

# HOLY SPIRIT SYNODAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Celebrating 16 years of faith, welcome and service, because it is about relationships, not rules!

02 JUNE 2019 – SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

## TODAY'S LITURGY

**Today's Intention:** For Our Parishioners, living and deceased

Prelude: "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing" #467

Welcome and "Good News" (Natalie L.)

**Gathering Song:** "Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise" #468

Introductory Rite and Penitential Litany: #221

Glory to God: Mass of Light, Gloria #222

Opening Prayer

Reading I: Acts 1:1-11 (Sr. Linda R.)

**Psalm Response:** Psalm 47 #36

Reading II: Ephesians 1:15-23 (Ralph L.)

**Gospel Acclamation:** Mass of Light, Alleluia #223

Holy Gospel: Luke 24:46-53 (Dcn. Jan)

Homily: (Dcn. Jan)

Profession of Faith: **Nicene Creed**

(Please, see hymnal, inside back cover)

Intercessions: **Rx. Hear us and open us to Your Spirit!** (Walt B.)

Kiss of Peace

**Preparation of Gifts:** "Lord, You Gave the Great ..." #466

Eucharistic Prayer: Mass of Light, #225, 226, 228; 230

Lord's Prayer: Our Father, #15

Lamb of God Litany: Mass of Light #231

*Eucharistic Ministers: Dcn. Jan. Fr. Sam; Fr. Lionel*

**Communion Procession:** "In the Breaking of the Bread" #843

**Song of Praise:** "Go to the World" #469

Prayer after Communion

Prayer Over the People and Blessing

**Closing Song:** "Go Make of All Disciples" #666

**JESUS**  
has gone away to heaven  
and some day He will  
**R · E · T · U · R · N**  
A C T S 1 : 11

## THE ROAD AHEAD

**Ministry Team Meetings:**

-**Head to Heart:** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday

-**Stewardship:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday

-**Finance:** Weds, June 12, 7pm

-**Landscape:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday.

-**Outreach:** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday.

**2019 Hurricane Season!**

June 1<sup>st</sup>-November 30<sup>th</sup>. Be safe, be prepared, have a plan!

**Sharing Sunday**, NEXT Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our focus items: *gift box items for "XPmas in July"* to benefit the residents of Evergreen Manor, Safety Harbor.

**First Friday Holy Hour**, THIS Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 7-8pm. Come, spend time with your Lord!

**Pentecost Sunday**, June 9<sup>th</sup>, It's our parish feast day, so wear your "red"! A group photo and "**Picnic Fixins**" **Potluck** will follow our feastday Mass.

**Fathers' Day Blessing**, Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to bring a framed photo of your father to place before the altar.

**June Parish Council Meeting**, Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 7-9pm, Conference room.

**Christian Initiation for Eiven**, son of Jared and Rhianna, Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 10:30am

**St. Pete Pride 2019!**

Parade, Sat., June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 11a

Festival, Sun., June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 11a-5p

## FROM WHERE I STAND

Blessed Sunday,  
dear Community and Friends!

Jesus prays to the Father that all those who believe in him may be one, as he and the Father are one. And he goes on to give a dizzying description of what this “being one” is. Here is a summary:

*The Father is in Christ.*

*Christ is in the Father.*

*Christ is in the people  
who believe in him*

*The Father is in the people  
who believe in Christ*

*(since the Father is in Christ,  
and Christ is in those people  
who believe in Christ)*

*The people who believe in Christ  
are in Christ and the Father.*

Vertigo visits us, because we think of being *in* as something that goes only one way. The tiny box is in the small box, which is in the medium-sized box, etc. But however this list goes on, we do not expect it to go on like this: “which is in the large box, which is in the tiny box.” It *can't* go on like that, we think, because being *in* can't work that way.

And that might be right, where boxes are concerned. But it isn't right when it comes to love.

In fact, this funny kind of being-*in* is at the heart of love. When you and another person love each other, then, without

losing the self that you are, you come to be inside that other, who at the same time is inside you, without losing the self that is his, either.

