

Prince of Peace Catholic Church

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Ascension of the Lord, May 17, 2026

From the Desk of the Pastor:

Leonardo da Vinci had started to work on a large canvas in his studio. For a while he worked at it – choosing the subject, planning the perspective, sketching the outline, applying the colors, with his own inimitable genius. Then suddenly he stopped working on it. Summoning one of his talented students, the master invited him to complete the work. The horrified student protested that he was both unworthy and unable to complete the great painting which his master had begun. But da Vinci silenced him. *"Will not what I have done inspire you to do your best?"* -- Jesus, our Master, began to spread the Good News of Redemption some two thousand years ago, through all he said and did, and, supremely, by what he suffered. Jesus illustrated his message and left us to finish the picture. Will Jesus' life not inspire us to finish the picture? This is the message of the Ascension.

The first reading, taken from the Acts of the Apostles, presents the scene of Jesus' Ascension, the promise of the Holy Spirit, Jesus' instructions to the apostles to wait in Jerusalem for the Power from above, and missionary command to the apostles to bear witness to him. Today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 47) suggests that, by his Ascension, the risen Lord *"mounts his throne"* in glory. In the second reading, Paul teaches us that God revealed His might in the Resurrection and Ascension of Christ, thus exalting Him over all angelic forces. Jesus remains accessible to us now in the life-giving Holy Spirit, assuring us that one day we, too, will be ascending to Heavenly glory, provided that, with His grace, we live out our Faith in Him through the mission of loving service He entrusts to us. Today's Gospel tells us that, with his return to the Father, Jesus completed his personal mission on earth. But just before his Ascension, Jesus entrusted to the disciples that same mission of preaching the Good News and evangelizing the whole world by bearing witness to him through their lives. It is in his Ascension that we see Jesus entering fully into the Life and Glory of God. In the descriptions of Christ after his Resurrection, we are given a hint of what life will be like in Heaven. The prospect of sharing that glory should be the driving force of our lives.

Life messages:

1) We need to be proclaimers and evangelizers: To be a Christian is to be a proclaimer and an evangelizer. There is a difference between preaching and proclaiming. We preach with words, but we proclaim with our lives. Let us ask the guidance of the Spirit of God to bear witness to Jesus by our transparent Christian lives.

2) We have a teaching mission: Jesus taught us lessons of Faith, Hope, Love, forgiveness, mercy, and salvation by his life and his preaching and gave us the same mission for the conversion of our brothers and sisters. Hence, let us learn about Jesus and his teachings through our daily study of the Bible and the teachings of the Church, experience Jesus in personal prayer, our reception of the Sacraments and our works of charity, and convey to others the Jesus whom we experience with the help of the Holy Spirit.

3) We need Jesus as our source of strength and encouragement in doing His will: We will be able to overcome doubts about our Faith, as well as baseless fears, anxieties, and worries, by meditating on Jesus' Ascension and the lesson it teaches -- that we, too, are called to share his Glory in Heaven.

Fr. Luke



Mass Schedule

Sunday Liturgies

Saturday
Rosary at 4:30 p.m.
Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday

Rosary at 9:25 a.m.
Mass at 10:00 a.m.
Rosary in Spanish at 12:00 noon
12:30 p.m. Mass in Spanish

Weekday Liturgies

Tuesday and Friday - Mass at 12:30 p.m.
Thursday, Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet
at 5:00 p.m. followed by Mass

Eucharistic Adoration

First Friday of each Month 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. &
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, 4:00 p.m.
By appointment other times

Holy Day Masses

6:30 p.m. English
7:30 p.m. Spanish

Thursday Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet

The Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet are prayed every Thursday at 5 p.m. in the church or by telephone conference call. Mass immediately follows. If you wish to join by telephone, call the church office for details.

Children's Rosary

The Rosary will begin at 5:45 p.m. on Wednesdays when Faith Formation classes are in session.

