

St. Didacus Catholic Community

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María, nuestra Madre, ruega por nosotras



Mary, our Mother, pray for us



Next Sunday, Pentecost concludes the Easter season and celebrates the beginning of the Church. It marks the day that the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles while they were hiding following Jesus' resurrection. After receiving the power and gifts of the Holy Spirit, the Apostles went out and preached His message to everyone—even those who spoke other languages. The Diocese of San Diego will mark this feast day with a Mass celebrated by Bishop Robert W. McElroy, with Auxiliary Bishop John P. Dolan and Vicar General, Very Rev. Michael Pham.

In this third annual Mass, families from the cultures that enrich our diocese will gather to share their faith. This year they gather as One Body in Christ through the use of technology. The diocese invites all faithful to join this Mass via video-stream, which celebrates the power and importance of people of all cultures coming together to bring light to the world, especially during its darkest moments.



The Ward family participated in this special Mass representing the Irish community. Look for them when you tune in!



May is Mental Health Awareness Month. During this time of uncertainty and change, reach out to the St. Didacus Mental Health Ministry for support. During COVID-19, we offer care by telephone or face to face in the St. Didacus court yard. We abide

by physical distancing and face covering guidance. Please reach out to us at (619) 940-6193 or by email at saintdidacushm@gmail.com to connect with us.

The Gospel of Matthew began with the list of the genealogy of Jesus, thus recounting the fulfillment of God's promise to His people and the Gospel ended with Jesus' emphatic promise, "behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." Jesus' promise is not a reference to the future but a reality of the here and now, the present moment. It is like the promise that Jesus made to the thief hanging on the cross, Jesus said, "Today, you will be with me in paradise."



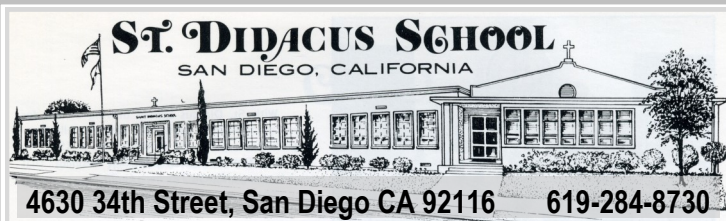
On the feast of His Ascension Jesus once again reminds us that He has never abandoned us or has left us orphans. Although we celebrate His Ascension into heaven which is often referred as above or "up into the sky," Jesus is telling us that heaven is right here with us in the here and now of our life. It is where God is. Today, we rejoice with the whole Church, where Jesus had gone we his followers hope to follow.

Today, I would like to formally announce that the Bishop has appointed me as new pastor to another parish, Our Lady of Light Parish in Descanso effective July 1. This means a new pastor will take my place here at St. Didacus and his name is Fr. Rey Roque. Fr. Rey is coming from Saint Patrick's Parish in Calipatria, California.

Three years have come and gone so fast and this pandemic has made things difficult for all of us and even devastating for so many. But we fix our eyes on the Lord. Last 4th of May I celebrated my 25th year as a priest and I spent the day alone reminiscing and asking where have all those 25 years gone. I know God has always been there, even if many times I was not there with Him. Jesus has always been true to His promise. We might not be given a chance to see and say goodbye, but like our Lord, I would say, I am not too far away. Besides, I will keep you all in my prayers and Masses as I usually do every day. I sincerely thank all of you for allowing me to serve you as your pastor and for allowing me to grow as a person. After all, the biggest room in the world is the room for change and improvement.

Fr. Rick

The California Department of Social Services has provided a list of organizations that will assist the undocumented with applications for state aid. The Disaster Relief Assistance for Immigrants (DRAI) goes into effect on Monday, May 18th for San Diego and Imperial Counties: <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/immigration/covid-19-drai>. The funds will be available until they are exhausted. Please share this information with our Hispanic community. For more information, contact DRAI Hotline San Diego County: 858-206-8281 or Imperial County: 760-206-3242.



New Student Registration

Registration is open for the 2020-2021 school year. If you are interested in enrolling your children for the new school year, please contact the school office. The school office is now open daily between

9:00am and 12:30pm. They will be happy to answer any questions and get your children enrolled!

