

# 5th Sunday of Easter

It's been nearly a month since Easter Sunday, but there's a reason that we celebrate this event for so long. The Resurrection changes everything. A whole new world has been opened up to us. No wonder God says, "Behold, I make all things new" in the vision from Revelation that we hear today. As we celebrate this liturgy today, let us thank and praise God for all the ways in which our lives have been made new.

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Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 14:21-27; Psalm 145; Revelation 21:1-5; John 13:31-35

### Theme: "Love one another"

People who have suffered the loss of personal possessions, in a fire for example, say the greatest

losses are photos of those who have touched and continue to touch the heart in love.

Today's readings affirm this human sentiment. We must make God present in as many ways as possible.

The first reading from Acts of the Apostles describes the preaching of Paul and Barnabas. The most obvious sign, of course, is the preaching itself, that opens the door of faith to the Gentiles.

The gospel focuses on Jesus' departure, an absence that will severely test his beloved disciples. The Lord, aware of the human heart, gives the formula for a continuing experience of his presence: Love one another. Wherever self-giving love is found, people will recognize Disciples of Christ, and Christ himself!

Mother Teresa recognized that, the biggest disease today is not leprosy, cancer or tuberculosis, but the feeling of being unloved or unwanted. There is more hunger in the world for love and appreciation than for bread. If you judge people you have no time to love them. If you love until it hurts, there can be no more hurt, only more love.

When we die and appear before the judgment throne, God will NOT ask, how many good things have you done in your life? Rather he will ask, how much LOVE did you put into what you did? What we need in the world is to Love without getting tired. Good works are links that form a chain of love.

The love of God and neighbor are the essential ingredients of our Christian religion, our relationship with God in Christ. In fact, Christianity cannot be practiced otherwise.

Our relationship with God has a vertical and also horizontal dimension: the love of God with all our soul and with all our strength (as in Dt 6:4), and the love of our neighbor as ourselves (as we also see in the book of Leviticus 19:18). He says in John 15:13 that there is no greater love than for a man to lay down his life for his friends. And in John 13:35 he says that it is by the Practice of such love that men and women will know that we are his disciples.

You cannot claim to love God while neglecting to love your neighbor, or to care for them when they are in need. You can also not have the love of neighbor without the love of God. Without the love of neighbor, the love of God remains a barren emotion. And without the love of God, love of neighbor is only a refined form of self-love.

Beloved, Christian love, however, is **sacrificial love.** It hurts. The most powerful expression of Christian love is the cross of Calvary.

Let us eschew the hypocrisy of claiming to love God while ignoring our neighbor whom we see. We must not forget that the love of God is best seem in our relationship with our neighbor. Your love for God reflects the love you have for your neighbor.

There is only one way to recognize a disciple of Christ – **Love**. There is only one thing that can glorify God – **Love**. There is only one thing that can reveal God – **love**. The "Christian" is not title, but a way of life. Love is the trade mark of a disciple of Christ. Love seeks to makes us active in the service of God and others. Love overcomes hatred and seeks to make everyone happy. May you sow the seed of Love daily. Shalom!

### Motivation for week

Some time ago, a man punished his 3-year-old daughter for wasting a roll of gold wrapping paper. Money was tight and he became infuriated when the child tried to decorate a box to put under the Christmas tree.

Nevertheless, the little girl brought the gift to her father the next morning and said, "This is for you, Daddy."

The man became embarrassed by his overreaction earlier, but his rage continues when he saw that the box was empty. He yelled at her; "Don't you know, when you give someone a present, there is supposed to be something inside?"

The little girl looked up at him with tears in her eyes and cried;

"Oh, Daddy, it's not empty at all. I blew kisses into the box. They're all for you, Daddy."

The father was crushed. He put his arms around his little girl, and he begged for her forgiveness.

Only a short time later, an accident took the life of the child.

Her father kept the gold box by his bed for many years and, whenever he was discouraged, he would take out an imaginary kiss and remember the love of the child who had put it there.



### Moral of the story:

Love is the most precious gift in the world.



