

# *The Ascension of the Lord*



*Church of St. Bernard of Clairvaux  
and St. Stanislaus Kostka*

*1235 George Street. Plainfield, New Jersey 707062*

*(908) 756-3393*

*email: [office@bestchurch.net](mailto:office@bestchurch.net) – fax: (908) 756-3059*

*May 12, 2024*

## CHOIR

We are fortunate enough to have a Parish Choir that has a full multi-lingual repertoire; English, Polish and Spanish. The Choir rehearses on Thursday at 7:00 PM. Instrumentalists are welcomed, either to play solo or with our choir. A parish orchestra made up of children and adults rehearses and performs several times during the year. If you are interested in joining or for more information or just to volunteer, contact the office at (908) 756-3393.

## PARISH REGISTRATION

New parishioners are most welcome and are encouraged to call the parish office and make an appointment to register. When you are moving from the parish, please notify the parish office.

## SPONSOR CERTIFICATES

Call the Office during regular hours.

## STEWARDSHIP AND TITHING

Stewardship calls us to freely give of our time, talent, and treasure for the good of our parish family and community. God gives us everything! I give Him back my tithes. Tithing is God's plan to support His Church. Full tithing means 10% of gross income to God – 5% for your parish church and 5 % for other charities.

## VOCATIONS

Those who are recognizing the call to the priesthood, diaconate, or the religious life are invited to speak to a priest or contact the Archdiocesan Vocations Office at 973-497-4365, or mail at [www.rcan.org/vocation/index.htm](http://www.rcan.org/vocation/index.htm)

## ST. BARTHOLOMEW ACADEMY

2032 Westfield Ave., Scotch Plains NJ  
908-322-4265 OR [www.STBACADE](http://www.STBACADE)



### **Saturday – May 11... Easter Weekday**

9:00AM... People of the Parish  
5:00PM...+ Lucy Brady (16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary),  
req. Mary Ellen Chanda

### **Sunday – May 12... Ascension of the Lord, Mother's Day Seventh Sunday of Easter**

9:00AM....+ Antonio Simeone, req. Lucia Simeone  
11:00AM...+Józef Błażejowicz, req. Krusinowski Family  
...+Eugeniusz May, req. Agnieszki May z Rodzina  
1:00PM....+Yolanda Cecilia de Saavedra

### **Monday – May 13... Our Lady of Fatima**

9:00AM... +Ellis P. Singer, MD, req. Johanna Merkle

### **Tuesday – May 14... St. Matthias**

9:00AM...In honor of Our Blessed Mother

### **Wednesday – May 15... St. Isidore**

9:00AM...+Carlo Riello, req. Antonia Riello

### **Thursday – May 16... Easter Weekday**

9:00AM...+Amerigo Negri, req. Wife and Children

### **Friday – May 17... Easter Weekday**

9:00AM...+Elicenia Garcia, req. Alba Ledy Cuartas

### **Saturday – May 18... St. John**

9:00AM...+People of the Parish  
5:00PM...+Rita Washington, req. John and Theresa

### **Sunday – May 19... Pentecost Sunday**

9:00AM.....+ Bob Chanda, req. Eileen Babin  
11:00AM...+Stefania i Józef Sabatowicz , req. Granddaughter  
...+Teresa Michalska, req. Sister Małgorzata Turel  
1:00PM ....+Edmund Grzmala, req. Family

**The Tabernacle Candle** will burn this week for Maria Simeone at the request of our **Parish Family**.

The Bread and Wine used at Mass for the month of **May is for Rosita Imperial at the request of the Wong Family**.

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED** for those whose health is challenged in any way especially **Kate Rooney, Marian Parcinski, Dennis Powers and Lucille Thurston**.

**OUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED** for all the **Faithful Departed**.

### ASCENSION OF THE LORD

#### **First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11**

Jesus had appeared many times to His disciples after His resurrection. On this final occasion, Jesus' departing message is that they will soon receive the Holy Spirit to strengthen them in their work. No sooner does He say this, he is taken up to heaven before their eyes.

#### **Second Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23**

Paul prays that God may grant wisdom and enlightenment to the Ephesians so that they may know the great hope to which they are called. Every power has been given to Christ who now reigns in heaven. He is the "head of the church, which is His body."

#### **Gospel: Mark 16:15-20**

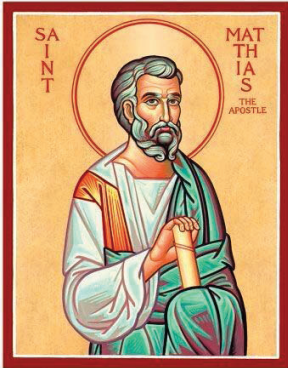
Jesus told His disciples to go and spread the gospel to every creature, to the world. Jesus also spoke of the signs that will accompany those who believe in Christ. After He spoke with them, He was taken into heaven and took His seat the right hand of God.

