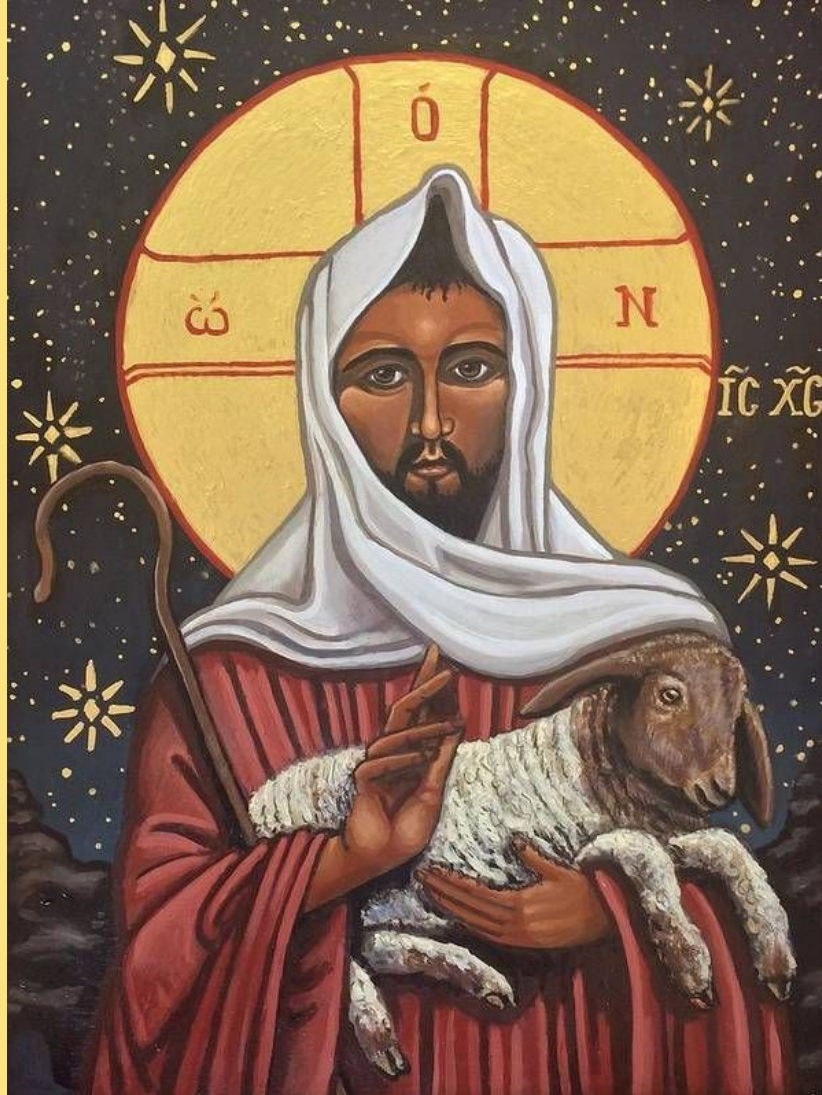


THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 8, 2022



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)

Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:
Saturday at 4:00PM; Sunday at 9:00AM
*** Daily Eucharist: Call the Parish Office**

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

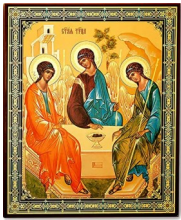
2220 Reed Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503
814.456.0671
www.holytrinityrc.org

email: parishoffice@holytrinityrc.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)

Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:
Saturday at 5:15PM; Sunday at 10:30AM
*** Daily Eucharist: Call the Parish Office**



Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity

Partners in Faith & Mission



May 8, 2022
4th Sunday of Easter

"Human beings, while capable of the worst, are also capable of rising above themselves, choosing again what is good, and making a new start." (Pope Francis) We have a difficult time figuring out what is true and best for us. There are many voices talking and so many trying to get our attention. We wrongly convince ourselves that the true voice is the voice of progress, the one that speaks of contemporary wants and desires, enticing us with the latest trends and causes. We are taught, by listening to the voices around us, that truth is found in feelings and thought, and ideals must match current and popular human wants. Because we feel a particular way it must be true. Then, we find a shepherd who empathizes with us and affirms us. We follow that voice even though listening to that voice will render us powerless and lead us to harm. There are many with me in this procession to this pasture. I must be on the right path and listening to the right voice.

