5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

“In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?” - Jn 14:2
## Fifth Sunday of Easter
### Weekly Mass Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Masses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>Theodore Parchinski</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>May 12</td>
<td>Mother’s Day Intentions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>Mother’s Day Intentions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>Peter, Katherine, Roman &amp; Joseph Senko offered by Marie &amp; Al Piela</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>Mother’s Day Intentions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>May 16</td>
<td>Joseph Rolinski (Anniv.) offered by family</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>May 17</td>
<td>Living and deceased members of our parish</td>
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</table>

## In Memoriam

### Sanctuary Light
Deceased members of the Frank Mudryk Sr. Family

### Altar Candles
Dolores Rutkowski and Matilda Thomas offered by Joe & Beverly Thomas

### Bread & Wine
Michael Meoni offered by grandparents

### Steeple Lights
Charles, Josephine Louis Buiocchi Offered by Alberta & Bob Yeselavage

### Banns of Marriage
Matthew DeAngelo & Kaeleigh Schaepe

## Prayer for Mothers
Heavenly Father,
from the beginning you have chosen to entrust the human person to mothers in a special way.
We thank and praise you for the gift of mothers; for their tenderness, care, and compassion, for their intuition and encouragement, for commitment and sacrifice. Bless all mothers this day. Keep, strengthen, and refresh them in your loving care. May they be blessed by our open-hearted love and gratitude.
Amen.
### WEEKLY PRAYER

#### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 10, 2020

**SUN 5/10**
Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 [22]/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12

**MON 5/11**
Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16 [1ab]/Jn 14:21-26

**TUE 5/12**
Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12]/Jn 14:27-31a

**WED 5/13**
Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8

**THR 5/14**
Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [8]/Jn 15:9-17

**FRI 5/15**
Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/Jn 15:12-17

**SAT 5/16**
Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5 [2a]/Jn 15:18-21

**SUN 5/17**
Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 [1]/Jn 3:15-18

/Jn 14:15-21

#### OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 10, 2020

- **Sunday:** 5th Sunday of Easter; Mother’s Day
- **Tuesday:** Sts. Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs; St. Pancras, Martyr
- **Wednesday:** Our Lady of Fatima
- **Thursday:** St. Matthias, Apostle
- **Friday:** St. Isidore
- **Saturday:** Armed Forces Day
- **Next Sunday:** 6th Sunday of Easter

### LIVE THE LITURGY

#### Inspiration for the week

What do you imagine the resurrected life of heaven to be like? When we try to get our minds around such an enormous concept, we can easily find ourselves at a loss. For some folks, the enormity of the question actually causes them to ignore the reality of heaven or even conclude that it does not exist. Jesus knew that the magnitude and grandeur of eternal life are really too much for us to grasp. He kept it simple and described it in terms of relationship. The disciples treasured their relationship with Jesus, and he assured them, “Where I am you also may be.” Ultimately, that was enough for them to know. They would be with him. Strengthen your relationship with God as He is the way, the truth, and the life. Is the assurance that you will be with Him enough for you as well?

**OUR LADY OF Fatima**

**SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2020 | 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

“**My Immaculate Heart will be your refuge and the way that will lead you to God**”

-OUR LADY OF FATIMA
Planning for the Future: What to Expect When Public Masses Resume

“As time unfolds, people coming back into normal activities is probably going to happen a little more slowly than some might expect. We will do all that we can to facilitate our return to Mass, but ultimately must provide for the safety of the people God has given to our care.”

—Bishop Joseph C. Bambera—

With the national and statewide conversation regarding the COVID-19 pandemic now focused on “reopening” businesses, many people in the Diocese of Scranton are wondering when the suspension of public Masses will be lifted. While thankful for the technology that has kept parishes connected for the last six weeks, the Diocese of Scranton fully recognizes the faithful’s strong desire to return to parishes and to receive the Eucharist – which is our Spiritual life-blood. Diocesan leadership is currently discussing ways to safely return to sacramental life – even if on a limited basis. Relying on guidance from the state and federal governments, as well as healthcare professionals, we are committed to safely and prudently resuming worship. While specific details of “when” and “how” public Masses will resume are still being determined, the following things will be important for parishioners to consider:

