

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

FAITH · FAMILY · FRIENDSHIP

April 27, 2025 ♦ Second Sunday of Easter

MISSION STATEMENT:

We are called together in fellowship to witness to our Catholic faith through prayer and the celebration of the sacraments. We give testimony to Jesus Christ by reaching out with compassion to others.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

P.O. Box 201 · 18380 Columbus St
Dayton, MN 55327
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PARISH STAFF:

Pastor:

Fr. John Powers
powersj@archspm.org

Business Manager:

Patti Fodstad-Bouley

Director of Faith Formation and
Safe Environment Coordinator:

Sarah Moylan
sarah.sjbchurch@gmail.com

Music Director:

Sharon Williams

Cemetery Manager:

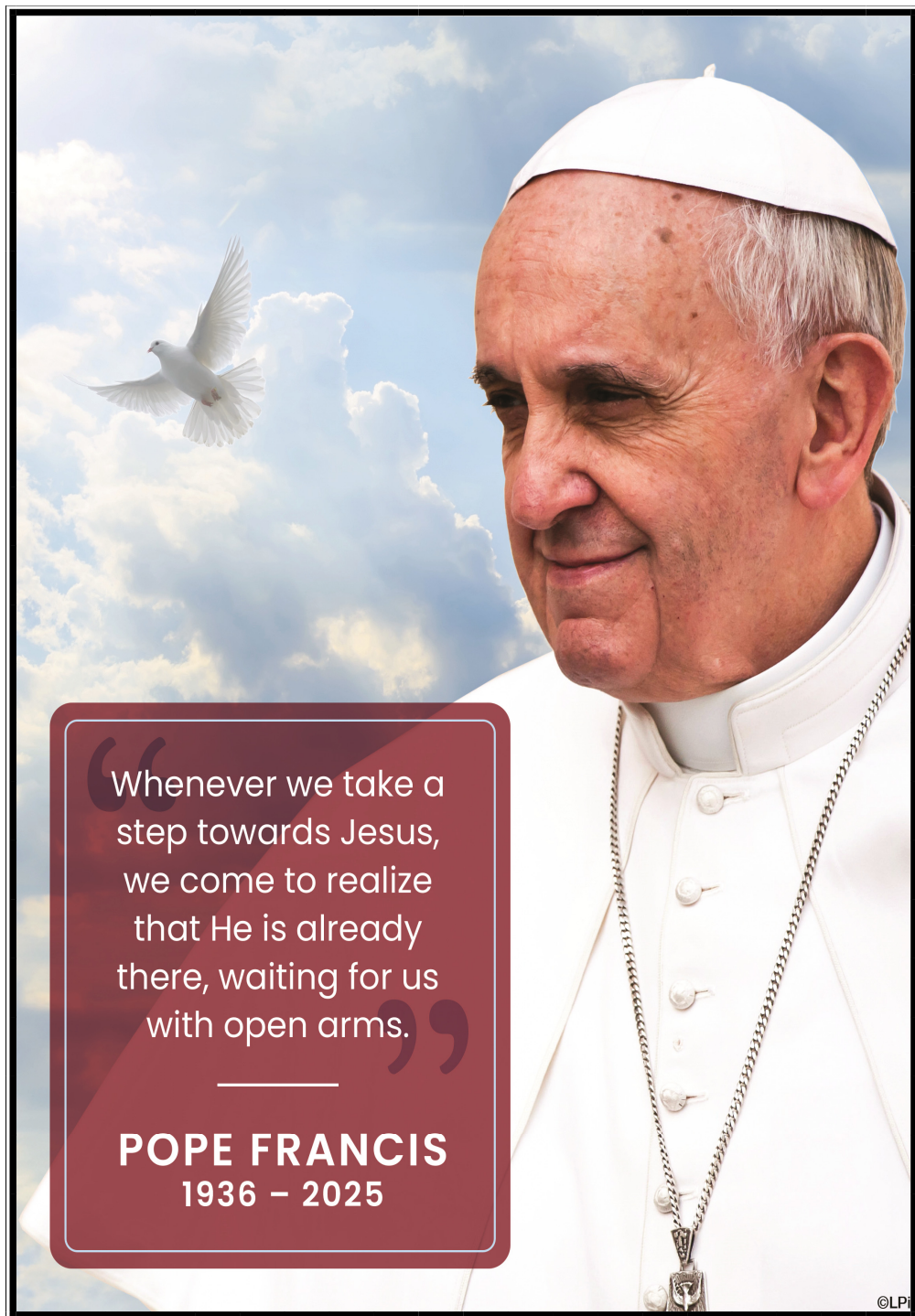
Steve Bebeau

TRUSTEES:

