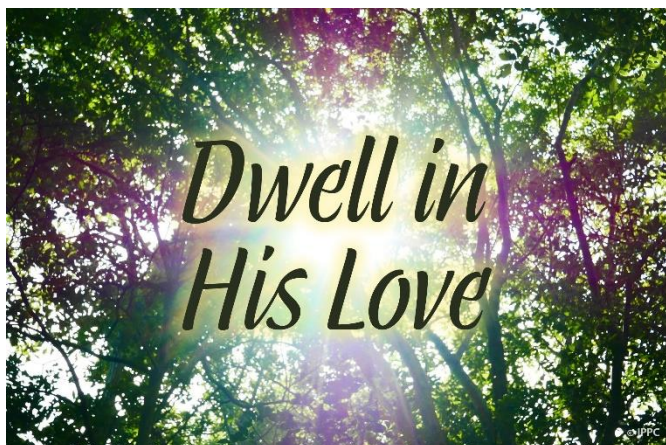


SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



MAY 25, 2025

The Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year C, brings us closer to the heart of the early Church's journey. We are encouraged to seek unity, listen to the Holy Spirit and embrace the peace Jesus gives us.

- **Unity in Faith:** The first reading shows the early Church dealing with disagreements, reminding us that unity in faith requires listening and compromise.
- **Guidance of the Holy Spirit:** The Holy Spirit helps guide the decisions of the apostles in Acts 15:28. The Holy Spirit continues to guide the Church today.
- **New Jerusalem:** The second reading describes the vision of the New Jerusalem. It represents the hope and promise of a future with God.
- **God's Presence:** In Revelation 21:22-23, we learn there is no need for a temple because God's presence is everywhere, reminding us that God is always with us.
- **Obedience to Jesus:** The Gospel speaks about keeping Jesus' word as a sign of love. Obeying Jesus' teachings brings us closer to him.
- **Gift of Peace:** Jesus promises peace in John 14:27. This peace is different from what the world offers and calms our hearts.

MASS INTENTIONS

5 p.m.: Michael Emond, Henry Czeck,
The Tronstad Family,
and Joseph, Mary & Robert Casertano

10 a.m.: Jessica Lancellotti, Christina Marino,
Daniel Riley and John Paganelli

LAST WEEK'S MASS ATTENDANCE

5 p.m. – 81
10 a.m. – 144

CONSOLATION CORNER

In an ongoing effort to support parishioners and friends during the difficult time of bereavement, this column, written by Julie Laurenzi, a retired licensed clinical social worker and head of our Consolation Ministry, will periodically appear to offer information on a variety of related topics. Feel free to reach out to her directly at 518-225-1170 or Julie.laurenzi@gmail.com with questions or suggestions



Funerals are a fact of life, and the older we get, the more frequent they can become. Yet, funerals find many of us "tongue-tied." We want to be supportive but feel awkward. A common question is: "What should I say" – or not say?

Remember that your presence itself is a gift. Families may not recall what you say, but they will remember you were there. Attend the visitation or funeral and sign the book.

Appearing too upbeat may not be helpful, and offering platitudes may not be comforting. For example, don't say, "I know exactly how you feel" or "God never gives us more than we can handle" or "Just try to be strong."

Instead, a simple and sincere "My condolences" is often enough, or "I'm thinking of you and your family during this difficult time." If you have more of a connection with the bereaved, phrases such as "We all need support in times like this, and I'm here for you," "I know how special she was to you" or "Your Mom was an inspiration to me" are all appropriate.

If you have a positive story, telling it may evoke other memories and be a source of healing. However, be mindful of how many people are in line behind you waiting to pay their respects and adjust the amount of time you spend talking. Greeting the guests can be overwhelming and exhausting for the family.

Another option would be to share a memory in a note sent shortly after the funeral. This also gives you time to read your message out loud and ask yourself, "How would I feel if someone wrote this to me?"

TREASURER'S REPORT

Regular Sunday Collection

May 12-18 – \$ 6,829.91

Envelopes: \$ 2,378.00 – Online: \$ 4,451.91

THANK YOU!

SUMMER HOURS

The church office will be closed Monday in observance of Memorial Day – and Mondays thereafter through Labor Day. Happy Summer!



ASCENSION THURSDAY



The **Ascension of the Lord**, also known as Ascension Thursday, marks Jesus' ascent into heaven 40 days after his Resurrection. It is a Holy Day of Obligation that this year falls

on **May 29, this Thursday**. Mass will be celebrated at 9 a.m.

If you can serve as a greeter, please call the office.

YOU SPOKE, WE LISTENED

'COMMUNITY TIME' NEXT WEEKEND

For four of the six groups at the third Listening Session, community was a priority.

So next weekend, we will have the opportunity to mingle after Mass. On Saturday evening, there will be wine to sip and cheese to nibble – because no one wants coffee and doughnuts right before dinner – as you connect with your church community. On Sunday morning, baked goods and coffee will accent the conversations.

Please plan to stop in and say hello!

TIME TO STOCK THE SHELVES

Your response to last month's **Food Pantry Sunday**, the first Sunday of the month, was incredible!

The next Food Pantry Sunday is next weekend.

Be assured your contributions of unexpired and non-perishable pantry staples are always welcome (although right now we have a surplus of cereal) and are distributed quickly to those in need.

More than 140 people among almost 40 families were served in April. And with still a week left in May, about 115 people have already received food from our pantry – including three new families!

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME



Our youth ministers are making a pitch to all parishioners to catch the excitement at the **Hudson Valley Renegades' Faith & Family Night next Saturday, May 31**. Along with the game and a pre-game concert, when tickets are purchased using this

QR code or the link our website, \$5 per ticket slides home to the St. Paul's Youth Ministry!

Questions? Call Chris at 845-248-3120

CARDINAL'S 2025 APPEAL

Still about 29% to go

Our parish goal is **\$50,600** of which **\$36,190** has been received/pledged from 93 families as of May 20. Please prayerfully consider your gift, which you can make online at www.cardinalsappeal.org. Thank you.



*"Our flag does not fly
because the wind moves it.
It flies with the last breath of each
soldier who died protecting it."
-Author Unknown*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



The next **Game Night** is this Friday, **May 30**. The fun begins at 7 p.m. Don't forget your snacks and a game to share.



The **Adult Faith Formation Committee** will meet after the 10 o'clock Mass on Sunday, **June 8**. Everyone is welcome.



Beginning Experience® is a Catholic peer ministry that serves those who have lost a spousal relationship. It is hosting "In the Beginning ... Coping with Life Alone," a one-day Zoom program from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturday, **June 28**. For info, call Jim at (845) 220-7883 or Denise at (845) 325-3147.

The group is also holding its annual Spiritual Renewal Program from 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on Saturday, **July 12**, at Mount Alvernia Retreat Center in Wappingers Falls. This year's theme is "Finding Hope." Contact Jim Cox at jcox1853@gmail.com or Charisse de los Reyes at calexareys@gmail.com to register.



Capuchin Youth & Family Ministries is returning to Appalachia in **July 12-20** for its 32nd mission to one of the poorest communities in the nation. For info: cyfm.org.



The **Carmelite Jubilee Italy Pilgrimage** with The National Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel will take place October 21-30 and include stops in Florence, Assisi and Rome. The cost is \$5,599 per person, double occupancy; \$500 deposit is due now. Call Carol Bezak at 845-343-1879 for information and the complete brochure.

