

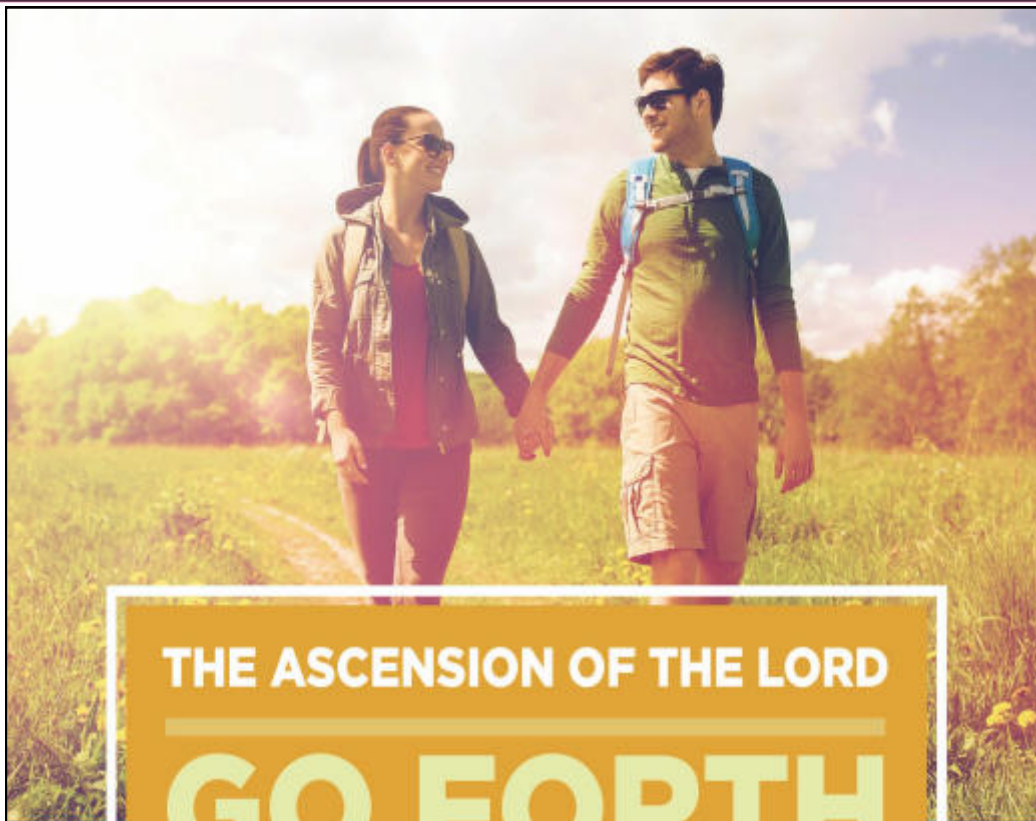
St. Pius X Parish

717 18th Street West | Billings, MT 59102
ph 406.656.2522 | fax 406.656.2584
www.stpiusxblgs.org

Bulletin

May 16, 2021

Ascension of the Lord



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

GO FORTH

But they went forth and
preached everywhere, while
the Lord worked with them and
confirmed the word through
accompanying signs. - Mk 16:20

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Next Weekend Fr. Greg's 40th Anniversary of Ordination

To mark this special anniversary on May 23, we are inviting you to participate in a Card Shower! If you would like to congratulate Fr. Greg for his faithful service as a priest in Eastern Montana, please send your card to the parish office at St. Pius X, 717 18th St. West, Billings, MT 59102 or drop it off during the celebration drive-by after the 10:00am Mass on May 23. Special treats will be served after both Masses that weekend and during the drive-by. Thank you for 40 years of service, Fr. Greg!



ST. PIUS X PARISH

Welcome to St. Pius X

If you are from out of town and are joining us for worship or are new to our parish, we hope that you will find warmth and hospitality here! St. Pius X is a vibrant parish with many ways to be engaged. Thank you for choosing to worship with us today! If you would like more information on registration or activities or ministries that are offered for people of all ages, please contact the parish office at 656-2522. You may also visit our website at www.stpiusxblgs.org or find us on Facebook at 'St. Pius X'.



