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Fr. Bob Barko, O.F.M. Parochial Vicar
Deacon Wayne Zimmerman
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Mr. Michael Holbrook, Director of Religious Education
Mrs. Sue Holbrook, Business Manager
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Mr. Brian Dreier, Finance Chairman
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Mrs. Marcia Steinkamp, Chairman Stewardship Committee
Mrs. Amanda Garnett, President of School Board
Mrs. Joselyn Smith, Liturgy Planning Committee

PARISH WEBSITE: stfrancissolanus.com

RECTORY 1721 COLLEGE AVENUE, QUINCY, IL 62301
217-222-2898 • Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Email: church@stfrancissolanus.com
bulletin@stfrancissolanus.com

SCHOOL 1720 COLLEGE AVENUE, QUINCY, IL 62301
217-222-4077
Email: school@stfrancissolanus.com

MASSES

Sunday Obligation Saturday evening: 4:30 p.m. for Sunday
Sunday-6:30, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.

Weekdays 6:30 a.m. Monday thru Friday
8:00 a.m. Monday thru Saturday
8:35 a.m. Wednesday during school year

Holy Day Obligation: Anticipated 5:30 p.m.

Holy Day 6:30, 8:00 a.m.(8:35 a.m. during school year)and 5:30 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday-8:30 a.m. and 3:00-4:00 p.m. or call the Friary for an appointment

Solemnity of The Ascension

MAY 24, 2020

Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:17-23;
Matthew 28:16-20

Heaven is not “up;” hell is not “down;” earth is not in the middle. Often, however, we visualize a “three storeyed” universe. In many ways this is a problem: If we imagine Jesus going “up,” we may think of him as far from us, as billions of light years away. It’s hard to imagine him as close to us with such an idea.

The ascension of Jesus is not his being “taken away” from us. Rather, the ascension means that he enters the dimension of the Father’s glory. His sacrifice is accepted by the Father, who takes him to “his right hand.” At the “right hand” of the Father, Jesus is our Mediator, our Intercessor with the Father. We can have perfect confidence in the love of the Father, for Jesus is “at his right hand.”

At the same time, Jesus has not departed from us. He has entered the Father’s glory in order to be closer to us than he was in his visible, physical body. He is right here with us. We can, therefore, have confidence in our prayers which are heard by the Father “through Jesus Christ our Lord.” We can have confidence that Jesus, who is with us, knows us, cares for us, loves us, and will see us through every crisis.

Our first reading describes the ascension. Jesus is taken into the cloud of the Father’s glory. It is the same cloud we saw in the Exodus, in the dedication of the temple at Jerusalem, and in the Transfiguration. While the apostles gaze at the scene, angels tell them and us to get busy. We must not rest until we proclaim the “Good News” to every creature.

In the second reading, St. Paul tells us that Jesus is our one unique Mediator with the Father. He is superior to every angel and every other creature. We come to the Father through him.

The word “fullness” means “everything that makes one to be who he is.” Jesus is the fullness of the Father; everything that is the Father resides bodily in Jesus. And we, the Church, are the “fullness” of Jesus! Everything that is Jesus Christ resides in us, the Church. Let us be aware of our dignity and live accordingly.

The Gospel is sometimes called “The Great Commission.” As he ascends to the glory of the Father, Jesus commands us to go forth and teach all nations. Are we faithful to this command?

--Msgr. William Carr
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1012 Vermont Street • Quincy, IL 62301

The Ascension of The Lord

May 24, 2020

Fr. Don's Doodlings

All events that were regularly scheduled in the Parish Center have been cancelled until further notice.

If you had an event scheduled, please notify Caitlin Kendrick at ckendrick@stfrancissolanus.com

and verify if you are interested in rescheduling when the Parish Center is re-opened or if you would like a full refund.

We are sorry for any inconvenience this has caused!

The Parish Office is closed to walk-in traffic during this time!

What a Sunday! May 17. It was the first Sunday we gave Holy Communion to many of you, approximately 250 of you, in church. It was a good feeling to be back in church, and to see so many of you. Far from normal, but still it was a start, and a very good feeling.

