

## **Carried Up to God**, by Fr. Thomas Krenik, Pastor

Today we celebrate the feast of the Ascension of the Lord into heaven. As we listen carefully to the sacred texts, we do not hear that Jesus ascended (active voice) by himself. Rather, he was lifted up, or taken up into heaven. The theological passive voice is used. God is doing the action.

The Greek word used to describe Jesus being carried up is *analepsis*. It is the same term used in the book of Leviticus to refer to sacrificial offerings that are carried up to God with a most pleasing fragrance. This comparison is most appropriate: Jesus is the perfect sacrificial offering most pleasing to God.

Each time we celebrate the Eucharist we make ourselves present to this saving sacrifice, remembering the death and resurrection of Christ. We join ourselves to this mystery of Christ and hope to be carried up to God as a pleasing offering. This is part of the reason for the dialogue at the beginning of the Eucharistic prayer: "Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord."

The feast of the Ascension reminds us that at the heart of our Christian identity we aspire to being carried up to God as a fragrant sacrifice. Our daily words and actions are to reflect the example of Jesus—selfless love for the good of others.

In what ways do you experience being carried up by a power beyond yourself? In what ways is God inviting you to be pleasing to God?

**Remember those from the parish who are ill, and their families:** Mary Anderson, Sabastian Moore, Stan Schreyer.

### **Mass Intentions**

Sun.	May 16	9a	Homer Taillefer+ David Jochim+
		11a	For the Parish
Wed.	May 19	12:15p	Joe Belstler+
Thurs.	May 20	8a	James Ascher+
Fri.	May 21	8a	Msgr. Elsworth Kneal+
Sat.	May 22	5p	Michael Nygaard+
Sun.	May 23	9a	Fred White+
		11a	For the Parish

### **Congratulations, Confirmands**

The following young people from our parish will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at The Cathedral on Saturday, May 22:

*Kathryn Ann Coleman  
Joseph Edward Iverson  
Jacob Michael Kohner  
Karen Ann Kreidler  
Ellen Claire Norby  
Joseph Conrad Norby  
Marie Elise Rupiper  
Matthew Peter Spano*

### **The Rummage Sale is Coming... June 11 & 12**

Our parish has a spring and fall Rummage Sale every year, and all of the proceeds go to the parish. SO SAVE YOUR STUFF, and watch the bulletin for more information.

A successful sale takes a lot of people many hours of work, so please consider spending some time helping. We need help with set-up, kitchen, and clean-up.

If you need to have items picked up (like large furniture), please call.

Please do not bring your things until the weekend before the sale (June 5-6).

Wednesday and Thursday before the sale (June 9-10) are also drop-off days.

If you're interested in helping, or have questions, please call Marge Donofrio at 952-808-8984.

### **One Week Only!**

You may have noticed that this bulletin looks different. Due to a crashed computer server in the parish office, we were unable to produce the bulletin in its usual format for LPI. Hopefully, we'll return to normal next week.

## **FunFest**

### **the BIGGEST FUNdraiser of the Year!**

Would you like to be on the planning committee for the biggest fundraiser for the year for our parish?

Please join us for our first FunFest planning meeting on Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 to 7:30pm in the Community Room. Enter through the doors by the chapel (handicap entrance).

If you have any questions, please contact Barb Michaels-Rauen or Keith Rauen, co-chairs, at 952-881-2805.

## **Remembrance Prayer Service and Garden Planting**

Join us for a Remembrance Prayer Service and Garden Planting on Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00pm. Meet by the main church doors, and bring a plant if you wish. Refreshments will be served.

If you want to help with planning or leading a prayer, contact Barb Orzechowski by May 18 at 612-325-3491.

All are welcome.

## **ZUMBA for Seniors**

Beginning June 1 and continuing every Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday all summer, we will once again have ZUMBA for Seniors. Certified ZUMBA instructor, Penny Fuller, will lead these fun classes of exercise to Latin dance music. Parishioners may attend as many classes as they'd like, at **no cost**. Friends, neighbors, and those from other parishes pay just \$4/session.

## **Dale Halvorson Family Hosting a Fundraiser for the Colon Cancer Coalition**

Mainstreet Bar and Grill

814 Mainstreet

Hopkins, MN

Sunday, May 23 1:00-6:00pm

Come enjoy food, and music from the 80's, 90's and today.

## **Dead Sea Scrolls and St. John's Bible Exhibit**

Our parish, along with other area parishes, will be taking a bus to the Science Museum of Minnesota to tour the Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibit. Group rate is only \$22 for adults and \$18 for children (4-12) and seniors (60+). Date to be determined. If you are interested, please contact the parish office at 612-869-2426.

## **Theology on Tap West**

Join us for the last evening in our speaker series as we "Borrow from the Buddha & Catch a Little Inner Peace" with Sr. Vera Chester. All young adults are welcome to join us at the Knights of Columbus Hall's Fireside Room at 6:30 on Monday, May 17. For more information, contact Kristen, or go to [www.strichards.com/ya](http://www.strichards.com/ya).

## **Summer Stretch**

Youth, entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade and older, are invited to Summer Stretch. Meet on Wednesdays throughout the summer and join us for service projects in the morning and fabulous activities in the afternoon. Cost is \$95 for all six weeks, if registered before May 20<sup>th</sup>. (Otherwise, \$115.) Scholarships are available. Fees include all activities, a t-shirt, and lunch. Attendance at all sessions is not required (\$15 per day + \$5 for t-shirt). For more details or to join the fun, contact Kristen Fuchs.

## **Grief Support Coalition**

The Bloomington-Richfield Grief support Coalition has three more sessions here at St. Richard's: May 20 (Preventing Identity Theft and Consumer Fraud), May 27 (Mind-Body Connection) and June 3 (Money Management, Organizing Financial Records, and Related Issues). The educational presentations are at 4:30, then small groups meet (with trained facilitators) to share concerns and experiences. No registration is required. Those interested are welcome to attend any or all sessions. For more information, call Kathleen in the parish office.