

St. Francis of Assisi

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



MAY 29, 2022 • 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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Rev. George-Bede Ajuruchi, SSJ
gebee78@yahoo.com

THE JOSEPHITES

Betty John - *Volunteer Secretary*

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.–12 noon

MASS SCHEDULE WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday Vigil 4:30 p.m.

Sunday 7:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.

WEEKDAY MASS

Tuesday-Friday 7:00 a.m.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

In the Rectory Chapel

Friday, 8:00a.m. to Friday 6:00 p.m.

CONFESSIONS

Tuesday through Friday 7:30–8:00 a.m.

Saturday 3:45–4:15 p.m.

Sunday 8:45–9:15 a.m.

and any time upon request.

BAPTISMS

If you are seeking information about Baptisms please contact
Mrs. Melazie Jacobs at 332-1788.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Classes September through April

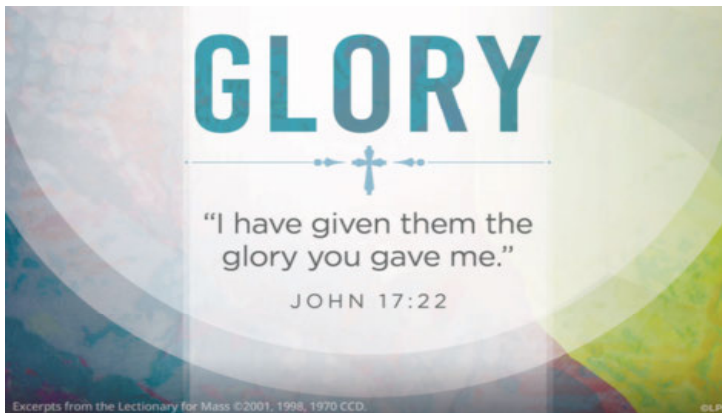
Sundays 8:00–9:00 a.m. (Grades 1–6)

Sundays 10:45–11:45 a.m. (Grades 7–11)

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May 29—Samantha Joe, Gloria Vavasseur, Jasmine Wiltz
May 30—Vincent Tomas
May 31—Micah John, Danelle Alexander, Sandi Williams, Jonathan Cormier
June 01—Samatha Matthew
June 02—Bronson Sylvester
June 03—Maudry Auguillard, Laquantin Green, Debrica Williams
June 04—Mable Williams, Ra'leigh Clay, Patrick Williams
June 05—Khristian Chiles, Maurcia M. Ledet, Haywood Lewis, Crandell Solomon. Maurice Walter

Happy Birthday

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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 Alexis Alexander
 Fannie Alexander
 Joseph M. Alexander
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 Fr. Daniel Bastianelli, SSJ
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The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults(RCIA) desires to bring the Light of the Holy Spirit to everyone we encounter, and we ask the faith filled Christians here at St. Francis of Assisi to be part of our Evangelization process. Let us embark on a journey of Light following our Lord who will give us the "Light of Life".

For more information call Cassandra Griffin at 337-257-1942 or Betty John at 337-442-1177.



WEEKLY BULLETIN

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MASS ATTENDANCE

MAY 21 **4:30 P.M.** **69**

MAY 22 **7:00 A.M.** **61**

MAY 22 **9:30 A.M.** **83**

TOTAL **213**

COLLECTION—05/22/22
\$2,928.50

WORSHIP & MEDITATION



FIRST READING

"Behold, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." (Acts 7:56)



PSALM

The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth. (Ps 97)
Or Alleluia.



SECOND READING

The one who gives this testimony says,
"Yes, I am coming soon."
Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! (Rev 22:20)



GOSPEL

That they may be brought to perfection as one, that the world may know that you sent me, and that you loved them even as you loved me. (Jn 17:23)

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GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Unity and diversity can exist together. Our western minds have a grave difficulty seeing unity without conformity. We tend to believe that unless everyone believes the same thing, assents to the same body of truths, styles, and opinions, unity is not possible. Jesus, in today's Gospel, expresses a tenderness and an intimacy that the disciples actually can witness. This same tenderness and love are also reflected in his desire for unity and oneness. Jesus passionately wants all to be one. It is very clear that the success of Jesus' mission and the advance of the Gospel rises or falls with whether this unity is achieved. And it is a unity that is achieved around a person and not particulars.

Our church is extremely divided. These divisions all center on various theologies, philosophies, structures, and styles. We allow these particular concerns and interpretations, valid as many can be, to drive wedges between us and put us at odds with each other. They enrage us and cause us to lash out at other members of the Body of Christ. Differences are bound to exist in any group. We are unique and diverse people. Staunchly clinging to particular agendas and ideologies while waving the "we're right, you're wrong" banner as we forge ahead in battle does little to advance the real mission of Christ. We are perceived as weak, fractioned, self-focused and serving, and lacking empathy and love. How can the work of salvation be accomplished like this? We sacrifice our credibility. For what?

