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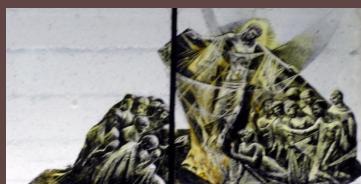
Rector's Ramblings

He is Risen!

The next window in our circuit depicts the Victory of our God! The Resurrection. The tomb is empty, he is risen, and death by death has been defeated. Here we see St. Mary the Magdalene and the Risen Lord at the empty tomb (Matthew 28.1-10; Mark 16.1-11; Luke 23.33-49; John 19.16-37).



The Ascension, celebrated yesterday, is the next event portrayed (Mark 16.19-20; Luke 24.44-53; Acts 1.1-11). This completes the cycle of our Lord's Incarnation as the God-Man ascends to be seated at the right hand of the Father. Here human nature is brought into the Godhead. Of course, the Ascension is also necessary for Holy Spirit to descend on the Feast of Pentecost.



Pentecost is the celebration of the descent of the Holy Spirit ten days after the Ascension and fifty days after Easter. Flames of fire upon

The Good News

April 29th, 2016



Call to a Wave of Prayer

Bishop Daniel has released a pastoral letter calling for a wave of prayer in the Diocese of Springfield. Here is a link if you would like to read it.

<http://www.episcopalspringfield.org/6015-2/>

Ascension to Pentecost prayer events in response to the Bishop's call to a wave of prayer for revival and renewal of the mission of the Diocese.

Ascension will be celebrated at 6:30 on May 5. Christ the King will host, the joint choir will sing, and Fr. Dave and Fr. Stormer will share leadership of the service.

Friday 5/6--Morning Prayer and Novena at 7AM.

Saturday 5/7--Evening Prayer and Novena at 5PM.

Sunday 5/8 --Standard service schedule with Novena prayed at 9:30. Evening Prayer at 5:00 PM.

Monday 5/9--Morning Prayer and Novena at 7AM.

Tuesday 5/10--Morning Prayer and Novena at 7AM. Eucharist at Noon.

Wednesday 5/11--Morning Prayer and Novena at 7AM. Eucharist at 5:30PM.

Thursday 5/12--Morning Prayer and Novena at 7:30AM.

Friday 5/13--Morning Prayer and Novena at 7AM.

Saturday 5/14--Ordination of David Wells to the Sacred Order of Priests (St. Paul's Cathedral) at 11AM. Vigil of Pentecost (with CTK) at St. Matthew's at 5:30PM. A wine and cheese fellowship hour will follow the vigil.

Sunday 5/15--Pentecost. Standard schedule with Novena prayed at 9:30. Evening Prayer at 5:00PM.

Please plan on attending as many of these times of prayer as you can. If you are not able to be present, please set aside time to pray for a renewed outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon our Diocese and Parish.

Resource booklets with suggested prayers are available in physical copies and in digital [here](#).

the heads of the disciples are representative of the Holy Spirit. This is also the last Biblical reference of The Blessed Virgin, who is present with the other women who followed Jesus in that Upper Room (Acts 1.12-14 and 2.1-36).



May these windows help increase our devotion to our Crucified and Risen Lord!

Dave+

Morning Prayer - Standard Schedule

Morning Prayer is offered at 7AM on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and at 7:30 AM on Thursday. The fourth Thursday at 7:30 AM is Holy Eucharist.

Bible Study

Continues this Wednesday at 6PM. We will be studying Paul's Letter to the Galatians and the Letter of James. It will be a compare and contrast study of Faith v. Works.

Please feel free to bring your dinner to the study.

St. Michael's Conference

The second annual St. Michael's Conference for youth 13-19 will be held from June 12-17th at Our Lady of the Snows in Belleville, IL. Registration forms are available in the Church Office or from Fr. Dave.

Highlights of this years conference:

Mo. Beth Maynard will teach on the sacraments.

Fr. Dave will teach on Genesis 1-3.

Fr. Ian Wetmore will lead a conference on the Parables.

Fr. David Baumann will teach on practical prayer.

Also, afternoon trips for rock climbing, a Cardinals game, and a pool party. Ask any Michaelite from last year to find out how exciting and transforming this conference is.

