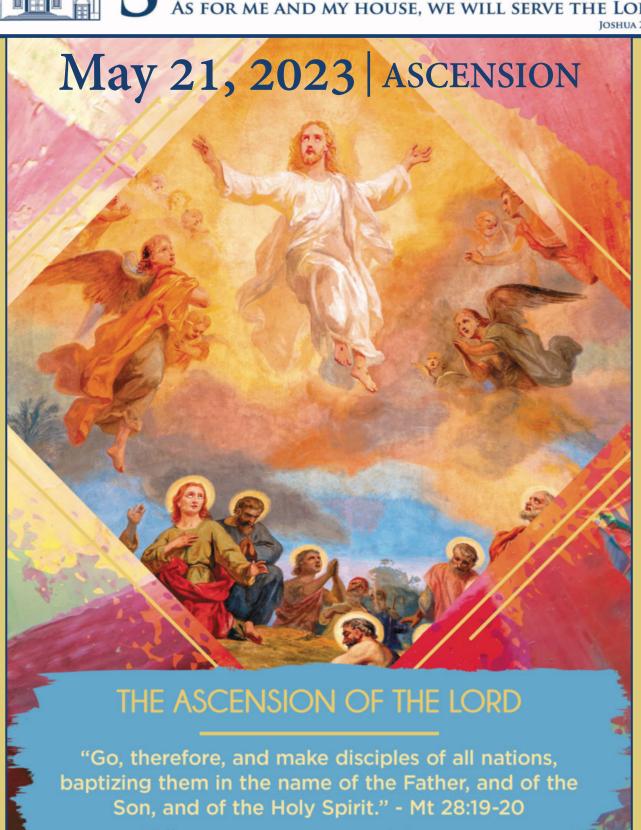


ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE, WE WILL SERVE THE LORD



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPi

May 21, 2023 THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

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

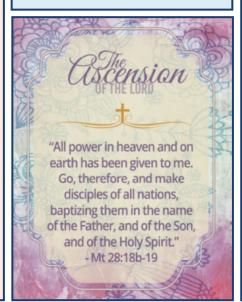
Saturday and Sunday

Baptisms

RYAN MICHAEL CASS

Son of Michael James Cass and Sarah Lynn Dondelinger





+\$164,204.20

Wedding Banns

I CHRIS SILCHUCK & KELLY ALSWEDE



Pray for our Sick

names remain for two months

Delaney Bartz Ralph Greinke III Sunny Greinke Norma Mailand Carole Zachary



In Loving Memory

Please pray for the souls of the faithful departed in our SPC community. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.



Steve Arvanites
Peter Connolly
Patricia Heenan
Audrey Sciortino



Stewardship Report

WEEKLY OFFERING (May 7th - May 13th)

Total Weekly Offering	\$33,391.00
Electronic Giving	\$14,613.50
Loose	\$5,791.50
Envelopes	\$12,986.00

ADDITIONAL COLLECTIONS (through May 13th)

Easter		\$98,344.78
Catholic Chariti	es Mother's Day	\$205.00

ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL DATA

2023 Annual Catholic Appeal (through April 20th)(goal: \$142,718)	\$104,457 paid (73%) \$121,054 pledged (85%)
Sunday Giving Fiscal YTD Total (July 1st through May 13th)	\$1,587,049.56
Sunday Giving Fiscal YTD vs. Budget	. 6164 204 20

(July 1st through March 31st)

Readings for the Week

SUN, 5/21: Acts 1:1-11 / Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6) /

Eph 1:17-23 / Mt 28:16-20

MON, 5/22: Acts 19:1-8 / Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd,

6-7ab / Jn 16:29-33

TUE, 5/23: Acts 20:17-27 / Ps 68:10-11, 20-21 /

Jn 17:1-11a

WED, 5/24: Acts 20:28-38 / Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a,

35bc-36ab / Jn 17:11b-19

THU, 5/25: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11 / Ps 16:1-2a and 5,

7-8, 9-10, 11 / Jn 17:20-26

FRI, 5/26: Acts 25:13b-21 / Ps 103:1-2, 11-12,

19-20ab/Jn 21:15-19

SAT, 5/27: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31 / Ps 11:4,

5 and 7 / Jn 21:20-25



Letter from a Pastor to his People



I find curious the little dialogue that occurred at the moment of Christ's ascension. "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?," the apostles ask Jesus as he's on the mountain about to take off. Jesus' response: "It is not for you to know the times or seasons that the Father has established by his own authority."

