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ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

MAY 2, 2021 | FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



FAMILIES OF PARISHES

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WATERFORD

Individuals are asked to register for this virtual event.

God relates to his people not as isolated individuals but as a people, a family, united with one another in deep bonds of love.

— UTG Marker 3.1

GATHERING ONE

*Encountering Jesus
through New Relationships*

Tuesday | May 11 | 7 - 8:30 p.m.

GATHERING TWO

*Growing Together
in Faith as a Family*

Tuesday | June 8 | 7 - 8:30 p.m.

GATHERING THREE

*Witnessing with
Support & Encouragement*

Tuesday | August 17 | 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Learn more & register at

[FOPGATHERINGS.ORG](https://fopgatherings.org)

ABOUT OUR PARISH



CONTACT US

4300 Walnut Lake Road,
West Bloomfield, MI 48323

Phone | 248-681-9424
Fax | 248-681-5543

princeofpeacecatholic.church

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Wednesday | 9:00am-
3:00pm

Thursday | 9:00 am - Noon

Friday | Closed

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday | 4:00pm

Sunday | 8:00am and 10:00am

Weekdays | Tuesday and
Wednesday 8:30am

RECONCILIATION/PENANCE

By appointment for parishioners



ONLINE GIVING

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MISSION STATEMENT

"GROWING IN GRACE, GRATITUDE, AND GIVING."

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR

Father Ron Jozwiak
248-681-9424
pastor@princeofpeacecatholic.church

ADULT EDUCATION / RCIA

Jeanne Martin
248-681-9424
adulted@princeofpeacecatholic.church

BOOKKEEPER

Deb Peltier
248-681-9424
bookkeeper@princeofpeacecatholic.church

EDUCATION OFFICE

248-681-5070
dre@princeofpeacecatholic.church

MUSICIAN / CHOIR

David Hansen
248-681-9424

PARISH SECRETARY

Amanda Brewer
248-681-9424
parishsecretary@princeofpeacecatholic.church

WORSHIP

Linda Plotkowski
248-681-9424
worship@princeofpeacecatholic.church

YOUTH MINISTRY

Veronica Weisenberger
248-681-9424
youthminister@princeofpeacecatholic.church

WEEKLY READINGS

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 2, 2021

SUNDAY 5/2

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ACTS 9:26-31/PS 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32/1 JN 3:18-24/JN 15:1-8

MONDAY 5/3

1 COR 15:1-8/PS 19:2-3, 4-5/JN 14:6-14

TUESDAY 5/4

ACTS 14:19-28/PS 145:10-11, 12-13AB, 21/JN 14:27-31A

WEDNESDAY 5/5

ACTS 15:1-6/PS 122:1-2, 3-4AB, 4CD-5/JN 15:1-8

THURSDAY 5/6

ACTS 15:7-21/PS 96:1-2A, 2B-3, 10/JN 15:9-11

FRIDAY 5/7

ACTS 15:22-31/PS 57:8-9, 10 AND 12/JN 15:12-17

SATURDAY 5/8

ACTS 16:1-10/PS 100:1B-2, 3, 5/JN 15:18-21

NEXT SUNDAY 5/9

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

ACTS 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/PS 98:1, 2-3, 3-4/1 JN 4:7-10/JN 15:9-17

Families of Parishes--- Zoom Gatherings

TUESDAY, MAY 11
7:00 - 8:30 pm
TUESDAY, JUNE 8
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Our inability to meet together to learn about our Family of Parishes due to Covid-19 Protocols, has resulted in a different format being used to communicate directly to you, our parishioners. If you have a computer or smartphone, simply register at FOPGATHERINGS.ORG and a link will be sent to you to learn about Family of Parishes and your role in this process. We hope to have an in-person event later this summer in August, if we all get vaccinated and the CDC allows large gatherings once again. It sure would be nice to get back to seeing each one another!

Please Register for this event – it's free, of course. As resources within the church continue to dwindle and the shortage of priests becomes more acute, it is vitally important that we take a proactive stance to safeguard our faith, our communities and our Family of Parishes. We are all in this together.

CSA 2021 UPDATE

So far 170 out of our 650 registered families have contributed in gifts and pledges \$70,714 towards our parish target amount of \$98,363. This is our mandatory goal from the Archdiocese and it requires the participation of all our parishioners in order to reach this goal. We recently sent an email to all members with whom we have a valid email address. Now a letter will be forthcoming from the Archdiocese itself reminding us of this opportunity

to serve the church of Detroit by providing services, ministries and programs to assist individuals, communities and parishes in this great work.

We've been fortunate the last couple of years as CSA has helped us to conduct a capital campaign for our new roof which was managed by CSA totally tax and assessment free to our parish. All monies that went for the roof, came back to us 100% because we made our CSA goal.

