MAY 17, 2026 THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Sunday Bulletin

St. John Vianney Catholic Church, Kailua
WWW.SAINTJOHNVIANNEYHAWAII.ORG | SJVKAILUAPARISH@RCCHAWAII.ORG
920 KEOLU DRIVE, KAILUA, HI 96734|808-262-8317|REV. VINCENT VU, PASTOR

FAITH FIRST

ASCENSION AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE: Ascension Day often slips us by. Many people overlook this significant day. There's no meal like Maundy Thursday, no mourning like Good Friday, no flowers or fanfare like Easter morning. Just a strange, luminous scene: Jesus on a hilltop, speaking final words to his friends, then lifted out of their sight. Unlike other major holidays, it lacks the widespread commercial appeal of December or the bright spring festivities of Easter Sunday. However, its spiritual depth remains central to Christian teachings. Ascension Day marks a pivotal moment in Christian theology. It commemorates the day Jesus Christ ascended into heaven, completing his earthly ministry. Its spiritual depth remains central to Christian teachings.

Understanding Ascension Day gives you a clearer view of Christian history and traditions. The observance always takes place exactly 40 days after Easter Sunday. Because Easter shifts each year, Ascension Day moves along with it. The primary biblical account appears in the Book of Acts 1:9-11. According to the scripture, Jesus gathered his disciples on the Mount of Olives near Jerusalem. After delivering his final instructions, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight taking his rightful place at the right hand of God. This event confirms his divine authority and sets the stage for the next chapter of the Christian narrative.

The angels' question is still for us: "Why do you stand looking up toward heaven?" Don't just wait. Witness. Don't just watch. Act. The work of the kingdom isn't on pause. It's in our hands now, not by our own strength, but through the Spirit Jesus promised would come.

DEAR PARISH

Happy Ascension Sunday! Mission accomplished!

Though Jesus would have wanted to do more with his physical presence here on earth, the mission he was sent to do had somewhat come to an end. At this time, he was returning back to his original glory and he promised his disciples: "I am going to prepare a place for you." This only shows that although our lives may take different twists and turns, our destination is the same, union with God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

However, where Jesus' mission ends here on earth, a new journey begins for us: "Go therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you…" With that, he disappeared as they looked dumbfounded, staring into the sky. The torch had been passed over to them to be witnesses and their lives would no longer be the same.

To be a witness of Jesus, is both a privilege and an obligation. This honor bestowed on us, can for the most part be scary because many times we feel unworthy. It is the Lord who makes us worthy though when we turn to him. This shows that it was Jesus' intent to pass on the torch to be kept burning. Jesus, being realistic, knew very well that the work and mission he was handing over would be challenging and difficult at times, leading some to want to give up or quit. It is for this reason that he promised them the gift of the Holy Spirit to help them in this urgent and important mission: "I am with you always, until the end of the age." Next Sunday at Pentecost, we will see how we are never alone, in health and sickness, in poverty and in riches, in pandemics and lockdowns laboring as stewards in the vineyard of the Lord.

MASS INTENTIONS

A Mass intention is the specific purpose for which a priest offers the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. While every Mass is an infinite act of worship offered to God, the Church allows us to unite particular intentions to each celebration—offering the spiritual benefits of the Mass for a person or need. Common Intentions are:

For the Deceased: The most common intention, often requested to help the souls of loved ones undergoing purification before entering heaven.

Healing and Well-being: Offered for the physical, mental, or spiritual health of someone facing illness or a difficult time.

Special Occasions: Requested to celebrate and give thanks for blessings like birthdays, wedding anniversaries, or ordinations.

General Petitions: Offered for specific needs, world peace, or personal guidance.

If you would like to have a Mass offered for a loved one or a specific cause, you can do so by contacting the parish office. The parish can verify available dates and will provide a special "Mass Card" that you can send to the individual or the family of the deceased to let them know the Mass is being offered on their behalf.

