



# ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS

AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE, WE WILL SERVE THE LORD

JOSHUA 24:15

May 14, 2023 | SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Photo credit: Dave Charewicz



*Happy Mother's Day*

# May 14, 2023 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

## Schedule

### MASS

Monday through Friday	6:25 am
	8:30 am
Saturday (weekday Mass)	8:30 am
Saturday (vigil)	4:30 pm
Sunday	7:30 am
	9:00 am
	10:30 am
	12:00 pm

All Masses are held in the Upper Church.  
Masses are also held on the second Sunday of the month in the Holy Family Chapel at 10:30 am

### CONFESSIONS

(confessionals located in church vestibule)

Monday through Friday	8-8:15 am
Saturday	3-4:00 pm

### FUNERALS

Monday through Saturday Morning

### WEDDINGS

Friday and Saturday

### BAPTISMS

Saturday and Sunday

## Baptisms

### JACKSON THOMAS HARTWICK

son of Nolan Gregory Hartwick  
and Allison Marie Sontag

### LILIANA ELISE BREWER

daughter of Steven Michael Brewer  
and Jacquelyn Ruth Todd

### JOJI PRINCE WEINMANN

son of Jeffrey R. Weinmann  
and Imee Dela Vega

### EZRA RAY NORTE

son of Andrew Norte  
and Kristin O'Machel

### COLLEEN MARIAN WARD

daughter of Mark J. Ward  
and Kelly C. Dougherty

### BENJAMIN BRIAN SZYMCAK

Son of Brian J. Szymczak  
and Anna M. Alex



## Wedding Banns

### III CONOR COONEY & MOLLY CATHERINE GAUGHAN



## Pray for our Sick

names remain for two months

Delaney Bartz

Sunny Greinke

Norma Mailand

Carole Zachary

## In Loving Memory

Please pray for the souls  
of the faithful departed  
in our SPC community.

Lois Cichowski

Vincent DeJulio

Lillian Luba

John R. Scaglione

Sandra Schratwieser

Mary E. Woods

Irene C. Zimmer

## Stewardship Report

### WEEKLY OFFERING (April 30th - May 6th)

Envelopes	\$10,913.13
Loose	\$6,458.33
Electronic Giving	\$15,178.50
<b>Total Weekly Offering</b>	<b>\$32,549.96</b>

### ADDITIONAL COLLECTIONS (through May 6th)

Lenten Almsgiving	\$43,176.00
Easter	\$96,997.78

### ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL DATA

<b>2023 Annual Catholic Appeal</b> (through April 20th)(goal: \$142,718)	\$104,457 paid (73%) \$121,054 pledged (85%)
<b>Sunday Giving Fiscal YTD Total</b> (July 1st through May 6th)	\$1,533,639.28
<b>Sunday Giving Fiscal YTD vs. Budget</b> (July 1st through March 31st)	+\$164,204.20

## Readings for the Week

**SUN, 5/14:** Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 / Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 (1) / 1 Pt 3:15-18 / Jn 14:15-21

**MON, 5/15:** Acts 16:11-15 / Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b / Jn 15:26—16:4a

**TUE, 5/16:** Acts 16:22-34 / Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 / Jn 16:5-11

**WED, 5/17:** Acts 17:15, 22—18:1 / Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14 / Jn 16:12-15

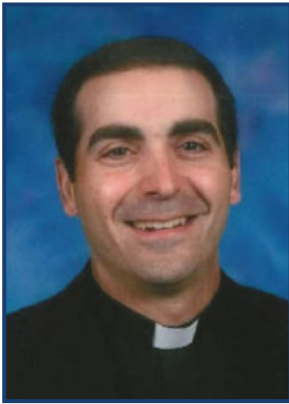
**THU, 5/18:** Acts 18:1-8 / Ps 98:1-3ab, 3cd-4 / Jn 16:16-20; *Ascension:* Acts 1:1-11 / Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6) / Eph 1:17-23 / Mt 28:16-20

**FRI, 5/19:** Acts 18:9-18 / Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 / Jn 16:20-23

**SAT, 5/20:** Acts 18:23-28 / Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10 / Jn 16:23b-28



## Letter from a Pastor to his People



Dear Parishioners,

We've slightly shifted the focus in the Mass readings to the Holy Spirit. In our first reading we hear about the Apostles traveling to Samaria to pray for the Christians there, specifically to lay hands on them "that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for it had not yet fallen upon any of them." The Lord in the Gospel

says, "And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always."

Pentecost is a couple weeks away, and so it's like the Church wants us to start preparing for the feast by thinking about the Holy Spirit. I wonder if we could view these two weeks like a mini "Lent." Lent prepares us for Easter. These weeks can prepare us for Pentecost.

What was the point of what we did in Lent, by the way? Why did we go to Mass more or give up chocolate or whatever? Because we wanted to notice and appreciate the presence of God in our lives. You might not have been explicitly aware of it, but when you were abstaining from meat on Fridays or doing whatever it was you did during Lent, God was in your life. You were living the spirit of God. That's a good place to be in, which is why a lot of us, I think, actually enjoy(ed) Lent.

Well, God has more in store for us. He did some great things in our souls and in our community this Lent and Easter, but he wants to do more. When he sends the Holy Spirit anew this year at Pentecost, something great can happen.

But only if we prepare for it and want it.

What more do you want in your lives? What kind of personal gift are you looking for? Think about it and then begin to pray for it now. You might even consider doing the *Pentecost Novena*, which would start on May 19th, to help you.

