

The Ascension of the Lord May 24, 2009 ~ Cycle B

From our pastor, Msgr. Cramblitt....

Tomorrow is Memorial Day, part of a three day holiday in our country. Because it is a long holiday weekend many will take advantage of the time off from work and have a weekend away, or a long rest. I wonder how many will actually keep the day as Memorial Day? I wonder how many will even remember what the day is supposed to be about?

The beginnings of this holiday are in the profound grief that comes in the wake of losing someone who has died in battle. In the early 1860's our country was torn asunder by vicious warfare. Many died. Even before the war was over the women of the Confederate states went to the cemeteries to tend the graves of the war dead and to place flowers on the graves. After the war ended the custom became a national one. May 30th was set as a day to honor those who fought and died. The day was generally called Decoration Day because people went to the cemeteries and decorated the graves with flowers or flags. (Only in 1971 did Congress move the commemoration to the last Monday in May so that Federal workers could have a three day holiday.)

After World War I the keeping of a day of memorial for war dead took on a new urgency. John McCrae's poem "In Flanders Field" captured the popular imagination and suddenly red poppies became associated with the day. He wrote: "In Flanders field the poppies blow/ between the crosses, row on row/ that mark our place..." Paper red poppies were made and sold to support the orphans of soldiers. To this day red poppies are the flower of the day.

The custom of visiting cemeteries and of parades and of prayers for the war dead seems to given way to a long beach weekend, sales at the mall and cook-outs. Perhaps you will do those great things! But, remember why we have this day. Pray for those who died in the service of our country. Pray for our country to be a source of peace and stability in the world. Pray for the safety of our military men and women serving in dangerous places. Remember the families of those who died in battle and pray for them. Pray for peace.

Join Us In Worship

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, May 25 ~ Easter Weekday - Memorial Day

Bede the Venerable, priest & doctor;

Gregory VII, pope; Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi, virgin

Acts 19:1-8; Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday, May 26 ~ Philip Neri, priest

Acts 20:17-27; Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday, May 27 ~ Easter Weekday

Augustine of Canterbury, bishop

Acts 20:28-38; Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday, May 28 ~ Easter Weekday

Acts 22:30;23:6-11; Jn 17:20-26

Friday, May 29 ~ Easter Weekday

Acts 25:13b-21; Jn 21:15-19

Saturday, May 30 ~ Easter Weekday

Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Jn 21:20-25

Sunday, May 31 ~ Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-11; 1 Cor 12:3b-7,12-13 or Gal 5:16-25

Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27;16:12-15

Whole Community Catechesis Questions for Faith Sharing

Question for Adults

How do you experience the divine power of Christ-among-us in your daily life?

Question for Youth

Even after Jesus ascended into heaven, he worked through the disciples to spread the Gospel. We are Jesus' disciples today. How can you open yourself up more to let Jesus work through you to be Good News in the world today?

Question for Children

Jesus helps us be brave when we need to be. When do you need to be brave?

PRESIDER SCHEDULE ~ MAY 30 - 31

5:00 PM Msgr. Richard Cramblitt
7:30 AM Msgr. Richard Cramblitt
9:00 AM Msgr. Richard Woy
11:30 AM Msgr. Richard Cramblitt

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat, May 23	5:00 p.m. +Jerome Phelan, Jr.
Sun, May 24	7:30 a.m. For the People of SSH
	9:00 a.m. +John Cockey
	11:30 a.m. +Anthony Azzaro, Jr.
Mon, May 25	7:00 a.m. +Joseph H. Baumgartner, Jr.
Tue, May 26	7:00 a.m. +Joseph H. Baumgartner, Jr.
Wed, May 27	7:00 a.m. +Jerome Phelan, Jr.
Fri, May 29	7:00 a.m. +Mary B. Williams

Join Us In Service

SPANISH DICTIONARIES ARE NEEDED: Now that school classes and courses are coming to a close consider donating your Spanish-English Dictionary. See the plea from Catholic Charities:

HELP! WE WANT TO LEARN ENGLISH!

iSOCORRO! iNOSOTROS QUEREMOS APRENDER INGLES!

The Esperanza Center, a program of Catholic Charities, is in need of Spanish-English bi-lingual dictionaries. Donations of no-longer-in-use ones in good condition will be gratefully received. Please put them in the box located near the elevator.

Thank you!/iMuchas gracias!

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS THE SICK OF THE PARISH ESPECIALLY: *Larry Preller, Gwendolyn Mighty, Ann Adams, Gloria Marble and Sam Goldberg.*

Join Us In Community

HOSTING NEW SHRINE MEMBERS! NEXT WEEKEND, MAY 30 AND 31

Welcome Receptions (for New families and single members who have joined us in our Parish Home over the past year) will be held following all masses on these dates. This is a new project! We hope all established parishioners will take a few minutes to welcome all NEW parishioners after each Mass on these days. Questions? Call Mary Jo Harris @ 410-367-1385.

BELIZIAN EVENING, FRIDAY, JUNE 5: *On Friday, June 5, at the 6PM First Friday Mass and Supper, the March 2009 visitors to St. Peter Claver mission in Belize—Todd Pechar, Bridget Wildt, Krista Wildt, and Sister Carol—will offer a reflection at Mass and will show photos at supper. All are welcome! Please mark your calendars to join us for a "Belizian Evening" on June 5. Also, note that Fr. Dick Perl, SJ, pastor at St. Peter Claver, Punta Gorda, Belize, will visit the Shrine on July 25 and 26.*



Not Free

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Nothing is ever free,
though to you it be.
Somewhere, somehow,
someone paid.

*On this Memorial Day, please remember all
those who made the ultimate sacrifice.*

In honor of
the Memorial Day Holiday,
the Parish Offices
will be closed Monday, May 25.

THIS WEEK AT THE SHRINE

Meeting Rooms: Gathering Rooms I, II, III (GRI, GRII, GRIII) and the Choir Room (CR) are located in the Undercroft of the Church. Taylor Conference Room (TCR) and Mullen Library (ML) are located in the Rectory. School Library (SL), Taylor Hall (TH) are in the school.

Monday, May 25 - Memorial Day

School Closed
Parish Offices Closed

Tuesday, May 26

7PM SSHS Board Exec Cte Mtg (TCR)
7PM Communion & Liberation (GRIII)

Thursday, May 28

9AM Staff Meeting (TCR)
7PM Pastoral Council Exec Cte Mtg (TCR)
7PM Young Adults (GRI,III)

**NEUMANN VICARIATE CONFERENCE ON PEACE:
RECOGNIZING THE ROLE OF YOUTH IN PROMOTING
PEACE. WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2009, 3-8PM AT ST.
MARY'S SEMINARY, ROLAND PARK.** Violence is an ever-present reality in Baltimore. This conference aims to inspire participants and create a forum for cooperation as we develop innovative, Gospel-driven ways to promote peace in our city. All parishioners interested in working for peace are encouraged to attend. Parish youth are invited to join our discussion at 4:15 pm and meet with Bishop Madden as we seek youth input as they are challenged by violence outside our doors. A light meal will be provided. Please R.S.V.P to Karen Giron-410-547-5486 or at kgiron@archbalt.org.