



ASCENSION

Roman Catholic Church
86-13 55th Avenue Elmhurst, NY 11373

Papal Mission Statement

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we, the people of Ascension, strive to be united in Christ through worship and prayer, grow in Christ through God's word and the sacraments, and serve Christ in one another by sharing time, talent and treasure.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JULY 26, 2026



From the Pastor's Desk

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 26, 2026
Matthew 13:44-52

Dear Ascension Family,

Blessings of peace and good health! I hope that you are all enjoying the summer by visiting family members, relatives and friends near and far. As for me, I will be having my vacation in the Philippines starting on August 3.

Let us now reflect on the gospel reading this 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Of the twelve years I had been in the seminary, four of those years I spent in studying Christian Philosophy. In Christian Philosophy, there is something known as *summum bonum* (Latin words meaning the *supreme good*). The *summum bonum* is believed to be not just the best thing a person could ever have, but also that good which contains in itself or brings along with it all other good and desirable things. To help you understand the *summum bonum*, let me illustrate it with my childhood experience.

When I was in the elementary grades, sometimes on the weekends I would go with my grandfather to his farm. The farm was planted with coconut trees and other fruit-bearing trees. I would go for the purpose of eating fresh young coconut meat and fruits like guavas. My grandfather also had chickens. They were not in the pen but just free to roam around. But before nightfall, my grandfather and his helpers would round up the mother hens and their chicks. They would get a large basket, lure the mother hen into the basket and cover it up. Then the mother hen inside the basket would cluck to her chicks and they would all gather around the basket. Then my grandfather and his helpers would raise a little the basket and the chicks would rush in to be with their mother hen. In this illustration, the chicks can be compared to the many good things of life, and the mother hen can be compared to the *summum bonum*, which brings along with it all the other good things.

The gospel reading today invites us to ask ourselves this important question: Among all the good things we desire in life, which are the chicks, and which one is the mother hen? What would be the mother hen or the *summum bonum* which brings along continue next page

Rectory Office Hours:

Monday - Friday: 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon | 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM
Saturday 9:00 AM - 12 Noon | 1:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Telephone: (718) 335-2626 | Fax: (718) 335-4181

Email: ascensionrc@aol.com | Website: www.ascensionparishelmhurst.org

SCHOOL: Saint Adalbert Catholic Academy <https://saintadalbertca.org>

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday: 8:00 AM

Saturday : 8:00 AM

: 5:00 PM (Vigil Mass)

Sunday : 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM

1:00 PM (Spanish)

1st Saturday @ 5:00 PM (Cebuano Choir)

2nd Saturday @ 5:00 PM (Tagalog Choir)

3rd Saturday @ 5:00 PM (God the Father
of all Mankind with El Shaddai Choir)

4th Saturday @ 5:00 PM (Divine Mercy)

Rev. Anacleto S. Asebias Jr.
Pastor

Rev. Kyrian C. Echekwu
Parochial Vicar

Sr. Mary Genevieve Ofori-Atta, HDR
Director of Religious Education

Darlene Bastillada Wilson
Coordinator of Youth Ministry

Edna Mosquera
Parish Secretary

Romulo Quiblat
Parish Council Chair

Diona Nicoló
Finance Council Chair

Maria San Pedro
Parish Trustees

with it all the other good things? The gospel reading gives us the answer: The mother hen or the *summum bonum* which we all should long for is the KINGDOM OF GOD. That is why Jesus in one occasion said to his disciples: "Seek first the Kingdom of God and all other things will be given to you as well" (Mt 6:33). That is the very nature of God's Kingdom. If you have it, then you have everything.

Indeed, God's Kingdom is the *summum bonum*. The parables of the hidden treasure and the pearl of great price stress this point in their own particular way. Both the man who discovered the hidden treasure and the merchant who found the pearl of great price are taken aback by their discovery. Everything else seems unimportant by comparison. The value and importance of their discovery takes precedence over everything else. So they sacrifice their other possessions, and use every means to possess the new-found treasure. And they do it in such a way that there is not turning back later. If this venture should fail, they will have nothing. The risk undertaken is total. Yet, for all this, they made the choice with joy! There is no element of constraint or pressure in their choice. There is no element of anxiety in their risk.

