

## FOR THE WEEKEND OF MAY 11-12<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The Ascension of the Lord

### Gospel reading

Mk 16:15-20

He said to them, "Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will be condemned. These signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will drive out demons, they will speak new languages. They will pick up serpents [with their hands], and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not harm them. They will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." So then the Lord Jesus, after he spoke to them, was taken up into heaven and took his seat at the right hand of God. But they went forth and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the word through accompanying signs.

### Intercession

That, drawn by the sweetness of the Lord, our parish help to make our Catholic Ministry Appeal an immense success.

### Copy for bulletin announcement

Today's Gospel is the end of Mark's Gospel account. Mark says that when the disciples went out to preach the Gospel, "*the Lord... confirmed the word through accompanying signs*" (Mark 16:20).

How does the Lord usually confirm His word? One of the most attractive signs of the Gospel is joy. The fruits of the Spirit, such as joy, kindness, and gentleness, are usually far more alluring to the seeker of "something more to life" than a dramatic miracle. (Although those are great!)

In a similar way, our parish attracts through joy. It is our joy that draws others to this altar. Together, our prayers are sweet to God, just like the smell of incense. Thank you in advance for bringing that joy to our Annual Appeal as well! Your joyful offerings will bring many to God.

### Copy for pulpit announcement

The joy of the Gospel is what attracts. Please give to our Catholic Ministry Appeal today, so that we can make our parish a place and community of even greater joy to our neighbors.

## **Social media post/content**

Photo: A field of flowers with bees busily at work—up-close on the bees.

Text: *“Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature.”* – Mark 16:15

Copy: When Christ ascended to His Father, He left our parish (a group of his followers) with the commission to preach the Gospel to every creature – and to do so with great joy! You can preach through your support of the Catholic Ministry Appeal today!