

**For The Bulletin of
May 28, 2017**



**THE FEAST OF THE
ASCENSION**

From Father Robert

A number of details in today's gospel help us shape our interpretation of this passage. "The eleven disciples went to Galilee." Not twelve, but eleven. Judas is no longer among the company of those who represent the new Israel. This remains a painful reminder that not all followers of Jesus are perfect. We doubt; we drag our feet; we sometimes are not as courageous in carrying forth Jesus' saving mission as we might be. Yet, in spite of our weakness, Jesus has still empowered us to carry on His ministry. His ministry will continue.

The disciples went to Galilee. Galilee is where Jesus' saving mission began; it is where it ends. But not really. These verses from Matthew's chapter 28 conclude his gospel. Note that there is no mention of the Ascension in these verses. Matthew ends with the Great Commission to go and baptize "all nations." There is no end to Jesus' being with us because we take up His work and carry it – carry Him – forward for all time.

One final detail: Jesus ordered His disciples to a mountain, a place in Scripture of divine encounter and divine revelation. The encounter: Jesus promises to be with them "until the end of the age." His Presence is His farewell gift to the disciples. The revelation: they are to take up His saving mission by making "disciples of all nations" through baptizing and teaching. The disciples are His farewell gift to the world. Taking up His saving mission, so are we!

It takes us a lifetime of following Jesus and proclaiming His Good News to learn how gifted we are and what a gift we are to others. What the disciples hadn't yet come fully to believe was that Jesus would always remain with them, giving them strength. Through the Spirit. There was a startling newness for what Jesus was doing and the message He was conveying. Never before had someone been present among them who "fills all things in every way." Never before had someone so completely shared power. Never before had someone promised the most potent power – the Holy Spirit Who is with us "until the end of the age."

The power given Jesus is now handed over to His disciples, and the new thing about this power is that it is a divine Person – the Holy Spirit Who is sent to dwell within us, make us one with God. This Spirit given us is the way Jesus remains with us "always, until the end of the age." We have the power to make disciples, baptize, and teach; we are Jesus' gift to others. But more importantly, we have the power to be the Presence of the risen Christ through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, which is His gift to us. With the Holy Spirit we

dollar, we are not yet able to give you the price of the airfare and land portion of the trip. I am only able to take 30 people. If you are interested in going, please speak with me and I will place your name on the list. Once we know how many are going, I will arrange a meeting to discuss all the details. The tour is arranged through Insight Tours which is an outstanding company with whom I have traveled in the past. Linda Grelli has asked that you NOT call her at Black Diamond Travel to ask about the trip! Thank you for your consideration. As of today's bulletin there are now 16 individuals signed up.



Thank
You

...once again to our faithful volunteer church cleaners who arrive very early each Saturday morning to clean and prepare both the church and parish hall for the weekend and the week ahead: **Carole Miller, Steve Rojek, Jun Bajet, Emilia Freking, Angela Bueno, Rose Salamanca, and Cathy Romeo.**

...to our faithful volunteer bathroom cleaners who clean and maintain the bathrooms through the week: **Robert Goncalves, Mary Ewing, Patricia Britton, Harlan Young, Steve Rojek, and Virginia Noack.**

...to **Dilcia Aparacio** who does such an excellent job of washing, ironing, and caring for the Sacred Linens.

...to our Sacristans and Altar Guild who prepare the sanctuary for the celebration of Eucharist each week:

Peter Degl'Innocenti, Pam and Rich Confetti, Vincent Rodriguez, Harlan Young, Rowena Cayaban, Monika Kauer, Cynthia Enrique, Belen Farin, Nancy Santos and Rose Salamanca.

...to **our counting teams** who are here every week to count the weekly collections.

...to our volunteers who assisted in the parish office last week: **Jeannine Ford, Harlan Young, Melodye Costanza, Yvette Young, Alicia Perez, Joe Fanfa and Bev Iacona.**

...to our St. Vincent de Paul and Mobile Mall volunteers who transported last week's donations: **Frank Russo and Barbara Jackson.**

...to our faithful weekly bulletin assembly team: **Dave Costanza, Bev Iacona and Pat Kramer.**

...to our wonderful Parking Lot Security who keep watch over our vehicles during weekend liturgies: **Don Benson, Mark Webster and Jose Perez**

St. Ignatius of Antioch Assists with Winter Nights

The Winter Nights Rotating Family Shelter is a project of the Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County. A warm and safe place to sleep is offered to homeless families. Case management to assist moving the families from the shelter environment to permanent housing is provided. Given the housing situation in our area, this always a challenge. The shelter rotates every two weeks among various faith communities in central and east Contra Costa County. For the past two weeks, Community Presbyterian Church in Pittsburg hosted the shelter. St. Ignatius of Antioch provided meals from Monday May 15 through Friday May 19 along with breakfast and lunch supplies.