The question seems foolish. Have the disciples still not

figured out that Jesus isn't interested in restoring the kingdom of Israel? He didn't do it when he had thousands of believers convinced he was the Messiah when he multiplied the loaves and fishes. He didn't do it when he raised Lazarus and likewise had the whole area mesmerized. He didn't restore the kingdom when he entered Jerusalem on the donkey on Palm Sunday. And so on.

Jesus wasn't going to remove the Romans from Israel. He wasn't going to eradicate the high priests and elders and make himself the new King David. He wasn't going to conquer other nations with an army under the banner of Israel. That's what everyone thought the Messiah would do, but that's not what the Messiah was about.

And yet, Jesus doesn't simply respond "no" to the apostles' inquiry at the Ascension. He just says, "it's not for you to know the times or seasons..." It's almost as if Jesus is leaving open the possibility that he will restore the kingdom of Israel; it just won't be right now and he won't say when.

The answer to our prayers sometimes seems so obvious. And yet Jesus doesn't give us the obvious answer. There's a scene in the movie *Dumb and Dumber* (my funniest movie) when Mary tells Lloyd there's a "one in a million chance" she'll date him. Lloyd responds, "So you're saying there's a chance."

Jesus doesn't even shut us down. He keeps it open for us. Perhaps he wants us to keep asking him.

ordained a priest for the Archdiocese of Chicago this past Saturday, May 20 at Holy Name Cathedral. It was great to see Father Kevin's beaming face, and we're blessed to now have him as a priest in the church. Father Kevin will celebrate his First Mass at his home parish in Crystal Lake this Sunday. You'll see Father Kevin celebrating some daily Masses here at Saint Paul over the next few weeks before he begins his assignment as an associate pastor at a parish on the southside.

You'll also see **Deacon Martin Nyberg** on the schedule to preach for a few daily Masses before he leaves for the summer to learn Spanish in Guatemala. Deacon Martin will be back with us in the fall. Congratulations, once again, to Deacon Martin on his ordination back on May 13th. I'm encouraging our Deacon Martin to grow a mustache so he fits in properly with our deacon corps.

This Tuesday at 10am is the **Ribbon Mass** for the SPC School 8th Grade students. The school year is quickly winding down. We wish our 8th graders all the best as they prepare for graduation and beyond.

A special thanks to all who organized and took part in the **Family Mass in the HFC** last Sunday. It was a great way to celebrate Mother's Day. Once again, if you're interested in helping and be part of the next Family Mass on June 11th, please reach out to Jennifer Waters (jenwaters13@gmail.com).

The **Daily Reflections on Mary** continue for the month of May. I hope these weeks with Mary have been fruitful for you.

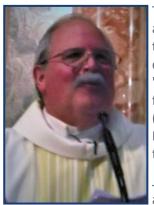
A reminder to please be aware of **scam emails or texts** from "me." This is happening to many priests and pastors across the country. If it seems you are contacted by me asking generically to talk or for a favor or for gift cards, *do not respond.* It is a hacker. You can always check the email address to be sure. If it's not from the email address in the bulletin, then it's not from me.

Please see on page 7 a note from our music director Ed Eicker about the unexpected passing of **Steve Arvanites**, one of our cantors. We are so sorry to lose Steve at such a young age. Please keep Steve and his wife Sue in your prayers.

