



THE OLD CATHEDRAL

BASILICA OF SAINT LOUIS, KING OF FRANCE

FIRST CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER



FOUNDED IN 1770

PRESENT CHURCH DEDICATED IN 1834

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 2, 2021

PASTORAL STAFF

Archbishop of St. Louis

The Most Reverend
Mitchell T. Rozanski

Rector

Father Nicholas Smith
Director, Office of Sacred Worship
Faculty, Kenrick-Glennon Seminary

In Residence

Father Charles Samson
Assistant Professor, Kenrick-Glennon
Seminary

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Masses

5:30 PM (Sunday Vigil)
8:00 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:00 PM,
and 5:00 PM

Daily Masses

Monday through Friday
7:00 AM and 12:10 PM
SATURDAY— 7:00 AM

Live Stream Mass

7:00 AM Weekdays
10:30 AM Sunday
Access the live streams at:
oldcathedralstl.org

SACRAMENTS

Confessions

Daily, 11:30 AM—12:00 PM
Saturdays, 4:30 PM—5:15 PM

Marriage

Please arrange at least six months in
advance of the desired date.
To reserve a date, or for more
information, please contact
Tracy Marklein at 314.231.3250.

Devotions

Perpetual Help Devotions:
Tuesdays, 12:00 PM

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, May 2

8:00 AM Jacquelin C. Blaha

10:30 AM Adeline Meyer
(Live Streamed)

12:00 PM Celebrant's Intentions

5:00 PM Parish Family

Monday, May 3

7:00 AM Robert Geisz

12:10 PM Mary Ann & John Simon

Tuesday, May 4

7:00 AM William Bray

12:10 PM John & Mildred Duker

Wednesday, May 5

7:00 AM Donald & Joanne Cooper

12:10 PM Celebrant's Intentions

Thursday, May 6

7:00 AM Ellen Capuano

12:10 PM Louis Fagas

Friday, May 7

7:00 AM Lynda Brand

12:10 PM Fr. Tom Begley & Family

Saturday, May 8

7:00 AM Sieglinde Alvarado

5:30 PM Jack McGuire &
John Schoemehl

Sunday, May 9

8:00 AM Agnes Bonacorsi

10:30 AM Michael A. Amantea
(Live Streamed)

12:00 PM Parish Family

5:00 PM Celebrant's Intentions

Readings for the week of May 2, 2021

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 [26a]/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

Monday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5 [5]/Jn 14:6-14

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12]/Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10 [3]/Jn 15:9-11

Friday: Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/Jn 15:12-17

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21

Next Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17

Observances for the week of May 2, 2021

Sunday: 5th Sunday of Easter

Monday: Sts. Phillip and James, Apostles

Tuesday: Easter Weekday

Wednesday: Easter Weekday

Thursday: National Day of Prayer

Friday: Easter Weekday

Saturday: Easter Weekday

Next Sunday: 6th Sunday of Easter; Mother's Day

WEEKLY GIVING

The Old Cathedral has long been recognized as one of the most historic and beautiful churches of its time.

Our parish is proud of its more than 240 year history as a self-supporting Roman Catholic Parish.

Your presence, prayer, and generous kindness continue to make it so.

Your weekly envelope donations can still be made by mail or in person by check at the Old Cathedral rectory or you can set up online donations at :

www.oldcathedralstl.org/give

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT.

Sunday, 04/25/21

Online Donations	\$380.00
Sunday Collection	\$2294.00
Total	\$2674.00

THE OLD CATHEDRAL

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FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear Old Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors:

Remain in me, as I remain in you. Some of you may ask, “What does that even mean?” Saint John answers this in today’s second reading. *Children*, he says, *let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.* In other words, don’t just spout pious niceties, *do the work* of the Gospel. Feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit those in prison. Love one another. For *those who keep his commandments remain in him, and he in them, and the way we know that he remains in us is from the Spirit he gave us.*

Uniting ourselves to Jesus brings us into the divine life of the Holy Trinity. In order to abide with Christ, we need to take on his mind and his heart, and act accordingly. This we are empowered to do through the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit works in us, giving us gifts and helping us to bear fruit for the sake of the Kingdom. This sounds easy on the surface. Yet we probably can think of ways just in the last couple of days that we did not act with the mind or heart of Jesus.

