

No one has
greater love than this,
to lay down one's life
for one's friends.

JOHN 15:13



MAY 9, 2021

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Love calls and causes us to do great things, more than we might believe we are capable of. While some are called to give their lives as martyrs, most of us find ourselves called to lay down our lives in smaller ways in the midst of everyday life. Parents lose sleep in the early moments of their baby's life, and again as their teens mature and gain independence. Adult children change their plans to care for aging parents. We hear the call of love as we become attentive and respond to the needs of the poor, lonely, sick, and vulnerable. Love causes us to turn our lives around, to strive to become more Christ-like in our words and actions. Peter followed this call of love when he entered the house of Cornelius, a Gentile. He was likely as astounded at the outpouring of the Holy Spirit as were the believers who accompanied him, yet love caused Peter to see beyond the accepted boundaries of religion and race, seeing instead evidence of the Lord's great love at work.

THE JOY-FILLED WAY OF LOVE

Following the Lord calls us to sacrifice for the sake of others, giving our attention, time, and resources in order to share Christ's care and compassion. Jesus shows us that giving of self, pouring ourselves out in love for another, is a joy-filled way of life. Joy is more than a feeling and is deeper than happiness. Joy comes with the assurance that Christ is with us when our lives mirror the life and way of our Master. Joy is a sense of fulfillment in knowing and sharing Christ's love. When we reach out in love, Christ's joy fills our hearts. Strengthened by the power of the Holy Spirit, we find the grace to follow Jesus' command to love one another.

Today's Readings: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48;
Ps 98: 1, 2-3, 3-4; 1 Jn 4:7-10; Jn 15:9-17

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PASTOR: Rev. Michael T. "Mike" Snider

Celebration of the Sacraments:

Mass: Saturday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 9:00 AM
Tues - Fri: 9:00 AM

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

Catholic Church

1612 S. FM 2869

Holly Lake Ranch, TX 75765

Church Phone: 903-769-3235

Fr. Mike Snider

Cell Phone: 903-490-3883

www.holyspirthollylake.com
holy.spirit2@yahoo.com

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!*

Sixth Sunday of Easter

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

Daniel Corrigan. Kyle Fabitz. Greg Mooney. Valerie Branch. Garry Fetsch. Karee Haney. Yvonne Scott. Ulysses Cormier. Bollinger Family. Kate Guthrie. Charlie Parker. Molly Dunn. Regina Davies. Tammy Johnson. Carolyn Simmons. Dianne & Gary Laudt. Gayle McCloskey. Shay Mikalonis. Wanda & George Duke. Fleming Family. Doris & Jo Hoffman. Jo Ann Crowell. Ann Richardson. Jacob Stephens. Mary Margaret Ellison. John Kominis. Ester Coronel. Ed & Diane Stanley. Elise Sugg. Joann Rayl. Judy Fazio. Marsha Blahitka. Joshua & Chase Larsson. Avery Boultinghouse. Wanda & Mike Stephens. Jim & Geri O'Neil. We list the names of our sick Parishioners. Friends and Relatives for one month. **We remember in our prayers all those who have recently died, especially: Marty Blahitka.**

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

parish community: New active recruit, Dawn Quinn, US Army (Granddaughter of Bob & Jean Quinn). Reid Patrick Hope, US Marine (Nephew of Mike & Wanda Stephens). 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). Senior Airman, 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). Lt. "JG" Gary Buchanan; 2nd Lt. Blake Gaughan; 2nd Lt. Will Corrigan (Great Nephews of Jess & Eva Corrigan). Paul Moreno E4 AMT 3rd Class (Grandson of Kathy & Dale Boman). Staff Sergeant Daniel Hodan. U.S. Army (Grandson of Ron & Barbara Emma). Warrant Officer Michael Hauck (Son of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & brother of Cathy Ellis) & Seaman Rainer Hauck (Grandson of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out on the Gentiles also (Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48).

Psalm: The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power (Psalm 98).

Second Reading: God is love (1 John 4:7-10) or 1 John 4:11-16.

Gospel: No one has greater love than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends (John 15:9-17) or John 17:11b-19.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Jn 15:26 — 16:4a

Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22 — 18:1; Ps 148:1-2, 11-14; Jn 16:12-15

Thursday: Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9; Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 [1-7, 11-13]; Mk 16:15-20 (for Ascension); otherwise Acts 18:1-8; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 16:16-20

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

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47:2-3, 8-10; Jn 16:23b-28

Sunday: Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26; Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20; 1 Jn 4:11-16; Jn 17:11b-19; or, for Ascension, Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9; Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 [1-7, 11-13]; Mk 16:15-20

Mass—Intentions

Sat. 5/08 Mary Jane Snodgrass (K of C)

Sun 5/09 Eloise Sanchez (K of C)

Tue 5/11

Wed 5/12

Thurs. 5/13

Fri. 5/14

Sat. 5/15 Donna Rauner+ (Mary Catalano)

Fr. Mike will be on vacation from 5/11—5/20. No 9:00am weekday Masses starting 5/11 through 5/20.

