



## 16 May 2010 Solemnity of the Lord's Ascension

*Today, Ascension Sunday, we recall the glorification of Jesus Christ who, as a man, has been called to share in the glory of God. His ascension also reminds us that heaven is our destiny. That is what we have been created for. That is where we will find the perfect fulfillment of all our aspirations. But before we reach such a glorious destination, we have to do our share in the fulfillment of God's plan for ourselves and the rest of humankind. Jesus wants that we become more and more involved in the building of the Kingdom. Today is also "Social Communications Sunday," a worldwide observance that emphasizes the importance of Mass Media in the work of evangelization, and the need to pray for all those involved in this profession. Let us include them in the intentions for which we offer the Eucharist.*



### ASCENSION: GLORIOUS END AND DAUNTING BEGINNING

God is perfect justice. He cannot contradict himself. He could not leave Christ's innocence unvindicated. He could not leave His Son's total trust unrewarded. Jesus' Resurrection and Ascension are acts of the Father's justice and faithfulness to His promises. He owed the glorification of Jesus not only to Himself and His Son, but also to all men. We too, in fact, need to know with certainty that the just Man who was humiliated in so many ways, to the point of being numbered among the wicked and evildoers (see Is 53:9, together with Mt 27:37 and parallels), has not only been raised from the dead, but has actually been exalted "high above every principality, power, virtue and domination, and every name that can be given in this age or the age to come." (Eph 1:21. See also Phil 1:9-11.) This is the meaning of the event we commemorate today. The Ascension, then, is for all of us a source of reassurance about God's justice and the triumph of good over evil. Christ has done his part in bringing about the salvation of mankind by giving his life in atonement for the sins of all men. God the Father has done His part in allowing His dearest Only Son to die for the salvation of all sinners and in raising him from death as a proof of all the values he stood for. The Holy Spirit has been doing his part in applying to all the merits earned by Jesus through his bitter passion. It is now our turn to do our share. We do that by expressing our gratitude to the Blessed Trinity for the gifts of creation, redemption and sanctification. We do that when we respond positively to the call of God to fight evil in whatever form and promote good in ourselves and around ourselves. This means working for the spread of God's Kingdom by treasuring and upholding its values of truth, justice, peace, love, faith, hope, forgiveness, generosity, purity, fairness, respect for others,



honesty, and concern for the greater good of all. The Kingdom is like a seed entrusted to us by God's love. It is our duty to let the seed grow in ourselves and around ourselves, for that seed has a tremendous power to develop and envelop the entire universe. It is our duty to make the seed grow by positively working for its development and affirmation by our labor of love and our brave stand against the forces that oppose the Kingdom and constantly try to suppress and conquer it. This is the challenge addressed to us

by Jesus' ascension: a job for which we may feel inadequate and unworthy of. It is precisely because of this that the Lord does not leave us orphans. He promised to give us the Holy Spirit to be our Consoler, Friend, Inspiration, Guide, and Strength. Like the disciples and the apostles after the Ascension, we await his coming in prayer that widens our hearts in hope. With him, no mission will be impossible.

**In his power we will conquer.**

WORD & LIFE PUBLICATIONS



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## A P P E A L



One of the things that we are losing in the FCMM Church is the sense of the Church as a *'place of silence and prayer'*.

A change has been observed from really absolute silence in church before service and for a decent interval after, to whispering before and after, to whispering during, to cacophony during the Rosary and now to chatting during the Mass itself.

Recently, it is often observed in our church where people don't mind the ROSARY being said and continue chatting at the back; furthermore, people are seen chatting away in the line going up to communion. When we lose the norms on SILENCE and REVERENCE in Church, something very precious is being lost which will be difficult to reclaim.

It is predicted that in those places where chattering in the Church before and during Sunday Services is becoming the norm, you will see fewer people dropping in to say a prayer. This is aside from the fact the children see irreverent acts as OK inside the Church.

**PLEASE LET US DO OUR SHARE TO MAINTAIN REVERENT SILENCE  
IN THE CHURCH !!!**

**"Be thoughtful, be silent, be reverent, Before the service... speak to God,  
During the service... let God speak to you.**

**Then after the service... you may speak to one another."**

**We could even add :::**

**Be attentive to others praying and try to make it easier for them  
rather than more difficult.**

**THANK YOU !**

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**THE SEARCH FOR THE 2010 FCMM KING and QUEEN OF ANGELS  
is in FULL SWING !**



The First Canvassing will be held on **Saturday, May 29, 2010, 6: 00 p.m.** at the Church Hall. The boy and girl candidates who would remit the highest amount of solicitations would be named the FCMM Reyna Elena and Constantino 2010. Entrance is \$ 7.00 inclusive of light refreshments. Tickets are now available from our FCMM Administrators.