Your Servant in Christ,

Congratulations to Father Kevin Gregus who was

Reflections from our Community



Today's Gospel is taken from the conclusion of the Gospel of Matthew. The Final Commission, as this Gospel is sometimes called, is given on the mountaintop. Throughout Matthew's Gospel, the most important events happen on the mountaintop. They see Jesus, and both worship and doubt at the same time. Jesus approaches them and commissions them to baptize and teach, "to make disciples of all nations." It is a task which Jesus had previously prepared his disciples for. Recall that Jesus had sent the twelve apostles to preach the Kingdom of God and to heal (cf. Matthew 10:1-15). However, earlier the Twelve were sent only to the House of Israel; in this Final Commission, the eleven are told to go to "all nations." The mission of Jesus is now to be taken to all people; the task now is to baptize and to teach.

Jesus commissions his disciples to baptize in the name of the Trinity, one of the clearest attestations found in Scripture for baptism in the name of the Trinity. In the previous scripture,

baptism is more frequently offered "in the name of Jesus." Teach them to observe all that I have commanded you. The promise was that they would not do this alone: Know that I am with you always, until the end of the age. The Solemnity of the Ascension is a call for us to tell the world that Jesus is still with us. How do we do this? Simply by utilizing the gifts the Lord has given us. People are led to the Lord by other people, people who give witness to the living presence of Jesus Christ by their actions.

The Ascension was not just a farewell for Christ. Above all, it is the giving of an unfinished business, that is, His mission, which He entrusts to His apostles and to us too. He expects us to continue this mission. The mission being to witness to Christ in the world, to preach the Good news that God redeemed us and to show by our love that He is always with us. Let us pray that we can faithfully fulfill our mission: "Believe what you read, teach what you believe and live it."

Deacon Andy Cameron

Mass Schedule			
FEAST DAY	TIME	PRESIDER	MASS INTENTIONS
	6:25 am UC	Fr. Nick	Martha Lewosz
MONDAY, 5/22 Saint Rita of Cascia	8:30 am UC	Fr. James	Henryka Klapinska, Mark DuBrock, Birthday Blessings for Julie Lynch, Birthday Blessings for John Patrick Newell, Patrick Connelly
TUESDAY, 5/23	6:25 am UC	Fr. Kevin	Matilde Moreno, Holy Souls in Purgatory
Easter Weekday	8:30 am UC	Fr. Nick/MN*	Estelle Swider, June Henk, John R. Huber, Birthday Blessings for Andy Lynch
WEDNESDAY, 5/24	6:25 am UC	Fr. James/MN*	An Increase in Committed Adorers for the Adoration Chapel
Easter Weekday	8:30 am UC	Fr. Kevin	Lorraine A. Kieser, Louise Sottile, Amy Reed, Linda Lehman
THURSDAY, 5/25	6:25 am UC	Fr. Kevin	Healing for Matthew Gonzalez, Healing for Rick Stege, Healing for Rudy Kleiner
Saints Bede, Gregory, and Mary Magdalene	8:30 am UC	Fr. Nick/MN*	John Francis Sullivan, Don Paiser, Anna and Stanislaw Moskal
FRIDAY, 5/26	6:25 am UC	Fr. Nick	Helen and John Klages
Saint Philip Neri	8:30 am UC	Fr. Kevin	Elmer, Helen and Paul Utesch, Healing and Blessings for John Ahern
SATURDAY, 5/27	8:30 am UC	Fr. James	Emilio Bartucci, Malgorzata Wojt, Marie Talarico
Saint Augustine of Canterbury	4:30 pm UC	Fr. Nick	Joseph DiCola, Dorothy and Kenneth Meyer, Helen Stefanski
	7:30 am UC	Fr. James	Blessings for Celinda Figueroa, Josh Infantes and Julio Infantes
SUNDAY, 5/28 Pentecost Sunday	9:00 am UC	Fr. Nick	Thomas Horner, People of the Parish
	10:30 am UC	Fr. James	Gerald Schorr, Rosa DiFranco, The Cooney and Dockery Families, Katherine (Katie) Panatoni, Filip Junkovic
	12:00 pm UC	Fr. Nick/AC*	Fred Gross, Gerry Flaherty, Michelle Liskovec, Kevin Hall, Anna Moskal, Healing for George
*LEGEND: /MN = Deacon Martin Nyberg preaching /AC = Deacon Andy Cameron preaching			

