



# St. Mary's Catholic Church



## May 9, 2021 - Sixth Sunday of Easter - Cycle B

**St. Mary's - Shenandoah**  
512 W Thomas Ave  
Shenandoah, Iowa 51601

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**Online Bulletin:**

parishesonline.com/shenandoah

**Online Giving:**

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**Office Hours - M-W-T - 9-4**

**Tues - 9-2**

**Fri - Closed**

**Fr. Raphael Assamah - Pastor**

Cell# - 712-246-8876

*Diane Strunk*

**Secretary**

712-246-1718

*Laurie Johnson*

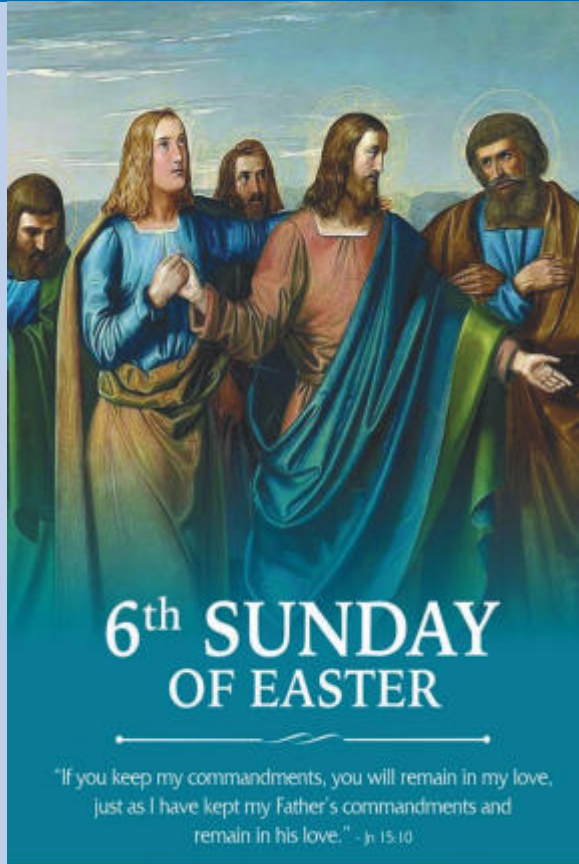
**Visitation Ministry**

246-9812

*Lynda Marshall*

**Director of Religious Education**

402-813-2113



*Raymond & GiGi DeSa*

**Youth Ministry**

712-313-1181

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**Ladies Guild - President**

*Maria Mather*

**Hispanic Visitation**

712-215-3574

# Welcome

**Welcome to St. Mary's Church on this Sixth Sunday of Easter. In today's Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples to remain in his love just as he remains in his Father's love. Love is a bond between them that lasts forever. For many of us, the first lasting bond we formed was with our mothers. We honor them today, and all who have acted as mothers in our lives, recognizing that they likely taught us what love was. May that bond teach us now how to remain in Christ's love.**

## Readings for week May 9, 2021

**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

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

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

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

**Thursday:** Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [cf. 2b]/Jn 16:16-20

**Friday:** Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [8]/Jn 15:9-17

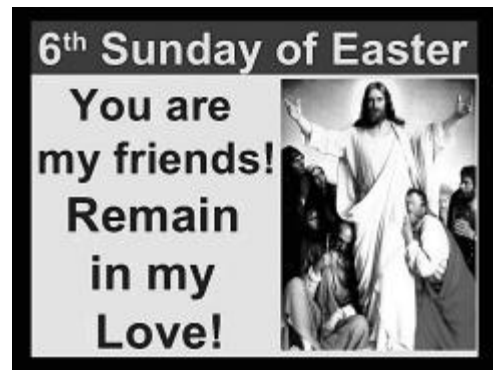
**Saturday:** Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-10, 10 [8a]/Jn 16:23b-28

**Next Sunday:** Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20

## Cycle B—Reflection on Readings

### Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48; Psalm 98;  
1 John 4:7-10; John 15:9-17



### Theme: God who chose you!

Our readings for today tell us that God's mind and attitude are reflected in believers. Believers are God's spokespersons.

The gospel passage from John 15:9-17 develops the imagery of the vine and the branches. It speaks of the love that unites God and the believer. Jesus' fundamental command is mutual love. Jesus' love of the disciples flows from God's love of Jesus. Far from being a personal acquisition, the love of God looks to others. "I appointed you to go and bear fruit" (John 15:16). We are called and chosen by Jesus for three things:

#### We Are Chosen for Joy

The Christian needs to feel joyful always. He or she rejoices always in good times and in bad. Christian joy is independent of all things on earth because it has its source in the continual presence of Christ. The Christian can never lose his or her joy because Christ is never lost in our lives. We need to be joyful because we have royalty, victory, and dignity.

