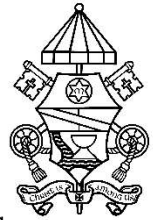


The Basilica of Saint Mary of the Assumption

PARISH OFFICE: 506 Fourth Street, Marietta OH 45750 PHONE: 740-373-3643
WEBSITE: www.stmarysmarietta.org www.facebook.com/stmarysmarietta EMAIL: info@stmarysmarietta.org



May 14, 2023
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Mother's Day

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Sat	5:30 PM - Louise Gallito
	7:00 PM - Memorial Mass for Ryan Offenberger
Sun	8:00 AM - Luada Wesel
	10:00 AM - Karen Offenberger
	12:00 PM - John Huffman
Mon	7:45 AM - Norman Baker
	12:05 PM - Margaret Cooke
Tue	7:45 AM - Liz Strahler
	12:05 PM - Jane Ann Cox
Wed	7:45 AM - The Paul Bauerbach Family
	12:05 PM - Andrew Surella
Thu	7:45 AM - Ellen Heiss
	12:05 PM - Harry Way, 1 st Anniversary
Fri	7:45 AM - Edward & Jill Scileppi
	12:05 PM - Joe A. LeRoy, 36 th Anniversary
Sat	9:00 AM - Tom Chalfant
	5:30 PM - Kenneth Heiss
Sun	8:00 AM - David Erb
	10:00 AM - Vincent & Alice Lang
	12:00 PM - People of the Parish
	2:00 PM - Confirmation

SUNDAY MASSES - Saturday 5:30 PM; Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM

CONFESSIONS - Saturday 3:30-5:00 PM (or anytime by appointment)

BAPTISMS - Contact Parish Office

WEDDINGS - Contact Parish Office *six months* in advance

Rector - Rev. Msgr. John Michael Campbell (fatherjmike@gmail.com)

Parochial Vicar - Rev. Edward Maxfield Jr. (emaxfield@diosteb.org)

Permanent Deacon - Rev. Mr. Lee Weisend

Music Director - Mr. John Ontko (740) 350-4224 (ontkotb@suddenlink.net)

St. Mary School - 320 Marion St, (740)-374-8181 (www.stmaryscatholic.org)

School Principal - Elizabeth Tokodi (elizabethtokodi@stmaryscatholic.org)

DRE - Mrs. Deborah Coty - (dmcoty22@gmail.com)

K of C Grand Knight - Mr. Pete Saliba (304) 494-6170

Parish Council President - Luke Strahler - (614) 309-8876

CWC President - Jenn Tinkler

Hibernians - Mr. William Rathbone (740) 374-5492

Prayer Line - & Eucharistic Adoration, Mrs. Shelly Medley (740) 525-6360

Health Ministry - Mrs. Janet Jaeger (740) 374-6768

Daily Bread Kitchen - Mrs. Carol Henshaw (740) 885-1181

St. Vincent De Paul - Help Line (740) 376-1334

Welcoming Committee - Jim Naylor (740) 350-5510

Divine Mercy Gift Shop - Barb Ritchie (740) 538-4733

*Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord,
and my Father will love him and we will come to him.*

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

Acts 1:1-11; Eph 1:17-23; Mt 28:16-20.

ALTAR FLOWERS:

This weekend the roses and the flowers for the altar are in memory of Margaret Cooke. If you would like to request flowers for a particular date, please call the parish office to reserve the date.

CEMETERY COLLECTION:

Each year, in the months of May and November, we have a collection for the care of our two parish cemeteries. Envelopes were provided with your packet and may be put in the collection, or mailed to the parish office any time this month.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Announcements must be in by Wednesday morning in order to be included in the following weekend's bulletin. All announcements should be in writing. We do not accept bulletin announcements by phone.

VISITORS WELCOME! We welcome any visitors who are joining us for Mass this weekend. We hope your stay in Marietta is enjoyable. Any new parishioners at the Basilica are asked to please register with the parish office.

PARISH OFFICES are open from 1:00 PM until 4:00 PM on Mondays and from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM Tuesday through Friday, with a lunch break from Noon until 1:00 PM each day.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

MON	6:15 PM	-	Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotions. See announcement.
	7:00 PM	-	St. Vincent dePaul Society Meeting in the Conference Room.
TUE	7:00 PM	-	Substance Abuse Support Group Meeting in the Basilica Social Hall.
WED	8:20 AM	-	7:00 PM – Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel of the English Martyrs.
THU	7:00 PM	-	Confirmation Rehearsal with Sponsors, in the Basilica.
FRI	8:20 AM	-	7:00 PM – Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel of the English Martyrs.

The Lord Will Never Be Outdone In Generosity!

