

*5th Sunday
of Easter
May 3rd, 2026*



***“Recognition is the sweetest grace of the
New Testament.” — Bishop Daniel Flores***

***Let us spend this Easter Season recognizing
Christ in one another!***

From the Gusset

If I had my **priestly** way, I might always proclaim **John 14:1-12** as **the Gospel** at every **Funeral Mass**. The family is so upset that they have lost their **beloved** that I would wish (as their **priest**) for them to hear our Lord say to them: **do not let your hearts be troubled. You have Faith in God; have Faith also in Me. In My Father's house there are many dwelling places. ...I am going to prepare a place for (your beloved)?** That line 'do not let your hearts be troubled' – implies that we have some **control** over our **hearts**. People think of **the heart** as being in control of our **emotions** and **feelings**; yet, Jesus is actually telling us that we have **the power** to say "be quiet..., be still..., ... to our **hearts**! Remember, how amazed **the Disciples** were when they woke Jesus in the boat in **the storm at sea** – how the Lord simply said, "Quiet! Be still!" and the wind and the waves obeyed Him! You see, our **souls** have command over our **bodies**. The Lord God gave us our **intellects** and our **wills** as instruments to take care of our **hearts** (**emotions** and **feelings**) and our **bodies**. If our **heart** was a **garden**, then our **intellect** and our **will** are like a **hoe** and a **shovel** – we use them to tend **the garden** and make it **fruitful**. When a **loved one dies**, we are very upset and anxiety ridden – we can be so overcome with **sorrow** that our **tears** won't allow us to think straight or to act correctly. We may not even **celebrate a Funeral Mass** and have a proper burial! Our **intellect** is taught by God to know that Jesus is our Lord and Savior. That Jesus is so in **love** with us – He would never allow something to befall us without giving His **permission**, and He only gives **permission** to **bad things** that happen to us, if God

can bring a **greater good** out of them. Because of **the Sacraments** that we receive on a regular basis (**the Eucharist**), our **wills** are given **the power** to override and master the troubles that come from our **emotion** prone **hearts**. The truth that someone we **deeply cared** for still remains, but the Lord has given us our **intellects** and our **wills**, so we can think correct thoughts and make the best choices when confronted by **death**! We must have **the Faith** that God is in control—that the Almighty knows what is happening (*not even a tiny sparrow falls to its death without God finding out about it*). Our **Faith** has command over our **emotions** and **feelings**. We know that God has sent His Son to get a room ready in the Father's Mansion in **Heaven** for our **beloved**. Jesus is going to come back in our **celebration** of our **beloved's Funeral Mass** and when the Lord returns to His Father (after the **Funeral Mass**), He will take our **beloved** by the hand and lead them into **glory**!