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS

1st Reading: Acts 2:1-11
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13
Gospel: John 20:19-23

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Mon, May 18, 9 a.m. Adult Bible Study**
- **Mon, May 18, 7 p.m. OCIA**
- **Mon, May 18, 7 p.m. Infant Baptism Classes for Parents and Godparents**
- **Tue, May 19, 7 p.m. Adult Bible Study**
- **Thu, May 21, 9 a.m. Sodality Rosary Making**

Parish Registration is simple and can be completed online at our parish website or by filling out a paper form which is available from a hospitality minister at Mass or at the parish office. Please also inform us if your family data has changed including members, mailing and email addresses, and phone numbers.

Sign up to receive the weekly parish Good News email and the electronic bulletin.

The best Catholic content can be found in one place. Go to Formed.org/signup for a parish provided subscription.

Read the full bulletin with the music leaflet and additional announcements in myParish App and on the parish website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sacrament Mass with Bishop Silva

Seventeen children will receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion on Saturday, May 16, at 5:00 p.m., in a solemn Mass presided by the Most Reverend Bishop Larry Silva. Our children, who began their sacramental journey with their First Reconciliation this past December, have continued to grow in faith through prayer, formation, and joyful participation in our parish community. As they now join the church body as full initiated Catholics through the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion, we give thanks for their dedication, the guidance of their families and catechists, and the grace that has accompanied them along the way.

Annual Priests Retreat, May 18-22

The annual priests' retreat for the Diocese of Honolulu is an integral spiritual gathering where priests from across the Hawaiian Islands step away from their parish duties for communal prayer, worship, and renewal. Clergy are required to attend this multi-day annual gathering to recharge, reflect, and connect with their fellow priests and the Bishop. The retreat week culminates with the Presbyteral Ordination of Deacon John Akau and Deacon Taylor Mitchell on May 22, 2026. The ceremony begins at 6:00 p.m. at the Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa in Honolulu.

The parish will hold daily communion services led by Deacon Jerry Tokars this week Monday through Friday at 8 a.m. in place of Mass.

Adoration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on Wednesday

All are invited to attend our Adoration service this Wednesday, May 20 at 7 p.m. As the United States of America commemorates its 250th anniversary, our parish is offering a collective 250 hours of Adoration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. We encourage you to join us in prayer and help us reach this meaningful goal.

School News

As part of our Teacher Appreciation Week (May 4-8) students were able to submit videos or letters nominating a teacher who inspires them. Thanks to Fostering Our Youth, a nonprofit organization that encourages youth to succeed, and two wonderful parents, votes were collected and the Students Choice Award and a $500 Amazon gift card were given to Miss Jina Pratt, grade 2.

Congratulations to sixth grader, Alexis Economou, whose artwork was entered in the annual Lion's Club Peace Poster Contest. In December, she was awarded First Place Honors in the District Division Contest. Her poster was then submitted to the state level where she once again won First Place. At Friday morning's assembly on May 8th, she was presented with a certificate for her beautiful poster as well as $300.

Come experience the Catholic School difference and the impact it will have on your child and your family. For an application and information about financial aid and scholarships see our website sjvkailua.org.

Catholic Communication Campaign-Second Collection

The 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope reminded us that the Gospel is a message of hope that we are called to share with the world. The Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC) presents a unique opportunity to participate in that mission of love by supporting media efforts to share the Gospel with your neighbors as well as people across the country. When you contribute to this collection, half of your donation supports the national communications programs of the bishops of the United States, while the other half stays in your diocese to support local communications initiatives. Each day, hundreds of thousands of users visit the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) for an easy and convenient way to enrich their devotional lives with the Word of God. Taken from the Lectionary readings for each day's Mass, the Daily Readings page helps users follow along with the biblical texts proclaimed at Mass and aids their prayer and meditation on Sacred Scripture. Funding from CCC allows this popular and valuable resource to be made available to users free of charge rather than through paid subscriptions or user fees. When you participate in the annual collection for CCC, you support the national communications efforts of the USCCB, including the free availability of the online daily readings. And your support is not limited to those national efforts. When you give to your diocese's collection at Mass, half of your contribution stays within your own diocese to support local communication efforts that help bring the hope of the Gospel to your family, friends, and neighbors!

