



First Communion

Ava Blancato

Cameron Charpentier

Makenzie Nash

Sydney Sturges

*St. Joseph Parish
North Brookfield, MA*

Zachary Boucher

Douglas Caden Harvey

Sophia Hearnlaye

Nathaniel Laursen



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Great Power In Love

“Remain in my love,” and, “I call you friends,” are powerful words that are found in John’s Gospel. Most of us probably have them committed to memory or have at least heard them proclaimed dozens of times. They are words that can easily become trite and quickly glossed over without fully pondering and digesting their profound beauty. When we take the time to immerse ourselves in them, they can radically change our lives and our relationships. They can open up new doors of adventure and hold countless possibilities for meaning. The essence of love and friendship are things that can easily be taken for granted. They have always been there and are a significant part of our lives. Many would say that they could not live without love and friendship, and they put a great deal of care into preserving, deepening and sustaining them. Love and friendship share a mutual relationship with each other that deserves more reflection.

Where does love come from? We can consider relationships that have not succeeded and conclude that they were somehow due to our “failures in love.” In doing so, we assume that human beings are the ones responsible for love, its success and also its failure. While our weakness, emotional composition and sinfulness can easily impact our ability to love, its origin is not human. God is love. God is love’s author and origin. When we love, it is God who loves in and through us. It is because of this divine closeness that Jesus is able to call us friends! It is not because of anything we have done but simply because of who we are. Realizing and contemplating this awesome reality becomes a game changer across the board. It gives us reason to clear the table of anything that can adversely affect the way we love so that we can open the door for its author to shine forth.

Coming upon this truth is what leads folks like St. Francis of Assisi to leave that which is comfortable and worldly and live a radical life. They relate with the love of God that radiates in and through all living things and appreciate their sacredness. It was having an intimate experience of God’s love and friendship that propelled St. Francis and others to embrace simplicity, act nonviolently, pursue humility, love enemies, care for the earth and open up avenues for true justice. Understanding this profound truth will also help us find peaceful solutions to world’s problems, restore relationships with our sisters and brothers, bring the grace of loving stewardship to creation and heal many wounds. Once we begin to see how wonderfully holy all of life really is, we discover joy. We lose our need for fear, develop a fierce fortitude, act prudently and seek justice. There is great power in love because it comes from God. It will never fail. It also enjoys the company of two other friends who are eager to become our friends as well: faith and hope. These are just as important to have and to share.



Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY May 8, 2021
4:00 PM **William “Kippy” Minns, 1st Anniversary**
req. by the family

SUNDAY May 9, 2021
8:30 AM **Sandy Budney**
req. by her husband, Rick and family

MONDAY May 10, 2021
8:30 AM **Board Members of Catholic Association of Foresters**
req. by Father Rich

TUESDAY May 11, 2021
8:30 AM **Stanley “Jack” Sokol, 25th Anniversary**
req. by his wife Natalie and children

WEDNESDAY May 12 2021
*There is no Mass at St. Joseph’s or St. John’s Churches.
Masses on Wednesdays at nearby parishes.
8:00 AM—Mary Queen of the Rosary, Spencer
8:00 AM—Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, West Brookfield*

THURSDAY May 13, 2021 (Ascension Thursday)
8:30 AM Mass at St. John’s, East Brookfield
8:30 AM Mass at St. Joseph’s
For the Holy Souls in Purgatory
req. by the parish

FRIDAY May 14, 2021
8:30 AM Mass at St. John’s, East Brookfield

SATURDAY May 15, 2021
4:00 PM **Isabelle Adamczyk, 6th Anniversary**
req. by Carol & Phil

SUNDAY May 16, 2021
8:30 AM **Helen Mae Caron, 21st Anniversary**
req. by Pit & Marilyn Caron



Happy Mother’s Day



May 15-16	Lectors	Altar Servers	Eucharistic Ministers
Sat. 4:00 PM	Larry Walter	Kayleigh McPartland	David Brown
Sun. 8:30 AM	Joan Reidy	Sam Losurdo	Peter Losurdo
Ascension Thurs 8:30 AM	volunteer		Christine Letendre

First Communion



We congratulate our students who have received their First Communion last weekend. We pray that they and their families will grow in their faith among us.

Ava Blancato
Cameron Charpentier
Makenzie Nash
Sydney Sturges

Confirmation



Please pray for our students who will be receiving their Confirmation at Mary Queen of the Rosary Parish in Spencer on **Monday, May 10th, at 7:00 PM.** We pray that they may continue to love God and family and do good works in the community.

Zachary Boucher
Douglas Caden Harvey
Sophia Hearnlaye
Nathaniel Laursen

Prayer for Mothers' Day



O Blessed Mother, you received the good news of the incarnation of Christ, your Son, with faith and trust. Guide us as we strive to make our parish communities places of welcome and assurance for all mothers. Help us become instruments of God's love and compassion.

Mary, Mother of the Church, graciously help us build a culture of life and a civilization of love, together with all people of good will, to the praise and glory of God, the Creator and lover of life. Amen.

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Readings for the week of 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: Ascension: 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
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
Sunday: Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12,



Weekend Collections

Apr. 24-25

Sat/Sun	\$ 1,691.00
Renovations	\$ 80.00
Fuel	\$ 75.00
Easter	\$ 35.00
K of C Donation (Fish Fry)	\$ 925.00

Thank you for your support!

Love Overcame

Love overcame
Emerging from a cold tomb
All the truth, majesty and creativity of a living God
Transforming a broken heart
Making a quiet return, in a still and sorrowful garden
The grave stone rolled away, to release redemptive love
Jesus resurrected and restored
Comforts a weeping woman
Speaks with travellers on a journey
Meets with his faithful friends
And they bow down before Christ alive
And acknowledged that the saviour has arrived
That the word of God has come alive
And that the extraordinary transformation
of heaven and earth is complete.

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