Youth Ministry

Amanda

Michael, our Youth

Minister, has formed several smaller groups for students in grades 6-12 utilizing social distancing. New members are welcome! Registration is open on the St. Pius X website and each student can choose which group day/time works best for their schedule. Stay tuned for the Summer Youth Ministry schedule. Questions? Please call Amanda at 281-8508 or email at her at amichael@stpiusxblgs.org.

Nursery Attendants Needed!

One of the most important ways we show support to young people in our community of disciples is to provide a nursery for 6-month old children through 5 years during Mass. A critical part of seeing the return of the 11:00am Mass includes providing the nursery to support our young families in growing as disciples of Jesus! Why do we have a nursery for young families? Because parents need our help to freely experience the nourishing love of Jesus at Mass so they can disciple their children throughout the week! We need your help with volunteers for this ministry. Please contact Teresa at children@stpiusxblgs.org if you would like to learn about volunteering in this invaluable ministry that supports our younger members.



Above: L to R, Pauline White, Kelsey Phipps and Jessica Sebastian create our first batch of sandwiches for the new Brown Bag Lunch Ministry! Michael & Peter Riedel, not pictured, popped sandwiches into lunch bags and delivered to our friends at St. Vincent dePaul. Thank you to all who are participating in this Christian Service project to feed the hungry!

Children's Ministry

Gospel Weekly families: You are invited to a closing program on Wednesday, May 19th starting at 4:30pm in the church. We will have pizza, prayer, and celebrate Pentecost. Bring your family and some lawn chairs. Please RSVP through the Flocknote email. See you on the 19th!

Reopening the Parish: Next Phase

Rejoice, disciples! The time has come for the next phase in reopening the parish to support your discipleship in Jesus Christ! Here is what is new this month: Once again, bless yourself with baptismal water (treated several times a week), because you are a beloved daughter/son of God! Visit the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel because He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Do so anytime during normal business hours because the church is once again open all day and is sanitized daily to support your abundant life of faith in Jesus Christ!

Next month, starting June 5th & 6th, we will have two Sunday Masses: the 8:30am Mass (live streamed) and we'll bring back the 11:00am Mass. At that time the nursery will reopen during all three weekend Masses because we need each other as Christian disciples, and St. Pius X is a family parish.

To make these things possible, masks are still required. We want to stress that this is temporary and that the staff is constantly evaluating the need. Disciples of Jesus, thank you for bearing the Cross for the sake of others. We are encouraged by Pope Francis, who tells us, the Church, that being vaccinated is an ethical obligation for Catholics, and he and Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI received their shots.

This whole struggle is a great lesson and opportunity for all of us: disciples of Jesus are concerned about the health and wellbeing of others and are willing to make sacrifices that reveal the love of Jesus. We strive to protect the life and dignity of every person. Jesus always walked with the most vulnerable; as His disciples, we are doing this by wearing masks. Discipleship is not always easy, but it is our calling. Thank you for embracing the joyful opportunities that are returning in our parish!

Young Adults in your 20's and 30's...

Bishop Barron's **The Mass** Bible Study

Come join the Billings Catholic Young Adults on Monday evenings from 6:15-7:30pm and walk through the Liturgy with Bishop Barron. Ages 18-35 are invited. \$30 to participate. Scholarships available!

To reserve your spot, sign up at www.billingscya.com no later than May 10

Study begins May 17 and runs until June 28 at St. Patrick Co-Cathedral. For questions contact Valerie at 406-208-3642.

New Brown Bag Lunch Ministry Offers Several Options for Involvement

The St. Pius X Christian Service (CS) Commission is responding to a call from St. Vincent dePaul to provide 50 sack lunches for friends each Wednesday. Why would we be excited about this? In Catholic Social Teaching, feeding the hungry is the number one Corporal Work of Mercy, of course!

The CS commission began thinking about how to provide multiple opportunities for many to be involved so we could sustain this Brown Bag Lunch ministry. Here are some options. Through a link on Sign-up Genius, (see below) families or individuals can make 50 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches in the comfort of their home or gather in the Fellowship Hall of church two times per month and create sandwiches with others. There are options for families to load lunch bags each month (all items except the sandwich) or purchase and donate lunch ingredients. There is also an option for delivering the lunches to St. Vincent dePaul on Wednesdays. Look for a Flocknote with the link on Sign-Up Genius and start spreading the love around! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C48A4A62CA3FC1-june>. If you have questions, please call Shelly at 281-8501.