## HONORING THE VIRGIN MARY IN MAY

Besides the traditional month of October, the Catholic Church has dedicated the month of May in honor of Blessed Virgin Mary.

In his 1965 encyclical,

"Mense Maio," Pope Paul VI wrote about the importance of Mary's intercession for all the world, explaining that those who encounter her, encounter her Son, Jesus: "For what other reason do we continually turn to Mary except to seek the Christ in her arms, to seek our Savior in her, through her, and with her? To Him men are to turn amid the anxieties and perils of this world, urged on by duty and driven by the compelling needs of their heart, to find a haven of salvation, a transcendent fountain of life."

Pope Paul VI went on to write, the month of **May** is the month Christians offer the Virgin Mother more "fervent and loving acts of homage and veneration; and it is the month in which a greater abundance of God's merciful gifts comes down to us from our Mother's throne."

During the month of May, we honor her motherly and queenly majesty from every corner of the earth. Let us all seek her motherly intercession.

## All Kids do it

Whenever your kids are out of control, you can take comfort from the thought that even God's omnipotence did not extend to God's kids.

After Creating heaven and earth, God created Adam and Eve. And the First thing he said was: "Don't".



"Don't what?" Adam replied.

"Don't eat the forbidden fruit," God said.

"Forbidden fruit? We got forbidden fruit? Hey, Eve... we got forbidden fruit!" "No way!"

"Yes, way!" "Don't eat that fruit!" said God. "Why?"

"Because I am your Father and I said so!" said God (wondering why he hadn't stopped after making the elephants).

A few minutes later God saw his kids having an apple break and was angry. "Didn't I tell you not to eat the fruit?" God asked

"Uh huh," Adam replied.

"Then why did you?"

"I dunno" Eve answered.

"She started it!" Adam said.

"Did not!"

"Did too!"

"DID NOT!!"

Having had it with the two of them, God's punishment was that Adam and Eve should have children of their own, Thus the pattern was set and it has never changed.

Conclusion on pg. 7.....

But there is *reassurance* in this story: If you have persistently and lovingly tried to give them wisdom and they haven't taken it, don't be hard on yourself. If God had trouble handling children, what makes you think it should be a piece of cake for you?

Advice for the day: If you have a lot of tension and you get a headache, do what it says on the aspirin bottle: Take two and keep away from the children.

Congratulations St. Mary's Graduating Seniors

# Kelcie Gaines & Brady Lorimor



The Future awaits you!! Good Luck!

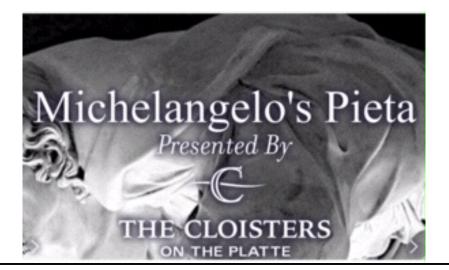
# A New Commandment

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34 The puzzle is based on John 13:31-35 (NIV).





COMMAND	KNOW	DISCIPLES	ANOTHER	GLORIFY
TOLD	JESUS	CHILDREN	JEWS	LITTLE
LOOK	LONGER	MEN	LOVE	GIVE



For a limited time, beginning May 20, 2019 and running through mid-September, The Cloisters on the Platte will host a reproduction of Michelangelo's Pieta masterpiece at our retreat facility in Gretna, NE.

### About Michelangelo's Pieta

Five hundred years ago, Michelangelo unveiled what would come to be regarded as one of the world's greatest masterpieces of inspired art. Perhaps the most beautiful sculpture ever created, the Pieta is the only piece of art Michelangelo ever signed. He considered it to be the consummate expression of both his personal talent and the Divine inspiration he believed to be the guiding hand behind the work. A few identical, marble reproductions of the original Pieta in Rome have been created.

Anyone who is interested, please contact Angie Sheldon, Carolyn Maher or Teresa Jamison to get your name on the list, and they will contact you when the date is set and the details.

We WILL take a collection today for our appreciation to The First Baptist Church and The Sidney elementary School. They were very welcoming and accommodating!! Let's send them our Thanks and a monetary donation!

