



# SAINTS PETER & PAUL PARISH

**PASTOR: FATHER RON THOMPSON**

**CHURCH LOCATION:** 1430 WEST 38TH AVENUE **RECTORY/MAILING:** 1425 WEST 39TH AVENUE, VANCOUVER, B.C. V6M 1T2

**RECTORY PHONE:** 604-261-3535 **E-MAIL:** parish.sspp@rcav.org

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE:** JACKSON WONG

**PARISH WEBSITE:** [HTTPS://SSPETERPAUL.CA/](https://sspeterpaul.ca/)

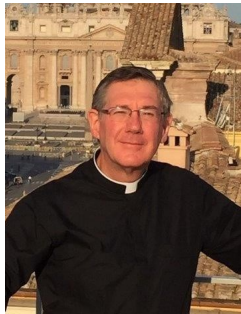
**ARCHDIOCESE OF VANCOUVER**

Archbishop: Most Rev J. Michael Miller, CSB

**ARCHDIOCESAN WEBSITE:** [WWW.RCAV.ORG](http://www.rcav.org) **JOHN PAUL II PASTORAL CENTER:** 4885 SAINT JOHN PAUL II WAY; TEL: 604-683-0281



**Welcome to visitors! / New Parishioners!** We are pleased to have you pray with us at Saints Peter and Paul. We hope you enjoy your visit to our beautiful Church. Please introduce yourself after Mass to Father Ron and parishioners; we would like to meet you!



**FR. RON THOMPSON**

**Please Note:**

All Request of the Pastor are kindly asked to be made by phone during Office Hours not by Email. Thank-You

**ST. MICHAEL'S PRAYER**  
Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defence against the wickedness and snares of the Devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.  
**Amen.**

## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD MAY 29TH — JUNE 4TH, 2022

**Holy Mass: Saturday:** 5:00pm **Sunday:** 9:00am, 11:00am  
(Vespers and Benediction: 3:30pm), 4:00pm

**Weekdays: Monday** 8:00AM; **Tuesday** 4:00PM; **Wednesday – Friday** 8:00AM

**First Fridays:** Adoration 12:00 noon– 6:45PM; Benediction 6:45PM; Second Mass 7:00pm

**Saturdays and Civic Holidays:** 9:00 am

**Confessions: Wednesday—Friday;** 8:30AM; **Saturday:** 9:30 am and 4:00-4:30 pm

**Office Schedule:** Tuesday—Friday: 9:00 am—3:00 pm

By Appointment; **Marriage:** Notify 8 Months in Advance.



### PROJECT ADVANCE SUNDAY

Sat/Sun May 14/15 The video will be shown before each Mass & volunteers will be available to take your pledges that day & for the following 2 weekends after Mass. May our Lord bless you graciously for your participation. Thank you.

### PROJECT ADVANCE 2022

May 2022

Dear Parishioners,

Over the past 2 years circumstances have unintentionally caused our lives to hold on to what is important in our lives. As restrictions lighten, it is a joyful sign to see more parishioners returning to the practice of the faith, in person.

You might know that next year 2023 marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our parish. Hopefully a great part of our Jubilee will be the construction (and opening?) of our new Parish Centre. We will keep you posted. A good portion for this will be paid for by the sale of Cartier Hall. The rest will be covered by a mortgage. As already so, any proceeds from the Building Fund & Project Advance will assist with this outcome.

Our sincere gratitude for those who have participated in these over the years.

We also take the opportunity to encourage others to pledge.

Volunteers will be available after Mass for the last 3 weekends in May (beginning May 14/15).

Blank forms are also available for you to fill out and put in the collection basket at Mass or mail at anytime throughout the year.

May our Lord bless you graciously for your participation as we continue to prepare for our 100<sup>th</sup> Jubilee.

Blessing and Peace!

Fr. Ron Thompson  
Pastor

## MASS INTENTIONS

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>May 29th, The Ascension of the Lord</i>	<i>9:00 am 11:00 am 4:00 pm</i>	<i>Parishioners</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>May 30th, Eastertide</i>	<i>8:00 am</i>	<i>Susan Waldock</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>May 31st, The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	<i>4:00 pm</i>	<i>Jadranka Bresan</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>June 1st, Eastertide, St. Justin † 165 AD</i>	<i>8:00 am</i>	<i>Dr. Patrick Bernard Crean †</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>June 2nd, Eastertide</i>	<i>8:00 am</i>	<i>Marija Bresan</i>
<i>* First Friday</i>	<i>June 3rd, St. Charles Lwanga &amp; Companions † 1886 AD</i>	<i>8:00 am 7:00 pm</i>	<i>Jean Gardener Holy Souls †</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>June 4th, Eastertide Pentecost Sunday</i>	<i>9:00 am 5:00 pm</i>	<i>Luka Bresan Holy Souls †</i>