Yours on the Path

Fr. Randy

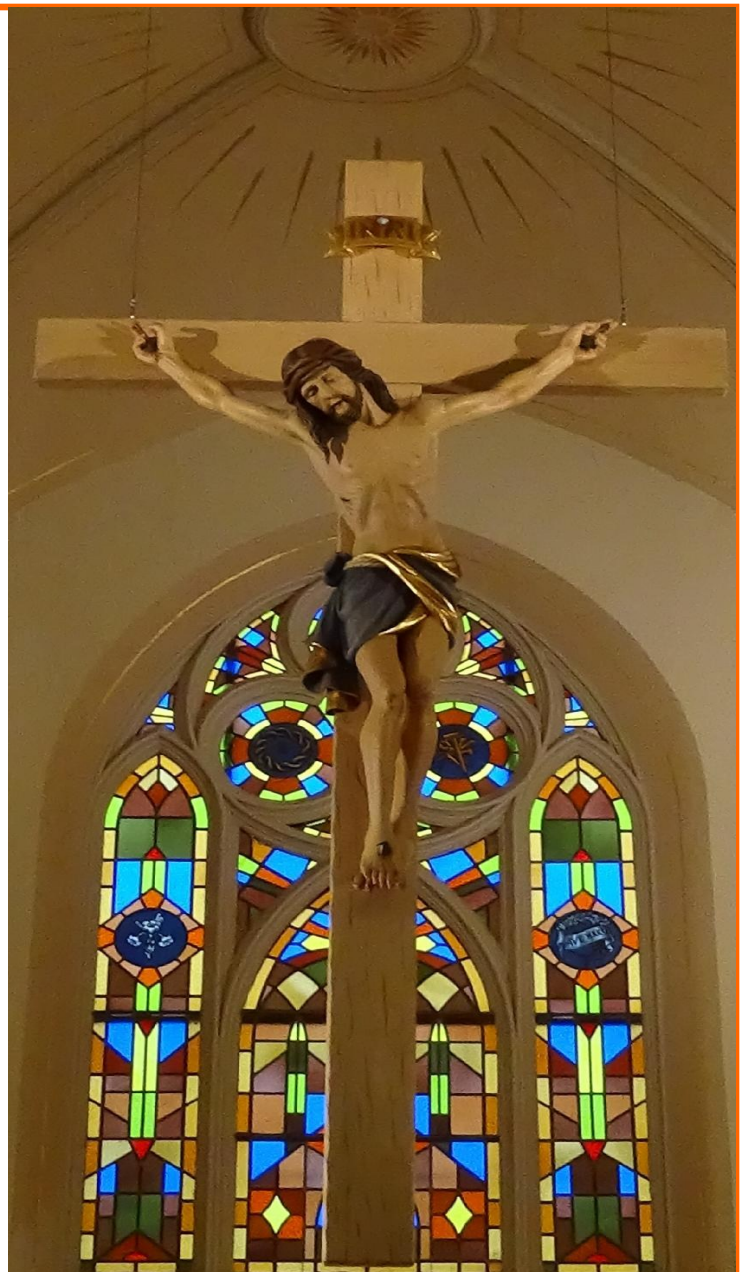


You Will Be My Witnesses Capital Campaign

Stever Furuta, our **Parishes'** representative from **the Steier Group**, tells the story of how a **baseball player** got to talking to **Mother Teresa** while waiting for a flight at the airport. The **baseball star** offered to pay for a 1st class ticket for **Mother**, so that they could continue the engrossing conversation they were having at the gate—on the flight. By the time they landed, the **baseball player** had written **Mother Teresa** a sizeable check for her work in **Calcutta**.

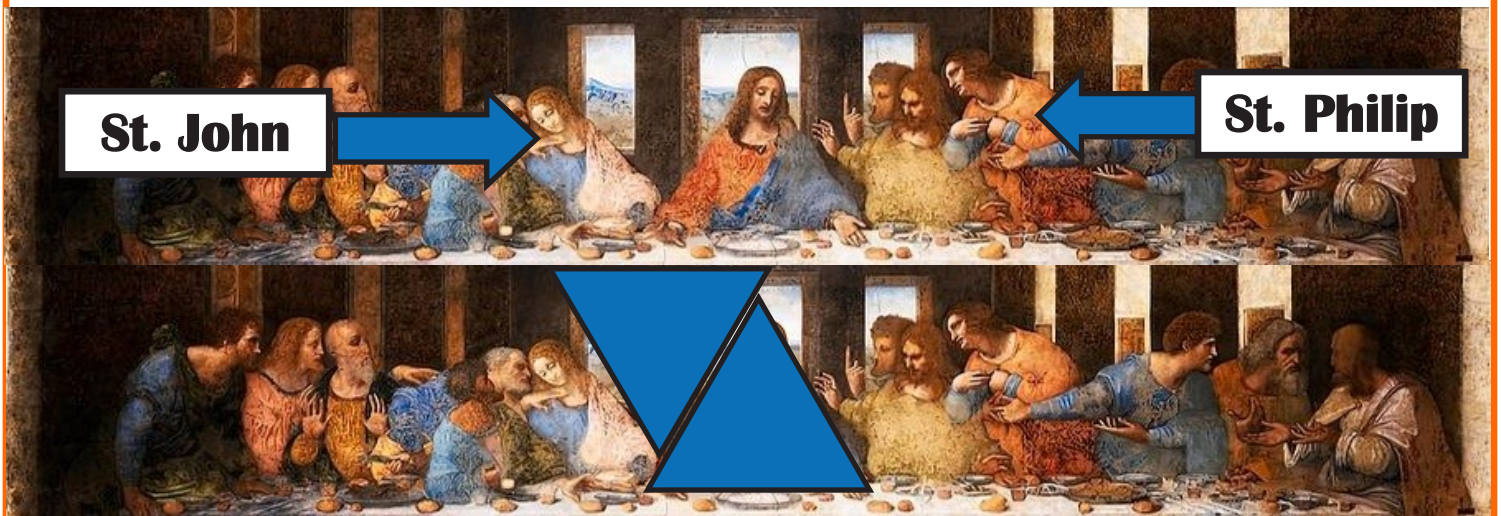
Mother Teresa thanked **the young man** for his **generosity**—to which the **baseball star** said, *“think nothing of it Sister, I won't even miss the money.”* When **Mother** heard this she promptly tore up **the check** and said, *“God measures generosity by how much pain it causes in one's life. When it hurts, I will accept your donation!”* Soon, you will be receiving in the mail your **Capital Campaign** packet. This **brochure** will provide you with all kinds of information on **the Campaign**; such as, where **the money** will go at both **the Diocesan level** and at your **local Church** level. There will also be the amount that **your family** will be asked to

