

Sixth Sunday of Easter

MAY 22, 2022



THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

First: Acts 15:1-2, 22-29

Second: Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23

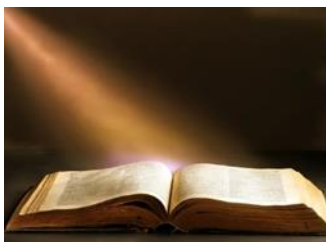
Gospel: John 14:23-29

FOCUS: As our Easter journey continues, may the promise of the Spirit give us hope and strength.

Our Gospel brings us back to the Last Supper. Knowing his disciples will need encouragement for the events that lie ahead, Jesus grants them the gift of peace and the promise of the Spirit. We also need those gifts as we strive to live the Gospel life and be faithful to Christ.

LITURGY OF THE WORD:

The early Church – under the guidance of the Holy Spirit – debates whether the Gentiles should be forced to abide by Jewish customs. John describes a stunning vision of the holy city Jerusalem with its walls, gates, inscriptions and the glory of God giving it light. In the Gospel, Jesus grants his disciples the gift of peace and the promise of the Holy Spirit, who will teach and remind them of all he taught them.



MASS INTENTIONS

5 p.m.: Michael Mont, Michael Stanek and William Hanson

9 a.m.: Suzanne Gibbons, Louis F. Harlow and Eric Harlow

11 a.m.: Frances Hernandez, Christopher Peluso and Frank Simmons

TREASURER'S REPORT

May 8-15: Totaled \$ 6,086.82

Envelopes: \$ 2,385.00 – Online: \$ 3,701.82

THANK YOU

CONFIRMATION

Along with being sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, our 21 Confirmandi were blessed with an enlightening experience at the hands of the Most Rev. Gerardo J. Colacicco, D.D. Described as “very spiritual” by several in attendance, it seems that Bishop Colacicco radiated spirituality at an early age.

In his engaging homily, he spoke of the two women he hopes to meet in heaven, women he passed as a boy on his way to church as they were near their church. One took his face in her hands after asking if he believed in Jesus, and said to the other, “Look, you can see the love in his face for Jesus.”

That love also glowed on the faces of those being confirmed last Saturday. They were attentive and participatory during Mass and listened intently to Bishop Colacicco's words. Then it was time for the symbolic Imposition of Hands, signaling the transition from Confirmation candidate to Confirmandi.

A parting wish he shared involved vocations. He told the Confirmandi about his bishop's staff or crosier – that it belonged to the bishop who confirmed him.

“Maybe my crosier will go to one of you.”

Congratulations, Confirmandi!

Gianna Alessandaro

Caroline Barth

April Conklin

Kayden Conklin

Allison Corin

John Ercolani

Joseph Fontana

Molly Hoover

Kayleigh Kuzmiak

Jocelyn Loennecker

Matthew Martir

Jillian Masci

Logan McKenna

Ethan McPhillips

Caitlyn Murphy

Alessandra Pierpoint

Cooper Sherry

Jake Thompson

Shea Toback

Sophia Zovko

Angelo Zullo



ASCENSION THURSDAY

The **Ascension of the Lord**, also known as Ascension Thursday, marks Jesus' ascent into heaven 40 days after his Resurrection. It is a Holy Day of Obligation that this year falls on **Thursday, May 26**. Masses will be celebrated here at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.

ARCHDIOCESE ON ATTENDING MASS

A recurring question from many priests is, "Can we remove the dispensation from attending Mass, which many people believe they have?" Whenever it comes up, it allows for the opportunity to remind everyone that in the Archdiocese, the cardinal never dispensed from the obligation to go to Mass on Sunday.

Some bishops used that word, but the Archdiocese never gave a dispensation from Mass, so we can't exactly say it has been lifted. The obligation for Sunday Mass is always there. It's a divine law. We didn't make it up, and we can't dispense from it. His Eminence simply instructed the people that they have the right to make a prudential, moral, laudable judgment to excuse themselves, given the gravity of their condition which prevented them from attending. We have a lot of our elders who are still housebound, and they shouldn't feel they need to come back.

Some of the conditions that may have kept people away are gone now. We have to begin to ask ourselves if we can safely return to Mass. One of the ways to gauge that is to ask, "What else am I doing?" If people are going to restaurants or soccer games or getting their hair done, they should be able to come to Mass. If they are socializing in these and other ways, we need to encourage them to come back.

RELIGIOUS ED REGISTRATION

Yes, we actually have to talk about fall when summer hasn't even officially begun. But you know the harsh reality: September will be here before we know it.

For children who have not yet participated in our program but are either entering first grade or relocating from another parish, please contact Jessica Carpino, religious education coordinator, at 361-5816.



STATEMENT FROM NYS BISHOPS

"As far back as the 1980s, the late John Cardinal O'Connor, a giant of the pro-life movement, made a pledge that we reaffirm today: Any woman – regardless of age, religious belief or affiliation, marital status or immigration status – who is pregnant and in need, can come to the Catholic Church and we will give you the services and supports you need to carry your baby to term, regardless of your ability to pay.

"Furthermore, we will not abandon you and your baby after delivery, but, rather, we will see to it that you have the resources that you and your child both need and deserve. No one will be turned away from life-affirming care.

"If you have had an abortion that you regret, whether recently or in the distant past, please come to us as well, so that we may offer you services to help you to heal."

CALL TO JUSTICE

"We know that the path through hatred and pain to still waters and the House of the Lord is built together, with acts of justice, reconciliation and love."

-Bishop Mark J. Seitz of El Paso, Texas

Several U.S. Catholic bishops expressed sorrow and called out racism and gun violence after reports of a May 14 mass shooting in Buffalo that left at least three injured and 10 dead – a crime authorities said was likely motivated by hatred for Black people.



"Faith compels us to say no to the rotten forces of racism, no to terror, and no to the mortal silencing of Black and brown voices," Bishop Mark J. Seitz of El Paso, Texas, said in one of the most powerful statements condemning the violence that took place when a gunman opened fire at a TOPS supermarket.

"The tragedy in Buffalo is hardly the first such violence against African Americans," wrote Bishop Mark E. Brennan of Wheeling-Charleston, W.Va. shortly after the attack. "... When and how will it stop?"

In Buffalo, Erie County District Attorney John J. Flynn said that 18-year-old suspect Payton S. Gendron of Conklin, who was allegedly wearing tactical gear and armed with an assault weapon, has been charged with first-degree murder and remains in custody without bail.

Some of those fatally wounded include a retired Buffalo police officer working security at the store, an 85-year-old grandmother of eight who cared for her husband and a 72-year-old civil rights advocate.

For easy access to the full article, visit our website, www.stpaulsbullville.org, click on "Read More" under "A Call to Justice" on the home page and double click on the article(s) you wish to read.

CARDINAL'S APPEAL UPDATE

Thanks to your generosity, we have reached **97.84% of our \$45,500 Appeal goal!** As of May 18, \$44,515 has been received/pledged by 134 families. We're almost there!

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