As always, if we do not make our goal of \$98,363, the deficit will have to come out of our normal operating budget, which is already stretched due to reductions in staff and programs due to Covid-19. If we are able to exceed our goal, all monies over our target amount will be returned 100% to our parish. Along with our patron, Blessed Solanus Casey, I thank you in advance for your generosity and commitment to the work of the Catholic Services Appeal – CSA 2021.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Six weeks ago on Palm Sunday, palm fronds were distributed to our congregation. Notice how dead and brittle they are. Any plant that is cut off from its source will eventually die and Jesus uses this analogy to help us remember that if we are not close to him, fed by him and taught by him, our hearts and souls will slowly but surely shrivel up and close down.

With the story of the vine and the branches Jesus reminds each of us that with the greatness of his heart towards us, we can be transformed into people whose hearts are pure and whose lives are filled with peace. Being close to the Lord means that we come

to know him all the more, love him more dearly and follow him more clearly. We are the people he has called his own and the more we know him, the more we can unite our hearts and souls to him. The more we love him, the more our lives will be modeled on him. And the more we are union with him, the more we will find time to serve him by helping others to come and know his great love and mercy.

Jesus does expect us to believe more deeply in him and that we must act more in union with him. But we often forget all this, don't we? When we do not listen to his word but go our own way, we make mountains of problems out of our little molehills of issues. When we do not turn to him in thanksgiving, we become more like little devils who think they can run the world better than anyone else. When we do not share his Good News with others, we contribute to the pollution of the world by our gossip, backbiting, greed and envy. When we refuse to hear his voice, we become hard-hearted and take it out on others. But when we do love him, thank him, listen to him and learn from him, our hearts become tender, our lives of service to one another become second nature and our word of thanks become more profound and abundant. God wants us to be with us. He wants us to realize that there is more to life than just what we see. He wants his heart to be one with our hearts. And when this happens, miracles happen. Peace happens. Joy appears in all parts of our lives.

REV. RON JOZWIAK
Pastor

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, MAY 1

4:00 pm Joe Cerroni
4:00 pm Jennifer Hughs

SUNDAY, MAY 2

8:00 am Cletus Nwagwu
8:00 am Therese Barbone

SUNDAY, MAY 2

10:00 am Fred & Mona Dally
10:00 am John & Felicidade Santiago

TUESDAY, MAY 4

8:30 am Charlotte Ankers
8:30 am Wadia Kachi
8:30 am Basim Esso
8:30 am Emily Yousif

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

8:30 am Bruce McClary

REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS...

Lisa Caplin Anderson
Genevieve Davey

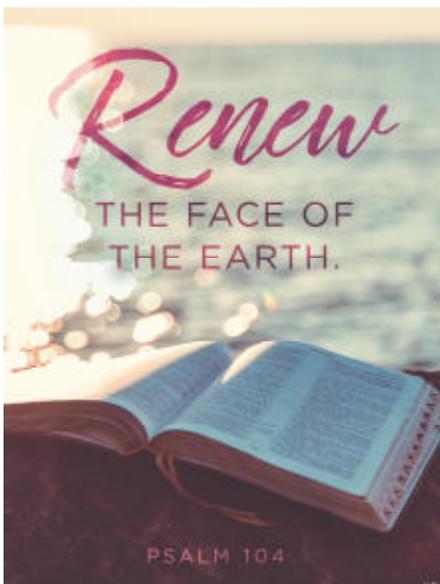


LOVING MEMORY

Our sympathy goes out to the families of...

SUZANNE REHM

JOHN SHERIDAN



GOSPEL MEDITATION

Fifth Sunday of Easter

"Spiraling out of control," is a phrase that can easily describe the current display of human existence. In addition to the violence, unrest, uneasiness and turmoil that are common elements of our daily news, other essential pieces are misplaced or missing. Many lack an objective center around which to order and structure their lives or a clear set of definable goals or mores to act as guideposts and life directives. It appears that "feelings" have become a "new god" and traditional structures and ideals set aside. It is almost as if history only shows that we got this whole thing wrong and many are determined to finally set things right. The real truth, however, is that while wrongs and errors are certainly a part of our often-checked past, it is hardly the case that all was wrong. It is not our task to rewrite the history of our lives, but to learn from mistakes that were made, and preserve the perennial wisdom at the root of our successes. Learning is an essential part of being human.

