



# The Ascension of the Lord

## Office Hours

Monday - Thursday  
8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Friday

8:30 am - 3:00 pm

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Website/Media

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## Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil

4:00 pm

Sunday

9:00 am & 10:45 am

Daily - Tuesday - Friday

8:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays

3:00 pm - 3:30 pm

## BLESSED SACRAMENT ROMAN CATHOLIC *All Are Welcome Here*

1701 East Oakland Park Blvd. Oakland Park Florida 33334



## Our Pastor

Reverend Robert F. Tywoniak,  
M.S.W., C.S.W.M

Assisting

Deacon Dan Blaha (Retired)

Lead Musician

Daniel J. Perez

## Baptism for Infants and Preschool Children under 7 years old

At Baptism, infants and preschool children are initiated into the Christian community and begin a life-long journey as a committed disciple of Christ. Since the child cannot make this commitment on their own, the parent who requests Baptism states that they wish to pass on the faith in which they believe and live. Parents wishing to have their infant or preschooler Baptized are required to attend Baptism Preparation. This gives them the opportunity to reflect on the meaning of Baptism and to have their questions answered concerning the Sacrament of Baptism and the ceremony. In order to begin preparing for their child's Baptism, parents are asked to contact the parish office at 954-564-1010 prior to the anticipated birth or adoption process. We wish to celebrate this joyful time with you!

## Marriage

Blessed Sacrament parish wishes to support couples as they prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage through prayer and action. For this reason, guidelines have been established for marriage preparation by the Archdiocese of Miami. This is not done to create obstacles, but to increase the opportunity for a lasting, loving marriage in a society where divorce is prevalent. Couples should contact the parish office at 954-564-1010 at the time of their engagement to allow time to complete the necessary preparation.



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# May 12, 2024

## The Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1: 1-11  
Psalm 47  
Ephesians 4: 1-13  
Mark 16: 15-20

### The Void to Be Filled

Have you ever sensed a void within yourself? Perhaps it is somewhere in your stomach or in your heart. It seems with every step you take you still need to go one more step. No matter how good the current project you have been working on turns out, you look at it and determine it could be even better "only if..." Each of us is incomplete in some way. We need to be made whole.

Imagine being recruited by a great and up-and-coming leader. You spend three or more years with him. You prepare to take on a whole new world order as a part of his leadership team. Then, this great figure leaves you! You feel abandoned. "Where are you going?" you might scream.

Now you may place yourself in the footsteps of the Apostles of Jesus Christ. Might this not be how they felt as they witnessed Jesus' ascension to the Father? They stood there "looking at the sky" (Acts 1-11).

Stepping into the place of the Apostles, we think Jesus has gone away. Yet, He is preparing us for what comes next. In Jesus' absence, so we think He is absent, we sense a void. We become eager to fill it. This urge to fill the void drives us. Yet, be careful what is let in to fill the void.

This "moment" of emptiness opens our senses looking for something to bring guidance toward fulfillment. Such a personal moment experiencing the void elicits the forty-day desert experience that is found in the Bible. There are the forty days Jesus spent in the desert being tempted by the devil. Moses spent time on the Mountain of God (Ex. 34:28) and Elijah spent time walking through the desert to the Mount of Horeb (1Kings 19:8). In each episode, the person finds fulfillment in God the Father. He is made known to them.

In the continuing biblical story, the Holy Spirit is given after the Ascension of Jesus. Understanding comes to the Apostles. Likewise, understanding may come to us. We live by faith inspired by the Holy Spirit that keeps the presence of Jesus Christ in our lives. By the Spirit's presence we continue to live as Jesus, making present the Father's love for us and all others.

Every tool, every part of the body that is needed to fill in

the void is given and is present. The parts come together to form the Body of Christ. We experience the Body among us and within us as a community of faith. The Holy Spirit bestows the gifts needed to sustain and advance the whole body. This Feast Day teaches and reminds us Jesus descended to earth and finally ascended giving us all the Grace needed. We are His body now.

In essence, the experience of the ascension of Jesus, with its momentary pause between the time of ascension and the coming of the Spirit, awakens us to the void that is there when God is absent from our life. The apostles and we look intently up to the sky. We yearn for something special to fill the void. God does not disappoint. He sends the Holy Spirit, the third person in the Trinity of the one God.

Through, with and in the Holy Spirit, we as the one Body of Christ continue the mission God set in motion long ago. As every other messenger of God experienced in their forty-day experience we come to recognize God's calling. We make the connection between belief in Jesus Christ and salvation. We focus on the mission of filling not only our own void but the void experienced by everyone else. We receive all we need to spread the Good News of a God who is present. Together, by the Grace of God, we fill the void to be filled.

