

MESSAGE FROM FR. TONY: Today is Pentecost Sunday, the commemoration of the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and all those gathered in the Upper Room, including, most likely, Mary Our Mother. Jesus had commanded the Apostles to stay in Jerusalem and await the promise of the Father. Notice, the Spirit descended upon all the believers in the same way. The Church reminds us of the priesthood of all Christians. There is, of course a great difference between the ordained priests and the laity, but we all receive the same Holy Spirit at Confirmation. The seal of the Holy Spirit that we receive in that sacrament strengthens us to follow in the footsteps of the Apostles and to boldly live our faith in the world. This should also be for us the reason that we prepare our young people to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. It is not an end of their, or our, Catholic education and formation, but a beginning step toward a mature life-affirming Christian faith.

The Holy Spirit is our source of inspiration, urging us to “go into all the world”, the One who will give us “The words we need to speak” when we are faced with opposition to our faith, and the Holy Spirit will, according to the promise of Jesus: “Lead you into all truth” never allowing us to become tangled up in worldly wisdom or false teaching.

There are two aspects to this work of the Holy Spirit: First: The Spirit leads us individually into the truth of our faith and our place in the Church. Second: He leads the Church into the truth, in spite of false teachers and self-proclaimed prophets of God. We can be sure that the faith we profess every Sunday is the truth revealed to mankind by the Holy Spirit.

Finally the Holy Spirit is the “Advocate” bringing our needs to the Father, and pointing to the death of Jesus for our sins. The Holy Spirit keeps the Church, in spite of human weakness, on the road to holiness. In an ever-changing world we can put our faith firmly in God and the teachings of Holy Mother Church.

These are just a few of the many things that the Holy Spirit does for us individually and as the Church Universal. Come Holy Spirit, Come! Fr. Tony

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW CANOPY: Please be aware that construction on the new canopy on the front of the church has started. During this time you may need to enter through the handicap entrance on the west side. We apologize for the inconvenience.



MEMORIAL DAY MASS @ IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH: There will be a Memorial Day Mass on Monday, May 31, 2021, at 8:00 A.M. at Immaculate Conception Parish. Reception will follow Mass in the school cafeteria. The Veterans and others will meet at the Court House Monument at 10:00 A.M. in Linn. Everyone is welcome.

MASS FOR VISITATION OF MARY: There will be a Mass on Monday, May 31, at 5:00 PM for the Visitation of Mary. This is not a Holy Day of Obligation.

PARISH CLEAN UP DAYS: Looking for volunteers to help with cleaning out of the rectory basement and the picnic shed. The dates for the cleaning have been set for Wednesday, June 23, and Wednesday, June 30, at 6:00 PM. EVERYONE welcome!!!

90th BIRTHDAY: Our own Catherine Muenks will be turning 90 on May 26. A small private family celebration is being planned but if the Spirit moves you to send her a card, the address is 70 County Road 602, Loose Creek, MO 65054! She's such a blessing!

Pilgrimage to the Shrines of French Canada with Fr. Matthew Flatley. September 20 - 25th, 2021. Call Travel Tyme @ 636-391-1000 to learn more or to register, please visit: <https://www.traveltymepilgrimages.com/Father-Matthew-Flatley-French-Canada-2021>

School NEWS

SCHOOL NEWS: On Monday, teachers and staff gathered to enjoy each other's company and a delicious lunch from Annie's Station that was provided by the Home and School. Thank you to the Home and School for their continuous kindness and support. Teachers worked on Monday and Tuesday to reflect on the school year, clean, organize, and begin looking ahead to the next school year. For this week's spotlight, I would like to recognize our Home and School officers who consistently share their time resources to benefit our school. Jessica Voss serves as president, Emily Frank as vice-president, Kim Jansen as treasurer, Stephanie Wright as secretary, and Danielle Wilbers serves as member at large. Even with the busyness and obligations of everyday life, these ladies give of their time and talents to help us in multiple ways. They organize fundraisers, arrange and fund special luncheons at the beginning and end of the school year, manage the end-of-year carnival, organize school cleaning days, and serve as a support system for our school. Thank you to the current officers and all those who have previously served as a Home and School officer. We greatly appreciate all you do in joining our IC mission to be followers of Jesus in faith, knowledge, and service. Many blessings, Ms. Luebbert

SCRIP NEWS: Scrip rebated earned for April was \$811.55. The Scrip Committee summer schedule – first and third Saturday's from 8:00-9:00 a.m., in the school computer room. Dates: June 5, 19; July 3, 17; and August 7. All Wednesday's 5:00-6:00 p.m. in the school computer room, May 19, 2021 thru August 11, 2021.

