

# ST. CHRISTOPHER CATHOLIC CHURCH

*May 9, 2021, 6th Sunday of Easter*

# LOVE



“Love one another.”

JOHN 15:17



St. Christopher

MASS SCHEDULE

## WEEKEND MASS

SUNDAY

8:00 am

11:00 am

5:30 pm

## WEEKDAY MASS

MONDAY, TUESDAY

9:00 am

THURSDAY

12:00 pm

FRIDAY

9:00 am

## CONFESSIONS

SUNDAY

4:00 pm - 5:00pm

or by appointment

## ADORATION

Third Thursday of

Every Month at

7:00 pm

1000 MICHIGAN AVE, MARYSVILLE, MI 810-364-4100  
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**Pope Francis' Mission Statement: To Become a Band of Joyful Missionary Disciples.**

**Archdiocese of Detroit's Mission Statement: To Unleash the Gospel.**

**Saint Christopher's Parish Mission Statement: Transform Lives in Jesus Christ Through the Power and Freedom of the Gospel.**

**Parish Vision Statement: Foster a Personal Encounter with Jesus.**

**Pastor's Ponderings.** Greetings and the Father's Blessing be upon you, my dear spiritual children. Last week our "Blue Water Vicariate Family 3 (North)" Family was on our clergy retreat along with most other clergy in the Northeast Region of the Archdiocese who are in Wave 1 for the transition to Family of Parishes. Our time spent together consisted of seven informational sessions, a Mass and a Holy Hour along with Midday and Evening Prayer. I don't think that I would call this a "retreat" that I come back from feeling refreshed and reenergized, I would more likely call this a mandatory restructuring roll-out conference, but the Archdiocese likes to use the word "retreat" – "go figure," as they say. In any case, you may be wondering "How did it go?" Well, to say the least, there was a lot of information, and I will need much more time to process those two days spent together.

**Families of Parishes Family Gatherings.** Monday, May 10 is our second Family of Parishes Family Gathering at 6:00 PM via the Zoom platform for our "Blue Water Vicariate (North) Family 3" Family. Recently, we had a change in missionary, from Wade Richards to Mary Ann Hannigan. Mary Ann says, "The 2nd Family Gathering for your family [is] on Monday, May 10 at 6 PM. I will be facilitating that meeting and the theme for the evening is "Grow". At the last meeting, the group learned more about your parishes and in this meeting, we would like them to learn a little bit more about you. So, I will be calling on each of you individually to say hello to the group and then say something about yourself. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> Family Gathering there will also be two "testimony" videos followed by breakout sessions where those attending will get a chance to talk about the potential benefits of being part of a family and how being in a family may affect their faith life. Please continue to encourage people to register to attend if they haven't already done so. In addition, Wade has volunteered to host a "watch party" in the social hall at St Mary in Port Huron. He will follow all social distancing rules including masks and 6-foot distancing. He will have a large screen set up and will sign in for the group. Please promote the "watch party" to your parishioners so those that may not be an expert on the technical end can participate."

**Reminder:** Family Gathering #3 in person (hopefully) as circumstances suggest, or via Zoom is on June 21, 2021 at 6:00 PM ("Witness"). Please register with an email address so that an invitation can be sent to you for joining the Zoom meeting; or look for announcements for watch parties that may be occurring. To register to receive an invitation, go to [www.familiesofparishes.org](http://www.familiesofparishes.org).

**Catechism of the Catholic Church Preface for this Weekend's Readings to Ponder.** "Charity is the soul of the holiness to which all are called: it 'governs, shapes, and perfects all the means of sanctification.' 'If the Church was a body composed of different members, it couldn't lack the noblest of all; *it must have a Heart, and a Heart BURNING WITH LOVE.* And I realized that this love alone was the true motive force which enables the other members of the Church to act; if it ceased to function, the Apostles would forget to preach the gospel, the Martyrs would refuse to shed their blood. LOVE, IN FACT, IS THE VOCATION WHICH INCLUDES ALL OTHERS; IT'S A UNIVERSE OF IT'S OWN, COMPRISING ALL TIME AND SPACE – IT'S ETERNAL' (Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraph 826)!

Happy Mother's Day!