**Please Pray for our Parishioners in the Military**  
**SSG Katarzyna Czajka, US Army**  
**Ryan Percy, USN**  
**Declan Cassidy, US Army**

The Saint of the Week

St. Matthias

(May 14)



Matthias, whose name means “gift of God”, was the disciple chosen to replace Judas as one of the twelve Apostles. The Acts of the Apostles state that he was also one of the 72 disciples that the Lord Jesus sent out to preach the Good News. Matthias was with the Lord since His Baptism, and was “a witness to Christ’s Resurrection,” according to St. Peter in Acts. He remained with Jesus until His Ascension.

According to various traditions, Matthias preached in Cappadocia, Jerusalem, the shores of the Caspian Sea (in modern day Turkey) and Ethiopia. He is said to have met his death by crucifixion in Colchis or by stoning in Jerusalem.

There is evidence cited in some of the early Church Fathers that there was a Gospel according to Matthias in circulation, but it has since been lost, and was declared apocryphal by Pope Gelasius.

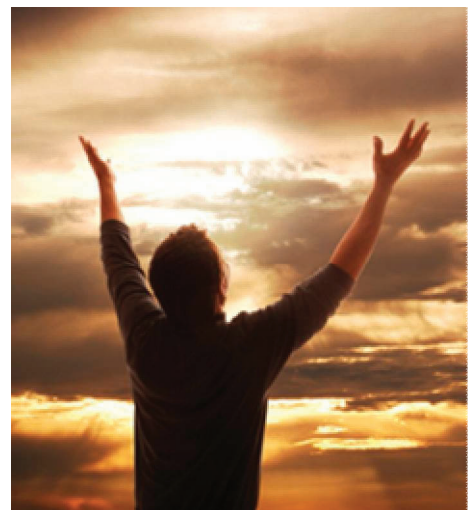
He is invoked for assistance against alcoholism, and for support by recovered alcoholics.

Congratulations to our First Communion Children

05.05.2024



Confirmation  
Sunday, June 2



## Polskie Duszpasterstwo w Parafii św. Bernarda i św. Stanisława Kostki



### WNIEBOWSTĄPIENIE PAŃSKIE



#### Kazanie św. Augustyna, biskupa

W dniu dzisiejszym nasz Pan, Jezus Chrystus, wstąpił do nieba: podążajmy tam sercem razem z Nim. Posłuchajmy Apostoła, który mówi: "Jeśliście więc razem z Chrystusem powstałi z martwych, szukajcie tego, co w górze, gdzie przebywa Chrystus, zasiadając po prawicy Boga. Dążcie do tego, co w górze, nie do tego, co na ziemi". Chrystus wstąpił do nieba, ale nie odszedł od nas. Tak i my, już tam jesteśmy razem z Nim, choć jeszcze nie spełniło się w naszym ciele to, co jest nam obiecano.

Chrystus już jest wyniesiony ponad niebiosy; cierpi jednak na ziemi, ilekroć my, Jego członki, doznajemy utrapień. On sam daje tego dowód, gdy woła z niebios: "Szawle, Szawle, dlaczego Mnie prześladujesz?", oraz: "Byłem głodny, a daliście Mi jeść".

Czemuż to i my tak nie wysilamy się tu na ziemi, aby dzięki wierze, nadziei i miłości, które łączą nas z Nim, z Nim też radować się pokojem niebios? On, który tam przebywa, jest również i z nami; a my, którzy tu jesteśmy, i tam razem z Nim jesteśmy. Chrystus jest w niebie w swoim Bóstwie, mocy i miłości; my nie możemy tam przebywać tak jak On, jednakże możemy tam być naszą miłością, ale w Nim.

Nasz Pan nie opuścił niebios, gdy stamtąd przyszedł do nas; nie opuścił też i nas, kiedy znowu wstąpił do niebios. O tym, że tam przebywał, gdy był z nami tu na ziemi, On sam

stwierdza tymi słowami: "Nikt nie wstąpił do nieba oprócz Tego, który z nieba zstąpił - Syna Człowieczego, który jest w niebie".

To zaś zostało powiedziane dla zaznaczenia jedności: On jest naszą Głową, a my Jego Ciałem. Tak więc nikt nie wstąpił do nieba, jak tylko On, bo i my Nim jesteśmy dzięki temu, że stał się Synem Człowieczym dla nas, a my synami Bożymi przez Niego.

Tak więc mówi Apostoł: "Podobnie jak jedno jest ciało, choć składa się z wielu członków, a wszystkie członki ciała, mimo iż są liczne, stanowią jedno ciało; tak też jest i z Chrystusem". Nie jest powiedziane: "Tak też jest z Chrystusem", lecz: "Tak też jest i z Chrystusem". Chrystus więc ma wiele członków, ale jedno Ciało.