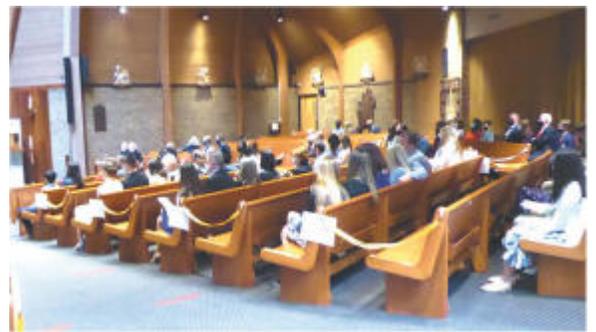
The question becomes, however, from whom do we learn? Some have such a hard time placing God in that position, but that is precisely where God needs to be. God is the Master Teacher from whom all of humanity learns and gets its cues. It is in and through

this relationship with the Gardener of Life that we are fashioned and pruned into the people we are intended to be and can be. It is only in God that we are able to find our best selves. Sadly, many think that religion too, as well as history in general, has also gotten all this wrong. Yet, our resurrection faith tells us differently. We are reminded, today especially, that we are meant to remain in Christ as Christ remains in us. We are also reminded that Jesus, the Incarnate God, is the vine upon which we grow, the branches that flow from the source of God's life.

Giving up our will to God's can be a painful endeavor. It is not easy to set our own desires and wants aside and allow God to step in and direct and guide our growth. But this is the only way to prevent deadly weeds from overtaking us and bringing us to a place of self-destruction. God's commandments are the very guideposts and benchmarks we need, yet many seek to remove them from all public view because they appear to limit self-expression and suppress what is considered by many to be "human freedom." They are the only way we can find freedom, however. And, until we learn this fundamental lesson, we will continue to spiral out of control, never really knowing who we are, what our potential can be or how life really can be lived. We will not know peace.

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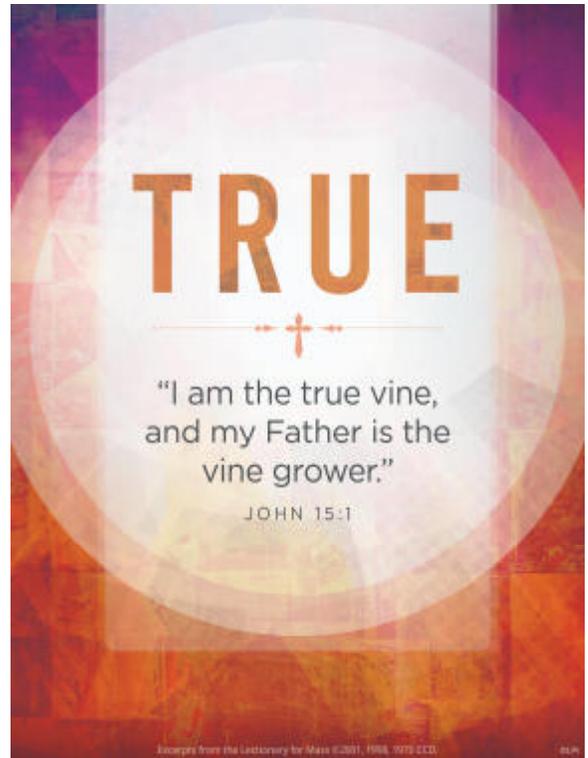
Confirmation CELEBRATION



LIVE THE LITURGY

Anyone familiar with gardening knows that proper and timely pruning is essential. The health of the plant depends upon it. An unpruned tree can quickly produce suckers that zap many of the essential nutrients from its body. Pruning requires patience and vision. Studies reveal that plants often respond defensively to being pruned, displaying reactions that are similar to hurt or discomfort. Pruning is not easy but necessary. A hard lesson for us to learn is that we also need to be pruned. We become far healthier when we allow God to stretch, refine, and form us into the best version of ourselves. The fruit that then comes from our vines will be more abundant, nutritious, and robust. Left to our own devices we can easily find ourselves running amuck and spiraling out of control. Without a proper vision and trust in the Master Pruner, we will never find the contentment we desperately desire. Nor will the work of the Gospel stand a chance of succeeding.

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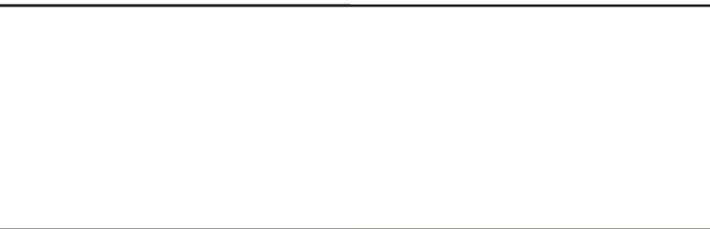
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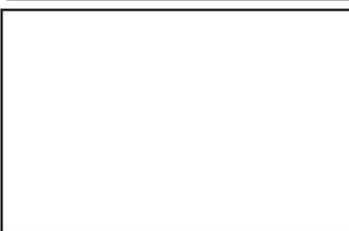
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