# Prayer for the Grace of our Country

Dear Father united to Jesus in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Sacrifice of Calvary sacramental made present, celebrated around the world, in the Holy Spirit. We offer up all we do united to the Mass. We unite in one mind and one heart as members of the mystical



body of Christ, with Christ our head in the pure and holy Hearts of Jesus and Mary, through the powerful intercession of Mary with all the angels and saints and souls in purgatory, and we beg for the saving grace, for our country, the United States. Please help us. We further pray for unity always do the will of God in love. We spend the Blood of Jesus on the leaders and people of the United States and cast the devil into hell. We consecrate our country to the Sacred Heart and Immaculate Heart and all our dioceses, and beg for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit. God help us. We pray for our families, the priests, the Church and the world. In the Name of Jesus please hear us, we pray. We pray for our president and leaders. We pray that we are united as one nation under God to work together in love as God wants.



### Readings for the Week of May 19, 2019

**Sunday:** Acts 14:21-27/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 1]/ Rv 21:1-5a/Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35 **Monday:** Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16 [1ab]/Jn 14:21-26

**Tuesday:** Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12]Jn 14:27-31a **Wednesday:** Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8 **Thursday:** Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10 [3]/Jn 15:9-11 **Friday:** Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/Jn 15:12-17 **Saturday:** Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5 [2a]/Jn 15:18-21 **Next Sunday:** Acts 15:1-2, 22-29/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [4]/Rv 21:10-14, 22-23/Jn 14:23-29

# ST. MARYS HAPPENINGS

#### PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

CHRIS HINES JOSH SIMMONS JACOB ANDERSON JUSTIN PHILLIPS DERRICK HUBARD STEVEN ANDERSON COLBY MCGINLEY

Your Contributions May 12, 2019

Plate—\$111.00 Tithes—\$1699.38

Thank You!!



5-19--Tom Lockhart
5-20--Judy Clark
5-21--Joe Travis
5-21--Emily Magel
5-24--Rochelle Wood
5-27--Henry Martin
6-1—Colby McGinley
6-5—Lori Goodman



5-23-Shane and Connie Smith

5-28-Robert and Mary Burkhiser

6-2-Bill & Andrea Clark



Greg Andersen Grady Secht Reese Kemp James Dowling LeRoy Herscheid Noah Howe Mary Lou Miller Dottie Dankof Isacc Durr Robert & Nancy Dalton Todd Quick Harold & Verona Mitchell Joel Loggins Kenneth Russell Bill Long Henry Johnsen Lawrence DuBois Angie Witter-Childers Pat Sheldon Joe Kirk Tim Konecny Esther McCowan Jeff Guiane Shawn Collins Drake Travis Martha Gude Gloria Green **Diane Cunningham** Alan Briggs All who are feeling the effects of the flood

2019	5th Sui Eas	y 19 nday of ster 30	May 26 6th Sunday of Easter 8:30	June 2 7th Sunday of Easter 8:30	June 9 PENTECOST 8:30		June 16 The Most Holy Trinity 8:30
Greeters and Ushers	l '	& Kim avis	Angie Sheldon Kathy Moody	Vince & Susan Hilton	Joe & Robbi Travis		Rich & Linda Dewhirst
Eucharist Ministers	Denny & Joella Travis		Bill Green Dan Goodman	Joe & Robbi Travis	Annie Wakefield Vince Hilton		Anne Hendrickson Denny Travis
Servers	Amelia Moody Joseph Roberts		Keely Mount Emily Hutt	Ryan Roberts Garett Phillips	Avery Dowling Maddy Duncan		Jed Whitehead Maddy Duncan
Lector	Kathleen Lorimor		Linda Dewhirst	Teresa Jamison	Michael Gallagher		Mark Gude
Mass Setup	Joe		Rosie	Rosie	Joe		Rosie
Cantor	Children's Choir/Cara		Beth	Kim	Kate		
Accompanist	Emily	/Kate	Nancy	Donna	Donna		
Coffee and Donuts	Ν	/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A
PASTOR		Pastoral Assistant		BOOKKEEPER		DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION	
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