Sure we couldn't see the smiles on faces due to the masks we were all wearing, but I could see smiling eyes shining above the masks. And lots of thank you's were expressed.

We had a service for 9 individuals every 10 minutes, so that's 6 services per hour for almost 6 hours, stretching from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Fr. Bob, Deacon Wayne and I each took 2 hour-long stretches, and ushers helped greatly at every service. My first one was from 12:00 Noon till 1:00 p.m., and I found it to be so rewarding personally, that it absolutely flew by. When I was done it felt like it was only ½ hour in length. Still I'm looking forward as you are to when we can celebrate Mass together, but as yet we have no idea when or in what numbers.

That said, I am not one who wants to lift the restrictions quickly and get back to normal. COVID-19 is so dangerous that lack of care could easily lead to a second wave of contagion. That could easily infect many who are elderly, and as you know, we have many elderly parishioners here at St. Francis. So I'm in no hurry to gamble with the health and lives of one another here.

But our return to "normal" is most probably going to be incremental. Another nice normal thing was baptizing a child last Sunday, the parents not wanting to put it off too long. The experience was delightful, both for the family and for me. Graduation Mass for our 8th grade students of St. Francis School took place on Monday, May 18, at 7:00 p.m. The Mass was live-streamed, through the kindness of Jared Holbrook, and with Lori Shepard, Debbie Beard, Shawn Carey present, and Jill Steinkamp and her daughter, Jamie providing the music, and Fr. Bob and me concelebrating. I described it as turning our attention away from what isn't, namely, with hundreds present, and instead being grateful for what is, namely, a video in real time for us to pray together through the blessing of technology.

Similarly, we continue to live-stream Mass for you daily at 3:00 p.m., and on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. And we plan to continue the Communion Services on Sundays for an undetermined period of time.

But you're probably aware that we have not been allowed in Blessing Hospital, and so we haven't been able to give the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, unless we give it to someone here in church or are called to someone's home. And for the Sacrament of Reconciliation you can call for an appointment.

All said, I have hope, and I hope you do too. Hope is where you find it, and I find it in the Lord, who assured us that he is always with us. Looking for hope elsewhere may be no more than wishful thinking. Let's put all our hope in the Lord who came and lived among us, assuring us that we are loved, and that we are not alone.

Hold on tightly to the Lord, our sure hope.

Mass Intentions

May 25 Monday	3:00 p.m.	Kate Altgilbers	May 29 Friday	3:00 p.m.	
May 26 Tuesday	3:00 p.m.	Irene Mast	May 30 Saturday	3:00 p.m.	Paul "Butch" Steinkamp
May 27 Wednesday	3:00 p.m.	Elsie Hildebrand	May 31 Sunday	9:30 a.m.	
May 28 Thursday	3:00 p.m.	Irene Mast			

****Please send Mass intentions to bulletin@stfrancissolanus.com****

**Daily Mass is offered every day
at 3:00 p.m. and
Sunday Mass is at 9:30 a.m.
on our Parish Website at
www.stfrancissolanus.com**

Food Pantry Info:

We are in need of shampoo and dish soap. If you would like to help with this, you may bring your items to the pantry when you come to volunteer or you may leave bread at the North entrance to the Parish Center. There is a container for this outside the doors.
Reminder: St Francis Community Assistance Food Pantry is open for anyone in need. Please call 217-430-1025 to request assistance.

Save the Date

Franciscan Farewell Parade for Fr. Don and Fr. Bob

June 14, 2020

Under the Parish Center North Entrance Portico

A basket for cards will be available for the priests at the reception.

More details will be given as they become finalized.



Ways To Give:

While we are aware that you are strapped, we ask you to support the parish to the best you can.

There are several ways of giving:

- Sign up to give on-line by going to the parish website:

www.stfrancissolanus.com and follow the prompts.

It's easy and it's safe.

- Text to Give: Send text to 217-388-5240. Follow the prompts.
- Send your envelopes in the US mail. Our mail gets delivered daily.
- Drop your envelopes through the slot in the BIG RED College Street door.

