

# THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

MAY 20, 2007

GOD MOUNTS HIS THRONE AMID SHOUTS OF JOY; THE LORD, AMID TRUMPET BLASTS.

— Psalm 47:6

## CONTINUALLY PRAISING GOD

In both the first reading and the Gospel we are told about Christ's glorious ascension into heaven. Paul's letter to the Ephesians reminds us that Christ has been seated at God's right hand in heaven, above every choir of angels. There might be a temptation to stay at an awed distance from Jesus Christ. However, the tone of today's readings is far from that temptation. The tone is exultant and the message is urgent. We are to be his witnesses, and the Gospel describes the first witnesses this way: "With great joy . . . they were continually in the temple praising God" (Luke 24:53).

How can we continually praise God? The answer can be found in the second reading, in which Paul prays that God will give us a "Spirit of wisdom and revelation" in order to know Christ clearly (Ephesians 1:17). We cannot stand at a distance. We are to be enlightened and empowered.

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## REFLECTIONS....

Try to take time this week to sit and read next Sunday's Gospel. Afterwards, reflect on the following questions:

*To have true life and God's peace we need to forgive and receive forgiveness from one another. In order for you to have peace, what one area in your life do you need forgiveness from yourself or another?*

*St. Paul tells us that we all have unique gifts for the good of others. How do you use your gifts to help others?*

— PENTECOST —

FIRST READING: Acts: 2:1-11

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13

GOSPEL: John 20: 19-23

## COME HOLY SPIRIT, COME!

Next Friday, May 25 at 7:00p.m. Bishop Alexander Salazar will come to our parish to confirm 63 teenagers and 3 adults. Two other adults will be confirmed at the Regional Confirmations. Let us ask God the Father, in the name of His Son Jesus, to send the Holy Spirit on all these people to be confirmed. May they be strengthened in faith and generous in service to our community

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## PRAY FOR OUR SICK

*Dolores Sartain, Maria Miranda*

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## ARCHDIOCESAN COLLECTION FOR RETIRED PRIESTS TODAY

Today, all parishioners are asked to give generously to support the Retirement Fund for Archdiocesan Priests via a special collection.

Currently, the fund provides for 145 priests who are retired. Over the next ten years, the number of priests who will reach retirement age will number 353. All of these individuals have committed their lives to serve the spiritual needs of our parish communities. We, in turn, owe it to them to assure that they do not have to worry about their retirement years.

Beginning in 2000, and in each year since, the Archdiocese of Los Angeles has asked for financial support for the Retirement Fund for Archdiocesan Priests. The faithful of the Archdiocese have responded generously and tremendously in support of this important special collection. Since 2000, a total of \$8,949,961 has been added to the Priests Pension Plan through this annual collection. Thank you to those who have been so generous.

Please give in support of our priests, not out of a sense of obligation but, out of a true gratitude for their dedication and service for so many years to the People of God in our Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING US REACH OUR GOAL  
OF \$1,000,000 THIS YEAR!!!**

## INVITATION TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sr. Dolores Barling — 562.439.0931 x 5.

## PARISH MOBILE LIBRARY

Pick up a book to enrich your spiritual life before or after the Sunday 10:30 a.m. Mass. Ten minutes of spiritual reading per day can really 'make your day.'

## PRAY THE ROSARY WITH US

Saturday mornings at 8:30a.m. in the church.

## FAITH FORMATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Members of this committee are invited to come to the Rectory this **Monday evening, May 21 at 7:00 p.m.** for our planning meeting.