



Let's Rejoice – humbly, gently, patiently – Bound Together by the Holy Spirit!

Reflection from Fr. John Phelps, C.Ss.R.

May 16, 2021 - Ascension of Our Lord

Acts 1:1-11 & Mark 16:15-20 with Ephesians 4:1-13

“Why stand there looking up?” “Go into the whole world and preach the Gospel!” The Message couldn’t be clearer. But then, what does it mean to stand there? What does it mean to preach? What does it mean for Catholic Christians to hear these questions?

Let’s go to Paul’s letter to the people of Ephesus. Paul sees us as “prisoners” of Christ. That word is best understood as being on a “chain gang” with Christ in the front. We literally are made to walk where He walks, talk as He talks, do as He does.

There are three inter-related ways of thinking and acting as Paul goes on to explain. The ultimate goal is to mature into complete humanity with the full stature of Christ. Yes, when Jesus ascended, it was like He said – “Now it’s your turn to go!”

The rhythm of the Catholic Christian is to “come and go.” We come to receive the message and the miracle. We are in this world as it is. We come to understand as Jesus sees, to become what we receive - His Body and Blood. And then we go!

Humbly ... the Spirit is over all of us. When we walk into our world in 2021 and we live the values entrusted to us, we will be humiliated. When people find out that we want to turn enemies into friends and criminals into Christians, they’ll laugh at us.

Gently ... the Spirit is through all of us. We can talk about what we breathe. Breath went into the clay as the second creation story explains the beginning of the first human person - Adam. When people hear “forgive and reconcile”, they’ll be cruel to us.

Patiently ... the Spirit is in all of us. We do what we say because we are bound together as one. We will be merciful – feeding the hungry both physically and spiritually. We want to be just – correcting those causing division. They’ll say “It won’t work.”

Who are “they”? Follow the money, find fallen human nature at its best. We are not confronted by fellow men and women. We are up against powers and principalities of the underworld – the power of Evil. That’s why we are to pray to preach always. Let our actions speak. And when we are asked, share our “why” – Christ Jesus Loves us!

Celebrating Our Confirmation!

Next week, Pentecost Sunday, we will take an opportunity to celebrate being **C o n f i r m e d C a t h o l i c** Christians - chosen to be sent! Fr. John has asked each parishioner to provide her/his confirmation name and date. If you cannot recall one or both, you can obtain the information by contacting the church where you were confirmed, or the church where you were baptized. If you need assistance, please contact Ed Shea. Also, please provide your confirmation information to Ed by phone, mail, or email.

Mother’s Day Praise Dance!

Thank you to (from left to right) Anthony Sinatra, Kendall Sinatra, and Ah’Moni Pace for their Mother’s Day praise dance. We also thank Stephanie Flounory and Patricia Woods for putting it together, and the kids’ parents for their support.



COVID-19 Protocols

This week, the CDC released new COVID protocols, easing restrictions regarding mask wearing, social distancing, etc. for fully vaccinated individuals. Accordingly, the AOD announced some minor changes to protocols for the celebration of the liturgy, such as allowing the distribution and use of hymnals; however, as of now, we continue to require the wearing of face masks.

Subsequent to the CDC announcement, Governor Whitmer announced easing of restrictions for Michigan. The AOD is evaluating the governor’s directives and will announce further changes to liturgical protocols this week. We will post any changes on the parish website when available. We appreciate your cooperation.

Our Mission Statement

Having reflected on the "four faces of our parish," **St. Peter Claver Catholic Community**, chosen by the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, and under the guidance of Mary, resolves that: 1) we will provide more opportunities for deepening prayer life and faith life for youth, young adults, and adults; 2) we will initiate efforts to reach out and re-connect with those individuals and families who have disconnected from the Church; 3) we will collaborate with other faith communities and organizations within our parish to offer ecumenical events/activities (e.g., neighborhood clean-ups, prayer meetings, health fairs); and, 4) we will utilize resources within our parish community to advocate for education and to promote social justice issues.

Novena to the Holy Spirit

The Church will celebrate Mary, Mother of the Church, on May 24, the day after Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended, giving birth to the Church. In preparation, we are providing a Novena to the Holy Spirit with prayers and petitions to Our Mother of Perpetual Help (one of the many titles the Church uses to honor Mary throughout the world). This nine-day novena, which will begin on May 14 and end on May 22, is meant to help us open ourselves to embrace and use the gifts of the third person of the Holy Trinity to reaffirm our Confirmation commitment as "chosen to be sent."