#### We Are Chosen to be Jesus' Friends

Jesus has called us to be His friends. He said, "You are friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer..."

Nowhere else can people call God as a friend. It is Jesus who has brought in this new kind of relationship between God and us. Now we are the friends of God, because of Jesus. Joseph Scriven wrote: *What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry, Everything to God in prayer! Oh, what peace we often forfeit, Oh, what needless pain we bear, All because we do not carry. Everything to God in prayer!*

#### We Are Chosen for Love

As the disciples of Jesus, we are sent out into the world to love one another. Jesus said, "I give you a new commandment: Love one another, just as I have loved you."

The thing that is destroying the world today are hatred and intolerance. God has called us not to be agents of death, but rather to be agents of love and life. It is only love, which can save the world from destruction. And love shall be the only thing that is eternal.

Christianity demands that the believer not only grasp intellectually the main tenets of the faith but also act on them in daily life. Within the context of community, the believer is linked to Jesus who is linked to the Father. If God is love and Jesus' self-giving is the supreme expression of that love, then we must communicate the depth of that love by the way we live in the world. We are spokespersons for God.

May God Who created and called us for a purpose, and planted His love within our hearts, help us to bear fruits worthy of His calling. Shalom!

# Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



<b>Saturday</b> 3:30pm 4:30pm	<b>May 8</b> <i>Confession</i> <i>Mass for Carl &amp; June Maher+</i>
<b>Sunday</b> 6:30am 10:30am - Also Livestream Zoom	<b>May 9</b> <i>6th Sunday of Easter;</i> <i>Mother's Day</i> <i>Mass for Mike Dinville+</i> <i>Mass for Mike Teachout+</i>
<b>Monday</b> No Mass	<b>May 10</b> <i>St. Damien de Veuster, Priest</i> <i>Fr Raphael Day off</i>
<b>Tuesday</b> 12:10pm	<b>May 11</b> <i>Mass for Mike Lonowski+</i>
<b>Weds</b> 12:10pm	<b>May 12</b> <i>Sts. Nereus and Achilleus,</i> <i>Martyrs; St. Pancras, Martyr</i> <i>Mass for Bonnie Sturm+</i>
<b>Thursday</b> No Mass	<b>May 13</b> <i>Our Lady of Fatima</i>
<b>Friday</b> No Mass	<b>May 14</b> <i>St. Matthias, Apostle</i>
<b>Saturday</b> 3:30pm 4:30pm	<b>May 15</b> <i>St. Isidore; Armed Forces Day</i> <i>Confession</i> <i>Mass for Matt McIntyre+</i>
<b>Sunday</b> No 6:30am 10:30am - Also Livestream Zoom	<b>May 16</b> <i>The Ascension of the Lord;</i> <i>7th Sunday of Easter;</i> <i>World Communications Day</i>  <i>Mass for healing of Diane Mullenberg</i>

## Lectors

**May 15 - 4:30pm Terry Engelmeyer**  
**May 16 - 10:30am GiGi DeSa**



**Birthday**  
**5-11 Sue Zirfas**  
**5-11 Leon McEnaney**

## St. Mary's Church Support

**Tithes - \$1712.00**  
**Plate - \$250.00**  
**1st Offering - \$4.00**  
**On-Line Giving (April) - \$715.00**  
**Hamburg Stipend - \$1059.33**



## This & That

- \* Our Pentecost Novena begins on Friday, May 14<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>. Let us try to prepare ourselves for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit by joining the Novena prayers **via zoom @ 7:30pm.**
- \* I will be travelling to Ohio for my master's graduation on the weekend of May 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>. In view of this, Fr. Don Bruck will be celebrating the weekend Masses. Thanks for your prayers and encouragements.
- \* There will be no 6:30am Mass on May 16<sup>th</sup> in Shenandoah.
- \* There will be no weekday masses in Shenandoah May 18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>.
- \* Let us continue to arrive 20 minutes before Mass in the month of May for the Holy Rosary.
- \* **Please note that, the Diocese of Des Moines transferred Ascension to the SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (May 16<sup>th</sup>). Lectors and Cantors, please take readings for Ascension and NOT 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter.**





**Please welcome our  
1<sup>st</sup> Communicants for 2021!**

Even though Religious Education has looked a bit different this year due to the pandemic, our 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students have still been working hard to earn their 1<sup>st</sup> Communion. Working on lessons at home with their parents and coming together for retreats, lets celebrate their 1<sup>st</sup> Communion during the 10:30 Mass on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Due to the pandemic, we are still not able to have refreshments after Mass so let's all come together and make sure we wish them well with a card shower. There will be gift bags at the back of church for anyone who wishes to give cards.

Please congratulate:  
Ethan Daoust  
Alex Danao  
Cael Ramos  
Zoey Roberts  
Aiden Trowbridge

**Annual Diocesan Appeal  
update as of April 23, 2021**

**47 donors from 170 registered families have pledged**

<b>ADA 2021 Goal :</b>	<b>\$31,154.00</b>
<b>Pledges:</b>	<b>\$2,250.00</b>
<b>Pledge Payments:</b>	<b>\$485.00</b>
<b>Pledge Balance:</b>	<b>\$1,765.00</b>
<b>Gifts:</b>	<b>\$14,119.00</b>
<b>Current Amount due/ (Refund Due):</b>	<b>(\$16,550.00)</b>

**Thank You to those who have pledged to ADA.  
Your generosity is appreciated.**

*God is good! ..... All the time  
All the time.....God is Good!*

Dear Parishioners,

We are planning on attending NCYC (National Catholic Youth Conference) in Indianapolis this November. We are starting our fundraising and we are bringing back the jewelry sales! It is our privilege to offer you an opportunity to purchase beautiful imported hand-made Italian and Bethlehem rosaries, as well as a large variety of Catholic medals, crucifix necklaces bracelets and other faith inspired jewelry. We are presenting you with a wide variety of these religious items at reasonable prices. Even as you are blessed by the beauty of these sacramentals, our group will be blessed by your generosity. 50% of all proceeds go directly to our NCYC fund!

Please stop at our display after the Masses in the Parish Hall and see what we are offering.

Saturday May 15 - 4:30pm  
Sunday May 16 - 6:30am & 10:30am

Saturday May 22 - 4:30pm  
Sunday May 23 - 6:30am & 10:30am

Saturday May 29 - 4:30pm  
Sunday May 30 - 6:30am & 10:30am

Your purchase of these quality items supports our parish youth. Due to COVID restrictions, we need to raise a large amount of money in a short period of time and we appreciate your help!

Thank you, Juan Cepeda, Ava Godfread, Braedon Godfread, AJ Moore, Tyler Laughlin, Cris Ramos, Auri Trowbridge, Gigi DeSa and Lynda Marshall

**St. Mary's Ladies Guild** will be having a meeting on Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00pm in St. Mary's Parish Hall. Elections of officers will be on the agenda. Everyone attending must wear masks and practice social distancing. All ladies of St. Mary's are invited.

**Lenora Doyle Scholarship Fund** - St. Mary's Parish is now accepting applications for the Lenora Doyle Scholarship for 2020-2021 school year. An application can be picked up during Church Office hours. **Applications must be turned in no later than May 13, 2021.** Any questions, please contact Diane at 246-1718 in the Church Office.

## Her Hands

By Maggie Pittman



Her hands held me gently from the day I took my first breath.  
Her hands helped to guide me as I took my first step.  
Her hands held me close when the tears would start to fall.  
Her hands were quick to show me that she would take care of it all.

Her hands were there to brush my hair, or straighten a wayward bow.  
Her hands were often there to comfort the hurts that didn't always show.  
Her hands helped hold the stars in place, and encouraged me to reach.  
Her hands would clap and cheer and praise when I captured them at length.

Her hands would also push me, though not down or in harm's way.  
Her hands would punctuate the words, just do what I say.  
Her hands sometimes had to discipline, to help bend this young tree.  
Her hands would shape and mold me into all she knew I could be.

Her hands are now twisting with age and years of work,  
Her hand now needs my gentle touch to rub away the hurt.  
Her hands are more beautiful than anything can be.  
Her hands are the reason I am me.

Source: <https://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/her-hands>

Dear Mothers,

I join the entire world in praising you, my dear mothers on behalf of your children and husbands in St. Mary's Church.

As mothers, you held our hands close to your heart and continue to do so no matter our age. You have been our teacher of compassion, love, and courage. If love is sweet as honey, then you mothers are that sweet honey of love giving us hope.

Despite your sacrifice for your children and family, there are some Mothers whose relationship with the child has become sour. Some children may not recognize your role as a mother. But I want you to know that no one can replace you as a mother who has been our superhero and greatest supporter.

Today, we eulogize you for being the heartbeat in the home. You turn a house into a peaceful home by bringing order out of chaos.

As we appreciate you my dear Mothers, let us also take a sober reflection by examining our current relationship with our mothers and children. What can be done to enhance the relationship? Susan Gale said, "Mothers are like glue. Even when you can't see them, they're still holding the family together."

For our mothers who have been called home, we appreciate your love and care. Continue to rest peacefully in the Lord.

"Youth fades; love droops; the leaves of friendship fall; A mother's secret hope outlives them all." —Oliver Wendell Holmes

On behalf of your children and husbands, we love you our dear Mothers.

Fr. Raphael





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