We are very confused. What can keep us safe and from harm? Where do we go to find life, love, and happiness? Jesus tells us that he is the way, the truth, and the life. The only way to get to Truth, who is God, is through him. There is no other way. The Church, the gate around God's pasture of life, is charged with the mission of directing us where God desires that we go. In the midst of all of the conflicting voices around us, the voice of truth is often muffled in all of the noise, but it beckons us to a life of virtue and grace. Helping us understand who we are and where we have to be, it discerns the voice of God, providing us with the safety net we need to stay straight on our path to life eternal.

We have to trust the voice of God, the true Shepherd, even when it does not mirror what we want and what others may believe. Faith goes way beyond feeling and involves a radical trust in Someone who can lead us and form us. At day's end, if we do not know to find our way home, we will be truly lost.

Readings for the week of May 08, 2022

Sunday: Acts 13:14, 43-52/Ps 100:1-5/Rv 7:9, 14-17/Jn 10:27-30
Monday: Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4/Jn 10:1-10
Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1-7/Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday: Acts 12:24-13:5/Ps 67:2-8/Jn 12:44-50
Thursday: Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27/Jn 13:16-20
Friday: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-11/Jn 14:1-6
Saturday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-8/Jn 15:9-17
Next Sunday: Acts 14:21-27/Ps 145:8-13/Rv 21:1-5/Jn 13:31-35

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, Scott Jabo, at 1.814.824.1181.

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 Saint Stanislaus Office (814-452-6606).

"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 Saint Stanislaus Office (814-452-6606 or Holy Trinity Office (814-456-0671).

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 Saint Stanislaus Office (814-452-6606).

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 Holy Trinity Office (814-456-0671).

PROLIFE COMMUNITY

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

"PRAYER CANDLE" MAKING MINISTRY

This ministry makes prayer candles from the church's left over bee's wax. They meet on Wednesdays, from 10AM - Noon in St. Stanislaus Parish Hall. No experience necessary.

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 9th - Private Intention
Tues., May 10th - Anna Mae Meyers (Kathy & Jack Ciecierski)
Wed., May 11th - Casimir & Paul Lukowich (Family)
Thurs., May 12th - Mary Macie (Jim)
Fri., May 13th - Helen Dubowski (M./M. Michael Dvorznak, Henry & Katie Frenck)
Sat., May 14th, 4:00PM - In Thanksgiving (Ed & Jacque Macie)
Sun., May 15th, 9:00AM - For the People of St. Stanislaus



Our sanctuary candle burns in memory of **DARLENE**, as gifted by Mom & Dad.



WELCOME

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to John "Jay" Ciecierski who formally registered as a parishioner of Saint Stanislaus. Welcome, Jay!

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Today's gospel reminds us to be shepherds for our children who depend on us to be their guides and role models. Where are we leading them? When they "hear our voice" what message do they hear?

SSJ SOUP KITCHEN

The next time we will be collecting donated goods for the SSJ Soup Kitchen (individually wrapped items like Little Debbie's and Hostess) will be on the weekend of **May 14-15**. They can also be brought to the Nazareth Center between 2:00-3:00PM on May 16th.

HOLY WATER DISPENSER

Does using a community holy water font still make you uncomfortable? Thanks to the generosity of one of our parishioners, a touchless holy water dispenser has been installed in the vestibule of the church. It works much like our touchless sanitizer dispensers. Simply place your hand under the machine and a small amount of holy water will be released into your hand.

WOMEN'S SOCIETY

The Women's Society will meet next Sunday, May 15, at 1:00PM, in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to attend.