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**St. Anthony of Padua** *is one of the most famous disciples of St. Francis of Assisi. He was a famous preacher and worker of miracles in his own day, and throughout the eight centuries since his death he has so generously come to the assistance of the faithful who invoke him, that he is known throughout the world.*

**JOIN US here at the FCMM for the ENGLISH TRIDUUM  
of MASSES**

**on Thursday, June 10 – Saturday, June 12 at 7:00 p.m.  
and FEAST DAY CELEBRATION OF ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA  
on Sunday, June 13 at 11:30 a.m.**

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**STEWARDSHIP – " I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last,  
the beginning and the end." – Revelations 22:13**

These words from the very last chapter of the Bible are a final reminder for us to put God first in our lives. Putting God first doesn't mean giving until it hurts. Putting God first means giving until our giving fills us with joy and contentment. This usually means giving more generously, not less.



Your Offerings for the week ending May 9, 2010  
totaled \$ 1, 540. 00

Thank you for your continuing generosity !  
God bless you always!!!





The SANCTUARY LAMP this week is burning for the **GLORY OF GOD** and **AS THANKSGIVING FOR ALL GRACES RECEIVED** offered by **JOSEFINA YABUT.**



- ❖ To the *new arrivals* from the Philippines;
- ❖ To the *visitors* from other places;
- ❖ To those who have *been away and are back*;



We join in the *Thanksgiving Intentions* of:  
MANNY & LINA LAGASCA, MARIETA FOZ, RYAN BAUTISTA, GEMBERLYN BOLOSO, MR. & MRS. FELIMON TADEO and FAMILY, MELISA ROSE LOCQUIAO, THE CASTELLENO FAMILY



- ❖ Your prayers are humbly requested for all the *sick and suffering* members of our Mission community and their loved ones especially: FR. ROGER BEGIN pme, SR. ELIZABETH RELACION mic, ELECITA ARACENA, JULIA PERLAS-TAN, WILFREDO QUIRAPAS, ALFREDO

PADERANGA SR., ANTONIO FOZ, NORA ZABALA, JULIO MACARAIG, BEATA SANGALANG, FRUCTUOSA VELASQUEZ, JOSEFINA BANGALAN, JOSIE LIMLENGCO, EMELITA GASPAY, ANGELITA ZARAGOSA, FELIMON AMIAN SR., GERRIELYN ANN MASAYA, DAWN DELA PAZ, PABLITO DE CASTRO, MARIA MINDA MIÑON, RODOLFO REQUILMAN, FELICITAS GARCIA, C.G.A., JESS ALCAIDE, VERONICA DE LAS ALAS, DALMACIO AQUINO SR., ANNIE FORGET, JULIE PARADO, CARMENCITA TRIVINIO, MARIE FAUBERT. May God bring them healing and peace.

❖ Remember also all of our *deceased relatives and friends*, especially GABRIELA ALEJANDRO, OSCAR ZARASPE, AMBROCIA & JUANITA BELDAD, DONATA SANCHEZ, ROBERT ELLASUS, JUANITA MANUEL, SALOME CELEBRADOS, EULOGIO CELEBRADOS, BENJAMIN CELEBRADOS, DEMETRIO & ANTONINA SORBETO, OLIVER TAN, ALL SOULS IN PURGATORY and those dying everyday in battles and calamities around the world. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

### MASS INTENTIONS

Stop by or call the FCMM Office (514 387 – 5292) during normal business hours and have a Mass offered for your intention.



### DO YOU KNOW ... "Silence"

"Be quiet, you're in church now!" Many of us grew up being reminded regularly that the appropriate behavior for us during Mass was to be silent. Church and the library had that in common. Then, with the reforms of the Second Vatican Council, active participation became the norm. Usually active participation is understood as joining in the singing and saying the responses along with everyone else. Rarely do we expand the definition of participation to include communal silence.

Public silence is frequently very awkward. We assume someone forgot their cue or made an embarrassing mistake. Yet we also know the heart-gripping impact when a grandstand full of people observes a moment of silence. The liturgy invites us to pray without words several times during Sunday Mass. Before the opening prayer, after the readings and the homily, perhaps during the intercessions and again after communion, we are given the opportunity to call to mind God's presence in our midst, to offer our personal petitions and express our thanks for God's continuing blessings. Such silence is not a passive "shutting down" but rather an attentive awareness of our intimate connection with the Lord and with one another. Such awareness requires ample time to develop—ample time not only at a particular liturgy, but Sunday after Sunday after Sunday. Only then will the inevitable coughing, kneeler banging and fussing babies mark the beginning of our silence and not the end of it! In another, more profound sense, we are always silent at liturgy—even when we speak. We sing psalms and speak prayers that are not our own but rather the words of our ancestors in faith and the words of the Church. The individualistic North American culture finds such behavior suspicious or even threatening: "I am my own person!" But it is precisely in that surrender to the power of ritual and the life of the larger community that we discover our true voice. Let us be ready to practice this kind of silence, too .