A wide variety of wonderful home cooking was provided to the shelter guests. Monday: fresh fruit salad, beef burrito bar, chicken taquitos, refried beans, Spanish rice with a birthday cake and ice cream for dessert. Tuesday: enhanced mixed green salad, meatloaf, mashed potatoes, Italian style zucchini (from the parish garden), and pumpkin pie. Wednesday: BBQ boneless chicken breasts, baked beans, pasta salad, Asian cashew and Caesar salads with ice cream for dessert. Thursday: shrimp fried rice, pansit, chicken adobo, pork adobo, vegetable lumpia with flan and frozen fruit bars for dessert. Friday: BBQ Tri-Tip, Ribs, Chicken Wings, red beans & rice, mac & cheese, mixed vegetables with chocolate cake, pumpkin pie and ice cream for dessert. And finally on Sunday morning, breakfast burritos courtesy of our Knights of Columbus. **None of this would have been possible without the generous shelter supply donations and offers of additional donations from our wonderful parish community.** Thanks also to the creative cooks who prepared and who helped serve the delicious meals: **Estrella Rusk, Pat Kramer, Susan Fleming, Vicki & Brian McCoy, Dave Simpson, Bill Barbanica, Ed Cissell, Ron Yarolimek, Marilou Mendiola, Beth Barrientos, Rich Confetti, Don Benson, Jose Palomino, Steve Rojek, Maryann Peddicord, Samantha Peralto, Cheryna Wright, Roxanne Betts, Jasmine Betts and Lorraine Lohmeier.**

Thanks also to the volunteers who stayed overnight at the shelter; **Tom Catchings, Brian McCoy, Steve Rojek and Samantha Peralto** and to troubadour **Chip Sharpe** for serenading the Wednesday night dinner with some

wonderful acoustic guitar and singing. A special thank you to **Frances Rojek** for coordinating the resupply effort.

Since October, parishioners have also been performing a valuable service for Winter Nights. Shelter guests are able to utilize the shower facilities at St. Vincent de Paul in Pittsburg and we have a group of parishioners who volunteer with other volunteers from East County Shared Ministry to pick up, launder and return bath towels each week. Thank you to **Liz Carnero, Ronda & Chris DeMay, Sue & Rick Howell, Lorraine Lohmeier and Vicki & Brian McCoy** for volunteering for this project.

The Winter Nights shelter closes Monday morning, June 5 and will reopen in October.

Relay For Life Thank You

On Saturday, May 20th, the St. Ignatius of Antioch Relay for Life team had its annual fundraiser pasta dinner. This year's theme for the Relay for Life event is "Celebrate the Heroes' in our Lives." The true heroes are the cancer survivors who have endured painful procedures, disfigurement (whether permanent or temporary), fear of the unknown, and confusion along with endless hope, prayers and faith for a cure from this dreaded disease. We all know of someone who has been touched by cancer or have a loved one, friend or co-worker who has heard the words, "you have cancer." What a wonderful world this would be if cancer could be eradicated! The American Cancer Society, continues to do research into various forms of cancer in hopes of finding cures. They cannot continue without the financial support of people

like you and I. For the last 14 years, your St. Ignatius of Antioch Relay for Life team has continued to help raise funds for the American Cancer Society, and walk the walk in honor and in memory of cancer warriors. This year our pasta dinner invitation brought in 48 guests, a small crowd indeed, but with big giving hearts!

The evening began with a no host bar run by **Jose Perez and Jose Palomino**, while tickets at the door were collected by **Caitlin (Peddicord) Pineda and Pam Confetti** (who also sold raffle tickets). Dinner began at 7 PM with servers **Marisa Sinisi, Dominic Sinisi, Maryann Peddicord, Lorraine Lohmeier and Estrella Rusk** passing out pizza appetizers and a delicious family style salad (prepared by **Brian and Vicki McCoy**). The salad was followed by a generous serving of **Chef Richard Confetti's** pasta with meat sauce marinara and fresh garlic French bread (with **Carole Miller and Don Benson** assisting in the kitchen). Dessert consisted of vanilla ice-cream, topped with strawberries and a cookie. The evening continued with fabulous music presented by **Jim Peddicord's Nite Notes Jazz Ensemble** with guest singer **Alicia Perez**. We had guests dancing, visiting and enjoying a wonderful evening of fun.