The two people in the parables, however, found the treasure by different ways. The man who found the treasure in a field was not looking for anything. It seems that he stumbled on this wondrous thing by chance. This was the experience of St. Paul on the road to Damascus. He had a sudden and powerful life-changing encounter with Christ.

The merchant, on the other hand, has been on the look out for pearls. He has been keeping an eye for pearls that are even more valuable than those he has already found. Then he spots one that surpasses all the rest. He liquidates all his assets to get one pearl. This was the experience of St. Augustine, going from one thing to another. His restlessness was actually a disguised search for God. Later when he reflected on his coming to God, he wrote, "Late have I loved you! You were within me, but I was outside, and it was there that I searched for you.... Created things kept me from you."

Whether it be a sudden, unexpected find or the object of a lifelong search, God's Kingdom is the supreme treasure. But to possess it we must be willing to give up or live behind things or persons dear to us. God's Kingdom is a grace. Nothing can pay for it. But it requires renunciation from those who have discovered it. Thus Jesus issued the challenge, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."

Praying for you all,
Fr. Anacleto

ENSURING A SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL

The Diocese of Brooklyn has reached an agreement with the New York State Attorney General to enhance child safety measures. This agreement required updated training for all clergy, employees, and volunteers who work with children. The new training is designed to provide valuable information to help adults ensure the safety of children and adults during interactions.

If you are working with children in any capacity, please log in to your account at Virtus.org and complete any of the outstanding training items. If you have any questions, please contact 718-965-7300 X6076.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism

2nd Saturday of the month @ 11:00 AM, Baptism Class is the last Saturday of the month preceding the baptism @ 9:00 AM, pre-registration is needed, available in English & Spanish instruction. Please call the rectory to schedule, at least one month ahead of desired date. For further information and for the requirements of the godparents, please call the rectory office.

Confession

Saturday @ 4:00 – 4:40 PM and by appointment

Marriage

Couple should contact the rectory office for information and registration at least 6 months prior to the date of marriage.

Anointing of the Sick

Call the rectory to arrange for a Priest's visit.

CHURCH OFFERING

July 11th - 2026

1st Collection - \$6,695.00

2nd Collection - \$1,692.00 (Air Conditioning)

Upcoming Collections

July 26th - Upkeep of Rectory and Grounds

August 2nd - Air Conditioning

August 9th - Church Maintenance

August 16th - Mission Co-op (Mission Appeal)

Online Giving

If you are interested in donating online, please visit the parish website at www.ascensionparishelmhurst.org. Parishioners can schedule their contribution to be made weekly, bi-weekly or monthly.

JESUS NEEDS YOU

(Priestly & Religious Vocations)

"Ask and you shall receive. Seek and you shall find. Nock and it will be opened to you."

Ask in prayer to know your vocation. Seek and find ways to serve. Knock on the doors of those who can help guide you! If you think God may be offering you the grace of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, contact the Vocation Office at 718-827-2454 or email: vocations@diobrook.org



**Saturday, July 25th**

5:00 PM People of the Parish

Sunday, July 26th

9:30 AM Vicente Rivera

11:30 AM Ricardo B. Dela Cruz

1:00 PM Josafat Palacios
Gladiz Peña
Joaquin Xochimiltl (L)7:00 PM In Honor of God the Father of All
Mankind**Monday, July 27th**8:00 AM Karen Doria (L)
Cristopher Xochimiltl (L)
Alicia Loida Battalla7:00 PM In Honor of God the Father of All
Mankind**Tuesday, July 28th**8:00 AM Teresita Maranan (L)
Ruth B. Dioquimo
Hortencia Punzanal (L)7:00 PM In Honor of God the Father of All
Mankind**Wednesday, July 29th** - Ss. Martha, Mary and Lazarus

