

## On Ascension Thursday & Us

Suppose we consider the day our Lord ascended into heaven & us.

**This day**, St John Chrysostom says, reveals the great & wonderful munificence of God: “The day all mankind was restored to God. The day, the long warfare, the prolonged estrangement, was ended. The day a wonderful peace returned to us: a peace we had not expected.”

Indeed, who would ever have thought that man would be treated so honorably? This nature which, at one time, was deemed unworthy to exist, had become worse than beasts, had done incredible cruelty to its Maker, is, today, brought to the highest heavens.

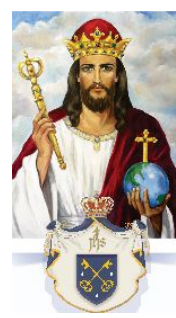
**Recall**, the time when God vented to destroy the whole human race. Now what God created, “man,” is good, indeed *very good*, but when this nature corrupted itself, God repented he had ever made this *very good* thing: “I will destroy man, whom I have created, from the face of the earth; from man even to the beasts, for it repents me that I have made them.” (Gen. 6:7) But God spoke thus to show his great displeasure at mankind’s sins; he spoke as to correct man, lest a worse misfortune overtake him than physical death.

**Recall**, mankind did amend, for a time, before relapsing into his former ways, becoming beasts, even less than beasts. Man became “compared to senseless beasts and made like unto them.” (Ps 48:21) But to become *senseless* is beneath the nature of man, *created in the image & likeness of God*; it is a perversion that rational man act like an irrational creature. Again, man fell lower than beasts; beasts are supposed to be senseless, but not man: “The ox knows his master, and the ass his master’s crib: but Israel has not known me.” (Is 1:3) Indeed, man become *unmanly* as to need instruction from an ant: “Go to the ant; consider her ways & learn her wisdom.” (Pr. 6:6) Even worse, St. John says of this nature: “For you are children of the devil.” (Jn 8:44); nor forget that in the rite of Baptism the cute infant is termed: “a child of wrath.”

**Recall**, to rescue mankind from his terrible condition, God sent a mediator, not anyone, not a holy man or seraph, but his only beloved Son, to bridge the terrible gap between a thrice holy God & a wicked mankind, to reconcile the two parties at odds. This Son takes upon himself a human nature; he becomes one with man; even the guilt of this nature he takes upon himself; this Same is wounded anew by his creature; he Who came to befriend mankind is slain by him. Oh joy! But he Who suffered, died & was buried, rose from the dead and ascended into heaven with his newly glorified nature, where he now sits beside God the Father in the likeness of man.

Truly, Ascension Thursday manifests the wonderful munificence of God. Our nature, once deemed worthless & perverse of all creatures, is raised, this day, above every creature. This nature, at one time meriting destruction, measuring less than beasts, is assumed into heaven, beyond the realms of angels, to sit at the right hand of God.

**To end**, this is a great day. Today, we see God’s great love for man & man’s great value in himself. The Lord says, “the very hairs of your head are numbered” (Lk 12:7) God counts each hair of man as even our smallest trifles concern him; he numbers each strand as he values every part of us. Let us never forget these important lessons from this important day.



## CHRIST THE KING Catholic Church

An apostolate of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter  
preaching the Gospel & sanctifying souls  
according to the liturgical books of 1962.

## Sunday after Ascension

May 21, 2023, A.D.

Pastor: Fr. Chris Hathaway, FssP

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Assistant: Fr. Vince Huber, FssP

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**Church Office Hours:** 10:00 am – 3:00 pm, Monday - Friday

**Christ the King Catholic Church.**

Office: 941-924-2777

1900 Meadowood Street

Sarasota, FL 34231

[christthekingsarasota.weebly.com](http://christthekingsarasota.weebly.com)

### The Daily Mass Schedule is:

Monday at 12 noon.

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7:00 am and 9:00 am.

Friday at 9:00 am and 6:30 pm. (On Friday, a 5:30 pm Holy Hour & confession time, precedes the 6:30 pm Mass.)

Saturday at 9:00 am.

**Sacramental Emergency:** 941-400-5415

### The Sunday Mass Schedule is:

7:00 am low; 8:30 am low; & 10:30 am sung & a seasonal 12:30 pm low Mass.

Items on the “Blessing Table” in the hall are blessed after the last Sunday Mass.

**Confessions are heard in the confessional box ½ hour before Mass.**

Sarasota “Lost & Found” now located in the office

### In Ocala:

Sunday Mass at 4:30 pm

Monday Mass at 7 am.

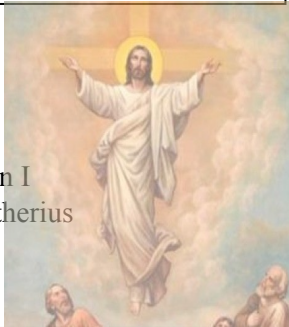
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Mass at 10:30 am.