Young Adults, Also Look Forward to this!

The Young Adults planning team is excited to announce that their first Theology on Tap in over a year is finally happening! Bishop Michael Warfel will be presenting on what it takes to become a saint!

When: Thursday, May 27th, 2021—doors open at 6:00pm (if you'd like to come eat, drink and socialize beforehand, no host), speaker from 6:30-7:30pm, stay as long as you'd like.

Where: CJ's Garage, 2455 Central Ave. Bring a friend, tell a fellow parishioner. Help us build our Catholic community across the city!

Want to stay up to date on all things Billings Catholic Young Adults? Follow us on Facebook or Instagram @billingscya, or visit our website billingscya.com.



Songbird Community Garden

Songbird Community Garden received a grant to sponsor low income individuals and families looking to grow their own vegetables for the 2021 season. The plot, a few basic tools, plants, and seeds will be provided by the grant. If you are a new gardener, you will be paired with a mentor gardener. The plot sizes vary from 10' x 10' to 20' x 20'. Songbird is located at the corner of Songbird Drive and Golden Hollow. Call Cynthia at (406) 208-6422 for more information. All interested gardeners may email songbirdgarden59101@gmail.com and check them out at the Songbird Community Garden Facebook page. The 2020 Victory Garden donated hundreds of pounds of produce to local food pantries.

Jail Ministry with Deacon

Tom...Deacon Tom is looking for men who would be willing to accompany him during Jail Ministry at the Yellowstone County Detention Center on Sunday afternoons from 3:30-4:30pm. The facility requires an application process and orientation. Give this some thought and prayer. If you are interested, please call Deacon Tom at (406) 860-7842.



Tumbleweed

Can you make a hot meal for 25 people? Are you willing to volunteer once a month?

Tumbleweed needs you!

If you are interested in providing a meal to the youth of our community once a month, please call our office and sign up with Sophia Rataj!

Our office number is (406) 259-2558

"It only takes one caring adult to change the trajectory of a youth's life."

In and Around Our Parish Community

Catholic Social Teaching 101

The Christian Service (CSC) Commission invites you to join other parishioners virtually by engaging in "Catholic Social Teaching 101". A 3-5 minute video presenting one of the seven principals of Catholic Social Teaching will be offered via a link on a Flocknote each week. (Sign-up with the group "SPX Catholic Social Teaching 101" on Flocknote if you are not already in the study group). Watch the video when you like and participate in a Zoom discussion either on Wednesday afternoons at 1:00pm hosted by Shelly Greenfield or at 7:00pm on Wednesday evenings hosted by Mike Paquette. Join this series at any time! Call Shelly at 281-8501 if questions.

Access Flocknote by texting SPXBLG to 84576.

Celebrating Babies Two Ways!

Change For Hope – LaVie's Virtual Baby Bottle Campaign will run from May 9th through June 20th. LaVie has hosted a Baby Bottle Campaign for years, but is launching a new platform and going virtual this year. LaVie strives to empower individuals to embrace hope by providing loving, compassionate care for early pregnancies. Funds raised during *Change For Hope* are used to fund the programs offered by LaVie which assist women facing unplanned pregnancies with education, services, and information promoting life affirming options, along with medical services at the Billings Heights LaVie, 44 Wicks Lane and at LaVie West, 2321 Broadwater Avenue.

LaVie is asking for your help, visit <http://www.fundeasy.com/m/5138658/> and donate to LaVie and help St. Pius X meet the goal of \$3,000. Let's help fill LaVie's virtual baby bottle! If you're interested in learning more about the services LaVie offers, please visit www.laviebillings.com.

Diaper and Baby Items Collection - Between Mother's Day (May 9) and Father's Day (June 20), St. Pius will collect donations of any size diapers or wipes and new baby items such as teething toys, rattles, toys, stuffed animals, hygiene safety kits, bath hygiene products, baby bath towels, gender neutral blankets, swaddles, and size 1-3 month pajamas. Why are we doing this? Because diapers, wipes and baby items are essential for baby's health and development. This is a great way to respect the life of our youngest members of society and support new parents who may be struggling. Diapers will be collected to fill the Family Promise Mobile Diaper Bank. All baby items will go to LaVie for their layette sets. Please drop off items in the blue shopping cart in the Gathering Area of church. Thank you for your support!



