contact Deacon Andy to confirm your place on the schedule, or to add your name to the schedule.



"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. While they were looking intently at the sky as he was going, suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven."

From a Homily On the Ascension of the Lord by Saint Augustine

My brothers and sisters, anxiety makes me ask myself why the great solemnity we're celebrating today doesn't draw a greater number of the faithful, and why this happy day fails to make Christians thrill with joy. Why isn't it a day of feasting and fellowship like Christmas? Christmas gave Jesus Christ our Savior to earth; the Ascension restored him to heaven. At Christmas he deigned to assume our humanity; on the day of his Ascension he manifested his divinity. Christmas bespeaks the grace which springs inexhaustibly from his humility; the Ascension confirms our faith in his adorable Godhead. Christmas presents him coming forth from a virginal womb; the Ascension shows him going to occupy the very throne of God. On Christmas day he comes down to redeem us; at the Ascension he goes up to intercede for us. At Christmas his Father sends him; at the Ascension his Father receives him. (We know, however, that he was never separated from his Father—even when dwelling among us. Though visiting earth, he didn't leave heaven.) How great a solemnity this day is, my brothers and sisters, when Jesus our Redeemer so powerfully proclaims his divinity, and is seen rising to heaven solely to show us all the more clearly that he descended to earth.



Memorial Day, May 25th

Memorial Day, the last Monday in May, has been set aside as a day to both remember and honor heroic sacrifice. Since the Civil War, Americans have gathered in late May to recognize the sacrifices of those who died in the service to their country.

Here are a few prayers from the website of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops that might be helpful.

For Our Troops

All-powerful and ever-living God, when Abraham left his native land and departed from his people you kept him safe through all his journeys. Protect these soldiers. Be their constant companion and their strength in battle, their refuge in every adversity. Guide them, O Lord, that they may return home in safety. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Prayer of a Parent for a Soldier

Father all-powerful and ever-loving God, from before we were born, your love has nurtured and sustained us. Hear my prayer for N., my son/daughter. Keep him/her safe in time of battle and faithful to you, day in and day out. Bring him/her safely home to those who love him/her. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

For the Safety of Soldiers

Almighty and eternal God, those who take refuge in you will be glad and forever will shout for joy. Protect these soldiers as they discharge their duties. Protect them with the shield of your strength and keep them safe from all evil and harm. May the power of your love enable them to return home in safety, that with all who love them, they may ever praise you for your loving care. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

For Deceased Veterans

O God, by whose mercy the faithful departed find rest, look kindly on your departed veterans who gave their lives in the service of their country. Grant that through the passion, death, and resurrection of your Son they may share in the joy of your heavenly kingdom and rejoice in you with your saints forever. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

How the words "UNDER GOD" Came to Be Added to the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States originated on Columbus Day, 1893. It contained no reference to Almighty God, until in New York City on April 22, 1951, the Board of Directors of the Knights of Columbus adopted a resolution to amend the Pledge of Allegiance as recited at the opening of each of the meetings of the 800 Fourth Degree Assemblies of the Knights of Columbus by the addition of the words "under God" after the words "one nation". The adoption of this resolve by the Supreme Board of Directors had the effect of an immediate initiation of this practice throughout the aforesaid Fourth Degree Assembly meetings. At their annual State Meetings, held in April and May of 1952, the State Councils of Florida, South Dakota, New York and Michigan adopted resolutions recommending that the Pledge of Allegiance be so amended and that Congress be petitioned to have such amendment made effective.

On August 21, 1952, the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus, at its annual meeting, adopted a resolution urging that the change be made general and copies of this resolution were sent to the President, the Vice President (as Presiding Officer of the Senate) and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The National Fraternal Congress meeting in Boston on September 24, 1952, adopted a similar resolution upon the recommendation of its President, Supreme Knight Luke E. Hart. Several State Fraternal Congresses acted likewise almost immediately thereafter.

At its annual meeting the following year, on August 20, 1953, the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus repeated its resolution to make this amendment to the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag general and to send copies of this resolve to the President, Vice President, Speaker of the House, and to each member of both Houses of Congress. From this latter action, many favorable replies were received, and a total of seventeen resolutions were introduced in the House of Representatives to so amend the Pledge of Allegiance as set forth in the Public Law relating to the use of the flag. The resolution introduced by Congressman Louis C. Rabaut of Michigan was adopted by both Houses of Congress, and it was signed by President Eisenhower on Flag Day, June 14, 1954, thereby making official the amendment conceived, sponsored, and put into practice by the Knights of Columbus more than three years before.

In a message to Supreme Knight Luke E. Hart at the meeting of the Supreme Council in Louisville, August 17, 1954, President Eisenhower, in recognition of the initiative of the Knights of Columbus in originating and sponsoring the amendment to the Pledge of Allegiance, said:

"We are particularly thankful to you for your part in the movement to have the words 'under God' added to our Pledge of Allegiance. These words will remind Americans that despite our great physical strength we must remain humble. They will help us to keep constantly in our minds and hearts the spiritual and moral principles which alone give dignity to man, and upon which our way of life is founded. For the contribution which your organization has made to this cause, we must be genuinely grateful."

In August, 1954, the Illinois American Legion Convention adopted a resolution whereby recognition was given to the Knights of Columbus as having initiated, sponsored and brought about the amendment to the Pledge of Allegiance; and on October 6, 1954, the National Executive Committee of the American Legion gave its approval to that resolution.

