

# The Ascension of the Lord



## WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

Babies should be baptized in the first few months after birth. Parents should not wait, should not delay for any reason. In fact, the sooner the better. I was baptized at one month.

Parents should take baptism preparation classes BEFORE their baby is born so they are ready to baptize.

"The Lord himself affirms that Baptism is necessary for salvation." (*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1257*)

"Parents are obliged to take care that infants are baptized in the first few weeks; as soon as possible after the birth or even before it, they are to go to the pastor to request the sacrament for their child and to be prepared properly for it." (*Code of Canon Law, 867.1*) "This great urgency is redoubled if it appears that an infant may be in danger of death, as it would be a great loss for a child to depart this life without the grace of Baptism." (*archatl.com, The Rite of Infant Baptism*).

Before the Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated, "there must be a **founded hope** that the infant will be brought up in the Catholic religion; if such hope is altogether lacking, the baptism is to be delayed according to the prescripts of particular law after the parents have been advised about the reason." (*Code of Canon Law, 868.2*) At a minimum, the parents must be practicing their faith, which includes attending Sunday Mass on a regular basis.

"Since the earliest times, Baptism has been administered to children, for it is a grace and a gift of God that does not presuppose any human merit; children are baptized in the faith of the Church. . . The practice of infant Baptism is an immemorial tradition of the Church. There is explicit testimony to this practice from the second century on, and it is quite possible that, from the beginning of the apostolic preaching, when whole 'households' received baptism, infants may also have been baptized." (*CCC, 1282, 1252*)

In the Acts of the Apostles, Lydia "and her household" were baptized at Philippi. (*Acts 16:15*) Paul and Silas were then arrested, imprisoned, delivered by an earthquake, then cared for by a jailer, to whom they preached the word, and "then he and all his family were baptized at once." (*Acts 16:33*)

Cornelius, a Roman centurion, is baptized along with, it appears, "his whole household" (*Acts 10:2*). "His relatives and close friends" (*Acts 10:24*) are also baptized (*Acts 10:48*) after "the holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the word." (*Acts 10:44*)

Nowhere does it say that children under the age of 12 waited till they were older to accept Christ and make a personal decision. It says **whole and entire families and households** (with nothing about children waiting till they are older)! The focus of Christ and of Catholics is on Christ's choice for us!

"To fulfill the true meaning of the sacrament, children must later be formed in the faith in which they have been baptized." They must "ultimately accept for themselves the faith in which they have been baptized"—to grown in it, to understand it, and to live it. (*Rite of Baptism for Children, 3*)

"Having become a member of the Church, the person baptized belongs no longer to himself, but to him who died and rose for us. (*Cf. 1 Cor 6:19, 2 Cor 5:15*) From now on, he is called to be subject to others, to serve them in the communion of the Church, and

to 'obey and submit' to the Church's leaders, holding them in respect and affection." (*CCC, 1269*)

## Prayer

"Pray constantly . . . always and for everything giving thanks in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father.' (I Thess 5:17, Eph 5:20) St. Paul adds, 'Pray at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance making supplication for all the saints.' (Eph 6:18) For 'we have not been commanded to work, to keep watch and to fast constantly, but it has been laid down that we are to pray without ceasing.' This tireless fervor can come only from love. Against our dullness and laziness, the battle of prayer is that of humble, trusting, and persevering love." (*CCC, 2742*)

"Prayer is a vital necessity. Proof from the contrary is no less convincing: if we do not allow the Spirit to lead us, we fall back into the slavery of sin. How can the Holy Spirit be our life if our heart is far from him? Nothing is equal to prayer; for what is impossible it makes possible, what is difficult, easy. . . For it is impossible, utterly impossible, for the man who prays eagerly and invokes God ceaselessly ever to sin.