Lynn Eggert Russ Ray

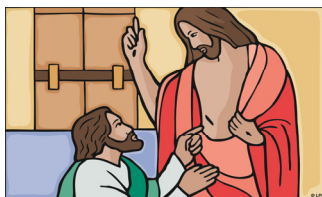
PARISH COUNCIL:

Adam Benney	Clark Grotte
Barb Carnes	Angie Haggerty
Lisa Crosby	Jim Penick
Cindy Gibbs	Jake Reining
Stacy Glass	



“Whenever we take a
step towards Jesus,
we come to realize
that He is already
there, waiting for us
with open arms.”

POPE FRANCIS
1936 – 2025



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Acts 5:12-16/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 (1)/Rv 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19/Jn 20:19-31
 Monday: Acts 4:23-31/Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9/Jn 3:1-8
 Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Jn 3:7b-15
 Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 3:16-21
 Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20/Jn 3:31-36
 Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Jn 6:1-15
 Saturday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Jn 14:6-14
 Next Sunday: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 (2a)/Rv 5:11-14/Jn 21:1-19 or 21:1-14



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The apostles perform many signs and wonders among the people. Many are added to their numbers (Acts 5:12-16).

Psalm — Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting (Psalm 118).

Second Reading — John, caught up in the spirit, envisions the glorified Lord, the first and the last, the one who lives (Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19).

Gospel — The risen Christ comes to his disciples with peace and the Spirit. The absent Thomas doubts (John 20:19-31).

CELEBRATIONS OF EUCHARIST:

Tuesday 6:30 p.m.
 Wednesday thru Friday 8:00 a.m.
 Saturday 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday 9:00 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Friday 7:30 - 7:50 a.m.
 Saturday 4:00 - 4:30 p.m.
 Sunday 8:00 - 8:40 a.m.
 Other times by appointment.

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Monday by 9:00 a.m.

PARISH REGISTRATION:

We warmly welcome new parishioners and request that they register by calling the parish office.

BAPTISM:

Congratulations! We are excited to help you welcome your child into the Church. Parents must attend a Baptism Preparation Class prior to their child's baptism. Please call the parish office to register.

MARRIAGE:

Couples should contact the parish office as soon as possible after their engagement is announced. The preferred preparation period is 12 months. You must be a registered parishioner before setting a wedding date.

♿ HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE



28 Mon.		No Mass
29 Tue.	6:30 p.m.	No Mass
30 Wed.	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
1 Thu.	8:00 a.m.	Evelyn Kerber † (7 year anniv.)
2 Fri.	8:00 a.m.	No Intention
3 Sat.	5:00 p.m.	St. John the Baptist Parishioners
4 Sun.	9:00 a.m.	Merlin and Mildred Dahlheimer Family - Living and Deceased



Next Weekend - May 3 and 4

5:00 P.M.

Ushers:	Patti Fodstad-Bouley Teri Ray
Reader:	Sheila Long
Server:	Thomas Bouley
Communion Minister:	Cheri McCann Mike and Catherine Beauchene

9:00 A.M.

Ushers:	Dennis and Nancy Wheeler
Reader:	Terry McAlpine
Server:	Logan Crosby
Communion Ministers:	Beth Perry Barb Carnes and Heidi Rzeszutek
Children's Liturgy	Lead: Melissa Reining Aide: Pam/Alayna Leiran



KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS . . .

Bena Bourgeois, Marie Corbin, Ken Croteau, Lynn Eggert, Dan Fodstad-Bouley, Donna Rivers Hauan, Bob Huss, Martha Killian, Wayne Lahn, Jane Lenz, Rick Marion, Barbara Mulcahy, Marilyn Nordine, Anné Otremba, Viola Plante, Jodi Playle, Catherine Schumacher, Dawn Storms Family, Mary Watson, Billi Jo Weekley, and Sandi Weekley. Becky Barder (sister of Ed Barder), Raymond Bernard (brother-in-law of Joan Playle), Linda Chase (daughter of Jim and Bonnie Haberle), Jeff Chouinard (son of Joanne Chouinard), Tammy Courtright (sister of Sue Harff), Cora Dawsey (granddaughter of Steve and Kelly Slavik), Sandy Delgehausen (friend of Tim and Kathy Timm), Darrell Delles (brother-in-law of Joan Playle), Julie Corbin Dray (niece of Joan Playle), John Elfa (cousin of Kathy Timm), Mike Gullickson and Bill Southworth (friends of Marilyn Nordine), Wayne Jurmu (father of Barb Carnes), Jerry Kamrow and Scott Knowlan (sons-in-law of Mary Kay Christian), Gregory Killian (son of Martha Killian), Nancy Karls (friend of Mary Dahlheimer), Jeff Nettleton (friend of Russ and Teri Ray), Virginia Resler and Phillip Robinson (friends of Lynn Eggert), Dawn Schmidt (friend of Joanne Chouinard), Dave Stasson (brother-in-law of Lucy McAlpine), Karla Storlein (cousin of Tim Timm), and Dan and Kritsty Zapf (grandson and granddaughter of Earl and Elaine Schulenburg).



From the Pastor

I want to start this article local - I was absolutely blown away by our Triduum services. We had good attendance at the Holy Thursday and Good Friday liturgies and about our normal weekend mass attendance at the Vigil and 7 a.m. Easter masses, so I was going to be happy with however many people were at the 9 a.m. mass. The church was filled past our seating capacity, so I am amazed by the turnout, by those who did so much to help with our celebrations, and I am very grateful.

I also am grateful for the life and service of Pope Francis. Pope Francis has been the only pope for my ministry as a priest, and I hope I can honor his legacy of service, of emphasizing the missionary responsibility of the church, and his deep devotion to Mary, even as we prepare for the election of the next pontiff.

The general rules for electing a pope have been the same for about a thousand years following the Gregorian Reforms. Upon the death of a pope, the Church begins a period of official mourning that lasts 9 days (so we will have an extra mass at 8:00 a.m. this Monday). During that time, the Cardinals gather in Rome. The seat of Peter is empty - we use the Latin phrase *sede vacante* - so many of the higher level operations of the Church are put on pause. So for example, this weekend we were supposed to have a few people declared Saints - their canonizations are delayed until there is a new Pope. If a bishop wants to resign, he must wait as there is no one to resign to, etc. During the *sede vacante* the Cardinals govern by committee, but they are only to do the basics and what is necessary to get ready to do their main priority - electing a new pope.

To do so they will gather 15 or 20 days after Francis' death in conclave. That means they meet (the Sistine Chapel is the usual site but other places have been chosen in prior centuries) and hold votes. The Cardinals take an oath of secrecy equivalent to that of the seal of the confessional and at the start of the conclave the ranking Cardinal-deacon will announce "*Extra omnes*" - everyone get out - unless you're part of the conclave. The pope is elected by a two-thirds majority and the cardinals will vote twice the first day and then up to 4 times a day until they come to a decision. They will have a day of reflection if they are unable to come to a decision after the first ten ballots, and another one if no one is elected after another seven. If in the unlikely event they take 33 ballots (so 8 full days of voting) the top two candidates at that point are engaged in a run-off election. The ballots are burned producing black smoke, and when someone is successfully elected they add a chemical to make the smoke white.

- Continued at top of next column -

To be Pope, the only qualification is being a baptized male, however the last non-Cardinal elected was over 600 years ago and most of the non-bishops elected Pope were done so prior to the Gregorian Reforms, when the Archdeacon of Rome was considered the heir apparent. Pray for the Cardinals that they may be guided by the Holy Spirit and pray for the repose of the soul of Pope Francis.

- Fr. John Powers

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

This weekend our parish is taking up the annual collection for the Catholic Home Missions Appeal to support "home mission" dioceses which comprise over 40 percent of all U.S. dioceses which includes our own state's Dioceses of New Ulm, Crookston and Duluth. These dioceses struggle to fund basic and essential pastoral services like Mass, the sacraments, religious education, and seminarian and lay ministry formation. Please strengthen the Church at home by being as generous as you are able. **Please note: There will be no second collection for this appeal.** If you would like to offer your financial support for this appeal, please place your donation in the regular Sunday offertory basket and clearly mark your donation "Home Missions".



