



## Encounter Jesus, Be Disciples

MAY 24, 2020 · THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD





Fr. Gary Kyriacou Tuesday, May 26 7:00 - 8:30 pm

From our shared beginnings, millennia ago, Eastern Christian spirituality and theology has always been a leaven for us Catholics. Hear the best of Orthodox faith, especially as it addresses the modern world's questions and conditions. Fr. Gary will offer spiritual tools to help navigate this complicated life.

RSVP: teresa@padreserra.org Join via Zoom: us02web.zoom.us/j/85810696517 Meeting ID: 858 1069 6517

For more information visit www.padreserra.org/news/orthodox-faith



# Illuman

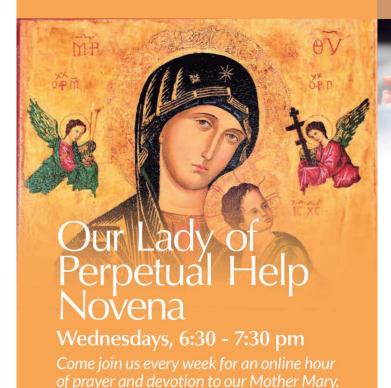
Wednesday, May 27 7:00 - 8:30 pm Online

A ministry for men, by men, to honor the uniqueness of male spirituality. Bimonthly group gatherings are designed to help guys become better, more authentic men.

Contact:
Dave McCormick
dave.mccormick.mba@gmail.com

For more information about Men's Ministry visit www.padreserra.org/news/mens-ministry





Contact Madel

filipinoministry@padreserra.org

www.padreserra.org/news/our-lady-of-perpetual-help

## Be a Hero! Blood Drive

Sunday, June 7 8:15 am - 1:15 pm Serra Center

We are checking donors' temperatures upon check-in and masks are required to be worn by all donors.

Only healthy people are encouraged to come give blood. In fact, donors must be feeling well and free of respiratory illness symptoms, including fever, to be eligible to donate.

We are using CDC guidelines for social distances at our donor centers and blood drives.

To schedule an appointment call (805) 543-429 or visit www.padreserra.org/news/blood-drive



#### **GATHERING**



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### **GLORIA**



#### Reading 1

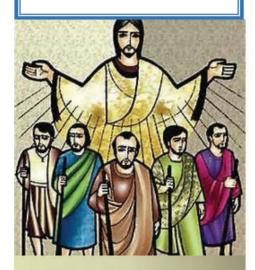
Acts 1:1-11

#### Reading 2

Ephesians 1:17-23

#### **Gospel Reading**

Matthew 28:16-20



Go and teach
all nations,
says the Lord;
lam with you
always,
until the
end of the world.

Matthew 28:19a, 20b

#### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

#### Psalm 47: God Mounts His Throne

Paul Inwood



- All peoples, clap your hands, cry to God with shouts of joy! For the Lord Most High we must fear, great King over all the earth.
- God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
   Sing praise for God, sing praise for God, sing praise to our King.
- God is King of all the earth. Sing praise with all your skill. God is King over the nations; he reigns on his holy throne.

Text: Psalm 47:6, 2-3, 6-9. Verses text © 1963, The Grail (England). All rights reserved. Used with permission of GIA Publications, Inc., agent. Music and refrain text © 1986, Paul Inwood. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

#### Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Paul Prochaska





#### INTERCESSION RESPONSE



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#### PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR AND GIFTS

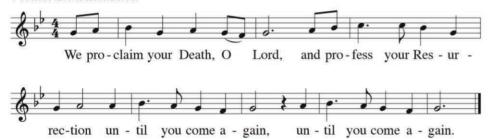


#### **EUCHARISTIC ACCLAMATIONS**



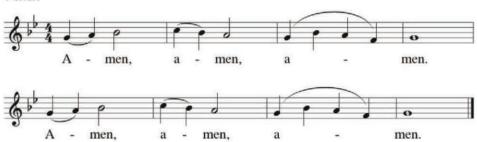
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#### Memorial Acclamation



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#### Amen

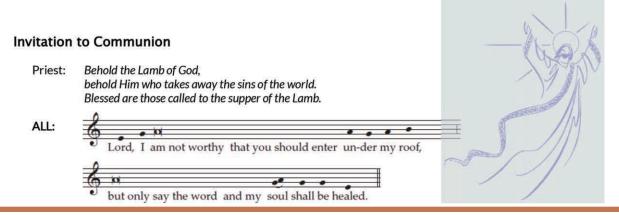


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#### Lamb of God



Music: Mass of Creation, Marty Haugen, © 1984, 1985, GIA Publications, Inc.