Liturgical Ministers Schedule (please email schedule@spc-church.org with any questions)					
MASS	LECTOR	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	ALTAR SERVERS		
SATURDAY, 5/27	Kerry Plencner,	Joanne Cichon-Feeney, Joseph Feeney,	Chester Rzany, Will Armour,		
4:30 pm UC	Walter Cwik	Katheen A. McMahon, Ann Solari-Twadell	Henry Perrotte		
SUNDAY, 5/28	Kirke Machon,	Patty Bacci, Eugene Cooney,	Christian Junkovic, Danny Leen,		
7:30 am UC	Anastasia Jakubow	Reggie Higgins Reither, Missy Machon	Kevin Finlay		
SUNDAY, 5/28	Jane Olson,	Margie Alicea, Will Alicea,	Nick O'Connor, Lily deTagyos,		
9:00 am UC	Brianna Santucci	Geri Jarzombek, Shirley Patras	Sam deTagyos		
SUNDAY, 5/28	David Dempsey,	Dan Hogan, Iryna Olyva,	Kyra Joyce, Kylee Joyce,		
10:30 am UC	Susan Davis	Kim Soifer, Margaret Teich	Madeline Haran		
SUNDAY, 5/28	Joni Haley,	Kevin Buggy, Josephine Gullo,	Josette Steinfela, Johnny Santucci,		
12:00 pm UC	Neda Naum	Chris Paolelli, Maria Talarico	Arad Pourzargor		

Events this Week				
DATE	TIME	LOCATION	EVENT	
Saturday, May 20th	9:00 am	Parish Vegetable Garden	Parish Vegetable Garden Planting Day	
Sunday, May 21st	8:30 pm	Parish Life Center Gym	Men's Pick-Up Basketball	
Monday, May 22nd	3:30 pm	Upper Church	Altar Server Training	
Monday, May 22nd	7:00 pm	The Harp & Fiddle	AOW Spring Social and Update	
Thursday, May 25th	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 14th 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!

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

MONDAY, MAY 22nd 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm Upper Church

Current 5th, 6th, and 7th 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



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

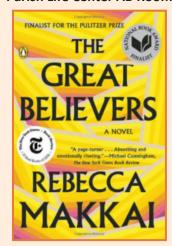


Additional Opportunities

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



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



Please Join Us

June 4, 2023 10:00am Mass Reception to follow

Father Neil E. Fackler

Celebrating 25 Years of Priesthood

Mary, Mother of Divine Grace Parish Divine Infant Jesus Church 1600 Newcastle Ave., Westchester, IL







The Word on the Street

What a wonderful event we had on Tuesday evening, April 25th. We estimate that over 130 people came to socialize and have a lively talk about the need for the Catholic Church with Bishop Bartosic and Fr. James.

Thanks to all who joined us, and we look forward to another event soon!



Rest in Peace, dear Steve

It is with great sadness that I'm writing to inform the parish that Steve Arvanites passed away the evening of Thursday, May 11th after suffering a fatal heart attack. Steve was a familiar face at St. Paul of the Cross, having served as cantor and choir section leader for 28 years.

In addition to Steve's work in music ministry, he played many other roles. He worked as a Nuclear Medicine Technologist helping patients, he was an accomplished vocal and stage performer, having co-founded Petite Opera Productions with his wife, Sue, and he was an avid golfer and bowler.

I've had the pleasure of working with Steve for the last 14 years. He was always a consummate professional when singing on the altar or with the choir. Steve was always prepared and often brought fresh ideas and perspectives to the music he sang.

But Steve was also a friend. He was a friend to me, Andrea, and everyone in our choir. I know I speak for everyone in the music ministry when I say that Steve will be deeply missed. There is not only an emptiness in our hearts but also an unfillable void in our choir.

Ed Eicker

Director of Music





Men's Club Cornhole Tournament



CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY, JUNE 2nd

Doors Open at 5:00 pm Bags in the air at 5:30 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 (form 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**.

