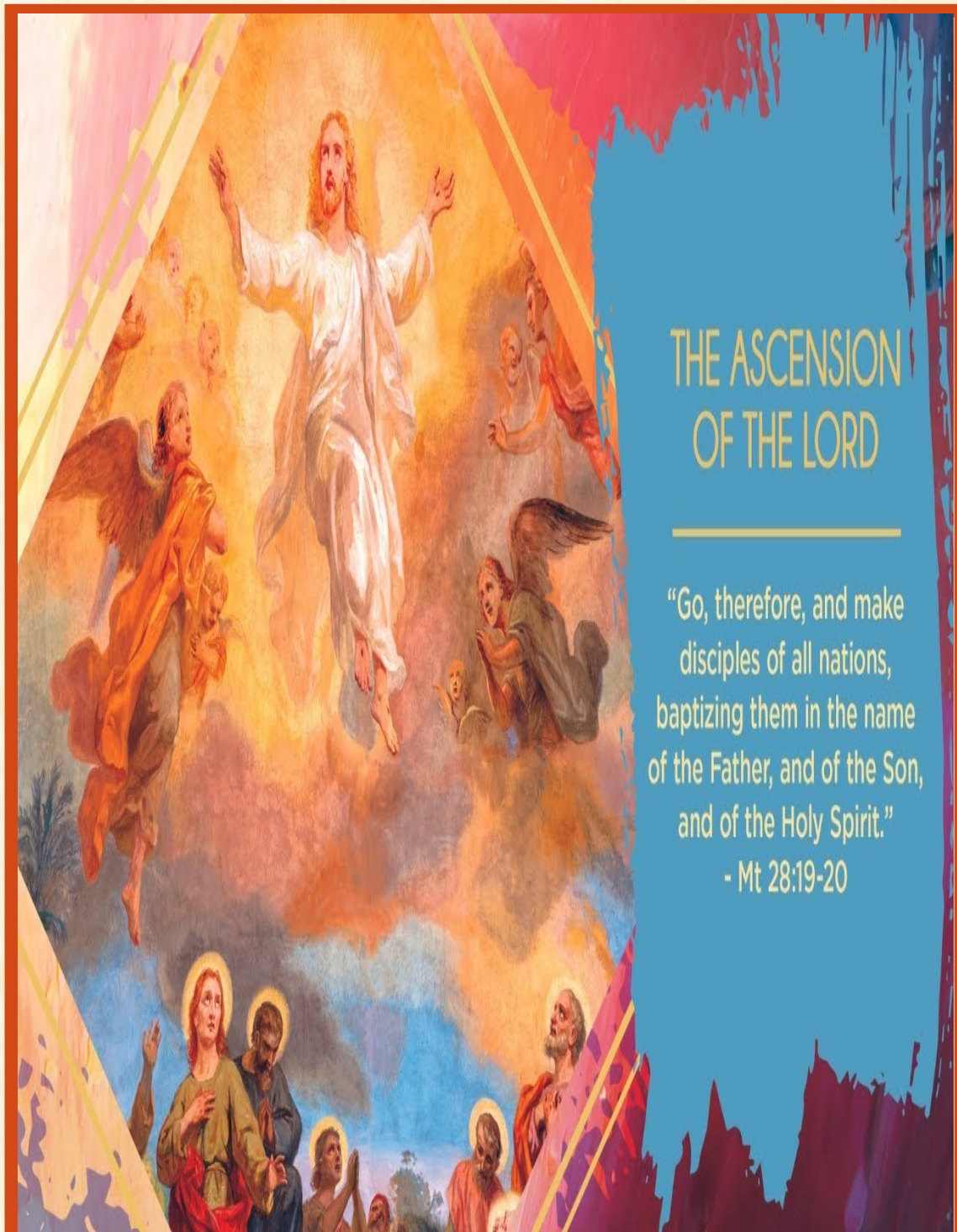


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THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

“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.”

- Mt 28:19-20

MAY 17, 2026

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SERVED BY:

Rev. Michael Wakefield, Pastor
Fr. Stanley Azamety, In Residence
Ms. Lisa Sanders, Office
Ms. Tess Lumague, Office

Religious Education

Mr. Jack Lathuras - JLathuras@sfdsparish.com
Little Church/Sunday Pre-School
Ms. Rachel Munyaradzi - RMunyaradzi@sfdsparish.com

St. Francis de Sales School & Licensed Pre-School

13368 Valleyheart Drive South, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423
Telephone: (818) 784-9573 - FAX: (818) 784-9649
Ms. Myra Goethals, School Principal
Ms. Jerri Ford, Pre-School Director



St. Francis de Sales ~ Pray for Us

MASS Times:

Monday thru Saturday: 8:15 a.m.
Saturday → Anticipated Mass: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 12-Noon

Confessions: 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays

Baptisms and Weddings:

Please make arrangements by calling the Parish Office.

