

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 14TH, 2017

As I mentioned in my homily last weekend, Jesus made seven declarations of His divine identity and purpose as found in the Gospel of St. John. In today's gospel we hear the sixth of the seven "I am" statements.

Immediately after announcing that He is "the resurrection and the life," Jesus clarifies, "I am the only way, the absolute truth, and the eternal life."

In his gospel John presents the person of Jesus as the guide in life, the Christian center. Our work for Jesus and our love for people, no matter what our calling, flow from this. Mother Teresa was once asked why she did what she did, and she simply said, "for Jesus". The center holds, it cannot be unhinged. In a deeply personal relationship, we are led by Jesus "one by one," known by name. "No one can come to the Father except through me." We follow Jesus as one we know, not as a stranger. Studying his life and times, getting to know the places and events of his life, becoming familiar with the gospels and really getting to know him in the heart of prayer, we build that relationship. Knowing Jesus is the way to keep conviction and motivation strong. As this happens, freedom grows. We begin to find him everywhere.

Today's gospel teaches us that we can get so caught up on insignificant or even big truths and doctrines, that we miss the center of faith; we miss Jesus. We need to balance our faith with our closeness to Jesus.

Jesus, our way, guide me in life. Jesus, our truth, teach me the meaning of life. Jesus, our life, love me always.

Father Ricardo

THANK YOU!

The month of May seems to be a time for congratulations and gratitude to so many of our parishioners. Most important of all, we are grateful to our parents and teachers, who prepared our children for their FIRST EUCHARIST on May 6th. The following day, the FIRST COMMUNICANTS joined our ROSARIANS to honor the Mother of God, the patroness of our parish. The group crowned Mary "Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May" at the 9:30 Mass last Sunday.

Celebrate Fatima – 100th Anniversary

On Saturday, May 13th you are invited to a Procession and Mass honoring the 100th Anniversary of the Apparitions at Fatima, after the 5:00 Mass. A covered-dish supper to follow. Food can be dropped off in the Parish Hall before Mass. For additional information call Loretta Lagala at 201-240-4933.

From Father Ricardo's Desk:

DAY OF JOY, DAY OF GLADNESS

First Communion Weekend is one of the greatest and most joyful days in the life of a parish. We pray that God will bless these children and that they will always remain close to the Lord. We thank their parents for entrusting them to our religious education program for faith formation. Thank you to Mrs. Mary Jo Bancroft and all of the catechists, who have worked in preparing our young people for this significant occasion.

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

Catholics have been contributing to the work of the Successor of Peter for centuries. Essentially, Peter's Pence allows Catholics to assist the Holy Father with many humanitarian causes, very poor dioceses, and support for other work of the Apostolic See. The Peter's Pence collection in our parish will be taken the weekend of May 27-28, 2017. Thank you, as always, for your generosity and goodness.

SUMMER AHEAD

Thank you for your continued generous support of our parish in spite of these difficult economic times. Your support of our parish is very much appreciated. During the summer months, some people are able to take much needed vacations. Just a gentle reminder to ask you to try as best as you are able to continue to return your envelopes to the parish office even during vacations. I know that this is another request for you to sacrifice, but your generosity is appreciated and needed. Thank you, and God bless you.

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord A Holy Day of Obligation

May 25th is the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, a holy day of obligation. Masses in observance of the Holy Day will be celebrated in the Church. The schedule of Masses for this holy day of obligation is: Thursday, May 25th at 8:45 am (as usual) and 7:30 PM.

It takes sacrifice to come to Mass in the middle of the week, even on a holy day of obligation; but it also provides an opportunity to be strengthened by God's Word and the Body and Blood of Christ that we receive in the Eucharist. Happy Feast Day.

2017-2018 CCD REGISTRATION

Registration forms and fees are due no later than May 31st. Please return your form and fee to the Parish office as soon as possible. For your convenience a registration table will be set up in the Church hall after all the Masses on May 20 and 21.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

The Gifts or Bread and Wine for this week are offered in Memory of Gertrude Weis, requested by her Family.