Fr. James

HAPPY  
Mother's Day



May 9, 2021

# WEEKLY PRAYER

## This Week

Sunday, May 9

8:00 am Mass- SCCRL Rose  
 Donations  
 9:30 am Last day of RE  
 11:00 am Mass- SCCRL Rose  
 Donations  
 11:00 am Children's Church/  
 Babysitting  
 4:00 pm Confessions  
 5:30 pm Mass- SCCRL Rose  
 Donations

Monday, May 10

9:00 am Mass  
 †Betty Nelson  
 by Bill & Dee Brush

Tuesday, May 11

9:00 am Mass  
 †Paul Saunders  
 5:30 pm Youth Choir Practice

Wednesday, May 12

4:30 pm Small Church Community 3  
 7:00 pm Small Church Community  
 12&16

Thursday, May 13

12:00 pm Mass  
 †Rosalia Schulte  
 by Betty Ann Trumble  
 5:00 pm Adult Choir Practice

Friday, May 14

9:00 am Mass  
 †Gerald Huber  
 by Karen & Mike Gamalski

Saturday, May 15

Sunday, May 13

8:00 am Mass  
 11:00 am Mass  
 11:00 am Children's Church/  
 Babysitting  
 4:00 pm Confessions  
 5:30 pm Mass

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 9, 2021

- SUN 5/09** 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
- MON 5/10** Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 15:26—16:4a
- TUE 5/11** Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [7c]/Jn 16:5-11
- WED 5/12** Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15
- THR 5/13** Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [cf. 2b]/Jn 16:16-20 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
- FRI 5/14** Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [8]/Jn 15:9-17
- SAT 5/15** Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-10, 10 [8a]/Jn 16:23b-28
- SUN 5/16** 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  
 Seventh Sunday of Easter: Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20 [19a]/1 Jn 4:11-16/Jn 17:11b-19



Congratulations to our **FIRST COMMUNICANTS**



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 Elizabeth Bolton  
 Linda Bowman

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 Christine Cairns  
 William Cairns  
 Marilyn Cruickshank  
 Mary Deising  
 Steven DeMeulenaere  
 Denise Gawronski  
 James Giachino  
 Karen Goodmen  
 Sharon Goulet  
 Martine Harrison

Nancy Hubbard  
 Linda King  
 Sondra Kota  
 Alan Langolf  
 Barbara Letzgus  
 Edward Letzgus  
 Kim McConnell Kalvert  
 Mark Meier  
 Iris Miguel  
 Mike Murphy  
 Natalie Lech Parent

Greg Porrett  
 Chuck Roehl  
 Dorothy Shafran  
 Michael J. Ward  
 Robert Wawrzyniak



# TIMOTHY

OFFICE

*“Don’t let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity.”*  
1 Timothy 4:12

## *Our Mothers*

*“From Mary we learn to surrender to God’s Will in all things. From Mary we learn to trust even when all hope seems gone. From Mary we learn to love Christ her Son and the Son of God!”*

~Saint John Paul II

Today we celebrate mothers and, for many, today can evoke a wide range of emotions! One thing that we all have in common is that each of us have entered this world through our mother. She is the one who carried and nourished us in her body until we were ready to be born. However, it is after our birth that the path begins to diverge because each of us have our own unique life experiences. Some of us were raised by the woman who gave us birth while others were raised by their adoptive mother. Some of us were able to be raised by our mother into adulthood while others lost our mother at a younger age. Many of us are blessed to have other women such as grandmothers, aunts, neighbors, and friends who provide maternal nurturing and help guide us, while others have never had a loving maternal figure here on earth. Mother’s Day can evoke a wide range of emotions, both positive and negative, because there is such a wide range of experiences surrounding our mothers.

Yet God, in His infinite wisdom, knows the importance of a mother’s influence so He gave us all a perfect mother to share, our Blessed Mother Mary. No matter what our relationship is with our earthly mother we can have a beautiful relationship with Mary, for she is always there just waiting for us to turn to her. In the quote that begins this article, Saint John Paul II highlights a few ways that we can learn from Mary and her example. She has so much that she wants to teach us as she continually carries us to her son Jesus, but we have to open our eyes, our ears, and our hearts so that we can learn.