Ministry Links

St. Matthew's Webpage
The Episcopal Diocese of
Springfield
Rector's Blog

Local Mission Opportunities

Many thanks from the Outreach Committee for the success of the spring Book/DVD/Bake sale. Fiction books have been arranged alphabetically on the shelves in the parish hall. You may select books to read and leave a donation in the green file box near the shelves.

Our outreach committee has added another charity for the items of the month. It is The Society of St. Vincent de Paul. This organization was founded in Paris, France in 1833 by a student who saw the needs of the poor going unanswered. It has grown to be international and has been in Bloomington for over 50 years. Its mission is "to seek and find the forgotten, the suffering, or the deprived." St. Vincent has a food pantry, clothing pantry, a garden for fresh vegetables, and offers emergency financial assistance. It is maintained by volunteers. They serve an average of over 8,000 families with 25,000 members each year. They are very grateful for any items we could give them.

Items requested are canned food such as tuna fish, peanut butter, green beans, corn, and lima beans. Boxed goods such as instant oatmeal, rice, macaroni and cheese, cereals, and baby diapers are always in demand.

The Guild of the Holy Rosary

Several of our members have formed a guild for the promotion and praying of the Rosary. The Guild has put together a devotional manual that they are eager to share with anyone who wishes. They meet at 5:30 PM each Wednesday to pray together, and invites all members of St. Matthew's to join them in prayer. Please join the Guild in prayer for our Church, our Parish, our clergy, and each other.

cergy, and each other.

Outreach Support of St. Vincent

St. Vincent Support

The Outreach Committee has also decided to collect funds for St. Vincent. These funds will be sent with those traveling this summer and will be used in case of any additional expenses are incurred in the reconstruction work at St. John's, Owia. A bowl has been placed in the aisle of the Nave for this effort. As you come forward to communion, please consider placing donations in the bowl. Cash, Checks, and coins from the couch cushions will be eagerly accepted.

Good News Daily

This Week's Good News Daily is [here](#).

Readings & Music for May 1st, 2016

Hymns: #487, 304, 529

Acts 16:16-34

With Paul and Silas, we came to Philippi in Macedonia, a Roman colony, and, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all

who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

1 Clap your hands, all you peoples; *
shout to God with a cry of joy.

2 For the LORD Most High is to be feared; *
he is the great King over all the earth.
REFRAIN

3 He subdues the peoples under us, *
and the nations under our feet.

4 He chooses our inheritance for us, *
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.
REFRAIN

5 God has gone up with a shout, *
the LORD with the sound of the ram's-horn.

6 Sing praises to God, sing praises; *
sing praises to our King, sing praises.
REFRAIN

7 For God is King of all the earth; *
sing praises with all your skill.

8 God reigns over the nations; *
God sits upon his holy throne.
REFRAIN

9 The nobles of the peoples have gathered together *
with the people of the God of Abraham.

10 The rulers of the earth belong to God, *
and he is highly exalted.
REFRAIN

Revelation 22:12-21

"See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates. Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and fornicators and murderers and idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood. "It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star." The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let everyone who hears say, "Come." And let everyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift. I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to that person the plagues described in this book; if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away that person's share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

John 17:20-26

Jesus prayed for his disciples, and then he said. "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory

that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

"Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

Ministry Assignments for May 1st-May 8th

8-May

7:30

Greeters: Doug and Dede Dyson

Lector: David Hanck

E.M.: Bill Johns

10:00

Lector: Johns Stoffer

Acolytes: Liam Halt, Jack and Nolan White

Crucifer: Brent Baughan

Boat: TBD

Thurifer: Bill Johns

E.M.: Shelley Brenneman Carter

Monday Counter: Gary McGinnis

Coffee Hour: The Brays

15-May

7:30

Greeters: Ray Durham

Lector: Martha Carroll

E.M.: Chris Bennett

10:00

Lector: Alex Davingman

Acolytes: Shelly Brenneman Carter & Hally, Liam Halt

Crucifer: Sarah Halt

Thurifer: Collin Bennett

E.M.: Robin Levine

Monday Counter: Susan Clark

Coffee Hour: Linda Thomas & Ann Sakan

Birthdays & Anniversaries May 6th- May 15th

Anniversaries

Dave & Phyl Halt

Ron and Elizabeth Gordon

Birthdays

Liam Halt

Alex Davingman

Rutger Bachmann

Collect for Sunday, May 8th, 2016

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: Do not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Savior Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

Contact Information

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