

CELEBRATE THE LORD'S DAY MASSES:



(While we are not able to gather in church as a faith community to receive Jesus present in the Eucharist, Fr. Paul does continue to offer the sacrifice of the Mass each day for our intentions as listed below. At minimum for the Sunday obligation, We can participate in Mass through many forms: Online live streaming with Bishop Doherty from the Cathedral (or many other churches offer live streaming of the Mass), on our website with Bishop Barron, EWTN, Catholic Radio of Indy (89.1 or 90.9) our Word Among Us books have daily Mass readings, or the following:

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen

LITURGY SCHEDULE

May 10, 2020

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Monday, May 11

No Mass

Tuesday, May 12

Molly Jo May

Wednesday, May 13

Bill & Pat Schantz

Thursday, May 14

Don Martin

Friday, May 15

Joe Smith

Saturday, May 16

Margaret Wilson

Palm Sunday, May 17

Parishioners of St. Mary's and St. John's

PRAYER INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS

FOR MAY:

For Deacons

We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

Weekly Prayer Corner:

YOUR BEAUTY IS EVERYWHERE

O God our creator, you have spread so much beauty over the earth and it tells me about your beauty, even though these beautiful things are but a faint reflection of you. And although you have hidden yourself and concealed your beauty, my eye, enlightened by faith, reaches you and my soul recognizes you.

--St. Faustina Kowalska

Don't forget to check in with your neighbor and help those in need of food, meds, or just old-fashioned communication...and prayer!

FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE

Please remember in your prayers Pearl Scott, former parishioner of St. John's, who passed to eternal life this week. May her family be comforted by your prayers.

Pearl's daughter Joy Scott's address for those who wish to send condolences:

22500 Friar St.

Woodland Hills, CA 91367

CONTINUED CONTRIBUTIONS

If at all possible, please continue to keep your contributions up-to-date and mail them to the office both for St. Mary's or St. John's to:

St. John's Church

213 S. Spring St.

Hartford City, IN 47348

Many thanks to all that have been mailing in contributions. Your continued efforts are greatly appreciated.

Contact Janice Jackson at 765-348-1521 to include someone on prayer chain.



As you know, the Month of May has become especially associated with honoring Mary, the Mother of the Lord Jesus, in the Catholic Church. Mary is also the Mother of the Church, which is His Mystical Body. And, because we are members of that Body, through Baptism, she is our Spiritual Mother as well.

Did you know that the first disciple of Our Lord Jesus Christ was His Mother, Mary? She was also the first evangelizer and the first disciple of her own Son, Savior, and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Did you also know that Mother Mary gave the first Gospel testimony to her cousin, Elizabeth, without words?

There are very few records of Mary's explicit words in the texts of the New Testament of the Bible.

However, **there is no lack of her presence at the most significant events in the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.** She always encountered God - in profound ways - from the beginning to the end of her life. In every encounter, she surrendered to love and was changed.

Today, I invite you to learn more about Mary. She understood the work of the Holy Spirit unlike anyone else in history, other than her beloved Son, Jesus the Lord. She was clothed in the Holy Spirit when she was first visited by the angel and "overshadowed."

The Holy Spirit empowered Mary to live her whole life in complete surrender to God's will. She prefigured and displayed the mission of the Church, the Mystical Body of Jesus Christ. She also teaches us about our own vocation.

Deacon Keith

Dean and Chaplain, Catholic Online School

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

May 11: Acts 14: 5-18; Jn 14: 21-26

May 12: [Sts. Nereus and Achilleus, martyrs; St. Pancras, martyr] Acts 14: 19-28; Jn 14: 27-31a

May 13: [Our Lady of Fatima] Acts 15: 1-6; Jn 15: 1-8

May 14: [St. Matthias, apostle] Acts 1: 15-17, 20-26; Jn 15: 9-17

May 15: [St. Isidore] Acts 15: 22-31; Jn 15: 12-17

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

May 17: [Sixth Sunday of Easter] Acts 8: 5-8, 14-17; 1 Pt 3: 15-18; Jn 14: 15-21

Indiana's Catholic Bishops Statement for the gradual resumption of public liturgies

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As we continue in this Easter Season, may the radiance of our Risen Christ bless you in faith, hope and charity. The Catholic bishops of Indiana announced today, May 6, that across the state we will begin resuming public liturgies by May 30, the Vigil of Pentecost. There will be limitations based on public health information and on the need for planning for an orderly restart. Each diocese will have its particular rules published as they apply to needs and circumstances in that diocese, and ours should be public in the next couple of days...

The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass automatically is given to anyone who is sick. And of course, you should not come to church if you have an illness. The dispensation is extended until August 15 this year...

I ask for God's grace and healing. May God bless you all. May God take care of you all.

In Christ's Peace,

Bishop Timothy Doherty

(Please see our website homepage at stmaryjohn.org for Bishop Doherty's full letter. More guidelines will be forthcoming next week.)

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

St. Mary's

Sunday Collection: \$940.00

Needed Weekly: \$887.87

St. John's

Sunday Collection: \$2,150.00

Haiti: \$20.00

Food Pantry: \$15.00

Building Fund: \$25.00

Holyland: \$10.00

Rice Bowl: \$10.00

Needed Weekly: \$3,225.23

"The one who has faith in me will do the works I do, and far greater than these," Jesus tells his disciples. That's quite an assignment for us as Christian stewards!



Blessing of Mothers on Mother's Day

(From the Catholic Prayer Book of Blessings)

For our mothers, who have given us life and love, that we may show them reverence and love, we pray to the Lord.