We do so much planning in our lives. We're starting to plan for the summer. We plan our gardens. We plan our finances. This is all good. That's what's kind of encouraging about, for instance, the Chicago Bears. Yes, they were bad last year, but at least there was a sense of a rebuild. The Blackhawks, on the other hand, seem to be kind of directionless. Yikes.

Anyways, don't be afraid to plan for souls. Pentecost is the start of a new season.



**Happy Mother's Day.** To all the mothers and women in our parish, thank you for your presence in our lives. We love you and appreciate you. You are images of the Blessed Mother, and Jesus is very proud of you.

Please find inside the bulletin this week's **Daily Reflections on Mary** for the month of May. May they assist your spiritual journey this spring.

Congratulations once again to all of our **First Communicants**. We had our last set of First Communions this past Saturday, May 13th. A special thanks to the hard work Mrs. Parkhill and her team put in for the beautiful liturgy.

Please join us this Sunday, May 14th, for the **Family Mass in the Holy Family Chapel** at 10:30am (the 10:30am UC Mass WILL still be occurring). The next Family Mass will be June 11th. If you are interested in being involved for future Masses, or would like to have your child involved, please reach out to Jennifer Waters ([jenwaters13@gmail.com](mailto:jenwaters13@gmail.com)).

Please also join us for the first session of **The Search** on Tuesday, May 16th at 7:30pm. *The Search* is an evangelization program (similar to *Alpha*, if you've heard of that) that's intended to assist our own faith and then equip us to help others come to or back to the church.

Next Saturday, May 20th is the **SPC Community Garden Planting**. Father Nick will lead a prayer in the garden 9:15am. Thank you to all who have plots and grow delicious vegetables for our food pantry.

Also on Saturday May 20th is **Priesthood Ordinations for the Archdiocese of Chicago**. Deacon Kevin Gregus, our seminarian, will be ordained a priest this day at Holy Name Cathedral. Congratulations, Father Kevin. And congratulations, Deacon Martin Nyberg, who was ordained a deacon this past Saturday at Holy Name Cathedral!

Your Servant in Christ,



## Reflections from our Community



As I approach my ordination to the priesthood (May 20<sup>th</sup>, 10 am at Holy Name Cathedral), I want to take this time to thank you, the parishioners of St. Paul of the Cross, from the bottom of my heart. My experience here as a seminarian and a deacon has been all I could have asked for and more. I learned not just from Fr. James and Fr. Nick, but 10 times more from you as the people of God. I was thrilled to be able to spend time teaching, learning, studying, and praying with so many of the people here. I'll always remember SPC as the place where I first preached and baptized.

You have all played a major role in confirming that God has called me to the right vocation. You've provided many different lenses through which I can look on my theological studies and my future as a priest, and these lenses will continue to guide my study (yes, priests still read after leaving seminary) and my interactions with my future parishioners. As I've told my fellow seminarians and formators at Mundelein Seminary, there is a deep hunger for God at SPC. Do

not let this die out or be satisfied with lesser goods.

I have been assigned to Two Holy Martyrs parish on the southwest side of Chicago, just west of Midway Airport. The pastor, Fr. Bob Regan, is a friend of Fr. James and was ordained a priest with Fr. Nick in 2015. While there is now a greater distance between us, I still intend to stay in contact with SPC, always finding ways to cross parish boundaries as we evangelize Chicago and Park Ridge. Please continue to pray for me and all seminarians, and for an increase of vocations in our archdiocese. Know of my continued prayers for all of you and your families. Feel free to reach out to my email (kmgregus@gmail.com) at any time with questions, prayer requests, or just to say hi. You'll see me around SPC until July 1<sup>st</sup>. I will be celebrating Mass and hearing confessions at weekday Masses (look for the KG on the schedule) and will preside at the Masses at 10:30 and noon on Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>.

Deacon Kevin Gregus

### Mass Schedule

FEAST DAY	TIME	PRESIDER	MASS INTENTIONS
<b>MONDAY, 5/15</b> Saint Isidore	6:25 am UC	Fr. James	An Increase in Committed Adorers for the Adoration Chapel
	8:30 am UC	Fr. James	Martin, Mary and Marty Regan, Fr. James Regan, Carole Williams, Patrick Battkus, Jimmy Hauser, Edward and Anne Coury
<b>TUESDAY, 5/16</b> Easter Weekday	6:25 am UC	Fr. James	Bridget Byrne
	8:30 am UC	Fr. James	Daniel Heneghan, Marie Hagarty, Christopher Roberts, Lorraine Mullan
<b>WEDNESDAY, 5/17</b> Easter Weekday	6:25 am UC	Fr. James	An Increase in Committed Adorers for the Adoration Chapel
	8:30 am UC	Fr. James	Debbie Bator, Louise Sottile, Joanne Schiller, John R. Huber
<b>THURSDAY, 5/18</b> Saint John I	6:25 am UC	Fr. Nick	Renate Andersen
	8:30 am UC	Fr. Nick/KG*	Ashley Evans-Serro, John and Myrtle Reckert, Healing and Blessings for Carol and Deacon Rick Moritz
<b>FRIDAY, 5/19</b> Easter Weekday	6:25 am UC	Fr. James	Holy Souls in Purgatory
	8:30 am UC	Fr. Nick/KG*	Living and Deceased Members of the 1959 class of Notre Dame High School, Healing and Blessings for John Ahern
<b>SATURDAY, 5/20</b> Saint Bernardine of Siena	8:30 am UC	Fr. Nick	Birthday Blessings for Sheilah, Damian McCormick
	4:30 pm UC	Fr. James	Bernard and Clara Izban, Thomas Horner, Edward J. Kaczmarek, Joseph DiCola
<b>SUNDAY, 5/21</b> Seventh Sunday of Easter  The Ascension of the Lord	7:30 am UC	Fr. Nick	Kathy Marrese, Helen Bauer, Marilyn McGuire, Blessings for Celinda Figueroa, Josh Infantes and Julio Infantes
	9:00 am UC	Fr. James	Irene Llanes, Victor Gust, Janet Mary Bernadette Toton
	10:30 am UC	Fr. Nick	Mary and David Cahill, Bridget Farragher, Darlene Bacon, Violet Classen, Katherine (Katie) Panatoni, The Cooney and Dockery Families, George Wallies
	12:00 pm UC	Fr. James/BB*	Rozalia and Pawel Piatek, Pat, Mary and Bonnie Hughes, Fred Gross, People of the Parish

