

May 9, 2021

## Sixth Sunday of Easter



### **“I Have Called You Friends”**

**To do as Jesus asks, is to obediently keep the commandment to love. That is what makes us friends of Jesus. The loving friendship that Jesus extends to us takes its meaning from the death of Jesus, who was willing to lay down his life for us. This friendship is rooted in the incredible event of the sacrifice, in which Jesus takes upon himself the role of servant and innocent victim.**



Flowers for the Altar this weekend are donated by the Altar Society in thanksgiving to God for all the mothers of our Parish.

### MASS INTENTIONS



Thursday, May 13  
4:30 p.m. Msgr. Arnold (Buzz) Anders  
Saturday, May 15  
4:30 p.m. Victor, Hattie & Jerome Hermis  
Sunday, May 16  
8:00 a.m. Ollie M. Pospisil

### Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy



Next weekend is *The Ascension of the Lord*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

**First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11**  
**Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 47**  
**Second Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23**  
**Gospel: Mark 16:15-20**

Individual Confessions in Moulton and Praha  
- Available anytime by appointment. Call the office.  
- On Fridays in the Family Room after Mass in Moulton.  
- On Thursdays after the 4:30 p.m. Mass in Praha.  
- During Advent/Christmas season and in Lent.

## Happy Mother's Day

### Prayer for Mother

*Thank you, God for my mother. How many times have I said that I will be different from my mother – “better,” unusual – not like her. Yet here I stand, morally and lovingly hers.*

*Thank you, God for all that she said and all that she did not say, for all that she did and all that she left undone.*

*Thank you, God for letting me become so many of those good things that were my mother—the things I had not the wisdom to see in earlier day. Thank you, God for my mother.*

— Donna Schaper

Mother's Day Spiritual Bouquet – See Insert

### St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund Maintaining & Preserving Maticka Praha



We thank the following for their recent contributions:

*Steven Jenkins, Wetumpka, AL - \$20*

*Gabriel Bugajshi, San Antonio, TX - \$20*

*In Memory of Margaret Henry - \$20*  
*Brian Tobal, New Ringgold, PA*

*In Memory of R. E. & Edith and Louie & Zita - \$20*  
*Suzanne & Robert Haney, Stephenville, TX*

*In Thanksgiving to God for His Blessings - \$20*  
*Linda & Dan Hehmann, Houston, TX*

### PICNIC RAFFLE PRIZES BEING SOLICITED



It's time to start thinking about making donations to the Raffle – August 15<sup>th</sup> will be here before you know it! Thomas Petru is contacting businesses to solicit raffle prize donations. Anyone interested in making a donation may call Thomas Petru (512-751-6191) or Barbara Prause (361-798-6174). The Raffle Prize donation deadline is May 31. *Thank you.*

### Welcome Newly Registered Parishioners

*Mildred (Midge) Elam*  
*Linda & Roger Moreno*  
*Phyllis & Tom Teykl*

We welcome you all to Maticka Praha.

**The Sanctuary Light  
will be lit this week  
in memory of John Pokluda.**



## REFLECTION

Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 Psalm 98  
1 John 4:7-10 John 15:9-17

### *God's Love For Us*

In today's Gospel, the name by which Jesus chooses to call his own is a very intimate one. "I call you friends," says Jesus. "I no longer speak of you as slaves ... instead, I call you friends."

The word "friend" is a term that does not always convey its true meaning in our society, wherein such words are often cheapened by abuse and overuse. It was once very aptly defined: "A faithful friend is a sure shelter; those who find one find a treasure. A faithful friend is beyond price, no sum can balance their worth."

In applying this special name to his own, Jesus was inviting them to enter into a relationship of intimacy and reciprocity. What does it mean to be a friend of Jesus? First, we are assured that those whom Jesus calls "friend" are loved to the extent that Jesus will lay down his life for them. Therefore, the friendship that disciples enjoy is rooted in the very sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. Second, those befriended by Jesus are chosen by him and with that choosing come the grace to respond to him by keeping his commandments and loving as he loves. Friends of Jesus are also "in the know" because it is to his friends that Jesus makes known all that he has heard from the Father. Like Jesus, who came to serve, so also would his friends be called to serve all others. Like Jesus, for whom suffering would be the path to life and glory, so the friends of Jesus would learn that suffering would be an inherent aspect of their belonging to him. Yet through all the service and the suffering, Jesus also promised that we, his friends would bear enduring fruit and that we would know the same joy that he himself had known.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



May 9 – Daniel MacDonald  
May 11 – Timothy Pospisil  
May 12 – Sadie Noska  
May 15 -Johnnye Jameyson

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!



May 12 – Dolores & David Labay  
– Virginia Shelly & Jim Jasek



Rosary every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. Come join a group of church ladies at the Zdravas Maria Plaza to pray.

## SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND



### **Retired & Needy Priests of the Diocese of Victoria**

Priests devote their lives to furthering the mission of the Church and bringing people closer to Christ. In retirement, they continue to serve. They are the living roots of our sacramental community. *Please be generous.*

## May is the Month of Mary

As the Mother of God, the Virgin Mary has a unique position among the saints, indeed, among all creatures. She is exalted, yet still one of us.

Redeemed by reason of the merits of her Son and united to Him by a close and indissoluble tie, she is endowed with the high office and dignity of being the Mother of the Son of God, by which account she is also the beloved daughter of the Father and the temple of the Holy Spirit. Because of this gift of sublime grace she far surpasses all creatures, both in heaven and on earth. At the same time, however, because she belongs to the offspring of Adam she is one with all those who are to be saved. (Lumen Gentium, no. 53)

Mary embraces God's will and freely chooses to cooperate with God's grace, thereby fulfilling a crucial role in God's plan of salvation. Throughout the centuries, the Church has turned to the Blessed Virgin in order to come closer to Christ. Many forms of piety toward the Mother of God developed that help bring us closer to her Son. In these devotions to Mary, "while the Mother is honored, the Son, through whom all things have their being and in whom it has pleased the Father that all fullness should dwell, is rightly known, loved and glorified and . . . all His commands are observed." The Church honors her as the Mother of God, looks to her as a model of perfect discipleship, and asks for her prayers to God on our behalf.

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## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

### *Love One Another*

To love others because one loves God is, for the Christian, the greatest commandment, that which always and everywhere must direct one's life; a debt that one can never pay.

As the Eucharist is the "Source and Summit" of the Christian life, so is the sacrament of love, sign of unity, bond of charity.