Take a moment and think about your mother or a mother figure in your life. How did you learn the lessons she wanted to teach you? By watching and emulating her behavior. How did you know which direction to go in life? By listening to her words of guidance. How did you grow close to her through the years? By spending time with her. All of this is true when it comes to your relationship with Mother Mary. Spending time with her, listening, and getting to know her on a deeper level is what can make the relationship between you grow, yet many of us struggle with knowing what exactly we can *do* to grow closer to her. Here are but just a few suggestions:

-  Read books and articles about her including ones that describe both the well-known Marian apparitions such as Our Lady of Lourdes and the less known such as Our Lady of Good Help which is when Mary appeared in Wisconsin to a woman named Adele Brise. Go here to read more about it. <https://championshrine.org/the-story/>
-  Make a total consecration to Mary. I used the book, “33 Days to Morning Glory” by Father Michael Gaitley to guide me as I made my consecration to our Blessed Mother, but there are other books available, based on the teachings of Saint Louis de Montfort, that can help you.
-  Pray the rosary. The importance of this devotion can not be stressed enough. Spending that quiet time with Mary, meditating on the mysteries of her Son’s life and asking for her prayers is time that is never wasted.

Perhaps you are blessed enough to gather today with the mothers and grandmothers in your life. If so, take the time to ask the questions and listen to the stories as they share their wisdom with you. Today you may have only the memories of the mothers in your life and if that is so, I encourage you to sit with those memories for a bit and reflect on how those women impacted you. Finally, I hope that, above all else, you will make it a priority to spend time with the ultimate Mother.... our Blessed Mary. When Jesus was dying on the cross *“...he saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, “Woman, here is your son,” and to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” From that time on, this disciple took her into his home (John 19:26-27.)* May you follow Jesus’ instructions and take Mary into both your home and heart.

Happy Mother’s Day!  
Kristi Socha



May 9, 2021

# #TimothyTeens

## Our Blessed Mother

I remember someone telling me once that **praying a Hail Mary was like giving Mother Mary the gift of a single flower, but praying a rosary was like giving her a beautiful bouquet.**

For years I have admired the love and devotion some have to Our Blessed Virgin Mary. I see them praying their rosaries and practicing other Marian devotions and consecrations. I longed to grow closer to her, but **I wasn't quite sure how to approach developing a relationship with a saint.**

Several years ago, God made it clear to me that during Lent He wanted me to pray a rosary every day. This was drudgery to hear. I saw the rosary as a long, monotonous prayer that simply repeated the same words over and over. Whereas I wanted a connection with Mother Mary, I wasn't sure I wanted to put in the time and effort to make it happen. Needless to say, **I have learned to obey what God asks of me, so I did it.**

The first week was tough. It was kind of like showing up to exercise once you've been away for a while. I did it faithfully, but not cheerfully. About 10 days into Lent, though, something started to change. I began to anticipate praying my daily rosary with more purpose. I found it to be a set-apart sacred time in my day where I could focus on the life of Christ in each of the mysteries. I could offer prayer for those in my life who needed it most. I could join Mary in her perpetual prayer to her Son and become part of

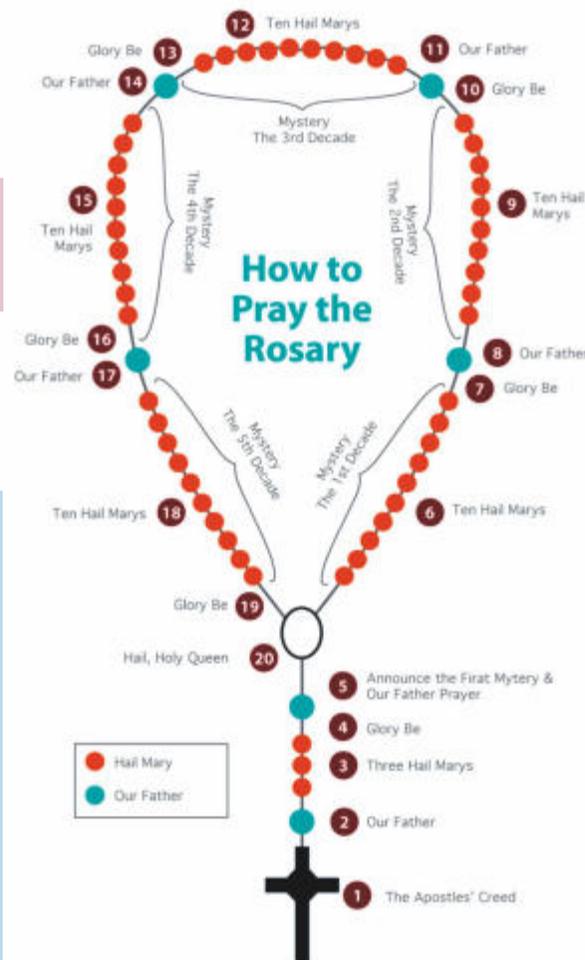
something bigger and much more powerful than myself.