\*LEGEND: /KG = Deacon Kevin Gregus preaching /BB = Deacon Bob Bulger preaching

## Liturgical Ministers Schedule (please email [schedule@spc-church.org](mailto:schedule@spc-church.org) with any questions)

MASS	LECTOR	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	ALTAR SERVERS
<b>SATURDAY, 5/20</b> 4:30 pm UC	Patti Nowak, Patricia Izban	Mary Jack, Kathy Ramirez, Carol Welton, Gail Wilkening	Gerald Murphey, Caroline Murphey, Zach Schmidt
<b>SUNDAY, 5/21</b> 7:30 am UC	Frances Johnson, Kirke Machon	Eugene Cooney, Kathy Jarosch, Missy Machon, Shirley Patras	Gwyneth Wade, Allison Wade, Andre DeRosa
<b>SUNDAY, 5/21</b> 9:00 am UC	Anne Scialabba, Joni Haley	Donna Donovan, Thomas Swoboda, Linda Swoboda, Geri Weissmann	Abby Seurnyck, Timmy Serafin, Zach Dambra
<b>SUNDAY, 5/21</b> 10:30 am UC	Sally Keenan, Susan Davis	Mary Nicolau, Gloria Peisker, Chris Poindexter, Maria Talarico	Sean Collins, Catherine Hartung, Maeve Joyce
<b>SUNDAY, 5/21</b> 12:00 pm UC	Patti Nowak, Neda Naum	Kevin Buggy, Josephine Gullo, Chris Paoletti, Kevin Wiley	Matt Sherman, John Meyer, Brenna Truckenmiller

## Events this Week

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	EVENT
Saturday, May 13th	9:00 am	Parish Vegetable Garden	Parish Vegetable Garden Spring Cleanup
Sunday, May 14th	-	-	Catholic Charities' Mothers Day Second Collection
Sunday, May 14th	8:30 pm	Parish Life Center Gym	Men's Pick-Up Basketball
Tuesday, May 16th	7:30 pm	Parish Life Center AB Room	The Search
Thursday, May 18th	7:30 pm	Kinane Center	Praying with Scripture (Lectio Divina)

## Opportunities at St. Paul of the Cross

### MAY ALTAR *for* MARY

We would like to invite parishioners **beginning Sunday May 14<sup>th</sup>** to honor Mary during her month of May by bringing a gift of flowers to her side altar. We will provide vases to hold the flowers. This is a wonderful way for families to participate in the beautification of the Church and foster a devotion to our Blessed Mother.



*Thank you!*

### THE SEARCH

TUESDAY, MAY 16th

7:30 pm

Parish Life Center AB Room

*Have you lost the plot of your life?*

Explore life's mysteries with The Search, a new video-based program that explores life's big questions.

Please join Fr. Nick as we view and discuss the first episode of The Search.

THE  
SEARCH

BROUGHT TO YOU FROM  
FORMED

Email [nicktesta@spc-church.org](mailto:nicktesta@spc-church.org) with any questions.

### ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

MONDAY, MAY 22nd

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Upper Church

Current 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> graders interested in becoming altar servers at SPC should attend this training. Should you have any questions, please contact Mike Marrese at [mjmarrese@gmail.com](mailto:mjmarrese@gmail.com)



## Additional Opportunities

### AOW SPRING SOCIAL *and* UPDATE

MONDAY, MAY 22nd

7:00 PM

The Harp & Fiddle  
110 Main Street, Park Ridge

All women of the parish are invited to attend our Spring Social and AOW at large gathering where you'll hear important updates from our Spiritual, Service, and Social pillar leaders and guilds. Learn how you can get more involved or simply gather with old friends and meet new ones while enjoying refreshments and light appetizers. We have reserved the beautifully remodeled enclosed patio for our event.

Please RSVP by sending an email to [aow.spc@gmail.com](mailto:aow.spc@gmail.com)

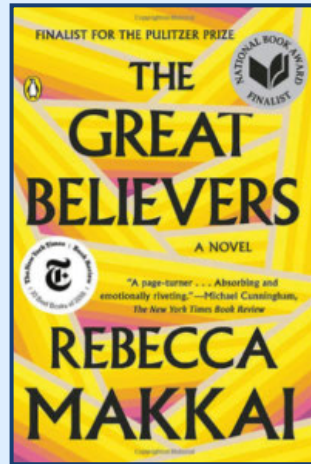
ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS  
**APOSTOLATE**  
of **WOMEN**

### BOOK CLUB

MONDAY, JUNE 5th

7:30 pm

Parish Life Center AB Room



Join us for our next book club meeting where we will discuss  
**THE GREAT BELIEVERS**  
by Rebecca Makkai.

