

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 2, 2021



Saint Stanislaus Catholic Church

516 East 13th Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503
814.452.6606

www.ststanserie.org
email: ststaner@outlook.com

Fr. Jason Glover, S.T.L., Pastor
Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Senior Associate
Debbie Oldenski, Secretary
Thaddeus Fryczynski, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:30AM - 3:00 PM
(Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

Daily Eucharistic Liturgy: Tuesday - Friday at 8:00AM

Temporary Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:

Saturday at 4:00PM; Sunday at 9:00AM

*** Daily Eucharist: Call the Parish Office**

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

2220 Reed Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503
814.456.0671

www.holytrinityrc.org
email: parishoffice@holylrinityrc.org

Fr. Jason Glover, S.T.L., Pastor
Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Senior Associate
Mary Ann Merski, Secretary
Jeannie McGinley, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00AM - 4:00PM
(Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

Daily Eucharistic Liturgy: Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 8:00AM

Temporary Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:

Saturday at 5:15PM; Sunday at 10:30AM

*** Daily Eucharistic Liturgy remains temporarily Non-Public**



Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity

Partners in Faith & Mission



May 2, 2021
5th 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. The real truth, however, is that while wrongs and errors are certainly a part of our 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.

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. 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.

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.

Readings for the week of May 2, 2021

Sunday: Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-32/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8 [5th Sunday of Easter]
Monday: 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-5/Jn 14:6-14 [Sts. Philip & James]
Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-13, 21/Jn 14:27-31
Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-5/Jn 15:1-8
Thursday: Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11
Friday: Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-12/Jn 15:12-17
Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1-5/Jn 15:18-21
Sunday: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1-4/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17 [6th Easter]

Sacrament of Baptism: Sacramental preparation is required of the parents who desire to share the Catholic faith with their children and are held monthly throughout the City of Erie. Call the parish office to register to schedule your preparation. Godparents must be Confirmed and practicing Catholics with a letter of recommendation from their pastor to serve as a sacramental sponsor.

Religious Education, First Holy Communion, and First Reconciliation programs are hosted at Saint Luke's Church for all eastside Erie parishes. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.825.7105).

Confirmation preparation for all eastside Erie parishes is hosted at Saint Luke's Church. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.825.6920).

Sacrament of Holy Orders: God calls all people to holiness. Some men are called to fulfill this vocation as priests. If you are interested in the priesthood, or have questions about it, please contact a parish priest or our Diocesan Vocation Director, Fr. Michael Polenik, at 1.800.374.3723.

Sacrament of Matrimony: Before a date can be scheduled, a priest must be contacted at least six months in advance to complete the required documents.

Sacrament of the Sick: Communal celebrations of Anointing the Sick are scheduled periodically. The sacrament can also be requested by any parishioner who is seriously ill or in danger of death. *Please note:* Federal law no longer permits hospitals or nursing homes to contact churches when a parishioner is admitted. It is important that family members notify the parish office if a loved one needs a visit, desires to receive Holy Communion, or needs to be Anointed.

Leave A Legacy: Consider Saint Stanislaus and Holy Trinity as you meet with your attorney or financial planner regarding your estate planning. Remember the needs of your parish family and leave a legacy of faith for future generations with your generous remembrance.

Bulletin Information Deadline: Please submit information to be included in the weekend bulletin by noon the Monday prior. Holiday bulletin announcements must be received by the parish office two weeks in advance.

Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity

Partners in Faith & Mission

"PRAYER, CARE, AND CONCERN" MINISTRY

Those who participate in this ministry express the care and concern of our entire parish community to those who are ill, hospitalized, homebound, or in nursing facilities, through birthday and holiday cards, visits, and prayers. To request prayers, or to participate in this ministry, contact Rose Marie at 814.923.4438.

"PRAYERLINE" MINISTRY

These ministers devote themselves to prayer for any needs made known to them and any special intentions. To participate in this ministry, or to request prayers for a particular need, contact Kay (825-7328) or Shirley (452-3395) from Saint Stanislaus, or Kathy Benes (898-1091) or Kathy Smith (392-8974) from Holy Trinity.

PCEP (Parish Catholic Education Program)

Parishioners of Holy Trinity can receive a parish grant to assist with the cost of tuition for families who wish their primary or secondary school age children to have a Catholic education. To be eligible, families must participate in the program, attend Mass regularly, and be involved in the parish community. For more information, contact the parish office.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Parishioners interested in serving our worshipping community as an altar server, lector, Eucharistic minister, or music minister, please let one of your priests know.

