



April 28, 2019

Second Sunday of Easter  
or Sunday of Divine Mercy (C)

Acts 5:12-16 / Rev 1:9-11a, 12-13,  
17-19 / Jn 20:19-31

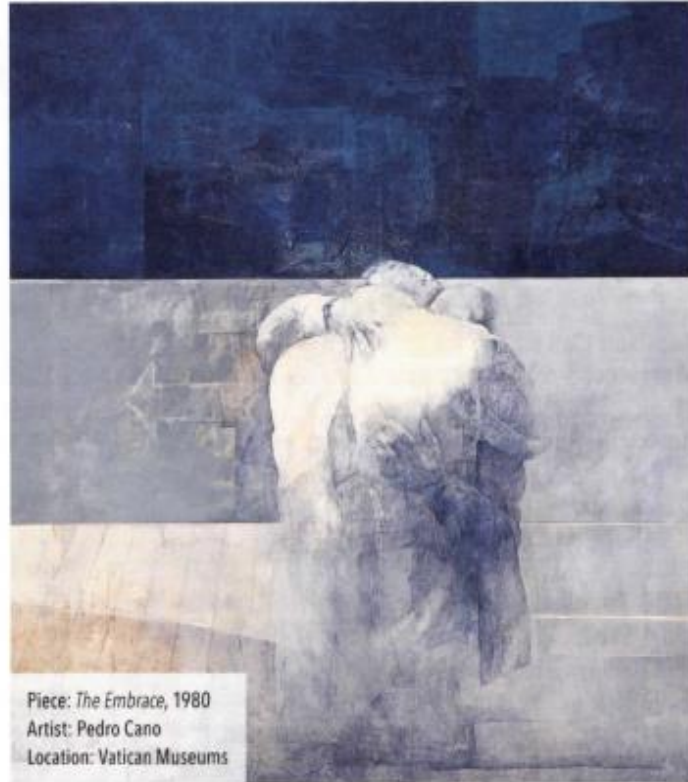
## Saved by Christ's Merciful Love

We're not defined by our weakness, but created for greatness! Look at David, Paul, and the sinful woman. David was an adulterer and murderer, yet he wrote Psalms and was Jesus' ancestor. Paul killed one of the first deacons, Stephen, yet became the greatest apostle to the Gentiles. The sinful woman's misdeeds were public, yet what is most remembered is her repentance and love.

Sin is not the last word. God's recreating mercy is. God's mercy asks for a response so all that transformative power can be unleashed in us. The only thing that stands in the way of God's renewal rushing in and totally transforming us is our own lack of acceptance.

Sin wants to stand in the way of this good news. The evil one tries to convince us that we are too sinful; that salvation and happiness might be for others, but certainly not for us.

But David, Paul, and the sinful woman didn't let that sinister message sink in. David was moved to repentance by Nathan's words. Paul accepted that he wasn't saved by his religious fervor or condemned for his errors. He was saved by letting Christ's merciful love embrace him. The sinful woman refused to be defined by her poor choices. She tearfully made penance at Christ's feet, and this act



Piece: *The Embrace*, 1980  
Artist: Pedro Cano  
Location: Vatican Museums

of her brokenness gave off a consoling aroma that filled the house.

Let the power of Christ's love be unleashed in you by forgiving yourself and others. Then your weakness will be the first step toward the greatness God has in store for you.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

### *For Reflection*

*Are there any past errors that I am letting define me?*

*What stands in my way of a greater experience of Christ's mercy?*

*[Jesus said,] "Receive the holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."*

## **SACRED HEART PARISH**

P.O. Box 207, Seward, AK 99664  
Phone: (907) 224-5414

## **ST. JOHN NEUMANN**

P.O. Box 737  
Cooper Landing, AK99572  
Phone: (907) 595-1300  
email: [sacredheartseward@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheartseward@gmail.com)  
website: [sacredheartseward.org](http://sacredheartseward.org)  
**Rev. Richard D. Tero, Pastor**  
**Rev. William P. Hanrahan**  
**Deacon Walter Corrigan**