Organizations/Groups Monthly Meetings

Altar Society - 1st Tuesday at 6:00 pm
Knights of Columbus - 2nd Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
Men's Group - 3rd Thursday at 6:45 p.m.
Women's Group - Last Monday at 6:30 p.m.
Youth Group - Every Sunday at 3:30 p.m.

Location of Automated External Defibrillators (AED)

Two AEDs are on church property: one in the parish hall next to the women's restroom and the other one in the church foyer near the church entrance and bathrooms. Remember their locations, just in case you may need to retrieve one.

The administration and pastoral care of Prince of Peace Parish is entrusted to the Missionaries of St. Francis De Sales (M.S.F.S.), also known as Fransalian Missionaries, an international religious order with headquarters in Rome and the Provincial House in Atlanta, Georgia. For more information, visit www.fransaliansusa.com or www.wellspringcommunity.net.

Join us in prayer for the needs of our families and community....

Pray for: Nadia Allmon, Jeff Briscoe, Barbara Dean, Adam Elliott, Steve Francis, Maria Gutierrez, Natalie Hayes, Rich Legler, Maria Lezama, Shirley Long, Kamicia Lunceford, Julieta Marroquin, Judy LeBlanc, Dudley McKamie, Michael Miller, Leslie Payne, Donna Rocha, Fernando Rosales, Jr., Jewel Sanchez, Danny Smith, Matthew Williams, Manuel Yañez.

Mass Intentions

Sat May 16	5:00 p.m.	Vidrine, Fontenot, Manuel, & Thibodeaux Families+
Sun May 17	10:00 a.m.	Members of Our Parish
Sun May 17	12:30 p.m.	Marcela Garcia Larios+
Tue May 19	12:30 p.m.	Marcela Garcia Larios+
Thu May 21	5:00 p.m.	Marcela Garcia Larios+
Fri May 22	12:30 p.m.	Imi Christine Opstedal S.I.
Sat May 23	5:00 p.m.	Becker, Bedford, Tillman, Kirby, and Dyke Families+

Parish Giving

May 10, 2026

1st Collection	\$3,411.00
2nd Collection	\$ 323.00
Children's Collection	\$ 43.00

2nd Collection	May 17	Catholic Communications
3rd Collection	May 17	Lawncare/Maintenance
2nd Collection	May 24	Helpers in Ministry

Mass Attendance

5:00 p.m. 61
10:00 a.m. 151 and 12:30 p.m. 123

Pastoral Team

Pastor: Fr. Luke Kalarickal, M.S.F.S.
Deacons: Ruben Natera; Clarence Blalock
Acolytes: Rick Downey; Felipe Segura;
Alberto Robledo
Bookkeeper: Noelia Gonzalez
Office Assistant: Linda Rossler

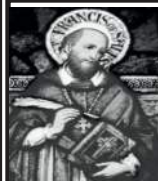
Committee Chairs

Pastoral Council Chair: Theresa Cheatham
Finance Council Chair: Lou Napolitano
Maintenance Committee Chair: Rick Downey



Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Office closes for lunch between noon and 1:00 p.m.



**You must not only have a kind word
for your neighbors and strangers,
but also for your friends
and those with whom you live.**

St. Francis de Sales

News and Notes

Youth Fundraising

Good Food. Great Cause. No Dishes. Join us next Saturday, **May 23, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM** for a hot homemade breakfast! Our Youth Group is serving up pancakes, eggs, sausage/bacon, juice & coffee. \$10/Adults, \$5/Child Plates - Tickets will be sold after Mass on May 16/17. Every plate helps support our youth retreats and upcoming activities. Come hungry and bring the whole family!

Mass for 2026 Graduates

Those who are going to be graduated from High School/college please notify the office with the graduate's name as early as possible. There will be a Mass in honor of them.

Faith Formation

Important Dates for First Holy Communion and Confirmation Candidates

May 20 - 5:00 p.m. The Sacrament of Reconciliation for First Holy Communion Candidates.

May 20 - 6:00 p.m. Rehearsal for First Holy Communion & Confirmation candidates, parents, & Confirmation sponsors.