All men are welcome!

COST:

\$65: Bags, Food, Drinks for those that want to play \$50: Food, Drinks, Fun for those that just want some camaraderie

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

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.

Thank you for helping feed the hungry in our area!





Please help raise your voice to state legislators, so that thousands of children can continue receiving a great Catholic education in the future. Let your legislators know you value the Illinois Invest In Kids Act, what it means to our 4,200 students from low-income and working-class families receiving these Tax Credit Scholarships, and ask them to #RemoveTheSunset!

Many deserving students would not be able to attend our Catholic schools without these scholarships. Please join us now in our efforts to #RemoveTheSunset!

Scan the QR code to contact your legislator.



Catechesis (CCD) Registration

CATECHESIS (CCD) REGISTRATION STARTS MAY 22nd

FOR THE 2023 - 2024 SCHOOL YEAR

We have classes for incoming PK 4's through 8th grade!

Catechesis begins formally in 1st grade and goes through 8th

We offer many Catechesis options knowing that each family and child has individual needs:

Regular Program - Directed Study - Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Worship Program - All Abilities (special needs)

To learn more and to register, starting May 22nd please see the Catechesis website:

www.spc-catechesis.net

then click on the **REGISTRATION** tab

As always, registration is on a first-come first-serve basis

Each grade focuses on a different aspect of our faith which, when participated in over the eight years, forms a whole.

For this reason, it is expected that the child attend Catechesis at each grade level.

If a grade has been missed, please call Anna Mae Parkhill.

All are welcome!

















Each year we are always in need of catechists/teachers!!

Please consider this wonderful opportunity and find out about the tuition benefits that our parent volunteers receive.

Call with any questions or concerns:

Anna Mae Parkhill
Director of Catechesis
847-692-2758

Reflections on the Blessed Virgin Mary for the Month of May



May 21

"Blessed is she who believed that what was spoken to her by God would by fulfilled." Luke 1:45

After the Lord's Prayer at Mass, the priest prays a curious prayer aloud:

Lord, Jesus Christ, who said to your apostles, 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.' Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will, who live and reign for ever and ever.

This prayer used to be prayed silently by the priest, and instead of 'our sins' he petitioned God to overlook his own sins. Now he emphasizes the 'faith of the Church.'

We are part of a team. And not just any team. A winning team...a championship-winning team. None of us is perfect, but it is a team sport we play, and because of the goodness of the team, God rewards us with gifts. It's the same principle for why we can baptize a baby who cannot make an act of faith (sacraments require the intention of the recipient). The Church--the team--supplies the faith for the child. It is the faith of the Church that allows us sinners to receive the Eucharist.

We are bench warmers on this team. Role players at best. The saints are starters. The Blessed Mother and her Son are the stars. It is Mary's faith and Mary's holiness

that covers for us and earns us the grace from God. Mary supplies us for the other virtues as well. Her patience covers for our impatience. Her purity for our impurity. Her poverty for our greed. Her humility for our vanity. Her gentleness for our anger. Her courage for our timidity. Her vision for our blindness.

Prayer: Mary, I am incomplete. I am a sinner. I am consumed by a variety of vices. I surrender my heart to you and abandon myself into the loving arms of the Church. You will cover for me. I will earn a ring because of your success.

May 22

"She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy." Proverbs 31:20

When famed Baroque painter Michelangelo Marisi da Caravaggio unveiled his painting, *Madonna of Loreto*, also known as *Madonna dei pellegrini* (Mary of the Pilgrims, see above), there was quite the uproar. The painting was deemed scandalous. The pilgrims were shockingly poor, with their dirty feet in the viewer's face. Mary was barefoot like the peasants. Instead of being in some beautiful, marble-columned adorned facade, the doorway in which she stood was decrepit. Her halo was faint, her clothes rather ordinary, and her beauty nothing excessively striking as other paintings had her. Mary also clutched to her child in a "working position," as if she was hoisting a laundry basket or water jug.