"PRAYER SHAWL" MINISTRY

The enjoyment of knitting, crocheting, and sewing are uniquely combined with prayer to offer a deeply personal and meaningful spiritual ministry. Shawls are prayerfully made and freely given away to those suffering bereavement, those recovering from illness, the elderly, homebound, and those in nursing facilities. To join us in this ministry, please contact Linda at 814.864.8476.

THE "ZABAWA COMMITTEE"

Held on the parish grounds of Holy Trinity, Zabawa is the largest Polish heritage celebration in the region, drawing tens of thousands of people to our neighborhood. The Zabawa Committee organizes the festival through food preparation, donation solicitation, food and beverage service, and so on. The committee always welcomes any help they receive. If you would like to offer your time, and experience hands-on learning about these rich cultural traditions, contact Ray Luniewski at 882-1032.

PROLIFE COMMUNITY

This ministry advocates through for the protection of all human life from conception until natural death through prayer, education, and action.

ST. STANISLAUS / HOLY TRINITY INITIAL PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM

(please circle which parish)

Family Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Please Check: ☐ New Registration ☐ Change of Address ☐ Change of Telephone Number

☐ Change of E-mail ☐ Moving out of Parish ☐ Want Envelopes

*Place in offertory basket or mail to Parish Office. We will contact you to complete our Census Form.
Welcome to our Parish Family!*

A Community of Faith Built on Tradition, Where Everyone is Welcome

Saint Stanislaus Parish Community

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., May 3rd - Private Intention
Tues., May 4th - Carl Klan (St. Stan's Care & Concern Group)
Wed., May 5th - Clarence Mikolajczak (Family)
Thurs., May 6th - Special Thanksgiving Intention
Fri., May 7th - Ed Czulewicz (Bea Pruzenski)
Sat., May 8th, 4:00PM - For the People of St. Stanislaus (*Pro Populo*)
Sun., May 9th, 9:00AM - Mary Ann Kleiner (Thomas & Eileen Widomski)



Our sanctuary candle burns in memory of **FR. FRANK PRZEPIERSKI** as gifted by Marie.



MAINTENANCE TRUCK

If you are looking for ways to directly assist the parish, we are still accepting solicitations toward our new-used plowing truck. While the parish can make its monthly payments, any additional funds received will help us pay off our loan more quickly. Every little bit helps!

*I think my job
is to make the
grace
of an invisible
God, visible,
wherever I am.*



Our readings today teach us what it means to bear fruit as disciples of Christ. We hear in each of our readings that it is from the Lord that good effects will be produced in our lives. In our first reading, we hear about disciples that were preaching the Good News and defending the faith. The work they were doing was "with the consolation of the Holy Spirit." It was not their work alone, but the work of God. We must ask ourselves, 'how is God bearing fruit in my life?' and 'have I invited the Holy Spirit to work in me?' The more we try to produce good effects in our lives, the more we will become disappointed if all we are relying on is our own efforts. It is only by inviting the Holy Spirit into our everyday moments that we will see goodness poured out. Jesus clearly tells us how to do this in our Gospel. He says, "I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit." We can remain in Christ by staying faithful to His commandments and frequently receiving the sacraments. And our day to day moments should be a reflection of those commitments. That could mean opening our day with a prayer of thanksgiving, smiling at those we see on the street, asking God for help as we begin our workday, praising God in moments of trial, taking time to listen to our spouse after a long day. To remain in Christ means, in all that we do, we do it with the Lord. When we live a life like that — as a branch never separated from its vine — God will produce bountiful fruit in our lives.

WEEKLY OFFERING (APRIL 25, 2021)

	This Week	July 1 to date
Amount we need	\$4,156.00	\$170,396.00
Amount Received	\$2,336.00	\$120,544.00
Net over/under	(\$1,820.00)	(\$49,852.00)

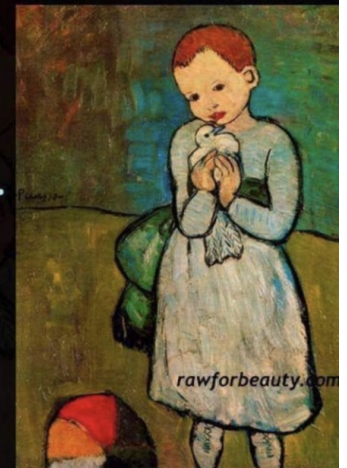
Mass Attendance:
4:00PM = 38; 9:00AM = 52
Envelopes: 52/168

CSA UPDATE

ASSESSMENT: \$30,237.00
PLEDGES: \$32,295.00 (79 families participating)
PAID: \$21,010.00
PARISH PROFIT: \$2,058.00



The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away.
-Picasso



Holy Trinity Parish Community



Sanctuary Candle burns this week in memory of THERESA & CHARLES BRASINGTON as gifted by Ken & Linda.