### Spiritual Communion

O God, you are my God, it is you I seek! For you my body yearns; for you my soul thirsts, in the land parched, lifeless and without water. I look to you in the sanctuary to see your power and glory. For your love is better than life, my lips shall ever praise you. I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands, calling on your name. My soul shall be filled, as with choice food, with joyous lips my mouth shall praise you! I think of you upon my bed, I remember you through the watches of night. You indeed are my savior and, in the shadow of your wings, I shout for joy. My soul clings fast to you; your right hand upholds me.

Psalm 63:2-9



#### **COMMUNION SONG**



#### **SENDING FORTH**



Text: John Angotti, b.1963 Tune: John Angotti, b.1963; arr. by Paul A. Tate, b.1968 © 2000, World Library Publications

## An Ascension with Consequence

Last words can mean so much to us. When I sit down with a family to talk about a deceased family member, they will occasionally tell me they thought their mom or dad waited for someone to arrive before passing on. Sometimes they tell me the deceased's last words. It seems so significant when a family member or friend says, just before dying, "I love you," or "I forgive you," or "I'll still be with you from the far side." We cherish these kinds of last things. They resonate like tympani in our hearts.

In that spirit, it is so *very* important for us to attend carefully to Jesus' last words: "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

His communication starts with power – if the Father gave all authority to him, then we must attend to his last command. "All authority" includes power over *us*. We're left free, but if we're wise, we'll listen carefully and obey. We are told to "go." We're not to be static, but on the move. Complacency is insufficient. Sleepiness can only be temporary. Naps may be cherished, but they can't rule our lives. The camino of fidelity to our Lord is calling, and we have to follow.

And then we get to the heart of Jesus' last directive: "Make disciples of all nations." He doesn't ask us either to be, or to make, demanding consumers who come to church expecting to be entertained. He doesn't look for blind obedience. He doesn't seek people who will *say* that they are Christian, or who will choose only the most shallow forms of observance. He's looking for people who will take their faith to heart and *act*. Disciples work to grow in their understanding and application of their faith. Disciples are active doers, servants of the Lord, and ministers to the broken world around them. Ultimately, if we accept that Jesus has all authority, as he claims, then we can't be content until "all nations" have been taught to observe all that he has commanded, until "all nations" are caring, active and living as disciples, imitating Jesus' words and. actions.

The parish mission statement embraces this Gospel with enthusiasm: "Encounter Jesus. Be disciples." The first invitation, "encounter Jesus," stands on the truth that everything begins and ends with Jesus, the Alpha and the Omega. Encountering him is much more than simply "knowing" him. I knew many people in my doctoral studies, who knew all kinds of facts about Jesus, but in spite of their academic pursuits, lost their faith. All their knowledge was for naught. "Encounter Jesus" means to dive into the experience of the sacraments. It requires us to pray, and invites contemplation. It leads to a relationship that is real, accompanying Jesus in all our activities. This will inevitably lead us into a loving bond, for to encounter Jesus is to love him. When we, in fact, love him, we make it about him, and not ourselves.

And there is where we become disciples, actively imitating Jesus in our daily lives. He fed people; so do we. He healed, taught, and answered his world's questions; so do we. He accompanied others and comforted them in their struggles; so do we. He laid down his life for the sake of a broken world that crucified him; so must we, hard as this one is.

Is it possible to encounter Jesus and serve as his disciples while in coronavirus lockdown? There has to be. We've heard it straight from the Master's mouth, in his final words: "Go! Make disciples."

Siempre adelante!

Fr. Patrick

Fr. Patrick Pastor



#### Sign-up Time!

#### Faith Formation Registration ~ Begins June 1

Register your children! We have programs for ages preschool through grade 12! We are always learning, making friends, and having a good time at church. Sacrament preparation is included if needed. Join a group! Early registration discount by July 1. Visit www.padreserra.org/news/faith-formation-registration

**Blood Drive** ~ **June 7** (see page 2)

#### Children

12 months to Grade 8.

#### **Online Mass Activities**

Activities to be done at certain times during Mass, watch carefully! (see page 13)

#### Spark! at Home

Remember to send your Spark! at Home images in "Actual Size" or the largest size available pics to tere@padreserra.org or use #pspSparkAtHome and tag @padreserraparish on Facebook, or @padreserra on Instagram. Visit www.padreserra.org/faith-formation-at-home



#pspSparkAtHome

### **High School**

Everyone 14 to 18 is welcome! youth@padreserra.org

#### 4:12

Join Brett and peer leaders, for fun and fellowship via Zoom. Ask brett@padreserra.org to add you to our GroupMe to keep you updated.

