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Love

Andrea Del Sarto, 1486-1530

May 10, 2015 6th Sunday of Easter

Sunday Mass:

Vigil 4pm; 9am, 11am

Daily Mass:

Mon - Fri: 9am
Morning Prayer 8:45am

Eucharistic Adoration

Thursdays 6:30 - 7:30pm
Confessions Available

First Saturday Mass: 9am

St. Athanasius Church
300 Haverhill St, Reading, 01867
Mon-Fri 9am-4pm
www.StAthanasiusReading.org
StAthanasius@parishmail.com
Facebook: [http://www.facebook.com/
StAthanasiusReading](http://www.facebook.com/StAthanasiusReading)
Phone: 781-944-0330
Fax: 781-944-1266

Reconciliation: Saturdays 3:15-3:45pm and during Eucharistic Adoration.

Baptism: Celebrated the 3rd Sunday at 1pm. Call to register for Baptism Prep.

Anointing of the Sick: Notify the office when a person is seriously ill. Extraordinary Ministers are available to bring the Eucharist to the homebound.

Marriage: Call at least 6 months in advance of your wedding.





Saturday, May 9

4pm Mass for the People of St. Athanasius

Sunday, May 10

9am Anna Follo - Crowning of Mary
Family Mass

11am Rev. William F. Joyce

Monday, May 11

9am Doris L. Clifford

Tuesday, May 12

9am Mike Doolin

Wednesday, May 13

9am Philip Vozzo

Thursday, May 14

12pm Ascension of the Lord - Mass

6pm "Sung" Mass

Friday, May 15

9am Rev. Robert J. Waldon

Saturday, May 16

4pm Thornton & Peters Families

Sunday, May 17

9am Mass for the People of St. Athanasius

11am Joseph Mastrocola Memorial Mass

High Altar Candles Donation by Anonymous

Please pray for our military and civilians who defend our freedom, especially:

The 26th "Yankee" Brigade, and 1st Lt. Ryan Johnson, US Army, Patrick Cavanaugh, and PFC Kyle Lepore



Remember those in need of prayers, especially:

Maryann Lucerto, Stephanie Lombardo-Saulnier, Gina Campagna, Margaret Sumner, John Cadigan, Mary Lou, Dianne, Bill, Joan D., Scott, Dan Hallidy, David S. Attachi Family, Olga Calautti, Stephen O'Neill, Kathy Oliveira, The Haines Family, Cindy O'Connell, Paula, Joanne Curran, Jimmy, Charles Morrison, Frank F., Frank DelGrecco, Barbara Coffin, John F. O'Brien, Ruthie, Richard Rossi, Robert D, Thomas D, Andrew D, Richard D, Phil T, Jen M, Fran P, Bryan M, Marion M, Anna Windels, Mary Mc Nerney, Richard M, Larry Y, Denise S., John, Annemarie, Mary G., Shirley N, Mary O'C., Carol & Frank, Deborah, Patricia Maines, Justin L., Paula, Mike, David, Bubba Toussaint, Joan D, Nana K., Bob

These names will stay in the Prayer Corner until Sunday, June 7th. Call the office or email Stathanasiusbulletin@parishmail.com to add or renew your loved ones on the list.

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Thursday, May 14	Ascension of the Lord (No Adoration)	See Mass Schedule Page 5
Saturday, May 16	Retrouvaille Post Sessions	3:30-9pm PAC
Sunday, May 17	K of C Pancake Breakfast	After 9am Mass
Monday, May 18	Prayer Shawl	10:30 PAC

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 10

- 10 SUN Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17
- 11 Mon Acts 16:11-15/Jn 15:26-16:4a
- 12 Tue Acts 16:22-34/Jn 16:5-11
- 13 Wed Acts 17:15, 22-18:1/Jn 16:12-15
- 14 Thu Acts 1:1-11/ Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20
- 15 Fri Acts 18:9-18/Jn 16:20-23
- 16 Sat Acts 18:23-28/Jn 16:23b-28
- 17 SUN Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26/1 Jn 4:11-16/Jn 17:11b-19

