

Holy Family Parish Cluster

May 16, 2021



The Ascension OF THE LORD

But they went forth and
preached everywhere, while
the Lord worked with them
and confirmed the word
through accompanying
signs. - Mk 16: 20

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Sts Philip & James Grand Mound

606 Fulton Street
P.O Box 7
Grand Mound, IA 52751
Telephone: 563-847-2271
Web:
www.holyfamilycluster.org

Cluster Office Hours

Due to the pandemic the office has
limited hours. Please call or email if
you need anything.

Bulletin Deadline
Tuesday 12:00 noon
(unless otherwise noted).

Mission Statement

*A family of God constituted
by the Holy Eucharist and
strengthened by the Holy
Spirit to make God known,
loved and served.*

Administration:

Pastor: Rev. Francis V. Odoom

Cell: 515-357-8798

Email: odoomf@diodav.org

Deacon: Michael Sheil

Cell: 563-613-0607

Administrative Assistant

Christine Meyer

Email—

grandmssphilipjames@diodav.org

Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Lost Nation/Toronto

903 Main St.
P.O Box 127
Lost Nation, IA 52254
670 Mill Street
Toronto, IA 52777

Sacred Heart Oxford Junction

309 Church Street
Oxford Junction, IA 52323
Web: www.sacredheartoj.org

“Trust me.”

—GOD

©LPi

Most of us can probably remember a time in our lives growing up when we were afraid. Often in the midst of that fear, we would reach for our mom or dad’s hand. As one of them held our hand, the fear may still have been there, but we also felt safe. We knew our parents were there, that they wouldn’t leave us...that we would be okay because they loved us.

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension which commemorates Jesus's ascension into heaven 40 days after his resurrection. Normally, the feast is celebrated on the 6th Thursday of Easter, but it can also be celebrated on the Sunday after that, which is what we do. Jesus in his human body leaves the world for the last time, fulfilling the final stage of the Paschal Mystery: Passion, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension into heaven.

This was also the time when the disciples were coming to the end of three incredible years with Jesus physically at their side. They had seen him heal the sick, cast out demons, stand up against the Pharisees, raise the dead, and feed thousands with a few fish. They had also watched him die a brutal, agonizing death, only to rise from the dead and walk with them and teach them even more. Now he was about to ascend into heaven, and he was giving them an incredible responsibility, “Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature.” (Mark 16:15)

Barely a month had passed since the Romans had crucified Jesus, and the religious leaders of the Jews, the one-time religious leaders of the disciples themselves, had conspired with the Romans for his murder to take place. Now Jesus was leaving. Even though he had sent the disciples on missions before, it was always with the plan of them returning to his side to learn and grow again. But now he would not be there for them to turn to, physically. We can only imagine how afraid they must have been.

But, like our mom or dad taking our hand when we were afraid, Jesus acknowledged their fears and said, “I am with you always, until the end of the world.” (Matthew 28:20) He wasn’t leaving them alone. He would be with them through it all, speaking truth to their hearts, because he knew what they would have to face to accomplish their mission. Their faith would be tested, and the road wouldn’t be easy. He was right. Every one of the apostles, except for John, was murdered for his faith, and John would die in exile. But even in death they were not alone. Jesus was at their sides.

The same is true for us. Just think of everything we have been through this last year: pandemic, political strife, civil unrest, and closer to home, the anxiety many may be feeling about the restructuring of our Cluster. In every moment of fear, every breath of uncertainty, Jesus has never left our side. As he promised the disciples, he is with us always, even to the end of all we know. The fear may persist, but we are never alone.