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'"

- John 20:21

Peace – the first gift of the risen Lord. Just as Jesus sent the apostles out into the world, so too, He sends us. As disciples of Jesus, we are called to be compassionate and merciful; and not with just those who are our friends, but also with our "enemies." Think of someone in your life who you need to reconcile with. Call them right now or better yet, go visit them.



OFFERTORY • EASTER • APRIL 20, 2025

Adult Envelopes (91)	\$ 6,020.00
Plate and Non-Parishioners	2,039.82
Misc. Contribution - QCDs (2)	1,225.00
Automatic Deposits (29)	<u>2,399.00</u>
TOTAL RECEIVED	\$ 11,683.82
Projected Need	\$ 7,864.00
Received Last Week	11,684.00
Projected Need to Date	228,070.00
Amount Received to Date	245,085.00
Surplus - Last Week	\$ 13,195.00
- This Week	17,015.00





PARISH FESTIVAL NEWS

The 2025 St. John the Baptist Parish Festival will be held on Sunday, August 3.

Festival Raffle Prizes - We are collecting prizes for our Festival Cash Raffle. If you would like to donate a cash prize (\$50 minimum), you may do so by placing your donation in an envelope marked "Festival Raffle" and drop it in the Sunday offering basket. The deadline to make a donation is May 11, 2025.

C.R.O.S.S. FOOD SHELF COLLECTION

Next weekend is our regular time to contribute to the local food shelf. A grocery list of most needed items is available at the exits. Monetary donations also accepted.

SPRING IN TO SMALL GROUPS

Keep the momentum from Lent going, join a small group! Join a newly formed group or join an existing group. New group kicking off Thursday May 1, 2025, 6:30 p.m. - Unraveling the Mystique of the Mass - facilitated by Rena Hales, and held in her home in Elk River. To learn more, call Rena at 952.240.7383.

Existing Groups:

How to Reach Heaven - Facilitated by Jim Penick 612.221.8513
Eucharistic Miracles - Facilitated by Sharon Williams

763.244.9523

Deepening our Faith - Facilitated by Russ Ray 612.723.3155
Catechism in a Year - Facilitated by Barb Carnes 612.963.0499
Watch for new and upcoming Bible Studies facilitated by Sheila Long late summer/early fall 2025 - 763.428.4539

See below what members from one of the groups have to say about their personal experience:

Never been in a small group before. Hesitant, but also curious. Happy to have joined. Have made new Christian friends. Look forward to every meeting to learn and share. It has answered questions, better understanding, and strengthened our Faith. A few short videos and topics discussed - Power of Prayer, Eucharist, Functions of the Church. Helping us live our lives more aware by asking ourselves - What has God done for me/us? What have we done for God? Finally, on the lighter side . . . Our Christian soul time. Looking forward to what delicious light meal/snacks will be shared that evening. Would recommend joining a group - fun - casual - enlightening. Give it a try!

WOW! Thank you for that testimony. For answers to your questions, please give a call: Teri Ray 612.741.5603 or Cindy Gibbs 763.442.1980.



OPERATION RICE BOWL

Thank You! Together, we changed lives this Lent through CRS Rive

Bowl. Thank you for being a part of this effort! A total of \$697.42 has been collected so far. If you haven't yet turned in your Rice Bowl, please do so by placing it in the regular Sunday offering basket soon.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

TLC KIDS - THIS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

Our Pre-K through Confirmation age kids will meet for the last time this school year this Wednesday, April 30. We have sessions from 5:30 - 6:30, 6:00 - 7:00 and 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., with the Confirmation class meeting from 6:15 - 7:15 p.m. If your children are unable to attend or if you have any other questions, please email Sarah at sarah.sjbchurch@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

ACCW 92ND CONVENTION: RENEWING YOUR FAITH TRUSTING IN GOD'S DIRECTION

- Friday, May 2, 8:00 a.m.-7:30 p.m., St. Michael Catholic Church in St. Michael. Renewing Your Faith Trusting in God's Direction is the theme for this year's Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women's Annual Convention! Expect top-notch presenters, Mass with Archbishop Hebda, locally catered banquet and luncheon, the marketplace to shop, Lay Women Winners and Golden Rose Winners and so much more! Find more information and registration at accwarchspm.org/2025-convention.