pledge. This number will be shocking to your family, because it is a statement of how **generous** you have been with **the Church** in the past. This amount was arrived at by **the Diocese** by taking into account how much your **Sunday envelopes** have been over the past several years as well as how much you have contributed to the **Diocesan Stewardship Appeal**, and (don't forget) this amount is what **the Diocese** is asking us to give over a 3-year period. But this amount will be shocking to us, because the Bishop is asking us to make a **sacrifice** for the good of **the Catholic Church!** God has given us so much, because He is **generous** with those whom He **loves**, which is you! God gave up His Son on **the Cross of Calvary**, and the whole world has yet to find a donor who has given that much! When you receive your **Capital Campaign** packet, please read through all the information and **prayerfully** consider making **Holy Mother Church** happy by pledging the amount, which you think **begins** to pay back **sacrificially** what God has **gifted** your family with—with **the sacrifice** of His Son. Remember God just doesn't give us **the Body and Blood**, and **the Soul and Divinity** of His Son over a 3-year period, but God gives us **the Eucharist** every Sunday of our life!

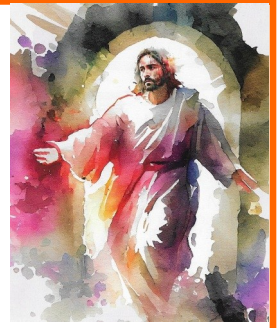


The Last Supper by Leonardo da Vinci

Because **the 5th Sunday of Easter** has the Gospel of **the Last Supper**, and that fascinating dialogue between **St. Philip** and the Lord, we must jump to the end of the table; and what I think is the highlight of **Leonardo's Masterpiece: the Last Supper!** Jesus tells the Twelve: **if you know Me, then you will also know My Father.** The Lord goes on to say, **from now on you do know My Father – you have seen Him!** This is when **Philip** says, **Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us!** **Philip** is quickly cut to **the heart** by the Lord: **have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know Me, Philip? Whoever has seen Me has seen the Father!** Poor **Philip** or should I say, poor us; because how many of us have seen **the Eucharist** raised above our altar every Sunday, and we still do not recognize God in **the breaking of the Bread** at **the Catholic Mass!** **Leonardo's** favorite Apostle was **St. Philip.** There is even a tradition that **St. Philip** in **the Last Supper fresco** is a self-portrait of a young **Leonardo da Vinci.** Do you notice how the shape of Jesus' body, at the middle of the table, is in the shape of an **equilateral triangle?** A **triangle** has long been a symbol for God, Who is 3 Divine Persons. Do you notice also that there – between Jesus and **St. John**, who is sitting to the Lord's right – do you notice that there is also an **equilateral triangle** only an upside down **equilateral triangle?** From **Philip's** spot at **the Last Supper** table – the 3rd Apostle from the Lord's left – **Philip** is the one, who is standing and looking to our Lord with both hands pressed against his chest. **Philip** is asking Jesus, **Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us!** The response of our Lord written in the Gospel (**He who has seen Me has seen the Father**) is painted in **the Last Supper fresco** by the two equilateral triangles that are side by side. **Philip** has the answer to his question as he gazes across the table at Jesus – **Philip** can see how the figure of the Lord is a **triangle** and how the unseen God the Father is the unseen **triangle** formed by the right arm of Jesus and the left arm of **St. John.** Indeed, **Leonardo** was such a Master that although he is painting on a two-dimensional surface – **Leonardo's** painting has a vanishing point perspective that makes the entire image appear in 3D; in which case, the table is not a long **rectangle**, but the table is **round!** See, the last supper table in **Leonardo's** work bends around Jesus; and makes **St. Bartholmew** (who is on the far left of the painting) stand right next to **St. Simon** (who is on the far right of the painting). If the table is round – than **da Vinci** has allowed **St. Philip** to see these two **triangular shapes**, and know that by looking at Jesus, **Philip** (and the rest of us) have seen the Father!



Mass Intentions



Saturday, May 2nd

Fr. Kramer/ Shelly Oltmans

4:00 pm, **OLPH** (+) Raymond & (+) Jean Ritola/ Mary Lynn Valentin

Sunday, May 3rd 5th Sunday of Easter

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** Brian Quest/ John Gorman

10:00 am, **SMA** (+) Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy

Noon **OLPH** (+) Richard & (+) Leila Garland/ Family

Monday, May 4th

(+) Howard McInnis/ Mr. & Mrs. Doug Klein & (+) Ronald Fronck/ Roger & Rick Fronck

Tuesday, May 5th

7:30 am, **SMA** (+) Donald & (+) Elaine Henkel/ Family

Wednesday, May 6th

8:00 am, **OLPH** (+) Floyd Wilson/ Carlene Schuhler

Thursday, May 7th

7:30 am, **SMA** (+) Darlene Gehant/ Charles Torri

8:30 am, **OLPH** (+) Mary Zapf/ Mr. & Mrs. Michael Vaessen

Friday, May 8th

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Melvin Stewart

10:45 am, **Stonecroft** (+) John Ramond & (+) Msgr. McDonnell/ Fr. Randy

Saturday, May 9th

Msgr. Willhite/ Fr. Randy

4:00 pm, **OLPH** (+) Richard Wertz/ Shawn Leffelman

Sunday, May 10th 6th Sunday of Easter

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy

10:00 am, **SMA** (+) Rita Haefner/ Mr. & Mrs. Mark Wujek

Noon **OLPH** (+) Patricia Painter/ Mr. & Mrs. Mark Atherton



To **celebrate** the **250th Anniversary** of our **Country**, we will be **praying a Holy Hour** on Wednesday's. During the **Month of May**, we will have the **Holy Hour** from 4:00pm to 5:00pm with only an interruption on the **20th of May**—for **Newman High School's Baccalaureate Mass**. Our Lord will be exposed in **the Monstrance** on our altar, and we will greet Him by **praying the Rosary** for our country.

1st Glorious Mystery will be prayed for the **Executive Branch of Government**

2nd Glorious Mystery will be prayed for the **Legislative Branch**

3rd Glorious Mystery will be prayed for the **Judicial Branch**

4th Glorious Mystery will be prayed for the **Illinois State Legislature**

5th Glorious Mystery will be prayed for our **Local Government**

Come and spend an **hour** with our Lord in **the garden**, and thank Him for His **generosity** to your **country**, your **Church**, and your **family**.