CARNATION SALE

Our Prolife Committee is, once again, sponsoring a Mother's Day Carnation Sale the weekend of May 7-8. Carnations will be available in the vestibule following Mass. A vase on the Blessed Mother altar will be made available for anyone wishing to honor Our Lady with a donated carnation. Proceeds will benefit People for Life and their pro-life educational projects.

RELUCTANT SHEEP

Sheep get an awfully bad rap, linguistically. Some are quick to label people as "sheep" if we think they haven't sufficiently questioned authority or if they're too willing to go along with someone else's plan. We say someone has "the wool over their eyes" if they aren't willing to see what we think is very obvious. "A wolf in sheep's clothing" is what we call someone looking to take advantage of those too gullible to identify a real threat. Taking all this into account and considering how often we are referred to as sheep in Scripture, you've really got to wonder if God trying to tell us something about ourselves. If you look at the phraseology associated with sheep, it's no wonder that nobody wants to be one. Sheep are innocent. Sheep can't protect themselves. They're vulnerable and easily misled. We want to see ourselves as the opposite of all that. We like to think we're shrewd, with plenty of common sense. We want to believe that we don't have to rely on anybody for anything. We would sooner identify with the wolf than with the sheep — at least the wolf can take care of himself. We do this because we often resist the need to rest in the greatness of God. Like a child walking to school alone for the first time (forgetting his mom is following watchfully in the car), we want to think we can handle it all by ourselves. The truth is that God is trying to tell us something by comparing us to sheep: You don't have to do this on your own. Every time I look at an obstacle and think that there is no way around it, I am forgetting that I have a shepherd who knows the location of the gate.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



WEEKLY OFFERING (MAY 1, 2022)



Holy Trinity Parish Community



The sanctuary candle burns this week in memory of **AUDREY KITA**, as gifted by Pearl & Kathy.



5/10 - Marc Moore
5/13 - Susan Nitkiewicz
5/15 - Nancy Benczkowski

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., May 9th - All Souls
Tues., May 10th - Fr. Jim Kennelly
Wed., May 11th - Msgr. Richard Stack
Thurs., May 12th - John Bailey (Ed Czulewicz)
Fri., May 13th - Delphine Gorniak (Jim Bojarski)
Sat., May 14th, 5:15PM - Alexander Sadowski (Regina Jaworski)
Sun., May 15th, 10:30AM - The People of Holy Trinity Parish (Pro Populo)

Throughout the Easter season, our readings have given us glimpses into the life of the newborn Church and the bold witness of the early disciples in spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ to all who would listen. The disciples were the first to live a stewardship way of life, and their example is as relevant today as it was 2,000 years ago. In the First Reading, from the Acts of the Apostles, we catch up with Paul and Barnabas in Antioch. While they certainly have some success in reaching many people there with the message of salvation, others are downright infuriated by their words and send them packing. Yet, we read that "the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit." Overall, it seems as if Paul and Barnabas had failed in Antioch. But seeing failure has not robbed them of their joy. What's more, they are filled to the brim with the abundant gifts of the Holy Spirit. How is this possible? It is only possible because Paul and Barnabas saw themselves as nothing more and nothing less than stewards of Christ and His Good News. This realization brought them freedom — to offer themselves and their lives to others for the sake of the Gospel. The "results" of their efforts were up to God. This Spirit-filled, joy-filled life is available to us all today. It can be achieved when we recognize, as did Paul and Barnabas, that all we have and all we are is a gift from God, meant to be shared with others for His glory. Of course, living as God's stewards does not guarantee a life of ease or a life free of sacrifice. Sometimes the steward's life involves challenges, requiring all the strength and love one has to give. In the end, there is simply no more satisfying way to live.

LET THE CELEBRATIONS RESUME!

Sunday, June 12th is the Feast of the Holy Trinity. Holy Trinity Parish would like to resume the practice of a catered brunch following the 10:30AM Mass. We will recognize our students who received First Penance or First Communion, Confirmation, and those graduating from High School or College this year (or did so during the Pandemic). Parishioners and the immediate family of the students are asked to make their reservation for the brunch by calling the Parish Office (814-456-0671) with your family name and the number attending the Mass and Brunch. RSVP need to be made as soon as possible, but before, Sunday, June 5th.