Total collection last weekend: \$ 14,651.00

Second collection last weekend for
the maintenance of our Basilica: \$1,857.00

God bless those who support our Basilica Parish!

ONLINE GIVING

Online giving is available at the Basilica. For more information, please visit this website:

<http://www.stmarysmarietta.org> and go to the left side of the web page. Click on the GIVE ONLINE button to see more information or to sign up.

BASILICA FOUNDATION:

A fund has been established by the Marietta Community Foundation for the maintenance and repairs of our Basilica. This fund is separate from the monthly maintenance collection. Our goal is to have One Million Dollars in the fund before using it.

WEeping WILLOW CHURCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE

The Basilica will once again be fielding a team in the competitive division of the Weeping Willow Softball League. The team, which is co-sponsored by the Basilica and the Knights of Columbus Council #478 of Marietta, is the five-time defending league champion. Any parishioner (age 16 and older) interested in playing should contact Jim Humphrey at 740-629-4867 (cell) or via E-mail at super7@suddenlink.net. League play is tentatively scheduled to begin on Monday, June 5th.

COMMUNICATIONS COLLECTION

The Annual Communications Collection is this weekend. Envelopes were provided with your packet. Please be generous.

SAINT MARY SCHOOL NEWS

The Preschool 3 class service project this year is collecting items for the foster care program. Suggested items for babies are: pacifiers, pacifier holders, pull ups, diaper bags, baby laundry detergent, new or gently used books and toys; video games; and video game systems. The list is just some suggestions, other items children need or want will be accepted. The last day for donations will be May 24th. There are drop off baskets at the school if parishioners wish to donate to this Preschool 3 service project.

St. Mary Catholic School is now a recipient of the Hope Scholarship for our West Virginia families for the 2023-2024 school year. This scholarship allows West Virginia families to receive tuition for a private school. For more information, please call the school at 740-374-8181 and ask for Principal Tokodi or Mrs. Bradley.

The St. Mary Catholic School Spring Art & Music Show is scheduled for Wednesday, May 17th. Doors open at 5:30 PM for the Art exhibits and 6:30 PM for the music portion in the New Gym.

The Irish Booster Scholarship application for two St. Mary Catholic School alumni is open for submission. The scholarship application can be found on the school website home page at stmarys.k12.oh.us. Applicants must be of a Sophomore status or higher in a college program. Deadline to apply is July 14, 2023

LIVING JOY

Thanks to a donation, the book Living Joy by Chris Stefanick is available for checkout in the parish library. Due to the content that asks for reflection, the book will be discussed at the June meeting of the Basilica Book Club.

DIVINE MERCY GIFT SHOP

Confirmation is a special occasion for girls and boys as they are sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit. If you are looking for a special gift to cherish the moment, Divine Mercy Gift Shop will have that perfect gift for you. Stop in and check out the new line of items.

There are also many special gifts for Baptism, Weddings, Memorial, and for any loved one. The gift shop is open in the social hall after all weekend Masses. If you prefer to shop during the week, please call Barb at 740-538-4733 to arrange a time.

SCHEDULING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Please check with the parish office before scheduling a meeting in the Basilica Social Hall, Conference Room or using the Basilica Kitchen.

If you change the time or date of a previously scheduled meeting, please be sure the new time is available. All meetings and events must be put in the master book in the parish office.

ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY DINNER

St. Henry Catholic Church, St. Rt. 145 Harriettsville/Lower Salem, OH will hold its Annual Mother's Day Dinner TODAY, Sunday, May 14, 2023, from 11:00 AM until 2:00 PM. An adult dinner is \$13.00, and Children (10 and under), \$5.00. Dinners will include chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, homemade noodles, applesauce, rolls, dessert and beverages. Dine-in and Carry-out are available. For more information, contact Debbie Biehl at 740-373-2882.

CHICKEN BARBEQUE

St. Michael's Carlisle, Ohio is having a Chicken Barbeque on Sunday, May 28th, from 11:30 AM until 1:30 PM. Dine-In and Drive Thru are available. There will be Bingo in the afternoon and music from 7:00 PM until 10:00 PM (music by Little Creek).

ST. JOHN'S GOLF OUTING

St. John Golf Outing is scheduled for Saturday, June 3, at Lakeside Golf Course in Beverly. Four Man Scramble - \$65/person, \$260, team. 18 holes with cart, dinner and raffle. Contact Kristin Pottmeyer, 304-989-0792 to register your team, or to sponsor a hole. Please come out and support St. John's Athletic Program.

2023 DIOCESAN/PARISH SHARE CAMPAIGN

This year our parish goal is \$115,639.21. This is an increase of \$4,381.21 over last year. So far, the Diocese has received \$72,331.99 from our parish. This means that our parish has only met 65% of our goal.