1. The general dispensation from the Sunday Mass obligation will remain in place.

Regardless of when restrictions are lifted in a specific region of Pennsylvania, there will understandably be people, especially people in vulnerable or at-risk groups, who will feel it is safer to stay home than attend Mass. Potential limits on crowd sizes that are allowed in parishes will also play a part. The faithful are encouraged to keep the Sabbath holy by participating in a parish livestream Mass or utilizing Catholic Television.
2. Livestreaming opportunities should continue due to attendance limitations.
   Recognizing that as regions of the Commonwealth initially transition from Governor Tom Wolf's “red phase” to “yellow phase,” there will still be guidelines on the attendance numbers for any public gatherings. No one should expect to be able to attend Mass with regularity, so parishes that are currently livestreaming Masses will be encouraged to continue doing so.

3. Social distancing will be maintained.
   Expect that the recommended social distancing guideline of six feet will need to be respected when entering and leaving a church, as well as in regards to seating and a potential Communion procession. As required by Pennsylvania state guidelines, parishioners would be required to wear a mask and anyone who is showing any symptoms of sickness will be told to stay home. Social gatherings before or after Mass will also not be permitted.

4. Liturgical changes will be in place.
   Just like when the coronavirus started surfacing in Pennsylvania in March, the Diocese of Scranton established guidelines for the distribution of Holy Communion and exchanging the Sign of Peace without physical contact. Similar guidelines will also be established as any individual church would be allowed to begin worship again.

5. Safety concerns, in addition to the virus itself, will determine the timeline.
   During Mass on Tuesday, April 28, 2020, Pope Francis prayed for prudence as communities begin lifting their lockdowns. The Holy Father said, “At this time, when we are beginning to receive instructions for coming out of quarantine, we pray that the Lord would give his people – all of us – the grace of prudence and obedience to the instructions so that the pandemic does not return.” As this process unfolds, there will certainly be challenges but the safety of our community will remain the benchmark. As the Diocese moves forward it requests that parishioners stay informed and stay flexible to any updates.

By working together, the Diocese of Scranton is hopeful that people will soon be able to return to our churches, even if in a limited capacity, with the important understanding that things will not immediately be going back to normal.
FIRST READING
The word of God continued to spread, and the number of the disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly. (Acts 6:7a)

PSALM
Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you. (Ps 33) or Alleluia

SECOND READING
You are “a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises” of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. (1 Pt 2:9)

GOSPEL
Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (Jn 14:6)

DON’T COUNT THE LOSSES
GOSPEL MEDITATION
Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When earthly lives end, especially when the person is younger, we tend to focus upon and consider what was lost. We think of lost opportunities — things they won’t be able to see, babies they won’t be able to cradle, and adventures that now must go undiscovered. Our minds create this chasm between earth and heaven that sees the losses of this life as permanent ones, never possible to achieve again. This perception causes many folks to remain stuck in their grief as they ponder all of the missed opportunities and regrets.

This is not resurrection thinking. All of the love that we can give and receive, the joy and elation that can be experienced, the adventures that can be undertaken, and the possibilities to be discovered are all part of a continuous journey. They are not ends in and of themselves but are all part of the unfolding of a relationship we have with God, who not only makes all of these wonderful things possible now but sustains them and fulfills them into eternity. The perception and experience of loss is really an illusion, because in God’s eternal kingdom and in God’s time, nothing is ever lost. Even the most intimate and tender of moments we can conceive of sharing with another human being are only part of a journey toward perfect intimate and tender moments to be shared with God in our resurrected life. We become like God and see God as He is in eternity. What greater joy, love, and hope can ever be discovered as we walk down our often dimly lit paths in this world.

This is an awesome wonder and magnificent news to behold. Call to mind someone you have lost in death. How do you see them now? How do you see yourself in heaven? Remind yourself, again, that God is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Our happiness is not going to be fully realized in this world, and there is nothing we can find here that cannot be found one hundred fold in eternity. It’s all about relationship, and not solely about the relationships we have with each other, ourselves, and the world in which we live. It’s about our relationship with God. If we realize how special that one relationship really is, then there is only one particular of heaven and life eternal that really matters: namely, that we fall into love eternal and discover truth. For when we finally close our eyes in death, then all will be well as long as we are with God. There are no losses, only gains.

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