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

*Pentecost: Mass during the day.*  
Acts 2: 1-11; 1Cor 12: 3b-7, 12-13; Jn 15: 26-27; 16: 12-15

Watch Father Bob's  
weekly video reflection



## Stewardship

*Time, Talent Tithing*

**It is our way of showing gratitude to God for life itself. It is also your way of being part of the mission and participating in the challenge of spreading the Good News of Love.**

<b>Attendance last week:</b>	<b>260</b>
<b>Tithes Collected:</b>	<b>\$7,100.00</b>
<b>Per Capita:</b>	<b>\$27.31</b>

**The second collection this week is for Catholic Communications Campaign.**

**Giving Online**

**It is an EASY and more convenient way to contribute to Blessed Sacrament. Click on the QR code right now and give!**



# Parish Life

## First Holy Communion is Next Sunday The Feast of Pentecost! This increases our parish.

The spiritual life of our parish will grow as children of ours move forward in their lives as Christians. Through the Sacrament of the Eucharist, they are further initiated into the Faith and Christ's Church. The Sacrament of the Eucharist is one of the sacraments of initiation.

Every time any one of us receives the Eucharist we are saying yes to God and therefore are initiated into His life, not just the first time we receive it. This most central sacrament of the Church that Jesus founded upon Peter connects us to the Triune God and to each other. Thus, as the children now come to the Lord in the reception of the Holy Eucharist our bonds grow by their membership in the Church. We add more people to those who already worship and celebrate the Lord Jesus Christ. We all grow.

**First Holy Communion at the 10:45 Mass.**

## Ordination to the Priesthood and Mother's Day

This Saturday morning (May 11th), at St. Mary's Cathedral, priestly ordinations took place. Let us pray that even more men will answer the call to this ministry.

This Tuesday, May 14th, is Fr. Bob's ordination anniversary. He was ordained 41 years ago. Ordination is not a gift to the individual. It is a gift for the whole Church.

It is a tradition in the Archdiocese of Miami that the Priestly Ordination takes place near or on Mother's Day. We pray for the parents of the ordained who gave their sons to the Church. Also, we pray the Mother of our Lord watches over our priests as she is so capable of soothing her Son's servants.

May all Mothers be put at ease in their calling. Ladies, know what you do in guiding and disciplining your children is a vocation. And, with all the challenges you face there is the reward of another life brought into the world for the glory of God.

## Mother's Day Novena

Today is Mother's Day. As you know, you may add your mother's name to the list for remembrance in the Novena of Masses. In fact you may add the name of anyone who is a mother to the list. If possible, leave a donation. The donated money will go to the Respect Life Ministry of the Church. However, you do not have to leave a donation in order to add your mother's name to the list.

## Stewardship

**Use your time well this week. Spend a moment before and after meals giving thanks to God. Come to Scripture Sharing and break open the great Word of God in this festive time of the year!**

## Stewardship

### St. Vincent de Paul Society

During the month of April, St. Vincent de Paul Society served 791 clients representing 2,852 individuals. Expenses were \$3,022.11 (this amount includes rents, utilities, etc. as well as operational). The generosity of our surrounding parishes and many individuals allows our ministry to thrive and serve.

**We thank each of you.**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK**  
Angiolina Armenti, Mary-Ellen Batcho, Mary Benivegna, Margarita Bogle, James Gustinella, Ronald Gustinella, Richard & Cathy Harper, Dil Hatchett, John Hunter, Patrick Keough, Arnold & Doris Lakso, John LaNeve, Gail Martin, Sean Martin, Luz Mercado, Fay Michael, Sasi Morejon, Dan Murphy, Teresita Nazareno, Lauren Nicole, Austin R., Paul Riley, Rick Steffan, Renette Valcourt, Sr. Frances Vass, OSC, Nancy Zakem, Marie & Jeff, Lucas Zaky

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, May 11

4:00pm Mother's Day Novena

### Sunday, May 12

9:00am Mother's Day Novena

10:45am Mother's Day Novena

### Monday May 13 | NO MASS

### Tuesday, May 14

8:00am Mother's Day Novena

### Wednesday, May 15

8:00am Mother's Day Novena

### Thursday, May 16

8:00am Mother's Day Novena

### Friday, May 17

8:00am Mother's Day Novena

### Saturday, May 18

4:00pm Mother's Day Novena

### Sunday, May 19

9:00am Mother's Day Novena

10:45am †Robbie Fairchild

by Aunt Rosie

†Jamie Portell

by Mazzurco Family