#### **Young Adults**

Everyone 18 to 39ish is welcome! www.padreserra.org/young-adults

#### **Bible Study**

We will be having Bible Study via Zoom every Thursday from 7:00 to 9:00 pm until the current COVID-19 situation is resolved and we're allowed to meet again. For more information please contact brett@padreserra.org

#### **Adults**

#### Orthodox Faith in a Complicated World ~ May 26

From our shared beginnings, millennia ago, Eastern Christian spirituality and theology has always been a leaven for us Catholics. Hear the best of Orthodox faith, especially as it addresses the modern world's questions and conditions. Pastor of St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Fr. Gary Kyriacou will offer spiritual tools to help navigate this complicated life. 7:00 - 8:30 pm via Zoom. RSVP:

teresa@padreserra.org

Join in via Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85810696517 Meeting ID: 858 1069 6517

#### Our Lady of Perpetual Help ~ May 27

Join us online for prayer and devotion to our Mother Mary. Wednesdays 6:30 - 7:30 pm. Contact: Madel omphnovenapsp@gmail.com

#### Illuman Men's Ministry ~ May 27

A ministry for men, by men, to honor the uniqueness of male spirituality. Bimonthly group gatherings are designed to help guys become better, more authentic men. 7:00 pm, online. Contact: Dave dave.mccormick.mba@gmail.com

#### Writers Group ~ May 29

We gather virtually. We pray virtually. We write. If you enjoy writing, you are welcome any Friday to share your work and to listen to the inspiring writing of others. Fridays 10:00 am, online. Contact: Linda calmest1@verizon.net

#### **Grocery Shopping**

If you are compromised due to age or health and need help with grocery shopping, contact Teresa at (805) 482·6417 x322 or at teresa@padreserra.org. Volunteer shoppers are standing by to help.

#### **Resources for Seniors**

The following agencies are also assisting seniors with meals and food:

- Foodshare of Ventura County (805) 983·7100 x157 foodshare.com/programs/#seniorprograms
- Ventura County Area Agency on Aging (805) 477·7300 www.vcaaa.org/for-seniors

#### **Living Faith**

#### **Faith Sharing Question**

Reflection questions for every gathering around any table.

#### **Matthew 28:16-20 ~ The Great Commission**

In today's gospel, Jesus commands his apostles to go out and carry on in the making of disciples by baptizing and teaching peoples in all nations. What difference has it made that you were baptized? What would your life be like if you weren't baptized in faith? How do you share the Good News of Jesus with your unique gifts?

#### Read

Grab your Bible and look up the reading. Don't have one? No worries, find the text here: www.usccb.org/calendar

#### Listen

Find the readings proclaimed at www.usccb.org/bible/readings-audio

#### Watch

The Gospel - Matthew 28:16-20 with images: youtu.be/Kn6ULzTTE0k

For families with young children, The Ascension of the Lord video from Holy Heroes:

youtu.be/O9GyyAnhhyE

#### Share

Have your child(ren) show and explain what they created! Use #pspLivingFaith and tag @padreserraparish (Facebook), @padreserra (Instagram), or send your images in "Actual Size" or the largest size available to photos@padreserra.org. We can't wait to see your pics! www.padreserra.org/living













#pspLivingFaith

### **Prayer Life**

#### **Pray for Our Sick**

John Allum-Poon, Josefina Balderrama, Shirley Brown, Katie Ceurvorst, Thomas Collins, Liesa Comeau, João Francisco Corrêa, Vera Lucia de Oliveira Corrêa, Baby Wyatt Davis, Emily De Luca, Sue Evans, Jean Ferjo, Sharon Garcia, Jim Hines, Brandon Joseph, Rochelle Labaguis, Adele Marietta, Veronica Markley, Mark Medina, Maureen Miner, Dino Perry, Shanti Plumbley, Christy Reed, Barbara Rumble, Juan Andres Sanchez, Bryan Sasinick, Dorothy Simmons, Jackson Soyster, Will Stachowiak, Virginia Stockton, Ann Strobel, Francisco Tapia and Marcia Vivirito. (Names are refreshed monthly.)

#### Remember Our Dead

Prayers for family and friends of those who have died recently: George Rowlands, RIP

Beloved brother of Scott Rowlands

Berta Segundo, RIP

May they enjoy peace in his their with Christ Jesus.

