

# First Eucharist

I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE. WHOEVER COMES TO ME WILL NEVER GO HUNGRY, AND WHOEVER BELIEVES IN ME WILL NEVER BE THIRSTY.

—JOHN 6:35

**SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2023**

*Congratulations*

Michael Steven Alvarez

Kendra Myrell Lizarazo

Cioline Caidor

Macie Hope McOmish

Nataly Paola Calle

Valentina Moscoso-Flores

Nicole Viviana Calle

Mary Pauline Naeke

Geovanny Alexander Cunin-Penafiel

Cecilia Rose Nalupta

Andrea Hope Dallatacoma

Adrian O'Farrill Jr.

Gabriel Elizonda Naranjo

Alexis Neymar Palaguachi

Anthony Robert Fischetti III

Andrew Palaguachi

Chiara Clark Fitzgerald

Brad Alexander Perez Redrovan

Keira Rose Hayward

Amy Guadalupe Pillcorema Maurizaca

Zoe Rufina LePond

Chloe Isabella Reyes

*God Bless You!*

*Our Lady of Lourdes*

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973-325-0110 [lourdeswestorange.org](http://lourdeswestorange.org)



Dear Brothers and Sisters of Our Lady of Lourdes,

I write to share with you the abridged version of an essay by Monsignor Charles Pope of Washington D.C. about the Feast of the Ascension.

For the full text of this essay, please go to: <http://blog.adw.org/2018/05/what-does-the-ascension-accomplish-for-us-a-homily-for-the-feast-of-the-ascension-2/>

What Does the Ascension Accomplish for Us? (MAY 12, 2018 BY MSGR. CHARLES POPE)

This marvelous feast is not merely about something [two millennia] ago, for although Christ our Head has ascended, we the members of His body are ascending with Him. Because He ascended, we too have. In my own life as a Christian, I am brought higher every year by the Lord, who is drawing me up with Him. This is not some mere slogan; it is something I am actually experiencing. An old Baptist hymn says, "I was sinking deep in sin, far from the peaceful shore. Very deeply stained with sin, sinking to rise no more. But the master of the sea, heard my despairing cry. And from the waters lifted me. Now safe am I. Love lifted me, when nothing else could help. Love lifted me."

Yes, if we are faithful, the feast of the Lord's Ascension is our feast, too. Let's look at it from three perspectives.

**I. The Fact of the Ascension** - The readings today describe a wondrous event that the apostles witnessed. The Lord, by His own power, is taken to Heaven. In so doing He opens a path for us, too. The gates of paradise swing open again: Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in (Psalm 24:7). In Christ, man returns to God. Consider three things about the Ascension:

**The Reality** - As a summons to faith, Jesus had once said, What if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? (John 6:62) He had also encouraged them by saying, Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man (John 1:51). So here is a glorious reality and a fulfillment of what Jesus had said.

**The Rescue** - In the Ascension ... an army of former captives [is] now set free. Behold the great procession that enters behind Christ through the now-opened gates of Heaven: Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, Rachel, Judith, Deborah, David, Samuel, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Malachi, John the Baptist, ... and one day, you! Yes, this is a great rescue. Adam and his descendants have not simply been restored to some paradisiacal garden; they have entered Heaven.

**The Rejoicing** - Consider how this once captive train sings exultantly as they follow Christ upward to Heaven. I also have it on the best of authority that they were singing this old gospel song: "I'm so glad, Jesus lifted me!" They were even singing this old Motown song: "Your love is lifting me higher, than I've ever been lifted before!"

**II. The Fellowship of the Ascension** - When Christ ascends, we ascend. For if we have been united with him by likeness to his death we shall be united with him by likeness to his resurrection (Rom 6:3ff). So, when Christ died, we died. When Christ rose, we rose. When Christ ascends, we ascend.

Consider the following humorous example about our physical bodies. When I get on an elevator and push the button for the top floor, although the top of my head gets there before the soles of my feet, my whole body will get there (unless some strange loss of integrity or tragic dismemberment takes place). So it is also with Jesus' mystical body. In Christ, our head, we are already in glory.