Area Events

Saturday, May 29

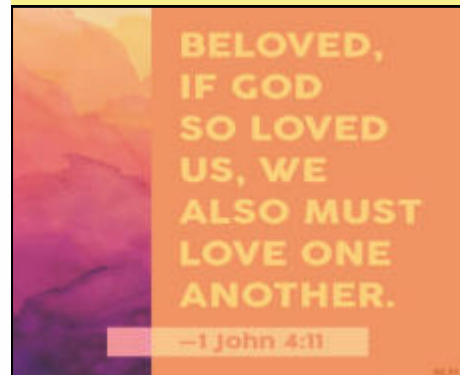
- Place Flags on Veteran's Graves at Holy Cross Cemetery. They are seeking volunteers to help place flags on the Veteran's markers. Please call Angela at (406) 839-8387, if interested in volunteering some of your time that day.

Monday-Saturday, May 17-22 and May 24-29

- Spring Book Sale at Central Christian Church located at 1221 16th St. West. Over 75,000 titles. Sale from 10:00am-3:00pm, masks required. Paperback books are 50 cents each. Hardcover is \$1.00 each. Thousands of puzzles, CDs, Vinyl records, DVDs, & Videos. Accepting cash, checks or debit and credit cards.

St. Thomas Summer Camp in 2021

The Diocese will host the St. Thomas Summer Camp in Monarch, MT this summer. Campers range in age from grade 5 to High School on separate weeks. Find out which week is offered for your child and more information at www.diocesegfb.org.



Stewardship Report: May 9, 2021

Envelope Donation	\$8,841.00	Parishioner Envelopes & EFT	180
Loose Checks	\$4,575.00	Annual Parish Budget	\$1,080,000.00
Loose Cash	\$82.00	Contributions needed to-date	\$934,650.00
Electronic Fund Transfer	\$7,466.00	Contributions received to-date	\$910,171.48
Total Collection	\$20,964.00	Budget Income (Shortfall)	(\$24,478.52)
Weekly Average Needed	\$20,770.00		

This Week's Meetings on the Campus of St. Pius X

Saturday, May 15 at church

- Reconciliation, 3:30pm, Fellowship Hall
- Mass, 5:00pm
- Collecting Brown Bag Lunch supplies, Diapers or Baby items, shopping cart in the Gathering Area

Sunday, May 16 at church

- Mass, 10:00am (Live-streamed)
- Collecting Brown Bag Lunch supplies, Diapers or Baby items, shopping cart in the Gathering Area

Monday, May 17

- NO Mass

Tuesday, May 18

- Mass, 8:30am, (Live-streamed)

Wednesday, May 19

- Mass, 8:30am, (Live-streamed)
- Children's Ministry closing program for Gospel Weekly families, 4:30pm, church

Thursday, May 20

- Mass, 8:30am (Live-streamed)
- K. of C. Council, 6:30pm, Fellowship Hall

Friday, May 21

- Mass, 8:30am (Live-streamed)

Saturday, May 22 at church

- Reconciliation, 3:30pm, Fellowship Hall
- Mass, 5:00pm
- Card Shower and Special treats after Mass to celebrate Fr. Greg's 40th Anniversary of Ordination.
- Collecting Brown Bag Lunch supplies, Diapers or Baby items, shopping cart in the Gathering Area

Sunday, May 23 at church

- Mass, 10:00am (Live-streamed)
- Card Shower and Special treats after Mass as well as a drive-by after Mass to celebrate Fr. Greg's 40th Anniversary of Ordination
- Collecting Brown Bag Lunch supplies, Diapers or Baby items, shopping cart in the Gathering Area

You are Needed at St. Pius X!

Each week we are focusing on one liturgical ministry with which we need your support. In line with the parish's needs and goals, the 11:00am Mass is due to return the first weekend in June. Your help is especially needed for the **11:00am Mass** time. However, your support at any service is welcome and much appreciated!

Sacristan – Preparing a place for everyone coming to share in the Lord's Supper yields great satisfaction. Working with the sacred vessels and elements, counting those coming to worship, and ensuring that all of God's people are fed at the table are just a few parts of this rewarding ministry. Those who empathize with Martha in the Gospel will be attracted to the Sacristan ministry.

Scripture Reflection: Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11
Psalm 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9
Ephesians 1:17-23
Mark 16:15-20

There is always something very tender and heartwarming about a kiss. When someone who loves us offers us a kiss, it sends a clear message that we are valued and special. We occupy a unique place in their lives and have a distinct purpose. Kissing celebrates the wonder and beauty of human life. In a very powerful way, we are connected, through intimate touch, with another human being. With the incarnation of Christ, God kissed humanity. God, revealed so perfectly in Jesus Christ, showed us that we have value and are made in God's image and likeness. Mortal human beings radiate with the presence of God and are worthy enough to reveal the intimacy of the Divine Mystery. The human race is not simply something God created from a distance but something special within which God dwells.

It is no wonder then, why the poor hold such an honored place in Jesus' ministry. They speak of God's love and they cry out for the compassion that is due them as children of God. Justice is about setting relationships right because we are all filled with God's love and have dignity. The human story is understood as a partnership, a true and new covenant, celebrating a love relationship between all of creation and their Creator. It is a story that does not end with the Cross or even the Resurrection. The story finds its happy ending in the Ascension. Our human narrative is still evolving and moving ever more closely toward that day when all will be one in Christ.

Jesus now sits at the right hand of the Father as the Christ of God. In the ascended state, we see what we are all meant to become and have before us the transformed life that awaits all of creation. The disciples got a glimpse of what this transfiguration would be on the holy mountain and it is an essential part of the Good News we are called to proclaim! Christ, now ascended to the Father, sets our paths straight and gives us a look at what awaits us. The day-to-day challenges of life often find us struggling with our incompleteness. Today's celebration gives us the strength to persevere, knowing that we'll eventually be well. May our hearts be enlightened so that we can know this hope and the surpassing greatness of Christ's power! ©LPI

Mass Intentions & Readings

Monday, May 17

Acts 19:1-8, Psalm 68:2-7, John 16:29-33

NO Mass

Tuesday, May 18, St. John I

Acts 20:17-27, Psalm 68:10-11, 20-21, John 17:1-11

8:30am Mass: † Bob Berkner

Wednesday, May 19

Acts 20:28-38, Psalm 68:29-30, 33-36, John 17:11-19

8:30am Mass: † Angeline Gilles

Thursday, May 20, St. Bernadine of Siena

Acts 22:30; 23:6-11, Ps. 16:1-2, 5, 7-11, John 17:20-26

8:30am Mass: † Tom Canape

Friday, May 21, St. Christopher Magallanes and Companions

Acts 25:13-21, Psalm 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20, John 21:15-19

8:30am Mass: † Charles & June Sangwin

Saturday, May 22, St. Rita of Cascia

Acts 28:16-20, 30-31, Psalm 11:4-5, 7, John 21:20-25

5:00pm Mass: † Lisa Shields

Sunday, May 23

Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-11, Psalm 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34, 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13, John 20:19-23

10:00am Mass: Int. of St. Pius X Parishioners

Family Promise Host Week, June 20-26

First United Methodist Church downtown at 2800 4th Ave. N will host a Volunteer Orientation for Family Promise volunteers on Monday, May 17 at 1:00pm and Wednesday, May 26 at 3:00pm.

St. Pius' week to volunteer at this static site is June 20-26. Please feel free to join one of the orientations and represent St. Pius X during host week in June! Contact Shelly at 281-8501 for more information.

Family Promise will return to St. Pius X for host week in 2022 when the church rotation begins again post pandemic.

Join People Healing People at St. Vincent Healthcare

If you have a heart for helping patients, visitors, and staff, St. Vincent Healthcare has a place for you! This volunteer opportunity is for just 4-hours a week! They're looking for "people" people who are quick to smile and like to visit, help others and have fun. Training and benefits are provided. Volunteer opportunities are available in Guest Services-Main Lobby and their Gift Shops. Please call 237-3376 or visit their website at www.svh-mt.org. Bless you for your consideration.