"Those who pray are certainly saved; those who do not pray are certainly damned.' (*St. Alphonsus Liguori*)

"Prayer and Christian life are inseparable." (*CCC, 2744-45*)



"2010" Weekly Budget.....	\$5,350.00
Offertory collected May 9 <sup>th</sup> .....	\$4,891.60
<b>Difference</b> .....	<b>-\$ 459.00</b>
<b>Second Collections</b>	
Second collection May 9 <sup>th</sup> "Building Fund".....	\$1,536.99
<b>Campaign '10 Pledges:</b>	
Total donations made (from pledges) as of 04/25/10.....	\$93,233.33
May 9 <sup>th</sup> collection.....	\$ 714.00
New Campaign total donations from pledges.....	\$93,947.33

## Next Week's Second Collection

Next week's second collection will be for our St. Vincent de Paul Society.

## CONFIRMATION



Next Sunday, May 23, we will welcome Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory as he comes to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. We are honored at his visit, but especially that he joins us for Pentecost, the day the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles and established the Catholic Church. This year, 12 of our high school students are making their Confirmation. Pray for them.

The Confirmation Mass will be celebrated at a special time: 5:00 p.m. **There will be no 7:00 p.m. Sunday Mass in Spanish**

## PARISH PICNIC

Come and join us Friday, May 28<sup>th</sup> from 4-8:00 pm for annual parish picnic. This year is sure to be a huge success. We will be having hamburgers, hotdogs, watermelon, and much more. This years entertainment will include a moon walk for the kids, parachute, and for the teens we will have a rock wall to test out their climbing skills. O' and don't forget to bring a bathing suit to swim. The pool will be open from 6-8pm for St. Clements member's enjoyment. The day is sure to be fun for all, so grab a friend, pack up the kids, and head on out for a day of fun and fellowship.



# The Ascension of the Lord

## May 16, 2010

### First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

As the Apostles were looking on, Jesus was taken up.

### Second Reading: Hebrews 9:24-28; 10:19-23

Christ has entered into heaven itself.

### Gospel: Luke 24:46-53

As he blessed them, he was taken up to heaven.

### Living the Paschal Mystery

We are all familiar with the Catholic doctrine that the Holy Scriptures are the inspired word of God. Through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, each of us is an inspired word of God when we are faithful to Jesus. This means, as the gospel suggest that we are to preach and live as Jesus commanded. Repentance and forgiveness require that we first are willing to do as Jesus did give ourselves over to the Spirit of God who heals and gives life. Having first experience God's saving action, we can be that saving action for others. ~Living Liturgy

### Stewardship Thought

The second reading today contains the somber warning that Jesus is coming soon and will bring to each person he rewaed that his or her conduct deserves. Has my stewaeship of the blessings entrusted to me been such that I could respond joyfully, "Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!"?

Saturday May 15, 5:30pm.....Mother's Day Novena  
 Sunday, May 16, 8:30am..... Our Parish Family  
 Sunday, May 16, 10:00am.....(Spanish Mass) Our Parish Family  
 Sunday, May 16, 11:30 am.....Mother's Day Novena  
 Sunday, May 16, 1:00pm.....(Spanish Mass) Alex Roel Vasquez Esquivel (RIP)  
 Sunday, May 16, 7:00pm.....(Spanish Mass) Our Parish Family  
 Monday, May 17, 12:15pm.....Daily Mass  
 Tuesday May 18, 12:15 pm.....Daily Mass  
 Wednesday, May 19, 12:15pm.....Daily Mass  
 Wednesday, May 19, 6:30 pm.....Rosary  
 Thursday, May 20, 12:15 pm.....Communion Service  
 Friday, May 21, 7:00pm.....Prayer Group/ Adoration  
 Saturday May 22, 5:30pm.....Our Parish Family  
 Sunday, May 23, 8:30am.....Cindy Wilson (health)  
 Sunday, May 23, 10:00am.....(Spanish Mass) Our Parish Family  
 Sunday, May 23, 11:30 am.....Our Parish Family  
 Sunday, May 23, 1:00pm.....(Spanish Mass) Our Parish Family  
 Sunday, May 23, 5:00pm.....Confirmation Mass with AB Gregory  
 Sunday, May 23, 7:00pm.....NO MASS