WEEKLY OFFERTORY

Mass Attendance: 985*

First Collection: \$6506

Nepal Collection: \$1544

This Week: Deficit Reduction Collection

***First Communion Weekend**

Reading Food Pantry

May donation suggestions:

Laundry & dish detergents, household cleaners

Why the Ascension of the Lord Matters

By Rev. Robert Barron (<http://www.wordonfire.org>)

The Feast of the Ascension of the Lord is, I admit, hard to explain to a lot of contemporary people. Jesus passed, in bodily form, from this world to heaven? The key to understanding both the meaning and significance of this feast is a recovery of the Jewish sense of heaven and earth. In regard to “heaven” and “earth,” most of us are, whether we know it or not, Greek in our thought patterns. We tend to think of salvation as an escape from this world—this vale of tears—to a disembodied state called “heaven.”

Biblical cosmology is not fundamentally “dualistic.” Heaven, the arena of God and the angels, touches upon and calls out to earth, the arena of humans, animals, plants, and planets. On the Biblical reading, salvation, therefore, is a matter of the meeting of heaven and earth, so that God might reign as thoroughly here below as he does on high. “Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven”: this is decidedly not a prayer that we might escape from the earth, but rather that earth and heaven might come together.

The first Christians saw the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead as the commencement of the process by which earth and heaven were being reconciled. They appreciated the Risen Christ as the heavenly ruler of the nations, the one who would bring the justice of heaven to this world. Accordingly, just before ascending to heaven, Jesus said, “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” It is fascinating to note how the Ascension and Pentecost are linked: in the Ascension, something of earth moves into the heavenly sphere, and at Pentecost, something of heaven—the Holy Spirit—invades the earth.

The Church, guided by the Holy Spirit down through the ages, is meant to be the privileged place where this coming-together happens. Think of the moment at Mass, just before the singing of the Sanctus, when the priest invokes the angels (the realm of heaven): “May our voices be one with theirs in their triumphant hymn of praise.” What he is suggesting is that earth might, with Christ, ascend to heaven and that heaven, in the person of the Holy Spirit, might descend to earth—and that the two dimensions might sing together in harmony.

The Ascension is Jesus’ journey, not to another [physical] place, but to another dimension. But this dimension to which he has gone is not alien to us. It is instead a source of inspiration, power, and direction. And this is why the angels (denizens of heaven) who appear to the disciples just after Jesus’ departure say, “Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky?” What they are hinting at, none too subtly, is this: under the influence of Jesus’ spirit, get to work! Get on with the mission of the Church!

FROM THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Greetings from the Parish Pastoral Council!

Another year has passed and with that comes the end of terms for 3 members of the Parish Council. During the last several PPC meetings, current members prayerfully discerned needs of both our parish and the council and have made the following recommendations to the parish community for new PPC membership:

- 1) Ed Fitzpatrick
- 2) Vanessa Santosuosso
- 3) Chris Scozzari

During the weekend of May 16/17 a ballot will be available to vote Yes or No to the PPC nominee slate. Please feel free to contact any current PPC members if you have any questions or comments.

Dino Cuscuna (Council Vice-Chair, outgoing PPC member) 781-439-0405

Prayer Group Forming

Micah 6:8 says: "He has shown you, Oh mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Isaiah 1:17 says, "Learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless. Plead the case of the widow. Countless times, we are called by God to assist those who are less fortunate than us and those who suffer. Gary Haugen, President of International Justice Mission argues: "The work of justice begins with prayer. As we seek justice on behalf of others, we rely on an all-powerful God to help us do what is only possible with and through him." While it's true that seeking justice requires money, time and resources, it also requires prayer. Katie Curtis is starting a prayer group that will meet at 3:00 on Sundays to pray for issues of injustice in the world, and for those who seek justice. Anyone can come and there's no commitment. Just come with something you would like the group to pray for.

Contact Katie at: sweetavenue19@gmail.com if you are interested in coming and/or have any questions.

Congratulations to our 2014-2015

First Holy Communicants!

Who received this past Saturday at 11:00.
What a glorious day for all who participated.

Ladies' Prize Bingo!

