

HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

DIOCESE OF TYLER

Celebration of the Mass (May 16 to May 22)

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 8:30 am
Monday 9:00 am
Communion Service
Tuesday 9:00 am
Wednesday 9:00 am
Thursday 9:00 am
Friday 9:00 am

Adoration

Tuesday
9:45 am - 12:30 pm
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm



Reconciliation

Tuesday 9:45 - 12:30 pm
Saturday 4:30 - 4:45 pm
(or by appt.)
Sunday Upon request
Weekdays Upon request

Sacrament of the Sick

Offered at first Friday
Mass upon request.

Marriage or Baptism

Contact the parish office
six (6) months prior to the
anticipated date.

1612 S FM 2869
HOLLY LAKE RANCH, TX 75765

Parish Priest:	Fr. Francis O'Dowd PP; VF	903-769-3235
Deacon:	Dcn. John Erdag	949-285-5695
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The Ascension of the Lord
May 17, 2026

TODAY'S READINGS

1ST READING
ACTS 1 : 1 - 11

RESPONSORIAL PSALM:
PS 47 : 2 - 3 ; 6 - 9

2ND READING:
EPH 1 : 17 - 23

GOSPEL:
MT 28 : 16 - 20

"Then Jesus led them
out along the road to
Bethany, and lifting his
hands to heaven, and
then began rising into
the sky, and went on to
heaven."

John 1 : 50 - 51



Ascension of the Lord



Pope Leo's May Intention

That everyone might have food. Let us pray that everyone from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

Church Organizations

Financial Council	Charlie Clymer
Pastoral Council	John Rigney
Knights of Columbus	Jerry Hauck
4th Degree Knights	Gary Laudt
Legion of Mary	Marge Clymer
	Jane Bidlack
Music Ministry	Nitja McGrane
Food Pantry	Bob Mailliard
Rosary Makers/Prayer Blankets	Carol Szczepanski
Cenacles of Life	Vicki Hauck
Funeral Preparations	Deacon John Erdag

PARISH SUPPORT

Attendance: 5/9 SAT: 70 5/10 SUN: 94

Collections from 5/9 - 5/10

Offertory	\$ 2,056.26
Votive Candles	\$ 9.25
Mass Intentions	\$ 130.00
Retirement Fund for Religious	\$ 364.00
Building & Maintenance Fund	\$ 300.00

MAY SECOND COLLECTIONS

5/16 & 5/17: Catholic Communications

Thank you for your generous contributions.
Please remember Holy Spirit Catholic Church in your Will.



Mass Intentions

Sat 5/16	+Milton Aucoin (Carolyn Aucoin)
Sun 5/17	Mass for the People of Holy Spirit Parish
	Roland Schmear (Knights of Columbus)
	Patrick Wood (Knights of Columbus)
Tue 5/19	+Peggy & +Michael Vancas (Ann Marie Vancas)
Wed 5/20	Bruce Becker (Knights of Columbus)
Thur 5/21	+Mary Barber (Jerry & Vicki Hauck)
Fri 5/22	



Remember the sick of our parish: Mark Edwards; Deidra Hatcher; Shepard Gartin; Erin Sine; Joe Fazzio; Dr. Steve Boswank; Charles McCloskey; Deanie DeLee; Sharon Ryan; Marge & Charlie Clymer; Mary Langhoff; Lillian Speights; Rebecca Niebrugge; Claire Sullivan; Kirk Wilder; David Barber; Elaine Arellano; Marissa Cowles; Judy Terry; Randy Munoz; Jess & Eva Corrigan; Elaine March & Rosemary Seltzer; Maureen Tucker; Patrick Wood; Margaret Smith-Cauley; Elmer Mulhollon, Roland & Pat Schmear, Barbara Schneider; Helene Kaczowka; Emly Walker; Joe Bonneville; Juan & Barbara Delgado; Avery Boultinghouse; Jo & Doris Hoffman; Roy Marchak; David Borel; Verna Sloan; Mike Stephens; Kathy Bowers; Msgr. Ron Diegel; Chris & Dave Paape; Richard Schuetz; Jodie Woods; Jean Hamilton; Kathleen Fleming; Jaye Anderson; Karee Haney; Charlie Parker; Jacob Stephens.



Remember the faithful departed: The reposed soul of Mary Barber, mother of David & Ruth Barber and Brenda & Kelly Barber, members of our parish. Her funeral was on Saturday, May 16th.



Remember the active military of our parish:

Senior Chief Petty Officer, James Nichols, (Nephew of Dcn John & Cindy Sue Erdag). Cody Mitchell, LTJG Navy (Son-in-law of Stan & Terrie Evans). Ben Clymer, Sr Airman USAF (Grandson of Charlie & Marge). Captain Joseph Chandler, U.S. Army (Nephew of Mike & Margaret Jernigan). Lt. Gary Buchanan; Lt. Will Corrigan (Great Nephews of Jess & Eva Corrigan). Paul Moreno AMT 2nd Class (Grandson of Kathy Boman).