### **SACRAMENTS**

**Baptism:** Call church for appointment

**Marriage:** 5-6 Months preparations are required.  
Call for an appointment.

**Reconciliation:** Saturday at 5:00 p.m. or by  
appointment.

### **MASSES THIS WEEK**

**04/30 Tues:** 12 p.m. Mass  
**05/01 Wed:** 12 p.m. Mass  
**05/02 Thurs** 12 p.m. Mass  
**05/03 Fri:** 12 p.m. Mass  
**05/04 Sat:** 5:30 p.m. Mass, Confirmation,  
Potluck  
**05/05 Sun:** 9 a.m. Rosary 9:30 a.m. Mass; 12:30  
p.m. Mass at St John Neumann

### **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

**First Reading:** Acts 5:12-16

"Many signs and wonders were done among the  
people at the hands of the Apostles."

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 118:2-4, 13-15, 11-24

"GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD FOR HE IS  
GOOD, HIS LOVE IS EVERLASTING."

**Second Reading:** Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19

"I hold the keys to death and the netherworld."

**GOSPEL:** John 20:19-31

"Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive  
are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are  
retained."

### **SATURDAY, May 4**

Lector - Tegan Retzer

E.M. - N/A

### **SUNDAY, May 5**

Lector - Tom Callahan

E.M. - Rock Elhard

**SUNDAY COLLECTION** - Last week, the people  
of Sacred Heart shared \$2,817 with the parish.

**PARISH WEBSITE!** - Thanks to the work of  
Clare Sullivan, our new parish website is up and  
running... the url is: [sacredheartseward.org](http://sacredheartseward.org) Check it  
out, and let us know if you have any comments or  
requests as it grows.

**MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST** -The men's  
prayer breakfast continues on Wednesdays, at 7  
a.m. in the Parish Hall.

**ONE BREAD, ONE BODY-** Watch for a letter  
from Archbishop Etienne for this year's One Bread,  
One Body Annual Catholic Appeal. This is an  
opportunity to be "partners for the gospel," to  
support the important ministries of the Archdiocese  
and continue to put the Word into action throughout  
the parishes of Southcentral Alaska. Please  
prayerfully consider this request for your  
participation and support. If you have questions  
about the annual appeal, please call the Office of  
Stewardship & Development, 907-297-7700.

### **2019 Archbishop's Golf Tournament**

**Save the Date!!!** Reserve your spot today to play in  
the 2019 Archbishop's Golf  
Tournament on Thursday, June 27, 2019 at Settlers  
Bay Golf Course in Wasilla, AK.  
Register yourself or a team of four at  
[www.archdioceseofanchorage.org/archbishops-golf-tournament](http://www.archdioceseofanchorage.org/archbishops-golf-tournament) .

### **ARCHDIOCESE OF ANCHORAGE OFFICE OF SAFE ENVIRONMENT STATEMENT:**

"The Archdiocese has prepared an opportunity for  
everyone to submit their comments, questions  
and/or suggestions relating to the Abuse reports in  
the Catholic Church and the Church's Response

About Abuse of Vulnerable Persons on the Archdiocese of Anchorage Website.”

“The Catholic Church values the dignity of its members. The horrors of child abuse continue to haunt the Church and its victims. In order to deal with this crisis in a responsible, accountable, and transparent manner, the Archbishop is working to address the concerns of victims, parishioners, and the broader community.

The Archdiocese of Anchorage values everyone’s thoughts regarding the abuse against the vulnerable of our Church and the Church’s response. We want to make available an opportunity for everyone to express their thoughts, please submit any questions or comments and offer recommendations by using the following online form.

All submissions can be anonymous if preferred. When possible, answers to questions submitted will be posted publicly through the Archdiocese of Anchorage website and/or the Catholic Anchor. Comments and Suggestions will be shared with Archbishop Etienne and his staff and at his discretion, may be published.

The identity of those submitting concerns, questions or comments and recommendations will not be made public.

**\*Please note that it is the policy of the Archdiocese of Anchorage to report all allegations of abuse or endangerment of a minor or vulnerable adult or child pornography.\***

**Saint Francis House Food** is in need of canned fruits and vegetables and large diapers. The pantry is running low on canned fruits and vegetables and would be happy with any and all that you’re able to give that are not past their expiration date. The pantry is also in dire need of size 3, 4, and 5 diapers. Donations can be dropped off at the pantry, 3710 E. 20<sup>th</sup> Ave. 99508.