If you have not yet made a pledge, it is still not too late to do so. All parishioners should have received a pledge card from the Diocese. There are also additional pledge cards at the parish office.

Our parish has always met and surpassed our goal. Please help us to do so again this year. We are so grateful to all of those parishioners who have contributed thus far. God bless you for your generosity to our parish and our diocese.

BASILICA BOOK CLUB NEWS FOR MAY

The book for May is: **Eighty Dollar Champion: Elizabeth Lett.**

This book is available for check out in our Parish Library. Next Meeting: **May 24th, 6:00 PM in the Basilica Social Hall.**

Remember: ALL are welcome, bring a friend. Snacks and drinks are provided. If you are not able to read the book, a summary is presented, and you can participate at whatever level is comfortable for you. Any questions, information or if you want to be added to the Basilica Book Club email list: contact Debbie Lazorik, lazorikd@marietta.edu or 740-434-3769.

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

Join Father Tom Nelson on a Pilgrimage to Italy, January 1-12, 2024. Stops include Assisi, Norcia, Cascia, Loreto, Lanciano, San Giovanni Rotondo, Monte San Angelo, Montecassino, and Rome. The discount price of \$4,989.00 per person is enjoyed by those paying with Cash or Check (based on a minimum of 30 participants with double occupancy). For full itinerary visit: <https://catholicfaithjourneys.com/>. For more information contact Maggie McDaniel: email: maggie@catholicfaithjourneys.com or phone: (419)290-8782.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEKEND OF May 20 & 21

	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Lectors	Altar Servers
Sat:	Sandy George (CAPT)		Matthew Grueneberg
5:30	Jean Tornes (HOST)	Shelly Medley	Liam Long
	Irene Cain (HOST)		Gavin Kunz
	Cathy Harper (CHALICE)		
	Debbie Lazorik (CHALICE)		
Sun:	Theresa Huck CAPT)	Jaclyn Schweiterman	David Baker
8:00	Ron Arnold (HOST) (swap req.)		Ken Offenberger
	Patti Finkel (HOST)		Suzanne Baker
	Babs Douglass (CHALICE)		Charles Kremer
	John Douglass (CHALICE)		
10:00	Gerald Cooke (CAPT)	Tim Williams	Kenzi Cunningham (swap req.)
	Not Filled (HOST)		Owen Krason
	Debbie Karas (HOST)		Mary Tokodi Ruth
	Elizabeth Tokodi (CHALICE)		Caroline Krason
	John Towner (CHALICE)		
12:00	Stan Vanlandingham (CAPT)	Nancy Funk	Evan Huffman
	Not Filled (HOST)		Grant Huffman
	Debbie Karas HOST)		Jonathan Schmidt (swap req.)
	Elizabeth Tokodi (CHALICE)		
	John Towner (CHALICE)		
<hr/>			
Week of May 15	Not Filled	Saturday, May 20, 9:00 AM – Not Filled	

CALL TO CONVENTION: All Women of the Diocese are cordially invited to the 78th Anniversary Catholic Woman's Club Convention. It is scheduled for Wednesday June 7, 2023, at Holy Family Church, 2608 Alexander Avenue, Steubenville, OH. Registration will begin at 8:15 AM at Holy Family Church Social Hall. The theme of this year's convention is "Wherever You Go, I Will Follow." For more information, please contact our CWC President, Jen Tinkler. Information is also available at the Parish Office.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 14, 2023



Jesus said to His followers: "If you love Me, you will obey My commands to love others. I will ask the Father and He will give you another Helper, the Spirit, who will be with you until the end of the age. The Spirit of Truth, Whom the people will not accept because they do not see Him or know Him. You know the Helper because He stays near you and is in you. I will not leave you alone, for I will come to you again. In a while, the people only concerned about this world won't see Me anymore. But, because I live, you will see Me and you will live. On that last day, you will know I am in My Father, I am in you, and you are in me.

Everyone who obeys the commands of love I give loves Me. My Father will love everyone who loves Me. I will love them, too, and I will show them who I really am.

Jesus commanded his followers to love. This command had two consequences: the promise of the Spirit and life everlasting. Both were based on intimacy with the Lord.

In John, both the words and commands of Jesus pointed toward love. Love between the Father and the Son. Love between the Son and His followers. Now, Jesus told his disciples to follow his example. Love each other. The love relationship between the Father and the Son, became the paradigm for life in the Christian community. Jesus provided the power to love in the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete. The Spirit witnessed to Jesus and taught the disciple; in this sense, the Spirit accused the world of sin through the life of the Christian. In no way could the Spirit be seen as a legal spokesperson in behalf of the accused Christian. While Christians were persecuted, they didn't need a defense for a life of love.

