

## Homily Themes

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter through 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in OT, cycle B

*Easter Theme is 'Lift up your Hearts!'*

*Theme song for all Easter weekend masses: Gather #624, Lift up your Hearts  
After Pentecost, no particular theme or song.*

#### April 6/7 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

*"The whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common." (Acts 4: 32)*

Being of one heart and soul means being in solidarity with others, sharing their blessings and joy, as well as their difficulties and their struggles. As we lift up our hearts to the Lord in Easter, we strive to make God's vision of the Kingdom of God a greater reality in the here and now of our daily living and priorities.

**Liturgical Art & Environment: The White Heart of Easter.**

#### April 13/14 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

*"The two disciples told the eleven and their companions what had happened on the road to Emmaus, and how Jesus had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread." (Luke 24: 35)*

One way we lift up our hearts on a regular basis is by the breaking of the bread, by celebrating Eucharist as a community of believers post-resurrection! In this life of the Spirit age, we are graced with allowing Jesus to enter our hearts through participating in the Mass and receiving his very Body and Blood. No greater grace can be obtained while on earth by humankind than the Eucharist.

**Liturgical Art & Environment: the White heart of Easter**

#### April 20/21 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

*"There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among human beings by which we must be saved." (Acts 4: 12)*

As our hearts fill with joy in this Easter Season, we call upon the Most Holy Name of Jesus. When we say that divine name, we leave no room in our hearts for evil or for temptation. So let us stay close to the heart of Jesus as we call upon his divine name.

**Liturgical Art & Environment: The White heart of Easter.**

## **April 27/28 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

***“Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask.” (1 John 3: 21-22a)***

One way we lift up our hearts to God is by remaining in a state of grace. That means we’ve renounced sinfulness and have decided to embrace the Good News. When we do that, we have boldness in our preaching and our speaking because we know that we belong fully to God.

**Liturgical Art & Environment: The White heart of Easter.**

## **May 4/5 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

***“Whoever does not love, does not know God, for God is love.” (1 John 4: 8)***

There’s a lot of hatred and fear in our world today. Christians are supposed to be people of love! We’re supposed to be people who include everyone in God’s plan of salvation! Yet, there is a growing rise of Christian nationalism that threatens this core value of the Gospel. We must stand up against such exclusionary voices and policies and seek to be persons of love and inclusion.

**Liturgical Art & Environment: The White heart of Easter**

## **May 11/12 Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord**

***“I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ....may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you.” (Ephesians 1: 17-18a)***

Yes, all that we do as Christians is motivated by the hope which we have been given by Christ’s life, death, and resurrection! It’s that hope that enlightens our hearts and enables them to be lifted up in prayer for the needs of our own lives, our church and our world. It’s that hope that serves as a daily witness that our hearts have been transformed by Christ’s love for us and that we strive to extend that love to all creation.

**Liturgical Art & Environment: The White heart of Easter**

## **May 18/19 Solemnity of Pentecost**

***“As the Father has sent me, so I send you....Receive the Holy Spirit.” (John 20: 21b, 22b)***

Yes, it’s the Holy Spirit deep down in our hearts that we’ve received from Christ that enables us to work for the mission of the Church and to be Christ’s witnesses in the world. It’s the powerful presence of the Holy Spirit that inspires us to lift up our hearts to the Lord, not just today, but each and every day for the rest of our time on earth!

**Liturgical Art& Environment: White Heart of Easter with a small red heart in the centre.**

**ORDINARY TIME BEGINS. NO SPECIAL THEME OR SONG DURING THIS SEASON.**

**May 25/26 Solemnity of the Holy Trinity**

***“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” (Matthew 28:19)***

The gift of baptism enables us to share in the life and mission of the Holy Trinity. As we go forth into the world in God’s name, we do so empowered by the graces that the trinity provides to us to make God’s kingdom a reality and to extend God’s nets ever wider.

**Liturgical Art and Environment: bowl with water and towel and baptism candle with holy oils presented.**

**June 1/ 2 Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ**

***(no power verse)***

This weekend will be a catechetical moment to explain the mass to the people.

**Liturgical Art & Environment: Bread and grapes in basket with a chalice and white cloth**

**June 8/9 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

***“The Lord God called out to the Man and said, “Where are you?” (Genesis 3:9)***

That’s the question that the Full Day Kindergarten children are given at the start of the year! It’s a question that delves into the ways in which God is present and the ways in which sometimes we hide from God too. We will explore this question in greater detail today.

**Liturgical Art & Environment: Some green plants in front of ambo and altar.**

**June 15/16 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

***“With what will be compare the Kingdom of God?” (Mark 4:30)***

A reflection on what constitutes the Kingdom of God and who is invited to be a part of it will be the focus of this weekend. We will also celebrate Father’s Day with a special blessing.

**Liturgical Art & Environment: green plants in front of ambo and altar.**

**SUMMER SCHEDULE BEGINS. NO HOMILY THEMES OR SONG OR ART FOR THIS TIME.**