

The Work of the People

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Last Thursday we celebrated the Ascension of the Lord and have completed forty days of the fifty-day Easter celebration. Next week we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost (the Greek "pente" indicating fifty). It is the Spirit that guided the closest followers of Jesus and the Spirit who guides the Church today. We all pray for the guidance of the Spirit as we find ways to stay close to God when, because of the present pandemic, we cannot do so in our usual ways as a believing and worshipping community.

In the reading from the Acts of the Apostles, we learn from Luke that after the Ascension, the eleven Apostles gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem at the place they were staying. Joining the Apostles were women, along with Mary, and the brothers of Jesus. Luke tells us they prayed together. The otherwise anonymous women in the upper room likely included the women who accompanied Jesus during his Galilean ministry, and who were also present at his Crucifixion. Luke's reference to "his brothers" gathering with the Apostles and the women is a curiosity. Unlike the other Gospel writers, Luke downplays Jesus' family members. Perhaps in this mention of Jesus' brothers, Luke received, and simply preserved, the tradition of the original community at Jerusalem which included the women and Jesus' family members along with the Apostles.

The Gospel readings for the last three Sundays has been taken from Jesus' farewell discourse in the Gospel according to John. Today's Gospel reading is an excerpt from Jesus' final prayer in the farewell discourse. He prays for both himself and his disciples. In each prayer, the intimacy between Jesus, the Son, and God, the Father is prominent. As he draws his farewell discourse to a close, Jesus is mindful that "his hour has come". In John's account, Jesus makes numerous references to His "coming hour". In the farewell discourse, it now becomes clear that the "hour" points to his glorious death and Resurrection, when the eternal Word made flesh returns to his Father.

The reflection for this week is from *The Liturgical Year* by Fr. Andrien Nocent, OSB (1913-1996) who was a Belgian monk and professor at the Pontifical Athenaeum of Saint Anselm in Rome.

Christ is saying that he has glorified his Father by carrying out the task entrusted to him; now he in return must be glorified by the Father. Any glory given him, however, means the glorification of the Father as well, since there is no separation between the two glories. The glory that the Son gives the Father consists in the accomplishment of his mission; he has made the Father known to people who have come to realize that he came from the Father and have accepted the word that had been communicated to the Son and that he in

turn has communicated to them. They have believed, and they know; consequently, they have eternal life, for eternal life consists in knowing the only true God.

The climactic statement in this reading is that Jesus is glorified in his disciples. He can say this because they make clear the successful accomplishment of his mission: he has united them to himself and transformed them into his likeness; they now belong to the Father, just as they do to the Son. The Son's glory is the Father's glory, and the Father's glory is the Son's glory, and the Son's glory is ours as well.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 2

Monday: Acts 19:1-8/Jn. 16:29-33
 Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27/Jn. 17:1-11a
 Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38/Jn. 17:11b-19
 Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Jn. 17:20-26
 Friday: Acts 25:13b-21/Jn. 21:15-19
 Saturday: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Jn. 21:20-25
 Sunday: Acts 2:1-11/1 Cor. 12:3b-7, 12-13/Jn 20:19-23

SUNDAY MASS

Sunday Mass will be livestreamed on St. Anthony of Padua and St. Bernadette Mission Facebook page at 9:30 am, the normal Sunday Mass time.

PUBLIC ASPECT OF DAYS OF PRAYER CANCELLED

The Holy Family Monastery, home of the Carmelite community in Erie, has cancelled the public celebration of their annual Days of Prayer, which had been scheduled for July 11 - 16, 2020. Although there will be no public gatherings for prayer, the nuns assure people they will be remembering their prayer intentions during this time. Intentions may be dropped off or mailed to the Monastery of the Holy Family, 510 E. Gore Rd., Erie PA 16509.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

As Jesus appointed apostles, he also appoints parents to represent Him in the family; "make disciples of your children, baptizing and teaching them all I have taught you. Don't worry, I am with you always."

WORSHIP

**MASSES
ARE
SUSPENDED
UNTIL
FURTHER
NOTICE**

PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

**PARISH EVENTS
HAVE
BEEN
SUSPENDED
UNTIL
FURTHER
NOTICE**

**CHILD PROTECTION AND
CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS
NATIONAL CYBERTIPLINE**

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's CyberTipline is the nation's centralized reporting system for the online exploitation of children. Anyone can make reports of suspected online enticement of children for sexual acts, molestation, child pornography, child sex tourism, child sex trafficking (includes prostitution), child sextortion and unsolicited obscene material sent to a child. Misleading domain names, misleading words or digital images on the internet can also be reported to the CyberTipline. NCMEC staff review each tip and work to find a potential location for the incident reported so that it may be made available to the appropriate law-enforcement agency for possible investigation. NCMEC provides resources/help in removing an online image. Reports can be made 24 hours a day, seven days a week online at www.cybertipline.org or by calling (800)843-5678. Visit <https://www.eriecd.org/childprotection/> to see what the diocese is doing to help maintain safe environments for children and youth.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
(CONFESSION)**

Every Friday 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Please go up the ramp to the right and into the Daily Mass Chapel

You Must Wear A Mask

If there are several people waiting, please observe healthy social distancing.

**EXPOSITION OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Friday Noon 3:00 pm

For the health and safety of all, please wear a mask during your time in the church building and maintain proper social distancing.

**SAMPLE PRAYER
FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

Jesus, life is crazy! So many people are relying on me, but I don't know what to do myself. I know that you promised to be with us always, to walk with me and provide for me and those I love. And I believe that promise is true - especially in the Eucharist. Right now we can't go to Mass, but I love you and want to be close to you, now more than ever. Please come spiritually into my heart. Give me all the grace and help you would give if I were receiving you physically. Never let me be separated from you. I love you, Jesus. Amen

Please be aware that like any family, our parish has ongoing operating costs. We are entirely dependent upon you to meet those financial obligations. Please continue to make your weekly offertory gifts by mailing your offertory to P.O. Box 214, Cambridge Springs, PA 16403 or drop it off at the parish office, 165 Beach Ave. on Mon, Tues, Thurs or Fri from 9 am - 3 pm.

CHURCH NAME: ST. ANTONY OF PADUA

CHURCH NO.:

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
