

May 25 — 31, 2025
SIXTH WEEK OF EASTER



Saint Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church

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The Eucharist, Our Peace

Sixth Sunday of Easter—John 14:23-29



In today's Gospel, Jesus says, "Whoever loves me will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him" (John 14:23, NAB). These words take on a Eucharistic resonance. In every Mass, God fulfills this promise—not metaphorically, but really. Through Holy Communion, the Father, Son, and Spirit come to dwell in us.

Jesus continues: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you" (John 14:27). The Eucharist is that peace—not merely a feeling, but Christ Himself: crucified, risen, and now present under sacramental signs. The world offers distractions; Christ

offers communion. When we receive Him with faith, we receive peace not dependent on circumstances but rooted in His abiding presence.

This Easter season reminds us that the Risen Lord is not distant. He comes to us at every Mass. He speaks in the Word, He feeds us in the Eucharist, and He brings us the peace that "troubles" no heart.

Let's come to the altar not out of habit, but out of love—for there, He makes His home with us. ☩



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Parish Schedule

Office Hours

9:00 am to 12:00 nn, 1:00 to 4:30 pm
Monday thru Friday

Morning Prayer (Liturgy of the Hours)

Monday thru Saturday 7:30 am

Daily Mass

Monday thru Saturday 8:00 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday thru Saturday 8:45 am— 4:00 pm
Sunday 1:30 pm—4:30 pm

Rosary

Monday thru Friday 7:00 am
Saturday 7:00 am and 2:30 pm
Sunday 7:30 am and 10:00 am

Confession

Saturday 8:45 am or by appointment

Sunday Mass

3:00 pm (Saturday Anticipatory Mass)
8:00 am, 10:30 am

Marriage

By appointment with Priest or Deacon from
your parish six months prior to your wedding.

Baptism

Preparation for Baptism: both parents and
godparent must attend baptism classes.
Pre-Register at the Parish office.

Anointing of the Sick

By appointment or upon request.

ALL DOCUMENTS

Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist
Certificate are \$5.00 each.

Exploring the Eucharistic Mystery: Insights from the Catechism of the Catholic Church

Chapter 9: The Eucharistic Celebration

Many Minds, One Heart: Mystical Assembly Unity

At first glance, the Mass might appear to be simply a gathering of individuals: a mix of people with different personalities, occupations, concerns, and stories. Some arrive distracted, others eager, some weary, and still others bored. And yet, through the mystery of the Eucharist, the Church teaches that all are drawn into a deeper unity—not simply as a crowd, but as the *Body of Christ*, knit together by grace.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church helps us understand that the Eucharist does not merely symbolize our unity; it effects it. It makes us one. As paragraph 1325 teaches, *“The Eucharist is the efficacious sign and sublime cause of that communion in the divine life and that unity of the People of God by which the Church is kept in being.”* The Mass is not a spiritual performance or an individual devotion—it is a mystical reality in which God draws us into communion with Him and with one another.

This unity is not something we generate on our own. It is given. It comes from Christ, who gathers His people around one altar and one sacrifice. As the Catechism says in paragraph 1396, *“The unity of the Mystical Body: the Eucharist makes the Church.”* In other words, the Church is not the one who “makes” the Eucharist; it is the Eucharist that makes the Church. This reversal challenges our instinct to see the Church merely as a human institution—it is, rather, the creation of Christ’s self-gift, made present in every Mass.

Saint Paul captures this mystery when he says, *“Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread”* (1 Corinthians 10:17). The Catechism echoes this, affirming in the same paragraph: *“Those who receive the Eucharist are united more closely to Christ. Through it Christ unites them to all the faithful in one body—the Church.”*

This unity is not uniformity. It does not erase our differences. The Mass does not make us identical—but it draws our differences into harmony. As paragraph 1348 observes about the Eucharistic celebration: *“Each one has an office to perform, but all form a single body, in which each one is ordered to the other.”* In the diversity of ministries, charisms, cultures, and temperaments, the Holy Spirit orchestrates a communion that reflects the Trinitarian life itself. We might call it a *mystical choreography*—many movements, one sacred rhythm.

This unity, though mystical, has visible dimensions. It is expressed when we respond in unison, exchange the sign of peace, kneel together, sing together, and above all when we receive Holy Communion. None of these are merely external rituals. They are outward signs of an inner reality—that we are



being drawn, despite our scattered lives, into one heart in Christ.