WEEKLY OFFERING FOR MAY 1, 2022

Regular Offering: \$2,442.00 (31/131)

	THIS WEEK	JULY 1 TO DATE
Dream Goal:	\$3,000.00	\$123,000.00
Budgeted:	\$2,365.00	\$100,261.00
Total Offertory:	\$2,442.00	\$105,752.00
Net (over/under):	\$77.00	\$5,491.00

Attendance: 5:15PM = 34; 10:30AM = 47

117 DAYS UNTIL ZABAWA!
August 26, 27, 28



Mother's Day
Second Sunday of May

G	T	O	A	N	O	I	T	A	I	C	E	R	P	P	A
D	E	T	O	V	E	D	C	W	G	A	E	R	A	H	S
E	N	E	A	M	L	O	A	E	U	S	T	F	I	G	T
T	D	A	O	O	M	R	N	I	I	O	C	W	I	S	E
H	E	M	V	F	M	O	S	I	D	H	O	S	U	T	P
E	R	E	O	S	H	B	R	E	A	K	F	A	S	T	R
B	E	R	R	P	R	T	I	R	N	O	U	P	M	E	O
E	T	Y	E	G	R	E	M	A	C	H	E	O	L	T	T
S	E	L	R	C	N	I	W	M	E	R	E	U	M	R	E
T	E	E	A	E	N	I	A	O	F	O	F	S	O	E	C
T	N	N	R	G	L	T	V	U	L	I	T	E	T	T	T
E	D	A	R	U	E	E	M	I	T	F	O	S	H	H	I
Y	E	A	V	R	T	E	W	U	G	E	Y	S	E	G	V
E	E	Y	N	R	I	R	A	E	W	R	G	I	R	U	E
M	O	A	E	O	T	E	U	E	J	U	O	K	C	A	T
J	L	A	G	R	B	I	I	N	H	U	O	F	E	L	N

APPRECIATION
BEAUTIFUL
BREAKFAST
CANDY
CHARMING
COMFORT
DEVOTED
FLOWERS
FORGIVING
GIFTS

GUIDANCE
HUGS
JEWELRY
JOY
KISSES
LAUGHTER
LOVE
MATERNAL
MOM
MOTHER

NURTURE
PERFUME
PROTECTIVE
SHARE
TELEPHONE
TENDER
THE BEST
WARM
WISE



He is
R
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"My sheep hear my voice. I know them and they follow me"

- John 10:27-28

News for Our Partnership

PLEASE NOTE

The Parish Offices will be **CLOSED** from 11AM-1PM each Tuesday of this month as our secretaries will be in training with new parish software system that the Diocese is implementing.

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL will host its first ever drive-through barbeque Chicken Dinner on Sunday, May 22, from noon until 4PM. All orders must be made in advance and pre-paid. The deadline for orders is Sunday, May 15th, and the cost is \$12. Orders can be placed with the Parish Office (814.825.7313, ext. 1), or at www.olmc-erie.org. Thank you, in advance, for your support of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

ERIE CATHOLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM SUMMER CAMP

Students are invited to join us at this year's summer camp. They will enjoy daily activities, weekly themes, and field trips – all in a safe, caring environment. Daily breakfast and lunch are provided. Camp is offered at 4 convenient locations. Visit www.eriecatholic.org for more information.

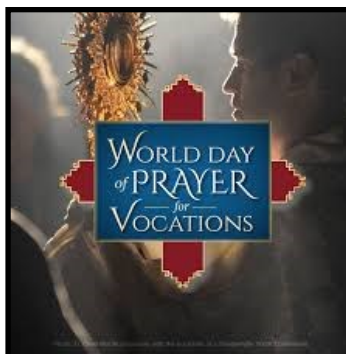
THANK YOU FROM THE PRIESTS

Last weekend, our parish took a second collection to support our retired diocesan priest fund. Despite these difficult economic times we appreciate your generous response to share in the care of those faithful priests who have ministered to your spiritual needs. Your priests truly appreciate your support and thank you for contributing, \$769.00 to the Good Shepherd Collection for Erie Diocesan Retired Priests

If you would like to add your support to this collection you may still return the special collection envelope for Good Shepherd in upcoming collections.