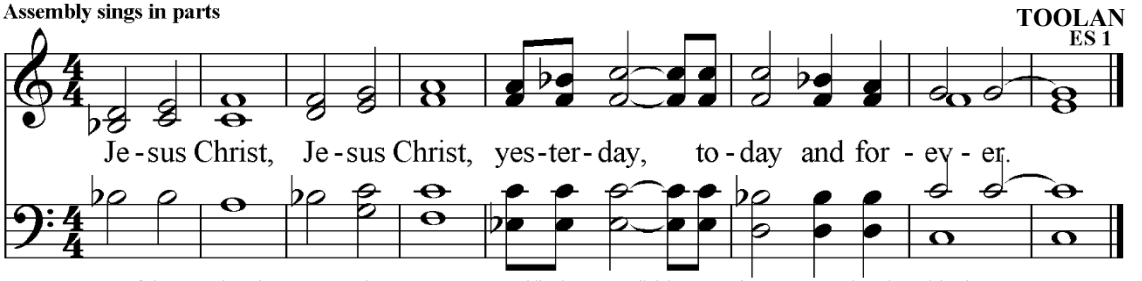
OFFERTORY—Our first fruits in thanksgiving to God for all our blessings

GIVE ONLINE

Week of Apr 25 - May 1, 2026	Envelopes/Loose	Online Giving	Total	Goal	% of Goal
Sunday Offertory	$6,731	$6,778	$13,509	$9,460	143%
Repair and Maintenance	$325	$2,341	$2,666	$2,135	125%

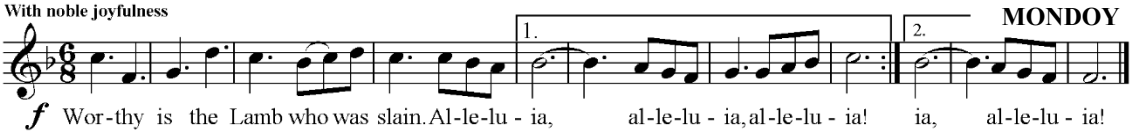
Ascension of the Lord

ENTRANCE PROCESSIONAL: JESUS CHRIST, YESTERDAY, TODAY & FOREVER



Refrain Text and Music: Suzanne Toolan, S.M. ©1988 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Verses Text and Music: Calvin Liu.

SPRINKLING RITE: EASTER CANTICLE: WORTHY IS THE LAMB



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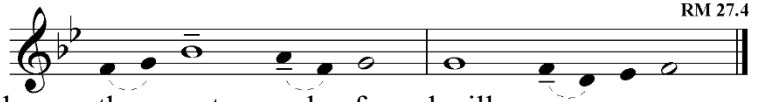
3. The Lamb on his throne will shepherd his people and lead them to springs of life giving water. Alleluia…
4. Blessing and honor, glory and might be to our God and to the Lamb for ever. Amen. Alleluia…

GLORY TO GOD



Glory to God in the highest, | and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,
| we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. | Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, | Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, | have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, | receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, | have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
| you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, | in the glory of God the Father. Amen. *based on Congregational Mass, John Lee, 1970*

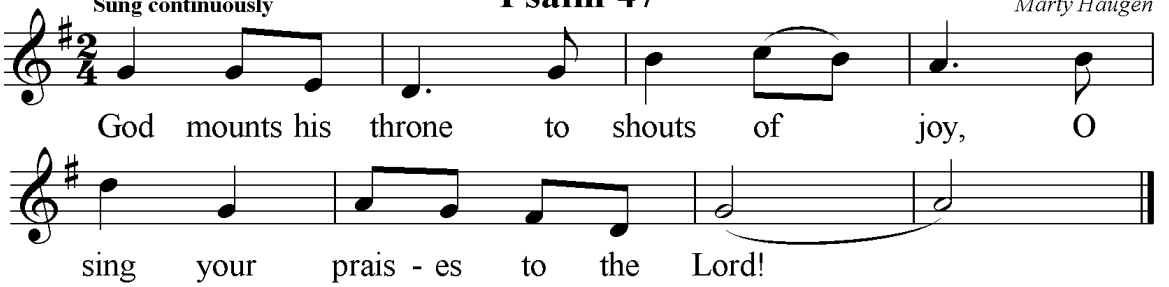
RESPONSORIAL

PSALM

Sung continuously

Psalm 47 [1]