Wondering how to continue to help St. Didacus School? Here are two ways you can continue to help St. Didacus Parish School:

1. Download the Box Top App and scan all your grocery receipts.
2. When shopping on Amazon, log-in to Amazon Smile and designate St. Didacus as your beneficiary of the funds.

Visit our website: stdidacuschurch.org for an easy link to our YouTube Channel and Facebook page



Join us Monday-Saturday to pray the Rosary at 5:30pm and for Mass each day at 6pm and on Sunday at

11am to pray the Rosary in Spanish and at 11:30am for Spanish Mass. We will be live-streaming on our YouTube page:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCts141omj8eP-wSJURauo-g>

Let us stay connected and pray for one another!



Join us Monday-Saturday to pray the Rosary at 5:30pm and for Mass each day at 6pm and on Sunday at 11am to pray the Rosary in Spanish and at 11:30am for Spanish Mass. We will be live-streaming on our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/saintdidacus.parishchurch>

Let us stay connected and pray for one another!

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

If you are in need of food, you are invited to come to the Parish Hall on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from noon to 3pm. We have non-perishable items from Catholic Charities and it is available to anyone in need.



Also, we have people offering to help the elderly and those unable to get out to the store or to run errands. If you can use help, please call the Parish Office and we will connect you with our volunteers.

Mass Intentions

Saturday.....May 23

.....†Carolyn Curiel Hastings

Sunday.....May 24

.....Patricia Kneitz, Spec. Int., Sheila Shepard, Spec. Int.
People of St. Didacus

Monday.....May 25

.....Rosetta Olmscheid, Spec. Int.

Tuesday.....May 26

.....Victims of the Virus, Spec. Int.

Wednesday.....May 27

.....†Phil Cedercrans

Thursday.....May 28

.....Kurt Adamson, Spec. Int.

Friday.....May 29

.....†Bernard Kober

Saturday.....May 30

.....†Fr. Pierre Morant

Fr. Rick continues to celebrate a Mass each day for your intentions. Mondays-Saturdays tune in on-line at 5:30pm to pray the Rosary before the 6pm Mass. On Sundays the Rosary in Spanish begins at 11am and Spanish Mass is at 11:30am.

Readings for the week of May 24, 2020

Sunday: Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20

Monday: Acts 19:1-8/Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27/Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38/Jn 17:11b-19

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

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21/Jn 21:15-19

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

Next Sunday: Acts 2:1-11/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13/Jn 20:19-23

PRAYER LIST

Tony Allen
Tessa Anderson
Diann Bauer
Dan Bauer
Martha Becerra
Bob Bellesi
Herminia Brignoni
Gail Cedercrans
Fred Cepeda
Irene Davis
Bob Demers
Josie Demers
Mick Donahue
Cecelia Dueber
Carlita Durand
Daniel Galvan
Susan Guenzel
Anthony Flores
Tony Flores
Stan Hammack

Dolores Hansel
Joseph Hastings
Jennifer Hughes & Family
Al Hunt
Joanne Hunt
Ponciano Jimenez
Emily Johnson
Paul Kasha
Meri Kerekianich
Kerekianich Family
Marilyn Kober
Elizabeth La Costa
Irene Lazo
Juanita Lopez
Paul Mansell
Miguel Martinez
Terrence McCabe
Emma McPherson
Dolores Mediano
Peter Napolitano

Alex Piatek
Lupita Plascencia
Judith Pratt
Antonia Raya
Betty Rios
Dolores Robertson
Victor M. Sanchez
Shirley Scinocca
Carol Schmidt
Beverly Stemper
Phillip Sturock
Vaneza Torres
Maria Winters
Jean Woody
Helen Yturralde
Joan Venverloh

*And the special intentions
in our Book of Needs*

Everlasting Easter

The Easter season is almost over. This season is always a tougher one for us Catholics. We get Advent and Lent: preparation. We are on board with Christmas, mainly because we like to keep up our decorations until someone tells us the exact day we must take them down. But Easter as a season is a bit more difficult to observe. The rest of the world has moved on. There are no Easter eggs left in store windows and all those religious movies on television have given way to reruns or season-ending episodes. It just doesn't feel like Easter anywhere ... except in the Church.