Ascension of the Lord; 7th Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2026
Acts 1:1-11
Psalm 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9
Ephesian 1:17-23
Matthew 28:16-20

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ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** CA **ZIP:** _____

PHONE: (____) _____ **E-MAIL:** _____

PARISHIONER INFORMATION

ADULT NAME: _____ BAPTIZED CATHOLIC: YES _____ NO _____

ADULT NAME: _____ BAPTIZED CATHOLIC: YES _____ NO _____

CHILD NAME: _____ BAPTIZED CATHOLIC: YES _____ NO _____

CHILD NAME: _____ BAPTIZED CATHOLIC: YES _____ NO _____

CHILD NAME: _____ BAPTIZED CATHOLIC: YES _____ NO _____

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY	May 16
8:15 AM	<i>Mother's Day Novena</i>
5:00 PM	<i>In Memory of Fr. Gregory Goethals</i>
SUNDAY	May 17
8:00 AM	<i>In Memory of Frank Pincherli</i>
10:00 AM	<i>In Memory of Lucille C. & John Gaudioso</i>
12:00 PM	<i>Mother's Day Novena</i>
MONDAY	May 18
8:15 AM	<i>Mother's Day Novena</i>
TUESDAY	May 19
8:15 AM	<i>In Memory of Lawrence Tripp</i>
WEDNESDAY	May 20
8:15 AM	<i>In Memory of Marciano Natividad;</i> <i>In Memory of Arnel de Leon</i>
THURSDAY	May 21
8:15 AM	<i>In Memory of Giuseppe Rizzo</i>
FRIDAY	May 22
8:15 AM	<i>For the Intentions of Pope Leo XIV</i>
SATURDAY	May 23
8:15 AM	<i>In Memory of Michael Tilson Thomas</i>
5:00 PM	<i>In Memory of Dennis Rush</i>

Pray For
The Dead



Dennis Rush

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK, especially:

Sean Aguirre, Gisele Hayek, Susan Ho, Angela Samona, Denise Loren, Marilyn Bencar, Leticia Romero, Alex Chalof, Carmel Rattigan, Kathy Molloy, Glenn J. Lawlor, Jr., Olga Oshiro, Maria Berreondo, Tanya Valazquez, Catherine Crews, Deana Domsten, Mary Ann Blee, Kerry Wyse, Louise Brancale, Charlie Ho, Jackie Ward-Smith, Ann Murcia, Rosemary Schreiber, Deb Marsdale, Linda Lucas, Vickie Council, Joan Gore, William Moultrie, Rose Bann, James Armstrong, Sr., Catherine Mwamba, Kathy Polk, Pat Yahnke, Linda Mauleon, Sandra Mitchell, Sharon Crigler, Samiee Nejad, Mary Bailey, Eric Duran, Tina McConnell, Patrick McDougall, Tish Mc Daniel, Nina Barnes, Jana Rattigan, Jezebel Todd, Lauren Britton, Jen Welch, Bob Dixon, Tony Guadagno, John Proscetto, Dexter Gray, Annie Salazar, Jim Earnhart, Joseph Stockert, Rose Ang, Sheila van der Veen, Leonila Siga-an, Jonathan Jacobs, Sammi Petri, Georgina Nicoletti, Lindsay Dean, Saverio Barbieri, Davis Weld, Virginia Hogan, Catherine Sweeney, Jeffrey Paynton, Tommy Fitzpatrick, Doris McNary, Marilyn Sidley, Karin Quinn Forward, Susan Maria, Kevin Patrick, Sean Kevin, Bruce Johnson, Virginia Johnson, Fran Hurton, Arnaud Gregori, Mary Henriksen, Dominic Mantei, Edith Reeves, Stefanie Gabler, Jake Patterson, Rose Rios, Anita & Austen Canzano, David Bell, Marie Schewe, Tom & Judy King, Jonathan Masse, Steve Dee, Darya Williams, Gus Calderon, Robert Willing, Josue Meza, Thomas Oliver, Philip Graber, and Blake Cline

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sunday, 05/17	<i>The Ascension of the Lord;</i> <i>7th Sunday of Easter</i>
Monday, 05/18	<i>St. John I, Pope and Martyr</i>
Wednesday, 05/20	<i>St. Bernardine of Siena, Priest</i>
Thursday, 05/21	<i>St. Christopher Magallanes,</i> <i>Priest, and Companions, Martyrs</i>
Friday, 05/22	<i>St. Rita of Cascia, Religious</i>

CONTRIBUTIONS to the CHURCH

Weekend: 05/08 - 05/10/2026
Collections: \$10,389.00

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May ~ *The Month of Our Lady* ~ **The BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

Our spiritual exercises during the month of May can emphasize Our Lady's participation in the Paschal Mystery.