Marty Haugen



1. All you peoples, clap your hands, shout to God in gladness, the Lord we must fear, king of all the earth.
2. God goes up to shouts of joy, sound the trumpet blast. Sing praise to our God, praise unto our king!
3. God is king of all the earth, sing with all your skill to the king of all nations, praise him on his throne!

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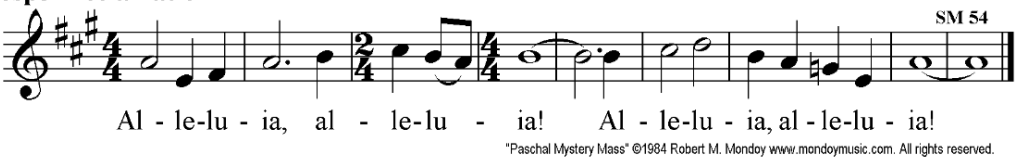
Paschal Mystery Mass

Gospel Acclamation



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PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

362. HAIL THE DAY THAT SEES HIM RISE

NĀ HALA O NAUE

1. Hail the day that sees him rise, ‘eā ‘eā To his throne above the skies; Alleluia!
Christ, awhile to mortals given, ‘eā ‘eā Reascends his native heaven; Alleluia!

2. There for him high triumph waits; ‘eā ‘eā Lift your heads, eternal gates; Alleluia!
He has conquered death and sin; ‘eā ‘eā Take the King of glory in. Alleluia!

3. Highest heav’n its Lord receives, ‘eā ‘eā Yet he loves the earth he leaves: Alleluia!
Though returning to his throne, ‘eā ‘eā Still he calls us all his own. Alleluia!

4. See, he lifts his hands above; ‘eā ‘eā See, he shows his prints of love; Alleluia!
Hark, his gracious lips bestow, ‘eā ‘eā Blessing on his Church below. Alleluia!

5. Still for us he intercedes, ‘eā ‘eā His prevailing death he pleads, Alleluia!
Near himself prepares our place, ‘eā ‘eā He the first fruits of our race. Alleluia!

6. There we shall with you remain, ‘eā ‘eā Partners of your endless reign; Alleluia!
We shall see you face to face, ‘eā ‘eā You our hearts’ truie resting place. Alleluia!

Text: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) in *Sacred Poems,* 1739. Music: NĀ HALA O NAUE by J. Kahinu, ca.1870.
Melody after current use. This arrangement ©1997 Mondoy Music. All rights reserved.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

"Paschal Mystery Mass"

Preface Dialogue RM 117

The Lord be with you. And with your spir - it.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. It is right and just.

Holy RM 217

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho-ly Lord God of hosts. Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est, ho-san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Ho-san-na in the high-est, ho-san-na in the high-est,

ho - san-na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Memorial Acclamation RM 317b

The mys-t'ry of faith. When we eat this bread, and drink this cup, we pro-claim your death, O Lord, un-til you come a - gain.

Amen RM 417

A - men, a - men, a - men.

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"Paschal Mystery Mass"

The Lord's Prayer RM 517

Our Fa - ther, who art in heav- en, hal-lowed be thy name; thy king-dom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heav - en. Give us this day our dai-ly bread; and for-give us our tres-pass - es as we for - give those who tres-pass a-gainst us; and lead us not in-to temp - ta - tion, but de-liv - er us from e - vil.

Lamb of God RM 617

Lamb of God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world

Final have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world,

grant us peace, grant us peace.

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Final Doxology RM 517d

For the king - dom, the pow - er, and the glo - ry are yours, now and for-ev - er.

