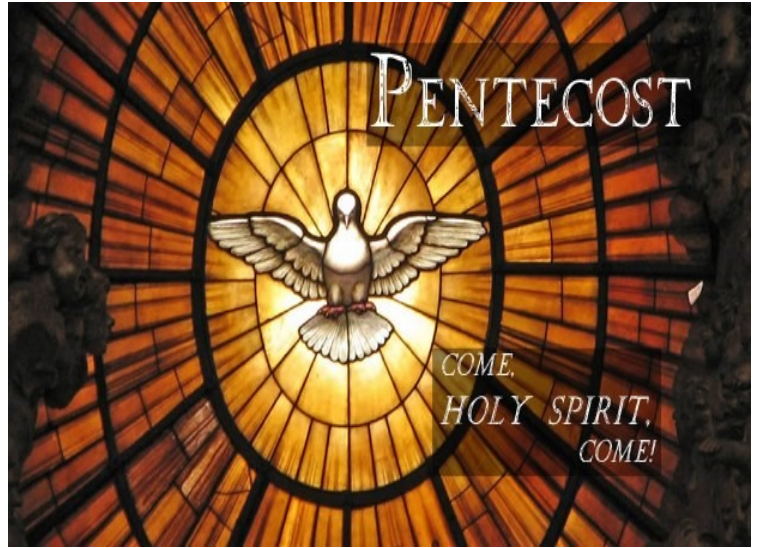


Pentecost Sunday

May 23, 2021

Date	Intentions	Requested by
5/23 11:00	William Allen	Carmen Allen
5/26 12:00 Latin	Special Intention	
5/27 12:00	Bob & Keri Allen	
5/28 9:00	Peter Anderson	Mr. & Mrs. Truex
5/29 4:00	Neko Fitzpatrick	Lee Havron
5/30 11:00	Antonia Horvath +	Joanne La Poma



Our Lady of the Mountains—Offertory

Weekend of May 16, 2021 Attendance—100

Offertory—\$ 2,123 On line giving—\$420

Please consider making your offertory
donations on-line. Visit our website:
<https://olmhighlands.com/online-giving>
for more details.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 10th at 10:30. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

Quo Vadis Days/Duc in Altum Camps

Attention all Catholic young men and women ages 15-19! Do you know where your life is going? The Lord Jesus has a great plan for you! You are invited to attend the annual Quo Vadis Days/Duc in Altum camp to spend time with other young men and women looking at the Lord's call in your life while having fun. The men's camp will be held from June 14-18 2021 at Belmont Abbey College in Belmont. The cost of the camp is \$150. Registration deadline is June 9, 2021. The women's camp will be June 21-25, 2021 at Belmont Abby College. If you are interested visit the website for more information:
www.charlottevocations.org

The Fruit of the Spirit

As followers of Jesus, we are called to direct our minds and hearts to Christ's love, turning away from all that is not of God in order to be more Christ-like in our daily lives. The more we invite the Holy Spirit to draw us close to God's heart, the more readily we will avoid sin and choose life, faith, and love. In the letter to the Galatians, we hear a list of things that those who live in the Spirit are to avoid. Things like immorality, hatred, jealousy, and selfishness. At first glance, we might think to ourselves, "of course I want to avoid those things," and yet, if we are honest with ourselves, we likely recognize some of those patterns in our lives. Upon further reflection, however, we also see that these negative behaviors pose temporary pleasure while the fruits of the Spirit— love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control—lead to a life of deep and lasting fulfillment.

Saint of the Week

He who wishes for anything but Christ, does not know what he wishes; he who asks for anything but Christ, does not know what he is asking; he who works, and not for Christ, does not know what he is doing. ~St. Philip Neri (1515-1595) Priest, Founder of an order of Priests, Feast Day May 26

Father's Column

GUIDELINES

Holy Communion to Politicians

The past week or so news emerged regarding admission of Holy Communion to politicians when the U.S. bishops and the Vatican appeared to be at odds in applying the Church's law to lawmakers. These conversations and sometimes fights have been episodic in the U.S. since the time of John F. Kennedy.

What does the Church's law actually say on the matter? Canon 915 of the Code of Canon Law states: "Those upon whom the penalty of excommunication or interdict has been imposed or declared, and others who obstinately persist in manifest grave sin, are not to be admitted to Holy Communion." For this topic, only the latter half of the canon is applicable. So, to be denied Holy Communion someone must 1) "obstinately persist" in 2) "manifest" 3) "grave sin." Let's consider each element in reverse.

"Grave sin" or "mortal sin," by definition, kills a person's relationship or union with God. They are no longer in communion with God and must therefore refrain from receiving Communion, which is not only the reality of the Lord's Body and Blood, but a sign of one's communion with God and the Church. By "manifest," what is meant is the sin is publicly known. While private citizens can "manifest" by, for instance, being in an illicit marital union, this concept applies more frequently to public figures, such as politicians. The issue with public sins is that of scandal, and making sin seem less serious. Lastly, people are responsible only for what they know. "Obstinately persist" presumes the person was first privately warned (perhaps multiple times).

So, the law of the Church, rooted as it is in Scripture and the unbroken and perennial practice of the Church (see 1 Cor 11 on sacrilegious communions and 1 Cor 5 on excommunications), is and always has been clear: if a public figure supports policies that are intrinsically evil (i.e. can never be justified), he must not receive Communion until publicly repented.

The Church's concern is not to meddle in politics, but to save the endangered souls of her children. Should any cleric (despite his rank) attempt to dispense from the teachings of Christ in these regards, he too, should repent and return to the Gospel that he claims to preach. Let us pray for good and holy pastors of souls as well as good Catholic politicians!

From the Diocese of Charlotte Concerning COVID-19

1. **Beginning Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 2021, the general dispensation from attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation will be narrowed to include only those who remain vulnerable to the coronavirus.**
2. **Religious services no longer require social distancing or face covers.**
3. **Those who remain vulnerable are advised to continue wearing face coverings or attend Mass virtually.**
4. **The options of receiving Communion from the chalice and extending the Sign of Peace are to remain omitted until further notice.**
5. **The faithful retain the right to receive Communion on the tongue or in the hand. (Excluding Latin Mass where Communion must be received on the tongue.)**

Ladies of OLM

Join us for a Woman's Ministry Planning Luncheon! We are starting something new and would love your input. We will meet in Fellowship Hall at 11 am on Thursday, June 17th to share your ideas and have a little fun. Contact Janet at 828-526-4590 or email prescherjanet@gmail.com if you have any questions.

BECOME MORE INVOLVED AT OUR LADY OF THE MOUNTAINS!

Women's Club Men's Club
Lector Usher Flowers
Fellowship Brunch

Please call the office for more details!

Pope Francis' Monthly Intention for May

The World of Finance

Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

Please pray for our parishioners and their relatives and friends:

Sarah Bryan, Donna Barry, Nancy McGowan, Carolyn Neupauer, Alsia Sutton & Family, Christine Walker, Laura Sanders, Mary Catherine Cann, Griffin Harper

Also for those in our book of prayer intentions, and those for whom there is no one to pray.

Please pray for all the men and women serving the United States in the military.

Please pray for the souls of our beloved deceased.

James Urbanski, Pat Pittari, Clara Lewicki, Fr. Ubald Rugirangoga, Scott Peek, Sr., Stewart Austin, and Ron Simmons, Harry Vaughn