8:00 AM Virgilio Olivar Garcillano

7:00 PM In Honor of God the Father of All
Mankind**Thursday, July 30th** - St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop
and Doctor of the Church8:00 AM Eliza Fontanos Saronhillo
Franco Manahan
Vicente Rivera7:00 PM In Honor of God the Father of All
Mankind**Friday, July 31st** - St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest

8:00 AM Christina Bariso (L)

7:00 PM In Honor of God the Father of All
Mankind**Saturday, August 1st** - St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and
Doctor of the Church

8:00 AM Purgatorial

7:00 PM In Honor of God the Father of
All Mankind**MEMORIALS**

July 26 - August 1

**Altar Bread and Wine has been donated****In Loving memory of**
Joseph Coscentino**Sanctuary Lamp will burn In****Loving Memory of**
Cabreira & Castellano Family**Altar Flowers has been donated**
In Loving Memory of
(please contact the Rectory Office to request a memorial)**Altar Candles will burn In****Loving Memory of**
Tom Colago**Memorials are available, kindly contact Rectory Office.****Pray for the Sick:**

Rosa Tan, Lydia Go, Remedios Sisco Louie, Julia Martinez, Luis Amulio, Elizabeth Yee, Joel Rivera, Gloria Patricia Rios, Harold, Diego y Kennedy Gomez, Elisa Marquina, Maria Dauro, Karla Nicole Paredes, Romelia Arenas, Rubelia Arenas, Enrique Soto, Eduardo D. Soto, Teresita Rustia Danesco, Evangelina & Victoria Danesco, Nazarete Serion, Nerissa Infante, Laura Kreft, Shirley Ann Gundran, Avelina Quilung, Dennis Anthony Calimlim, Exelito Valencia, Bonifacio Gungab, Margie Bulwag, Egbert Nuñez, Maria Dala Rosa George, Leticia Maranan, Denise Giglio, Beth Bagnel Enriquez, Cely DeBorja, Teresa Reale, Janet P. Cordi, Cristian Ardila, Rey Garcia, Susan, Elena Rivera, Lizzette Sanchez Ricardez, Aquino Zapanta, Antonio Miele, Ruby Tan, Ben Gil, Jevonn Christoff Tan, Julieta Mercado, Renato Mercado, Ivan Tasyayo, Mario Tasyayo, Margarita Vasquez, Arlene Mary Ruth Rustia-Songcuan and Hans Aristotile Rustia, Jenny Chua, Wena Chua, Catherine Fraser, Victoriano Arroyo Barrientos, Emesto Tapia, Sergio Jensen Tan, Julliana Tan, Lele Uy, Francis, Maria Fe De Jesus, Dina Mandap Niestemski, Lucia Vasquez and Marites Danesco, Maria Loper, Matthew and Mary DiGiorgi, Angela Z. Reddin, Alba Lucia Vigoya, Esperanza Ortega de Moreno, Josie Licas and Ashley Martinez Morales. To add names, please call the Parish Office.

**2026 Annual Catholic Appeal**
One Church. Diverse Ministries. United Mission.

The 2026 Annual Catholic Appeal supports the mission of our parish and the daily work of the Church in Brooklyn and Queens.

Once we exceed our goal, we will then receive 100% of all funds raised above this figure directly back to our parish for operations and improvements. Donations for this year are being accepted. Donate at AnnualCatholicAppeal.org or text ACA to 917-336-1255.

Summary Report as of July 20, 2026

Goal: \$56,228.00

Pledged: \$44,594.00

Received: \$26,943.00

To donate on-line: <https://catholicfoundationhq.org/annual-catholic-appeal/> Checks can be made out directly to:

Annual Catholic Appeal

Diocese of Brooklyn P.O. Box 310
Kensington, CT 06037-0310**Remember, that no gift is too small. Thank you.**

Spanish Corner:

El Sacramento del Bautismo

Tenemos Bautismo en español el tercer sábado del mes a las 11:00 AM. La clase pre-bautismal será el sábado antes del bautismo a las 9:00 AM. Se requiere inscripción previa para la clase y el Bautismo con un mes de anticipación. Llamar a la oficina parroquial para más información.