WOMEN'S RETREAT: IT IS WELL - Saturday, May 3, 8:00 a.m.- 3:30 p.m., Holy Name of Jesus in Medina. All women are invited to spend a day in community, in the presence of our Lord in the sacraments. The day includes speakers Kenna Millea and Fr. Tim Wratkowski, meditation, adoration, reconciliation and plenty of time for small group discussion. Cost is \$60. Learn more and register at hnoj.org/womensretreat.

ANNUAL FAMILY ROSARY PROCESSION - Sunday, May 4, 2:00 p.m., Minnesota State Capitol to Cathedral of St. Paul. As a public witness to our Catholic faith during the month of May dedicated to our Blessed Mother Mary, come with family and friends to the annual Archdiocesan Family Rosary Procession. Line up begins at 1:30 p.m. on the State Capitol grounds and the procession will begin at 2:00 p.m. For more information, please go to archspm.org/annual-family-rosary-procession.

MUSIC DIRECTOR JOB OPENING

St. John's is seeking to hire a Music Director. Duties include: Planning for the music for weekend and special liturgies, provide accompaniment for the parish music worship program for both weekend liturgies, coordinate the work of the volunteer choir including recruiting, training and support; maintain instruments; and attend monthly Liturgy Committee meetings. Parish music experience preferred. See full position description on our website. Please send Cover letter, resumé and references to: P.O. Box 201, Dayton, MN 55327 or email sjbchurch@yahoo.com.

DEVOTIONS, EXPLAINED! Sprinkling Rite

The rite of sprinkling, also called the Asperges rite, describes the act of sprinkling the congregation with holy water, an action which recalls the new life we received in the waters of our baptism.

If this rite is performed during Mass, it takes the place of the penitential act.

The sprinkling rite usually takes place on Sundays during the Easter season but is permitted on any Sunday. When it is completed, the congregation sings the Gloria.

The name "asperges" comes from the first line of Psalm 51, a penitential psalm that begins with the words "Have mercy on me." In the Extraordinary Form of the Mass, the Asperges rite is done before each principal Mass, except on Palm Sunday.

The tool used by the priest to sprinkle the congregation is called the aspergillum, and the bucket containing the water is called the aspersorium.

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CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

The 2025 Catholic Services Appeal is in progress. St. John the Baptist's Parish Goal is \$14,532. Please prayerfully consider making a gift to CSAF. Visit love.archspm.org for more information and to donate online or scan this QR code.



SIGN UP FOR FLOCKNOTE!

St John's regularly uses Flocknote to communicate to members and groups via text or email. Please use the following steps on your phone to sign up!

1. Go to text messaging
2. Open a new message
3. In the TO line enter 84576
4. In the message line, enter the word Dayton and send
5. Wait for response back
6. When response is received, click the link contained in the message
7. This will open a browser window to enter in information
8. Fill out the information and click the sign up button
9. THAT'S IT! Done!

WAYS TO GIVE TO ST. JOHN'S

ACH Withdrawal: Contact the parish office at 763.428.2828 to set up weekly, semi-monthly, monthly, or one-time contributions.

Online: Visit sjbdayton.org and click on the donate button or scan this QR code.



Collection Basket: Place your donation in the baskets as they come around during the Preparation of the Gifts.

Wills: Contact your attorney regarding your estate planning and remembering St. John the Baptist Catholic Church of Dayton in your will.

THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, April 27

Divine Mercy Sunday
8:00 a.m. Confessions (till 8:40 a.m.)
8:30 a.m. Rosary
9:00 a.m. Mass
Catholic Home Missions Special Collection

Monday, April 28

6:00 p.m. Adult Faith Formation - The Rescue Project! (till 7:30 p.m.)

Tuesday, April 29

No 6:30 p.m. Mass

Wednesday, April 30

No 8:00 a.m. Mass

TLC Kid's Sessions

Thursday, May 1

8:00 a.m. Mass

Friday, May 2

7:30 a.m. Confessions (till 7:50 a.m.)
8:00 a.m. Mass
8:30 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration (till 7:00 p.m.)

Saturday, May 3

9:00 a.m. First Eucharist Family Retreat, Social Hall
4:00 p.m. Confessions (till 4:45 p.m.)
4:30 p.m. Rosary
5:00 p.m. Mass
Food Shelf Collection Weekend

Sunday, May 4

Third Sunday of Easter
8:00 a.m. Confessions (till 8:40 a.m.)
8:30 a.m. Rosary
9:00 a.m. Mass with First Holy Communion
Food Shelf Collection Weekend

ARE YOU NEW TO OUR COMMUNITY? WE WELCOME YOU!