Here are some lovely and beautiful practices to *Honor Our Lady*:

The Regina Coeli

- V. Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.
R. For He, whom You did merit to bear, alleluia.
- V. Has risen as He said, alleluia.
R. Pray for us to God, alleluia.
- V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.
R. For the Lord is truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray:

O God, who gave joy to the world through
the resurrection of thy Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech thee,
that through the intercession
of the Blessed Virgin Mary, His Mother,
we may obtain the joys of everlasting life.
Through the same Christ, Our Lord.
Amen.



The Rosary

Also called the *Psalter of the Blessed Virgin Mary*, the Rosary is one of the most excellent prayers to the Mother of God. Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary. These consist of a long series of invocations to Our Lady, which follow in a uniform rhythm, thereby creating a stream of prayer characterized by insistent praise and supplication.

Consecration and Entrustment to Mary

The Roman Pontiffs have frequently expressed appreciation for the pious practice of "Consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary" and the formulas publicly used by them are well known.

The Brown Scapular and other Scapulars

The *Scapular* is an external sign of the filial relationship established between the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother and Queen of Mount Carmel, and the faithful who entrust themselves totally to Her protection, who have recourse to Her maternal intercession, who are mindful of the primacy of the spiritual life and the need for prayer.

Medals

These are witnesses of faith and a sign of veneration of the Holy Mother of God, as well as of trust in Her maternal protection. The Church blesses such objects of Marian devotion in the belief that: "They help to remind the faithful of the love of God, and to increase trust in the Blessed Virgin Mary."

Did You Know?

Know the Signs of Potential Abuse for Vulnerable Adults

Keeping children from harm is essential, but it is just as important to prioritize the protection of vulnerable adults. A vulnerable adult is someone who, due to a physical, mental, emotional, or behavioral condition, may not be able to protect themselves from harm or exploitation. Warning signs of abuse can include injuries, signs of apparent mal-nutrition or dehydration, soiled clothing or bedding, anxiety, and unclean living conditions. By understanding the reality of vulnerable adult abuse, considering our own behavior, learning warning signs and communicating concerns – we can strive to protect others who may not be in a position to protect themselves. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article "*Continuing Our Efforts to Protect Vulnerable Adults*" at:

iacatholics.org/did-you-know

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

May 17th

Since 1999, the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord in most archdioceses/dioceses in the United States has been transferred to supplant the 7th Sunday of Easter. No longer is Ascension celebrated on a Thursday, but rather on the Sunday before Pentecost.

“Christ is now exalted above the heavens, but He still suffers on earth all the pain that we, the members of His body, have to bear. He showed this when He cried out from above: *Saul, Saul, Why do you persecute me?* and when He said: *I was hungry and you gave me food. Why do we on earth not strive to find rest with Him in heaven even now, through the faith, hope, and love that unites us to Him?*”

While in heaven He is also with us; and we while on earth are with Him. He is here with us by His divinity, His power and His love. We cannot be in heaven, as He is on earth, by divinity, but in Him, we can be there by love.

He did not leave heaven when He Came down to us; nor did He withdraw from us when He went up again into heaven. The fact that He was in heaven even while He was on earth is borne out by His own statement: *No one has ever ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man, who is in heaven.* These words are explained by our oneness with Christ, for He is our head and we are His body. No one ascended into heaven except Christ because we also are Christ: He is the Son of Man by His union with us, and we by our union with Him, are sons of God.

So the Apostle says: *Just as the human body, which has many members, is a unity, because all the different members make one body, so is it also with Christ.* He, too, has many members, but one body. Out of compassion for us, he descended from heaven, and although He ascended alone, we also ascend, because we are in Him by grace. Thus, no one but Christ descended and no one but Christ ascended; not because there is no distinction between the head and the body, but because the body as a unity cannot be separated from the head.”

From a sermon by Saint Augustine, Bishop (Sermo de Ascensione Domini, Mai 98, 1-7: PLS 2, 429-495)

Cardinal McIntyre Fund for Charity

Second Collection: May 16 - 17, 2026

The goal of the Cardinal McIntyre Fund for Charity is service to the “neediest of the needy,” those for whom no other resources exist. Provision of food, shelter, one-time assistance to families in crises: such as assistance with medical, funeral expenses, are appropriate as funds allow, and as recommended by those who are familiar with the area/persons.

In other words, the “Fund” provides emergency help to persons who have nowhere else to go. The Fund is not a replacement or supplement for welfare or other forms of public assistance. It does not support persons’ living needs on a continuing basis. Rather, the Fund acts to solve immediate, pressing problems. Food and milk for three days. Lodging for the night. Emergency medical care. Rent to tide over a financial crisis. A utility bill to keep the water or heat turned on for the week.