PARISH SUPPORT

Average weekly amounts through March 31, 2021

Expenditures \$ 3,642

Regular and debt & maintenance collections \$ 3,364

Attendance 5/01 Saturday 52 5/02 Sunday 50

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

Pope's 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.

LITTLE THINGS

Faithfulness in little things is a big thing – St. John Chrysostom

THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

We have a unique episode in the Acts of the Apostles today. A whole roomful of people are baptized with the Holy Spirit before they are baptized with water! The verb used—"the Holy Spirit 'fell' on them" (Acts 10:44)—is characteristic of the way the Spirit works throughout the book of Acts: powerful and surprising. Though this "baptism" is not the normative way the New Testament describes baptism, it is still a good reminder today that the Holy Spirit is not controlled by whether or not we pour water, but rather that our sacramental signs reveal the presence of the Spirit at work among us. And we have a double reinforcement of how this work is accomplished from a Letter and a Gospel bearing John's name. It is love, self-sacrificing and self-giving love, that manifests the Spirit of Jesus in our midst. It is love that is the greatest of commandments. The Spirit is manifested equally through those who live in that love. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

The Holy Spirit Food Ministry would like to wish all Mother's of Holy Spirit a "Very Happy & Blessed Mother's Day."

Thank you,
Bob Mailliard; Bryan & Dolly Todd; Stan & Terry Evans
Holy Spirit Food Ministry Team



Holy Spirit Garage Sale June 4th & 5th

→ **MORE ITEMS ARE NEEDED FOR OUR SALE** ←

We've started pricing, you can **drop off items every Wednesday between the hours of 9:30—11:30am. NO CLOTHING or ELECTRONICS.** Call Jean Kelly 903-857-9868 if you have questions or unable to drop off items on Wednesday mornings.

May Second Collections:

8th & 9th: "Monastery of the Infant Jesus."
15th & 16th: "Catholic Communications."

Cenacle of Life: Cenacle of Life devotion each **Wed. from 3:30—4:30pm.** Please join us in church as we pray two rosaries for an end to abortion, euthanasia and all sins against the sanctity of human life. **Questions call Vicki 817-637-9382**

Legion of Mary—Pilgrim Statue: Thanks to a couple of parishioners, Our Lady of Fatima Statue was not in lockdown during Covid. Now She is ready to visit your home. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex or you may contact: Jane Bidlack, 903-569-7749 or Marge Clymer, 903-216-7953. The Statue will be delivered to your home on the day of your choice and picked up at the end of one week. If scheduling permits, the Statue may be kept for two weeks.

A Mother's Love

*There are times when only a mother's love
Can understand our tears,
Can soothe our disappoints
And calm all of our fears.*

*There are times when only a mother's love
Can share the joy we feel
When something we've dreamed about
Quite suddenly is real.*

*There are times when only a mother's faith
Can help us on life's way
And inspire in us the confidence
We need from day to day.*

*For a mother's heart and a mother's faith
And a mother's steadfast love
Were fashioned by the angels
And sent from God above.*

- Author Unknown

MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION LECTORS, AND USHERS

TRAINING CLASS WILL BE HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, MAY 26th
6:00PM

If you have been involved in one of the ministries' above, you still need updated training. If you signed-up or you did not get a chance to sign-up, you may attend the training.

Deacon Sam and Nancy Mullen

Save the date **Sat., May 22nd at 9:00am** for a **Rosary Rally** outside Holy Spirit Church. Praying that lapsed Catholics may return to the Faith.



choir practice



Every Saturday at 10:30am inside our church. Questions call Wanda Stephens 903-769-1180.



We will have our **May Crowning THIS Sunday, May 9th.** Our Blessed Mother will be crowned by the children of the parish and all parishioners are invited to provide flowers to place at her feet in the various vases provided. These can be store bought or garden picked. Your participation is highly encouraged and appreciated. Thank you in advance.