Meetings & Events

CATHOLIC FINANCIAL LIFE BRANCH: The Catholic Financial Life Branch 1152 will be meeting and breakfast on Tuesday, June 1, 8:00 AM at BJ's Restaurant, Linn.

Good News!

Due to the number of people who have received the Coronavirus Vaccine and in response to the lower levels of transmission, the Bishop has made the following changes in the Liturgy (Mass):

Regular Mass attendance resumes, beginning June 1, 2021.

To clarify: Those with existing health problems are ordinarily excused from Mass attendance. All others in general good health are obligated to attend the Sunday Mass. (Saturday fulfills this obligation.)

The return of the Offertory Procession (bringing up the gifts).

Return to regular collections at Mass.

The Sign of Peace may be offered.

The distribution of the Blood of Christ may resume.

Holy Water fonts should be kept clean and sanitary but do not need to be emptied after every Mass.

These changes will begin on May 15- 16, 2021.

Masks are optional, as is social distancing.

If you are not comfortable with these changes it is your right not to join in the Sign of Peace.

Receiving the Blood of Christ remains optional, but it is encouraged.

Glory to God that, even though there are many suffering from the virus, we can return to a relatively "normal" worship experience. Fr. Tony

CROSS CATHOLIC OUTREACH: This weekend is we are blessed to be hosting a priest representing Cross Catholic Outreach. This official Catholic ministry was founded to link parishes in the U.S. with priest, religious brothers and sisters, and laypeople working in Church missions overseas. Its programs span the Caribbean, Africa, Asia and Central and South America. Please be generous in your response to his appeal. Please be sure to say “hi” after Mass. Brochures with donation envelopes will be provided if you wish to support this worthy Catholic ministry. For more information on Cross Catholic Outreach, please go to CrossCatholic.org/outreach, text BLESSINGS to 474747, or scan this QR code:

OUTREACH PRIEST **Rev. Nghia Cao, C.Ss.R.**



Father Nghia Cao was born in Vietnam and has been in the United States for 37 years. He is a Redemptorist priest of the Denver Province and has been an ordained priest for 14 years. After finishing the philosophy program at St. John’s Seminary College in Camarillo, CA, Fr. Cao earned a Master of Divinity degree from Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, IL. He served as parochial associate pastor at Holy Ghost Parish in Houston, TX as well as St. Mary’s of the Assumption Parish in Whittier, CA.

In the mountainous regions of Sapa, N. Vietnam, Fr. Cao served as a missionary to the impoverished H’mong people. He served the H’mong people for 7 years raising funds for the many projects such as food, water, shelter, medical care, education, self-help programs, and emergency relief. He has spent the last 3 years assigned by his Provincial Superiors to the Liguori Mission House in the St. Louis area and is currently assigned to the Kansas City, MO Redemptorist Liguorian Magazine and parish missions.

Fr. Cao’s heart is for all poor people everywhere and as God is willing, he is happy to work alongside Cross Catholic Outreach in service of our needy brothers and sisters.

PICNIC TIME: Loose Creek Picnic will be on **Sunday, June 13, 2021.**

"We are excited to be offering a hybrid parish picnic this year with 2 different options!" We will hold a drive thru BBQ fundraiser at church like we did in 2020 and an “in-person” event at Loose Creek Community Center with the following activities: quilt auction, beer garden, and soda stand, sandwich stand (serving only hamburgers, cheese burgers, pork steak sandwiches and chips), live music from 12:00 – 4:30 PM, raffle and 50/25/25. There will be limited seating on the grounds. Feel free to bring your lawn chairs. **The picnic packets are in the back of church. Please stop by church to pick up the picnic information. If you’re not already on the work list and would like to help, please reach out to one of the picnic committee members. PICNIC COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Jackie Bax 690-1867; Amy Wilbers 690-5422; Jennifer Backes 301-8424; Carter Peters 694-7995; Ashley Atkins 619-6996; Jessica Voss 301-8080, Sharla Buthod 291-3224 and Kevin Thoenen 690-3272. Thank you!



ADVERTISING @ PICNIC: Any local business owners interested in advertising at the parish picnic (through handing out cool cups or 16 oz. plastic cups) are invited to do so. All local businesses have the opportunity to participate. For more information, please contact Jackie Bax @ 573-690-1867.