*All are welcome!*

### SPC SCHOOL SUMMER CAMPS

JUNE 2023



*Don't miss out!*

We have several unique and engaging sessions available for children - preschool age 3 (must be potty trained) through 8th grade.

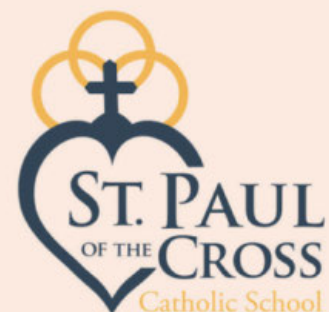
Camp will be offered for three one-week sessions:

**June 12th - 16th**

**June 19th - 23rd**

**June 26th - 30th**

More information can be found on the front page of our school website: [www.spc-school.net](http://www.spc-school.net)



### HOLY FAMILY CHAPEL FAMILY MASSES

*Are back!*



We are excited to announce that family Masses will be returning to the Holy Family Chapel on the **second Sunday** of the month at **10:30 am** beginning in May. Children will assist with the readings and ushering at this Mass. Everyone of all ages, of course, is welcome to attend the HFC Mass.

If you are interested in being involved, please contact Jennifer Waters at [jenwaters13@gmail.com](mailto:jenwaters13@gmail.com).

*The present schedule is below:*

May 14th - June 11th - July 9th - August 13th

As Mass attendance continues to increase, we will look into adding more Masses down in the Holy Family Chapel. *Stay tuned!*

# Men's Club Cornhole Tournament



## CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

**FRIDAY, JUNE 2nd**

**Doors Open at 5:00 pm**

**St. Paul of the Cross Church Parking Lot**

Men of St. Paul of the Cross! Friday, June 2nd, there is an event so incredible, so inspiring, so captivating that it simply cannot be missed!!

However, for those of you not going to the Taylor Swift concert, we will be hosting the 15th annual Cornhole Tournament.

As we have for nearly each year, the event is taking place in the church parking lot — FEATURING:

- Amazing cash prizes for tourney winners
- Scrumptious on the spit PIG ROAST dinner (courtesy of Harmony Catering)
- Unlimited beer from a 1966 Chevy C 30 beer truck (from our good friends at Joseph Mullarkey Distributors)

As always, the proceeds will benefit our parish and school. The cost per man is \$65. Make sure to register your team via email with Jim Stinson at [stinson,james@gmail.com](mailto:stinson,james@gmail.com).

**All men are welcome!**

Doors open at **5:00 pm**

Bags in the air at **5:30 pm**

### **COST:**

**\$65:** Bags, Food, Drinks for those that want to play

**\$50:** Food, Drinks, Fun for those that just want some camaraderie



# Current Food Pantry Needs

**WE ARE CURRENTLY IN NEED OF RESTOCKING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**



- Canned Black Beans
- Jars of Pasta Sauce
- Boxes of Dry Cereal
- Squeeze Strawberry Jelly

*Thank You*

**PLEASE! NO FRESH FOODS, i.e. TOMATOES, APPLES, BREAD.**

These kinds of items get smashed in the collection bin and make a mess.

ALSO, please do not donate baked beans. Our clients do not ask for them.

They accumulate on our shelves until we end up taking them to Catholic Charities for their pantry.



# Happy Mother's Day!



## THANK YOU FOR LIFE!

At the moment of conception, both a child and a mother are conceived... and start to grow together.

Mothers, we have a special admiration for you and we join in the celebration of motherhood on this wonderful day. We thank all mothers for their love, their sacrifices and their dedication to their children. From the moment of conception, you share the most precious gift of all — the gift of life.

We also have a special concern for those mothers who are pregnant and find this to be a difficult and uncertain time. We understand and want to help you with your baby whose tiny heart began beating 18 days after conception. For confidential assistance with your pregnancy and information about alternatives to abortion, contact **Aid for Women** at (312) 621-1100 / [www.aidforwomen.org](http://www.aidforwomen.org), or **The Women's Center** at (773) 794-1313 / [www.womens-center.org](http://www.womens-center.org).

## TO THE MOMS WHO ARE

To the Moms who are struggling, to those filled with incandescent joy.  
 To the Moms who are remembering children who have died, and pregnancies that miscarried.  
 To the Moms who decided other parents were the best choice for their babies,  
 and to the Moms who adopted those kids and loved them fiercely.  
 To those experiencing frustration or desperation in infertility.  
 To those who mothered colleagues, mentees, neighborhood kids, and anyone who needed it.  
 To those remembering Moms no longer with us.  
 To those moving forward from Moms who did not show love, or hurt those they should have cared for.  
 Today is a day to honor the unyielding love and care for others we call 'Motherhood,'  
 wherever we have found it and in whatever ways we have found to cultivate it within ourselves.

- Hannah Kardon, Pastor at Elston Avenue United Methodist Church (adapted)

## CATHOLIC CHARITIES MOTHER'S DAY COLLECTION

WEEKEND OF MAY 14th

Catholic Charities serves anyone in need of help throughout Cook and Lake counties, and many of them are mothers with children. You may support this collection by giving at our online GiveCentral page at [www.givecentral.org/location/133/event/3672](http://www.givecentral.org/location/133/event/3672) or by sending a check to our parish office with a note in the memo line stating "Mother's Day Collection."

Thank you!



ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



## VOCATIONS EVENTS

On **May 20, 2023 at 10 a.m.**, five men will be ordained to the priesthood by Cardinal Cupich at Holy Name Cathedral. Please pray for the newly ordained as well as all of our priests.

We invite all parishioners to join us in this joyous event via livestream. The livestream link is on the vocations website at [vocations.archchicago.org/events/priesthood-ordination](http://vocations.archchicago.org/events/priesthood-ordination).



