May 17, 2020

6th Sunday of Easter

“Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him.” - Jn 14:21

SUNDAY’S READINGS

FIRST READING:
Then they laid hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. (Acts 8:17)

PSALM:
Let all the earth cry out to God with joy. [Ps 66] or Alleluia.

SECOND READING:
For Christ also suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God. (1 Pt 3:18a)

GOSPEL:
“I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me, because I live and you will live.” (Jn 14:18-19)


OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 10, 2020
Sunday: 6th Sunday of Easter
Monday: St. John I, Pope and Martyr
Wednesday: St. Bernardine of Siena, Priest
Thursday: The Ascension of the Lord (holy day of obligation in some U.S. dioceses); St. Christopher Magellan, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
Friday: St. Rita of Cascia, Religious
Next Sunday: The Ascension of the Lord; 7th Sunday of Easter; World Communications Day

“WE BECOME WHAT WE LOVE
AND WHO WE LOVE SHAPES
WHAT WE BECOME.”

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI

REFLECT

FIRST READING
In Acts 2, Luke records how the Holy Spirit initially descended upon the Jewish believers in Jerusalem. In today’s reading, we hear how the Holy Spirit also descended upon the Samaritans who believed in Jesus. What lesson do you think Luke is conveying to us?

SECOND READING
Peter advocates for being prepared to defend the faith, even in the face of danger. How does one find the courage to defend the faith in a hostile environment?

GOSPEL READING
Jesus reveals to his disciples that the intimacy between himself, the Holy Spirit, and the Father can be shared with fellow believers. How do you experience the intimacy of our triune God?
Lord, we pray for/with Seniors and People at Risk

God of Mercy,
You never abandon your people.
Your unconditional love is unfailing.

Uphold our sisters and brothers
whose underlying conditions put them at risk for COVID-19,
including the seniors in our families, communities, and nursing homes,
(and especially...).

During this time when physical separation is necessary,
reassure them, and all of us,
that bonds of faith, family, and friendship
stretch beyond any distance or length of time.

We pray through Christ our Lord.

Lord, our God,

Compassionate and Loving Father,
In the face of confusion and concern
impart to us the calm of your presence.

In You allow us to find hope and healing.
Be with those who serve the sick and give them Your caring hands.
Be with those who lead and give them Your Spirit of wisdom.
Be with those who have fallen ill and give them Your comforting heart.

Wrap your arms around our world
and hold us in your love.
Allow us at this time of trial to then
serve as instruments of that love to all we meet.
We ask this in Your Name.

Amen
The Scrip Program at St. Greg’s plays a very important role in making and keeping Catholic education affordable and available to those who desire it. St. Greg’s purchases gift cards and certificates (Scrip) in bulk at a discount. The Scrip is purchased by parish members and school families at face value and then used at participating retailers just like cash.

If you can’t find the vendor you’re looking for, check out the Great Lakes Scrip website. There you will find even more vendors, and the latest in special offers. You can use ShopWithScrip.com and Presto-Pay to order your Scrip online.

For more information and access, you will need to contact your Scrip coordinator at

aerlandson@stgregsmil.org
May Ministry Report
In the month of April, through your contributions, the St. Vincent de Paul Society served 60 households, providing 246 bags of food. We saw several new neighbors come to our doors desperate for help, and tearfully grateful for our outreach. To provide some additional assistance to those who are suffering most during this pandemic, we shared over $765 in ALDI gift cards with our neighbors, based on their family household size. (Our households vary in size from single person households to several 6 person families). We also provided over $395 in assistance with utilities and rent and spent over $283 in April to purchase food for the pantry. But truly, it was your donations of food throughout this month that allowed us to continue to function. Knowing that many people are in severe need, we have tried to be as generous as possible in the distribution of non-perishable food. Thank you for supporting this work of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. During April we also received $2495 in donations from your stewardship offerings, and direct contributions to the Society. It is our humble privilege to continue Christ’s work of serving the poor through your generosity.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY
The Food Pantry continues to operate on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month from 10:00-Noon. If you are in need of assistance prior to the scheduled days, please call the Parish Office at 414-543-8292, or email us at SVDP@stgregsmil.org. All requests for assistance are confidential. Now more than ever, we are here to help.