Copies of the Novena are in the rear of the church and the Novena is available on the parish website.

St. Paul of the Cross Passionist Retreat Center
One Day Retreat for Men & Women
Saturday, June 5
10 am to 6 pm
*I Heard the Voice
of Jesus Say...*
Take a few hours to lay your burdens down and experience the renewal only Christ can give.

- Enjoy the beauty of the retreat center at this in-person event
- Includes lunch and dinner, themed conferences, Mass & Reconciliation
- Time for quiet personal reflection as well as group sharing and prayer
- Ideal for couples or individuals
- \$125 per person

register online at stpaulretreat.org

Questions? Contact Cathy at cadamk@stpaulretreat.org or (313)286-2800.

St. Paul of the Cross Passionist Retreat Center 23333 Schoolcraft Detroit, MI 48223

Eucharistic Heart of Jesus Intercessory Prayer Team

Beverly Alessio, Inez (Retinella) Alls, Florine Anderson, Alberta Asmar, Sylvia Baker, Warren Bridges, Donald & Barbara Carter, Michael Clarence Carter, Johnnie Davis, Peggy Endlein, Ara Grier, Sandra Griffin, Karen Hickman, Myrtis Hildebrandt, Jacqueline Johnson, Bobbie Lewis, Addison Martin, Augusta Martin, Dorothy (Vicki) Martin, Charles Nelson, Joan S. Noland, Nancy Oberhausen, Grady & Celestine Parker, Fred & Villa Ray, Romaine Redd, Flossie Ryles, Jeanne Schuldt, Irene Scott, Gussie Seay, Augusta Starks, Mary Tyler, Christine Versele, Helen Wajda, Anna Washington, Lillie Washington, Carmel Weems, Leonard & Ona Wilson

Also, Please Remember in Prayer:

Wayne Bradley, Olivia Boulden, Christopher Durant, Rochelle Evans, Kiara Harris, Marley Jonah, Mary Caroline Jonah, Johnetta Mutes, Elke Rittenhouse, Elaine Ryles, Terrence Tidwell, Charles Tilghman, Jon Viado, Vickee Viado, Constance Washington-Daniel, Larry Washington, and relatives of our parishioners

Ministers Schedule

May 23, 2021

Celebrant: Rev. John Phelps, C.Ss.R.

Minister of Service: Bill Tidwell

Lector: Kathryn Crutcher

Meetings/Events This Week

Sunday	10:00 am	Mass in Church and via Zoom
Tuesday	10:00 am	St. Vincent de Paul at Mt. Lebanon
Wednesday	11:00 am	Lectio Divina via Zoom
Saturday	10:00 am	Leadership Discernment via Zoom
	11:00 am	Knights of Peter Claver
Sunday	10:00 am	Mass in Church and via Zoom
	2:00 pm	Knights of Peter Claver

Legend: PH=Parish House; MC=Marygrove College
Church refers to the Sacred Heart Chapel at Marygrove College
For the "live" Parish Calendar, go to spcccdetroit.org

Sacramental Preparation

Are you, or someone you know, interested in joining the Catholic Church or receiving one of the sacraments? Please contact Jennie Sinatra at the Parish Office.

Collection Results

We continue to rely on your support. Please send your weekly donation to the Parish Office. Or you may want to consider online giving. It's convenient, secure, and totally in your control!

Give Online at spcccdetroit.org

St. Peter Claver Catholic Community

Parish Office: 13305 Grove St., Detroit, MI 48235
(313) 342-5292

Church: Marygrove College - Sacred Heart Chapel
8425 W. McNichols Rd., Detroit, MI 48221

email: parishoffice@spcccdetroit.org

website: www.spcccdetroit.org

Mass: Every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Church
(Check the bulletin for holy days and special services)

Reconciliation: Before Mass or By Appointment

Parish Office Hours: Parish Staff is currently working from home. Please contact Ed Shea if you require assistance.

Reverend John Phelps, C.Ss.R., Pastor

Edward Shea, Administrative Manager/Bulletin Editor
Cell: (248) 633-4476

Jennie Sinatra, Formation Director

Stephanie Flounory, Youth & Young Adult Minister

Tanda Flounory, Parish Pastoral Council Chair

LaTanya Mahdi, Finance Council Chair