Clases de Educación Religiosa Para Adultos

La Orden de la Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos (OICA) son clases para adultos necesitados de recibir los sacramentos de Bautismo, Comunión o Confirmación. Las clases de OICA también son para adultos que no son Católicos, pero están interesados en ser Católicos.

Para información sobre el programa y atención en español, llamar al 718-335-2626, en el horario de día de lunes a Sábado.

Clases De Educación Religiosa Para Niños/ Jóvenes

Las clases de Educación Religiosa para los niños/jóvenes del primero a octavo grado toman lugar los domingos de septiembre a junio. Se requiere prueba de bautismo y acta de nacimiento para todo niño registrado por primer vez. Para más información en español llamar al 718-335-2626, en el horario de día de lunes a Sábado.

Horario de Clases para Septiembre 2026

Todos los estudiantes inscritos en las clases de Educación Religiosa deben de estar en el edificio de la escuela (86-37 53 Ave) a las 9:00 AM. Asistencia será a las 9:15 AM seguido por Oración, lectura del Evangelio dominical y discusión. Las clases serán de 9:30 AM a 10:45 AM. Después de clases: 10:45 AM a 11:00 AM los estudiantes recogen sus libros y caminan hacia la Iglesia con sus maestros para la Misa de 11:30 AM, Misa de familia. Después de la Misa los niños son despedidos y pueden ser recogidos por sus padres.

Inscripciones para el programa del próximo año escolar se están actualizando al presente. Favor de pasar por la Oficina Parroquial para recoger la registración o para más información.

Garantizando un Lugar Seguro Para Todos

La Diócesis de Brooklyn ha llegado a un acuerdo con la Fiscalía General del Estado de Nueva York para reforzar las medidas de seguridad infantil. Este acuerdo exige entrenamiento actualizado para todo el clero, empleados y voluntarios que trabajan con niños. El nuevo entrenamiento está diseñado para proporcionar información valiosa que ayuda a los adultos a garantizar la seguridad de niños y adultos durante las interacciones.

Si trabaja con niños, inició sesión en su cuenta en Virtus.org y complete cualquiera de los elementos de entrenamiento pendientes. Si tiene alguna pregunta, comuníquese al 718-965-7300 X6076.

PRAYER GROUPS & DEVOTIONS

- Monday:**
Miraculous Medal Novena
Mondays @ 8:30 AM
- Tuesday:**
Spanish Prayer Group @ 7:00 PM
- Wednesday:**
Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Novena @ 8:30 AM | Novena Mass
Holy Hour / Exposition & Benediction
1st Friday @ 8:30 AM Mass
Our Lady of Fatima | Most Sacred Heart of Jesus & Black Nazarene
1st Friday – Angelus | Rosary | Novena to Our Lady of Fatima @ 6:00 PM & Mass @ 7:00 PM
Parish Choir Practice
3rd Friday 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM (Lower Church)
Divine Mercy Devotion Prayer Group Choir Practice
4th Friday 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM (Lower Church)
Religious Education Children's Choir
2nd, 3rd, 4th and if applicable 5th Friday @ 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (Lower Church)
- Saturday:**
2000 Hall Mary
1st Saturday @ 8:30 AM
Lady of Mary, Mediatrix of all Grace
2nd Saturday @ 8:30 AM
God the Father of All Mankind Devotion
Prayer Group
3rd Saturday @ 4:00 PM Novena (Church)
followed by the 5:00 PM Mass
Divine Mercy Devotion Prayer Group
4th Saturday @ 4:00 PM Novena (Church)
followed by the 5:00 PM Mass
El Shaddai
2nd and 3rd Saturday
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (Lower Church)
Youth Ministry
4th Saturday
1:00 PM - 4:30 PM (Lower Church)
- Sunday:**
Ascension Parish Rosary Society
1st Sunday @ 9:30 AM (Church)
CFC Christian Life Program*
1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and if applicable 5th Sunday
@ 2:00 to 5:00 PM (Lower Church)
4th Sunday of the month @ 3:00 to 6:00 PM (Lower Church)