By the half-way point of Lent that year, **I experienced a simple joy** when praying with Mother Mary. The problems in my life didn't seem so big when compared to all that Jesus endured for my sake. **My gratitude began to grow.** I could even tell that seeds of **patience, kindness and gentleness** extended into other areas of my life. **What started out as reluctant obedience to God was blessing my life in ways far greater than I had imagined.**

Here we are several years later, and I still pray my rosary. I feel much more connected with Mama Mary and find myself asking for her intercession throughout my day. At times, I feel her gentle nudging to pause and pray or redirect my tasks to be more loving toward others. As a mother herself, I know she can relate to the challenges and joys I experience. Yet, as our perfect Mother, she will always lead me to her Son Jesus Christ. That is what I need most.

**Might I encourage you to begin or continue praying your rosary? What a fitting Mother's Day gift to Mother Mary from you.**

Happy Mother's Day!  
Suzy DeVeny



From the first hour to the last, Jesus' life is enfolded in the nearness of his Mother.

-Romano Guardini

### CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

May 18, 6:30-8:30pm is our next in-person session. Candidates and at least one parent need to attend. Sponsors are welcome to attend. Please contact the Timothy Office 810-364-4100 ext 204 with any questions.

### Join Us FOR QUEST!

May 22-23 – Youth Ministry & Senior Getaway Retreat. This retreat is for all in Youth Council, A-team & graduating Seniors. Permission slip necessary.

Jun 25-27 – Steubenville Conference – for grades 8-12. Contact Suzy by May 2 if you want to attend. Details meeting for parents & teens who are signed up to attend is Sunday, June 13 @ 12:30-1:15pm in Room 7.



## Sacred Music Ministry

Today is the 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter! The time of joyful celebration seems to fly by faster even more than the penitential season of Lent! This month of May is not only full of Sunday Solemnities (The Ascension, Pentecost, The Holy Trinity) but is also the month dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, and our mother, too. During the crowning of the statue of Mary today, we will sing the popular hymn *Immaculate Mary*. The tune is a traditional Pyrenees tune, and the lyrics were first written in 1873 by Fr. Jean Gagnet, for pilgrims at Lourdes. Because of its connection with the pilgrimage site of Lourdes it is often referred to as the Lourdes hymn.

This is probably the most well-known Marian hymn sung in honor of Our Lady. However, there are literally thousands of hymns written to Our Lady. One source estimates more than 15,000! And an internet search revealed that more than 4,000 versions of the *Ave Maria* alone have been written!

While May is dedicated in a special way to Mary, and there are several Feasts and Solemnities throughout the year in her honor, in fact every day of the year is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Each of these feasts or memorials can be found on the Marian Calendar, which was first published in the mid-1600s. You can find the Marian calendar online here: (scroll down to see each month): <https://www.roman-catholic-saints.com/marian-calendar.html>. This is a great resource, as there is an explanation given of each feast and title of Our Lady, as well as many different images connected with each feast. And as so well stated on this site:



This compilation of diverse accounts provide abundant proof that Mary, the Mother of God, has indeed claimed the hearts of Christians from the earliest centuries down to the present day. They are also evidence that Catholics have long believed in the value of the Blessed Mother's influence and mediation on the behalf of her children before the throne of God.

May Our Blessed Mother intercede for us today, and every day.

