

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

FAITH · FAMILY · FRIENDSHIP

May 25, 2025 ♦ Sixth 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:

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PARISH STAFF:

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Safe Environment Coordinator:

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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





READINGS FOR THE WEEK

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
 Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Jn 15:26-16:4a
 Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Jn 16:5-11
 Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22-18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15
 Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 16:16-20
 Friday: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 16:20-23
 Saturday: Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6/Lk 1:39-56
 Next Sunday: 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



TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The question of whether circumcision is necessary for salvation (Acts 15:1-2, 22-29).
 Psalm — O God, let all the nations praise you! (Psalm 67).
 Second Reading — John envisions the holy city, the new Jerusalem (Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23).
 Gospel — The Holy Spirit, sent by the Father in Jesus' name, will teach us everything (John 14:23-29).

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

Mass Intentions for the Week

26 Mon. **10:00 a.m.** Our Deceased Service Men and Women
 27 Tue. 6:30 p.m. Francis Chouinard †
 28 Wed. 8:00 a.m. Linda Morris (living)
 29 Thu. 8:00 a.m. George Walton (health)
 30 Fri. 8:00 a.m. Caitlin Powers (living)
 31 Sat. 5:00 p.m. St. John the Baptist Parishioners
 1 Sun. 9:00 a.m. Robert and Stella Lefebvre ††



LITURGICAL ROLES

Next Weekend - May 31 and June 1

5:00 P.M.

Ushers: Teri Ray
 Stacy Glass
 Reader: Sheila Long
 Server: Charlie Kennedy
 Communion Minister: Kelly Slavik

9:00 A.M.

Ushers: Jake and Melissa Reining
 Reader: Scott Theisen
 Server: Brooklyn and Asher Reining
 Communion Minister: Jo Theisen



KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS . . .

Bena Bourgeois, Marie Corbin, Ken Croteau, Lynn Eggert, Dan Fodstad-Bouley, Donna Rivers Huan, Bob Huss, Martha Killian, Wayne Lahn, Jane Lenz, Rick Marion, Mary Middleton, Barbara Mulcahy, Marilyn Nordine, Anné Otremba, Viola Plante, Jodi Playle, Tyrell Ramsdell, Catherine Schumacher, Dawn Storms Family, George Walton, 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 (grand-daughter of Steve and Kelly Slavik), Darrell Delles (brother-in-law of Joan Playle), Julie Corbin Dray (niece of Joan Playle), 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), Melissa Seigmann (niece of Cecilia Chapp), Dave Stasson (brother-in-law of Lucy McAlpine), and Dan and Kritsty Zapf (grandson and granddaughter of Earl and Elaine Schulenburg).



From the Pastor

My family has a long-standing tradition of visiting cemeteries. My dad's dad took up genealogy in his retirement so whenever he and my grandmother would come to visit, he'd take us to cemeteries trying to track down her family (who originally settled after immigration around Waconia) or some of his second cousins (my great-great grandfather's siblings stayed in Minnesota while he continued out to Red Lodge Montana to homestead). The point of that rather long introductory sentence is that I am used to cemeteries, and so it always entertains me when people act like I should be worried because I'm now living and working next to one. Cemeteries serve as an important way of remembering those who have gone before us - I cannot tell you how many times that I have stopped up at our cemetery as part of my rosary walk and told Frs. Pettigrew and Guillemette while passing by their graves that they need to pray for me since they created the building that I'm now responsible for maintaining. As we prepare to celebrate Memorial Day, we remember in a particular way those who died in service of our nation.

Mass is also a memorial of the redemptive work of our Lord Jesus Christ, but it is a particular type of memorial that I have previously talked about called anamnesis. Anamnesis is most commonly used outside of Catholic jargon as an antiquated word for medical history and just as your past health affects your current, so too is the passion, death, and resurrection of our Lord meant to impact us. The particular part of the mass called the memorial acclamation is said (usually sung at Sunday masses) right after the completion of the consecration. The priest sings or says "the mystery of faith" and the people respond by the memorial acclamation (of which there are currently three in English) to put the liturgical act in its context; to remind us that what we do at mass is a continuation of the saving work of Christ. This remembrance, this memorial isn't just meant for the mass, but something we live out always - that the saving work of Christ is meant to be continued in His Church, in us.