Thanks so much to all.

God bless you!

Other Needs

I'm sure that all you need is another collection to ask for your hard-earned money. Well, it's my duty to remind you that there is the **Catholic Communications Campaign** and **Quincy Catholic Cemetery Collection**, which we reminded you of last week. Envelopes for each of these are in your packets. I would simply ask you to do what you can, and especially to pray for these needs. Thanks for your kindness.

May Parish Support

(as of 5-20-2020)

Church/School	\$14,340.00
YEAR TO DATE	\$1,094,242.75
Budgeted	\$1,240,800
DIFFERENCE:	-\$146,557.25

19TH ANNUAL
RAIDER
CHALLENGE
VIRTUAL RUN 2020

Due to current distancing restrictions, this year's 19th Annual Raider Challenge will be **VIRTUAL**.

Participants are encouraged to complete a 5K/10K Run or Walk at a time and location convenient to you.

You will be able to log your completion time on the website, if you choose.

Participants will receive a T-Shirt, Finisher Medal, and Custom Certificate. These items can be picked up at a time and location TBD.

All funds received from this event support the Quincy Notre Dame High School Cross Country Team.

Register Today! www.signmeup.com/133961

Attention Parents of Graduating Seniors!

The Newman Connection is making it easy for your students to stay connected to the Catholic Church during their time away in college, a time when faith is needed the most.

Below is a link where you can connect to the campus ministry at their chosen college.

Student Sign-Up Form:

<https://signup.newmanconnection.com>



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Instructions for Communion Outside of Mass

Bishop Paprocki has announced that our parishes are allowed to distribute Holy Communion outside of Mass.

We will begin this opportunity on Sundays from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. We will have groups of up to nine people every 10 minutes. While one group is gathered in Church, another group will wait in the gathering space.

Ushers will be at the gathering space doors to guide you.

**To sign up for a 10-minute slot,
please call the Parish Office on
Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. ONLY!**

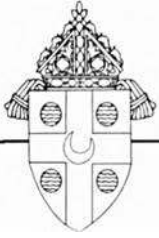
(217) 222-2898

*If there is not a slot available, you will be given priority for the next time Communion is offered.

**If you are unwell or in a high-risk category, please remain at home for your own safety and the safety of others.

- Each group will gather with Fr. Don, Fr. Bob or Deacon Wayne for prayer before receiving Communion.
- After receiving Communion, the group will have a short time of quiet prayer.
- Father or Deacon will then offer the prayer after Communion and a Blessing.
- That group will then leave the Church and the group waiting in the gathering space will enter the Church with the assistance of the ushers.
- Please stay in your car until your allotted time slot. Enter through the Parish Center **ONLY**.
- Each person is asked to wear a mask and practice social distancing.
- Hand sanitizer will be available to use before and after receiving Communion.
- Fathers and Deacon will be wearing a mask and use proper hand sanitation between each group.





Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

Catholic Pastoral Center • 1615 West Washington Street • Springfield, Illinois 62702-4757
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Office of the Bishop

May 2020

Dear Friends in Christ,

Each year on the feast of Pentecost we rejoice that the gifts of the Holy Spirit are given to the Church in every age. As we celebrate this feast, I ask you to consider a generous response in the Retired Diocesan Priests Collection to meet the immediate retirement and health care needs of our priests.

Please pray for our priests who serve so generously in various apostolates throughout our diocese. Please thank God for all that we have received from our priests who are now retired, many of whom continue to offer generous service in every way that they are able throughout our diocese.

Since there will be no in-church collection taking place, please make your donation online at **parishgiving.dio.org/secondcollections**. You can also mail your donation to your Parish Office.

Thank you in advance for your support this year. May the Holy Spirit give us every gift we need to build up the Body of Christ in our time and place.

With every best wish and prayers, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois

Did You Know

- There is a mail slot on the south side of the Rectory office in the big red door to drop off your mail/envelopes or mail for the school.

GOOD NEWS!

You may have heard about some changes at KHQA-TV. Well, the good news is that the "Mass for Shut-In's" will still be broadcast on KHQA-TV every Sunday morning. We are very grateful to the Knights of Columbus who pay for this wonderful service to the tri-state area, and which will continue to be provided from the Quincy studio.

