

**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 17, 2020**

**Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**Monday, May 18**

No Mass

**Tuesday, May 19**

Rollin & Helen Waters

**Wednesday, May 20**

Jess Huggins, Jr.

**Thursday, May 21**

All Souls

**Friday, May 22**

George & Karleen Reidy

**Saturday, May 23**

Joe Smith

**Palm Sunday, May 24**

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:**

**STAY THE COURSE**

O God, help us to bring our worldly concerns under control, so that they never turn our minds from higher things. Help us have earthly things for our use but not as objects of our desires. May there be nothing to hold back the desire of our mind; and do not let the delights of this world ensnare us.

*--Pope St. Gregory I, the Great*

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

**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.

**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.

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

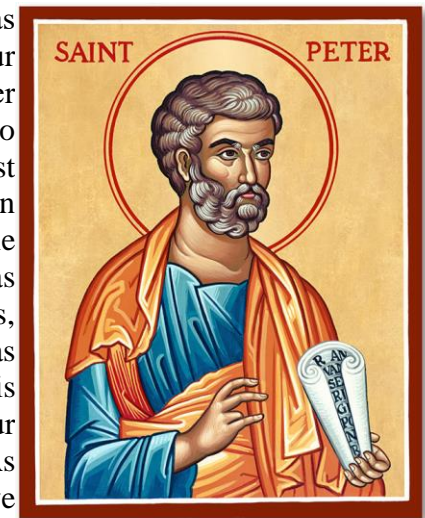
**GOSPEL REFLECTIONS:**

[ACTS 8:5-8, 14-17; PS 66:1-7, 16, 20; 1 PT 3:15-18; JN 14:15-21](#)

On this sixth Sunday of Easter, our readings remind us that God must come first in our lives, and that love of God shows itself in concrete actions — this is precisely why the stewardship way of life is so necessary.

Our second reading, from St. Peter challenges us to,

“Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts.” In other words, we are to put Christ first above all else in our lives. His role is not merely as Savior of our lives, as significant as that role is — He is to be “Lord” of our lives as well. As His disciples, we are called to make



Him ruler of all aspects of our lives — our time, talents and treasure.

The beauty of the stewardship way of life is that it offers us a concrete means to show that Christ truly is Lord of our lives, to “prove” our love, in a manner of speaking, because true love is not mere sentiment. “Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me,” Jesus tells us in our Gospel passage from John.

True love is an act of the will. It requires obedience to all of God's commandments. This requires courage, humility and deep trust in Him.

But the rewards of this kind of love are indescribably wonderful. Christ tells us Himself, “Whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him.”

Could there be anything more satisfying to live in such a way that the God of the universe is pleased to reveal more and more of Himself to us?

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:**

*May 18: [St. John I, pope & martyr] Acts 16: 11-15; Jn 15: 26 – 16: 4a*  
*May 19: Acts 16: 22-34; Jn 16: 5-11*  
*May 20: [St. Bernardine of Siena, priest] Acts 17: 15, 22 – 18: 1; Jn 16: 12-15*  
*May 21: [St. Christopher Magallanes, priest, and Companions, martyrs] Acts 18: 1-8; Jn 16: 16-20*  
*May 22: [St. Rita of Cascia, religious] Acts 18: 9-18; Jn 16: 20-23*  
*May 23: Acts 18: 23-28; Jn 16: 23b-28*  
*May 24: [Ascension of the Lord] [Sunday of Easter] Acts 1: 1-11; Eph 1: 17-23; Mt 28: 16-20*

**PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

**St. Mary's**

Sunday Collection: \$600.00

Needed Weekly: \$887.87

**St. John's**

Sunday Collection: \$2,866.00

Food Pantry: \$197.00

Building Fund: \$185.00

Rice Bowl: \$142.00

Needed Weekly: \$3,225.23

**“Those who obey the commandments, Jesus says in today's Gospel, are the ones who really love Him. Does my stewardship reveal my love for Jesus?”**

**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.

## 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](http://stmaryjohn.org) for Bishop Doherty's full letter. More guidelines will be forthcoming this week. Watch your mailboxes.)

### **MARIAN PENTECOST NOVENA**

Every so often in history, the whole world seems to arrive at a crossroads, with the need to make a choice that will have a huge impact on future generations. And many times, Our Lady intervenes to help us along the way. Mary is our Mother in Heaven. She is the Queen of Angels and Saints, and she can and she does intervene powerfully in human history and in your own history if you ask her and you need her help.

And so **beginning Ascension Thursday, May 21**, we can pray a **Marian Pentecost Novena** to help us prepare for the coming of the Holy Spirit on May 31, Pentecost Sunday. Our intention will be to pray daily for an end to the pandemic so all the Churches can open for everyone.

Our Lady helped the apostles pray for the coming of the Holy Spirit in the Upper Room, and she will help us today too.

May more than any other month is a time when we can express our intense love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this "family" aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.

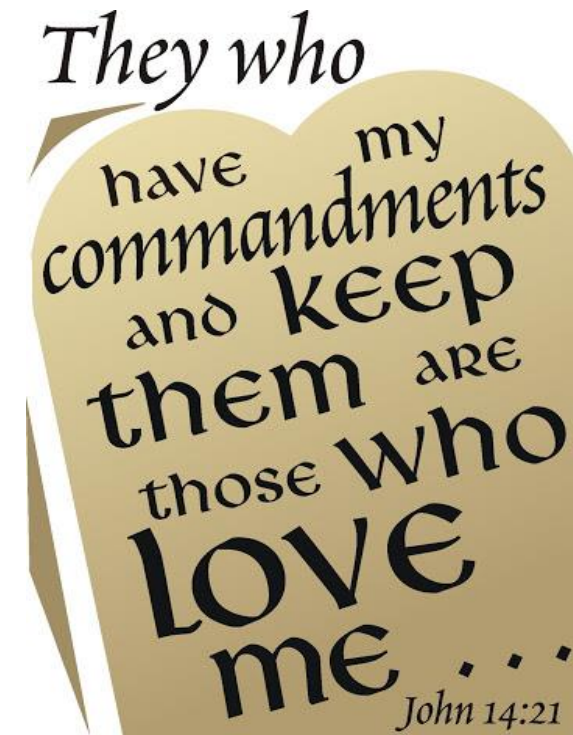
The Holy Father is encouraging everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. He also has provided two prayers to Our Lady that you can recite at the end of the Rosary, and that he will pray in the month of May, in spiritual union with all of us. One is included here and if space permits, the other will be in this month's newsletter.

"Dear brothers and sisters, contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial. I keep all of you in my prayers, especially those suffering most greatly, and I ask you, please, to pray for me. I thank you, and with great affection I send you my blessing." --Pope Francis

○ Mary,

You shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the foot of the cross, were united with Jesus' suffering, and persevered in your faith. "Protectress of the Roman people", you know our needs, and we know that you will provide, so that, as at Cana in Galilee, joy and celebration may return after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us. For he took upon himself our suffering, and burdened himself with our sorrows to bring us, through the cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

*We fly to your protection,  
O Holy Mother of God;  
Do not despise our petitions  
in our necessities,  
but deliver us always  
from every danger,  
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.*



**SIXTH 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](mailto:stmaryjohn@att.net)

website: [stmaryjohn.org](http://stmaryjohn.org)

**St. Mary, Dunkirk**

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Church Basement: 765-768-1283

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

213 S. Spring St., Hartford City, IN 47348

Parish Office: 765-348-3889

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