



# Stairway to Heaven

MIGUEL DULICK

**E**ven by the Ascension, after forty days of eating and drinking with the resurrected Lord, the obtuseness of the Apostles still frustrates Jesus. In Acts, they're ready for a fight, "to restore the kingdom to Israel" (Acts 1:6). Matthew reports that "they worshiped, but they doubted" (Matthew 28:17). Pentecost cannot come soon enough, when they will be baptized with the Holy Spirit, and all will be made known.

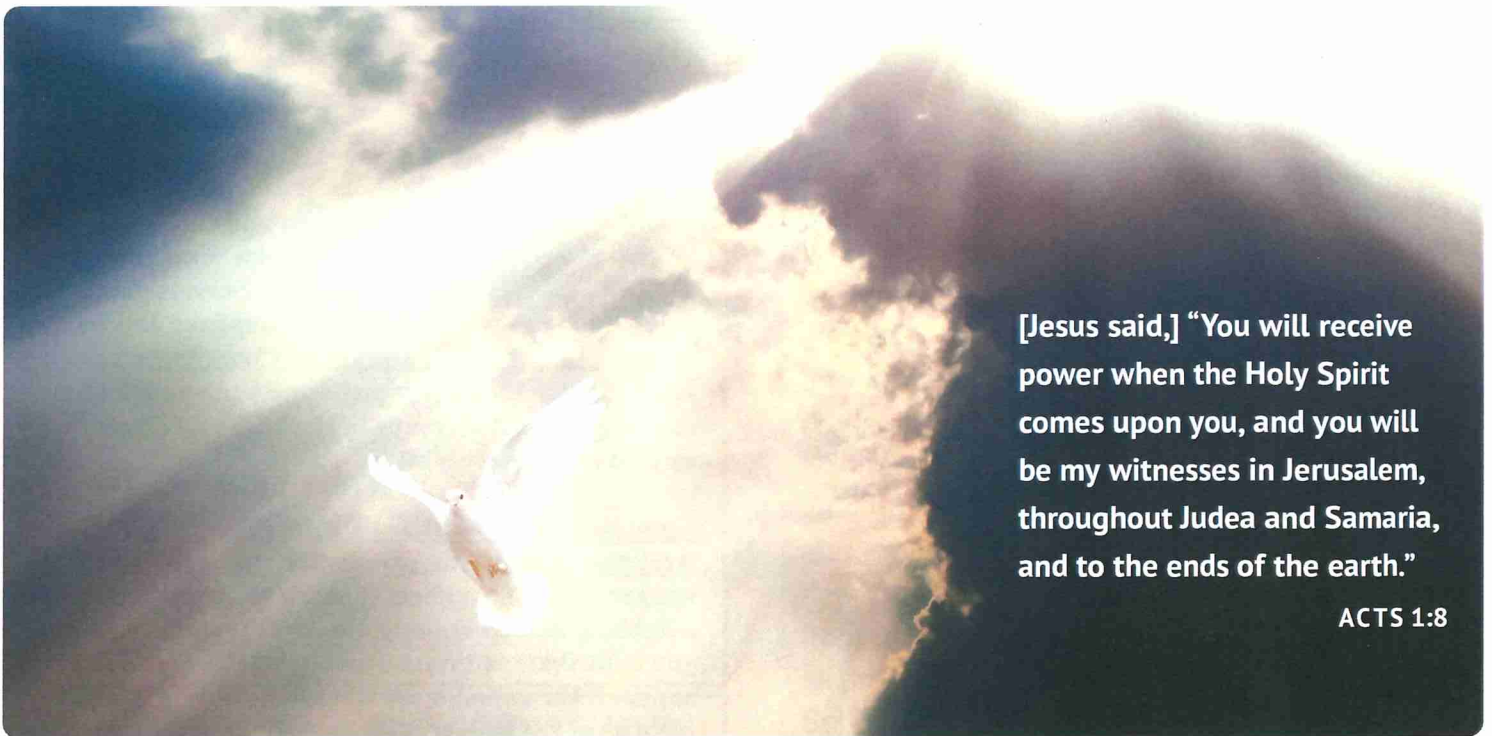
So the next nine days are crucial. The apostles and other disciples, 120 persons in all, prepare for the arrival of the Holy Spirit, a spiritual retreat, the original "novena." Only then can the apostle go and "make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19).