# Adoration Chapel

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION CHAPEL

### COME SPEND SOME TIME WITH JESUS!

*Due to an insufficient number of overnight adorers, we have temporarily closed our Adoration Chapel from 11:00 pm until 5:00 am daily.*

Our current adorer schedule is pictured to the right. Red boxes indicate where there is at most one committed adorer. We need at least two committed adorers for each slot before we can reopen during the night. Yellow slots are times throughout the day when we have only one committed adorer; additional commitments are needed here to fortify the daytime schedule. Green indicates two or more adorers are present. If you would like to sign up for a timeslot, please call the parish office at **847-825-7605** or email [adorationchapel@spc-church.org](mailto:adorationchapel@spc-church.org)



	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
12:00 AM							
1:00 AM							
2:00 AM							
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4:00 AM							
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11:00 PM							

*We would love to hear from you regarding your experience in our Adoration Chapel. How might you be blessed through your time with Jesus? Please share your reflection, or perhaps you are inspired to write a poem or prayer, etc. Reflections should be roughly 350 words. Reflection forms can be found on the table in the Adoration Chapel foyer or on our website. Submit reflections to [sandylabouvie@spc-church.org](mailto:sandylabouvie@spc-church.org) or place it in the collection box in the Adoration Chapel.*

*Thank you to all those who've already contributed!*

## MSW Job Opportunity

### MARY, SEAT OF WISDOM IN PARK RIDGE IS SEEKING TO HIRE AN OFFICE COORDINATOR

*(part-time, benefits eligible position)*

**26 hours/week**

**4 days/week**

This person will be the first point of communication for anyone who contacts the parish.

MSW is seeking applicants with a welcoming spirit of hospitality, with excellent listening skills, who remain calm under pressure and are well-organized.

Interested parties are asked to send a resume to **Brenda Hickey**, Director of Operations at [bhickey@mswparish.org](mailto:bhickey@mswparish.org)

## Reflections on the Blessed Virgin Mary for the Month of May



### May 14

"You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free.  
But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh;  
rather, serve one another humbly in love."

*Galatians 5:13*

The World's Fair in Philadelphia in 1876, held on the centenary of the American Revolution, debuted the typewriter, sewing machine, telephone, Heinz Ketchup, and root beer. Less well-known at the exhibition was the presentation of a life-sized statue of Mary and the child Jesus in gold leaf and ivory (see image above).

The statue became known as *Our Lady of Holy Hill* when it was purchased from the fair for the site in southern Wisconsin. In 1878 eighteen young women carried the statue barefoot to the top of the hill. According to the Shrine of Mary Help of Christians, where the statue resides, "the women were escorted by an entourage of 100 men on horseback, many priests and delegates from all over the state." Pilgrims see the statue today and are comforted by its tender and profound display, leaving crutches and other mementoes outside the chapel.

The statue need not reside only on the one Holy Hill. May it reside in the holy hills of our hearts. Mary can coat our heart in gold, the way she stands in front of the pink-veined Kasota marble wall of the chapel. She can help us repent of our sins and make our hearts pure. She will give us the joy of the child Jesus.

World's Fairs are meant to help people with their displays

and inventions. Philadelphia's helped us by giving us Mary, the Help of Christians.

*Prayer: Mary, I adore your Son. I delight in him as I would delight in a young child. A child so easily finds hope; so easily seeks and receives comfort; so easily forgets grievances and looks to joy in the moment. Mary, may you help me receive and be your son.*

### May 15

"The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out."

*John 10:3*

We are sheep. Jesus is the shepherd. He calls each of us individually by name to a pasture suited just for our needs. We follow him because we trust the sound in his voice. We know instinctively that Jesus has our best interest in mind. In this verdant pasture we will be given the fullness of life.

This calling of our name isn't a one-time event. Jesus calls us each day. And this pasture to which he leads us looks differently each day. One day might be to experience the peace of Christ in contemplative prayer. Another day might be to have some involvement in the Church or in charitable activity. Another day might be to be faithful and honest in our interactions at work and in the world.

Sheep sometimes need to be prodded. They become too absorbed in their current pasture, thinking what they are feeding upon is all they need. Or they hear other voices or invitations and become confused.

Mary is the gatekeeper for her son. She breaks us from our self-absorption to allow us to hear her son. She silences the other voices that paralyze us and weigh us down.

Jesus desires to call us to a specific pasture today. He did yesterday and the day before. If we feel like we haven't heard the voice of Jesus lately, perhaps we can turn our focus to his gatekeeper.

*Prayer: Lord, I want to have life and have it more abundantly. I know where you are leading me, while unfamiliar and therefore a little frightening, is so much better than where I am now. Mary, I turn to you. I can now hear those competing voices dimming. I can hear your son speaking my name. All I need to do is follow. I trust that is enough. I surrender myself to you.*

## Reflections on the Blessed Virgin Mary for the Month of May

### May 16

"Worship the Lord your God, and his blessing will  
Be on your food and water. I will take away  
Sickness from among you."

*Exodus 23:25*

I was sick some time back and a very motherly parishioner dropped off at the rectory a pot of chicken soup. The soup was so good I wondered if I should get sick more often. Alas, the soup worked and I was soon healthy.

While it may seem like an old myth, chicken soup does actually help fight illness. For one, the adage 'feed a cold' is accurate, as the body, fighting off infection, expends more energy and requires replenishment. Chicken soup in particular has certain nutrients to help the immune system. Chicken contains the compound carnosine, which reduces congestion by stopping the migration of white blood cells. Glucosamine and chondroitin from the bones and broth also assist with inflammation.