MAY UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat 5/16:	5:00 pm Mass
Sun 5/17:	8:30 am ASCENSION OF THE LORD Mass
Mon 5/18:	9:00 am Communion Service
	6:00 pm OCIA
Tues 5/19:	9:00 am Mass
	9:30 am - 12:30 pm Adoration
	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Adoration
Wed 5/20:	9:00 am Mass
	10:30 am Bible Study
	3:00 pm Cenacles of Life
Thurs 5/21:	9:00 am Mass
	1:00 pm Legion of Mary
Fri 5/22:	9:00 am Mass
	9:30 am Rosary Makers
Sat 5/23:	9:30 am Rosary Rally for WORLD PEACE
	5:00 pm Mass
Sun 5/24:	8:30 am PENTECOST Mass
Mon 5/25:	MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY Diocesan and Holy Spirit Office Closed
Tues 5/26:	9:00 am Mass
	9:30 am - 12:30 pm Adoration
	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm Adoration
Wed 5/27:	9:00 am Mass
	10:30 am Bible Study
	3:00 pm Cenacles of Life
Thurs 5/28:	9:00 am Mass
	1:00 pm Legion of Mary
Fri 5/29:	9:00 am Mass
	9:30 am Rosary Makers



Holy Spirit Food Ministry

Monthly Fill-A-Bag to Fight Hunger is this weekend, May 16 and 17. Please pick up a grocery bag in the narthex after Mass. Then, return the bag the next week. Filled bags can be put in the bin outside the church office or handed to a Food Ministry member. *Thank You* for your continuing support of this crucial ministry that serves HLR and the surrounding community.

If you, or you know of a person in need, please give a contact phone number to:

Bob Mailliard (503) 559-6022



SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: St. John I Pope, Martyr (*From Tuscany; introduced Alexandrian computation of the date of Easter; buried in Rome; his epitaph salutes him as a "victim for Christ".*)

Wednesday: St. Bernadine of Sienna Priest (*Famous reformer and eloquent preacher who traveled throughout Italy; encouraged devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus; known for his use of the monogram, "HIS"—an abbreviation of the Greek name for Jesus; patron of advertisers and advertising; invoked against hoarseness.*)

Thursday: Sts. Christopher Magallanes and Companions Priest, Martyrs (*Travelled with 21 diocesan priests and 3 laymen who were either shot or hanged for their association with the Cristero uprising that opposed the anti-Catholic Mexican government in the 1920's, The Cristero motto was, "Long live Christ the King and the Virgin of Guadalupe".*)

Friday: St. Rita of Cascia Religious (*Lived with a brutal husband and had 2 sons; After the violent murder of her husband, she urged forgiveness in contrast to the customary vendetta of her day. Becoming an Augustinian nun, she spent some 40 years in prayer, contemplation, and service to the sick and poor. Toward the end of her life, she received a wound from a thorn from the crown of thorns. She is patron saint of desperate situations.*)

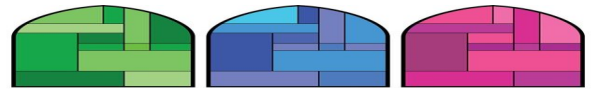


May 10, 2026 Baptism

At last Sunday's Mass we celebrated the joyous Sacrament of Baptism for Nixie Odom. Welcome to the newest member of our parish family!



Baptized:
Nixie Andromeda Odom
Parents:
Callie Dodson & Caden Odom
Godparents:
Candace & LC Dodson



Special Announcements

- ◆ Next Saturday, May 23rd, we will host a Rosary Rally for World Peace at 9:30 am.
- ◆ On Saturday, May 23rd, Bishop Kelly and the Vocations office of the Diocese of Tyler will ordain five seminarians to the transitional diaconate at the Chapel of Sts. Peter and Paul in Tyles at 10:00am. Please keep these young men in your prayers as they continue to prepare for this special occasion.
- ◆ In honor of Memorial Day, **The Diocesan Offices** as well as **Holy Spirit Catholic Church Office** will be closed.



Bringing campers closer to Christ through the joy of our catholic faith!

www.thepines.org

The Blessed Virgin Mary
Mother of the Church
Monday, May 25, 2026

MARY
MOTHER OF THE CHURCH
MONDAY AFTER PENTECOST



The Catholic Church honors Mary with many titles. One of her most special titles is "Mother of the Church." This means Mary is not only the Mother of Jesus but also Mother of all who follow Him. Jesus gave Mary to us as our spiritual mother to guide, protect, and pray for us.



May Crowning May 10, 2026

The children of our parish honored our Blessed Mother with the annual May Crowning. Amara Falgo adorned Mary's statue with the crown as the other children laid flowers around the base of the statue. We will continue to honor Mary the Virgin Mother of God throughout the month of May.



Knights' Korner



Eats:

Our next monthly breakfast is June 7th.

Meeting Reminder

Holy Spirit Council 15174 is hosting the Father Joe Dean Assembly 3324 meeting May 28th (4th Thursday of the month). Dinner at 6:30 pm, meeting at 7:00 pm. All 4th degree Knights are invited! A good showing is in our best interest!