READINGS FOR WEEK OF MAY 17, 2020

Sunday: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/Ps 66/:1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21
Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149/Jn 15:26—16:4a
Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138/Jn 16:5-11
Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148/Jn 16:12-15
Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98/Jn 16:16-20
Friday: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47/Jn 16:20-23
Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47/Jn 16:23b-28
             Mt 28:16-20

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

......For the sick and hospitalized.....
Eva Abbott, Anni B., Janet Berezowitz, 
Lynn Bergum, Norbert Biedermann, 
Janet Blaesing, Lila Brown, Elaine Bykowski, 
Italia Cervioni, Anna DiMotto, 
John Farney, Deb Filipiak, Constance Forse, 
Steve Frek, Kenny Frek, 
Cecilia Gozdalski, Esther Gruber, 
Michael Gozdalski, Samantha Hanzel, 
Bob Hargan, Mary Heyn, Vivian Jagielski, 
Irene Janusz, Irene Kerwin, Estelle Kinnard, 
Tom Klawien, Beth Kramer, Gary Kulwicki, 
Carol Kuzbek, Matt Lawrenz, 
Mary Kay Murray, Robert Nahring, 
Christina Navarro, Helen Oleniczak, 
Jeff O’Neill, Florence Panfil, Donna Roepke, 
Linda Saje, Francisco Tercero Sanchez, 
Santo Sanfilippo, Nancy Schabel, 
Edward & Kathleen Slapczynski, 
Catherine Slapczynski, 
Carol Spilker, Katie Stewart, 
Violet Szutz, Aniyah Thompson, 
Geraldine Tutino, Ken Uhan, 
Bob & Beverly Verzal.

For the deceased members of St. Gregory the
Great, especially Chester Ignatowski, 
Colleen Herrera, and Armand Carian who died recently. 
May they rest in Christ’s peace.

Do not be afraid to dream of great things!
POPE FRANCIS

Pray For PRIESTS
GOSPEL MEDITATION
ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

We hope for many things: passing an exam, finding our true love, securing sustainable work, or surviving an illness. We often seek to have God be a part of what we hope for and desire, almost trying to convince Him that our agenda is what is ultimately important. While our particular hopes may appear to be what needs to be achieved in order for us to be happy, they really are not. Our lesser, more personal hopes can distract us from true hope.

When God became a human being, a powerful message was sent, that is authentically human is found in the divine. As the human Jesus lived and died in order to show us that He truly is the universal Christ, we have to keep our sight focused on our eternal truth and destiny and who we truly are. We have to be careful when we allow our earthly concerns to distract us. True hope is found when we place our trust in Christ’s promises and don’t rely on our own strength. True hope focuses on striving toward the fulfillment of God’s promises and not simply on achieving what we think we need in this life. Hope always travels with two friends — faith and love. In this trio of virtues, we find the very presence of God born in every human being. These are God’s greatest gifts, and they lead us to the fullness of His presence.

As with faith and love, we cannot see hope with just our human eyes. We don’t carry this virtue within us to use solely for our own personal agenda. Hope is not something that simply comes with the human package. As with faith and love, hope is a gift that is given to us to draw us closer to our eternal truth. Faith, hope, and love are signs that there is something far greater going on in us and something greater to persevere in obtaining. The true divine gift of hope is what will endure any hardship we encounter, especially those that will come from authentically living the Gospel. With all that is happening in our lives, in our church, and in our world, what is the reason for our hope? Ask God for the fortitude to see His eternal gift as the reason we get up in the morning and do the things we do.

“On that day you will realize that I am in my Father and you are in me and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me. And whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and reveal myself to him.”

- Jn 14:20-21


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Here to Serve You

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Lauran Vetuschi, Secretary
Donna Higgins, Trustee Secretary
Marge Fischer, Trustee Treasurer

SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS

MASS SCHEDULE
The celebration of public Masses, both daily and weekend have been suspended until further notice. Archbishop Listekci will provide new directives as to when we can celebrate public Masses in our own churches. We continue to pray for the health of you and your families and look forward for the time when we can safely pray together in our own church.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK –by appointment.