The public quickly overcame their shock and appreciated the beauty and significance of the painting. We are more like peasants than we are princes. Mary comes out of the doorway to meet us. And not from some palace or sequestered chamber, but a regular house, like ours. Her likeness to ours allows us to forget our dirty feet and shabby clothing and other shortcomings. We are able to adore the Lord before us and receive his love. With the Blessed Mother in our lives, there is no posturing, no pretense in our prayer.

Prayer: Mary, I come before you weary and dirty, a pilgrim from a long journey. Your homeliness puts me at ease. You stand outside the doorway of the church. The church is not a palace for the rich. It is a home for the downtrodden like me. Please help me to love your child and give him what meager offering I have.

Reflections on the Blessed Virgin Mary for the Month of May

May 23

"Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the sky, and so make a name for ourselves; otherwise we shall be scattered all over the earth."

Genesis 11:4

Tower of Ivory is one of the titles we give to the Blessed Mother. She is the antithesis of the Tower of Babel. The latter was mankind's failed attempt to reach the heavens and be God. Mary is our success. She is our means to piercing the heights and becoming like her son.

The Tower of Babel was constructed in the "plain of Shinar," which was the land in Mesopotamia between the Tigris and Euphrates — what would become Babylon (from Babel). The flood waters had receded into these two great rivers to form the plain, and the inhabitants, like their ancestors, fell into sin. When one studies Genesis, one notices a similar literary pattern in the accounts of Babel, Eden, and Noah's flood. The people come together in sin, God comes down and intervenes, realignment occurs.

Echoes of Mary are in each account. She is the new Eve; she is the white dove finding a place to rest on the dry land; she is the new tower constructed amid the cacophony of voices. In the case of Babel, she is the one who had a name made for herself when she entered the sky at the Assumption. And when we pray with Mary, the confusion and noise around us dims. We experience harmony.

Prayer: Mary, I look around and see mankind's continued attempt to build towers to the sky. Even in our own city in Chicago there are skyscrapers. I look not to these monuments, but to you. With you I will pierce not so much the heights, but the depths: the depths of my heart and your son's heart. I want to see Jesus and be like him. Please take me to him.

May 24

"And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them."

Mark 9:3

Stains are a normal part of life. Dirt on pants, spaghetti sauce on a shirt, red wine on an altar cloth. Stains happen, regardless of our best efforts to avoid them, and we don't

panic when they occur. The washing machine can return them to normal. Even an avocado stain on my black clerical shirt (so much for black hiding stains) that was impervious to the standard pre-wash stain removers was eliminated by a bar of Fels-Naptha a parishioner had given to me to use. A stain is not the end of the world. And if the stain still will not vanish, clothes and linens can be easily replaced.

A newly baptized child receives a white garment, a symbol of its pure soul, and the parents are instructed to "keep that dignity unstained." They do this with the help of the Blessed Virgin Mary. She is the Fels-Naptha for the soul.

As old as Fels-Naptha is, it wasn't around at the time of the Transfiguration. Dazzling white. In that scene the Lord's outer wear reflected his inner wear. His clothes and soul were pure white because of the help of his mother. Mothers are, after all, best at solving those pesky stains. As Mary's soul was pure and completely one with the Father, so too was her son's. And when his clothes became stained with blood during the Way of the Cross, she was there to restore the dignity.

Prayer: Mary, my soul has become marked with a sin, a fault, a false desire, a weakness. It vexes me, but you assure me and tell me not to panic. You will remove the stain from my heart. My bleached soul will reflect your son, upon whom I am gazing.

May 25

"Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, 'I do will it. Be made clean'."

Mark 1:41

I will pray for you. It's something we say all the time to others. But what does it mean? Does it actually mean we'll pray for the suffering person or is it just a polite cliché to say, "Oh, I'm sorry about your situation?" And if we do actually pray for the person later on, how do we avoid falling into superstition, as if our Hail Mary is buying the miracle like an item from the grocery store shelf?

There is a way out of this conundrum of intercession. It is by invoking the presence of Mary. Sitting with Mary in prayer, with the suffering person on our heart, helps us to actually feel compassion and desire mercy for the other. It is this "feeling" — an experience in the heart, in the very depths of our being — that brings about grace.