Friday, May 15th

6:30pm in the PAC



Please bring food, dessert or wine to share.

Coffee and tea provided

\$20/\$15 for students

Ladies of any age are welcome to play!
Prizes include jewelry, make up, with grand prize purses from:

Michael Kors and Coach

Contact Cindy Canavan for tickets:

Cindy.Canavan@comcast.net or 781-872-0042

Wine Tasting Fundraiser

Saturday, May 30th 6:00-10pm

\$40 per person

Food, Auctions and Wine
Tickets available in the office 9am-4pm,
Through May 23rd

Funds raised at this event will help our
Parish budget needs for the summer.

Please join us for a fabulous night!



YOUTH MINISTRY: MIDDLE SCHOOLERS, HIGH SCHOOLERS, AND PARENTS

St. Athanasius Parish Outreach

HAPPY EASTER! Continue to enrich your faith this Easter season by joining us for any of our upcoming youth ministry activities.

We are expanding our outreach efforts so that we may better assist those in our community who may need a helping hand in a variety of ways. We are looking for volunteers who would be willing to assist in the following ways:

Come by after mass on Mother's Day to buy a flower bouquet and help raise money for our youth ministry program. We'll be selling Mother's Day bouquets for \$6 after all three masses at St. Athanasius this weekend (May 9-10).

- ◆ Drive parishioners to church
- ◆ Prepare meals
- ◆ Visit parishioners who may be unable to attend church
- ◆ Bake desserts for the Sawtelle Hospice House

Our next Youth Commission leadership meeting is Sunday, June 14th at 7-8pm in the St. Athanasius Parish Center. Anyone who would like to take a leadership role in Catholic youth ministry here in Reading are welcome to attend, including parents and youth. Dessert will be provided.

Please let us know if you can provide any of these important services. If you are already on the Hospice House dessert list, you **do not** need to volunteer for that effort again since we already have your contact information. Please contact Ellen Terry at eterry18@yahoo.com or 781-944-5431 to volunteer for any of these programs. THANK YOU!

We need parent volunteers for any and all events and activities so please contact me if you'd like to get involved. If you have any questions or interest in any of these offerings please feel free to contact me at [585-200-2831](tel:585-200-2831) or bagostinelli@parishmail.com.

Peace,

Brad Agostinelli

St. Athanasius and St. Agnes Youth Ministry

Follow us and stay updated with social media!

-Instagram @saintasyouth (#ReadingCatholicYM)

-St. Athanasius and St. Agnes Youth Ministry Facebook page (#ReadingCatholicYM)



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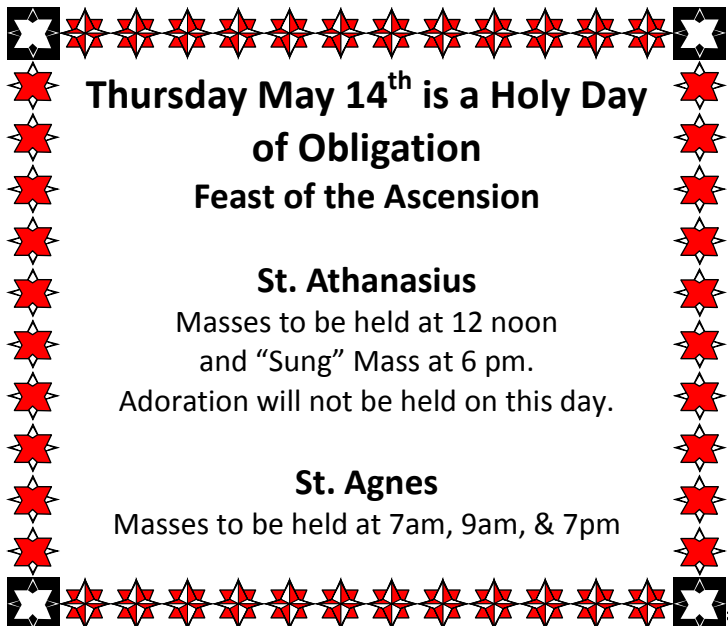


Pancake Breakfast

Presented compliments of the Reading Knights of Columbus

Sunday May 17, 2015
10am in the Lower Church Hall

Please join your fellow parishioners for breakfast and to also honor the St. Athanasius Altar Servers and Youth Choir.