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## Liturgical Calendar for the Upcoming Week

DATE	FEAST	CLASS/COLOR	COMMEMORATION
Sun 05-21	Sunday after the Ascension	2/W	
Mon 05-22	Feria after Ascension	4/W	
Tues 05-23	Feria after Ascension	4/W	
Wed 05-24	Feria after Ascension	4/W	
Thu 05-25	St Gregory VII	3/W	St Urban I
Fri 05-26	St Philip Neri	3/W	St Eleutherius
Sat 05-27	Vigil of Pentecost	1/R	
Sun 05-28	Pentecost Sunday	1/R	



### Mass Intentions for the Upcoming Week in Sarasota

Sun 05-21	(7 am) Christophe, Agathe, Leon, Marceau de Saizieu rb L de Saizieu (8:30 am) Mike & Mary Meza rb M Meza (10:30) <i>Pro-populo</i> (12:30 pm) Mark Kowalewski rb M&D Priest
Mon 05-22	(10:30 am) Denise Anton+ rb MT Anton & A Baugh
Tues 05-23	(12 pm) Vincent & Ashley rb C Plowman (7 am) John Fischer rb A Cunningham
Wed 05-24	(9 am) Dinh's family rb K Dinh (7 am) Bonnie Matthews rb D Matthews
Thu 05-25	(9 am) Stanley & Anna Kuziel++ rb B Kuziel (7 am) Terry Shafer rb C Marchione
Fri 05-26	(9 am) Fr Stephen Schumacher rb S Hemeryck (9 am) Joseph Scarano rb G Scarano
Sat 05-27	(6:30 pm) M/M Patrick DiGiacinto++ rb C DiGiacinto
Sun 05-28	(9 am) Allison Lawton rb T&C Flamminio (7 am) Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI (8:30 am) Saizieu's family rb L de Saizieu (10:30 am) <i>Pro-populo</i> (12:30 pm) <b>No Mass</b> (Fr Huber will offer this intention elsewhere)

**Today's 10:30 am Music:** Entr: *Regina Caeli*, #954; *Vidi Aquam*, #566; Mass I, #696 & Credo III, #776; Exit: O Christ Who Mountest Up the Sky, #855.

**This Week, Monday,** staff meeting (3:30 pm), Vespers (4:30 pm), Adult Cat. (5-6 pm, frv); **Tuesday,** Holy Face devotions (10:15 am), Book Club (6:30-8 pm); **Wednesday,** Deanery meeting (11 am), Choir practice (7 pm); **Thursday,** CtK Day at PP (1-6 pm), Vespers (4:30 pm), Youth Cat. (5-6 pm); Friday, (Vespers (4:30 pm), Holy Hour (5:30 pm), Mass (6:30 pm); **Saturday,** Vespers (4:30 pm), [Fr Huber departs until 5/3, no 7 am weekday Mass until he returns].

**Next Sunday, there is no 12:30 pm Mass** & a coffee & donut social will follow the 10:30 am Mass. Expect limited confession times; **plan accordingly.**

**Novena to the Holy Ghost** from May 26 to June 3; handouts on table.

**First Holy Communion candidates,** please have all your preparations done by June 4, 2023! See your letter on the table by the offertory box.

**Last Sunday's Collection:** cash \$5,126.45; on-line \$2,757.00; CFA \$4,120.00.  
**Total souls: 431:** 7 am-46; 8:30 am-137; 10:30 am-150; 12:30 pm-98. **Ocala** (311)

**2023 CFA status at CtK as of May 13, 2023 :** \$123,000.00 assessed by the diocese; \$58,941.00 pledged (47.92% of goal); from 33.1% of 209 households; \$31,649.35 paid. (from dioceseofvenice.org) **Thank you for your support!**

**Please pray for:** Meadows family, Kathleen Gaughan, Roberta Speer (5/21); Pickwoad family, Eileen McClain (5/14); Deanna Gallock, JoLynn Terrebonne, & Jennifer Wong (4/23).

**Mucho importante!** A reminder for those needing to, and a thank you to those doing so, for signing in & out of Volgistics. May God reward you!

### ***And these signs shall follow them... they shall take up serpents...***

There are certain things concerning these signs & wonders which we should carefully consider. Each day the Church does spiritually that which she then did corporally by the hand of the Apostles. For when her priests giving the grace of exorcism lay hands on those who believe, and forbid the unclean spirits to dwell in their souls, what is it they do but *cast out devils*? And the faithful, who have put aside the speech of the world and speak of holy things, are *speaking with new tongues*. While they who by their pious encouragement draw evil out of the hearts of others *take up serpents*. And when they hear evil counsels, and yet are not drawn to evil doing, *they drink a deadly thing, and it shall not hurt them*. ~ St. Gregory the Great; 540-603.

### ***All whatsoever you do, do all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ... (Col. 3:17)***

**Morning Offering:** O my JESUS, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer Thee all my prayers, works, joys, & sufferings of this day, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, offered throughout the world, in reparation for my sins, for union of all Christians, the conversion of sinners, & for the intentions of Thy most Sacred Heart.

**Evening offering:** JESUS Christ my God, I adore Thee and thank Thee for all the graces Thou has given me this day. I offer Thee my sleep and all the movements of this night, and I beseech Thee to keep me without sin. Wherefore I put myself within Thy sacred Side and under the mantle of Our Lady, my Mother. Let Thy holy angels stand about me and keep me in peace; and let thy blessing be upon me.

Amen.