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COMMUNION PROCESSION 166. LORD OF THE DANCE

1. I danced in the morning when the world was begun, And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth; At Bethlehem I had my birth.

Ref: Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he, And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be, And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

2. I danced for the scribe and the pharisee, But they wouldn't dance, and they wouldn't follow me; I danced for the fishermen, for James and for John They came with me and the dance went on.

3. I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame; The holy people, they said it was a shame. They whipped and they stripped and they hung me high, And they left me there on the cross to die.

4. I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black, It's hard to dance with the devil on your back, They buried my body and they thought I'd gone, but I am the dance and I still go on.

5. They cut me down and I leap up high; I am the life that'll never never die; I'll live in you if you'll live in me: I am the Lord of the Dance said he.

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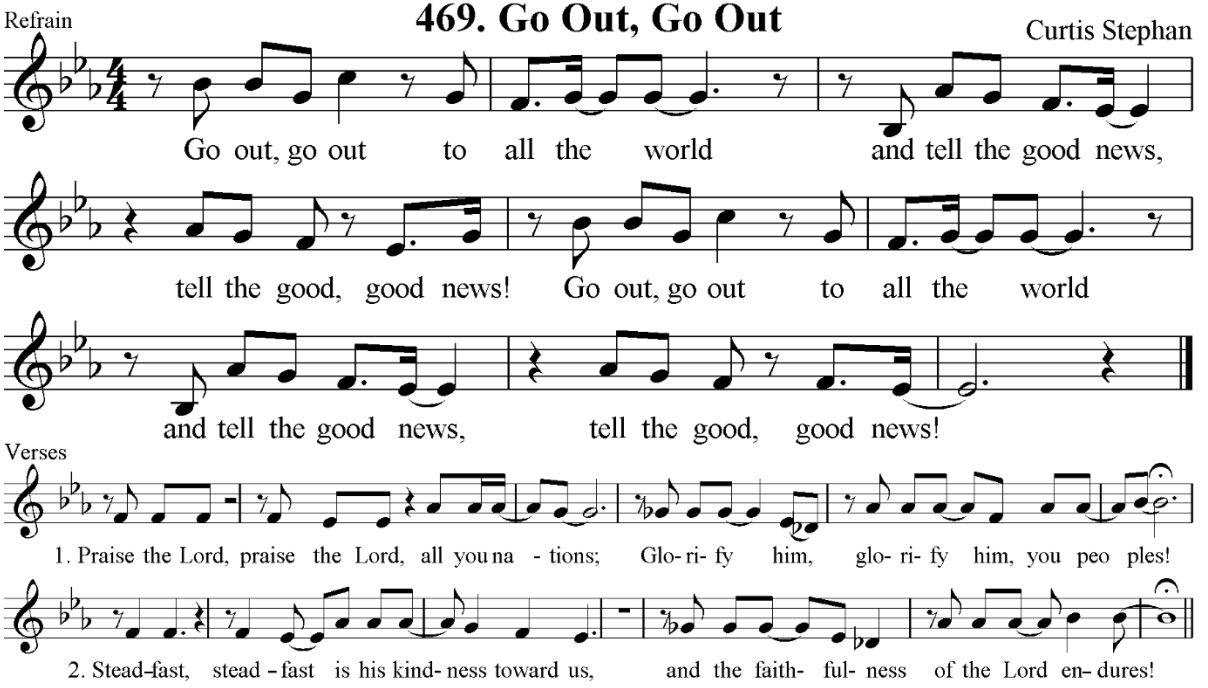
LEAVETAKING

469. Go Out, Go Out

Curtis Stephan



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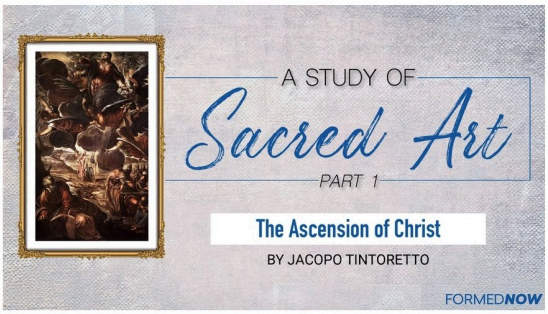
This Week on Formed

Week of May 17, 2026

Saint Rita

St. Rita of Cascia is immortalized in this wonderful, deeply moving film. This story is about the brave woman who married her knight, helped him overcome his dark past and convert to faith, happily bore him two children, and later endures immense pain as she loses everything in her life. Her story and love for Christ will inspire you to great holiness!



