



# EPISTLE

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Greenville, Ohio**

*Helping all people find a connection to God's community.*

*May 2021*

Dear Friends,

**A Statement of Mission**



As Episcopalians in the  
Diocese of Southern Ohio,  
we commit to:

- † Know the common story  
Deut. 11:18-21
- † Proclaim our common  
faith  
Matt. 28:19-20
- † Pray our common prayer  
1 Thess. 5:16-19
- † Drink the common cup  
Mark 10:38
- † Serve the common good  
Matt. 25:37-40

In the name of our Lord  
and Savior Jesus Christ.

This is our common  
ministry.

It's May! The cold weather is supposed to go away, the flowers start to bloom, yada yada yada. In the church, this month brings the end of special seasons, and we move into what's best known as Ordinary Time. We gave up the septadecagesimaquasi Sunday terms long ago.

Pentecost Sunday, when we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit to the first apostles, comes on May 23. It's a major feast day in the life of the church, appropriate for baptism and celebrations of ministry. Ten days before that (forty days after Easter Sunday) we celebrate the Ascension of Jesus. This day always falls on a Thursday. This year, we will mark the day with a spoken Holy Eucharist in the church at noon on May 13.

The three days immediately preceding Ascension are known as Rogation Days. In the "good old days" the parish priest would vest, grab an acolyte or three, and process around the boundaries of the parish with incense and holy water, chanting the Great Litany and other prayers during these three days. Parish boundaries were identified as the half-way point between one altar and the next closest altar. If we were to do that, it would pretty much be the Darke County border, with a stretch upward to the Celina area because the next Episcopal parish to our north is in Van Wert, with Sidney to the northeast.

Rogation Days have taken on a different meaning. In one parish, I invited folks to bring plants and seeds for their own and the church gardens. We would celebrate the Eucharist, then bless the seeds and plants. Then we would go play in the dirt while cleaning up winter's debris around the church grounds.

In an agricultural community, these days could have special meaning as we begin planting in anticipation of the harvest to come. We do the same thing with Holy Baptism, and even in our weekly celebrations of Holy Eucharist. Just as we water and fertilize our plantings, we pour the waters of baptism on a new member of any age. We fertilize the growth by teaching and example, and get to sit back and watch God provide the growth. This is true whether we're talking about plants or people.

This year, what's sometimes called Rogation Sunday is the second Sunday in May, and will likely be supplanted by celebrations of Mother's Day. But I invite you take some time that day, and every day, to honor Mother Earth as we enjoy the season and anticipate the harvest to come. After all, we who are formed from the dust of the earth and breathe the life of the Holy Spirit spend all our celebrations anticipating God's great harvest, yet to come.

--Wayne+

**Save the date: Church Picnic**

When: June 13, 2021

Where: Tim & Darci Burns  
6877 Ludy Road, Greenville

Time: 11:00

Details to come. The picnic will be canceled if there is bad weather.



**DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Pentecost, May 23

Trinity Sunday, May 30

June 6, 9:30 services begin



We still have some openings on our flower schedule for 2021: July 11, and August 22. Please contact the church office if you are interested in filling a date.



The 2021 church directory is available on the lounge table. If you would like one mailed to you please contact the church office.



<b>Date/Proper</b>	<b>Readings</b>	<b>Assistants</b>	<b>Flowers*</b>	<b>Offertory</b>
May 2 Fifth Sunday of Easter	Acts 8:26-40 Psalm 22:24-30 1 John 4:7-21 John 15:1-8	Chris Nelson, Lector Peter Hemer, LEM/ Prayers Fred Dean, Usher	Kim Bohler	Kim Bohler
May 9 Sixth Sunday of Easter	Acts 10:44-48 Psalm 98 1 John 5:1-6 John 15:9-17	Peter Hemer, Lector Marty Davis, LEM/ Prayers Peter Hemer, Usher	Mary Beth Stoltz	Tba
May 13 Ascension Holy Eucharist at Noon	Acts 1:1-11 Psalm 47 Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53	Tba	None	none
May 16 Seventh Sunday of Easter	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Psalm 1 1 John 5:9-13 John 17:6-19	Marlene Harvey, Lector Fred Dean, LEM/ Prayers Dick Mote, Usher	Nora & Doug Mahoney	Tba
May 23 Pentecost	Acts 2:1-11 Psalm 104:25-35, 37 Romans 8:22-27 John 15:26-27; 16:4b- 15	Karen Burkett, Lector PJ Brumbaugh, LEM/ Prayers Fred Dean, Usher	Joan & Dick Mote	Tba
May 30 Trinity Sunday	Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm 29 Romans 8:12-17 John 3:1-17	Chris Nelson, Lector Gary Benesh, LEM/ Prayers Peter Hemer, Usher	Nancy Brumbaugh	tba

\*Please notify the office of flower dedication by noon on the Tuesday before the Sunday listed.

***The Church Office will be closed on Monday, May 31 for the Memorial Day holiday.***

***Our Summer Schedule begins on Sunday, June 6, with worship beginning at 9:30 AM.***

# May 2021

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																
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