We could see the Blessed Mother as the chicken-soup provider for the ill. When we're feeling low spiritually, she gives us the energy we need to fight off the attacks of the enemy that drag us even lower. When we're "stuffed up" spiritually — we can't pray as easily or hear Christ as clearly — resting in the Blessed Mother's presence will soon cure us. And while we might feel otherwise lousy, a dose of Mary will make us feel good, like that delicious bowl of chicken soup.

**Prayer:** *Mary, I'm sick and can't do what I normally would do. I quiet the inner voice of shame, along with the voice that drives me on to keep working as normal. I simply rest in your presence. I savor your calming love. I trust that the illness will pass and I will soon see your Son again.*

### May 17

"Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice."

*Psalms 55:17*

Edgar Allan Poe stopped inside a Catholic Church he was walking by one day to inquire why the bells were ringing. It was noon. He was told by a Jesuit priest about the Angelus, a hymn sung three times a day in honor of the Blessed Mother. Poe, from that moment, was inspired to write his own hymn to Mary. It follows:

*At morn — at noon — at twilight dim —  
Maria! thou hast heard my hymn!  
In joy and wo — in good and ill —*

*Mother of God, be with me still!  
When the Hours flew brightly by,  
And not a cloud obscured the sky,  
My soul, lest it should truant be,  
Thy grace did guide to thine and thee;  
Now, when storms of Fate o'ercast  
Darkly my Present and my Past,  
Let my Future radiant shine  
With sweet hopes of thee and thine!  
(Hymn, E.A. Poe, 1845)*

There is infinite hope in the eyes of a loving mother with her young child. She knows the child will be safe; that God will provide. Thus the mother is able to sing the sweet lullaby to the child and bestow a sense of peace in the heart of the infant.

A prayer to Mary three times a day grounds us in her hopeful heart. Even if the present and past are dark for us, with Mary sweetly singing to us, her children, we will rest in the thought of a radiant future.

**Prayer:** *Mary, I worry about the future. Where am I going, what will happen to the nation and church around me, will I have done God's will? I've sinned in the past and have my weaknesses here in the present. But you brush those aside and assure me the future is bright. All I need is your son, and you will take me to him. May I bask in your warmth this hour.*

### May 18

"Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death."

*Hebrews 11:19*

The defining moment of Abraham's life was the call to kill Isaac, his beloved and only son. Abraham trusted in God. He took along his son with a few servants on a three day journey to Mount Moriah, carrying only a bundle of wood, a knife, and a torch. When they reached the base of the mountain, Abraham dismissed the servants and went alone with his son to the summit, where he built an altar and laid Isaac upon the wood. When the knife was about to plunge into Isaac's heart, the angel intervened, staying Abraham's hand. Isaac lived and Abraham was crowned the father of the nation.

Abraham did not necessarily believe that what ended up happening would happen—that God would call off the sacrifice at the last second. Abraham was not expecting a bluff. He was prepared to see his son die. What Abraham



## Reflections on the Blessed Virgin Mary for the Month of May

believed, rather, was that he would receive Isaac back.

That is, as Saint Paul tell us, Abraham believe in the Resurrection. Yes, Abraham is the first witness and first believer in the Resurrection. Isaac was a foreshadowing of Christ.

Mary, like Abraham, was called to see her son be sacrificed. She traveled with him up the same Mount Moriah. Unlike Isaac, who was spared, Jesus did indeed die. Mary believed in the Resurrection, even before Easter Sunday. This is why she did not need to race to the empty tomb. She knew it. She trusted in God. She, like Abraham, became the mother of many nations.

**Prayer:** *Mary, I know I am called to carry my cross to Calvary. The wood is on my back, like Isaac. You stand beside me with the knife and flame. Give me a faith in the resurrection — that if I lose my life I will gain it; that if I give everything to Jesus and push myself to the limit for him a redemption will occur. Help me to die with your son.*

### May 19

"If any man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains, and go and search for the one that is lost?"  
*Matthew 18:12*

A true shepherd has an eye for the lost. Yes, he provides for his ninety-nine and loves them, but he looks for the lost. And when he sees the lost, he leaves the ninety-nine and goes out for that one.

This is much easier said than done. Finding the lost isn't simply a matter of walking twenty feet, putting the stray sheep on your shoulder, and walking back to the fold. This is a journey that takes effort, both physical and emotional. The lost sheep has an issue with the fold. The lost sheep won't return easily, and certainly won't return just because the shepherd orders the sheep to. The lost sheep needs time and attention. The shepherd needs to listen and receive the broken heart of the sheep, perhaps even receive the anger of the lost sheep. The matter will not be resolved in one encounter. The shepherd needs to leave the one sheep lost for the day but then return to it tomorrow to try again. And again and again. The shepherd has to put aside his own needs and be committed to the lost sheep. The lost sheep won't give the shepherd affirmation, like the ninety-nine will. The lost sheep won't be friendly and fun and easy like the ninety-nine. But the shepherd will discover that, while it was an exhausting endeavor, his search for the lost was a blessing.

We all know someone in our life who is lost. Not just

someone who has walked away from the Church, but someone who is a struggle to us. We each have a classmate, a neighbor, a relative, a parishioner who is difficult. We'd rather be with the ninety-nine who are like us and easy to be around. But we are called by Jesus to be with the lost. Mary will help us do it.