- Fr. John Powers

MASS INTENTIONS

We have open dates in the Mass schedule for Mass intentions. Masses may be offered for the living or deceased and for various reasons like remembrance, thanksgiving, or special intentions. If you would like to schedule a mass intention, please call the parish office at 763.428.2828 or email sjbchurch@yahoo.com. The usual stipend is \$7.00.



MEMORIAL DAY MASS

Mass for Memorial Day (Monday, May 26) will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. in the Cemetery. Please bring your own lawn chair for seating (some seating will be provided). In the case of rainy or inclement weather, we will gather in the Church. Immediately following Mass we will have the reading of the names of our deceased parishioners who have served our country in the military followed by a military honors ceremony conducted by Vietnam Honor Guard 470.

Memorial Day Collection - The collection taken up on Memorial Day will go toward the Cemetery Fund. A special envelope marked "Memorial Day / Cemetery Collection" was included in your stewardship offering envelopes for this purpose.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The parish office will be closed on Monday, May 26, in observance of Memorial Day. The parish staff wishes all parishioners a safe and happy holiday weekend!



Stewardship
a way of life

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"...Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid."

- John 14:27

Our limited human understanding cannot begin to understand the immense power of God. Instead of trusting in God, we often think we can control every outcome. Do you want to make God laugh? Tell Him your plans. The next time worry, anxiety or fear creeps in, thank God for all He has given you and trust that He has a better plan for you. Make God your first choice and not your last resort.



OFFERTORY • MAY 18, 2025

Adult Envelopes (44)	\$ 1,600.00
Plate and Non-Parishioners	731.00
Holy Day Offering (1)	5.00
Automatic Deposits (29)	<u>2,305.00</u>
TOTAL RECEIVED	\$ 4,641.00
Projected Need	\$ 5,243.00
Received Last Week	4,641.00
Projected Need to Date	249,042.00
Amount Received to Date	264,467.00
Surplus - Last Week	\$ 16,027.00
- This Week	15,425.00



CEMETERY FLOWERS AND MEMORIALS

St. John's Cemetery Board wants to remind everyone of the following rules regarding placement of plants, flowers, and memorials on gravesites:

All flowers (live, silk, or plastic) must be placed in pots and are to be in plant stands inserted into the ground on the side of the monument. All plant stands should be placed so they are centered above the footstone as you are viewing the footstone. To help with the maintenance, we ask that plant stands be placed in a straight line. One plant stand and one solar light per monument/marker is allowed. Plant stands shall not be cemented in. Plant stands and shepherd's rods should be strong enough to support the plant weight and strong winds.

Live flowers in plant stands will be allowed to remain all summer if they are cared for. Silk and plastic flowers in plant stands will be allowed to remain as long as they look nice. Empty pots, dead plants/flowers and unsightly silk flowers will be removed at the Cemetery Manager's discretion. Plastic flowers, crosses, and other memorials (this includes plaques, rocks, toys, etc.) inserted directly in the ground or lying at ground level may be placed on graves a maximum of one week in advance of Memorial Day and will be removed one week after Memorial Day.

GARDENERS NEEDED

St. John the Baptist is seeking to form a group of volunteers who can commit to helping water the flowers and gardens on the church property on a weekly basis. Ideally, we would like to assemble a group of 7 teams of 2 people each so each team would only have to water once a week. If interested in helping with this ministry, please call the parish office at 763.428.2828 or email sjbchurch@yahoo.com

PRIESTHOOD ORDINATION

Saturday, May 31 at 10:00 a.m. at the St. Paul Cathedral. All are welcome to attend! Five seminarians from the Archdiocese are scheduled to be ordained to the Priesthood of Jesus Christ!

PARISH FESTIVAL NEWS - Sunday, August 3



Some ideas to be thinking about in preparation for our festival:

FLEA MARKET - Please be setting aside items for the Flea Market. Small quantities of donations can be dropped off in the social hall anytime. For larger amounts, please call the office to set up a time to drop off. No TVs, computers, monitors, car seats, or clothes.

COUNTRY STORE - Be thinking of what kind of produce, plants, flowers, crafts, etc. that you could donate for our Country Store.

SILENT AUCTION - We are looking for donations of Theme Baskets as well as other new or very gently used items for this area of the Festival. Scrip gift cards in any denomination and for any vendor are welcome!