The Ascension | Sacred Art

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp to expand your knowledge of sacred art. In this episode on Formed, they discuss The Ascension of Christ by Jacopo Tintoretto.

Saint Rita of Cascia: The True Story

A compelling docu-drama that tells the whole story of the amazing life of St. Rita of Cascia, the very popular saint who lived in Italy in the 14th century. Famous as the patronness of hopeless situations, St. Rita dealt with many very difficult and tragic events in her life. Through it all she developed a profound faith in God that was the source of her great strength, and why she is such a popular saint for all those dealing with difficult events in their own lives.

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St. John Vianney Parish
Presents

THE YEAR OF APOLOGETICS

How to Explain and Defend our Catholic faith

The True Meaning of Making the Sign of the Cross

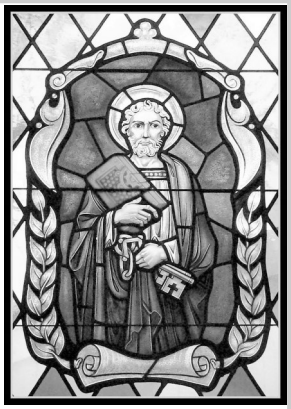
It s a simple yet deeply meaningful gesture
that carries profound spiritual significance
(See back side)

"*Let us make the sign of the cross with reverence,*
for it is a sacred act."
(St. Benedict)

APOLOGETICS

DEFENDING OUR CATHOLIC FAITH

The True Meaning of Making the Sign of the Cross



- Catholics are not the only Christians who make the Sign of the Cross. Members of the Eastern Orthodox, Anglicans and some Lutherans make the sign of the cross as well. If you see someone in the US making the Sign they are probably Catholic.
- The Sign of the Cross has its roots in Apostolic times. St. Basil in the 4th century said " the Apostles taught us to sign ourselves with the Sign of the Cross."
- The early Christians probably learned it when the celebrant at Baptism marked and claimed them for Christ. St Paul reminds us that we have been stamped with the seal of the Holy Spirit at Baptism.
- Early Christians also marked their forehead, mouth and breast with a small cross as we do today when the Gospel is to be read.
- By the ninth century, Eastern Christians began signing themselves with the large cross. At some later point the Church in the west began to do the same, as we do today.
- During the Protestant Reformation, some Christians stopped using it because they said it was superstitious.
- Today we begin all prayers with the Sign of the Cross which is in itself a prayer accompanied with a gesture where we touch our forehead, breast, left shoulder and right shoulder.
- It is a mini-creed proclaiming that we belong to Christ and we are His disciples, as well as proclaiming our faith. It also means our acceptance of suffering as a part of the suffering of Jesus. (Luke 9:23-24).
- When we cross ourselves we often say in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. We can also say Oh God come to my assistance, Our help is in the name of the Lord, or in the name of the Holy Trinity.
- It is a powerful prayer and we can use it to come against sin or evil. (1 Cor 2:8).
- It is a privilege to mark ourselves with the Sign of the Cross , so let us treat it with the reverence due a prayer which it is..

Our Parish Faith Formation Committee encourages
all parishioners to learn more
about this specific topic during the month of May.

This Wednesday,
May 20, 7-8 p.m.
Come Spend Time with Jesus

A "Holy Hour" in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament is a dedicated time to spend in prayerful adoration before Jesus, believed to be truly present in the Eucharist.

Our parish has committed to offer a collective 250 Hours of Adoration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus in anticipation of our nation’s 250 birthday on July 4.

Your participation will help us achieve this goal