Religious Education Classes for Children Class Schedule for September 2026

All students enrolled in Faith Formation classes are to be at the school building (P.S. 211Q Grand Avenue) at 9:00 AM, 9:15 AM Attendance
General opening prayers/Sunday Gospel reading and sharing
Class 9:30 AM—10:45 AM

10:45 AM—11:00 AM students gather their belongings

11:00 AM students and teachers walk to the Church

11:30 AM Mass with parents

After the Mass children are dismissed and can be picked up by parents.

Registrations for Faith Formation are presently being accepted at the Rectory Office for classes from: 1st - 8th Grades. Proof of baptism and birth certificate is required for children who are being registered for the first time. For further information on registration please call the rectory office at 718-335-2626.

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OICA)

Are you an unbaptized adult but want to be baptized in the Catholic church? Or, are you baptized non-Catholic who desires to be a Catholic? Or, are you baptized Catholic in need of the Sacrament of Confirmation? The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults is the place for you. For further information please call the rectory office at 718-335-2626.

St. Camillus de Lellis

July 18

"Logos" are symbols that represent companies, groups and products. One of the most familiar logos around the world is the "red cross." It represents health service and care. The first person to wear a red cross as an emblem of someone who cares for the sick is St. Camillus de Lellis.

Camillus was born in 1550 in Italy. He came from a military family. He had been addicted to gambling that kept him in poverty. To pay his debts, he would fight in local wars that pervaded Italy in those days as a mercenary. One day he was seriously wounded and was brought to a hospital in Rome where he received horrible care.

His terrible experience at the hospital opened the door to his real vocation. Camillus decided to do what he could to improve medical care for others. He gave up gambling and decided to fill the gap in his life by caring for the sick. He started a group of men who would tend to people's medical needs. Their insignia was a habit with a bold red cross on it. Camillus was later ordained to the priesthood and his group became a religious congregation - the Congregation of the Servants of the Sick, later called the "Camillians."

Their symbol of a red cross on their habit became the remote beginning of the formal institution of the "red cross" at the Geneva Convention in 1800's as the symbol for international health care workers (the red crescent was later added for Islamic countries).

Camillus de Lellis died at the age of sixty-four and was named patron saint of health care workers, nurses and hospital personnel.

There are lessons we can get from the life of St. Camillus. His own terrible hospital experience did not make him bitter but gave him the resolve to do something to assure that others would not undergo the same negligent treatment. He also sought to treat the entire person - body and spirit. The emphasis he gave to physical health was matched by care for their soul and spirit. As a priest, he could tend to their spiritual care as well as their physical condition.

NEW TO OUR PARISH? WELCOME! PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

New parishioners are to register in the Parish. Please notify the Parish Office of any changes in address or phone number.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone: _____

Email _____

☐ I wish to receive a registration form

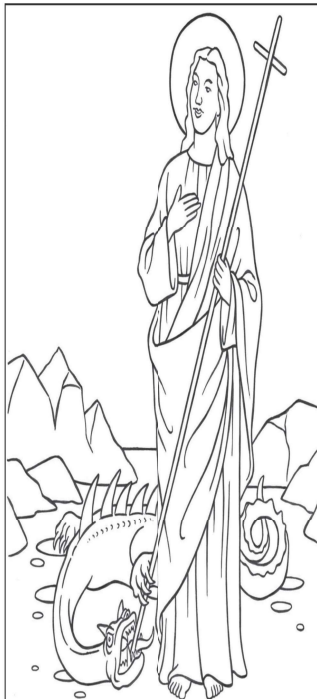
☐ I have an address change

☐ I am moving out of the Parish

Please cut out and return to Parish office or drop in the collection basket. Thank you.



Sunday Gospel Activities



Saint Martha - @TheCatholicKid.com

Brought to you by CatholicMom.com and Holy Cross Family Ministries.
THE FAMILY THAT PRAYS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER.