

Homily Themes
Easter Season through Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul, Year C
Theme is: With Hands of Justice and Faith
Theme Song is Gather # 762 Go out to the World

April 26-27 Second Sunday of Easter (of Divine Mercy)

“ ‘As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’ ” (John 20:21b-22)

We're sent out, like the early disciples with hands of Justice and Faith to proclaim to everyone everywhere the manifold grace and mercy of God who redeemed us by shedding his Precious Blood for sinful humanity. By committing to a vision of justice and faith, we are making the Kingdom real in people's lives, some of whom may have grown weary of believing in God's love for them.

Liturgical Art & Environment: Globe with hands of different shapes encompassing the globe in front of the Altar and surrounded by Easter plants and flowers. The hands are made of pastel colored paper. Interspersed among the flowers, hands of justice and faith on card stock of pastel colors as well.

May 3/4 3rd Sunday of Easter

“When you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” (John 21: 1-19)

The early disciples after the resurrection were driven by the Spirit to go where the Gospel needed to be proclaimed! They often put their own lives at risk going into hostile territory. Part of being an intentional missionary disciple of Christ is to let him show us the path that our lives are to take and to submit to it wholeheartedly. Are we daring enough to go and to do what God asks?

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May 10/11 4th Sunday of Easter (World Day of Prayer for Vocations)

“The disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.” (Acts 13: 52)

How does Christianity spread? With Joy and the Holy Spirit! How do vocations become attractive? When those who have already embraced that vocation are filled with joy and the Holy Spirit! This weekend of prayer for vocations urges us all to embrace our baptismal vocation with joy and to live our particular vocations with joy and with a fullness of the Spirit’s fruits: love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, kindness, gentleness, faithfulness and self-control.

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May 17/18 5th Sunday of Easter

“By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13: 35)

What innervates our hands of justice and faith? Our love for one another. Our advocacy for the marginalized and the judged. Our willingness to act in solidarity with the poor and oppressed and dispossessed. Our identification with the refugee and the migrant who have fled repressive regimes for the hope of a better life.

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May 24/25 Sixth Sunday of Easter

“The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you.” (John 14: 26)

The Advocate, is an Intentional Missionary, calling us, his disciples on earth to continue the mission of teaching by word and deed, the awesome things God has done for us. Such good news is contagious and has the power to change and transform lives! Are we willing to allow the Holy Spirit to work in us and through us and all around us to proclaim God’s message of reconciliation and peace to the world?

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May 31/ June 1 Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

“Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful.”
(Hebrews 9:24)

With hands of justice and faith, we go into the world holding fast to the hope that God gives us that his promises are reliable. With the tumultuous and constant tariff changes in the world, isn't it great that we can depend on God's promises to us and that he gives us hope that even in difficult times, he's still with us and advocating for us. Let us bring that hope especially to those who are the hardest hit by the economic challenges that beset our world.

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June 7/8 Solemnity of Pentecost

“For each is given a manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.” (1 Corinthians 12: 7)

We seek to make manifest the values and priorities of the Kingdom of God, using our hands of justice and faith, for the common good. What are each person's particular manifestations of the Holy Spirit in their lives? What are the ways in which we manifest the presence of the Holy Spirit in our ministries, in our homes, in our work places, in our church communities. In what ways can we work with other Christians, also given the manifestation of the Spirit, to bring about greater justice and faith in our world today?

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EASTER SEASON ENDS. THEME SONG ENDS. NO THEME SONG FOR NEXT 3 WEEKS.

June 14/15 Solemnity of the Holy Trinity

No particular Bible verse today.

Today's readings show God's proactive nature in revealing his love for sinful humankind by the act of creation, redemption and sanctification. The dynamic interplay of the three Persons of the Trinity invite us to celebrate our unity in community and to support one another in what we do for the extending of the Kingdom of God.

Liturgical Art & Environment: An image of the Holy Trinity (LAE team to decide on the image)

June 21/22 Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

“You give them something to eat.” (Luke 9: 13)

We are invited to see ourselves as being the living body and blood of Christ, charged with feeding the spiritual and physical hungers of those who come our way. We are invited to take on a Eucharistic presence wherever we go, revealing through our words and deeds, the very presence of Christ within us.

Liturgical Art & Environment Bread and Wine, chalice and paten, grapes and wheat before Ambo and Altar.

June 28/29 Solemnity of Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles

Today we celebrate the leadership of our church and the outreach of the church to all people everywhere. The Vocation of Missionary can be part of the focus and the differing methods used by Peter and Paul can be contrasted with the ways in which we reach out in missionary love toward those in our world who are inquiring about Christ and the Roman Catholic Church. An ecumenical dimension may include a treatment of the synodal study document, the Bishop of Rome.

Liturgical Art & Environment Map of the Mediterranean Area

NOTE:

From July 5/6 to September 6/7 there is no theme for Ordinary Time.

Liturgical Art & Environment: Ordinary plants may adorn the altar and ambo.