

Dear Padre,

My neighbor, a fundamentalist Christian, said I won't be saved unless I accept Jesus as my personal savior. Didn't Jesus become my savior when I was baptized?

Your neighbor is probably referring to John 3:7, when Jesus said, "You must be born anew" (*Common English Bible*). Jesus is talking about a spiritual rebirth; we must have a spiritual birth in order to be saved. As you noted, Catholics believe this happens at baptism. In John 3:5, Jesus says, "Unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, it's not possible to enter God's kingdom."

We are saved by the waters of baptism. But for Catholics, it's not merely a one-time event. We continue to accept or reject the salvation offered us by the decisions we make every day.

Your neighbor used the words "personal savior." Catholic Christians go even deeper through the sacraments. We develop and nurture a very personal relationship with Jesus by regularly receiving the Eucharist. In the sacrament of reconciliation, we admit we have sinned and ask Jesus to forgive us. And in the sacrament of confirmation, our relationship is "sealed" with the gift of the Spirit.

Many Catholics also celebrate the sacrament of marriage. The couple's personal relationship with Jesus is deepened through the love the couple shares.

So, tell your neighbor you are indeed saved by Jesus. And because you are saved, you deepen that relationship with Jesus by living a sacramental life.

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSsR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



PHOTOGRAPHY/SHUTTERSTOCK



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

The Ascension tells us that Jesus, although he ascended to heaven to dwell gloriously at the right hand of the Father, is still and is always among us: this is the source of our strength, our perseverance, and our joy, from the presence of Jesus among us with the strength of the Holy Spirit.

ASCENSION SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2020

Calendar

- Monday**
 MAY 17
 Easter Weekday
 Acts 19:1-8
 Jn 16:29-33
- Tuesday**
 MAY 18
 Easter Weekday
 Acts 20:17-27
 Jn 17:1-11a
- Wednesday**
 MAY 19
 Easter Weekday
 Acts 20:28-38
 Jn 17:11b-19
- Thursday**
 MAY 20
 Easter Weekday
 Acts 22:30; 23:6-11
 Jn 17:20-26
- Friday**
 MAY 21
 Easter Weekday
 Acts 25:13b-21
 Jn 21:15-19
- Saturday**
 MAY 22
 Easter Weekday
 Acts 28:16-20, 30-31
 Jn 21:20-25
- Sunday**
 MAY 23
 Pentecost Sunday
 Acts 2:1-11
 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13
 or Gal 5:16-25
 Jn 20:19-23
 or Jn 15:26-27;
 16:12-15

Know Someone Overly Anxious About Sin?
 Since 1964, the Redemptorists' *Scrupulous Anonymous* free monthly newsletter has ministered compassionately to those struggling with scrupulosity. To subscribe, visit ScrupulousAnonymous.org.



The Ascension of The Lord

May 16, 2021



Holy Spirit Catholic Church & Christ the King Catholic Mission

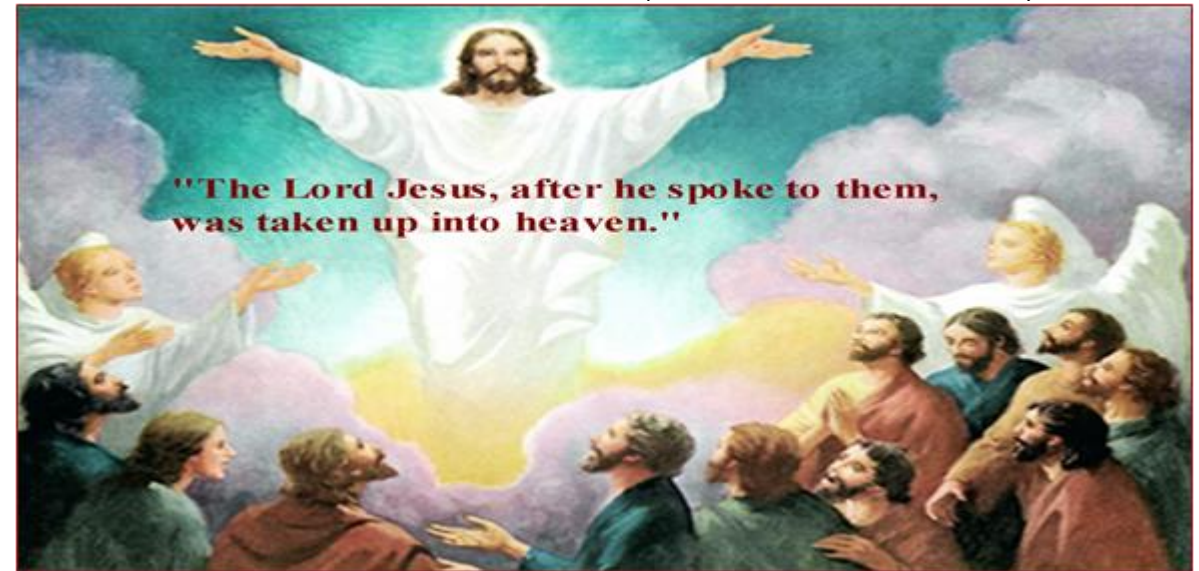
Reverend Peter Kmiecik, Pastor

Deacon John E. Jennings † Deacon Norbert Lloyd, Jr.

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Office Hours: Mon-Thur-8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Fr. Peter is off on Monday



Holy Spirit Mass Schedule & Intentions

Week of May 15 - May 21

- Sat 6:00 pm †Clyde Fisher
 Sun 11:00 am †Leonard Sumter
 Sun 6:00 pm †Jim Freeman
 Mon 8:00 am NO MASS
 Tue 8:00 am NO MASS
 Wed 8:00 am NO MASS
 Thr 8:00 am NO MASS
 Fri 8:00 am NO MASS

Christ the King Mass Schedule & Intentions

Week of May 15 - May 21

- Sat 4:00 pm †Anne Newman
 Sun 9:15 am Parishioners Living & Deceased
 Tue 6:00 pm †All Souls in Purgatory

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Before and after daily Mass, and by Appointment
 1st Friday Adoration – 8:30am- 6:00pm
 at Holy Spirit in St. Patrick's Chapel
 Adoration at Christ the King – Tuesday 5:30pm-6pm

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