Colleen Burke
Evangelization Team

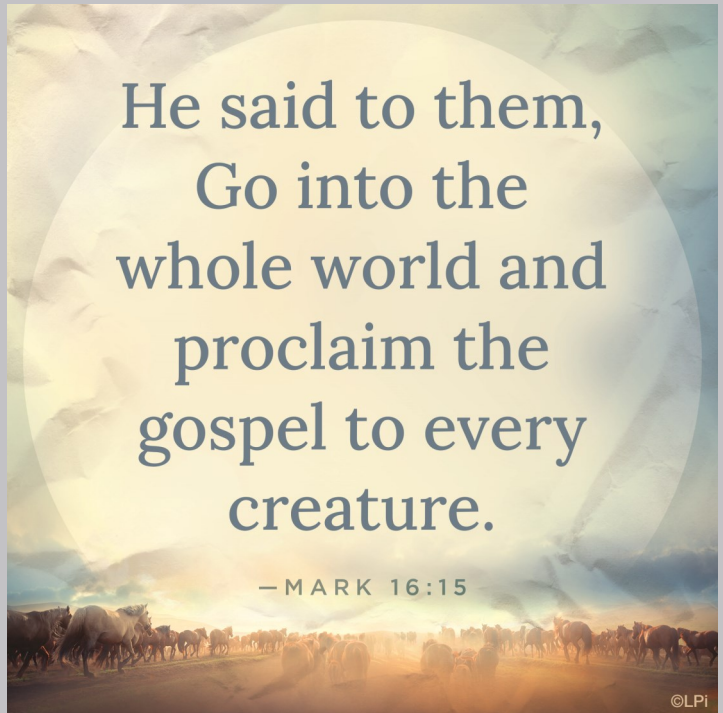


Holy Family Cluster News

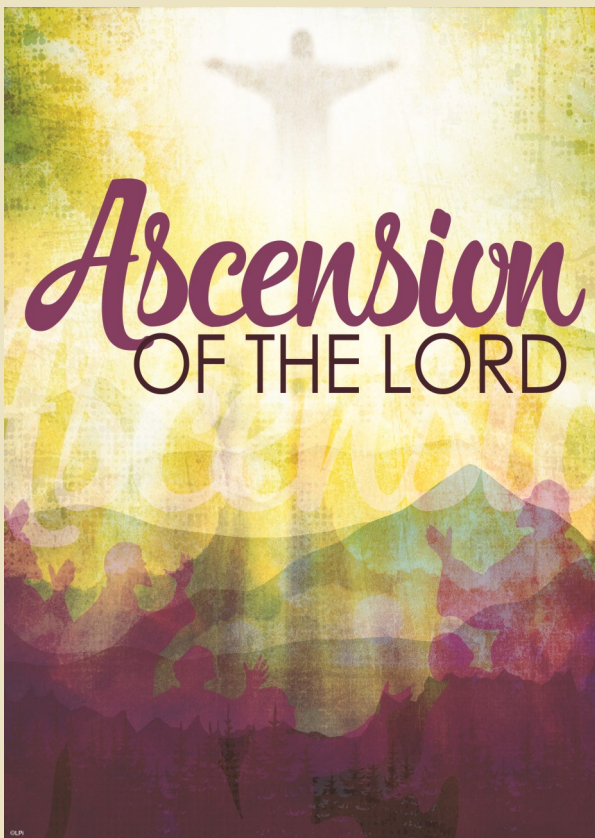


SSPJ Congratulates our parish's 2021 high school graduates, Taylor Jacobsen and Zach Weih! Taylor is the daughter of Aaron and Maria Jacobsen and Zach is the son of Carena and Michael Weih. Both are graduates of Calamus Wheatland High School. We look forward to seeing where God guides you in your journey beyond high school!

Congratulations to our graduating seniors, Cael Eganhouse and Trenton Geltz. Prayers, hugs and best wishes from your church family at Sacred Heart.



Why Are We Looking at the Sky?



Men of Galilee — why are you looking at the sky? It seems like a pretty foolish question for the angels to be asking the disciples. Their best friend just flew away in a cloud. I think in that situation, my first reaction would probably be to stop and stare, too.