PRE-ELECTION GATHERING

Holy Trinity Ushers will host their traditional pre-election gathering on Sunday, May 15th in our parish social hall from 4:00 until 7:00PM. The cost is \$15.00 and you must be 21 to attend. Come and meet the candidates and enjoy food and drink and interact with them before the upcoming primary on Tuesday, May 17th.



**Good Shepherd
Sunday,
MAY 8th,
2022**

DIOCESAN VOCATIONS PRAYER

Lord God, creator of all things and sources of all gifts and talents, your Son came to this world to fulfill His vocation as the Redeemer of all humanity.

Grant the sons and daughters of the parishes of the Diocese of Erie a profound awareness of their own vocations. Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, may they come to realize their distinct place in your divine plan.

Give them the grace to recognize and the courage to pursue vocations as devoted priests, deacons, and consecrated women and men to assist the Diocese of Erie in fulfilling her mission.

With the intercession of Saint Patrick, our patron, who preached the Gospel in word and deed, we pray that they may find happiness and fulfillment in a life of service to others. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

We are grateful to the parishioners from our combined churches who, as members of the 31 Club, commit to pray the Rosary and offer their intention for vocations at least one day a month – for an increase of vocations to Priesthood, Religious Life and the permanent Diaconate. We invite those parishioners already doing this to recommit on the enclosed flyer and return to the parish office. We encourage more of our parishioners to signup. Our goal is to have at least 100 members in our 31 Club. There are no meetings, no dues to pay, simply PRAYER for vocations to serve you and the Church tomorrow and for years to come. **Return the 31 Club flyer in the next few weeks.** Mark your calendar for your day to pray if you forget, we will remind you in the weekly church bulletins.

THE 31 CLUB - PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS

5/9) Marcia Nitczynski & Rose Marie Radomski; 5/10) Tony Jankowski & Eleanor Walker;
5/11) Sandy Kempisty & Ray Przybyszewski; 5/12) Edie Luniewski & Debbie Oldenski; 5/13) Shirley Widomski;
5/14) Julie Slomski & Katherine Krainski; 5/15) Dorothy & Mead Carlson, Nancy & Art Kujawinski, & Carol Clark

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

5/9) Msgr. Andy Karg; 5/10) Fr. Greg Passauer; 5/11) Fr. Jim Gutting; 5/12) All in Consecrated Life; 5/13) Fr. Bill Kuba;
5/14) Fr. Jason Mitchell; 5/15) Fr. John Fischer

Sunday, May 08, 2022

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER; GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

Be a goodness trafficker

Acts 13:14, 43-52; Revelation 7:9, 14b-17; John 10:27-30
"My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me."

Many of us are proud to be good at what we do whether it is a trade, craft, profession, or pastoral role. Yet few of us claim to be experts at our special task. Sister of Charity Blessed Miriam Teresa Demjanovich of New Jersey is called a "genius of the soul" for her instructions on the mystical life. In a key closing lesson, she writes: "Union with God, then, is the spiritual height God calls everyone to achieve - anyone... who specializes in the traffic of eternal good, who says 'yes' constantly to God." On this Mother's Day, pray that every mother may become, and also nurture, "soul geniuses" and traffic in eternal good.

Monday, May 09, 2022

Flying in formation

Acts 11:1-18; John 10:1-10
"The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice."

Did you think that Catholic cardinals came to be so called because their red robes were reminiscent of the birds with the same name? Nope—it's actually the other way around. Cardinals—that is, the senior members of the clergy—wear red because it symbolizes their willingness to sacrifice for their faith. The birds came to be called cardinals because they reminded people of the red-clad men who make up the church's College of Cardinals. The word cardinal comes from the Latin word for "hinge"—upon which a gate or door opens. Pray for these leaders and their flocks to open their eyes, ears, and hearts as we find our way together into the future church.