**ST. PAUL’S CORNER** - Looking for Catholic books, gifts, and items of faith? Come see what’s new at St. Paul’s Corner at the Holy Family Cathedral. Hours of service:

- Sundays: 8:30AM to 5:30PM
- Closed Mondays

- Tuesdays and
- Wednesdays: 11:00AM–2:00PM
- Closed Thursdays
- Fridays: 11:00AM-2:00PM
- Saturdays: 10:00AM – 2:00PM
- If you have questions, please call 907-646-3070

**Project Rachel to Begin New Support Group -**

Suffering, sad, or confused because of an abortion – you or a family member? Whether recently or long ago, consider grieving your loss through the Archdiocesan-supported Project Rachel healing group. It is free and confidential. For further information or to participate phone our confidential phone line: 297-7781 or Toll Free (outside the Anchorage area).

**RAIS** is in need of warm winter blankets, kitchen tables, and chairs. Please drop off donations at 3710 E. 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

**MISSION DONATION ADDRESSES**

**Magadan Missions**

C/o Russian Desk  
Archdiocese of Anchorage  
225 Cordova Street  
Anchorage, AK 99501

**Thai Missions**

Friends of Sarnelli House UA  
P.O. Box 88234  
Milwaukee, WI 53288  
E-mail: [sheamick@gmail.com](mailto:sheamick@gmail.com)

**REGISTRATION** – In order to provide needed data for the Archdiocese, to provide sacramental service for our parishioners and so that we may give special recommendations for ministries, programs and sponsors, it is necessary for all parishioners to be registered in the parish. Forms are available on the bulletin board in the vestibule. All information provided is kept confidential.

## Calendar

### Monday

APRIL 29

*St. Catherine of Siena,  
Virgin and  
Doctor of the Church*

Acts 4:23–31

In 3:1–8

### Tuesday

APRIL 30

*Easter Weekday*

Acts 4:32–37

In 3:7b–15

### Wednesday

MAY 1

*Easter Weekday*

Acts 5:17–26

In 3:16–21

### Thursday

MAY 2

*St. Athanasius,  
Bishop and  
Doctor of the Church*

Acts 5:27–33

In 3:31–36

### Friday

MAY 3

*Sts. Philip and James,  
Apostles*

1 Cor 15:1–8

In 14:6–14

### Saturday

MAY 4

*Easter Weekday*

Acts 6:1–7

In 6:16–21

### Sunday

MAY 5

*Third Sunday of Easter*

Acts 5:27–32, 40b–41

Rev 5:11–14

In 21:1–19 or

In 21:1–14

# Dear Padre,

## What is spiritual communion?

**S**piritual communion is a unique Roman Catholic devotional practice not to be confused with sacramental Communion, which is the participation in the mystery of Christ by eating and drinking the Body and the Blood of the Lord.

The development of spiritual communion as a devotion can be traced to St. Alphonsus Liguori. It's a form of spiritual yearning to be in communion with Christ during those times when his sacramental gift can't be shared.



To share in sacramental Communion, one must be aware of no unconfessed serious sin against God's commands and be in good standing with the Roman Catholic Church. With exceptions for age and health, one must also have fasted from all food and all beverages except water for one hour before receiving sacramental Communion. Some Catholics are unable to share sacramental Communion because of sickness, geographic distance from a Roman Catholic community, or unavailability of priests.

Any Christian who wishes to have spiritual communion with the Lord can do so by taking a moment to consider God's love demonstrated

to us in the life, passion, and death of Christ. Give thanks to God for this wonderful gift, and say a prayer of spiritual communion.

From *The Eucharist: 50 Questions from the Pews*, © 2009 Fr. Richard N. Fragomeni, PhD (Liguori) Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



## A Word from Pope Francis

*The death penalty is contrary to the meaning of humanitas and to divine mercy, which must be models for human justice.*

*It entails cruel, inhumane, and degrading treatment, as is the anguish before the moment of execution and the terrible*

*suspense between the issuing of the sentence and the execution of the penalty.*

—Letter to International Commission Against the Death Penalty, March 20, 2015