The very nature of union in love is just this mutual indwelling: “my beloved is mine, and I am his” (Song of Songs 2:16). If my beloved is mine, then somehow he is part of me, as are all things that are mine. But then if I am his, I am somehow part of him, as are all things that are his. And so I am in him, and he is in me, in love.

This is the love of Christ and the Father. Each one is in the other. And this is the love to which Christ invites all those who care for him, too. In love, they will be in Christ and the Father, even as Christ and the Father are in each one of them.

Next Sunday is Pentecost, our parish feast day! I encourage us all to invoke the Holy Spirit this week during our prayer and works of charity and mercy for others. She is our Advocate, our constant Companion, and our Lead in Faith! Don't be afraid to call upon Her and don't be afraid of Her inspirations within you for if they are of love, they are of Her. The Holy Spirit is a mighty patron for our beloved community for She lives and moves and breathes among us in our worship, our service, and our care for others.

Peace,  
Bp. Steve

## OUR STEWARDSHIP



**In gratitude for our many blessings and gifts from God, we share our time, talent, and treasures with others throughout the week. On Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> 46 people gathered as the Body of Christ to joyfully celebrate the Holy Eucharist in gratitude to God for our many gifts, the mission and ministry of our parish community.**

***“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.” (Revelations 22:13)***  
**This is a reminder of how we should live our lives 24 hours a day, 7 days a week – putting God first in all that we do. Not only when I am at Mass and parish activities, but when I am in the world, at work or at school. Living gratefully and generously is a lifestyle; it should influence how I make all my daily decisions.**

**For a full monthly update on our finances, visit our parish website:  
[www.holyspiritscc.org/treasure.html](http://www.holyspiritscc.org/treasure.html)**

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### Happy Birthday to:

Walt B. 6/4, Pat P. 6/9,  
Fr. Lionel 6/13, Mary S. 6/13,  
Dana L. 6/15, Lennon B. 6/17,  
Donna L. 6/19; Tommy W. 6/30.

*May the brilliance of  
the light of Christ  
continue to shine brightly  
in you, in your living  
and in your loving!*

## Our Elder Neighbors: Our June Sharing

We are happy to once again celebrate "Christmas in July" for our elderly neighbors at nearby Evergreen Manor. The specific date in July will be announced shortly, until then we are busy collecting items throughout June to fill the shoe box gift packages for the residents.

The items needed are: large-print Word Finds and Crossword Puzzles, Pens and Colored Pencils, adult-styled Coloring Books, sugar-free Candy Bars, Toothbrushes, Toothpastes, Hairbrushes and Combs, personal-sized Hand Sanitizers, Deodorants, Skin Lotions, Socks, Nail Polish, Nail Polish Remover, and Nail Files...as well as Shoe Boxes to place the items in. If you were not able to bring your gifts this week, feel free to drop them in the conference room.



## WHEN WE GATHER

Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 10:30am

### Holy Pentecost



Acts 2:1-11  
Psalm 104:1, 24, 29-34  
1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13  
John 14:15-16, 23-26

Altar Bread Baker: Donna L.  
Greeters: Natalie L. and Christine T.  
Councilor Welcome: Mike H.  
Presider and Homilist: Bp. Steve  
Acolyte: Bob S. and Sr. Louise  
Lectors: Bill S. (1); Mike H. (2)  
Intercessions: Donna L.  
Eucharistic Ministers:  
Dcn. Jan, Mthr. Sharon; Fr. Lionel  
Social Hall Service: Last Names **A-C**

*Thank you for your faithful and loving  
service at the altar of the Lord among  
God's holy people. You bless us!*



## OUR MISSION

Holy Spirit  
Synodal Catholic Church  
is a vibrant, fully inclusive,  
Catholic community  
committed to nurturing all  
in their relationship  
with God, self and others.

Because it's about  
relationships, not rules!  
All are *truly*  
welcomed here in *this* place.



