



7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER
June 2, 2019

TODAY'S GOSPEL MESSAGE
by Rev. William J. Reilly

“The witnesses laid down their cloaks at the feet of a young man named Saul. As they were stoning Stephen, he called out, ‘Lord Jesus receive my spirit. Then he fell to his knees and cried out in a loud voice, ‘Lord do not hold this sin against them,’ and when he said this he fell asleep.”

On many occasions we are touched by an event. Someone does something heroic, or shows great kindness. We might not remember their name or the circumstance. The two individuals singled out by St. Luke, we remember one for his heroism and one for his eventual conversion.

The deacon Stephen suffered martyrdom. Saul, eventually met the Lord and became the great St. Paul. Like Jesus at Calvary, Stephen entrusted his life to the Lord and offered forgiveness for his murderers. The persecutor became the great preacher and apostle.

As we reflect upon the life of the early church, may we see that Christians are persecuted in countless places today. Martyrdom continues in Syria, Iraq. St. Oscar Romero in El Salvador, and the Oklahoma priest Blessed Stephen Rother, in our own time tell us the blood of Christians is still being shed. As members of the body of Christ, we pray for all who suffer as victims of religious oppression, and offer our own forgiveness to those who offend us.

Jesus promised the apostles and promises us: ‘stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.’

SATURDAY, JUNE 1ST

5:00PM Richard Cutrone req. by UNICO

SUNDAY, JUNE 2ND

8:00AM Rachel Birkhead
req. by The Gerentine Family

9:30AM People of the Parish

11:00AM Jannine Furgeson req. by

MONDAY, JUNE 3RD

9:00AM Susan Bagatta req. by Son, Andrew

TUESDAY, JUNE 4TH

9:00AM No Mass Intentions

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5TH

9:00AM Patricia Rose Gott req. by Kathy Waldron

THURSDAY, JUNE 6TH

9:00AM No Mass Scheduled

FRIDAY, JUNE 7TH

9:00AM Andrew, Susan, Catherine, Theresa, and
Joseph Bagatta req. by Susan and Tom McLaughlin

SATURDAY, JUNE 8TH

5:00PM Christopher Bernicker req. by Family

SUNDAY, JUNE 9TH

8:00AM People of the Parish

9:30AM Melba and Anthony Fabrizio
req. by Children and Grandchildren

11:00AM Guiseppe, Luigi, Jimmy, and Tullio Ciotti
req. by Ilde and Antonio Vitale



We warmly welcome all our visitors to St. Mary's and Our Lady of Mercy Churches and invite you to participate and enjoy our liturgies. If you are new to our parish and would like to register as a parishioner, please call the rectory office at 236-4340 during the week.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Please note that June 30th will be the deadline for registering your child/children for next year's program.

We realize the school year is not quite over but we have to think ahead for next September. As always, we are in need of volunteers who are willing to teach our young parishioners their faith. It is so disheartening to know that we have over 350 children enrolled in our program but only an average of 25-30 children attend Mass each week.

Where are the children? Where are the parents? We just celebrated one of the most important holidays in our country last Monday. Not only do we have our many brave service men and women who fought to keep our country free but we also have a Good and Loving God, Who continually watches over us and showers all of us with many blessings. Why can't we at least give thanks once a week?

So, please keep this in mind when considering whether or not you might be able to help pass on our faith to the future of our country.

TITHING REPORT



Our Collections this past weekend:

Sunday's Collection: Total \$3396; 98
Envelope Users contributed \$1948; non-envelope users
contributed \$1448. Our monthly collection totaled \$1902.00. As
always we thank you for your generosity.

WE ASK YOUR HEALING PRAYERS FOR...



..... all in our parish who are ill or recuperating
from an illness. We also ask your prayers
for family members who may be caring for
spouses or parents who are elderly and
unable to live alone.

GRANNY'S ATTIC RESULTS

Once again, *Jeanne DeSantis* and her many helpers have had a successful Granny's Attic Fundraiser.



the "left-overs."

Jeanne would especially like to thank *LaMela's Sanititation* for their donation of a roll off. LaMela's has been extremely generous for many years as they have provided us with a means of disposing all of

There are so many people to thank, we hope we don't forget anyone – *Jean Dayton, The Runberg Family, Diane and Kathy Corrado, Jamie Secor and last but certainly not least, our wonderful Confirmation Students who gave up time from their weekend to help – Sam Lofaaro, Emily Lofaro, Quinlan Asche, Ethan Asche, Juliana Quarte, Alina Menser, Riley Adams and Julia Gaer.*

Because of the efforts of all those mentioned above as well as all of you who donated your unwanted "treasures," this year's event yielded an amazing profit of \$1902.45 which we will use to help defray our ever increasing Church expenses. Thank you all again.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS



PENTECOST SUNDAY

First Reading: Acts 2:1-11

The disciples were celebrating Pentecost together when "tongues of fire appeared which parted, then came to rest on each of them." The disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in foreign tongues. Visitors from many different countries were amazed that each guest could hear his or her native language being spoken as the disciples proclaimed God's glory.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13

Each person has received different manifestations of the same spirit to contribute to the common good of all. All members of the church have been baptized into one body because of our belief in the Holy Spirit, who was sent to us by God.

Gospel: John 20:19-23

Jesus appeared to the disciples even though they had locked the doors in fear. Jesus then showed the disciples his hands and his side; and they rejoiced at his presence. He breathed on them saying "Receive the Holy Spirit." He then gave the disciples the power to forgive others or hold them accountable for their sins.

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FATHERS' DAY CARDS..

Father's Day Cards are available at the Ushers' Tables. How thoughtful it would be for you to remember your father, grandfather or special man in your life at all the Masses said at St. Mary's and Our Lady of Mercy Churches on Father's Day.



WE ASK YOU TO REMEMBER



...the families and friends of all in our parish who have recently died. Many of you knew *Tim Owens*, who installed all of the air conditioning in our church and rectory. Right after completing the installation of the air conditioning in our Parish Hall, Tim went into the hospital for minor knee surgery which was successful. However, the day after his surgery, Tim had a stroke and died.

We ask you to remember this kind man and his family and friends in your prayers.

NEXT WEEKEND

Next Weekend on Pentecost Sunday, our candidates for Confirmation will be presented to the congregation at the 11AM Mass. We ask your prayers for these young men and women who will receive the Gifts of the Holy Spirit in the fall when receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

COMING SOON – K of C BLOOD DRIVE

On Father's Day, June 16th – from 8AM to Noon

St. Mary's Parish Hall

The Knights have sponsored several drives in the past few years and have done a marvelous job. **This year they are hoping to break all records.** What a wonderful gift to give– the gift of life. If you are at least 17 years of age, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds and are in general good health, won't you consider a donation?

As a little incentive and thanks for your donation, a pancake breakfast will be offered. Stop up after Mass with the family and let them also enjoy a great breakfast, compliments of the K of C.

ON THE WEEKEND OF JUNE 29TH....

On June 29th and 30th, Fr. John Mark will be visiting our Parish to speak about the Diocese of Minna in Nigeria. Minna Diocese is still considered a mission territory with a minority Catholic population in a thickly Muslim population in the North Central Nigeria. Minna Diocese while sharing their poverty and meager resources relies on donations to keep some of her Educational and Rural health programs open to the poor.

Please consider a gift to Minna Diocese when Fr. John Mark Ogu comes to speak about this vital missionary work of the Catholic Church. Thank you.