

Jesus said,
"In my Father's house there are many dwelling places."
JOHN 14:2

MAY
10
2020



FIFTH
SUNDAY OF
Easter

During Lent, we participated in penitential practices and focused on prayer, fasting, and almsgiving in order to turn our lives more fully to the Lord. However, the fruit of our Lenten practices is not supposed to end on Good Friday or Easter Sunday. Lent is our annual time to embrace spiritual renewal, which is intended to last. The change of mind and heart that we embraced in the weeks preceding Easter are to be our spiritual foundation, shaping our lives now and into the future. Pause for a moment and ask yourself what difference Lent made for you this year. If you can point to some particular change of mind, heart, or behavior, promise yourself that you will continue to live in this new way in the months and years to come. If Lent did not have a special impact on your life this year, now is the time to invite the Lord to show you the way to more meaningful and faith-filled living in the future.

DON'T BE AFRAID. DO THE WORKS OF CHRIST.

In the Gospel passage we heard today, Jesus was preparing the apostles for a time when he would not be with them physically. Jesus wanted to reassure the apostles, even though he knew they were having a difficult time understanding. We sometimes struggle to grasp the Lord's ways, too. We know that God is with us in Christ through the Holy Spirit, and yet, when we really have to act in accord with our faith, we sometimes falter. Jesus tells us to not be afraid. Have faith in Christ and do his works. We may be surprised at what we are able to do when we trust and follow Jesus' way. And we are assured that God will be with us through it all.

Today's readings: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; 1 Pt 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12

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PASTOR: Rev. Michael T. "Mike" Snider
PERMANENT DEACON:
Rev. Mr. Leonard "Len" Sanchez

Celebration of the Sacraments:

Mass: Saturday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 9:30 AM
Tues, Thurs & Fri: 9:00 AM
Wednesday: 5:00 PM

Reconciliation:
Saturday & Sunday: 45
minutes before Mass

Marriage or Baptism:
Contact the parish office six
(6) months prior to the
anticipated date 903-769-3235

Holy Spirit

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Welcome Visitors!

We hope that you have enjoyed celebrating Mass with us and felt welcomed in our church as your "home away from home." Whether you are new to the area or have lived here for years, you are invited to join our parish family. Please come again!

Fifth Sunday of Easter

We remember in our prayers all the sick, especially the following:

Wanda Duke. John Ott. Kathy Fleming. Carolyn Shannon. Doris Hoffman. Jo Ann Crowell. Ann Richardson. Patricia Guy. Jacob Stephens. Randy Burris. Albert Hernandez. Karina Hawkins. Mike Fleming. Frankie Durst. Susie Strickland. Doug Lawson. Dana Moffatt. Emily Walker. Eva Corrigan. Francis Young. Mike Brown. Mary Margaret Ellison. John Kominis. Ester Coronel. Diane Stanley. Chase Larsson. Elise Sugg. Joann Rayl. Rose Kennedy. Judy Fazzio. Marsha & Marty Blahitka. Carolyn Edwards. Joshua Larsson. Avery Boultinghouse. Wanda Stephens. Wanda Thompson. Kathryn Allen. Jim & Geri O'Neil. We list the names of our sick Parishioners. Friends and Relatives for one month.

Please pray for the men and women active military service from our parish community:

2LT Joseph Chandler, U.S. Army (Nephew of Mike & Margaret Jernigan) Seaman Logan Adkinson (great grandson of Fr. Mike). Jay Guajardo, Navy Rescue School (Great Nephew of Lex & Liza Forster). Airman First Class Natalie York (Daughter of Steve & Julie York). Pvt First Class Randall Scheaffer US Army (Grandson of Carlos & Pat Gallardo). Lt. Col. William P Shea. (Nephew of Deacon Sam and Nancy Mullen). Colonel John Anthony Fontana. U.S. Army (Son of John & Mary Fontana). Ensign Gary Buchanan; 2ndLt. Blake Gaughan (Nephews of Jess & Eva Corrigan). E-3R James Morgan (SonInLaw of Kathy & Dale Boman) Paul Moreno USCG (Grandson of Kathy & Dale Boman). Staff Sergeant Daniel Hodan. U.S. Army (Grandson of Ron & Barbara Eamma). Warrant Officer Michael Hauck (brother of Jeff & Cathy Ellis) & Seaman Rainer Hauck (nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).