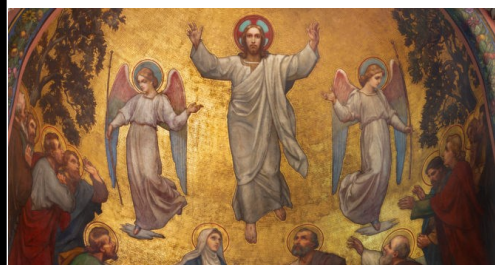
Pope Francis to lead Rosary for peace in Ukraine & end to the wars worldwide, on Tuesday 31st May 2022 at 6 pm (9 am Pacific)



### CALLING ON MUSICIANS, (ORGANIST, VIOLINIST, FLUTISTS) PLAYERS

We are looking for volunteer musicians to play at our Saturday 5:00 pm & Sunday 4:00 pm Mass. If you are able to play 1 or 2 times a month, please contact the parish Office. Thank you for lifting up our voices.

### GOSPEL REFLECTIONS FOR THE ASCENSION BY: GAYLE SOMERS



#### **FIRST READING (READ ACTS 1:1-11)**

The first verse of this reading tells us that its author, St. Luke, wants to continue a story he began in his “first book,” the Gospel of St. Luke. That book was devoted to a careful account of “all that Jesus did and taught until the day He was taken up” (Acts 1:1). This book (Acts) will show us how Jesus could both depart from and yet remain with His followers. The lesson begins with today’s reading.

We remember that even before His Passion and Resurrection, Jesus promised the apostles that Someone Else was coming. Now He tells them explicitly not to try to get started on their mission to “all nations” right away. They must wait for that Someone Else: “John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit” (Acts 1:5). The apostles’ first question about this event revealed them to be focused on the wrong thing (again): “Lord, are You at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” (Acts 1:6). It was not unreasonable for the apostles to be curious about the restoration of the kingdom to Israel, as this was a Messianic hope of long-standing for the Jews. Notice that Jesus doesn’t rebuke them for their interest in David’s kingdom, but rather for their desire to know when it will happen. Jesus wants them instead to focus on their own work of being His witnesses: “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, through Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8). Ironically, this work He gives them will actually bring about the restoration and fulfillment of the kingdom they earnestly seek. In due time, they will learn that this kingdom, as Jesus had told them earlier, is not of this world. The kingdom Jesus rules is not ethnic; it is not confined to the borders of Israel. Through the preaching of the Gospel, Jews of all the tribes of Israel would find their way to it, as would Gentiles. His kingdom is the universal Church, spread out everywhere, “to the ends of the earth.”

Then, as the apostles were “looking on, He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him from their sight” (Acts 1:9). What does this mean? It helps to understand the symbolic significance of the “cloud” Jesus entered. It reminds us of the Transfiguration, when we get a glimpse of the glorified Jesus. It reminds us, too, of the “overshadowing” cloud of God’s presence in the worship of the Old Testament Tabernacle, filling the Holy of Holies as God and man met. That same cloud of God’s presence led the people of Israel to the Promised Land. As Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI tells us:

This reference to the cloud is unambiguously theological language. It represents Jesus’ departure not as a journey to the stars, but as His entry into the mystery of God. It evokes an entirely different order of magnitude, a different dimension of being... He enters into communion of power and life with the living God, into God’s dominion over space. Hence, He has not gone away, but now and forever by God’s own power He is present with us and for us. (Jesus of Nazareth: Holy Week, Ignatius Press, pgs 282-283, emphasis added)

Now we get it! Jesus’ departure has only been a departure from our mode of existence. It is not cosmic but metaphysical. That is how He can be gone and yet still with us. In promising the apostles to send the Holy Spirit, He promises not only this new kind of presence with us but also a share in the great power of which He spoke in the Gospel reading. Did the apostles grasp this?

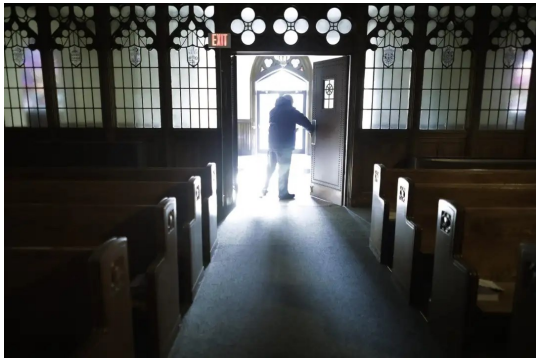
Not exactly. We see them staring off into space, probably trying to take it all in. Two angels caution them against “standing there looking at the sky” (Acts 1:11). Jesus has ascended into His rightful power and authority, having finished His earthly work for our Redemption. The apostles will not have to stare at the sky to see Him return in power (the meaning of the “cloud”). They will see Him return in power very soon—on the Day of Pentecost. Jesus reigns on His throne now!