**III. The Fruitfulness of the Ascension** - Jesus does not return to Heaven in order to abandon us. In fact, He is more present to us



**SATURDAY 20 MAY**  
7:30 pm Richard & Terry Rush

**SUNDAY 21 MAY**  
7:30 am People of the Parish  
9:30 am John Gaeta  
11:30 am Christian & Grace Okeke

**MONDAY 22 MAY**  
8:30 am Blessed Virgin Mary  
(In Thanksgiving)

**TUESDAY 23 MAY**  
8:30 am Daniel Zimmermann

**WEDNESDAY 24 MAY**  
8:30 am Jean Russomanno

**THURSDAY 25 MAY**  
8:30 am Grace Brennan

**FRIDAY 26 MAY**  
8:30 am Amy Janssen

**SATURDAY 27 MAY**  
5:30 pm Michael C. Corcoran

**SUNDAY 28 MAY**  
7:30 am People of the Parish  
9:30 am People of the Parish  
11:30 am George & Trea Pugh

**SUNDAY 21 MAY ASCENSION SUNDAY**  
7:30 am Mass in Church  
9:30 am Mass in Church  
11:30 am Mass in Church




**THURSDAY 25 MAY**  
10:00 am Deadline for News & Announcements for the JUNE 4th Bulletin. Call the Rectory at 973-325-0110.

**SATURDAY 3 JUNE**  
4:15—5:00 pm Confessions in Church  
5:30 pm Mass in Church

**SUNDAY 4 JUNE PENTECOST SUNDAY**  
7:30 am Mass in Church  
9:30 am Mass in Church  
11:30 am Mass in Church



 This week's Bread & Wine, a gift from Nancy Lanfrank is in memory of **JACK MALLOY**.

 This week's Sanctuary Candle, a gift from Nancy Lanfrank is in memory of **CATHY HIGGINS**.



 <b>May 27 - 28, 2023</b>			
Mass	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	
5:30 pm	Pat Sigalas	Bill Talbot (choir)	
7:30 am	MaryEllen Chandler	Sister James Soon	
9:30 am	JoAnn Melhorn	Annette Chiamonte	
11:30 am Choir	Wendy Sheyka	Wendy Sheyka (Choir)	



Michael Ang	Mikaela Moncupa
Msgr. Edward Bradley	Allison Sardinha
Marti Carlos	Pat Schoeler
Lorelei Gotinga	Sgt. Michael Williams
Fiona Graham	
Cecile Leelin	

If you wish to have a friend or loved one prayed for, please call the Rectory at 973-325-0110.



(PASTOR COLUMN continued from Page 2)

than we are to ourselves. He is with us always to the end of the age (cf Matt 28:20). In ascending (without abandoning us) He goes to procure some very important things. Consider four of them:

**Holy Ghost power** – Jesus teaches very clearly that He is ascending in order to send us the Holy Spirit: Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you (Jn 16:7ff). So, the Lord goes so that He might, with the Father, send the Holy Spirit to live within us as in a temple. In this way, and through the Eucharist, He will dwell with us even more intimately than when He walked this earth.

**Harvest** – Jesus says, And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me (John 12:32). Thus, the saying “One sows and another reaps” is true. I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor (Jn 4:35-38). Harvest! And it is the Lord’s work from Heaven in which we participate.

**Help** – At the Father’s right hand, Jesus intercedes for us. Scripture says, Consequently he is able, for all time, to save those who draw near to God through him, since he lives always to make intercession for them (Heb 7:25). The Lord links His ascension to an unleashing of special power: Amen, amen, I say to you, he who believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I go to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, I will do it, that the Father may be glorified in the Son (Jn 14:12). We must not understand that asking in the name of Jesus is some incantation. To ask in His name means to ask in accordance with His will.