5/4 - Philip Trochowski
5/7 - Carly LaZar
5/10 - Marc Moore

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., May 3rd - Kulig, Laszczewski, & Habas Families (Estate)
Tues., May 4th - Loretta Lipinski (Bill & Corrine Dyakon)
Wed., May 5th - Souls in Purgatory (Judy Tucceri)
Thurs., May 6th - Anna Marie Neimeic (Family)
Fri., May 7th - Msgr. John Daniszewski (Estate)
Sat., May 8th, 5:15PM - For the People of Holy Trinity (Pro Populo)
Sun., May 9th, 10:30AM - All Mothers, Living & Deceased

Branching Out Isn't Always What It's Cracked Up to Be "That's a really beautiful tree branch. Man, would you look at the bark on that thing? The others are real duds, but that low-hanging branch has really got it all together." I've never heard anyone say this. Maybe I just need to hang out with more arborists, but I can't recall ever hearing someone admire the particular beauty of a single branch. When someone comments on a tree, it's usually the whole tree — perhaps a visual element of it, like the color of the leaves or its height. But people don't usually zero in on one branch. Maybe that's because usually, if one branch is looking a little weak, chances are every other branch is, too. The Bible tells us that when we bear fruit as good everyday stewards, it is for the Father's glory. We are the branch on His magnificent tree. What we have is from Him, and what we do likewise points back to Him. We also tend to reflect how well the other branches around us are incorporating the nutrients coming their way. That's all fine and good in theory. In practice, it can be an arduous exercise in humility. When I do something virtuous or charitable or kind, there is a part of me that wants to stand out for it. I think that's true for all of us. We've given of ourselves in some way or overcome some human temptation to accomplish a little bit of good in this world, and even though we know God sees us, we'd really love for everyone else to see it, too. It's a struggle, for sure. But we need to remember that our fruit belongs to the whole tree.

— Tracy Earl Welliver

MONTHLY CHURCH CLEANING

In the vestibule of Holy Trinity Church we have a sign-up sheet for individuals who would like to volunteer their time to give our Church a little extra attention. Suggestion sheets are available. The following months for 2021 are available: May, August, September and October.

WEEKLY OFFERING FOR APRIL 25, 2021

Regular Offering: \$3,201.00 (32/135)

	THIS WEEK	JULY 1 TO DATE
Dream Goal:	\$3,000.00	\$126,000.00
Budgeted:	\$2,365.00	\$101,819.00
Total Offertory:	\$3,201.00	\$88,414.00
Net (over/under):	\$836.00	(\$13,405.00)

Attendance: 5:15PM = 40; 10:30AM = 39

CSA UPDATE

ASSESSMENT: \$13,285
PLEDGES: \$25,925.00 (63 Families are participating)
PAID: \$22,050.00
PARISH PROFIT: \$12,640.00

The True Vine

"I am the vine: you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.." John 15:5 (NIV)



The puzzle is based on John 15:1-8

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R P O W M P N S I O N F J X Z
S E O G A Z Y M H A P B K G X
N S M L D R W O E P P V T P W
X C U A Y R M L X N X S A Y K
B P P L I A C R T N M F R Z A
X K R N N N A I H W O R D S J
C S U N L E D A R G J N R K X
J J N Q B A K E O L G E V Y T
B E E P W I G J W O U F Y I C
R B S W N I D Z N R O E U V E
A U Z N N H T B T Y G R X N J
N R F D P W H H J Z F N I F H
C N S I J F M K E G B V Y B G
H E Q E R H X G A R D E N E R
U D F V A E W R Z U S S G G E
    
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WORDS CLEAN FRUIT	GARDENER PRUNES BRANCH	REMAIN THROWN FIRE	BEAR VINE WITHERS	GLORY TRUE BURNED
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"... *Whoever remains in me and / in him will bear much fruit...*"