HELP NEEDED

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring an inaugural, semi-annual Adopt-A-Highway clean-up on Saturday, May 31 at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome to contribute (Knights and non-Knights, men, women and children). We will clean a 1.8 mile stretch on North Diamond Lake Road between Dayton River Road and Zanzibar Lane. Shuttle service from the church parking lot will be available; vests and bags are provided by the county; please bring your own work gloves. Please let Dan Drentlaw know if able to contribute any amount of time and effort to help clean up. Text or call 763.370.1869 or email gkdanieldrentlaw@gmail.com

SEEKING OLD CEMETERY PHOTOS

We are looking for old photographs of the St. John the Baptist Cemetery. If you have any in your stash, please let us know. We would like to get copies.

FREE FOR THE TAKING

St. John's has approximately 150 feet of 7' tall chain link fencing with posts available free to anyone who wants to pick it up. Please call the parish office if interested.

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.

ARCHDIOCESAN PASSPORT ADVENTURE **We are 175 years strong!**

Catholics around the world are marking 2025 as a Year of Jubilee, while at the same time we as an Archdiocese celebrate 175 years since our founding on July 19, 1850. Archbishop Hebda invites you to become an Archdiocesan Jubilee Pilgrim:

- Now through October 12, visit seven or more parishes.
- Include our Jubilee co-cathedrals: the Cathedral of Saint Paul and the Basilica of Saint Mary, and look for the Jubilee Cross in each of them.
- Visit one of our oldest, newest and/or newly renovated churches.
- Participate in a Mass that expands your liturgical experience.
- Join us October 12 for Mass + Ice Cream Social on the Cathedral of Saint Paul Lawn.

Download or print your passport here and visit archspm.org/passport for information!

CATHOLIC Q & A

SUNDAY MASS

Question: Why do Catholics need to go to Mass every Sunday?

Answer: The heart of the Church's instruction that we are to attend Mass on Sundays goes back to the Third Commandment: "Take care to keep holy the sabbath day as the LORD, your God, has commanded you" (Deuteronomy 5:12). Although the Jewish People celebrate the Sabbath on Saturday, the first generations of Christians began to observe the sabbath on Sunday, recognizing how important it is for Christians to celebrate the day that Jesus rose from the dead. As the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults observes, "Sunday extends the celebration of Easter throughout the year ... It makes present the new creation brought about by Christ" (364).

The focus of our Sunday should be the celebration of the Eucharist in the Mass. This is our time to be formed by God's Word and nourished at the table of the Lord, becoming prepared to live out and share our faith in the week that follows. In his encyclical, *Dies Domini*, Pope Saint John Paul II reminded us that Christians "cannot live their faith or share fully in the life of the Christian community unless they take part regularly in the Sunday Eucharistic assembly" (no. 81). This is why the Church teaches us that Sunday Mass is a non-negotiable part of being a Christian (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 2192).

Beyond being a time of worship, we should also remember that Sunday is intended to be a day of rest, when we make time for recreation, for sharing meals, and enjoying the company of friends and family. Sunday is given to us as a day to take stock of and enjoy the blessings that God has given us (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 2187). Pope Francis reminds us, "The day of rest, centered on the Eucharist, sheds its light on the whole week, and motivates us to greater concern for nature and the poor" (*Laudato Si'*, no. 237). ©LPi



CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL

The 2025 Catholic Services Appeal is in progress. When you give to the Catholic Services Appeal, you partner with fellow Catholics to share Christ's love with neighbors in need through ministries that serve the poor, support life and strengthen the Faith.

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.



THE WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, May 25

8:00 a.m. Confessions (till 8:40 a.m.)
8:30 a.m. Rosary
9:00 a.m. Mass

Monday, May 26

Memorial Day
10:00 a.m. Mass in Cemetery (weather permitting)
Parish Office Closed

Tuesday, May 27

6:30 p.m. Mass

Wednesday, May 28

8:00 a.m. Mass

Thursday, May 29

8:00 a.m. Mass

Friday, May 30

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

Saturday, May 31

The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
10:00 a.m. Ordinations to the Priesthood at the St. Paul Cathedral
4:00 p.m. Confessions (till 4:45 p.m.)
4:30 p.m. Rosary
5:00 p.m. Mass

Sunday, June 1

The Ascension of the Lord
8:00 a.m. Confessions (till 8:40 a.m.)
8:30 a.m. Rosary
9:00 a.m. Mass

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.

