Bulletin Shorts for Year C – 2022

Sunday Prayer Shaping Life and Belief

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Easter Time

This Bulletin Shorts Series began in 2016 during the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy. Now, in this seventh year, it still aims to help the faithful and catechumens delve into the Sunday Scriptures and wrestle with Christian life. The hope is to rest more and more in God’s grace and act in more merciful ways. It is a life-long task.

Use these shorts with your diocese, parish, ministry, and friends. Put in the postal and electronic mail, post on the website, print in bulletin or newsletter, and share in other helpful ways. They are a gift. They are also posted on some diocesan worship office web pages. Here are two direct links

* Diocese of Springfield in Illinois: <http://www.dio.org/worship/liturgical-year.html>
* Diocese of Belleville: <https://dps.diobelle.org/dps/worship/seasonal-resources>

**This is my final year for writing these Bulletin Shorts. Seven Years (five in retirement) seem a good sacramental number. It has been a joy. If you or someone you know wants to take up this task, let me know and we can see what the next steps might be.**

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**Corporal Works of Mercy** ♦ Feed the hungry ♦ Give drink to the thirsty ♦ Shelter the homeless ♦ Clothe the naked ♦ Visit the sick ♦ Visit the prisoners ♦ Bury the dead ♦ Give alms to the poor ♦ Care of our Common Home ♦ **Spiritual Works of Mercy** ♦ Counseling the doubtful ♦ Instructing the ignorant ♦ Admonishing the sinner ♦ Comforting the sorrowful ♦ Forgiving injuries ♦ Bearing wrongs patiently ♦ Praying for the living and the dead ♦ Caring for our Common Home ♦

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| Bulletin Shorts for Easter Time in Year C – 2022  |

**Thursday of the Lord’s Supper – 14 April 2022**

**At the Evening Mass**

Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14. Psalm 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18. 1 Corinthians 11:23-26. John 13:1-15.

**Proclaiming the Death of the Lord.** One of the best ways to proclaim the death of the Lord Jesus Christ is to participate in Eucharist and share in Communion. When we do this, we have the strength to wash feet and do all manner of things that others need.

* What will I do and who will I serve this Easter?

**Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday) – 15 April 2022**

Isaiah 52:13–53:12. Psalm 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25. Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9. John 18:1–19:42.

**Adoring the Holy Cross.** We carry the cross in procession. We plant it in the midst of our assemblies. We place it on our walls. We sign ourselves with a cross, invoking the Trinity, to begin and end prayer. In adoring the cross, we place ourselves in the presence of the dead and risen One whose Paschal Mystery saves everything and everyone.

* How will my behaviors bring honor to the cross of Christ?

**Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord**

**At the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night of Easter – Saturday night, 16 April 2022**

Genesis 1:1–2:2. Genesis 22:1-18. Exodus 14:15–15:1. Isaiah 54:5-14. Isaiah 55:1-11. Baruch 3:9-15, 32–4:4. Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28. Romans 6:3-11. Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23. Luke 24:1-12.

**Seeking the Living One.** In this holy night of Easter, we baptize, confirm, and bring to the table new Christians to join the growing band of believers.

* How will I support these washed, oiled, and fed new members of Christ’s Church?
* These are the neophytes of our parish: NN.

**Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord**

**At the Mass during the Day – Sunday, 17 April 2022**

Acts 10:34a, 37-43. Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23. Colossians 3:1-4. OR 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8**.** Sequence – Christians, to the Paschal Victim. John 20:1-9. OR Luke 24:13-35.

**Believing in Risen Life.** After his death and burial, the apostles saw the risen Jesus. They talked with him. They touched him. They ate with him. These things are not done with the dead. They knew he was alive. We believe this still today because we experience his presence in many ways.

* How do I see the risen Lord’s activity still happening today?
* How can I foster belief in the risen Lord by what I say and do?
* How does this belief change my life, my attitudes, my priorities?

**Second Sunday of Easter (or of Divine Mercy) – 24 April 2022**

Acts 5:12-16. Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24. Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19. John 20:19-31.

**Standing in Our Midst.** Sometimes we just want proof. The words and witness of others is not always enough. Even when we do not ask for Jesus to come, he comes to us, just as he did to the disciples in the upper room. He is with us still, with us now, extending mercy and peace.

* What signs do I see of Christ being present, being with us being with me?
* How can I extend Christ’s Easter greeting of peace to others?
* How will I be an ambassador of mercy? What work will I do this week?

**Third Sunday of Easter – 01 May 2022**

Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41. Psalm 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13. Revelation 5:11-14. John 21-1-19.

**Serving Breakfast.** In this third appearance of the risen Lord to his followers, Jesus prepares breakfast on the shore for the disciples toiling in the sea. What an image! Jesus cooks. Jesus feeds them so they can go out and feed and tend the flock.

* What will this weekly meal of Communion enable me to be?
* What will this meal empower me to do?
* How can I then do the mercy work of giving drink to the thirsty and food to the hungry?

**Fourth Sunday of Easter – 08 May 2022**

Acts 13:14, 43-52. Psalm 100:1-2, 3, 5. Revelation 7:9, 14b-17. John 10:27-30.

**Hearing the Voice of the Shepherd.** Oh, to hear the voice of the One who keeps us safe. The One who protects us all. The One who leads us to the Father. We do know and believe that this shepherd still speaks today – often very softly.