"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end." These words describe exactly who the glorified Christ really is. Jesus wants us to see this glory! Believe this! This is the unifying principle that draws the Body of Christ together as one, not our particular preferences of worship! We give too much power to our preferences, and all too easily forget that the real mission of Christ is much more than that! If we can work at truly loving each other as members of Christ's Body despite the differences that can so quickly divide us, then maybe we'll be a bit more convincing to those who do not believe. The Risen Christ comes to us through the Eucharist. It doesn't matter where or how. Gather wherever you can and receive. We cannot substitute Jesus' passion with our own. We are one.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**Christians by Appearance.**

In a clandestine church in the Soviet Union in 1978, they were singing a song to Jesus when soldiers entered the church with guns in their hands. The meeting was immediately interrupted by the soldiers of the Soviet army; they invaded the place of the meeting with full brutality. No one knew how they had found that church as the members used to meet in that very place for a long time.

What are you doing here? Shouted the soldiers. Are you worshiping your imaginary God? The church members became scared and feared that there were probably more soldiers with weapons waiting outside to take them to prison. But what was about to happen was much worse than being put in jail.

Suddenly, the soldier in charge shouted: "All those faithful to God stand on the right side of the church because you will be executed today because of your faith. You are the ones who decide if you are going to live or die. The ones faithful to this so-called "God" will die. But those who deny Him will be free." Five minutes before this moment, all the church members were singing songs of worship to God the same way, but now it was a matter of life or death. Many stood up and went to the left, and a few courageously stood on the right while quickly saying their last prayers. Families that wanted to stay together became divided because some were on one side while others were on the other.

One of the soldiers said: "all those on the left side can leave now." They left the place without being able to look at the face of their brethren and relatives that would soon be killed. They were covered in shame. When only the people on the right remained, the soldiers placed the guns on the seats and said to them: "We are also Christians! But today, we wanted to worship God without the hypocrites. Now, let's proceed with the meeting.

An African adage says, "All lizards are lying flat on their stomach, and nobody knows which of them has a stomach ache." Today everyone claims to be Christian and looks like a Christian in appearance, especially in the church. It's becoming harder and harder to distinguish true Christians from fake ones. Are you indeed a Christian by words and actions, or are you only a Christian by words and appearance?

PRAYER FOR PRIESTS

“Eternal Father, we lift up to You these and all the priests of the world. Sanctify them. Heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to You. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen

May 29—Rev. Lambertus Lein, SVD

May 30—Rev. Seth Lemaire

May 31—Rev. Jaime Lorenzo, LC

June 01—Pope Francis

June 02—Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

June 03—Bishop J. Douglas Deshotel

June 04—Bishop Emeritus Michael Jarrell

June 05—Albert Louapre, SJ

“For every high priest taken from among men is appointed on behalf of men in things pertaining to God, in order to offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins.” (Hb. 5:1)



Baptism Requirements for St. Francis of Assisi

Parents or guardian requesting Baptism must pick up a copy of the Baptism Requirements from the office.

All information must be turned in by the week before Baptism.



What is a venial sin and what are its consequences?

“One commits venial sin when, in a less serious matter, he does not observe the standard prescribed by the moral law, or when he disobeys the moral law in a grave manner, but without full knowledge or without complete consent.

Venial sin weakens charity; it manifests a disordered affection for created goods; it impedes the soul's progress in the exercise of the virtues and the practice of the moral good; it merits temporal punishment.

Deliberate and unrepented venial sin disposes us little by little to commit mortal sin.

However venial sin does not set us in direct opposition to the will and friendship of God; it does not break the covenant with God. With God's grace it is humanly repairable” (CCC 1862-1863).

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 29, 2022

Sunday: Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/ Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23/Lk 24:46-53 *Seventh Sunday of Easter:* Acts 7:55-60/Ps 97:1-2, 6-7, 9 [1a, 9a]/Rv 22:12-14, 16-17, 20/ Jn 17:20-26

Monday: Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab/Jn 16:29-33

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

Wednesday: Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab/Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Jn 17:20-26

Friday: Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab/Jn 21:15-19

Saturday: *Morning:* Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5 and 7/Jn 21:20-25

Next Sunday: *Vigil:* Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39
Extended Vigil: Gn 11:1-9/Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b/Ez 37:1-14/Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39
Day: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Rom 8:8-17/Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 29, 2022

Sunday: 7th Sunday of Easter; The Ascension of the Lord; St. Paul VI, Pope; World Communications Day

Monday: Memorial Day

Tuesday: The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Wednesday: St. Justin, Martyr

Thursday: Sts. Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs

Friday: St. Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs

Next Sunday: Pentecost Sunday; St. Boniface, Bishop and Martyr

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

We all have our ideas of who God is. We have to remember, however, that our ideas of God often do not capture who God really is. God is a wonderful mystery whose identity is inexhaustible. This makes life an exciting journey in search of belief, love, glory, and unity. Displaying all of the tenderness of a real love story, we hear from Jesus that God wants nothing more than for the world to believe. The same depth of affection given to Jesus, God the Father desires to share with us. Receiving this love gives the believer an even greater understanding of what gives us purpose and meaning. With God's unconditional love as our anchor, we can endure the greatest of hardships knowing that we carry the hope of glory within us. Sharing in the same incredible eternal destiny and glory that God gave His Son, we can all be one just as Jesus and the Father are one. Why is understanding all of this important? Because given the myriad choices of what can possibly define us, we now have the primordial truth of who we are given to us by God. We know, beyond doubt, where to look for true happiness and where our lives will end.

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