TRAVELERS - For nationwide Mass times and locations call 1.858.207.6277 or go to www.Masstimes.org.



SCRIP NEWS

For the Graduate - Remember to use Scrip when purchasing a gift for the graduate or easier yet just give the gift card itself. Some ideas: Office Depot/Office Max, Best Buy, Barnes & Noble, Kohl's, Visa, Walmart, and many others or give gas cards to places like Kwik Trip, Holiday or SuperAmerica.

For the Gardener - Remember that you can use Scrip gift cards at the Garden Centers found in Walmart, Menards, Home Depot, Fleet Farm, and Lowe's.


Scrip Sellers for Next Weekend

May 31 5:00 p.m. Maraline Virnig and Rena Hales
June 1 9:00 a.m. Lisa Crosby and Bernice Petersen



JUNE 2025

June calendar subject to change -
Please watch the bulletin for updates.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 The Ascension of the Lord Confessions 8:00 a.m. Rosary 8:30 a.m. Mass 9:00 a.m.	2	3 Mass 6:30 p.m.	4 Mass 8:00 a.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration till 9:00 a.m.	5 Mass 8:00 a.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration till 9:00 a.m.	6 Confessions 7:30 a.m. Mass 8:00 a.m.	7 Archdiocesan Synod 2025 Assembly Confessions 4:00 p.m. Rosary 4:30 p.m. Mass 5:00 p.m. Food Shelf Collection
8 Pentecost Sunday Confessions 8:00 a.m. Rosary 8:30 a.m. Mass 9:00 a.m. Food Shelf Collection	9 Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church	10 Mass 6:30 p.m.	11 Mass 8:00 a.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration till 9:00 a.m.	12 Mass 8:00 a.m. followed by Eucharistic Adoration till 9:00 a.m.	13 Confessions 7:30 a.m. Mass 8:00 a.m.	14 Flag Day Confessions 4:00 p.m. Rosary 4:30 p.m. Mass 5:00 p.m. Hospitality following Mass hosted by the KCs
15 The Most Holy Trinity Father's Day Confessions 8:00 a.m. Rosary 8:30 a.m. Mass 9:00 a.m. Hospitality following Mass hosted by the KCs	16	17 No 6:30 p.m. Mass Knights of Columbus Meeting, Social Hall 7:00 p.m.	18 No 8:00 a.m. Mass	19 Juneteenth National Independence Day No 8:00 a.m. Mass	20 Summer Begins Confessions 7:30 a.m. Mass 8:00 a.m.	21 Confessions 4:00 p.m. Rosary 4:30 p.m. Mass 5:00 p.m.
<div>← <i>Extreme Faith Camp for Middle School</i> →</div>						
22 The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ Confessions 8:00 a.m. Rosary 8:30 a.m. Mass 9:00 a.m. concluding with Corpus Christi Procession	23	24 The Nativity of St. John the Baptist No 6:30 p.m. Mass	25 No 8:00 a.m. Mass	26 No 8:00 a.m. Mass	27 The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus Confessions 7:30 a.m. Mass 8:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration 8:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Mass 6:30 p.m.	28 The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary Confessions 4:00 p.m. Rosary 4:30 p.m. Mass 5:00 p.m. Peter's Pence Special Collection
29 Solemnity of Ss. Peter and Paul Confessions 8:00 a.m. Rosary 8:30 a.m. Mass 9:00 a.m. Peter's Pence Special Collection	30	<div><div>June Month of The Sacred Heart of Jesus</div><div>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.</div><div>SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Friday: 7:30 - 7:50 a.m. Saturday: 4:00 - 4:30 p.m. Sunday 8:00 - 8:40 a.m.</div></div>				

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Radiating Splendor

God our Father,
have pity on us and bless us!
We come to you
with renewed hope
because your face shines upon us,
your splendor radiates around us!
May you continue
to make your way known to us.