SUNDAY – MAY 14

8:00am +Connie Schwartz and June Graf req. by Family
9:30am +Theresa and Damiano DeLeo req. by Antonia Caltagirone
11:00am +Ted Dugas Sr. req. by Ted Dugas
1:00pm Spanish Mass

MONDAY - MAY 15

8:45am +Joseph Cannizzaro req. by Family
17th Anniversary

TUESDAY – MAY 16

8:45am - Intentions of Florence Guilfoyle req. Donna and Tony Macerino

WEDNESDAY - MAY 17

8:45am +Ralph A. Loveys, Sr, req.by Paula and Brian Kloza

THURSDAY – MAY 18

8:45am +Intentions of Theresa and John Orso req. by Donna and Tony Macerino

FRIDAY - MAY 19

8:45am +Norm Thompson req. by Thompson Family

SATURDAY -- MAY 20

8:45am +Nicholas Chciuk req. by Theresa and John Orso

5:00pm +Kevin Curran req. by Jean and Roger Gray

SUNDAY – MAY 21

8:00am +Margaret Schneider req. by Mary Beth and Bob Mabey and Family
9:30am +Theresa Neubauer req. by Corbutt Family
11:00am + Nicholas Chciuk by Josephine Donahue
1:00pm MASS IN SPANISH

PLEASE PRAY FOR PEACE IN THE WORLD AND PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY

This Week's Events:

Sun 11:00am - Gather the Children
Tue 6:30pm – Community Rosary
7:00pm – Holy Hour
Wed 7:30pm – Choir Practice
Thur 10:00am – Legion of Mary
6:30pm – Legion of Mary
6:30 pm - Middle School Youth Group
7:30 pm - High School Youth Group
Fri 7:30 pm - Faith Formation

DIOCESAN MAY CROWNING AT OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE, BRANCHVILLE – MAY 14TH, at 3 p.m.

LEGION OF MARY: Thursdays at 10:00am & 6:30pm
ROSARY SOCIETY: Tuesday after First Sunday – 7:00pm
PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: Second Tuesday

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROUS SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH. GOD BLESS YOU.

MAY 7, 1017

1ST COLLECTION \$ 4745.00
DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT \$ 1015.50

The next Maintenance collection will be May 20-21. Thank you for your continued support.

FAITH FORMATION

On Friday, May 19th at 6:30, the Faith Formation group with Deacon Bill will begin viewing *Bishop Robert Barron's series, "The Pivotal Players: St. Francis of Assisi"*. The film runs an hour, followed by a short discussion. Everyone is welcome.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Thank you to all who contributed to our Veteran Appreciation dinner. Check the parish website for pictures of the thirty veterans and guests who attended.

Sunday, May 21st, we will be selling hot pretzels and taking orders for the RELAY FOR LIFE luminaries, which benefit the American Cancer Society. The cost is \$10. This year's walk is dedicated to Vinnie Ventriglia.

PLEASE REMEMBER AND PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

Aidan Alvarez, Scott Anderson, Baby Grace Andrews John Appar, Robert Aquino, Artie, Jude Basso, Ray Bonomini, Tina Brightly, Janet Brunke, Rose Bruno, Roberta Busch, Jerry Calcagno, Jerzy Chciuk, Carolina Chmarney, Louis Cimaglia, Teresa Contento, Aibhlinn Coyle, Elizabeth Copeland, Patricia and Paul Corbutt, Doug Crum, Joan Dahl, Nathanael Davenport, Jean Marie Day, Alice DeLorenzo, Robyn DelMonte Allie Dignan, Eileen Donahue, Josephine Donahue, Katie Drago, Roseann Dundon, Jim Ecker, Barbara Etzel, Eva Ferlauto, Debbie Fuentes, John Gonzalez, Florence Guilfoyle, Barbara Hellwig, Tom Hibbits, Jean Jones, Julianna Klinger, Carly Kosen, Brian Linke, Henry Mancuso, Rose Martis, Fran and Larry Marsh, James McAlary, Kathy Nestico, Jennifer Oldham, Janis O'Neill, Theresa Orso, Joan Queft, Maura Reagan, Mary Reynolds, Shelly, Lou Pra Sisto, Kateri and Sam Sullivan, Father Matthew Twigg, Mary VanDyke, Pat and Jim Van Gorder, Vincent Ventriglia, Mark Verrico, Russy Wright, Ron