Reflections on the Blessed Virgin Mary for the Month of May

Jesus healed the leper when he had pity. The word used for pity in the original language of the sacred text is more than just a thought. It's a movement in the interstices. Jesus suffered in his very being as the leper was suffering. It was his heart that was the chemistry lab for healing. As all mothers feel for their children, Mary will help us feel for the person who has asked us to pray for them. We'll find, then, that we were actually the ones who needed the prayer.

Prayer: Mary, people have asked me to pray for them. I bring them all into my heart and I turn to you right now. Help me to truly desire their well-being. Help me to be like your son and be moved with pity. Their souls are in his hands. What little part I can do, I do now in this prayer.

May 26

"They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers."

Acts 1:14

Mary was with the apostles in the upper room at Pentecost. She would remain with them as a group in Jerusalem until each left to evangelize the world--Philip and Thomas to India, Andrew to Macedonia, Peter to Rome. Mary went with John.

But before that final departure, there in that place in Jerusalem where Jesus celebrated the Last Supper and gave his last teachings (John 13-17), Mary finished the course of training for the apostles begun by her son. As Jesus was with them three years, so Mary would be with them three years.

When Peter and John went down to Samaria to impart the Holy Spirit and lay hands on the disciples created by Philip the Deacon, they went at Mary's behest. When Paul desired entrance into the community and inner twelve, after having persecuted the church, it was Mary who softened the apostles' heart to receive their new brother. When Peter and the others deliberated upon whether or not to maintain the Jewish law and circumcise Gentile converts, its was Mary whom they consulted for their final decision.

The Holy Spirit was guiding the early Church, and Mary, the spouse of the Holy Spirit, taught the apostles how to master the Spirit.

The Holy Spirit works in our lives, but we can be like children given the keys to a Lamborghini. We don't know

how to operate the sophisticated equipment and make the most of it. Mary can show us how to surrender and follow.

Prayer: Mary, I pray for conversion and for grace all the time. I want to be holier and a greater disciple. I know Jesus wants it for me as well. But I'm not sure how to completely give myself over and trust. As you guided the apostles, please guide me now. I open my ears and heart to your gentle wisdom.

May 27

"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have."

1 Peter 3:15

The early Christians were renowned for their joy. Even in the midst of terrible suffering — poverty, illness, persecution — they were deeply peaceful. They held no bitterness or resentment in their hearts, and they did not look as if they were burdened, depressed or despairing.

Why were they so hopeful? Because they trusted in the faithfulness of God. They were each deeply convicted that God was with them. That God, who is stronger than any evil or misfortune, had a specific plan for their wellbeing and fulfillment. They did not know exactly how that plan would unravel and when the actual suffering in the moment would pass, but they trusted God would resolve it. Their deep faith led to the hope and joy.

Mary had the deepest of faiths. We see it first at the Annunciation. When Gabriel tells Mary she will conceive by the Holy Spirit, Mary believes it. Her question, "how can this be?" does not come from a place of doubt, like Zechariah's question when told he and Elizabeth will conceive John. Zechariah does not think it is possible, and is rendered mute. Mary knows it will happen. As any lover would, she just wants to hear more about how it will be.

Praying with Mary can help cement in our hearts the truth that God will bless us. Joy will flower forth from our souls and all we will need to do is point out to others that flower.

Prayer: Mary, God blessed you not because you said yes. You were already blessed by him from the beginning of time, and that is why he appeared to you with the news of the Annunciation. He already knew your answer. Your joy flowed from his joy. Breathe into my soul that joy. I do believe God is with me and will bless me. Help my unbelief.

Adoration Chapel

EUCHARISTIC 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



	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
12:00 AM							
1:00 AM							
2:00 AM							
3:00 AM							
4:00 AM							
5:00 AM							
6:00 AM		clean		clean		clean	
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7:00 PM			1				
8:00 PM							
9:00 PM							
10:00 PM							
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 or place it in the collection box in the Adoration Chapel.