Guide us in keeping your Word.
When we find ourselves troubled
and afraid,
help us rest,
knowing that you remain with us.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, May 25, 2025

The Guiding Spirit



Today's readings: Acts 15:1–2, 22–29; Psalm 67:2–3, 5, 6, 8; Revelation 21:10–14, 22–23; John 14:23–29. Next week, we will celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. This week, we hear Jesus remind the disciples that he will be “going away,” or ascending. He tells them that, even though he is joining the Father, he is with them: “The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I told you.” The Holy Spirit is with us, too, inspiring us as we discern how to best respond to the call to be followers of Christ.

As the Easter season nears its end, prayerfully reflect on the ways the Holy Spirit has guided you. Begin your

reflection by invoking the Holy Spirit. (“Come, Holy Spirit.”) Light a candle, if possible. Where can you see God moving in your life? Consider the following: various settings that have moved or inspired you; conversations with friends or family that have helped clarify something for you; a passing thought or feeling that has resurfaced. Next, ask for the wisdom to respond!

The apostles were sent to pastorally respond to the needs of various communities. How have you been asked to respond to the needs around you? End your prayer by reading the Gospel passage. Sit with Jesus’ words: “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.”



THIS WEEK AT HOME

Monday, May 26

St. Philip Neri

St. Philip Neri, the founder of a religious community of priests and lay brothers called the Oratory, was known for his humor and holiness. Look back on your day. Did you greet others joyfully? Did you cheerfully fulfill your responsibilities? Pray for the ability to find joy in your daily tasks. Ask St. Philip Neri to pray for you! *Today's readings: Acts 16:11–15; Psalm 149:1b–2, 3–4, 5–6a and 9b; John 15:26–16:4a.*

Tuesday, May 27

St. Augustine of Canterbury

Augustine was known as the “apostle of England.” He led monks from Rome to England to evangelize the Anglo-Saxons. As they journeyed to England, they heard stories that instilled fear in them; Augustine was filled with doubt about the mission and returned to Rome. Pope Gregory the Great reassured them, and they set out again for England. When have you doubted your abilities? Ask God for the confidence you need to respond to him. *Today's readings: Acts 16:22–34; Psalm 138:1–2ab, 2cde–3, 7c–8; John 16:5–11.*

Wednesday, May 28

Truth

Jesus tells his disciples that “the Spirit of truth . . . will guide you to all truth.” We know that the Spirit reveals the truth of God’s glory to us. If possible, attend daily Mass. *Today's readings: Acts 17:15, 22–18:1; Psalm 148:1–2, 11–12, 13, 14; John 16:12–15.*

Thursday, May 29

The Ascension

At Mass, we participate in the paschal mystery and are called to share the news of the miraculous events we witness. God accompanies us as we preach “in his name.” The Holy Spirit

strengthens us to joyfully accept the difficult yet transformative call to be followers of Christ. *Today's readings: Acts 1:1–11; Psalm 47:2–3, 6–7, 8–9; Ephesians 1:17–23 or Hebrews 9:24–28; 10:19–23; Luke 24: 46–53.*

Thursday, May 29

St. Paul VI

In 1958, Pope John XXIII named Fr. Giovanni Battista Montini a cardinal. As cardinal, he helped prepare the Second Vatican Council. He was elected pope in June 1963. Pope Paul VI continued the Council, which reformed and renewed the Church. The Second Vatican Council called for the faithful’s full and active participation in the liturgy. What does that mean to you? *Today's readings: Acts 18:1–8; Psalm 98:1, 2–3ab, 3cd–4; John 16:16–20.*

Friday, May 30

Laboring

Jesus tells his disciples that pain, weeping, and grieving will precede their joy. He likens the Christian journey to a woman in labor: she is first “in anguish because her hour has arrived,” but then she “no longer remembers the pain because of her joy” once the child is born. This evening, hand your hardships and labor over to God. *Today's readings: Acts 18:9–18; Psalm 47:2–3, 4–5, 6–7; John 16:20–23.*

Saturday, May 31

The Visitation

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. When Mary learns that her cousin Elizabeth is also pregnant, she travels to visit her. Upon hearing Mary, Elizabeth’s baby leaps inside her womb and Elizabeth joyfully exclaims the joy of Mary as the mother of the Lord. Who has celebrated joyous moments with you? Pray in gratitude for the ways they have accompanied you through growth and celebration. *Today's readings: Zephaniah 3:14–18a or Romans 12:9–16; Isaiah 12:2–3, 4bcd, 5–6; Luke 1:39–56.*



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