



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY THE PEOPLES PRAISE YOU.
 O GOD; MAY ALL THE PEOPLES PRAISE YOU!

—Psalm 67:6

May 5, 2013

Parish Life and Activities...

THE WORKINGS OF THE SPIRIT	<p>Anyone who has seen a loved one off to a new adventure knows how difficult it is to rejoice, even when we are reasonably optimistic about their future. So, we can imagine how difficult it must have been for the disciples to rejoice in Jesus' announced departure. Today's Gospel is part of Jesus' Last Supper discourse, recorded only by John. Jesus announces shocking news. He must go to the Father, and they should rejoice in this. To help them through this, Jesus gives his disciples his gift of peace and promises an Advocate. From our privileged position in history, we can see that all that Jesus promises comes to pass. The Church has grown and still exists on this earth because of the abiding Spirit. But living by the Spirit and entering into the peace of Christ is no small task. Jesus doesn't promise the apostles a rose garden. He is realistic about the costs of discipleship. And, mercifully, he is also clear about its rewards.</p>
BAPTISM	<p><i>Next Sunday at our 10:30a.m. Mass, we shall welcome three new little members into the Body of Christ.</i></p>
RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS	<p>Each year on Holy Saturday during the Easter Vigil, thousands of men and women are received into the Catholic Church in the United States. Parishes welcome these new members through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) and at a liturgy bringing men and women into full communion with the Catholic Church. Prior to beginning the RCIA process, an individual comes to some knowledge of Jesus Christ, considers his or her relationship with Jesus Christ and is usually attracted in some way to the Catholic Church. This period is known as the Period of Evangelization and Pre-catechumenate. For some, this process involves a long period of searching; for others, a shorter time. Often, contact with people of faith and a personal faith experience lead people to inquire about the Catholic Church.</p> <p>Are you interested in being baptized into the Catholic faith or in receiving the sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation? If so, please call Sister Sharon Francis at 562.439.0931 x 5. Sister will go through the discernment process with you and answer any questions you might have before beginning your faith journey.</p>
COMUNIDAD MEETING	<p>This Tuesday evening, May 7, at 7p.m. in the parish hall Comunidad will host a gathering along with a pot luck to celebrate the victory of the Battle of Pueblo, fought on <i>Cinco de Mayo</i>. All parishioners are invited to attend. Comunidad will provide the main dish and guests are asked to provide side dishes and desserts. <i>Loteria</i> will be enjoyed by all with "white elephant" prizes awarded to the winners. Please bring a wrapped gift to include in the selection.</p>
SPECIAL COLLECTION TODAY	<p>The goal of the Cardinal McIntyre Fund for Charity is service to the "neediest of the needy," those for whom no other resources exist. One-time assistance with food, utilities, medical or funeral expenses for adults, children and families in crises are appropriate as funds allow and as recommended by those who are familiar with the area/persons.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Contribution envelopes are available in the pews today. Your generosity is appreciated.</p>
MARKETBASKET	<p>Our market basket is outside the church today for your contributions of non perishable foods and hygiene items. Thank you!</p>
REFLECTIONS	<p>THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD First Reading: Acts 1:1-11 Second Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23 Gospel: Luke 24:46-53</p> <p>Jesus "was carried up into heaven..." Let us reflect on Jesus' communion with his Father when he returned to heaven. Reflect, too, on our loved ones' communion with God after their death.</p>



Long Beach AIDS Walk

Sunday
June 2, 2013

The Facts.....

- Long Beach ranks second in the state of California in HIV per capita and fifth in the nation.
- Nearly 1/2 of all new HIV infections occur among the young, ages 15 to 24.
- The most rapid rate of infection is among minority women.

Members of Comunidad will accept donations after all the Masses on May 11/12 and May 25/26 in support of St. Matthew's AIDS Walk team.

Your continued support will help in providing services to people in Long Beach living with HIV/AIDS.

**Join the St. Matthew's
AIDS Walk team.**

**Contact Marilyn Pires
562-434-9873.**