Chrystus zstąpił z nieba przez miłosierdzie i wstąpił tylko On sam, a my w Nim przez łaskę. I tak tylko Chrystus zstąpił i tylko Chrystus wstąpił. Przez to nie utożsamiamy bynajmniej Chrystusa, jako Głowy, z Jego Ciałem, lecz stwierdzamy nierozdzielność jedność Ciała z Jego Głową.

LG tom II: Wniebowstąpienie Pańskie, str. 719-720

#### Szkoła Polska Doksztalająca

*Zajęcia w Polskiej Szkole działającej przy  
naszej Parafii odbywają się  
w każdy poniedziałek w okresie roku  
szkolnego  
od godz. 5:30 do 8:00PM.*

*Kontakt:*

*[polskaszkolainfield@outlook.com](mailto:polskaszkolainfield@outlook.com)  
Dyrektorka Szkoły: Beata Benewiat*

*Tel. 732-266-4310*

#### Piknik z okazji Dnia Dziecka 1 Czerwca 2024, od 12PM do 6PM

*6 Surrey Way. Pittstown, NJ*

*Polska Szkoła zaprasza do udziału w pikniku z  
okazji Dnia Dziecka.*

*Cena: \$25 od osoby dorosłej.*

*Informacje udziela pani Beata  
908 494 0113 albo 908 636 5087*

## Word

### STEWARDSHIP

#### Ascension of Our Lord

*“Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.” – 1 JOHN 4:15*  
How strong is your faith? When you have an opportunity to either defend or clarify a question about our Catholic faith, do you do it? Or, do you remain silent so that others don't think you are weird? Pray for the courage to be strong in all circumstances and to joyfully share your witness with others.



### DEVOTION

The Rosary is prayed before the 9AM Mass during the week. Monday – Saturday. On Thursdays after 9AM Mass the Blessed Sacrament is exposed, closing with Benediction at 11:00AM.



**May is the Month of Our Blessed Mother. The Rosary will be prayed on Tuesdays, May 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00PM in the church. The Living Rosary will be prayed on Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 7PM and can be prayed in any language. Just let us know your preferred language.**

**Everyone is welcome to attend.**

### ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS

The Rosary Mass is celebrated at the 9:00AM Mass on the First Sunday of the month followed by a short meeting after Mass in the Parish Commons.

Next Rosary Mass is June 2<sup>nd</sup> and on June 6<sup>th</sup> there will be a Pot Luck Dinner in the Parish Commons.



### WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASSES

The Archdiocese of Newark celebrated couples of our Archdiocese who were married 5 and 25 years of valid marriage in 2024, on May 5<sup>th</sup> by Bishop Gregory Studerus.

**The 50<sup>th</sup> will be celebrated by Cardinal Joseph Tobin on June 2, 12:00PM at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark.**

The presence of these couples will be a tender witness to the strength and stability of Christian Marriage in today's society.

**Please contact the office if you plan to attend for more information.**

### MOUNT ST. MARY HOUSE OF PRAYER

Mt. St. Mary House of Prayer offers many programs that invite us to be stretched and grow in relationship with ourselves, others and God. For more information see the website:

[www.msmhope.org](http://www.msmhope.org) or email [msmhope@msmhope.org](mailto:msmhope@msmhope.org)

## YOUTH

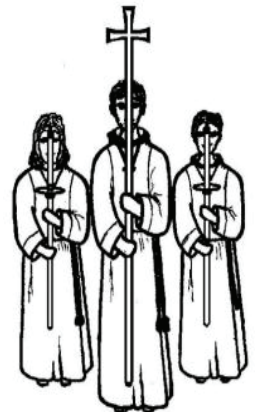
### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education Classes for this season have ended. Please be sure the children attend Mass regularly during the summer months.

### ALTAR SERVERS

**Be joyful to serve at the altar, to be closer to Jesus!**

Serving God as an Altar Server is a wonderful way to grow in faith as well as in responsibility, friendship, and other virtues.



**There will be a meeting for the New Altar Servers on Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:30AM in the church.**

If interested, please see Fr. Bernardo.

### ST. BARTHOLOMEW ACADEMY

The Academy is a perfect place for a Catholic Education founded on learning a true Catholic way of life on achieving excellence in academics. The students are nurtured and cared for. For information contact Maureen Doherty at 908 322-4265 or [www.stbacademy.org](http://www.stbacademy.org)

## COMMUNITY BUILDING



### BESTCHURCH SENIORS.

Our next meeting will be **the last meeting for the season on May 16<sup>th</sup>** with a light luncheon and end with prayer through drumming, by Barbara

Woodzell. If you know of anyone who might be interested in joining, please invite them to come even if it's our last meeting.