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

MEMORIAL OF JOHN OF ÁVILA, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Thank you, God

Acts 11:19-26; John 10:22-30
"He rejoiced and encouraged them all to remain faithful to the Lord..."

German Catholic mystic Meister Eckhart gets credit for these eloquent words: "If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is 'Thank you,' it will be enough." More than a century later, another Catholic mystic would offer a slightly different view. Spanish priest Saint John of Ávila, recognized as a doctor of the church, wrote: "A single 'Blessed be God' in adversity is worth more than a thousand acts of thanksgiving in prosperity." But in the end, you can't go wrong following King David's direction in Psalm 34 to "Bless the Lord at all times" - even when it seems impossible.

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

Cultivate a missionary's heart

Acts 12:24—13:5a; John 12:44-50
"So may your way be known...; among all nations, your salvation."

Today we celebrate the feast of Servant of God Matteo Ricci, a Jesuit missionary to China during the 16th and 17th centuries. He was known for his multitudinous academic ventures for the benefit of his constituents and for his openness to (and adoption of) the local culture. He is famous for creating a Chinese map of the known world, for his consultations with Chinese royalty on matters of astronomy and science, and for his assistance in translating important works from Latin to Chinese—and vice versa. Let your own gifts overflow in a life of witness.

Thursday, May 12, 2022

MEMORIAL OF NEREUS AND ACHILLEUS, MARTYRS; PANCRAS, MARTYR

Pray for the courage of conviction

Acts 13:13-25; John 13:16-20
"Whoever receives me receives the one who sent me."

Today we honor three martyrs, Saints Nereus, Achilleus, and Pancras. Attitudes toward martyrs can run hot and cold. "Ugh, they just want to be a martyr," we say about the self-aggrandizing who put their sacrifices on display. In one of his sermons, Saint Augustine chided false martyrs, those who flaunted punishments they received for promoting schismatic beliefs. But when we see the real deal, a person whose heart is so big that "sacrifice" feels less like pain and more like love, we applaud their martyrdom. Open our hearts, O God, so that we can sacrifice like that.

Friday, May 13, 2022

MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Let a new era of peace begin

Acts 13:26-33; John 14:1-6
"Blessed are those who hear the word of God and observe it."

In 1917 during a time of great turmoil in Europe, three Portuguese children reported seeing an apparition of Mary in which, it was later revealed, the Blessed Mother called for people to imitate her faithfulness to Christ as a way to achieve peace. According to Carmelite Sister Lúcia dos Santos, one of the children of Fatima, Mary also promised that the consecration of Russia by the world's bishops would lead to an era of peace. Amid the devastation of Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine, the Catholic bishops of Ukraine requested Pope Francis to consecrate Ukraine and Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, which he did on March 25, asking all the world's bishops to join him from their own dioceses. May we continue to follow Mary's example of discipleship as a way of achieving peace at home and abroad.

Saturday, May 14, 2022

FEAST OF MATTHIAS, APOSTLE

The making of an apostle

Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; John 15:9-17
"It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you."

There are alternate ways of becoming an apostle. Number one is being called directly by Jesus, as were the 12 apostles. Then there's today's saint, Matthias, who was chosen by drawing lots. Saint Paul was a self-proclaimed apostle. Junia and her partner Andronicus are called apostles in Romans 16:7. The church also designates apostles: Patrick was the "Apostle of Ireland," Boniface the "Apostle to the Germans," and Mary Magdalene has the honor of being the "Apostle to the Apostles." The word apostle means sent, so in a sense when we are sent forth at the end of Mass, we're all apostles. How does that change your understanding of who you are?

Mother's Day Prayer

Heavenly Father,
We lift up all mothers today and
thank them for their guidance and love.
We ask You to bless them
with Your own special love, today and always.
Amen.