#### **Prayer Opportunities**

Daily Readings: www.usccb.org

Parish Book of Intentions: www.padreserra.org/intentions

Prayer Chain: Prayers anytime

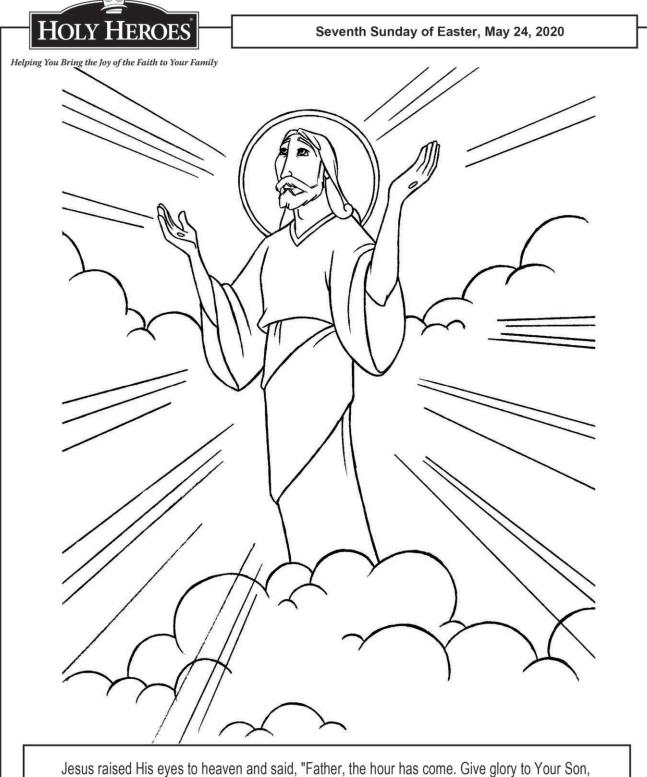
Bette (805) 482·0067 bette\_church@hotmail.com Shirley (805) 482·2617 brownshehorn@gmail.com or visit www.padreserra.org/prayer-requests

Stations of the Cross: www.padreserra.org/stations

#### Other Notes

#### **Census Update**

If you have moved, dropped your landline, added a cellphone or email, have adult children who have moved out, please keep us updated. If you live alone, provide us with an emergency contact. Contact Mary (805) 482.6417 x321 or mary@padreserrra.org

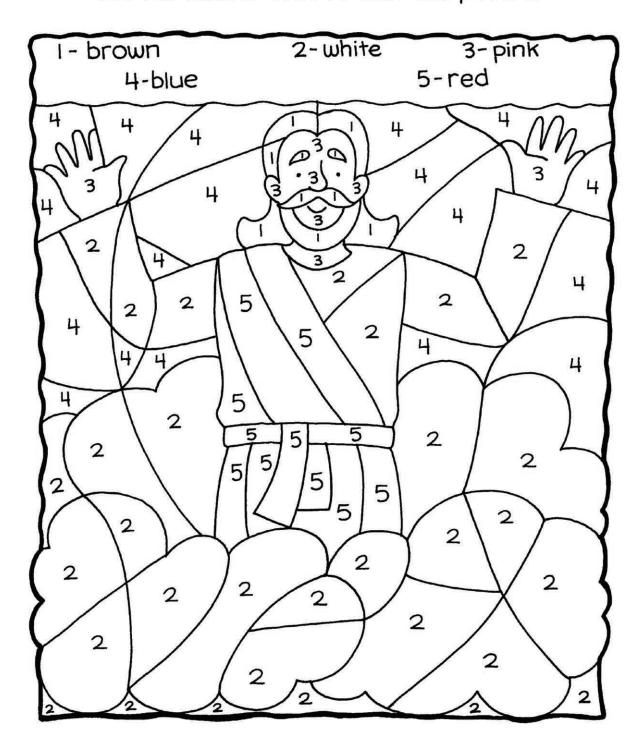


Jesus raised His eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come. Give glory to Your Son so that Your Son may glorify You, just as You gave Him authority over all people, so that Your Son may give eternal life to all You gave Him." (John 17: 1-2)

Visit us online at www.HolyHeroes.com/MassPrep where you will find fun, free and faithful children's activities and more—as well as our weekly Sunday Mass Prep video! Sign up with your email address to receive a reminder when new content is added.

## The Ascension of the Lord

The apostles watched as Jesus was taken up to heaven in a cloud. Use the number code to color the picture.





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