**All seniors are welcome and bring a friend.**

**As a reminder:** Last month we all received a package to grow flowers. Please bring in you plantings to see how they did and we will plant them in the church garden.

### DIAPER COLLECTION

Our diaper and wipe collection will continue until Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. Diapers and pull-ups should be in sizes of 3 or larger and can be left in the open area of the church or dropped off at the office. For more Information, please call the parish office.

### NON-PERISHABLE FOOD COLLECTION

We are continuing to collect food in the open area of the church for Starfish to be distributed throughout the Union County area by Starfish. Dates should be current and food non-perishable. Thank you for all your support throughout the years.

*A Mother's Love  
Of all the special joys in life,  
The big ones and the small,  
A mother's love and tenderness  
Is the greatest of them all.*

*- Anonymous*

## Calendar of Events

### SUNDAYS:

**May 12...Seventh Sunday of Easter  
Ascension of the Lord  
Mother's Day**

9:00AM ....Mass in English  
11:00AM...Mass in Polish  
1:00PM.....Mass in English

**May 19..Pentecost Sunday**

9:00AM ....Mass in English  
11:00AM...Mass in Polish  
1:00PM.....Mass in English

**May 26...Most Holy Trinity**

9:00AM ....Mass in English  
11:00AM...Mass in Polish  
1:00PM.....Mass in English

### MONDAYS:

**May 13, 20**

5:30PM...Polish School

### TUESDAYS:

**May 14, 21**

1:00PM...Rosary prayed in church

**May 28**

7:00PM...Living Rosary

### THURSDAYS:

**May 16, 23,**

7:00PM...Choir Practice

**May 16**

12:30PM...Bestchurch Senior Meeting and  
Program: Drumming in Prayer

### SATURDAYS:

**May 11, 18, 25**

4:15...Confession

### Our Mass Schedule:

- **Monday – Saturday: 9:00 AM**
- **Saturday: 5:00 PM - English**
- **Sunday: 9:00AM & 1PM - English**
- **11:00 AM Mass - Polish**
- **First Fridays: 7:00PM Mass - Polish**
- **Office Hours:**
- **Monday – Friday: 10:00AM - 2:00PM**
- **Website and Live Mass:**
- **[www.bestchurch.net](http://www.bestchurch.net)**

## FINANCE



### ONLINE GIVING

#### Collection for April 28

Online.....\$ 3,256  
In Pew..... \$ 5,189

Total Collection for April 28.....\$ 8,445

Thank you for all your donations!!!

## ANNUAL <sup>2024</sup> APPEAL

The 2024 Annual Appeal has begun!

Each year we are invited to participate in the Annual Appeal, which is an opportunity to support essential ministries and programs of our Archdiocese.

Your sacrificial support

makes it possible for us to carry out the important work that we are called to do as missionary disciples of Jesus.

Please consider participating in this year's Appeal to help make a significant difference in many lives.

We already collected **\$21,362.00**

**73%** of our goal for the AA 2024

Thank you for all your donations.

### Contact us:

#### Office Address

368 Sumner Avenue, Plainfield, New Jersey 07062

**Rev. Marcin Fuks – PASTOR**

[pastor@bestchurch.net](mailto:pastor@bestchurch.net)

908-756-3393 EXT – 103

**Rev. Bernardo Garcia - Parochial Vicar**

[vicar@bestchurch.net](mailto:vicar@bestchurch.net) 908-756-3393 EXT – 110

**Karole Lechowski – Secretary**

[office@bestchurch.net](mailto:office@bestchurch.net)

**Iveth Parada - Religious Education**

[bestreligioused@gmail.com](mailto:bestreligioused@gmail.com)

## From Fr. Marcin's Desk

### Ascension of the Lord

The Solemnity of the Ascension marks a move from the Risen Lord at Easter to the coming of the Holy Spirit. Christ is the Lord of heaven and earth. While no longer physically here on earth, Christ is with us through the presence of the Holy Spirit.

As He prepared to ascend to His Father, He instructed His disciples to wait for the promised Holy Spirit. Through the Spirit's presence the disciples would understand the great commandment: to "go and make disciples of all nations."

Today, in the same way as the disciples, we are called to share this news of God's love to all people. There is nothing greater than to share this news.

I want to congratulate again our First Communion children and their families, and thank them for the beautiful celebrations last Sunday, and today with the Crowning of our Blessed Mother. May is the month dedicated to the Blessed Mother, who is gathering all her children on this journey on earth.

As we remember our Heavenly Mother, today we want to remember our earthly mothers and everything they have done for us. We are grateful for their love, and we pray for all our mothers - those who are alive and those who have already passed away.

**Thank you, and Happy Mother's Day!!!**

*Fr. Marcin Fuks*

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on a regular basis on Saturdays at 4:15PM and after weekday Masses simply by requesting a celebration of the sacrament.



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GOD BLESS AMERICA

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