Jesus, who brought heaven down to earth in the Incarnation, now ascends, taking earth up to heaven, with his resurrection. Saint Paul gives us a hint of how special this interchange is when he wishes for the Ephesians to receive from Jesus "a Spirit of wisdom and revelation" (Ephesians 1:17).

Our own obtuseness can block the Holy Spirit when we think we have all the answers. When I first preached in Honduras, in the village where I live, I was so prepared. I said everything I could think of, all that I had learned in my courses for a masters degree in divinity. But then, when I heard the prayers and insights of poor and simple folks, supported by a rich, personal knowledge of the Lord himself, I cut my sermons in half and let the "saints," as St. Paul liked to call the people, finish the job. Thank you, Holy Spirit! ●



LEARN ABOUT  
THE AUTHORS  
OF OUR PARISH  
COMMUNITY



[Jesus said,] "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

ACTS 1:8

## Reflect

***How can I better cooperate with the Holy Spirit?***

**St. Joseph Catholic Church,**  
221 N Sycamore Street, Nortonville KS 66060      [www.stjosephsnortonville.com](http://www.stjosephsnortonville.com)

**St. Mary's Immaculate Conception Catholic Church**  
905 Broadway, P.O. Box 176, Valley Falls KS 66088

**Corpus Christi Catholic Church, 18760 Rogers Road, Atchison KS 66002**

Dec. 2022

**Parishes Office:** 221 N Sycamore Street  
Nortonville, Kansas 66060

**Secretary:** Therese Maderak

**Office hours:** M, W, F 8:30a.m.-12:30p.m.

**Phone:** 913-886-2030

**E-mail:** [sj.ic.cc.parishoffice@gmail.com](mailto:sj.ic.cc.parishoffice@gmail.com)

**Pastor:** Fr. William Dun-Dery

**E-mail:** [wdun-dery@archkck.org](mailto:wdun-dery@archkck.org)

**Sacraments**

**Reconciliation** Saturday & Sunday 30 min before Mass, Wednesdays 6-7pm St. Joseph

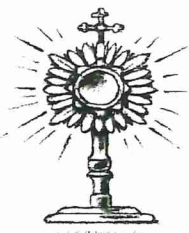
**Marriage** Six-month notice required  
18 months if annulments needed

**Anointing** Please let us know of any hospital admissions

**Baptism** For Baptismal dates call the office; one Baptismal Class required

**Mass Schedule and Intentions**

Sat.	May 16	5:00pm	Corpus Christi
	†	Donna Noll	
Sat.	May 16	7:00pm	St. Joseph
		Mass for the People	
Sun.	May 17	8:00am	St. Joseph
	†	Mark Wilson	
Sun.	May 17	10:00am	St. Mary's
	†	Paul Heinen	
Mon.	May 18	No Mass	
Tue.	May 19	8:00am	St. Mary's
	†	T.C. and Robert Schrick	
Wed.	May 20	8:00am	St. Joseph
	†	Patrick and Carol McCreary	
Thu.	May 21	8:00am	St. Mary's
	†	Bernard Noll	
Fri.	May 22	8:00am	St. Joseph
	†	Henry Weishaar family	
Sat.	May 23	5:00pm	Corpus Christi
	†	Lawrence and Dolores Wood	
Sat.	May 24	7:00pm	St. Joseph
	†	Jerry Pruett	
Sun.	May 25	8:00am	St. Joseph
	†	Kenneth and Clairene Falk	
Sun.	May 25	10:00 am	St. Mary's
		Mass for the People	



**Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions**

**St. Joseph**  
Wednesdays, 6-7pm

**Corpus Christi**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of month, 4-4:45pm

**St. Mary's**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of month, 11am- 12pm

**Bulletin Deadline: Noon Wednesday**

**Parish office hours this week: Monday 10am-2pm, Wednesday and Friday 8:30am-12:30pm**

**2026 Parish Progress**



**ACTS**  
ARCHDIOCESAN  
CALL TO SHARE

St. Joseph: \$10,630 of \$13,000  
St. Mary's: \$6,070 of \$10,000  
Corpus Christi: \$6,685 of \$6,000

**There's still time! Don't delay helping your parish meet the goal.**



**Next meeting: June 7@6pm, St. Joseph School**



**Tri-Parish Altar Server Training Camp**

**St. Joseph Church**  
June 23 and 24

Altar server training will be offered for all interested youth. The day will begin with Mass and end by Noon. All current and new servers should plan on attending. Servers should be going into grades 3-12, have been baptized and have received their First Communion. Come learn, grow in reverence for the liturgy and serve your parish in a meaningful way! Sign ups in the back of all churches or contact the parish office.

**Catholic Communications Campaign collection this weekend-** Help participate in this mission of love by supporting media efforts to share the Gospel with your neighbors as well as people across the country. When you contribute to this collection, half of your donation supports the national communications programs of the bishops of the United States, while the other half stays in your diocese to support local communications initiatives. When you participate in the annual collection for CCC, you support the national communications efforts of the USCCB, including the free availability of the online daily readings which are accessed by thousands of people every day.

### Please Remember in Your Prayers

Kyle Perkis	Jeremy Heinen
Bob Heinen	Virginia Grollmes
Emma Dockweiler	Rosella Hollis
Janet Schmidt	Chris Heinen
Tim Hosler	Heidi Rutar
Phil Heuertz	Dolores Miller
Dorothy Herring	Tynen Darveaux Jr.

Also pray for those serving in the Military, those with health issues and those who have no one to pray for them.

### May Appointments

**Ushers:** Nate Heinen, Eric Belveal, Thomas Welsh

**Lay Ministers:** Brandi Varner, Lesa Brose, Joyce Heinen

**Rosary:** Chad Mooradian  
05/24/2026

**Lector:** Mike Wagner

**Music:** Patty Bendure, Dawna Ross

**Servers:** Jack Warth, Paxten Heinen

**Gifts:** Larry Heinen Family

**Finance:** Larry Martin, Jarett Wildeman

**Sacristan:** Julie Sieve

### Contributions

05/10/2026

Cemetery.....	250.00
Projects and Maintenance.....	100.00
Plate.....	236.00
Support.....	420.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1006.00</b>

### St Mary's Immaculate Conception Parish Mission Statement

- Study our **FAITH**
- Practice our **FAITH**
- Support our parish and community in **FAITH**
- Evangelize our **FAITH**

**Bulletin additions or corrections:** Contact Crystal Clark 785-806-0262 (text or call) email [calebcystal@hotmail.com](mailto:calebcystal@hotmail.com)

### 26th Annual Midwest Catholic Family Conference

"Be Still and Know I Am God." Start a new family tradition by coming to the Midwest Catholic Family Conference July 31-August 2, in Wichita, KS. Listen to great speakers and take advantage of daily mass, adoration, and a beautiful Eucharistic procession. Save up to \$30 with early bird registration by June 30. Registration is available on-site, but online registration after June 30 will still save you money! Register online at [www.catholicfamilyconference.org](http://www.catholicfamilyconference.org) or call 316-618-9787. Email questions to [info@catholicfamilyconference.org](mailto:info@catholicfamilyconference.org)

**High School**  
Samuel Sittingup  
**8<sup>th</sup> Grade**  
Tommy Welsh  
Jack Warth

*Blessings for our Parish Graduates*

Traveling? Going to out of town sporting events? Don't forget to go to Mass! Visit [masstimes.org](http://masstimes.org) to find Masses wherever you may go.