Ministry Schedule: May 22-23, 2021

Saturday, 5:00 PM

Greeter: Katharine McArty, Betty Warner

Usher: Jim Kaiser, Richard King, Bob Riesinger, Phil Zeeck

Sanitizers: Clare Dooley, Jackie Fears, Phil Zeeck, **1 Volunteer**

Lector: Dar Aldrich-1, Jim Aldrich-2

Sacristan: Joyce Stoppel

Altar Minister: Heather Kaiser

Eucharistic Minister: Bob Reid, **1 Volunteer**

Cross Bearer: **1 Volunteer**

Sunday, 10:00 AM (Live-streamed)

Greeter: Donna Berkner, Loretta Frank

Usher: Dan Miller, Dan Sloan, Herb Tate, Sam Wood

Lector: Alan Gransberg-1, Tanja Sloan-2

Sacristan: Gail Mack

Altar Minister: Kathleen Bernhardt

Eucharistic Minister: Jan Kirk, Lorraine Walter

Cross Bearer: **1 Volunteer**

Diocesan Care and Share Campaign

Thank you to all who have responded so generously to the annual Care and Share Campaign. The success of this campaign depends on the faithful, steadfast and devoted members of our faith family both here in our parish and throughout the Diocese. Your support is greatly appreciated, for it is through your sacrifice and deep convictions that we may grow as a faith community and will continue Christ's work here in our parish and in the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings. Envelopes are available for this campaign in the Gathering Area of church.

Catholic Communication Campaign

This national campaign helps connect people to Christ and builds Catholic communications in the United States and around the world using the internet, television, radio and print media. Half the funds collected in our diocese stays in our diocese. Support the collection today! Visit www.usccb.org/cc or pick up a flyer in the Gathering Area of our church.

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Father Greg Staudinger, Pastor, 406.489.6666, frgreg@stpiusxblgs.org
Deacon Tom Landry, 406.860.7842, acnerds@bresnan.net
Rita Brehm, Administrative Assistant, rb@stpiusxblgs.org
Nick Coffman, Director of Liturgy, ncoffman@stpiusxblgs.org
Shelly Greenfield, Bulletin, Christian Service, sg@stpiusxblgs.org
Karyn Haider, Parish Administrator, khaider@stpiusxblgs.org
Jan Kirk, Accounting/Bookkeeping, jan@stpiusxblgs.org
Matt Low, Director of Christian Initiation, mloew@stpiusxblgs.org
Kathy McCleary, Communications & Volunteers, kmc@stpiusxblgs.org
Amanda Michael, Youth Ministry, amichael@stpiusxblgs.org
Mike Persha, Cemetery Manager, mpersha@stpiusxblgs.org
Jessie Rohrer, Children's Ministry Coordinator, jr@stpiusxblgs.org
Bill Walker, Custodian, walker@stpiusxblgs.org
Teresa Wehr, Children's Min. Assist./Nursery, children@stpiusxblgs.org
Joan Whelan, Music Ministry, joan@stpiusxblgs.org

Bulletin notices are due by 4:30pm on Monday.
Please email bulletin@stpiusxblgs.org or fax to 656-2584.

Mass Schedules

Weekend

Saturday at 5:00 PM
Sunday at 10:00 AM

Weekdays

Tuesday—Friday

Mass at 8:30 AM—Sanctuary
Rosary - 8:00 AM, before daily Mass

LIVE Stream

Sunday, 10:00 AM and Daily Masses
at 8:30 AM on our website at
www.stpiusxblgs.org. Click Live-
Stream on the homepage.

Sacraments

Reconciliation: Sat. 3:30-4:30 PM
with social distancing
Baptism: Call us for details
Marriage: Six-month preparation
required
Anointing of the Sick: Please call
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Prayer to St. Theresa
O Lord, who hast said: "Unless you become as little children, you shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven," grant us, we beseech Thee, so to walk in the footsteps of thy blessed Virgin Theresa with a humble and single heart, that we may attain to everlasting rewards: who livest and reignest world without end. Amen.



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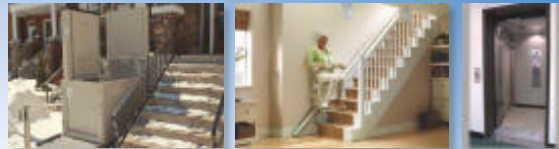
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