If we profess faith in Jesus Christ, he expects us to offer our whole lives to him. That includes every action of every day, no matter how we may feel. *By this is my Father glorified*, Jesus says, *that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.*

We can drop the “it looks easy” part here. The most important question we can ask at this point is, “Why?” If the world can offer distractions, pleasures, and a reasonably fulfilling life, why remain with Jesus?

Because no other vine that the world can offer is as life-giving as that of Jesus. A life apart from him will wither, and *be thrown out like a branch* at the time of judgment. Without Christ, we can do nothing. Every breath we take is simply and only because God has willed it so. God desires our good, and has made us to live with him forever in heaven. Nothing the world offers can even compete. Why sacrifice the permanent on the altar of the immediate? Yes, the ask can be considerable, but it is far surpassed by what our Lord offers us in return.

The world cannot offer infinite love. Only God does that. The world cannot provide consolation. Only the Holy Spirit does that. *God is greater than our hearts and knows everything*, and we receive from him what we need, and what we ask. Jesus is the source of life. Remain with him, and keep his commandments.

Easter Blessings. Stay safe!

-Father Smith

Empowering St. Louis by Bryan Buer, Old Cathedral Historian

For a moment in time, in 1904, St. Louis was the center of the world. There were elaborate buildings showcasing new technologies of the time. St. Louisans still carry tremendous pride of this event. Throughout the city, there is evidence of the 1904 World’s Fair. One of these is responsible for powering the city during this time.

North of the Eads Bridge is an old looking industrial building. Spotting this from across the river, people may not think twice about the significance of this building. However it was built in 1902 for the purpose of powering the city for the World’s Fair Exposition. There were tremendous exhibits that required large amounts of electricity. This Union Electric Power Plant was the backbone of this power. The building was owned by the Union Electric Company and has since changed hands.

This building established itself as a strong backbone, which thrust St. Louis into the spotlight for the world to see. The building has since joined the Old Cathedral among St. Louis’ Historical Landmarks.



**THY WILL
BE DONE**

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL
BUILD MY CHURCH

THE ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

The Annual Catholic Appeal is an important way for the various ministries in the Archdiocese of St. Louis to provide for the various needs of all those who come to the church seeking assistance.

Pledge cards were mailed to all parishioners. You are invited to participate in this year's ACA campaign. If your circumstances permit and your family is blessed with good health and employment, please consider increasing your gift to make up for those who are unable to make a gift at this time. You can mail in your pledge card or return in the collection baskets. Thank you for your help and prayers.

**SAINTS OF
THE WEEK**



Saints Philip and James, apostles (May 3): Philip the Apostle (Greek: Philippos) was one of the Twelve

Apostles. Later Christian traditions describe Philip as the apostle who preached in Greece, Syria, and Phrygia.

The Synoptic Gospels (Mark, Matthew, and Luke) list Philip as one of the apostles. The Gospel of John (1:43) describes Philip's calling as a disciple of Jesus. Philip is described as a disciple from the city of Bethsaida, and connects him to Andrew and Peter, who were from the same town. He also was among those surrounding the Baptist when the latter first pointed out Jesus as the Lamb of God.

It was Philip who first introduced Nathanael (traditionally identified with Bartholomew) to Jesus. According to Butler's *Lives of the Saints*, Philip was among those attending the wedding at Cana. Of the four Gospels, Philip figures most prominently in the Gospel of John.

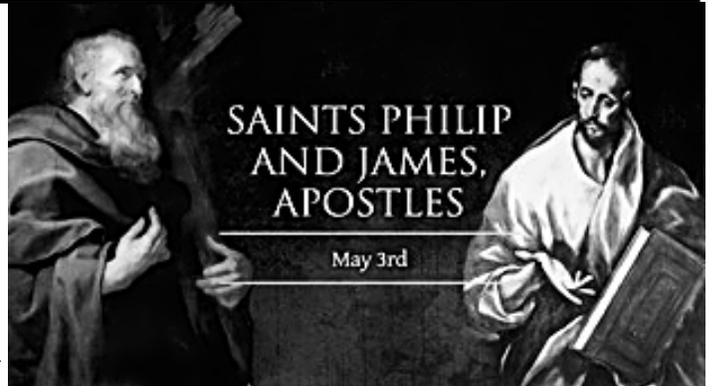
Philip is asked by Jesus how to feed 5,000 people. Later he appears as a link to the Greek community. Philip bore a Greek name and may have spoken Greek. He advises Andrew that certain Greeks wish to meet Jesus, and together they inform Him of this.