How Funds are Dispersed

Fund relief is handled through the parish. Persons in need seek help from their priest. He gives immediate assistance from parish funds, then applies to the Cardinal McIntyre Fund for Charity for reimbursement.

Some parishes never seek reimbursement, because they find that they can handle this charity entirely through their own parish and organizational resources. But, many parishes in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles must return to the Fund more than once as the needs of their people far outreach their resources.

St. Vincent de Paul Society tap into the Cardinal McIntyre Fund to assist people who need one-time help.

Blessings upon our wonderful parishioners of St. Francis de Sales! Your contributions to the Cardinal McIntyre Fund for Charity are helping to serve “the neediest of those in need” — Children, families, and individuals throughout the Archdiocese of Los Angeles for whom no other resources exist.

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Norma Cano, Client Service Director

E-mail: norma@pregnanyhelp4u.org Telephone #: (818) 895-2500



Jubilee of Blessings

100 Years in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Los Angeles

June 2026 marks the 100th Anniversary of the arrival of three of these sisters to the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. The preparations for this Jubilee of Blessings will begin next month, on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus this year, Friday, June 12th.

The story of the Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus of Los Angeles begins with a young widow. Maria Luisa Josefa de la Peña wished to enter religious life in Jalisco, Mexico but her parents insisted she marry. At age 15, Maria Luisa married Doctor Pascual Rojas, a man twice her age. Theirs was a happy marriage. Their one sorrow was that God did not grant them children. However, the couple accepted God's Will, remaining steadfast in their trust in God and together decided that the poor would be their children. They built a hospital, established solely on a charitable basis, to serve those less fortunate. The little Hospital of the Sacred Heart was dedicated in January 1892. After 14 years of married life, Maria Luisa was left a widow at age 29. On his deathbed, Dr. Pascual told her, he had no doubt what she would do after his death – She would serve God as a religious. Eight years following the death of her husband, Maria Luisa entered the Monastery of the Discalced Carmelites of St. Teresa in Guadalajara immersing herself in the Spirituality of Carmel. Maria Luisa entered the Carmelites. After a few years, the Archbishop of Guadalajara suggested that she found a Religious Congregation and the Carmelite Sisters of the Sacred Heart were established on February 02, 1921.

This new community of Carmelites grew in tranquility until President Plutarco Calles (president from 1924 - 1928), a fervent anti-Catholic, not only started enforcing the Anti-Church Articles of the 1917 Constitution of Mexico, but passed even stricter laws. This religious persecution triggered the Cristero Rebellion (1926 - 1929). During this period, Mother Luisa remained undaunted in her work of administering the hospital, a school, hospital, and orphanage despite constant scrutiny by the government. However, she became increasingly concerned about her community of 55 sisters who were by now scattered throughout the countryside in hiding with friends and family. Those who gave shelter to religious lived in great fear of discovery by the authorities. As the attacks on the Church escalated, many lay people, priests and sisters fled to the United States. Mother Luisita and two companion sisters, dressed in disguise, sought refuge in the United States by slipping incognito across the U.S., Mexico border in 1927. Mother Luisita fled Mexico knowing that all she had worked to establish over many years to benefit children, the poor, and the sick was being methodically destroyed. Yet through it all, Mother Luisita's faith and trust in God's providence never wavered. Mother Luisita and her companions arrived in Los Angeles in late June 1927, where they received a warm welcome by Archbishop John J. Cantwell (d. 1947). In just a short time, her trust in God would be amply rewarded. The very persecution which sought to destroy her work merely spread it to another country, another portion of the Lord's vineyard as her work quickly flourished in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. The community quickly grew from its humble beginnings of three sisters in 1927 to 120 sisters today who serve throughout the U.S. in educating children from elementary to high school, providing retreats for thousands and caring for the elderly.

Mother Luisita and her sisters began their time in Los Angeles by opening Santa Teresita in Duarte in 1930. Eleven years later, her sisters started Sacred Heart Retreat House in Alhambra. Marycrest Manor in Culver City opened in 1956.

As their years in Los Angeles unfolded their relationship with their Carmelite Community in Jalisco became complicated. Though the persecution of the Catholic Church in Mexico had ended years earlier, there were still certain laws on the books which did not allow the sisters in Mexico to live the same freedoms nor the same life as the sisters in the United States. In 1983, Cardinal Timothy Manning set off to Rome to speak to the His Holiness, Pope John Paul II, regarding the Carmelite Sisters of the Sacred Heart who were working in Los Angeles. At the personal decision of Pope John Paul II, on February 2, 1983, Mother Luisita became a foundress for the second time with the birth of the Congregation of the Carmelite Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Los Angeles, the name given by Pope John Paul II himself. The Carmelite Sisters in the United States were now a Pontifical Institute, which means that we were directly under the Holy Father's jurisdiction. Together with the Carmelite Sisters of Mexico, we share the richness of Mother Luisita's legacy.

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