**Habitation** – Simply put, Jesus indicates that in going to Heaven He is preparing a place for us: In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. Here, then, are the ways that Christ, by His love, is lifting us higher (than we’ve ever been lifted before). Yes, love lifted me, when nothing else could help; love lifted me.

Source: <http://blog.adw.org/2018/05/what-does-the-ascension-accomplish-for-us-a-homily-for-the-feast-of-the-ascension-2/>

In Christ’s Peace  
Father Jim Ferry



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Memory



**Mary Ann Rosenbaum**  
July 24, 1945 - September 22, 2021

*Eternal rest grant unto her,  
O Lord, and let perpetual  
light shine upon her.  
May she rest in peace. Amen.*

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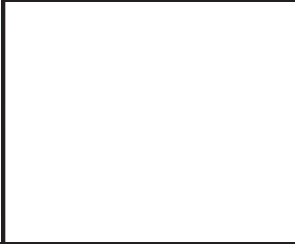
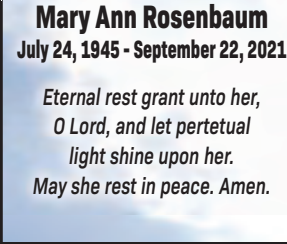
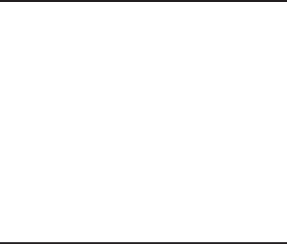
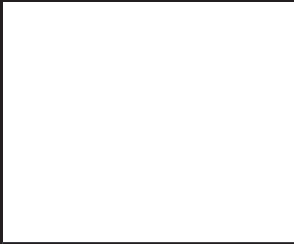
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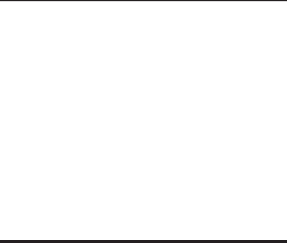
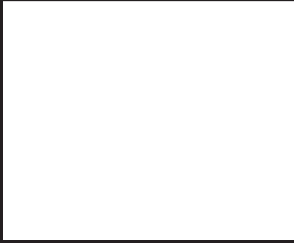
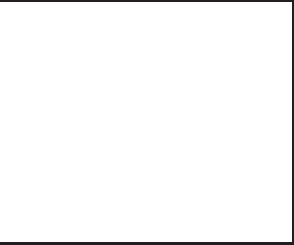
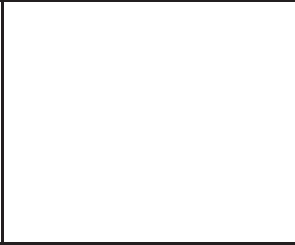
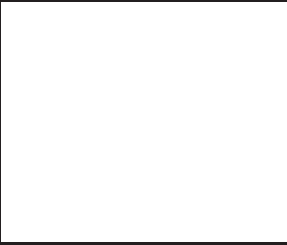
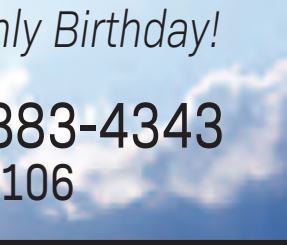
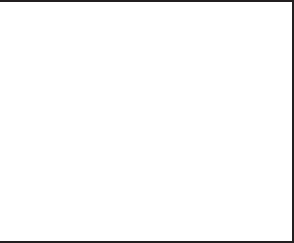
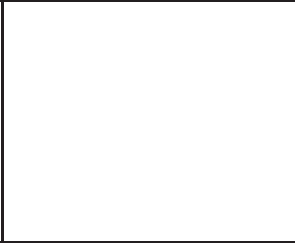
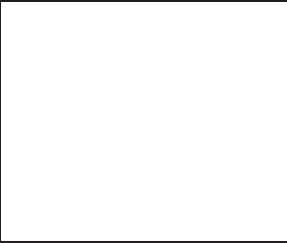
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