The truth is that it should feel like Easter all year-round in the Church and everywhere else. Every Sunday, we celebrate a mini-Easter. Our Lord is ALIVE! He is risen and alive, and we need to celebrate. We also need to be about the work of the Lord. We are an Easter people who bear witness to His resurrection through our stewardship. If He had never risen, then we would be called to nothing by no one. But He lives! As this Easter season is drawing to a close, it is prudent to reflect on what His death and resurrection mean for each of us. How has it changed us? How does it motivate us? It doesn't look like Easter in most corners of the world, so it is up to us to bring a little Easter to every place we go and to everyone we meet.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



Dear God, on this **Memorial Day**, we **pray** for those who courageously laid down

their lives for the cause of freedom. May the examples of their sacrifice inspire in us the selfless love of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Bless the families of our fallen troops, and fill their homes and their lives with Your strength and peace. Amen.



Being real people of faith comes with a price. Have you ever been seen as unpopular, out of sync or peculiar because of your faith? St. Peter tells us, "If you are insulted for the name of Christ, blessed are you." If being a Christian comes easy for us, then we ought to rethink how we approach our faith. Developing habits of prayer, living in accord with the Gospel, setting time aside each week for the practice of our faith, seeing our relationship with Christ as the center and focus of our families all come with sacrifice. We are going to look differently than other folks and we

ought to. We are going to find ourselves doing less of the things we are "supposed to do" and more of the things we know we "ought to do or want to do." This often means resisting secular tides and putting our boats into different waters. If this is what helps us know the one true God, then so be it. It also brings us to eternal life.

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord.

After Jesus rose from the dead on Easter Sunday, He remained on earth and appeared to many in resurrected form. After forty days (a number indicating preparation in the Bible), Jesus ascended into Heaven, leaving the mission of the Church under the care of the Apostles and promising to send the Holy Spirit as their guide on Pentecost (which we will celebrate next Sunday).



We relive these events liturgically during the Easter season. In fact, the Solemnity of the Ascension technically was this past Thursday (40 days after Easter), but in most dioceses (including ours) it gets moved to the following Sunday. Today's first reading recounts the Ascension as recorded by Luke in the book of Acts, which is the sequel to the Gospel of Luke.

Why did Jesus ascend? Was He abandoning His followers? By no means! Jesus ascended in order to reign over the kingdom of the Church from heaven. But He did not leave us orphans. Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to guide us. In saying to His disciples, "you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you," He promised the very presence of the divine with them. Jesus is fully God and so is the Holy Spirit. Thus, whether Jesus stayed or ascended, God would be with them! Jesus, in His flesh, was limited to one geographical location. By ascending and sending the Holy Spirit, the faith could spread to the ends of the earth. Just imagine having to travel to Israel to meet Jesus in person! Instead, the Holy Spirit dwells within us here and now; and Jesus is present to us in the Eucharist whatever part of the world we are in. Jesus sent His disciples to be "witnesses" to the ends of the earth, and He promised to give them everything they would need to succeed. The fact that we are following Jesus 2,000 years later is evidence of their success.

We are making plans to re-open the Church when it is confirmed that we are able. We will have a need for hand sanitizer. If you're one of the lucky people who happens to find some, consider picking up an extra bottle for us! It seems to be an elusive product these days! Thank you!

Our Religious Ed students as well as members of our parish community shared in a Zoom presentation of **May Crowning** on Wednesday, May 20th. They honored Mary with prayer and song and everyone crowned Mary in their homes. Thanks to Elena Platas, our Director of Religious Education, for planning this event. She and her Religious Ed teachers have continued their weekly lessons using Distance Learning. Thanks also to the parents who are helping their children grow in their faith. Let us all pray this special prayer to Mary:

Mary, our Mother, we dedicate ourselves to you today. Teach us to be patient and kind. Help us to be close to Jesus, your Son. Beloved Mother, please continue to guide us in living our faith. We want to follow your example. Amen.