**Prayer:** *Mary, give me the heart of a good shepherd. Your son has called us to seek the lost. He needs us to be on the lookout for that one person who does not fit in. Give me the grace to say no to the popular ninety-nine and befriend the black sheep. Help me to die to myself. Help me to trust that the ninety-nine will be happier with the lost returned to the fold. Let me see the lost sheep.*

### May 20

"They wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head."  
*Matthew 27:29*

May is a month of crowns.

Laurel wreaths adorn Mary's head these days on the various statues in our churches, homes, and gardens. The laurel wreath, of course, was the symbol of triumph in antiquity, not the crown of metal and stone as in the medieval period. The Greek gods wore crowns of blossoms, as did Olympian winners, Roman Emperors, and victorious generals returning from war.

Jesus is the victor. He has triumphed over the devil. But instead of receiving the laurel wreath for himself, he has given it to his mother. The classic May Crowning hymn, "Bring flowers of the rarest" calls Mary "the rose of the vale." Jesus has kept the crown of thorns for himself and given its produce to Mary.

After the fall, God informed Adam thus: "Because you listened to the woman and ate from the forbidden tree, the very ground upon which you stand will be cursed, sprouting thorns and thistles" (Genesis 3:18). This is changed with Jesus and Mary. Whenever we receive the Eucharist, the real fruit of the vine from the tree of life, crowns are casted. The crown of thorns is pressed into our Lord's head and the crown of roses is placed atop Mary. Our Lord's Passion redeems the world, and Mary's honor makes the world beautiful. It's one thing to till the soil, it's another to plant crops.

**Prayer:** *Jesus, I gaze upon the crucifix and see your crown of thorns. You suffered for us and set us free. That is your triumph. Mary, I look upon you and see your laurel wreath. You pray for us and allow us to bear fruit in our lives. That is your triumph. I thank you and your son for your wondrous generosity.*

## Feed My Starving Children

**On Saturday, April 29, 2023, the Apostolate of Women (AOW) Service Pillar teamed up with 'Feed My Starving Children' to help pack meals that will be shipped to starving children all over the world!**

The AOW would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the generous volunteers who graciously gave of their time and efforts to this life-saving cause. We were thrilled with the turnout!

### Approximately 60 St. Paul of the Cross volunteers

helped pack

**135 boxes**

which equals

**29,160 meals**

that will feed

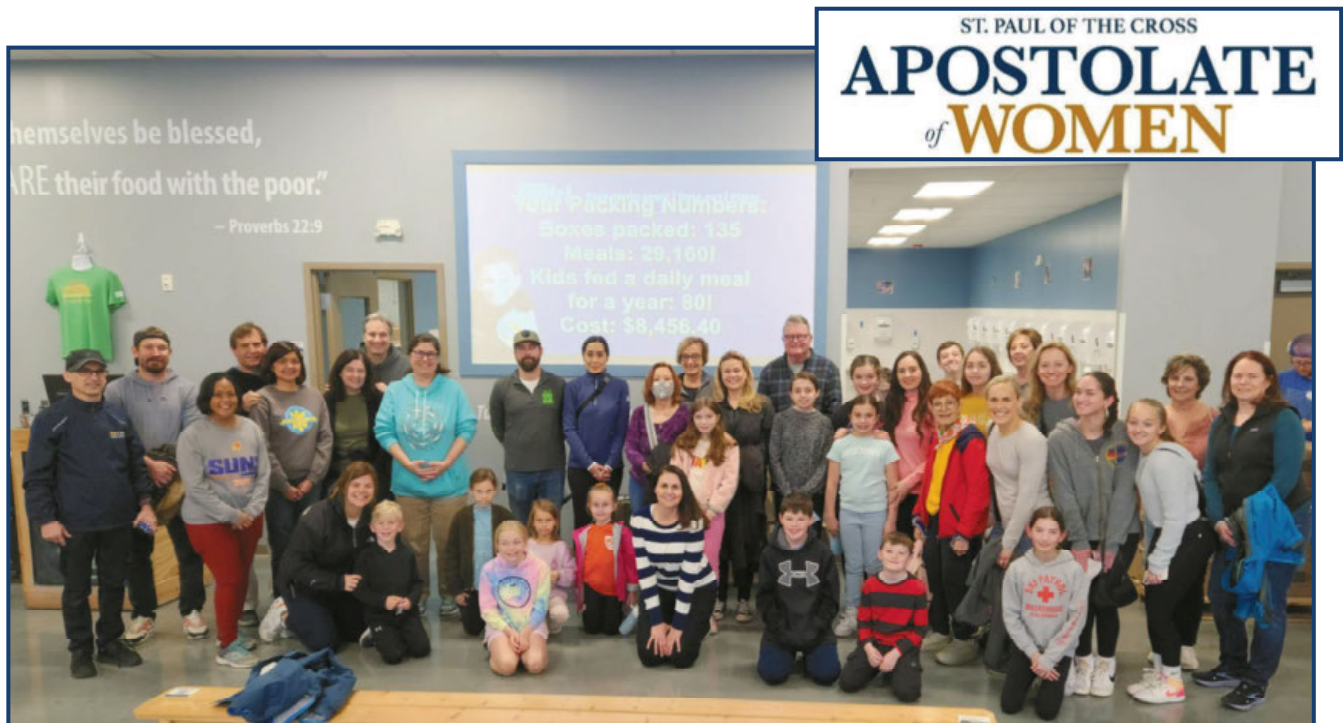
**80 children per day for one year!**

Thank you for opening your hearts, dedicating your time, and rolling up your sleeves to help an amazing organization!

We will be partnering with FMSC again so please be on the lookout for future dates and consider volunteering for this wonderful event!