Thursday May 14th is a Holy Day
of Obligation
Feast of the Ascension

St. Athanasius
 Masses to be held at 12 noon
 and "Sung" Mass at 6 pm.
 Adoration will not be held on this day.

St. Agnes
 Masses to be held at 7am, 9am, & 7pm

Attention All Religious Ed Families
 Religious Education Registration is now open for the 2015-2016 school year. Registration forms were emailed to all Religious Education families. If you did not receive an email, please call the office at 781-944-0330. Forms are also available on the St. Athanasius website www.stathanasiusreading.org and in the back of the Church. **Please return your registration forms as time is running out, we need to order books to plan accordingly. Thank you!**

Society of St Vincent de Paul

Times are tough for some of our parish families. We can help them with food, from being evicted, with heating and keeping their lights on. If you or someone you know needs help, please call us at 781-258-8767.



Malden Catholic HS Shadow Days

Malden Catholic High School is hosting Mini-Shadow Days for boys who are currently in the 7th grade. The dates are Tuesday, May 19th, Wednesday, May 20th, or Wednesday, May 27th, 2015 from 8:00 a.m.-10 a.m. This is an opportunity for young men and their parents to see all that Malden Catholic has to offer. Please visit www.maldencatholic.org/admissions for more information.

Thank You from Reading Food Pantry

All of us at Reading Food Pantry thank all of you for your generous donation of groceries. Your generosity is a blessing to over one hundred households here in Reading who benefit from the Reading Food Pantry every month.

Parish Staff

- Pastor **Reverend Darin V. Colarusso**
frcolarusso@parishmail.com
- Parochial Vicar.....**Reverend Patrick Armano**
frarmano@parishmail.com
- Permanent Deacon.....**Deacon Neil Sumner**
nsumner@parishmail.com
- Permanent Deacon.....**Deacon Matt Baltier**
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- Administrative Office Manager..... **Nancy Sieger**
nsieger@parishmail.com
- Coordinator of Religious Ed..... **Jo-Ann Rossi**
jrossi@parishmail.com
- Music Director.....**John Donovan**
jdonovan@parishmail.com
- Business Manager.....**Janine Castro**
jcastro@parishmail.com
- Administrative Assistant **Luann Barretto**
lbarretto@parishmail.com
- Youth Ministry.....**Brad Agostinelli**
bagostinelli@parishmail.com

Bulletin Submissions
 stathanasiusbulletin@parishmail.com
 By Monday 9 am

Coffee Hour

NO COFFEE HOUR MAY 17th
 Please attend KofC Breakfast
 We need hosts for
 May 24th & 31st
 Contact Sophie at 781-944-9085
 or sign up in the Parish Center .



Donation Opportunities for Special Items

Heating Oil (1 week)	\$500.00
1 Month of Altar candles	\$100.00
Flowers for the week	\$50.00
Bread & Wine for the week	\$40.00

Rachel mourns her children; She refuses to be consoled, because her children are no more. Thus says the Lord: "Cease from your cries of mourning. Wipe the tears from your eyes... There is hope for your future."
Jeremiah 31:15-17

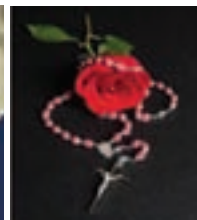


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"The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus. Those who accept his offer of salvation are set free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness and loneliness. With Christ joy is constantly born anew."

~Pope Francis



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Evangelization Focus

"Evangelization must be the first focus of our Church. Then, the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, which result from living and sharing the Gospel, will transform the culture around us. We have the mission 'to repair the world,' what the Jews call *Tikkun olam*."

~Cardinal Sean O'Malley

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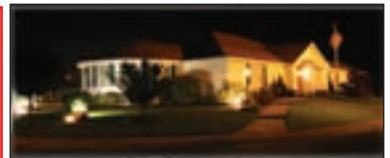
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