- John 15:5

News for Our Partnership

Dear Parishioners,

During this month, I am going to try and determine where our parishes stand relative to Covid vaccinations. My intention is three-fold. First, as the Bishop's Committee on further reopening of parishes begins their work, I would like to have reliable information to provide them, if needed. Second, it would be helpful in deciding which ministries we may be able to resume (e.g., Young at Heart, Eucharistic Ministry, etc.), and which new ministries we may be able to start (e.g., candle making club, adult faith formation, etc.). Third, for those still reluctant to come to church, having some statistical data may put them more at ease and assist them in deciding when to re-join our community.

Your willingness to assist me in this effort is **COMPLETELY VOLUNTARY**. Parish rosters will be placed in the back of each parish. If you have been fully vaccinated (i.e., two doses, if required, and a two week waiting period), simply highlight your name to indicate such. Also, you can call the Parish Office and we will take care of it for you. As the month unfolds, I will begin compiling the data so that informed decision can be made as we try to move forward with various parish ministries and activities.

Again, your participation is completely voluntary. The only information that I will disclose will be numerical (e.g., percentage of our members who have been vaccinated).

Thanks, in advance, to those who choose to cooperate so that we can bring greater normalcy back to parish life.

- Fr. Jason

REMINDER

"Amazon Smile" is a website operated by Amazon that let's you enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping as is found on "amazon.com." The difference is that when you shop on Amazon Smile, the "Amazon Smile Foundation" will donate a percentage of the purchase price directly to our respective parishes. To start, simply follow the link:

Saint Stan's: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/25-0967487>

Holy Trinity: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/25-1091810>

THE 31 CLUB

With decades of history behind it, the 31 Club is a simple, easily-established program for parishes to use in their vocations-related efforts. It's an ideal program for the involvement of busy parishioners who want to help with vocations but need to be able to fit it into their schedule. Has become a mainstay at parishes around American and around the world. How it works: Sign up to offer Mass one day a month—on a day chosen by the person signing up for the intention of Vocations. Go to Mass or make a Holy Hour on that day each month over the next year and Devote that Mass to an increase in vocations and for priests and religious already serving. No meetings...No dues...Open to all parishioners

DEBT RECOVERY

Have a little extra money from a stimulus check you may not have needed? Consider making a one-time "enhanced giving" offering to help our parishes recover some of our debt brought on by the Covid pandemic.

ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY CARNATION SALE

"People for Life" will be available after Masses next weekend selling carnations. Celebrate Mother's Day by purchasing a beautiful carnation for that special woman in your life. Your donation of \$2 per carnation will help support the pro-life programs and activities right here, in Northwestern Pennsylvania. Vases will be provided at our Blessed Mother's altar should you wish to honor Mary with a carnation of her own.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Like the vine grower in today's gospel, parents must "prune and cleanse" the branches in their family if their children are going to be rooted. Discipline, limits and setting goals are a necessary part of parenting so our children will grow and "bear fruit."

PCEP BINGO (50/50 Raffle; Instant)

SUNDAY MAY 23rd, 1:00PM (doors open at noon)
Polish Falcons Club (431 E. 3rd Street)
Call 814-456-5300 to reserve your seat
Walk-ins Welcome

THE 31 CLUB - PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS

5/3) Judy Tucceri & Jackie Vargo; 5/4) Ed Czulewicz, Evelyn & Ed Selleny; 5/5) Mary Ann Merski & Michelle Inter;
5/6) Msgr Dan Magraw & Joan Oldenski; 5/7) Ed Korytowski & Lori Krasnesky;
5/ 8) Steve Rimpa, Stephanie & Bill Wycech; 5/9) Marcia Nitczynski & Rose Marie Radomski

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

5/3) Fr. Dan Prez; 5/4) Fr. Bill Kuba; 5/5) Fr. James Campbell; 5/6) Fr. Jeff Lucas; 5/7) Fr. Jeff Noble;
5/8) Fr. Jason Mitchell; 5/9) Fr. Jim Kennelley

Sunday, May 02, 2021

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Search for the truth

Acts 9:26-31; 1 John 3:18-24; John 15:1-8

“Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.”