- For the intentions of our parish and diocesan communities, for our holiness, growth and generous service.
- Dan J., *healing strength from surgery.*
- Fr. Bill W., *dialysis and awaiting a kidney transplant*
- Ellen M., *strength and healing from cancer.*
- For the persecuted Christians of the Middle East.
- Wesley N., *kidney health*
- Those who are homeless, hungry, helpless, unemployed, underemployed, addicted, imprisoned and hopeless: *that they do not remain invisible to us.*
- For those discerning their life, ministry, and future with our Diocese and Communion.
- Pam D., *healing, knee surgery*
- Jim B., *strength & good healing.*
- + The victims of gun violence, *eternal rest and delight in God's arms.*
- David S.'s daughter, *mental healing.*
- Sr. Linda, *healing strength*
- For the youth of our End 68 Hours of Hunger Project.
- George E., *good health and healing.*
- + Richie M., *Gil's brother, R.I.P. 4/16/19*
- + Laura K., *Mike's mother, R.I.P. 4/30/19*

*Lord, hear our prayer!*





## HOLY SPIRIT

SYNODAL CATHOLIC CHURCH  
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## End 68 Hours of Hunger

Thank you for your awesome generosity with food and work in packing the weekly backpacks for our youth who have to worry about where their next meal will come from on the weekends. You made a huge difference in their lives and we look forward to picking up again in August when classes resume for a new academic year. Rest now, but continue to be mindful and alert to the needs around you. Thank you and God be your daily bread!

[www.end68hoursofhunger.org](http://www.end68hoursofhunger.org)  
[/find-your-community/  
florida/mid-pinellas/](http://www.end68hoursofhunger.org/find-your-community/florida/mid-pinellas/)



## Stewardship is Chastity!

By Chris P.

To think about the word "chastity" there are always giggles accompanying it. Thoughts go the steel plated chastity belts of the Crusade era or just to sexual escapades or the lack of sexual escapades.

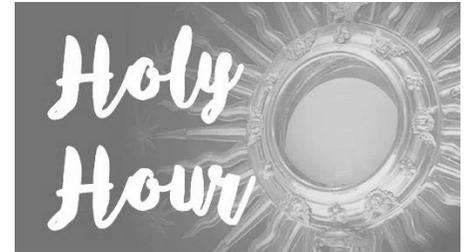
So why is chastity a virtue of stewardship? The problem is not with chastity, the word, but with our understanding of it. Words are like tools. Like any other tool, they get rusty and corroded when not used. More importantly, we must familiarize ourselves with the tool, understand them, and continually improve our skill in its use or else the end product, if any, is pathetically poor.

To be chaste does not mean we become asexual. It is not about denying our sexuality. It is about being "PURE of HEART". Jesus does not ask us to pray for chastity. It is one of the beatitudes - "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God" (*Matthew 5:8*). Purity is the state at which chastity aims. To be pure of heart is to relate to others in a way that honors the full dignity and value of every person and everything.

The 12-step community has long honored the concept of the "Four Absolutes", values that the founders strived to live by before the twelve steps were written. The Absolute of "purity," a flawless quality, checked one's motives and intentions with the simple question, "Is it right, or is it wrong?" There is no twilight zone between right and wrong. By practicing this absolute we are better able to make choices and decisions based on the right thinking that will help us line up our lives with God's will.

Pure in heart refers to those who have attuned their mind and wills to the demands of God's holiness. Chastity is a matter of true love. Spiritual purity is the full devotion of self to the service of God.

*Proverbs 16:2* - "All a person's ways seem pure to them, but motives are weighed by the Lord."



Beginning on THIS Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, our parish will offer an opportunity for communal prayer and quiet in the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament every First Friday of the month from 7-8pm in our parish chapel.

A holy hour is spending time with God. Just as communication in marriage means listening, so the holy hour means listening; only in this case it means listening to God. Just as you must spend time with our spouse just pursuing the personal relationship of spouse for the other, so you must spend time with God. The holy hour places one in the presence of God to do just that.

A holy hour is not a project to be accomplished but an exercise of love. You can read a spiritual book, say the Rosary, perform some act of piety which means something in your life, or you can just DO nothing. Just rest with the Lord! The important thing is to realize that you need time apart where you experience God's personal care for you alone.