If you would like to register as a parishioner of St. John the Baptist, please call the parish office at 763.428.2828.



SCRIP NEWS

Visa Gift Cards - Visa Gift Cards are available in \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250 and \$500 denominations at a 1.25% profit and are accepted anywhere Visa is accepted. Visa gift cards if bought through your local bank usually incur a service charge to purchase which can be up to 5%. Buying through St. John's Scrip Program costs you nothing extra. Visa cards are only good in the U.S.

Scrip Sellers for Next Weekend

May 4 8:30 p.m. Maraline Virnig and Deb Stang
5 9:00 a.m. Joanne Chouinard and Darlene Hagel

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Friday 7:30 - 7:50 a.m.
 Saturday 4:00 - 4:45 p.m.
 Sunday 8:00 - 8:40 a.m.

MAY 2025

May calendar subject to change -

Please watch the
bulletin for updates.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>St. John the Baptist Catholic Church DAYTON, MINNESOTA</p>	CELEBRATION OF EUCHARIST: Tuesday 6:30 p.m. Wednesday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 9:00 a.m.			May Month of The Blessed Mother 		
				1 National Day of Prayer Mass 8:00 a.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration till 9:00 a.m.	2 Confessions 7:30 p.m. Mass 8:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration 8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.	3 First Eucharist Family Retreat 9:00 a.m. Confessions 4:00 p.m. Rosary 4:30 p.m. Mass 5:00 p.m. Food Shelf Collection
4 Confessions 8:00 a.m. Rosary 8:30 a.m. Mass with First Holy Communion 9:00 a.m. Food Shelf Collection	5 Cinco de Mayo	6 Mass 6:30 p.m.	7 Mass 8:00 a.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration till 9:00 a.m.	8 Mass 8:00 a.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration till 9:00 a.m.	9 Confessions 7:30 am Mass 8:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration 8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.	10 Confessions 4:00 p.m. Rosary 4:30 p.m. Mass 5:00 p.m.
11 Mother's Day World Day of Prayer for Vocations Confessions 8:00 a.m. Rosary 8:30 a.m. Mass 9:00 a.m. Confirmation at the St. Paul Cathedral 2 p.m.	12 Lunch and Cards 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.	13 Mass 6:30 p.m.	14 Mass 8:00 a.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration till 9:00 a.m.	15 Mass 8:00 a.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration till 9:00 a.m.	16 Confessions 7:30 a.m. Mass 8:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration 8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.	17 Armed Forces Day Confessions 4:00 p.m. Rosary 4:30 p.m. Mass 5:00 p.m.
18 Confessions 8:00 a.m. Rosary 8:30 a.m. Mass with Baccalaureate 9 a.m.	19 	20 Mass 6:30 p.m. Knights of Columbus Meeting, Social Hall 7:00 p.m.	21 Mass 8:00 a.m. No Adoration following Mass	22 Mass 8:00 a.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration till 9:00 a.m. Sub-Committee Meetings - 6:00 p.m. Parish Council Meeting - 7:00 p.m.	23 Confessions 7:30 a.m. Mass 7:45 a.m. No Eucharistic Adoration	24 Confessions 4:00 p.m. Rosary 4:30 p.m. Mass 5:00 p.m.
25 Confessions 8:00 a.m. Rosary 8:30 a.m. Mass 9:00 a.m.	26 Memorial Day Mass at 10:00 a.m. in the Cemetery (Weather permitting) Parish Office Closed	27 Mass 6:30 p.m.	28 Mass 8:00 a.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration till 9:00 a.m.	29 Mass 8:00 a.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration till 9:00 a.m.	30 Confessions 7:30 a.m. Mass 8:00 a.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration till 9:00 a.m.	31 The Visitation of The Blessed Virgin Mary Confessions 4:00 p.m. Rosary 4:30 p.m. Mass 5:00 p.m.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY



Courage to Believe

Merciful God,
you call us to you,
beckoning us
to turn from our fear
and disappointment.
You are with us
despite our doubt,
We give thanks:
your mercy endures forever.
Grant us the courage to
see through eyes of faith
and to share the joyful news
of the resurrection.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, April 27, 2025

Believe!



