

INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK**SUNDAY, May 16, 2021**

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

9:00 am Frank Kastner (d)**11:00 am** Luu Nguyen (d)**7:00 pm** For the Parishoners**MONDAY, May 17, 2021****8:30 am** Anthony Hoang (d)**TUESDAY, May 18, 2021**

St. John I, pope, martyr

8:30 am Mary Blum (d)**WEDNESDAY, May 19, 2021****8:30 am** Angie Hofmeyer**THURSDAY, May 20, 2021**

St. Bernadine of Siena, priest

8:30 am Don Hengehold (d)**3:00 pm – 5:00 pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION****FRIDAY, May 21, 2021**

St. Christopher Magallanes, priest and companions, martyr

8:30 am James Dugan (d)**SATURDAY, May 22, 2021**

St. Rita of Cascia, Religious

8:30 am Mark and Virginia Schmidt**4:30 pm** Thelma Ruhlstaller (d)**SUNDAY, May 23, 2021**

PENTECOST SUNDAY

9:00 am Jack and Helen Vogele (d)**11:00 am** Paul Louis (d)**7:00 pm** For the Parishoners**KRAFT****Electrical and Telecommunications
Services****Cincinnati 513-467-0500****Columbus 614-836-9300**

PLEASE NOTIFY US AT THE RECTORY when a family member is hospitalized or homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion and/or the Sacrament of Penance.

SERVERS**May 22/23**

No Servers scheduled.

LECTORS**May 22/23**

No Lectors scheduled.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**May 22/23**

No Eucharistic Ministers scheduled.

OFFERING

May 9, 2021 \$ 8,980.50

Second Collection \$ 5,870.00

Other Tile Floor Donations \$ 2,280.00

Total Tile Floor Fund \$49,846.50

Thank You for your Generosity!

Vocation View We are called to live in accord with the calling we have received, whether as priest, religious, married or single; encouraging one another by the example of our lives. (Eph. 4:1)
To talk about your discernment, please contact Fr. Dan Schmitmeyer, Director of Vocations at dschmitmeyer@catholiccincinnati.org.

SCHOOL NEWS: Kindergarten is full. We will not be accepting any further registrations. We still have openings in grades 1- 6 and openings in our Preschool 3 year old class, and in one of our 4 year old classes. If you intend to apply for the EdChoice Scholarship for grades 1-6, the deadline is May 15.

Future Registrations: If you intend to enroll your child(ren) at St. Lawrence for K-8, please plan to enroll them for Preschool here first. There will be NO open enrollment of new students for Kindergarten after the 2021-22 school year. Our Preschool is expanding and all Preschool 4 year-olds will transition to Kindergarten and there will be not be any space for new students.

The Laurentian

First Communion: Congratulations to our second graders who made their First Communion on Sunday, April 18, 2021

Elijah Blust
Keyla Gonzalez Macario
Maricela Lopez-Marroquin
Ilmer Morales
Brandon Perez-Morales
Gilberto Perez Perez
Keidy Perez-Mendez
Sheyla Ramirez-Puac
Lourdes Ramirez-Ramos
Justin Ramos Morales
Ederly Roblero Sanchez
Isabella Sherman
Adams Diaz Ramirez
Andy Diaz-Jacinto
Dalton Durbin
Mylee Espinoza
Hannah Hensley
Lydia Lopez Perez
Eddy Lorenzo-Rivera
Brianna Morales Borrallles
Linda Perez-Mendez
John Sanchez Reynoso
Jorge Vasquez-Domingo

Congratulations

Thought for the Day: “A humble soul does not trust itself, but places all its confidence in God.”

St. Faustina



Major Church Beautification

Over the years, thanks to the foresight of pastors, the goodness, talents and support of members and friends of St. Lawrence Parish (Church) many improvements have been accomplished without affecting the parish or school annual budgets. The Lord has blessed us in countless ways and as pastor/parishioners of this amazing parish, we continue to be custodians of the rich traditions and generosity of past generations. Once again, I have called upon a dedicated group of volunteers to help plan another major Church project.