Rice Bowls

If you forgot to turn in your RICE bowls, please drop them off at the Parish Office.

Parish Photo Directory It's That Time!!

Interested in helping?

Can you believe it's been four years since we last did a pictorial parish directory?

We're gearing up to do this once again, and are looking for a few volunteers to coordinate with Lifetouch.

We will begin the process in August due to the brief pause that Lifetouch has had from the COVID-19 shut-down!

If you like organizing things and helping arrange appointments, please let Fr. Bob know – rjbarko@gmail.com or call the Parish Office, 222-2898.



St. Francis Solanus School

New School Advisory Board Members for 2020-2021

We would like to welcome our new School Advisory Board Members for the upcoming school year. These parents have agreed to this valuable service and we are most grateful for their commitment to St. Francis Solanus School. They are excellent representatives of our school, and we are confident they will be tremendous assets for input and guidance in the coming years. Please welcome Saleem Mamdani, Steve Eling, Rob Gengenbacher, and Karla Fesler.
Lori Shepard, Principal

QCES/Facts Financial Aid Awards

QCES is reviewing applications as quickly as possible. They hope to have letters out to the families within the next two weeks. QCES will continue to evaluate applications until the extended deadline of 6/1/2020. Families will receive notice of their awards in the mail. Neither the School or Parish Office will have the award information until AFTER all the families have been notified. The extended application deadline and the stay-at-home order has delayed the decision making process.
Thank you QCES for helping our families!

Tuition Assistance

We have several school families in need of tuition assistance this coming school year. Unforeseen furloughs, reduction in hours, lost income, and uncertainty of income in the coming months are taking their toll on some of our school families.
Would you like to help a family this school year?
You can send a donation to the Parish Office with a note with the family's name you would like to assist or a general donation to the 12 Little Angels fund for assisting families.
Thank you for your continued generosity.

Retiree Appreciation

Card showers are being planned for two St. Francis Solanus School employees retiring at the end of the school year. Mrs. Vicky Mitchell will retire after 43 years as a teacher. Mrs. Judy Patterson will retire after serving 20 years as a school secretary. Please join us in congratulating these ladies with cards, notes, drawings, or letters. Send your well wishes to:
Mrs. Vicky Mitchell or Mrs. Judy Patterson
c/o St. Francis Solanus School
1720 College Avenue
Quincy, IL 62301

School Registration Info

We will be extending Early-Bird Registration Fees until June 1!
Registration Fees – Due to the economic situation, you may be having financial difficulties paying the fees. Please email Tabitha Surowiec at tsurowiec@stfrancissolanus.com with any question. We are here to help you during this difficult time.

Meet Another New Teacher

Hello, my name is Raymond Rivera and I am excited to be joining the teaching staff at St. Francis Solanus Grade School. I will be teaching 6th-8th grade in math, and the 8th grade for religion. I am from Phoenix, Arizona and have lived there my whole life. I attended Catholic School for grade school and high school and then moved on to Arizona State University. There, I started my pursuit for a degree in Bio-Medical Engineering and later switched my major to a Bachelor degree in History. I recently graduated and have wanted to teach for a long time due to both my parents being teachers! I am in the process of getting my teaching license and cannot wait to educate young minds! My hobbies include playing and watching sports and reading. I hope to have the chance to coach sports in the Quincy community because it's another way to teach the value of teamwork and discipline. A big "thank you" to Mrs. Shepard for the opportunity to join St. Francis. I cannot wait to meet the faculty, staff, and students! God Bless.

–Raymond Rivera

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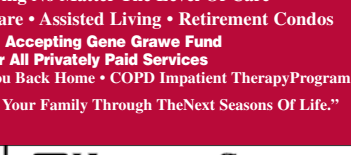
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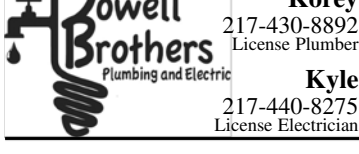


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