

The Ascension of the Lord Ascension: May 17, 2026

Holy Father's Intention for May:

For working conditions

Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfilment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanized.

"All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me"

Today we contemplate hands that bless - the Lord's final earthly gesture (cf. Luke 24:51). Or footprints marked on a mount - the last visible sign of God's passage through our land. At times, that mount is depicted as a rock, and the imprint of His steps is not engraved on the earth but on the rock. It's as if alluding to that stone which He foretold and which will soon be sealed by the wind and fire of Pentecost. Iconography has been using these suggestive symbols since ancient times. And also the mysterious cloud - shadow and light at the same time - that accompanies so many theophanies already in the Old Testament. The face of the Lord would dazzle us.

Saint Leo the Great helps us to delve deeper into the event: "What was visible in our Savior has now passed on to his mysteries." What mysteries? Those which He entrusted to His Church. The gesture of blessing unfolds in the liturgy, and the footprints on the earth mark the path of the sacraments —a path that leads to the fullness of the definitive encounter with God.

During those forty days in which the Lord does not "appear", but rather, as the exegetes tell us, "let's Himself be seen", the Apostles will have had time to get used to their Master's other way of being. Now, in this last encounter, amazement is renewed. The Apostles discover that, from this moment on, they will not only proclaim the Word, but will also inspire life and health, with the visible gesture and the audible word: in baptism and in the other sacraments.

"All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me" (Mt 28:18). All authority... Go to all nations... And teach them to obey everything... And He will be with them - with His Church, with us - always (cf. Mt 28:19-20). That "everything" resounds through space and time, affirming us in hope.

Bicentennial Jubilee Year.

This July the Archdiocese of St. Louis will celebrates its 200 years of faith in the Archdiocese. In preparing for this milestone and faith-filled event all are invited to come together in prayer: entrusting our gratitude, our petitions, and our hopes to the Lord. Prayers and intentions can be dropped to the box of *Prayer of the People* located at the back of the Church. Prayer intentions gathered from our parish will be presented together at the Jubilee Mass in July. Let your prayer be part of this historic act of communion.

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Today's Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."



Second Collection:

* There will be a second collection next Sunday May 24 for Catholic Communication Campaign. **Please be prepared!**

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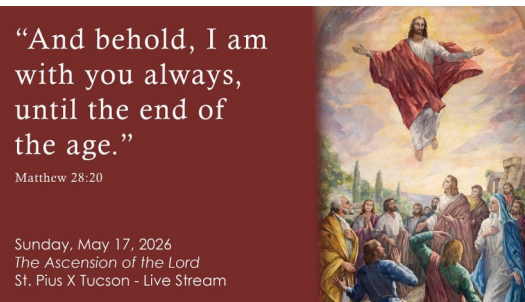
Being the Hands and Feet of Christ

This Sunday we celebrate the great feast of the Ascension of the Lord which is ripe with spiritual importance and depth. Let us examine how the Lord's ascension affects us as stewards. Firstly, when the apostles watched the Lord ascend into heaven, two angels appeared and asked them "why do you stand looking up toward heaven?" The apostles were not meant to stay there constantly gazing heavenward. Instead, they, like us, are called to live firmly on this earth with our whole purpose set on reaching heaven and leading as many people with us as possible.

We see this at the end of St. Matthew's Gospel when Jesus gives the great commission to "make disciples of all nations." Jesus' ascension is a firm call to action. A call to be stewards and use our gifts to spread the Gospel within our parishes and the Church. We do this through the strength of Christ within us who says "remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

It is now up to us to cooperate with the Spirit and make disciples of the whole world. Let us end by pondering the beautiful saying of St. Teresa of Avila. "Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which He looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which He blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are His Body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours."

Summary: Jesus' ascension is a firm call to action for at the end of St. Matthew's Gospel He gives us the great commission to "make disciples of all nations." This is a call to be stewards and use our gifts to spread the Gospel within our parishes and the Church. Let us strive to do this through the strength of Christ within us who says "remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."



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Offering for May 10, 2026

Total Sum. Collection \$4,580.00
Capital Improvement \$ 250.00

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"Give glory to your son, so that your son may glorify you..."

Vocation Office at
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Fr. Peter Son Le, SVD, Parochial Vicar

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Baptism: Arrangements must be made one week in advance.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sunday from 8:30 am to 9:00 am or by appointment.

Marriage: Arrangements must be made at least 6 months prior to plan date of wedding.

Mass Schedule & Mass Intentions

Sun 5/17: * Thanksgiving, peace for family and all souls by family

* Paul, Isave, 2 Ann, Joseph & all souls by Hung Ha

* 2 Maria, Joseph, Theresa & John the Baptist by 1 person

Mon 5/18: * Thanksgiving by Lap Sam family

Tues 5/19: * Thanksgiving by Hung Pham

Wed 5/20: * Dominic & intention by Ca Do

* Peter, thanksgiving & peace for family by Cao Phuong

Thurs 5/21: * Good health for grandmothers by Dylan Lam

* Thanksgiving and peace for family by 1 person

Fri 5/22: * Dominic and all souls by 1 person

* Dominic and intention by Ca Do

Sat 5/23: * Maria by Vu

* Ann, Maria and John the Baptist by Lich Ho