

Catholic Churches of Barber County, Kansas

May 28, 2017

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The Ascension of the Lord

Thoughts on Today's Liturgy

Reading 1: You will be my witnesses to the ends of the earth

Reading 2: Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit provide what the faithful need.

Gospel: I am with you always until the end of the age

Theme: Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations

Sacrament of Reconciliation 30 minutes before Mass or by appointment

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Sat	27	5:00 p.m.	SH	Vaughn Spencer	†	Ascension
Sun	28	8:30 a.m.	KW	Parishioners		Ascension
Sun	28	10:30 a.m.	ML	Bob and Pat Graves	†	Ascension
Tue	30	9:00 a.m.	ML	Larry Traffas	†	
Wed	31	8:30 a.m.	SH	Pete Swingle	†	
Thur.	01	8:30 a.m.	KW	Elizabeth Terry	†	
Fri.	02	8:30 a.m.	SH	Karol Ricke	†	
Sat	03	5:00 p.m.	SH	Pete Swingle	†	Pentecost
Sun	04	8:30 a.m.	KW	Larry Traffas	†	Pentecost
Sun	04	10:30 a.m.	ML	Parishioners		Pentecost

A BLESSED AND HOLY EASTER SEASON

Reflection: **A CATHOLIC THOUGHT FOR MEMORIAL WEEKEND:** Why are human beings willing to fight and die for freedom? As Americans, this Memorial Day we will remember those who died in the service of our country. But as Catholic Americans, we will also reflect on the meaning of true freedom and thank God for the Church which is the way to that freedom, a freedom we as Catholics are called to live to the full. Thus, one reason why we human beings are willing to fight and die for freedom is because the need for freedom is imprinted onto our very nature. By virtue of our ability to reason and our free will, we are impelled to seek truth, especially religious truth. Our creator instilled this drive in us, so that **we would seek Him, for He is truth.** And having found truth, we are obligated to live it to the best of our ability. But we cannot satisfy this obligation unless we are free from coercion. Consequently, it is the obligation of the state to ensure that its citizens are free to exercise their religious freedom. However, if the state fails in its obligation, or is attacked by another state, then, at some point, human beings will rightly and necessarily fight and die for true freedom. This Memorial Day Catholics rightly honor our fallen brothers and sisters, but we also remember our Church, who has defended the dignity and freedom of the human person for two-thousand years

VIBRANT MINISTRIES “GO, THEREFORE, AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS” Jesus said in Galilee. (Matthew 28:19)

What can I expect when the Vibrant Ministries – *Uniting our Church Appeal* takes place at our Parish? Within the next few weeks, you will be receiving a letter from Bishop Brungardt inviting you to make a gift in support of the Appeal. Further, you may be contacted by a fellow parishioner serving as an Appeal volunteer, as well as through a phone-a-thon and a final, in-pew request at the end of the Appeal. At each Mass, parishioners are asked to pray for the success of the Vibrant Ministries Appeal, listen to pulpit announcements regarding the progress of the Appeal and read bulletin announcements offering details on its goals.

How can I get involved? Please prayerfully consider serving as a volunteer for the Appeal as this effort is a major undertaking and your help will be appreciated. As a volunteer, you will serve as ambassador for me and Bishop John as we reach out to the 17,000 plus Catholic families in our Church in southwest Kansas. To get involved, please contact me or the Parish Office.

Am I expected to give the amount requested in the letter? While the letter will suggest a specific amount, this is only a starting point for your personal prayer and discernment. Please spend some time reflecting on how you can help. Pray and ask the Lord for guidance and give in a way that reflects the blessings you have received. Please consider that giving to the Vibrant Ministries Appeal is over and above your parish offertory giving.

By participating in the Vibrant Ministries Appeal, you are helping our Church make disciples by reaching out into the communities of Southwest Kansas by supporting priestly vocations, faith formation and works of mercy.