* How will I listen for the voice of the Shepherd every day?
* How will I choose to follow the voice of this Shepherd and not other voices?
* How can I help others to listen to this voice? And follow?

**Fifth Sunday of Easter – 15 May 2022**

Acts 14:21-27. Psalm 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13. Revelation 21:1-5a. John 13:31-33a, 34-35.

**Loving One Another.** The gospel today is short and sweet. Glorify God – Jesus does it first and implies we should, too. Love one another – a direct comma to each one of us. These are disciple activities. These are essentials for our way of life.

* How will my words and actions glorify God today?
* Whom will I love – even someone who makes it hard for me to do so?
* How will this glorifying God and loving others change me for the better?

PRINTING NOTE: Check with pastor or pastoral administrator about which readings will be used for the Sixth and Seventh/Ascension Sundays of Easter Time in order to choose the appropriate bulletin shorts.

The *Lectionary for Mass* gives this option: When the Ascension of the Lord is celebrated on the Sunday following the Sixth Sunday of Easter [as it is in most of the United States of America], the second reading and Gospel from the Seventh Sunday of Easter may be read on the Sixth Sunday of Easter.

* **If using all of the assigned readings from the Sixth Sunday of Easter, use this bulletin short:**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter – 22 May 2022**

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29. Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8. Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23. John 14:23-29.

**Keeping the Lord’s Word.** Love me. Keep my words. Will teach you everything. Be not afraid. What an Easter message! From the other side of death, the living Jesus still embraces us, still teaches us, still wants the best of everything for us.

* How will I love God today? What impact will that have on someone else?
* How can I be at peace and trust in the Lord’s care for me?
* How will I shed fear and not let my heart be troubled?
* **If using the first reading from the Sixth Sunday of Easter with the second reading and gospel from the Seventh Sunday, use this bulletin short:**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter – 22 May 2022**

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29. Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8. Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20. John 17:20-26.

**Being One.** Jesus prays at the Last Supper that both his present and all future disciples be one in perfect unity. This unity is a Kingdom of Heaven goal. Even in our somewhat discordant world, praying and working for unity is our fervent task.

* How will I be one with my family?
* How will I be one with my friends?
* How can I be united with all those who believe in God – and even with those who do not believe?

**The Ascension of the Lord – [Thursday, 26 May 2022 – only is some places or] Sunday, 29 May 2022**

Acts 1:1-11. Psalm 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9. Ephesians 1:17-23. OR Hebrews 9:24-28; 10:19-23. Luke 24:46-53.

**Befriending God.** Saint Luke addresses Theophilus at the beginning of the Acts of the Apostles. “Friend of God” is an apt translation of this Greek name. In addressing him, he is addressing each of us. We are called to witness to God in Christ as only a friend can do.

* How, as a friend, will I witness to Christ?
* How, as a friend, will I live the Christian life?
* How, as a friend, will I “teach” others, perhaps more by what I do than by what I say?
* **If the Ascension of the Lord is celebrated on Thursday, then use this bulletin short for the Seventh Sunday.**

**[ Seventh Sunday of Easter Time – 29 May 2022 – only in some places ]**

Acts 7:55-60. Psalm 97:1-2, 6-7, 9. Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20. John 17:20-26.

**Being One.** Jesus prays at the Last Supper that both his present and all future disciples be one in perfect unity. This unity is a Kingdom of Heaven goal. Even in our somewhat discordant world, praying and working for unity is our fervent task.

* How will I be one with my family?
* How will I be one with my friends?
* How can I be united with all those who believe in God – and even with those who do not believe?

**Pentecost Sunday (at the Vigil Mass) – Saturday evening, 04 June 2022**

Extended Form **1.** Genesis 11:1-9. Psalm 33:10-11, 12-13, 14-15. **2.** Exodus 19:3-8a, 16-20b. Psalm: Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56. OR Psalm 19: 8, 9, 10, 11. **3.** Ezekiel 37:1-14. Psalm 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9. **4.** Joel 3:1-5. Psalm 104:1-2a, 24 and 35c, 27-28, 29bc-30. Romans 8:22-27. John 7:37-39.

Simple Form Genesis 11:1-9 ORExodus 19:3-8a, 16-20b OR Ezekiel 37:1-14 OR Joel 3:1-5. Psalm 104:1-2a, 24 and 35c, 27-28, 29bc-30. Romans 8:22-27. John 7:37-39.

**Vigiling at Pentecost.** This newly restored vigil tells the Pentecostal story in much the same way the Easter Vigil tells its story. It is done through many biblical readings of God’s activity. Even if I do not participate in the prayer of Saturday evening, I can spend time with the readings.

* How does the Spirit of God aid me and intercede for me?

**Pentecost Sunday (at the Mass during the Day) – Sunday, 05 June 2022**

Acts 2:1-11. Psalm 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34. 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13. OR Romans 8:8-17. Sequence – Veni, Sancte Spiritus / Come, Holy Spirit, come! John 20:19-23. OR John 14:15-16, 23b-26.

**Being Filled with the Spirit.** Even locked doors cannot keep Jesus away. Even locked doors do not prevent Jesus from breathing the Holy Spirit into us. We do not need to lock ourselves away when the risen Jesus is near. We do not need to lock ourselves away when filled with the Spirit.

* Filled with the Holy Spirit, whom need I forgive?
* Filled with the Holy Spirit, how will I behave today as a child of God?
* Filled with the Holy Spirit, what will I say that needs saying?