Many Thanks to the following persons for donating raffle and or silent auction items: **Marla Plurkowski, Maryann Peddicord, Pam Confetti, Pat Dunleavy, Carol Huff, Susan Fleming and the Perez Family**. Silent Auction winners were: **June Stuhlreyer, Pam Confetti and Kathleen Clark**. We had several monetary donations as well by wonderful parish family

members: **Gary and Diane Hack, Father Robert Rien, Bev Iacona, Nick and Lilia Suarez and Bob Zabroski**. If you would like to donate to the American Cancer Society, it is not too late and any amount is not too small. Please write your check to St. Ignatius of Antioch and in the memo write *Relay for Life*. Maryann will accept it in the parish office. If you feel comfortable donating online, go to: www.relayforlife.org/antiochca scroll down until you find "Teams" look for St. Ignatius of Antioch and follow the prompts.

Please join us in walking the walk this June 24th and 25th at the Deer Valley High School football field. We will also have a Bunco night in the St. Ignatius of Antioch parish hall on June 6th. Watch the bulletin for more information. Thank you and may God bless you all.

With much appreciation and love,
Alicia Perez & Maryann Peddicord
St. Ignatius of Antioch Relay for Life
Co-Captains

Knights of Columbus Burrito Sales Thank You

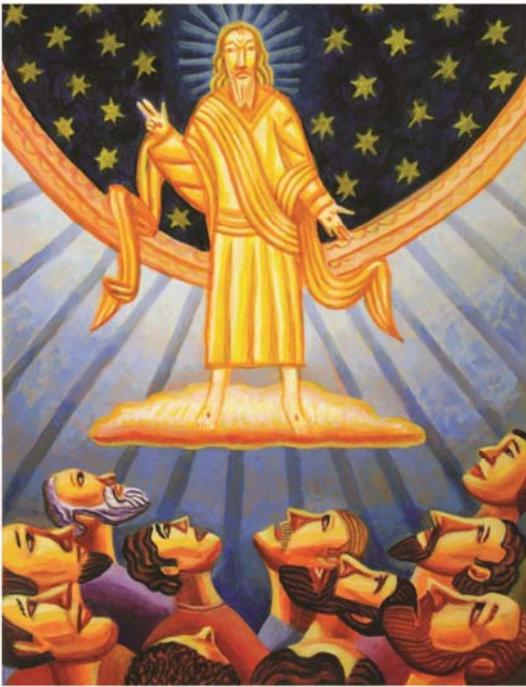
Many thanks go out to the Knights who came out this past Sunday and worked very hard to make our Breakfast Burritos successful. We are raising funds to support the Veterans Standdown which will be held in August. Our parishioners were very generous in making donations in addition to buying up our burritos and we are very appreciative.

Thanks to **Ernie Ameral, Clem Bushman, Tim Cox, Bob Goncalves, Peter Lozano, Jose Perez, Steve Rojek, Walter Schlueter, Dave Simpson, and Ron Yarolimek**. We also made about 3 dozen burritos and they were delivered

to the Winter Nights Family Shelter in
Pittsburg. Our net was \$505.

We will be doing this again on June 25
for the Veterans Standdown, and also for
the support of any of the young men in
our Parish who may be attending the
Quo Vadis Retreat in July, as well as the
“Field Trip” to St. Patrick’s Seminary in
July.

Steve Rojek
Financial Secretary



Go and Make Disciples

Father of life, your Son returns.
Co-creator and intimate partner,
he ascends to sit at your right hand.
He has conquered sin and death,
his hands marked by the wounds of
his love.

As the Lord passes from our sight,
we practice lifting our hearts,
that we might rise with him one day.
Now he calls us, as he did the
first Apostles,
to go and make disciples throughout
the world.

May we know you are with us always.
May we follow without fear.
May your Kingdom come.
We ask this through our Lord
Jesus Christ,
your Son, who lives and reigns
with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever. Amen.