Joining the Knights of Columbus:

Scan this QR code with your smart phone. It will bring up the Knights of Columbus website for joining. We're Council #15174. We are waiting for you!



“Ascension of The Lord”

By Deacon John

Today we celebrate Christ’s ascension into heaven. Jesus, the Lord, the Most High, the great king over all the earth is ascending into Heaven to take His throne. To paraphrase our Responsorial Psalm, “that’s totally awesome”. I used to wonder why Jesus had to ascend into Heaven. Remember how alone we felt when He died? And then how we rejoiced when He rose from the dead? Now He’s leaving us again? Why?

At first I thought about Jesus being fully human. Why do we humans want to go to Heaven? Well, we look around at this fallen, broken world and we compare it to our vision of paradise. Where would you rather be? Down here struggling to survive, or up there relaxing? But no, Jesus wouldn’t go to Heaven for a vacation. And spoiler alert, neither do we. So why did He go?

So then I get philosophical. Jesus rose from the dead in His perfected glorified body. This was a different physical body than the one that He had before He died. It’s perfect. Untainted. Incorruptible. Yet this is a broken, fallen world. Perfection doesn’t fit in here. And by definition, perfection can’t be a part of imperfection or it wouldn’t be perfect, now would it? So He had to leave the imperfect and live in the perfect place of Heaven. While that’s a compelling reason, there’s a lot of holes in that theory. Mostly that God can do anything He wants. If He wants to be in an imperfect world, He can.

So, if it’s not those reasons, why is it? Well, there are a couple of reasons that we find in today’s readings. Our first reading from the Book of Acts says, “When he had said this, and they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight.” He was lifted up. Where else is Jesus described as being lifted up? Well, He Himself said it. In John’s Gospel, before Jesus was crucified, He was in the temple area and He predicted His coming hour and indicated the kind of death He was to die. He said, “When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself.”

He was talking about His sacrificial act and how He would be lifted up on the cross. It’s not a coincidence that the same words were used in the description of Christ’s ascension to Heaven. Through His salvific act, being lifted up on the cross, He reunited us with God. All of mankind was drawn to Him. In His ascension, He is lifted up again, this time to heaven to be seated at the right hand of the Father. His place of honor.

Yet, He ascended to this highest place of honor not for Himself, but for us. Remember He was lifted up on the cross so that we could be drawn to Him. Now He’s lifted up to heaven so that we can be drawn to His Father. And He’s interceding to the Father on our behalf. Defending and advocating for us. Bringing us to the Father. We can always turn to Jesus at the right hand of the Father and ask for forgiveness, to ask for a blessing, to ask for mercy! He always pardons us. He always defends us!

But then His ascension brings even more. Today’s Gospel relates His Great Commission for us. Before ascending into heaven, He commanded the apostles, and us, to “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations.” He is now transferring His earthly mission to us, His Church. Why?

Because as we take up His mission we not only bring others to Him. We are becoming closer to Him ourselves. As we act as Christ to the world, we’re growing to love Him more ourselves. You know that good feeling that we have in ourselves when we help someone out of love and then recognize that we’ve brought Christ to them? It’s our love for Him that’s growing. By giving His earthly mission to us, He’s teaching us how to be closer to Him.

And the good news is that we aren’t doing it alone. Just because Jesus ascended into heaven doesn’t mean He’s left us. In His Incarnation on earth, He was never separated from the Father. Likewise, in His ascension back to heaven, He isn’t separated from us. Through Baptism, God the Holy Spirit lives within us. Through the Eucharist, God the Son becomes one with us.

You see, Jesus hasn’t left us. No longer a man among us, He’s now God within us. When we go out to do His work, God is always with us; working with us and through us. This is the pattern for all we do, this is our sense of ministry and mission.

The final verse of today’s Gospel goes, “Behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.” This Gospel message continues to this very day. The Ascension of Jesus into heaven shows us the profound reality of our spiritual journey: in Christ, fully God and fully man, our humanity is taken to God the Father and defended there. Christ opened the path to God for us. Yet continuing to remain in us in Spirit and Eucharist, God also opens His path for others through us.

If we entrust our life to Him, if we let ourselves be guided by Him, we will always be in safe hands. In the hands of our Savior. Our Advocate. Our totally awesome God.

**IMPORTANT
NOTICE**

Safety Notice: With safety preparations nearly complete, we will schedule classes for fire extinguisher operation, safety committee procedures, etc. In January, several parishioners volunteered to participate in the Safety Committee; your volunteering is greatly appreciated. We are

close to organizing and conducting training. Please continue to check the bulletin for upcoming training dates!

**IMPORTANT
NOTICE**

Parking Lot Slurring: Preparation has begun for the parking lot restoration. In the next few weeks, all weekly ministry meetings need to prepare for alternative parking needs while the resurfacing and marking processes take place. The parish office will contact ministry

leaders with additional information as it comes available. Your cooperation in this endeavor will be greatly appreciated.