During the Last Supper, when Philip asked Jesus to show them the Father, he provided Jesus the opportunity to teach His disciples about the unity of the Father and the Son. Philip the Apostle should not be confused with Philip the Evangelist, who was appointed with Stephen to oversee charitable distributions.

The task of pinning down the identity of Saint James is a challenge. Philip and James became yoked in the calendar because of the translation of their remains to Rome's Church of the Twelve Apostles, apparently in the sixth century; at the time the church was built, it was dedicated only to these two apostles, and later its title was extended to all the apostles.

The most likely identification is with James, the son of Alphaeus. According to *Wikipedia*, "James, son of Alphaeus, was one of the Twelve Apostles of Jesus, appearing under this name in all three of the Synoptic Gospels' list of the apostles. He is often identified with James the Less and commonly known by that name in church tradition."

The Scriptures for this feast are a mention of a James as an early witness of Jesus' resurrection, and Philip's question to Jesus about "showing the Father."



All you Holy Men and Women, Saints of God, pray for us.

Preparing to return to the Eucharist with eager hearts

Mass is a sharing, through the Eucharist, in the dying and rising of Jesus

**Archbishop
Mitchell T. Rozanski**



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Here's an idea: let's continue to do Thanksgiving, Christmas, and family birthdays by Zoom for the coming year. Even when it becomes safe to gather again, it's more convenient, requires less preparation and avoids family tensions if we do it virtually rather than in person.

Of course, that's a terrible idea! We've made do with virtual gatherings this past year. But we know from experience: it's just not the same. We're all eager, when it's safe for the most vulnerable, to get back to family gatherings.

The question is: are we as eager to get back to Mass in person as we are to return to other family gatherings — even if it's not convenient, requires more preparation and sometimes walks into some tension?

I pose that question because I want to issue an invitation. As we start the month of May we start to look ahead to summer. The best medical information I'm receiving is that I'll be able to lift the dispensation from attending Mass sometime this summer. That requires some preparation on our part, just as any summer plans do. I invite us all to start thinking ahead to that time.

This week we hear St. Paul say: "I handed on to you as of first importance what I also received." He then tells us, in words, what he considers to be the most important thing: the dying and rising of Jesus. St. Paul organized his whole life around sharing the most important thing.

That's what Sunday Mass is for us as Catholics. It's the most important thing because it's a sharing, through the Eucharist, in the dying and rising of Jesus — and that's something we want to participate in physically, not virtually! St. Paul told us in words. We tell the world, with our actions, whether or not we consider that to be the most important thing.

If we're happy to go to the grocery store in person, and happy that our children can go to school in person, and happy to attend athletic events in person, we should be happy to return to Mass in person!

Looking back, it's important to clarify this: we did not suspend public Masses in order to preserve our own health. That would have been understandable fear. It would also, ultimately, have been a public declaration that we considered our physical health to be more important than the spiritual health — indeed, eternal life! — that we receive from the Eucharist. That would have been a counter-witness to the faith. If that was anyone's motivation, it requires repentance.

No, we did it precisely as an act of charity, to care for others, especially the most vulnerable. Like a parent who goes without sleep to nurse a sick child we knew that, for a time, we could subsist on a spiritual communion.

But we can't do that forever. As the threat to the lives of the vulnerable wanes, it's time to return to our normal practices.

When we cut a flower and put it in a vase of water, it lives and blooms beautifully for a short while. But soon enough, and inevitably, it withers and dies. Our souls are like flower, and the Eucharist is their native soil. We can survive on a spiritual communion for a time. But God made us as a composite of body and soul. He feeds us, physically, in the Eucharist. And He wants us to rise, body and soul, with Jesus. It's up to us to say yes to the invitation. Without the Eucharist, our souls will be like the cut flower: living and blooming for a short while but, soon enough and inevitably, withering and dying.

So let's think ahead. When the time is right, I invite everyone to return to the Eucharist with eager hearts.

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