

May 17, 2015

Seventh Sunday of Easter (B)

From The Desk of Msgr. Corrigan:

The time between the Ascension of the Lord and Pentecost must have been a time of great anxiety for the followers of Jesus. They had not expected the crucifixion and were devastated. However, with the Lord's Resurrection, they now thought the Kingdom of God had arrived. Jesus would now lead them in the next stage of human history. Would not all the peoples of the world follow Jesus when they saw him risen from the dead? To their shock, the Risen Lord Leaves them and returns to His Father. How can they possibly convince people about what they had seen? Then something new happens to them at Pentecost. They are no longer afraid, they are energized, they go out to face the world with the story and message of Jesus. "Something happened to us and we say that this something is the Spirit of God and His Son working us." Now, almost 2,000 years later, we believe that this same Holy Spirit still lives with us and our church.

Today we have a growing number of what is called the "nones." It comes from surveys that ask individuals what religion and church they belong to. If they answer "None of the above" they are counted as belonging to the category of "nones." "Nones" are a growing number. It is a disturbing trend. Some of our children will become "nones." That is why it is so important to bring our children to Mass on Sunday, to take the time to bring them to religious instruction on Saturday and most of all to receive the sacraments of the Eucharist, Reconciliation and Confirmation. In those sacraments we believe that the same Holy Spirit who came to the disciples at Pentecost has remained in our Catholic Church and will come to our children in a very special way.

First Communion will be celebrated next Saturday, May 23 at 10:00am. I made a mistake in last week's bulletin (I thought it was May 16). The sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated by Bishop Walsh on Wednesday, May 27 at 7pm.

Many thanks to our Hispanic parishioners for a wonderful Mother's Day celebration in our Parish Hall. In addition to a wonderful tribute to our mothers, they raised \$1,946 for our church.

Cardinal Stewardship Appeal:

We are way behind in our goal for the year. I don't know why. It is important that all our parishioners make a pelage.

COLLECTION:

The collection for last Sunday, May 10, 2015 was \$3,828.



Mother's Day Remembrance Plaque: please remember to pray for all the mothers on our Mother's Day Plaque in the back of the Church.

Seventh Sunday of Easter:

Jesus prays in today's Gospel that his Father protect those he leaves behind and those who follow (us). Yet often we worry and fret, unaware that God is with us, fulfilling the prayer of Jesus.

In the first reading, Acts 1:15-17 Peter leads the community of believers. An apostle is chosen to replace the one who betrayed the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm, Psalm 103:19a: "The Lord has set his throne in heaven".

In the second reading, 1 John 4:11-16: John tells us that God is love and has proven that love by sending his Son to save us. We are to help others to experience that love.

In the Gospel, John 17:11b-19: Jesus prays for his disciples, asking God to protect them as they take over the work that Jesus has done while on earth.

Today's Focus; In Good Times and Bad: With the loving faithfulness of wedding vows, the community of faithful baptized believers-the Church-is called upon to be a sign of love to the world, sharing its sorrows and joys.

Question of the Week:What opposition from others have I encountered because of my Christian faith?

Praying with the Word: Help us to remain in you. Lord Jesus, so that we may fully embrace life in all of its joy and hope, as well as its grief and anxiety.



We Christians are called to go out of ourselves to bring the mercy and tenderness of God to all.

Religious Education News:

❖ **First Holy Communion:**

Saturday May 23, 2015 at 10:00am Rehearsals for 1st Holy Communion will be on Friday May 15, 2015 at 7:00pm

❖ **Confirmation:**

Wednesday May 27, 2015 at 7:00pm

Rehearsals for Confirmation will be on Friday May 22, 2015 at 7:00pm for both Sponsors and Candidates.

Retreat: there will be a retreat for the candidates for Confirmation on Thursday May 21, 2015 from 9:30am to 3:00pm

Parish Council Meeting: the Parish Council will meet on Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at 7:00pm in the Rectory.