Corpus Christi Procession-All are welcome to join the Atchison Deanery Eucharistic Procession on the Solemnity of Corpus Christi on June 7th, beginning at 4pm. The procession will begin inside St. Benedict Church, proceed through the streets of Atchison, and conclude in the church with Solemn Benediction. Those who received their First Holy Communion this year are invited to wear their First Communion attire and will have the opportunity to lay flowers before the Blessed Sacrament at the front of the procession. Following Benediction, all are invited to gather at St. Benedict Catholic School for food and fellowship. Please bring a dish to share that serves approximately 20 people. Families with last names A-N are asked to bring a dessert, and families with last names O-Z are asked to bring a side dish.

# Dear Padre,

*I am scared of the end times and predictions of these dates. I feel saved, but I don't truly know if I would be accepted into heaven. What are the Catholic teachings on the end times/rapture?*

No one but our heavenly Father knows the precise time of our Lord's return. (See Mark 13:32-37.) If this uncertainty about when Jesus will return evokes more apprehension than anticipation, it doesn't help that prophets of doom make predictions based on a distorted understanding of apocalyptic literature in the Bible. An example of this literary form includes the Book of Revelation. It contains elements of a final judgment and cosmic struggle between good and evil written in highly symbolic and imaginative language; however, it wasn't intended to provide a literal description or timeline of how the world ends. In 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17, St. Paul also uses apocalyptic imagery to say that all the faithful will be "caught up" ("rapt up") to meet the Lord at his Coming. Some use this single text to vividly imagine true believers being "raptured" from the earth and escaping the destruction of humankind at the end times, but it's a misinterpretation. For Catholics, these apocalyptic passages offer hope and guidance: despite the powerful forces of evil, Christ will overcome. His death and resurrection already ushered in the last age. We don't know how long this age will last before the final consummation, hence the need to be watchful and prepared. ●



BILLION PHOTOS / SHUTTERSTOCK

**Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org**

## Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

### A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

*Where are you...when the poor are blamed for their poverty, forgotten and discarded, in a world that values profit more than people? [W]here are you in a hyper-connected life where loneliness corrodes social bonds and makes us strangers even to ourselves?...*

*Fraternity...means rediscovering the face of the other...the very image of God in the face of the poor, the refugee, and even the adversary.*

ADDRESS TO MEETING  
ON FRATERNITY, ROME,  
SEPTEMBER 12, 2025



MARCO IACOBUCCI EPP / SHUTTERSTOCK

### Monday

May 18  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 19:1-8  
Jn 16:29-33

### Tuesday

May 19  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 20:17-27  
Jn 17:1-11a

### Wednesday

May 20  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 20:28-38  
Jn 17:11b-19

### Thursday

May 21  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 22:30; 23:6-11  
Jn 17:20-26

### Friday

May 22  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 25:13b-21  
Jn 21:15-19

### Saturday

May 23  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 28:16-20, 30-31  
Jn 21:20-25

### Sunday

May 24  
Pentecost Sunday  
Acts 2:1-11  
1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13  
Jn 20:19-23

# Summer Faith & Fun

## Totus Tuus

July 19-24  
Nortonville, KS

**Grades 1-6** (Day Program):  
Monday - Friday | 9 AM - 3 PM

**Grades 7-12** (Evening Program):  
Sunday - Thursday | 6:30 - 8:45 PM

**Cost:** (includes a Totus Tuus t-shirt!)  
\$20/student: members of host parishes  
\$25/student: guests

*If the cost presents a hardship, pay what you can - or let us know. Thanks for generous donations, no one will be turned away!*



*Many Ways to Volunteer!*  
Please register online  
to help our program thrive!



Totus Tuus (Latin for "Totally Yours") is a vibrant, Catholic summer program dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting the Catholic faith through catechesis, prayer, Christian witness, and Eucharistic worship. Led by college-aged missionaries, it's faith-filled and FUN!

*Register online by April 24*



<https://forms.gle/C1oaSke57QXnNs4X8>

### Questions? Contact Us!

**Totus Tuus Coordinator:** Danielle Willcott (St. Joseph's)  
sj.religiouseducationdirector@gmail.com | 913.704.5440

**Parish Leaders:** Jolina Wildeman (St. Mary's) | jolinawildeman@yahoo.com | 785.224.3726  
Kay Noll (Corpus Christi) | knoll1226@gmail.com | 913.370.2183