For mothers who have lost a child through death, that their faith may give them hope, and their family and friends support and console them, we pray to the Lord.

For mothers who have died, that God may bring them into the joy of his kingdom, we pray to the Lord.

Loving God, as a mother gives life and nourishment to her children, so you watch over your Church. Bless these women, that they may be strengthened as Christian mothers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honor them always with a spirit of profound respect.

Grant this through Christ our Lord.

PRAY THE ROSARY TO HELP NEW MOMS

Throughout the month of May, in honor of Mary and mother's everywhere, we are asking parishioners to pray the rosary and keep track of each one prayed. As we are not able to gather for Mother's Day celebrations this year, we will join in prayer through the holy rosary. Contact Diana with the total number of times you prayed the rosary and a donation for each one will be made to the Helping Hands Pregnancy Care Center in Montpelier for St. John's and the Portland Pregnancy Care Center for St. Mary's. Just keep track of your numbers and let us pass the power of prayer along.

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:

[ACTS 6:1-7; PS 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; 1 PT 2:4-9; JN 14:1-12](#)

The readings on this fifth Sunday of Easter present us with themes of dwelling places and home. As Christian stewards, we are well aware that this world is not our permanent home. We are merely pilgrims here, making our way through the stewardship way of life to our true home, heaven.

Yet, as we make our way to heaven, we are called to make our dwelling here

— whether we are in a household of one or bursting at the seams — a true “domestic church.” In other words, the stewardship way of life begins long before we set foot on the parish grounds. Stewardship starts at home. It begins with our families, our domestic churches.

The domestic church plays a key role in our sanctification because it is the primary place where we practice intimate and selfless love of other persons.

In our Gospel passage from John, Jesus speaks of heaven as a home filled with dwelling places. “In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?” This is a beautiful image of the glory that awaits us and the personal love our Lord has for us in preparing the perfect “spot” for each one of us who remain faithful to Him.

Let us respond to this great love by becoming good stewards of our earthly dwellings, making of our homes true “domestic churches” where we honor God with our prayer, our thoughtfulness to each other and our generous hospitality to all.

Let us never forget that stewardship starts at home!



PRAY FOR OUR FIRST COMMUNICANTS

St. John’s has six students continuing their studies from home in anticipation of receiving Jesus for the first time through the Eucharist once we are able to join together for the celebration of the Mass. Please continue to pray for:

Henry Feltt, Gabe Kitterman, Gavin Kitterman, Bentley Milholland, Colton Poe and Kyra Poe.

Living and Longing in Exile

I've been walking through the Old Testament prophets with the diaconate candidates in our diocese the last few weeks. The message of the prophets is centered on God's call to conversion and the promise of his mercy in the context of the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem and the taking of Judah's population into captivity by the Babylonians.

Two threads of the prophetic message have stood out to me in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. First, the longing of the Jewish people to return to Jerusalem is echoed in the faithful's desire for the resumption of public celebrations of the liturgy. The psalmist gives voice to this lament: "By the rivers of Babylon/there we sat weeping/when we remembered Zion... How could we sing a song of the LORD in a foreign land?" (Ps 137)

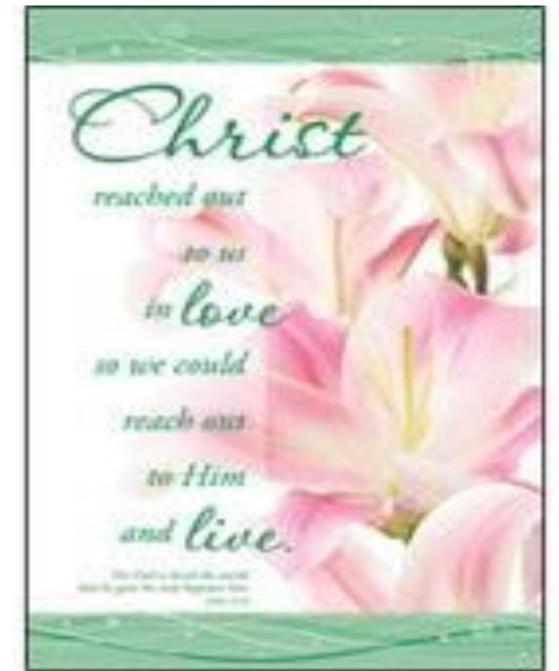
Many of the faithful are keenly feeling this loss of the source and summit of our faith, even as they recognize the important public health reasons that have prompted this loss. We can find in the scriptures both words to help us express this loss and the promise that what has been lost will be restored.

The second thread is that the proper celebration of the Temple sacrifices does not exhaust the Lord's expectations for his people. Micah exhorts the people: "Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with myriad streams of oil? ... You have been told, O mortal, what is good, and what the LORD requires of you: Only to do justice and to love goodness, and to walk humbly with your God." (6:6-8)

A good question for us to consider might be: as I long for the Eucharist and the liturgical celebrations, am I also longing for God's justice and goodness? How will my rejoicing when the faithful return to Mass be echoed in how I treat my neighbor, especially the poor and the marginalized?

Jonathan F. Sullivan

Director of Parish Ministries, Services, and Catechesis



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

The Clustered Parishes Of

St. Mary, Dunkirk

**St. John the Evangelist,
Hartford City**

Diocese of Lafayette-in-Indiana

Pastor, Fr. Paul Hudson

PARISH OFFICES

e-mail: stmaryjohn@att.net

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St. Mary, Dunkirk

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Church Basement: 765-768-1283

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