May 26 - Confirmation and First Holy Communion at Mass at 6:00 p.m. celebrated by the Most Reverend Gregory Kelly, Bishop of the Diocese of Tyler.

- Arrival time for Confirmands and Communicants no later than 5:15 p.m. - Dinner after Mass.

Dinner after Mass on May 26

If you plan to attend the dinner after the Mass, please sign-up on the reservation form in the church foyer. Include the total number attending with you. You don't need to bring anything. Thanks.

Food Pantry

Thank you to all who donate to the food pantry. Your contributions help meet the nutritional needs of our neighbors. If you or someone you know needs food assistance please contact the church office. Needed are peanut butter, cooking oil, strawberry jam, canned chili, stews, chicken, tuna, and beans.

Knights of Columbus - Donations for Newborn Babies

The Knights of Columbus are asking for donations of baby wipes in May to be given to the Gabriel Project for distribution to mothers and babies in need. Boxes for donations are in the church foyer and the north entrance to the Church. All donations are very much appreciated.

From the Diocese of Tyler - Catechist Conference - Youth Conference

Diocesan Formation (Catechist) Conference - August 8, 2026 - Register at dioceseoftyler.org.

DCYC Youth Conference - all high school students - 8a.m. to 5:00 p.m. - Saturday, October 10, 2026 - JAMA Global Campus, Lindale. Students must be registered with a parish to attend DCYC. Early bird registration ends on May 31. For more information contact: dcycregistration@dioceseoftyler.org.

Parish Group Meetings

Your weekly bulletin contains the dates for the following parish groups: Altar Society, Knights of Columbus, Men's Ministry, the Women's Ministry, and the Youth Group.



Catholic Adventure Club is hosting a used book sale featuring homeschool curriculum, book, and educational materials on Thursday, May 21, 6 p.m.- 9 p.m. at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church, 18221 FM 2493, Flint. Admission is free, and all are welcome.

Safe Environment

Parental supervision of children keeps them safe, including when they are in church or on church grounds. If need be during Mass, escort your children to the restroom, wait for them, and return to your seat with them.

If you know or suspect that a minor or vulnerable adult is currently being abused or is in danger, immediately report it to state/local law enforcement or the TX Department of Family and Protective Services at (800) 252-5400 or txabusehotline.org. The Diocese of Tyler is committed to respecting the dignity of all persons and to helping anyone who may have been hurt or abused by a priest, deacon, religious, or anyone working in the name of the Church. Any current or past cases of abuse involving Church Personnel should be reported to civil authorities and also to the Victim Assistance Coordinator at (903) 266-2159 or vac@dioceseoftyler.org.

The Rosary is prayed 30 minutes before each weekend Mass. Please be mindful of the need for silent reflection, both in the nave and in the church foyer, out of respect for the Rosary and in preparation for the Holy Mass. Everyone is advised to come and join the Rosary and receive its priceless benefits and graces.

Kids, Youth/Adult Bible Corner

Answers for May 3

Kids: a. Joshua
b. 52,700

Answered by Natalia Gutierrez, Emily Briones and Zaya Monnen

Adults: a. When her father expresses to her his disapproval.
b. 601,730 (six hundred and one thousand seven hundred and thirty)

Answered by Omar & Fatima Gutierrez, Bacilia Velazquez, Mimi Plumb, Nazaria Coralde, Glenda Means, Carolyn Barrett, Theresa Cheatham, Jason Reed, Andrea Gustafson, Linda & Leo Rossler.

Congratulations for the 5 weeks' answers to Andrea Gustafson, Glenda Means, Leo Rossler, and Theresa Cheatham.


Questions for May 17 (Deuteronomy 1-5)

Kids: a. Who was the king of Amorites who lived in Heshbon?
b. When Moses asked God to let him cross over and see the good land beyond Jordan, did God accept his wish?

Adults: a. With what Moses and the Israelites were asked by the Lord to purchase food and water from the descendants of Esau?
b. When Israelites possessed the Promised Land, by what sin could they be wiped away from there, as told by God?

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