*Feed My Starving Children (FMSC): FMSC is a Christian, nonprofit organization empowering volunteers to pack meals for the malnourished in nearly 70 countries.*

Pictured below are some of the volunteers who participated.





# Archive Corner *with Mark Miller*

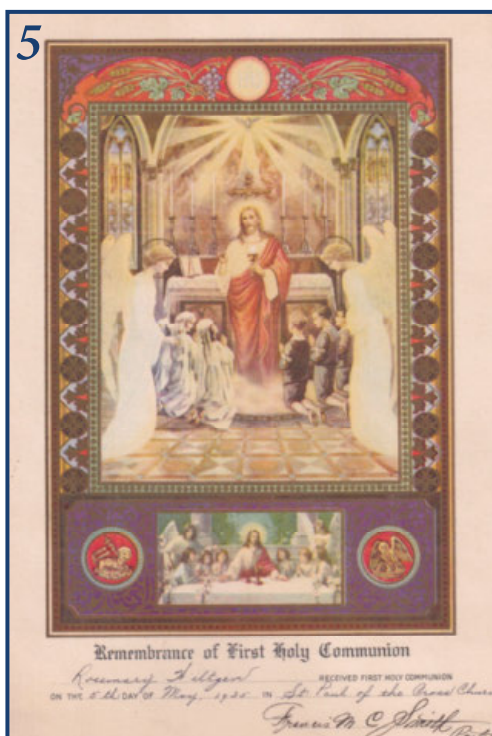
## FIRST COMMUNION *(part 2 of 2)*

This week we conclude our Communion articles. We have photos ranging from the very first First Communion in 1911 to photos taken in recent years. From the late 1980s to the mid 1990s, the Holy Family Chapel celebrated First Communion services followed by a juice and doughnut reception afterwards. We've also found an actual Communion certificate from 1935. *Special thanks to Pat and Alex Jasinski for the HFC information*



### 1 PHOTO CAPTIONS:

1. The Wiltgen Twins, Rosemary and Virginia's First Holy Communion photo - May 5, 1935
2. First Communion girls 1911
3. A recent procession
4. A Communicant at the pulpit
5. Rosemary's Communion certificate
6. First Communicants at the Feast of Corpus Christi
7. Girls smiling (year unknown)
8. A First Communion Service with Father Joe Kinane (our 5<sup>th</sup> pastor)





## Archive Corner with Mark Miller (continued)

First Holy Communion, 1963



Below: First Holy Communion, 2023





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Information on groups & other specifics will be emailed in June





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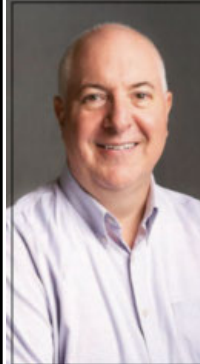
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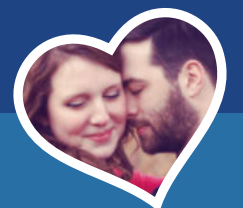
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### **EVANGELIZATION AND CAMPUS MANAGER**

Nick Testa: nicktesta@spc-church.org  
(847) 825-7605 x2250

### **DIRECTOR OF CATECHESIS**

Anna Mae Parkhill: annamaeparkhill@spc-church.org  
(847) 692-2758 / [www.spc-catechesis.net](http://www.spc-catechesis.net)

### **DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICE MINISTRY**

Adrienne Timm: adriennetimm@spc-church.org  
(847) 692-6767

### **DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

Edward J. Eicker: edwardeicker@spc-church.org  
(847) 825-7605 x2253

### **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

Andrea Bartolomeo: andreabartolomeo@spc-church.org

### **ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**

Erika Mickelburgh: emickelburgh@spc-school.net  
(847) 825-6366 / [www.spc-school.net](http://www.spc-school.net)

### **RCIA**

rcia@spc-church.org

### **SPACE RESERVATIONS**

calendars@spc-church.org

### **VIRTUS**

virtus@spc-church.org

### **LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULING**

schedule@spc-church.org

### **BULLETIN EDITOR**

spcbulletin@spc-church.org

### **UPCOMING BULLETIN CONTENT DEADLINES**

May 21st issue: Friday, May 12th

May 28th issue: Friday, May 19th

## *Schedule*

### **MASS**

Monday through Friday 6:25 am  
8:30 am

Saturday 8:30 am - *daily Mass*  
4:30 pm - *vigil*

Sunday 7:30 am  
9:00 am  
10:30 am  
12:00 pm

*All Masses are held in the Upper Church. Masses also held on second Sunday of month in HFC at 10:30 am*

### **ADORATION**

Adoration Chapel open 5:00 am until 11:00 pm daily  
Email [adorationchapel@spc-church.org](mailto:adorationchapel@spc-church.org)  
to sign up for a timeslot

### **CONFESSION**

*Confessions take place in our Upper Church vestibule*

Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 8:15 am  
Saturday 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

### **FUNERALS**

Monday through Saturday Morning

### **WEDDINGS**

Friday and Saturday  
Call the parish office at least 6 months in advance

### **BAPTISMS**

Saturday and Sunday  
*If this is your first child, baptism prep class is required and provided on the fourth Thursday every month at 7:00 pm. Please contact the parish office at 847-825-7605 to register.*

### **NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION**

*and*

### **DONUT SUNDAY**

First Sunday of Every Month Unless Advertised Otherwise  
8:30 am to 12:00 pm

### **ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

Please call Rectory Office (847-825-7605)

### **COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND**

Please call Rectory Office (847-825-7605)

### **ROSARY**

After 8:30 am Daily Mass