Today's readings: Acts 5:12–16; Psalm 118:2–4, 13–15, 22–24; Revelation 1:9–11a, 12–13, 17–19; John 20:19–31. Jesus appears to the disciples, who were in hiding because they were being persecuted for being his followers. Despite the locked doors, Jesus “came and stood in their midst,” bidding them peace. Thomas, who was not with the other disciples when Jesus first appeared, says that he will not believe unless he sees the mark of the nails in Jesus’ hands and puts his finger into his side.

Since we know that Jesus was raised from the dead, it is easy to place blame on Thomas. How could he not believe? But when we reflect on our faith journey, how many times do we find ourselves in Thomas’ shoes? How often do we doubt and question God’s presence? On this Sunday of

Divine Mercy, place yourself in the Gospel. Where do you find yourself? What do you think when Thomas expresses his disappointment and fear? What do you feel when Jesus comes, despite the locked doors, stands in your midst, and says: “Peace be with you?” What do you see when Jesus invites Thomas to touch the mark of the nails in his hands and put his hand into his side? What do you hear exclaimed in the room?

After placing yourself in the locked room with the disciples and Thomas, full of fear and sadness, consider how Jesus’ resurrection can inspire you. How can you step through fear and doubt and move toward action? Ask the Lord to meet you where you are and to bring you peace.



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, April 28 Completely Yours

Today the Church observes the optional Memorial of St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, a diocesan priest who served primarily throughout western France. He preached a devotion to Mary and encouraged imitating Mary's continuous acceptance of God's will for her life: his personal motto was *totus tuus*, or "completely yours." In honor of St. Louis de Montfort, consider how you might say yes to God every day this week. How can you embody *totus tuus*? *Today's readings: Acts 4:23–31; Psalm 2:1–3, 4–7a, 7b–9; John 3:1–8.*

Tuesday, April 29 St. Catherine of Siena

From a young age, Catherine of Siena had visions of Jesus and committed herself to him. After spending time in solitary contemplation, she realized that loving God and serving others went hand in hand. She dedicated herself to serving others, including the imprisoned. Catherine of Siena was the first woman to be published in one of the Italian dialects. To celebrate her today, say a prayer dedicating yourself to loving God, and commit to an act of service. *Today's readings: Acts 4:32–37; Psalm 93:1ab, 1cd–2, 5; John 3:7b–15.*

Wednesday, April 30 St. Pius V

St. Pius V served the sick and impoverished and requested to donate excess money to those in need. As pope, he was tasked with implementing the decrees of the Council of Trent, reforming errors and reaffirming the teachings of the Church. He dedicated much time to establishing seminaries for the proper training of priests and opportunities for the education of the laity. Spend some time learning more about our faith. *Today's readings: Acts 5:17–26; Psalm 34:2–3, 4–5, 6–7, 8–9; John 3:16–21.*

Thursday, May 1 St. Joseph the Worker

Today we celebrate St. Joseph, the man who worked as a carpenter. He used his gifts and skills to provide for his family's needs and passed on his trade to Jesus. Spend time reflecting on those who have taught you about your faith and your trade or career. How can you dedicate your skills to participate in the life of God's creation? How does celebrating St. Joseph the Worker honor work, especially work with the hands? *Today's readings: Acts 5:27–33; Psalm 34:2 and 9, 17–18, 19–20; John 3:31–36; or Genesis 1:26–2:3 or Colossians 3:14–15, 17, 23–24; Matthew 13:54–58.*

Friday, May 2 St. Athanasius

St. Athanasius spent his life defending the divinity of Jesus, despite being persecuted and exiled for it. He dedicated himself to the service of the Church, which included writings on the establishment of monastic life for the Western Christian world. Today, say a prayer in gratitude for the ability to practice your faith. *Today's readings: Acts 5:34–42; Psalm 27:1, 4, 13–14; John 6:1–15.*

Saturday, May 3 Sts. Philip and James

Today, we celebrate Sts. Philip and James, though we know more about Philip. He was called directly by Jesus to be one of his apostles. He needed time to come to know who Jesus was. This evening, read John 6:1–15. Philip's reply to Jesus in verse 7 shows us his human concern. How have you let your human concerns get in the way of seeing Jesus at work in your life? Ask God for the strength to put aside whatever is keeping you from coming to know Jesus. *Today's readings: 1 Corinthians 15:1–8; Psalm 19:2–3, 4–5; John 14:6–14.*



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