OUR CHURCH IS NOW OPEN WEEKEND & WEEKDAY MASSES

Good News

Protocols still in place:

1. We are still alternating every other pew.
2. When we have an overflow, there is sitting available in the parish hall, (please do not move the chairs). The large screen television is setup to view our Mass. Someone from church will bring you communion in the parish hall.
3. We do ask, no socializing in the church or parish hall before, during or after each Mass. Please exit to the parking lot after Mass to socialize.

God Bless You,
Fr. Mike Snider

Article for the Big Sandy-Hawkins Journal. 5 May 2021 Edition
(Submission date: 30 April 2021) Submitted by Randy Munoz

20 Mother's Day Facts to Share With Your Mom by Leah Silverman (May 6th, 2020)

(<https://www.townandcountrymag.com/leisure/arts-and-culture/g19561312/mothers-day-facts/>) Show your mom how much you care by impressing her with some fun facts about Mother's Day.

1 Mother's Day isn't always on the same date each year. The holiday is celebrated every year on the second Sunday of May. This year it will be on May 9th.

2 More calls are made on Mother's Day than any other day of the year – about 122 million.

3 Mother's Day is the third highest selling holiday for flowers and plants. After Christmas and Hanukkah, more people buy flowers and plants for their moms on Mother's Day than any other holiday. Around ¼ of all the flowers purchased throughout the year are bought for Mother's Day.

4 One of the earliest Mother's Day celebrations was in Ancient Greece. The Greeks would have spring celebrations in honor of Rhea, the goddess of fertility, motherhood, and generation.

5 Mother's Day is the busiest day of the year for restaurants; in 2018 about 87 million adults made plans to go to a restaurant for Mother's Day.

6 As of 2014, there were 43.5 million moms in the States. These women are between the ages of 15 and 50, and have collectively mothered 95.8 million children!

7 The moniker 'Mom' comes from babies. The first thing a baby can vocalize is the 'ma' sound, which is why in almost every language the word for mother begins with the letter 'M' or is some iteration of the 'ma' sound.

8 The history of American Mother's Day starts with peacemaker Ann Jarvis. During/following the Civil War, she made a concerted effort to foster friendship and community between the mothers on both sides of the war. She started a committee in 1868 which established the first "Mother's Friendship Day."

9 Ann's daughter Anna continued her legacy by creating the official holiday. Anna Reeves Jarvis sought to honor her own mother by establishing an intimate day of observance that is the basis of today's holiday. The first Mother's Day was celebrated in 1908. 10 Woodrow Wilson signed Mother's Day into law in 1914. Anna Jarvis created the Mother's Day International Association to streamline the intimate day of observance to the 2nd Sunday in May, Wilson legitimized the celebration as a nationwide holiday.

11 Anna Jarvis would later try to stop what Mother's Day had become; a commercialized opportunity for producers to sell flowers, candies, and cards. She felt this was detracting from the personal and intimate aspects of the holiday and defied this by starting boycotts, walkouts, and even condemned first lady Eleanor Roosevelt for using the day as a means of fundraising. Jarvis would eventually use all her money in this fight, and died at the age of 84 in a sanatorium.

12 In 2018, over \$23 Billion was spent on Mother's Day. On average, shoppers spend \$180 on gifts. A nationwide total of \$4.6 billion was spent on jewelry and \$4.4 billion on dinners.

13 The most popular gift for Mother's Day is the greeting card. Every Mother's Day there are approximately 152 million Mother's Day cards sent.

14 Carnations have a special meaning on Mother's Day. A. R. Jarvis used them on Mother's Day to symbolize a mother's status: red meant alive, white meant deceased.

15 Mother's Day is celebrated all over the world albeit on different days. The U.S., Great Britain, Canada, Costa Rica, Samoa, Georgia, Australia, and Thailand all have designated celebrations.

16 36% of Americans plan to buy their mom jewelry. Yet, flowers still remain the most popular gift option, with about 69% of Americans opting for a floral present. (Why not get Mom both?)

17 Some countries still observe ancient festivals honoring mothers. In India, people celebrate Durga-puja, a 10-day festival that takes place around September or October.

18 Most United States women have their first child in their 20s. The recent US age is 26.8.

19 Beauty salons and spas also get a Mother's Day boost. According to the National Retail Federation, this Mother's Day, people will spend \$2 billion on spa treatments for their mothers.

20 The average American buys 2.8 Mother's Day cards, so most people are buying more than just one for their mom. Many people buy cards for grandmothers, sisters, and mothers-in-law.



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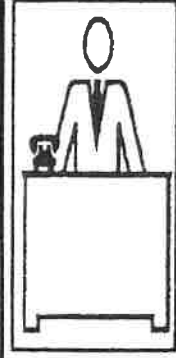
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