We’ve entered an age when discovering the truth feels more complicated than ever. Some of us are leery of “facts,” knowing how easily they can be manufactured, massaged, or politicized. Traditional sources of truth—government, news media, even organized religion—have proven to be subject to the same failures to which we ourselves are prone. How do we sort out truth from all the political noise that distorts what we hear? John says the Spirit’s been given to us for precisely this task. Pray for the gift of holy discernment.

Monday, May 03, 2021

FEAST OF PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES

Don’t think less of others

1 Corinthians 15:1-8; John 14:6-14

“Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?”

Poor James the Lesser. The other apostle named James—the Greater—got the better nickname. We don’t even know anything about James the Lesser, other than his name and that Jesus picked him to be one of the 12—but that alone speaks volumes about this James. We’ve all experienced what it feels like to have labels attached to us that make us feel less in the eyes of others, if we even feel seen or known at all. But God looks past those labels to the truth of our identity. That’s where you’ll find your value and dignity, even if others don’t seem to. Remember that, like James, you are God’s chosen.

Tuesday, May 04, 2021

EASTER WEEKDAY

May their force be with us

Acts 14:19-28; John 14:27-31

“Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.”

Today is Teacher Appreciation Day, recognizing teachers as a force for good—especially in this pandemic year. Through John Baptist de La Salle, patron saint of all teachers, we might say the best educators naturally follow a “Lasallian” philosophy of education. “The Lasallian tradition emphasizes the fact that all people, especially the young, have an inherent dignity which comes from their being created in the image of God,” explains St. Mary’s College of Winona. “Education is a means of developing this dignity for the well-being of each student as well as for the well-being of our society.” Thank a teacher today.

Wednesday, May 05, 2021

EASTER WEEKDAY

Celebrate the dignity of diversity

Acts 15:1-6; John 15:1-8

“I am the vine and you are the branches.”

Though today’s “Cinco de Mayo” celebrations commemorate but a single Mexican victory over France at the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862, in the United States it has become an opportunity to honor the heritage and culture of Mexican people. As folks revel in parades and festivals, enjoying Mexican cuisine and music, we recall these words from the Catechism of the Catholic Church: “Human interdependence is increasing and spreading through the World... embracing people who enjoy equal natural dignity.” Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with a prayer of gratitude for the richness of human diversity.

Thursday, May 06, 2021

EASTER WEEKDAY

Focus on the essentials

Acts 15:7-21, John 15:9-11

“...we ought to stop troubling the Gentiles who turn to God.”

One of the earliest conflicts in the church had to do with whether Gentiles should have to follow the laws and customs of Judaism. Because Christianity grew out of Judaism, early church leaders had a hard time sorting out what was essential to the emerging Christian faith and what was simply the “way we’ve always done it.” This question continues to vex church leaders to this day and has gone through many iterations—from questions about ritual practices, to prayers and social norms. What is essential to the faith? That we love God with our whole heart, mind, and soul, and love our neighbor as ourselves. Everything else may well be a matter of custom. When it comes to faith, take time today to get back to the basics.

Friday, May 07, 2021

EASTER WEEKDAY

Connect with creation and Creator

Acts 15:22-31; John 15:12-17

“It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain.”

If you have a garden, you might be checking the forecast these days to see if conditions are right for planting. Gardens play an outsize role in the Christian imagination. From the Garden of Eden to the Garden of Gethsemane, key events happen in gardens. For centuries communities of sisters, brothers, and priests have cultivated gardens for food, edification, and connection to a major metaphor for spiritual development. Seek out a patch of green, and whether you plant a seed or enjoy a bloom, connecting with creation will connect you with the Creator.

Saturday, May 08, 2021

EASTER WEEKDAY

Elevate your spiritual gaze

Acts 16:1-10; John 15:18-21

“You do not belong to the world; I have chosen you out of the world.”

Blessed Teresa Demjanovich (1901-27) has been called America’s “Little Flower.” Like Thérèse from Lisieux, France, Teresa from Bayonne, New Jersey was a spiritual writer of great insight who also died young. Because of her virtue, her writings, and a miracle healing attributed to her intercession, she was beatified in the Newark cathedral in 2014, the first-ever such ceremony held in the United States. Her elevation to sainthood awaits confirmation of a second miracle. Teresa’s mother died in the 1918 pandemic, which killed well over 500,000 Americans. Sound sadly familiar? Ask Blessed Teresa’s intercession for all who have suffered because of COVID-19.