The current worn and tattered carpeting on the aisle ways and under the pews has become a major concern. Though it has served us well, its deterioration has made it a danger with portions of high traffic areas buckling and threading causing concern for injuries. It needs to be replaced. In addition, after considerable evaluation, we have determined that a lasting benefit of this project is to install tile. In doing so it will maintain the architectural integrity of this magnificent holy structure, construction of which started in 1886 as the first Catholic Church to serve the residents of Price Hill.

The estimated cost of tile, its installation, and the refurbishing of the pews is \$330,000. I am pleased to report that, thanks to significant lead gifts, we are blessed to currently have over \$130,000. To help finance this project we will have a second collection.

The stone tile floor will be installed in sections. And, while this is being done, the pews will be refurbished. So, there will be some changes in seating arrangements throughout the project. I will keep you advised. This project is scheduled to be completed this summer.

No one has ever ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven

Today our Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven; let our hearts ascend with Him. Listen to the words of the Apostle: *If you have risen with Christ, set your hearts on the things that are above where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God; seek the things that are above, not the things that are on earth.* For just as He remained with us even after His ascension, so we too are already in heaven with Him, even though what is promised us has not yet been fulfilled in our bodies.

Christ is now exalted above the heavens, but he still suffers on earth all the pain that we, the members of his body, have to bear. He showed this when he cried out from above: *Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?* And when he said: *I was hungry and you gave me food.*

Why do we on earth not strive to find rest with him in heaven even now, through the faith, hope and love that unites us to him? While in heaven he is also with us; and we while on earth are with him. He is here with us by his divinity, his power and his love.

He did not leave heaven when he came down to us; nor did he withdraw from us when he went up again to heaven. The fact that he was in heaven even while he was on earth is borne out by his own statement: *No one has ever ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man, who is in heaven.*

These words are explained by our oneness with Christ, for he is our head and we are his body. No one ascended into heaven except Christ because we also are Christ: he is the Son of Man by his union with us, and we by our union with him are sons of God. So the Apostle says: *Just as the human body, which has many members, is a unity, because all the different members make one body, so it is also with Christ.* He too has many members, but one body.

Out of compassion for us he descended from heaven, and although he ascended alone, we also ascend, because we are in him by grace. Thus, no one but Christ descended and no one but Christ ascended; not because there is no distinction between the head and the body, but because the body as a unity cannot be separated from the head.

by St. Augustine, bishop



Ascension

The Laurentian

If you do not go away, the Comforter will not come to you

After Christ had complete his mission on earth, it still remained necessary for us to become sharers in the divine nature of the Word. We had to give up our own life and be so transformed that we would begin to live an entirely new kind of life that would be pleasing to God. This was something we could do only by sharing in the Holy Spirit.

It was most fitting that the sending of the Spirit and his descent upon us should take place after the departure of Christ our Savior. As long as Christ was with them in the flesh, it must have seemed to believers that they possessed every blessing in him; but when the time came for him to ascend to his heavenly Father, it was necessary for him to be united through his Spirit to those who worshipped him, and to dwell in our hearts through faith. Only by his own presence within us in this way could he give us confidence to cry out, *Abba, Father*, make it easy for us to grow in holiness and, through our possession of the all-powered Spirit, fortify us invincibly against the wiles of the devil and the assaults of men.

It can easily be shown from examples both in the Old Testament and the New that the Spirit changes those in whom he comes to dwell; he so transforms them that they begin to live a completely new kind of life. Saul was told by the prophet Samuel: *The Spirit of the Lord will take possession of you, and you shall be changed into another man*. St. Paul writes: *As we behold the glory of the Lord with unveiled faces, that glory, which comes from the Lord who is the Spirit, transforms us all into his own likeness, from one degree of glory to another*.

Does this not show that the Spirit changes those in whom he comes to dwell and alters the whole pattern of their lives? With the Spirit within them it is quite natural for people who had been absorbed by the things of this world to become entirely other-worldly in outlook, and for cowards to become men of great courage.

There can be no doubt that this is what happened to the disciples. The strength they received from the Spirit enabled them to hold firmly to the love of Christ, facing the violence of their persecutors unafraid. Very true, then, was our Savior's saying that it was to their advantage for him to return to heaven: his return was the time appointed for the descent of the Holy Spirit.

by St. Cyril of Alexandria, bishop