It is telling that the Church refers to the Eucharistic liturgy as *“the celebration of the assembly”* (CCC 1348). It is not a private affair. Even when one prays the Mass alone, as a priest on mission or in a hidden monastery, the Church is mystically present. For in every Eucharist, *“the whole Church is united with the offering and intercession of Christ”* (CCC 1369). This includes the saints, the souls in purgatory, the universal Church throughout the world, and even those who are far from faith, for whom we intercede.

So yes—at Mass, we may begin as many minds, distracted and varied in experience. But by the grace of Christ truly present in the Eucharist, we become one heart. This unity is not of our making—it is the fruit of the sacrifice of Christ, who *“loved the Church and gave himself up for her”* (Ephesians 5:25), and who still does.

Let us never take for granted that what happens at every Mass is not just a reminder of unity, but its very source. In a divided world, this is not only beautiful—it’s urgently needed. 🕯️

**Join us for Holy Rosary every Tuesday
at 6:00pm in the Church!**

Daily Adoration



Monday—Friday: 8:45am—4:00pm
Saturday: 8:45am—12:00nn
Sunday: 1:30—4:30 pm

*Jesus is definitely deserving of our
unceasing thanksgiving and
adoration for all He has done for
our salvation.*

A New Ministry to Help Us Celebrate

Brethren in Christ, Grace to you and Peace from God our Father and Lord Jesus Christ!

Some of you may have already heard that we've quietly begun organizing a new *Events Ministry* in our parish. This new group was created for a simple reason: we noticed that certain parish events—like receptions for First Penance, Confirmations, St. Nick's Party, the Pie Social, and similar gatherings—didn't quite fall under any specific group or organization's care. So often, these celebrations were put together by our parish office and a few generous hands or by the Altar and Rosary Society upon request, but *without a clear team to plan and support them*. That's what this ministry is here for.

The initial team members include Ofelia Doyle, Joelen Bartolo, Hermelinda Vigil, and myself. Together, we've begun laying the foundation for how this ministry can serve the parish with warmth, hospitality, and coordination.

Just to be clear, events like our Parish Feast Day (May 24), the Parish Picnic, Spaghetti Dinner, Coffee and Donuts, and the Slovenian Heritage Dinner among others already have faithful teams who take care of them. *These remain outside the scope of the Events Ministry*. Instead, this new ministry will focus on coordinating parish receptions and celebrations that don't currently have a group assigned to them.

A heartfelt thank-you goes out to Ofelia and Art Doyle, Joelen and David Bartolo, Hermelinda, Tom and Ron, Aurora Glaze, Belinda Castro and Melissa Garcia for lovingly preparing and hosting the Confirmation Reception this past May 16. Your quiet service behind the scenes helped make the day even more special for our 14 confirmandi and their families.

If you feel drawn to be part of this ministry—maybe you enjoy organizing, decorating, welcoming others, or just lending a hand—we'd be glad to have you. Please give your name to Hermelinda at the Parish Office.

Let's continue to grow as a joyful and welcoming parish—one celebration at a time. —Fr. Joel Lasutaz, SSS

Honoring Mothers, Supporting Life: Parish Baby Drive, May 1–31

Living the Corporal Works of Mercy

This May, we're supporting mothers-to-be in our community. In partnership with **A Caring Pregnancy Center** (www.acpcpueblo.org), we're collecting new items for moms and babies in need—a simple way to live the Corporal Works of Mercy.

A pack of diapers, baby lotion, or a bottle is more than a gift—it's an act of love. As Jesus says in Matthew 25: "I was in need... and you cared for Me."

From May 1–31, please place donations of **baby supplies, larger-sized clothing (18–24 months), hygiene products for moms and babies, or items to support women during pregnancy and postpartum**—in the bins at each church entrance.

Let's remind these women they're not alone. We are with them.

Daily Readings Calendar



Scan QR code with your phone's camera to access USCCB Daily Readings Calendar.

Or visit this site:

www.bible.usccb.org/readings/calendar

May 25 — June 1, 2025

25 SN 6th SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29 / Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (4) / Rv 21:10-14, 22-23 / Jn 14:23-29

O God, let all the nations praise you!

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

The Lord takes delight in his people.

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

Your right hand saves me, O Lord.

28 W Acts 17:15; 17:22-18:1 / Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14 / Jn 16:12-15

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

29 Th Acts 18:1-8 / Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 / Jn 16:16-20

The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

30 F Acts 18:9-18 / Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 / Jn 16:20-23

God is king of all the earth.