VOCATION

Roman Catholics in the United States spend a good deal of time speaking of "vocation" and the manner in which each of us discerns our vocation for life. In today's apostolic letter, however, Peter gives us the "cornerstone" of our vocation, the description of what each of us is called to first and foremost by our baptism. He describes our vocation as "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of [God's] own, so that you may announce the praises" of Christ, who called us out of darkness into light (1 Peter 2:9). All of us, no matter what path our life's vocation may take us down, have been chosen by God, made holy, and anointed as priests in the high priesthood of Christ through baptism. All of this, so that we may announce the praises of Christ. Vocation is given for proclamation at home, in the workplace—wherever life takes us—in service, in word, and in sacrament.

POPE'S UNIVERSAL INTENTION FOR MAY

For Deacons

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

Mass—Intentions

Sat 5/09 Carlos Gallardo+ (M/M Pat Ryan)
Sun 5/10 All Mothers
Tue 5/12 Carlos Gallardo+ (M/M Pat Ryan)
Wed 5/13 Wanda Duke (M/M Mike Janick)
Thurs 5/14 Wanda Duke (M/M Mike Janick)
Fri. 5/15 Carlos Gallardo+ (M/M Pat Ryan)
Sat. 5/16 Barbara & Joseph Pericak+ (Mary Catalano)

PARISH SUPPORT

Required Weekly Funds \$ 3,962
Offerings May 3rd \$ 4,944
Attendance: Sat 5/2 20; Sun 5/3 7:30am 22; 10:30am 15

One can Give without Loving...
But one cannot Love without Giving.

I am so grateful for the support that our parishioners has given during these bumpy days, weeks and months. You always come through in the time of need. Thank you for taking the time to send in your contributions plus more above and beyond.

I truly appreciate each and every one of you.

Rev. Fr. Mike Snider

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — To meet their growing needs, the community chooses seven reputable men to serve the new Greek believers (Acts 6:1-7).

Psalms — Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you (Psalm 33).

Second Reading — We, like living stones, let ourselves be built into a spiritual house (1 Peter 2:4-9).

Gospel — "Show us the Father," Philip asks Jesus. To which Jesus replies: "Whoever sees me, sees the Father" (John 14:1-12).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 14:5-18; Ps 115:1-4, 15-16; Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13ab, 21; Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5; Jn 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Ps 113:1-8; Jn 15:9-17

Friday: Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-10, 12; Jn 15:12-17

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-3, 5; Jn 15:18-21

Sunday: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; Ps 66:1-7, 16, 20; 1 Pt 3:15-18 or 1 Pt 4:13-16; Jn 14:15-21 or Jn 17:1-11a

HUGS: A mom's hug lasts long after she lets go. —Anonymous

MARY OUR MOTHER: What a joy to remember that Mary is our Mother! Since she loves us and knows our weakness, what have we to fear? —Saint Thérèse of Lisieux

Weekend Mass schedule held in parish hall: Saturday, May 9th at 5:00pm, Sunday, May 10 at 9:00am.

Extra Protocols for weekend Masses:

1. **Limitations on Attendance:** Please arrive early, so that you do not have to be turned away, limited seating maximum 51 seats are available. In order for the households to maintain at least 6-foot separation.
2. **Strongly consider wearing a mask that covers mouth & nose.**
3. **No socializing** in the parish hall or outside glass doors before or after Mass. Avoid touching door handles, use restrooms before coming to Mass.
4. **Chairs** are set up with the 6-foot separation. Please **do not rearrange chairs**, they are to remain as they are.
5. **Enter & exist** double glass doors into the parish hall to the left of the overhang. Do not enter through glass doors into the Narthex to the church

Weekday Mass scheduled held in church: Tuesday—Friday at 8:00am.

Extra Protocols for weekday Masses:

1. **Call Fr. Mike on his cell phone 903-490-3883(do not text). We are limited to 10 people.**
2. **Strongly consider wearing a mask that covers mouth & nose.**
3. **No socializing** in the Narthex or outside glass doors before or after Mass. Avoid touching door handles, use restrooms before coming to Mass. Enter & exit same set of double glass doors into the church through the overhang.
4. **In church** we ask you to cooperate by **alternating every other pew**. Households must maintain at least 6-foot separation.
5. **Enter & exit** double glass doors into the church through the overhang.

Confessions: Tues., May 12th; Wed., May 13th; and Thurs., May 14th from 9:00—10:30am. Confessions rain or shine, cold or hot weather. I will be parked in front of the double glass doors that you enter into the Narthex, under the overhang, seated in my front seat of my car. Please drive up and park your vehicle 6 feet from my vehicle and stay in your vehicle. Roll your window down, turn motor off and start your confession. After, your confession, you may drive around to our meditation garden, to say your penance.

