

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW
Stewardship Report – Treasure

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 10, 2020

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Regular Sunday Collection– 5/3/20	\$ 2,078.00
Maintenance Collection – 5/3/20	\$ 282.00
Regular On-line giving for – 4/26	\$ 641.00
Collection for Human Development	\$ 90.00

Many thanks to those who are continuing to support St. Monica's Church by sending in weekly collection envelopes. Bills still need to be paid, and we are very grateful for your generosity during this difficult time.

Weekly collection envelopes may be mailed directly to the Rectory office at 33 Unionville Avenue, Sussex, NJ 07461. Collection envelopes may also be dropped in the metal milk box located to the left of the front door of the rectory. Another option to continue to support St. Monica's is to go to the Diocesan link on their website which is: <http://helpmyparish.thankyou4caring.org>. Follow the prompts to make a one-time or recurring gift. Thank you for your generosity!



The Sanctuary Lamp is given this week:
In Memory of: All those who have died due to the coronavirus

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

- 5/11 MON: Virginia Robinson
- 5/12 TUES: Sharon Schneider (LIV)
- 5/13 WED: NO MASS TODAY
- 5/14 THU: Lillian Kinney
- 5/15 FRI: People of our Parish
- 5/16 SAT: Marie Mayer
- 5/17 SUN: Florence M. Swiss
Mildred Randall

Pass the word to those who do not have access to internet and are unable to receive the bulletin on line, that they may pick up a printed copy from the metal box at the entrance to the Rectory.

ST. MONICA'S CHURCH IS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE



St. Monica's Church contact information:

Pastor: Fr. Jan Wodziak
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Phone: 973-875-4521 **Fax:** 973-875-7538
Website: www.stmonicasussex.org
Email: stmonica@ptd.net

JOIN US ON-LINE EACH SUNDAY TO CELEBRATE MASS.

The Link for the video Mass will be available each weekend on our homepage. (stmonicasussex.org).

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WEEKLY/MONTHLY PARISH EVENTS

*Due to the current restrictions on social gatherings imposed by the Governor of New Jersey and the mandates received from Bishop Serratelli's office, we regret to announce that all parish events and devotions are cancelled until further notice. **FR. JAN IS HEARING CONFESSIONS BY APPOINTMENT. PLEASE CALL THE RECTORY OFFICE AND LEAVE A MESSAGE OR SEND AN E-MAIL.***

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During this unprecedented time when we are unable to attend Mass and participate together in parish events due to measures taken by our diocese to halt the spread of the coronavirus, we are going to try to keep all of you updated on latest developments by posting our bulletin each weekend on our website, stmonicasussex.org.

Mass intentions will be continue to be offered at Fr. Jan's private Mass; therefore, the deceased loved ones listed in our mass book will be remembered. If anyone would like to change the date already requested for their intention, please contact the church office.

The parish office is closed until further notice. Voice mail and email messages will be monitored as often as possible. Mass cards may be requested by leaving a message at the church office. We will continue to prepare a bulletin to keep you updated with any news.

God bless you all and we pray that we will all be able to worship together again soon.

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday - Acts 6:1-7; 1 Pt 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12

Monday - Acts 14:5-18; Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday - Acts 14:19-28; Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday - Acts 15:1-6; Jn 15:1-8

Thursday - Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Jn 15:9-17

Friday - Acts 15:22-31; Jn 15:12-17

Saturday - Acts 16:1-10; Jn 15:18-21

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly

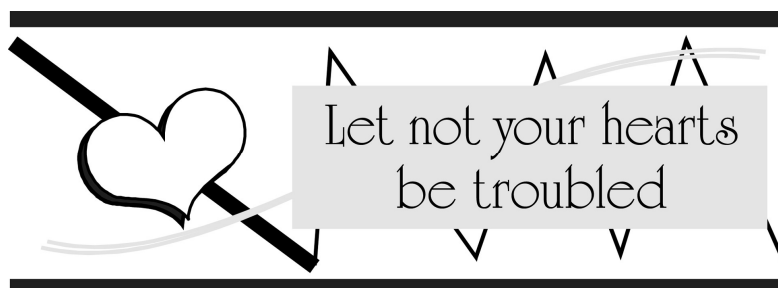
Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 10, 2020

“So the twelve called together the community of the disciples and said, ‘It is not right for us to neglect the word of God to serve at table. Brothers, select from among you seven reputable men, filled with the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we shall appoint to this task, whereas we shall devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.’”

The life of the early church depicts the importance of the works of mercy. Surely the judgment scene of Matthew's gospel of addressing the hungry, thirsty, naked, immigrant and sick was part of the life of the first community. What should we do to make sure these needs are met?

The Holy Spirit directed the church to call others to diaconal ministry, a blessing for the church today. Although this office, part of holy orders, was restored to the practice of the church by the Vatican Council, we find its roots in the Acts of the Apostles. Deacons are a blessing for the church community in liturgy, preaching and as ministers of charity. With all members of the church community we are all called to address the social and spiritual needs of the church and the world.





Why is May the Month of Mary?

May is the month in which the earth springs into bloom and we start thinking about planning gardens.

It's also the Month of Mary.

So why is May the month of Mary? For centuries, the Catholic Church has set aside the entire month of May to honor Mary, Mother of God.

The custom spans both centuries and cultures, with roots going back as far as the Ancient Greeks. In early Greece, May was dedicated to Artemis, the goddess of fertility. In Ancient Rome, May was dedicated to Flora, the goddess of blooms, or blossoms. In medieval times, similar customs abounded, all centering around the practice of expelling winter, as May 1st was considered the start of new growth.

The idea of a month dedicated specifically to Mary can be traced back to baroque times. Although it wasn't always held during May, Mary's Month included thirty daily spiritual exercises honoring Mary. It was in this era that Mary's Month and May were combined, making May the Month of Mary with special devotions organized on each day throughout the month. This custom became especially widespread during the nineteenth century and remains in practice until today.

Many parishes erect a special May altar with a statue or picture of Mary. Additionally, it is a long-standing tradition to crown the statue of Mary during May – a custom known as May Crowning. Often, the crown is made of beautiful blossoms representing Mary's beauty and virtue. It is a reminder to the faithful to strive to imitate our Blessed Mother's virtue in our own lives.

But May altars and crownings aren't just "church" things. We can and should be doing the same in our homes, especially now that we are unable to attend church during the pandemic. When we echo the customs and traditions of the Church in our homes – our domestic churches – we participate more fully in the life of the Church.

Why not erect a prayer corner in your home? It's not a matter how fancy or simple it is. The main point is that it's a place designated for God, and more specifically for spending time with him. Just as you need proper atmosphere to sleep, you also need proper atmosphere to pray.

For May, give Mary a special spot in your prayer corner. It can be a statue or picture, but place there some representation of our Blessed Mother. Make it appealing and a real tribute to her beauty and virtue. Then crown Mary. You can give her an actual or spiritual crown and you can make it a subtle gesture or ornate ceremony of your own device. The meaning is far more important than the action. You can do it in the beginning, at the end of May or anywhere in between.

From the National Catholic Register