*Possible response: Lord Jesus, it is a mystery to me how You can be gone and yet entirely present to me always. Help me believe it.*

*Original Posted on: <https://catholicexchange.com/gospel-reflections-for-the-ascension/>*

# PENTECOST LOOMS AS A REMINDER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT'S POWER AND PRESENCE

BY FATHER JEFFREY F. KIRBY



As the Church continues to make her way through the Easter Season, she celebrates the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus and prepares for the promised Holy Spirit. It is the waiting for the Holy Spirit that oftentimes gets overlooked. Summer hits, programs and academic years end, and the coming of the Holy Spirit gets eclipsed by the hustle and bustle of life.

The Church, however, keeps pointing us to the coming of the Spirit. In particular, the Sunday Mass readings begin to highlight the promise of the Lord and the forthcoming descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

But who is the Holy Spirit? How are we to understand this Third Person of the Holy Trinity, this promised gift of the Lord Jesus?

The Holy Spirit can be the most mysterious among the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. This is true in large part because the Holy Spirit does not speak of himself. The Lord

Jesus taught us: "When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come."

In our Bible readings this Sunday, Saint John recounts further teachings of the Lord Jesus on the Holy Spirit: "I have told you this while I am with you. The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you."

The spiritual life and our growth in holiness, therefore, begins with the Holy Spirit. As the Lord Jesus also taught us in his public ministry: "No one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God." We need the Holy Spirit, therefore, to know who God is, how we can cooperate with his grace, and how we can be in fellowship with him.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* explains: "The Holy Spirit is the master of the interior life," and further, "Through the power of the Holy Spirit we take part in Christ's Passion by dying to sin, and in his Resurrection by being born to a new life; we are members of his Body which is the Church, branches grafted onto the vine which is himself."

The Holy Spirit helps us to encounter the living God and re-live the Lord's own Paschal Mystery in our own lives. Such a sharing in the Paschal Mystery begins at baptism. As Saint Peter told the early Church: "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

The Spirit comes as a gift. It is the Spirit who dwells within us and is the source of all holiness. The supernatural life cannot be understood or nurtured within us without his presence and divine assistance.

Such a realization helps us to understand the Holy Spirit a little more, but the Spirit moves wherever and however he prefers. He is not bound to anything, not even to baptism or the other sacraments. The Lord Jesus references this movement of the Holy Spirit when he told us: "The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

As we approach the celebration of Pentecost, it's worth reminding ourselves of the presence and the power of the Holy Spirit.

As we look at our lives and the fallenness of the world, it's good to examine how we are re-living the Paschal Mystery of the Lord Jesus in our own lives. The Spirit moves where he wills, but he respects our freedom. The only force that can restrain him is an obstinate heart.

Our task in this life is to discern the movement of the Holy Spirit and to allow him to work in us and through us.

Originally Posted to: <https://cruxnow.com/commentary/2022/05/pentecost-looms-as-a-reminder-of-the-holy-spirits-power-and-presence>

## 29TH MAY 2022 THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Luke speaks more explicitly about the Ascension at the beginning of his second book, the Acts of the Apostles. At the end of his gospel he makes reference to unspecified post resurrection appearances of Jesus. His followers' first movements had been made in disbelief. They were quickly followed by the full blessing of faith. The evangelist thus paints an icon of Christ blessing his Church which awaits his return in joy and thanksgiving.

### ALTAR SERVERS:



There is a need for Altar servers at our Masses. Young men & boys (Grade 3 +) are invited to serve at the weekend Masses. Simply contact the parish office & Father will give them simple instructions. Thank you for stepping forward, saying "yes" and thus adding to the dignity of Holy Mass.



### Building Fund

We are moving forward with having our own Parish Centre, this massive project will take the efforts of many people to support. If you can please consider giving to the Building Fund, every cent of the Building Fund will go towards this Parish Goal.

**A big Thank-You to all parishioners for their support in this effort!**





## MAINTAINING A PRAYERFUL ENVIRONMENT

**THE COMMUNION ANTIPHON** - is led by the Reader as the priest partakes in the chalice, others are encouraged to join in this.

**ATTENTION READERS:** - Reminder to Readers of Week-days & Sunday Masses to make a deliberate pause of 20 **full** seconds after the First (& Second) Reading. For in this way, following the Lectionary instructions, the word of God—has time to enter through our ears to our heart. Thank you for your help in this way!