With great joy, the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City announces the Ordination of Rev. Mr. Jacob Schneider and Rev. Mr. Mark Brantley to the ORDER OF PRESBYTER through the imposition of hands and the invocation of the Holy Spirit by The Most Reverend John B. Brungardt, 10 am Saturday, June 3, Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Dodge City. Please join in celebrating the Ordination Mass and sharing in the reception that follows

Prayer Intentions for the Sick and Shut-Ins: Sammy Flyingout, Norman Fischer, Jim Fischer, Ella Rundle, Alice Burenheide, Edna Swayden, John Dohm, Gary Noland, Raymond Schmidt, Cindy Archuleta
Prayer Intentions: for the members of our parish family who are serving our country in the armed forces.

For the Faithful Departed: Patricia Graves, Elizabeth Terry, Pete Swingle, Robert Loewenstein, Tom Doherty, Dennis Hammersmith, Dwayne Kruckenberg, Luke Hendricks, Fern Beckerman, Omaha Tatera, Agnes Eck, Larry Traffas, William (Bill) Hitchcock, John Ditgen, Dave Rausch, Albert Blahut, the souls in Purgatory. May they rest in perfect peace.

Parish News:

TOTUS TUUS: June 11-16. St Boniface, Sharon,

For Many are Called but Few are Chosen.

Registration after the Masses-- today and June 3/4

Schedule: Grade School (Grades 1-6)

Monday thru Friday-- 9:00 a.m.-- 3:00 p.m.

High School (Grades 7 – 12)

Sunday thru Thursday-- 7:30 p.m. -9:45 p.m.

HOLY ROSARY-MEDICINE LODGE: We bless our new image of **the Pieta** which graces our entryway to the church. The image and stand are a gift of Kay Rankin in memory of her husband Charles.

Since its creation in 1499, Michelangelo's *Pietà* has inspired emotion, faith, and imitation through its elegant depiction of the Virgin Mary and Jesus Christ. Cardinal Jean de Billheres, who served the church in Rome, wanted to be remembered long after he died. He hired Michelangelo to make a memorial for his tomb: the tragic moment of the Virgin Mary taking Jesus down from the cross.

Michelangelo's exact job description for the project was to create "the most beautiful work of marble in Rome, one that no living artist could better." Michelangelo was confident he could complete such a task. The *Pietà* is considered by many to be his greatest work, besting even *David* and the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT: In today's Gospel, Jesus prays, "I have given You glory on earth by finishing the work You gave Me to do." Good stewards follow His example by using their time and talents for the glory of God.

VOCATION VIEWS: Jesus summons us to spread the faith through the grace of baptism. Where are you being called to share your gifts? (*Matthew 28: 16-20*). If you think God is calling you to priesthood or to consecrated life, visit our website at www.dcdiocese.org/vocations

WE PRAY: Dear Heavenly Father, As we remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for the freedoms we enjoy every day, we think of how they have followed in the footsteps of your son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Please hold our servicemen and women in your strong arms. Cover them with your sheltering grace and your presence as they stand in the gap for our protection. We also remember the families of our troops. We ask for your unique blessings to fill their homes, and we pray your peace, provision, and strength will fill their lives. May the members of our armed forces be supplied with courage to face each day and may they trust in the Lord's mighty power to accomplish each task. Let our military brothers and sisters feel our love and support. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

NOVENA FOR PENTECOST: Dearest Holy Spirit, please guide us to constantly know and seek you. Grant us the holy fear of God, Grant us true contrition and patience. We beg you to protect and keep us from falling into sin. Give us a constant increase of faith, hope and charity, and bring forth in our souls all the virtues proper to our state in life. Make us faithful disciples of Jesus and obedient children of our Holy Mother the Church. Give us the Grace sufficient to keep the Commandments and to receive the Sacraments worthily always. We humbly ask for the four Cardinal Virtues, Your Seven Gifts, Your Twelve Fruits. Raise us to perfection in the state of life to which you have called us and lead us at our last hour to the grace of a holy death. We beg You to have mercy on the holy souls in Purgatory, especially those closest to us and those most in need of our prayers. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen. (*Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be*)