Fiesta de la Ascensión del Señor

El Evangelio de Mateo comienza con la lista de la genealogía de Jesús, relatando así el cumplimiento de la promesa de Dios a su pueblo y el evangelio termina con la promesa enfática de Jesús: "He aquí, yo estoy contigo siempre, hasta el fin de los tiempos". La promesa de Jesús no es una referencia al futuro, sino una realidad del momento presente y actual. Es como la promesa que Jesús hizo le hizo al ladrón arrepentido en la cruz, Jesús le dijo: "Hoy estarás conmigo en el paraíso".

En la fiesta de la Ascensión del Señor, Jesús nos recuerda una vez más que nunca nos ha abandonado o que nunca nos dejara huérfanos. Aunque celebramos su ascensión al cielo, que a menudo se conoce como "hacia arriba en el cielo", Jesús nos dice que el cielo está aquí con nosotros en el aquí y ahora de nuestra vida. Es donde está Dios. Hoy nos regocijamos con toda la Iglesia. A donde Jesús había ido, sus seguidores esperamos seguirlo.

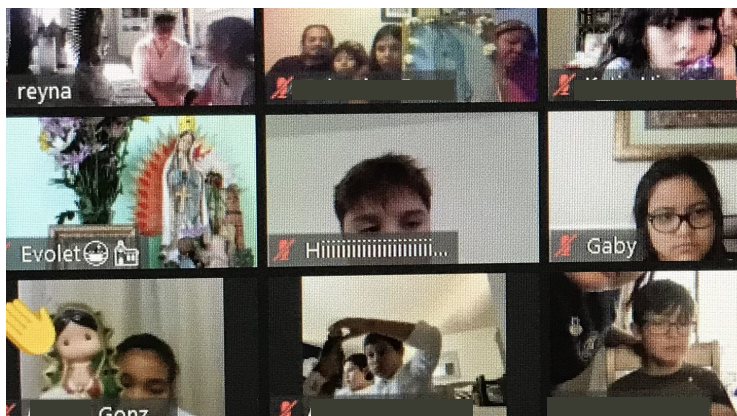
Hoy, me gustaría anunciar formalmente que el Obispo me ha nombrado nuevo párroco en otra parroquia, la parroquia de Nuestra Señora de la Luz en Descanso, a partir del 1 de julio. Esto significa que un nuevo párroco ocupará mi lugar aquí en San Didacus y su nombre es el P. Rey Roque, el P. Rey viene de la parroquia de San Patricio en Calipatria, California.

Han pasado tres años que han pasado muy rápido y esta pandemia nos ha dificultado las cosas a todos e incluso ha sido devastadora para muchos. Pero fijamos nuestros ojos en el Señor. El pasado 4 de mayo celebré mis 25 años como sacerdote y pasé el día solo recordando y preguntándome dónde han pasado esos 25 años. Sé que Dios siempre ha estado allí, incluso aun cuando muchas veces no estuve allí con Él. Jesús siempre ha sido fiel a su promesa. Es posible que no tengamos la oportunidad de vernos y decir adiós, pero como diría nuestro Señor, no estoy muy lejos. Además, los mantendré a todos en mis oraciones y misas, como lo hago habitualmente todos los días. Les agradezco sinceramente a todos por permitirme servirles como su párroco y por permitirme crecer como persona. Después de todo, la sala más grande del mundo es la sala del cambio y mejora.

P. Rick

COVID 19 Asistencia para Los Indocumentados

Jewish Family Service de San Diego (JFS) está operando el proyecto de Asistencia de Desastre para Inmigrantes (DRAI por sus siglas en Ingles) del Estado de California para los Condados de San Diego e Imperial. El Proyecto DRAI es una ayuda financiera del estado para inmigrantes adultos indocumentados afectados por COVID-19. El DRAI entra en efecto el lunes, 18 de mayo. Nota Importante: Las organizaciones sin fines de lucro no prestarán asistencia a las personas antes del 18 de mayo. Las personas no deben contactarlas con anticipación con respecto a la asistencia de ayuda por desastre. La asistencia para la solicitud no se proporcionará en persona. Para más información, llamen para el condado de San Diego 858-206-8261 o visiten: www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/immigration/covid-19-drai.



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- Dr. Karl Menninger ♥

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