Ave Maria, and Happy Mother's Day!

*Deidre Collins,*

Director of Sacred Music

### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

MK1 EJ Anglebrandt, U.S.C.G.  
Major Clayton Cruickshank, U.S.A.F.  
Lt. Mark Cruickshank, U.S.A.F.  
CPL Nicolas Deland, U.S. Marines  
A1C Marshall Eckert, U.S.A.F.  
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Capt Taque Patino, U.S.A.F.  
CPT Lt Eric Reder, U.S. Army  
C4 Jacob Redlawski, U.S.A.F.  
LCpl John Russ, U.S. Marines  
Sgt Curtis Senyk, U.S. Marines  
CPL Randy Washburn, U.S. Marines

*In Our Thoughts*

*The members of St  
Christopher's extend their  
prayers and sympathy to the  
family and friends of  
Charles Peyerk*

May 9, 2021

Weekend Liturgy for May 16, 2021			
Day / Time	Sunday 8:00 am	Sunday 11:00 am	Sunday 5:30 pm
Mass Intentions	†Constance Bradbury By Tina & Bob Miller †Richard Pawloski †Edward Pawloski By Lenny & Mary Brown †Paul Saunders	†Pete Garijo by his family †Betty Nelson by Dee & Bill Brush †Dorothy Andrews by Marian & Ronald Godlewski	Parishioners & Territorial Souls of St. Christopher
Celebrant	Rev. James F. Arwady	Rev. James F. Arwady	Rev. James F. Arwady
Lector	Joe Pavlov Mark Schwehofer	Traci Rumsey Christine Sass	John Gomola Justin Bonney
Hospitality Ministers	Selina Schwehofer Jacque Schwehofer	Barbara Przbyski Gary Armstrong	Lorraine Frendt
EMHC *Mass Sacristan	Julia Szczygiel Sarah Voight Marilynn Pavlov*	Irene Huber Monica Meyers Cami Armstrong*	Matt King Sherry Kobe Kristin Tunich
Altar Server	Vincent Schwehofer Lucas Spresser Graysen Stadler	Leah Ureel Kelsey Ureel Nick Hong	Kyle Tunich Conner Wattle



**April 25, 2021**  
 Loose .....\$ 516.35  
 Envelopes .....\$ 6,435.00  
 Online.....\$ 485.00  
**Total Collection \$ 7,436.35**  
**Parishioner Summary**  
 Registered Families.....705  
 Envelopes Received.....131  
 Contributing Families.....19%

**CSA 2020 Goal \$58,354**  
 Total Pledges..\$114,683.95  
**Contributions Received**  
 \$114,571.45  
 Families Supporting CSA - 179  
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**SECOND GATHERING**  
**Growing in Faith**  
**Together as a Family**  
**May 10, 6 - 8pm via ZOOM**

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Dear St. Christopher Parish,

Hello parish family, my name is Benjamin Ries, and I am a fellow parishioner at St. Christopher's Parish. I attend school at Franciscan University of Steubenville and am blessed with the opportunity to serve with the Apostolate for Family Consecration (AFC) on their Alumni Corps summer missionary program widely known as Catholic Family Land.

The AFC is a nonprofit Catholic organization whose mission is to bring families to Jesus Christ through Mary and in union with St. Joseph. The AFC dedicates its mission to helping families imitate the Holy Family through events on the campgrounds of Catholic Family Land.

Each member of the Alumni Corps is asked to raise \$5,000 for the Youth Program, which provides housing, resources, and food for us missionaries over the summer. As members of my home parish, I am reaching out to you hoping you'd be able to share in this mission. Would you be willing to help me on this journey with prayers and financial support?

If yes, I invite you to send a check to me at the address below, made out to Apostolate for Family Consecration, with my name "**Benjamin Ries – Youth Program**" in the memo, or you can donate on my branch of our fundraising page at

<https://rootfunding.com/campaigns/ben-ries-afc-youth-program-2021>

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**Greg Badley**  
Parish Member



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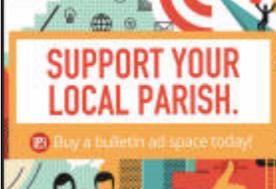
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