SECOND COLLECTIONS IN MAY: 3rd "Building & Maintenance Fund"; 10th "Monastery of the Infant Jesus."

Dispensation: The entire diocese remains dispensed from the Sunday and holy day Mass obligation until further notice. The faithful are under no moral obligation to attend Mass at this time. Before deciding to attend Mass, everyone is asked to consider their own health condition and living situation carefully. All vulnerable individuals should continue to stay at home. Members of households with vulnerable residents should be aware that they could carry the virus back home. People who feel sick or have symptoms of possible COVID-19 MUST remain at home.

I am taking proper precautions to protect each and everyone of our parishioners and the community. Please call me if you need help or you just need to talk to someone.

I will continue to pray for my parishioners, united in God's love.

Rev. Fr. Michael Snider
Cell# 903-490-3883

An Act of 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.*

Our Lady of Fátima

Feast Day May 13

Our Lady of Fátima is one of the more recent and well-known devotions to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Our Lady appeared six times to three shepherd children, Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta, between May 13 and October 13, 1917, in the little village of Fátima.

She asked the children to devote themselves to the Holy Trinity and to pray the rosary every day to bring peace to the world and an end to war—World War I, a long and tragic war, had just entered into its fourth year. She also asked the children to help increase devotion to her Immaculate Heart.

In her last apparition, it has been reported, Mary gave a great sign—the sun dancing—as a way of proving that she was truly there. There were 70,000 witnesses on October 13, 1917, in Fátima who saw this sign. It is said all could stare at the sun without blinking, or even hurting their eyes. It is said the sun rotated, got larger and smaller and “danced” in the sky.

Two of the children, Francisco and Jacinta, died in 1919 and 1920, respectively, as part of the great, worldwide flu epidemic. The third, Lucia, became a Carmelite nun and died in 2005 at the age of 97.

The children said that Mary gave them three secrets to reveal to the world. Lucia told all of this in a series of memoirs that she was asked to write. In 1941, she said the first secret was shown in July 1913. That secret was a vision of hell that the children were allowed to see.

The second stated: “The war is about to end [World War I], but if men do not cease to offend God there will begin a worse one in the pontificate of Pius XI...the punishment of the world is at hand for its so great sins by means of war, famine and persecutions directed against the Church and the Holy Father.”

The third secret was written down by Lucia in 1944 and given to a Portuguese bishop. It was sent to the Vatican in 1957 and finally revealed in 2000 by Pope St. John Paul II.

She wrote: “We saw an Angel with a flaming sword in his left hand; flashing, it gave out flames that looked as though they would set the world on fire; but they died out in contact with the splendour that Our Lady radiated towards him from her right hand: pointing to the earth with his right hand, the Angel cried out in a loud voice: ‘Penance, Penance, Penance!’”

The secret also spoke of a bishop dressed in white going up a steep mountain and being killed along with many other bishops, priests and religious. Many believe that this is a reference to the assassination attempt of Pope

St. John Paul II in 1981. However, Pope Benedict XVI said the third secret did not directly refer to the assassination attempt. Pope Benedict has said that all of the third secret has been revealed and that the matter is settled.

For most people, though, Fátima is not about secrets. Rather, it is about the faith of small children and the benevolence of a loving mother who cared for them.

The feast of Our Lady of Fátima was approved by the local bishop in 1930. It was added to the Church’s worldwide calendar in 2002. About four million people visit Fátima each year.

In August 2015, Pope Francis said, “Virgin of Nazareth, Mary: the first human person who believed in God by accepting the flesh of Jesus. Let us learn from her, our Mother, joy and gratitude for the gift of faith, a gift that is not private but shared. It is for the life of the world.”

Mary believed, and she continues to go out and help others to believe.

Mary, you come to us in so many different ways and in so many different parts of the world. You come, so often, to the humble and the young. Thank you for continuing to talk with us and reach out to us. You were young and humble and believed. Help us to believe!



Reflection:

- Imagine that Mary appeared to you. It would be a blessing but also imagine having to convince people that it really happened. What would you do? How do you explain your own faith? For that, too, is miraculous.
- So often we think back on the “good old days.” But Mary appeared at a time when war was raging. A worldwide flu epidemic followed. Heartache and death were commonplace. Sorrow is part of life, but the comfort of Mary also is a constant. When do you turn to Mary? How has she helped?



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