Thank you to all those who've already contributed!

Scam Emails

SCAMALERT.

Please be aware of scammers appearing to be Fr. James who will send you an email or text message asking to talk and then asking for gift cards or some other help. **DO NOT RESPOND!** If you ever receive a message appearing to be from Fr. James, you can double-check by looking at the email address. The only email Fr. James would send from is what is listed on the back page of the bulletin. Also note that Fr. James does not send text messages.

SonShine - The Parables of Jesus



For ALL Incoming PK 4 yr - 5th Graders

Come join us here at St. Paul's for SonShine – The Parables of Jesus VBS program! The sunny schedule for this weeklong adventure is to strengthen your child's faith with fun and faith-filled activities. Children will learn parables that will inspire them to grow in their faith and love of Jesus! They will sing songs, play games, make crafts and have fun all while discovering the beauty of Jesus' love filled teachings!

When: June 19 through June 23 - 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Where: St. Paul of the Cross Campus

Cost: This adventure is \$55 for one child / \$85 for two children / \$95 for three or more children

Who: Students entering 4 year old Preschool through 5th grade this coming school year 2023-2024

Materials and Snacks ARE INCLUDED in the price!

PLEASE PR	INT ME:	GRADE in FALL:
	ME:	
CHILD'S NA	ME:	GRADE in FALL:
CHILD'S NA	ME:	GRADE in FALL:
ALLERGIES		
PARENT NA	ME:	
FULL ADDR	ESS:	
BEST PHON	E:	EMERGENCY #
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PAYMENT:	https://www.givecentral.org/location/	ts both credit cards & electronic checks) /133/event/33924 made payable to St. Paul of the Cross
	Diop completed form on with check	made payable to St. Faul of the Gloss

QUESTIONS? 847-692-2758 OR specialechesis@yahoo.com email the form to specialechesis@yahoo.com

Please Return by May 30

Information on groups & other specifics will be emailed in June



Archive Corner with Mark Miller

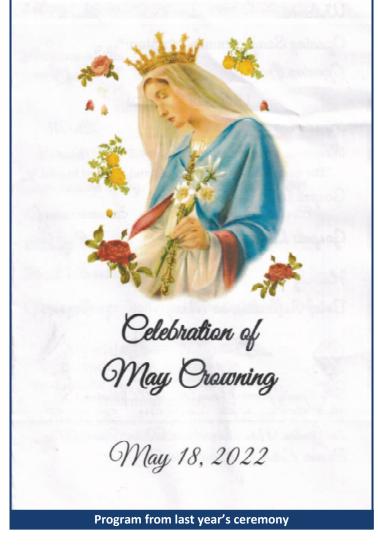
MAY CROWNING

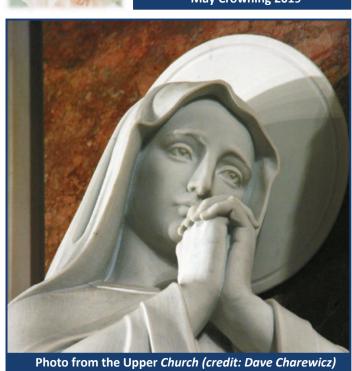
Every year, our school children honor the Blessed Virgin Mary with a May Crowning service. The Archive Corner would like to present photos that span over 80 years of this celebration.











Kíds' Corner



Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

ETERNAL GLORY WORLD CHRIST **GIVEN** SHOWN FATHER **FOLLOWERS** PRAYING E F U Т T Н R Y S 0 R Ε 0 Α Н Т S W 0 R D S N A E N E R T R Ε V Y Α G R Н R H W E W U N E G A S U H O W N G



The next time you talk to God, pray for each of your friends. Ask your friends to pray for you, too.







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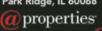


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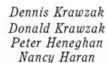
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UPCOMING BULLETIN CONTENT DEADLINES

May 28th issue: Friday, May 19th June 4th issue: Friday, May 26th

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 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
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Saturday and Sunday

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