31 S Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16 / Is 12: 2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 / Lk 1:39-56

Among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

JUNE 2025

1 SN ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Acts 1:1-11 / Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6) / Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23 / Lk 24:46-53

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Investing in Faith

Receipts: May 17-18

Loose	\$	817.00
Offertory	\$	3,551.00
Others	\$	-
Total Receipts:		\$ 4,368.00 (62%)
Church Operations Goal:		\$ 7,000.00 (100%)
Shortfall		\$ 2,632 (38%)
AMD	\$	90.00
Security fund	\$	21.00
Good Shepherd Sunday	\$	77.00

We appreciate your generosity. May God bless you abundantly.

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A Spirit-Filled Day of Confirmation at St. Mary's



It was one of those days that just felt anointed from beginning to end.

On May 16, our parish family at St. Mary Help of Christians had the joy of hosting a beautiful Confirmation Mass, where fourteen young people from our tri-parish community—St. Mary's, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, and St. Pius X—were sealed with the gift of the Holy

Spirit by our beloved bishop, Most Reverend Stephen J. Berg. Surrounded by the loving presence of their sponsors, families, friends, and parishioners, these confirmandi stepped forward with hearts open and spirits willing—ready to live more deeply in Christ and for Christ.

We extend our deepest gratitude to Fr. Don from Mt. Carmel and Fr. Patrick from St. Pius X, who faithfully accompanied and prepared the confirmandi along with their Religious Education teams. It was a moment of unity and shared mission, as they presented these young men and women to Bishop Berg during the Rite of Confirmation. We were also blessed by the presence of our deacons—Dcn. Dan, whose steady coordination made the liturgy flow so smoothly, along with Dcn. Mike of Mt. Carmel and Dcn. Roy of St. Pius X—each one bringing warmth and reverence to the altar of God.

Thank you to our altar servers from St. Mary's and Mt. Carmel who served with such quiet dignity, and to Susan from St. Pius X, whose music lifted our hearts and filled the church with grace. Our catechists and Religious Education leaders from all three parishes—your dedication to forming these young disciples has not gone unnoticed. You've planted seeds that will continue to grow in the lives of these young people for years to come.

And a special thank you to our Events Ministry team—this was their first major celebration, and they lovingly prepared a reception in the Parish Hall that radiated hospitality and joy. To our parish staff who worked behind the scenes preparing the church, and to all who served in big and small ways—you were part of something truly sacred.

Finally, with hearts full of gratitude, we thank Bishop Berg, our spiritual father in the Diocese of Pueblo, for his faithful shepherding. His presence among us was more than a visit—it was a reminder of the unity we share in the Church and the ongoing mission we carry together.

What a gift it was. May the Holy Spirit continue to guide and strengthen our newly confirmed, and may our tri-parish family keep walking together in faith, hope, and love.



Mass Intentions

May 26 — June 1, 2025

Monday, May 26, 8:00 am

+Jean Cuncio by Family

Tuesday, May 27, 8:00 am

+Mike Giarratano by John & Charlotte Cernac

Wednesday, May 28, 8:00 am

+Lucy Munoz by Family

Thursday, May 29, 8:00 am

+Matt Capritta by Freddie & Angie Torres

Friday, May 30, 8:00 am

For the Health of Angelina Castro by Mom

Saturday, May 31, 8:00 am

Conversion of Pueblo County by Donor

Anticipatory Mass: 3:00 pm

+Richard Eurich Jr. by Family

+Joe & Barbara Mohorcich by Vertovec Family

+Linda Secora by Alvin Secora

Sunday, June 1

8:00 am: FOR THE PEOPLE IN OUR PARISH

10:30 am: +”Lizzy” Brehm by Jim Bacino

+Joseph & Anna Scancarello by David & Sylvia Gavato

Donation: \$10 / Mass Intention | Mass Cards: \$1



Anniversaries

Please call our parish office and submit your name and date. Thank you!

- ◆ Isidore Sandoval—Birthday—May 23rd
- ◆ Denzel Castro Jr.—Birthday—May 25th
- ◆ Jennifer Castro—Birthday—May 26th
- ◆ Nicole Castro—Birthday—May 26th
- ◆ Phyllis Smith—Birthday—May 26th
- ◆ Gabby Gonzales—Birthday—May 29th
- ◆ Caleb Castro—Birthday—May 31st
- ◆ Eric & Lesley—Wedding Anniversary—May 19th

Parish Retreat with Fr. Gielow

Join us for a three-night parish retreat with
Fr. Richard Gielow, CM on June 9–11.

- Each evening begins with **Mass at 6:00 PM**, with the **homily given as the SPIRITUAL TALK.**
- **Morning Mass at 8:00 AM will still be celebrated as usual.**
- Please mark your calendars.

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