### SPIRITUAL WARFARE



The story is told of two brothers, one who gave in to Satan and temptation, thinking this would stop the inner spiritual battle. The other never gave in, resisted in faith, and grew ever closer to God. Both faced spiritual warfare their whole life. The first kept giving in to temptation—more quickly and more easily

every time—and became increasingly miserable. His temptations gradually controlled him. He died of the effects of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), his addictions, and his need for more and more excitement in his life. He is spending eternity in Hell, since he chose everything else over Christ.

The second faced greater and greater temptations, but also became stronger and stronger in resisting temptation. He grew closer to Christ, which made Satan very mad. Despite all the spiritual struggles he went through, he had great inner peace, a strong prayer life, and a loving family who followed his example. **And a full and complete life.** Others resented him, but he persevered with courage,

kindness, and a strong belief in a better life to come. When he died, he went to Heaven. He is with Christ forever. He has received his eternal reward.

He is no longer suffering. His brother is: for eternity.

The first followed the ways of the world and lost. The second followed the ways of Christ and won.

### Please pray for the people who are suffering:



Donna Thibault - respiratory illness, Barbara Smith- cancer, Marty McKinnon- ovarian cancer, Cayla Johnson-hydrocephalus, Joe Campbell- follicular lymphoma, Tonya Isham-tumor, Curtis Lunt-ill health, Melissa Silva-health, Juanita Rochester-cancer, Chuck Terry- prostate cancer, June Macejkovic-heart condition, Fr. Denis Kolumber-health, Ernie -leukemia, Maria Farias-breast cancer, Jeanne Walraven-health, Jean Seitz-cancer, Angie Defalco-health, Erna Wyatt-health, Jim Rorer-special intention, Michael Llop-brain tumor, Erik Bigelow-special intention, Janice Miller-health, Jaden Bates-health, Roy Davies-safety, Chris Wable-health, Jim Wable-lung cancer, Marilyn Clayton-health, Ashlie Warren-health, Jenna Proctor-health, Jeff Elder-health, Serge Kastorsky-cancer, Terry Alan-bladder cancer, Lisa Clark-failed surgery, Betty Maddox-chemo, Donald Hicks-health, Jeff Bigelow-health, Cindy Wilson-health.

### STEWARDSHIP

"Do not love the world or the things of the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, sensual lust, enticement for the eyes, and a pretentious life, is not from the Father but is from the world. Yet the world and its enticement are passing away. But whoever does the will of God remains forever." (1 Jn 2:15-17)

### Vacation Bible School



It's that time of year again when we go from the school year to summer wondering what comes next. Here at St. Clements the answer would be Vacation Bible School. Watch for up and coming flyers

announcing registration for the 2010 classes.

## Archdiocesan News

### Attention Valedictorians



Are you a 2010 high school valedictorian in North Georgia? The Georgia Bulletin would like to acknowledge members of the archdiocese who are being honored as class valedictorians at public,

private or Catholic high schools. Please send name, high school, student's parish, and student contact information to

[editor@georgiabulletin.org](mailto:editor@georgiabulletin.org).

### Attention Student Athletes



Are you a 2010 high school senior who attends a parish in North Georgia's Archdiocese of Atlanta? The Georgia Bulletin would like to acknowledge student athletes of the archdiocese who have signed to play a sport at

a college or university. If you attend a Catholic high school, we will obtain the information from your school's athletic office. However, if you attend a public or non-Catholic high school, please send the student's name, high school, sport, the college or university (with city and state) the student will attend, the student's parish and contact information to [malexander@georgiabulletin.org](mailto:malexander@georgiabulletin.org).