May 13, 2018

The Ascension of the Lord



St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church



Address: 2530 Garner Rd Ray City, GA 31645 Phone: (229)455-5554 E-mail: santonyga@outlook.com Facebook: St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:45am-2:45pm

Pastoral Staff Fr. Fredy Angel Pastor Deacon Ray Brown

Mass Schedule Sunday English 10:00am Spanish 11:30am

Adult Faith Formation Classes Meet every Sunday at 11:30 in church conference room. For more information please contact our office or Mrs. Lukens at (229) 794-9140

Rosary Ministry

Our Rosary makers meet every 3rd Thursday of the month at 11:30am. For more information please contact Kathy Giddens at (229)482-2364

Adoration June 2,2018 from 7pm to midnight.

Knights of Columbus Round table meeting 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7pm. Next: June 12, 2018

The Ascension of the Lord

Celebrating the Ascension of Jesus today, we explore the mystery of Jesus in heaven and on earth. The readings tell us of Jesus being taken up into heaven, and then taking his seat at God's right hand. This is to describe how Jesus has



been given authority above all things, reigning over both heaven and earth. He ascended as a bodily human being, thus bringing a human presence to God's throne, where he intercedes for us with the Father. Jesus is both far above us as King and Shepherd, and intimately close to us as the human Emmanuel, "God with us." Jesus desires that we trust him to walk with us and to guide our lives. Ascension is an occasion for us to ponder more fully who Jesus is, and how Jesus invites us to be close to him.

DIFFERENT, YET CLOSE

The feast of the Ascension is an opportunity to consider what we think of heaven, and of earth. Both are God's creation. What comes to mind when you think of heaven? Heaven has been depicted, by Christians and others, in many ways. These depictions are sometimes far from what the scriptures describe.

In the Bible, heaven is less a place one goes after death, and more God's space that interacts with physical creation, which is described as "earth." Heaven is quite different from earth, yet also close to earth. The Ascension teaches us that heaven interlocks with earth most completely in Jesus, who is both divine and human. When he ascended, Jesus began his reign over both heaven and earth. We also hear the promise of



Jesus' return, when his reign will be made complete. Heaven and earth will be fully renewed, transformed, and joined together in a new way.

WAITING ON THE SPIRIT

Having received Jesus' final instructions, and having watched him taken to heaven, his disciples were also told to wait. Jesus had promised that they would soon be baptized by the Holy Spirit (at Pentecost), but now they must wait and prepare themselves. Together with the ultimate wait for the return of Jesus, they also needed to learn to wait in small ways. They waited for the Spirit to empower and to guide them. Waiting is often difficult for us, the Church. We tend to move quickly, to want to act. Sometimes we conclude that we have good ideas and plans that will make a positive difference, and so must now act. But our good ideas are not necessarily God's ideas for us currently. Often, we need to slow down, perhaps place our plans before God, and wait on the Spirit. At these times, we are learning that this is primarily God's work, not ours. We always must receive from God, and be sustained by God, to share God with others.

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITIONS

In Ireland and the United Kingdom, Mother's Day is over. "Mothering Sunday" was on the Fourth Sunday of Lent. Long ago, people were freed from work to travel on this day to the parish where they were baptized, their "Mother

Church." Often, people were reunited with their mothers on this day. Employers would release their workers and servants for this visit. The American celebration, while based on this custom, really has to do with an anti-war movement of mothers in Civil War times. They crusaded for better sanitary conditions for their sons. When President Wilson instituted the first Mother's Day in 1912, it was a day to fly the flag in honor of mothers whose children had died in battle. Knowing the tradition is a good balance to our celebration today. We can enfold in prayer the mothers who have suffered the loss of their children in

War. -Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.



Ordination to the Sacred Order of Deacon We would like to welcome everyone to accompany Mr. Steven for his Ordination to the Sacred Order of Deacon. When: Saturday May 19th, 2018 Time: 9:30 AM Where: The Cathedral of St. John the Baptist 222 East Harris Street Savannah, Georgia 31401



Sacrament

Confirmation

May 6, 2018

Collections

May 27, 2018 11 AM Bilingual



Chad Woody Lourdes Salazar Melissa Thompson Aurora Arias Rebekah Knight Nancy Harnage

in thankful

Regular Collection	\$2237.78
Building Fund	\$3917.00
Bishop Annual Appeal	\$250.00



St. Anthony of Padua Prayer Garden

Support us by ordering a memorial brick for our prayer garden. The cost is \$100 we do offer *payment plan*. To order a brick or if you have any question about our en-

graved bricks, please feel free to contact the

Let us pray for the health of:

Fr. Marvin LeFrois, Cruz Family, Olivia Ursrey, Eva De Angel, Andrew & Mary Carrell Morrison. <u>For the Eternal rest of:</u> All Souls