But let's not forget, the disciples had a lot of work to do. A world full of souls to evangelize. I've always been a little amused at the thought of the angels shooing them down from Mount Olivet. *Get to work! The kingdom isn't going to build itself!*

In our own faith lives, we often find ourselves looking at the sky, don't we? We're the faithful, after all. We have seen Christ. We have accepted him. We have given ourselves to him. What more do we need to do? Perhaps we excessively dwell on the past, or anxiously anticipate the future. Perhaps we can't move on from a mistake we have made, or we are shying away from a challenge in front of us. We all have our own cloud that has bewitched us.

But let's remember, our faith compels action. Once again, the kingdom isn't going to build itself.

Why are you looking at the sky? The work is here. The hour is at hand. A good steward is to be mindful of the gift of time. What's the mountain you need to climb down? What is the task God is handing you? For what purpose has God placed you here, at this very moment in history? *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS* ©LPi

WEEKLY ANTIPHONS

Entrance Antiphon

Tuesday 5/18

You will receive the power of the Holy Spirit coming upon you, and you will be my witnesses, even to the ends of the earth, alleluia.

Wednesday 5/19

All peoples, clap your hands.
Cry to God with shouts of joy, alleluia.

Thursday 5/20

I will praise you, Lord, among the nations;
I will tell of your name to my kin, alleluia.

Friday 5/21

Come, you blessed of my Father;
receive the kingdom prepared for you
from the foundation of the world, alleluia.

Weekly Recessional Antiphon

You have been buried with Christ in Baptism,
through which you also rose again
by faith in the working of God,
who raised him from the dead, alleluia.

From Words Among Us

Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat

Website -<https://www.chmiowa.org/retreat> and click on the Retreat Calendar on the left-hand side for more details, or call 563-336-8414 or email olpretreat@gmail.com. Make sure to register to receive the zoom link.

Thurs, May 20 | 9:00am-3:30pm In-Person: An Old Crone Speaks, An Old Crone Listens |
Leader: Helen Schiltz | Fee: \$30

Sat, May 22 | 9:30am-3:30pm | In-Person: Act of Power Leader: Kathleen Collins | Fee: \$40

Don't forget! Evangelization Team meeting
Monday, May 17 at 7:00 pm on zoom!

Cluster Parish Prayer List

1. **Our Shepherds:**

Bishop Thomas Zinkula, Archbishop
Michael Jackels, Fr. Francis Odoom,
Deacon Mike Shiel

2. **The Aged & Infirm:**

- Melvin Duwa, Gloria Kagemann, Grace Kinney, & Dick Nodurft
- Betty Anderson, Jerica Christensen, Rich Kleineck, Leonard Lasack, Paul Lasack & Marilyn Stevenson

MASS SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Place	Intention
Saturday 5/15	5:00 pm	Lost Nation	Tom Simmons
Sunday 5/16	8:00 am 10:00 am	Grand Mound Oxford Junction	Harold Gorzney Glen Reginnitter
Tuesday 5/18	8:00 am	Grand Mound	Vince & Regina Hahn
Wednesday 5/19	5:00 pm	Grand Mound	Francis & Eva McManus
Thursday 5/20	5:00 pm	Lost Nation	Robby Gilroy
Friday 5/21	8:00 am	Oxford Junction	Glenn Reginnitter
Saturday 5/22	5:00 pm	Toronto	Randall Sander
Sunday 5/23	8:00 am 10:00 am	Grand Mound Oxford Junction	Maria Teresa & Alicia Meza Rosine Reginnitter

Dope Francis Prayer Intention For May

The World of Finance
Let us pray that those in charge of
finance will work with
governments to regulate the
financial sphere and protect
citizens from its dangers.

DAILY READINGS

Readings for the week of May 16, 2021

Sunday: *Ascension:* Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23

Monday: Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab [33a]/Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21 [33a]/Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68: 29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab [33a]/Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 [1]/Jn 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab [19a]/Jn 21:15-19

Saturday: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5 and 7 [7b]/Jn 21:20-25

Next Sunday: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 [cf. 30]/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13