**“WHEN CHILDREN CHATTER”** - We ask that you take them for a walk, either to the family room on the left of the sanctuary or to the vestibule, which is now wired for sound. We appreciate your assistance in this matter so all the words of Holy Mass may be easily heard. Thank-you

## QUIET CONTEMPLATION TIME

We are please to invite parishioners back to the Church for private prayer & adoration. Saints Peter & Paul Parish will open the doors from Wednesdays to Fridays from 12 noon to 3 pm.

*“Come let us adore Him.”*

## NEW TO THE PARISH?

If you are new to the Parish, please fill out a Registration Form available in the foyer and drop it in the Collection Basket.

If you would like Donation Envelopes and/or the BC Catholic please remember to check the boxes on the registration form.

If you would like to Donate via Direct Deposit please complete an MONERIES form and return it back to the parish.

For those already registered, any changes such as your address, tel. #, etc., please contact the Parish Office at 604-261-3535.

**NB:** The Building Fund contributions are not taxed by the Diocese, whereas the regular Sunday contributions are taxed at 14%.

## MONERIS (DIRECT DEPOSIT) DEDICATED GIVING IS NOW AVAILABLE TO THE PARISH

To make Sunday giving as easy and effective as possible, our parish is now providing a new option for the weekly collection: Dedicated Giving through electronic payments. Regular Sunday contribution will be taken on the 1st of each month and the Building Fund is taken on the 15th of each month.

If you are interested please fill out a form and place it in a sealed Moneris Envelope and drop it off at the Parish Office or the Rectory Mail Slot.

### ADVANTAGES TO YOU

- Regular and consistent support to the parish
- Continued support if you are away
- Eliminates “catch-up” periods
- Convenience of not having to write weekly cheques

### ADVANTAGES TO THE PARISH

- Allows regular, dependable flow of contributions
- Enables effective planning of our parish resources.
- Reduces paperwork and bookkeeping

## LETTER FROM FR. JOHN HORGAN

Dear Friends at Saints Peter and Paul,

As many of you know, I have been increasingly unwell over the past few months. I have lost a great deal of weight and have been very fatigued; at first, I attributed this to the general stresses of moving, adjusting to a new home and parish and, perhaps to the general malaise we were all experiencing after so many COVID restrictions.

In late March, though, my Doctor confirmed that I was suffering from low hemoglobin (anemia) due to bleeding ulcers caused by H-Pilori. I began an antibiotics regimen which was very demanding, but which seemed to be the answer to the problem. However, we realized that this did not resolve all the problems.

So, on the 4<sup>th</sup> of May, I checked into VGH. I went through a number of tests and scans, received all kinds of IV therapy and was treated with the greatest of care. Within a couple of days, I was diagnosed with cancer of the stomach. This is now being aggressively treated through CCABC. I do not yet have a full picture of the treatment or the extent of the cancer, so I cannot answer questions or provide details. I am awaiting more complete medical information and am simply living in Our Lord’s Holy Will from day to day. The Archbishop is fully aware of my situation and is wonderfully supportive.

I ask you all to do the same: keep me in your good prayers and ask Our Lord and the Blessed Mother to give me the strength to continue my priestly and pastoral work and enough energy to take up my mission here at Immaculate Conception with joyful commitment. It has been some weeks since I’ve been able to celebrate Mass publicly, which is my greatest desire.

At this time, I ask you please not to overwhelm the parish office here with phone calls or requests for visits. Until I have a schedule for my chemotherapy – and adjust to it – I am going to be focussed on alternating between increasing my stamina and resting more between activities

I am very grateful for all the prayers, cards, Mass intentions and love that I have already received and on which I will surely depend in future! Be sure that you are in my thoughts and prayers each day.

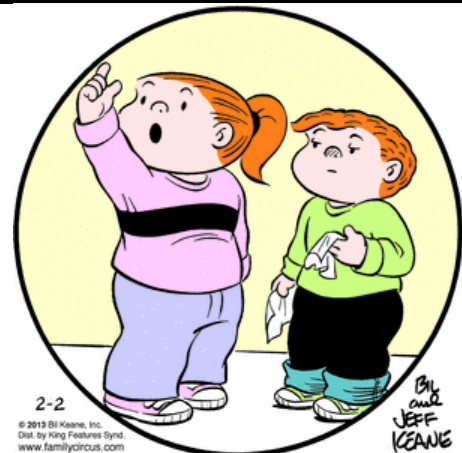
With my blessings and love,

Father John

## READERS FOR MASS



We are looking for more readers for our Masses. If you can help, simply phone the parish office. Thank-you for your assistance.



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Bill Keane  
JEFF KEANE

“What do the angels say to God when He sneezes?”