Jesus promised that the Spirit's presence was continuous - now and forever. The Spirit assisted the believer from the moment of faith choice into the afterlife. The Spirit helped the believer to put faith into action (that is, to love others).

But, the Spirit did more than help. It was the Spirit of Truth. Like John, the Spirit referred to God's inner dynamic power. Truth equaled the word "only" or acted as the means that revealed the "only" truth. So, the Spirit was Truth (that is, God). Wherever God acts, God is." Like Jesus, the Spirit was God's messenger and God himself. The Spirit empowered the believer as the divine presence, another God-helper.

The followers of Jesus could see love because the Spirit would orient them to Christ and others. And, they would know love because the Spirit, Christ's very risen life, would live in the follower. Could the world promise as much? Or did the world simply pay lip service to love as it invested itself?

Catechism Themes: The Holy Spirit, God's Gift

We can sum up the fullness of all God's gifts in one word: Love. The outpouring of God's love forgives our sin, restores us in communion with God, and empowers us to pass God's gift of love to others. Indeed, "God is Love" (1 John 4:8) and any relationship with God must be firmly rooted in love.

The Holy Spirit brings us God's love. In fact, the Spirit and God's love are so intertwined that the gift of God's Spirit is a gift of his love. When we experience transcendent love, we know the Spirit lives in us. When we love others, we follow the prompting of the Spirit. The fruit of the Spirit speaks directly to love: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

Worldly people cannot "see" Jesus, because they gaze only upon themselves. But believers would see and have true life, because Jesus lived. The Risen life of Jesus (i.e., the Spirit) is the source of spiritual "sight" (faith) in the believer and eternal life for the believer.

Just as we love because others loved us, we truly live because another gave us that life. Our life and love depend upon someone else. We fool ourselves if we believe all life and love depends upon our own efforts. Isn't that the illusion people of the world proclaim?

At some point, everyone will see all life and love come from God. Through the lives of those who depend upon God, who love God, who draw their every existence from God, the example of love believers leave offers the non-believer a choice.

Those who obey Jesus' command love him. They enjoy the love of God and his Son. And, through love, Jesus reveals Himself to the them. In this way, Jesus connected action to revelation. Love became the conduit of revelation.

The mission of the Holy Spirit is to bring everyone to Christ. The Spirit prepares everyone and invites them to Christ. With the gift of Christ's risen life, the Spirit unites all believers to Christ and places them in communion with the Father. Since the Spirit unites all in Christ, the Spirit builds up the Church Christ found on earth.

The Church shares in the mission of the Spirit and reveals the work of the Spirit. As the Church evangelizes, it shares in the Spirit's work. As the Church prays to and worships God in sacrament, it shows the world the work of the Spirit. In this sense, the Church becomes a co-worker and an instrument of the Spirit. As long as we, members of the Church, show our love for God in sincere prayer and show our love for neighbor in acts of kindness, we demonstrate our life in the Spirit.

When we, as Christians, show love, we reveal the life of God among people. We affirm the presence of the Risen Lord with us, and show others the life of the Spirit within us. Love, then, is "the shoe leather of faith." Love is faith in action.

Special Events & Scheduled Pilgrimages at the Basilica:

May. - 21, - 2:00 pm. Confirmation Mass
May. - 23, - 6:00 pm. St. Mary School Graduation
Oct. - 27, - 8:45 am. Diocesan Teacher in Service Day
Oct. - 29, - 12:00 pm. Women Religious celebration
Dec. - 12, - 11:00 am. Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration



Perpetual Help Devotions This Monday

Perpetual Help Devotions will be celebrated on Monday evening at 6:15 pm. Parishioners are encouraged to participate in this devotion celebrated in our Basilica on Monday evening. We ask Our Lady to guide and protect our Basilica, all visitors, and each one of us.

MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, May 15,

7:45 am. - Mass
9:15 am. - School Class Mass (7 & 8)
9:45 am. - Tour (Fredericktown, Ohio)
12:05 pm. - Mass
6:15 pm. - Perpetual Help Devotions

Tuesday, May 16,

7:45 am. - Mass
9:15 am. - School Class Mass (2)
12:05 pm. - Mass
6:30 pm. - Mass & Meeting (Saint Henry)

Wednesday, May 17,

7:45 am. - Mass
8:20 am. - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
9:15 am. - Class Mass (3 & 5)
12:05 pm. - Mass
7:00 pm. - Adoration – Saint Henry
7:00 pm. - Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday, May 18,

7:45 am. - Mass
12:05 pm. - Mass

Friday, May 19,

7:45 am. - Mass
8:20 am. - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
9:30 am. - Confirmation Retreat
10:00 am. - Funeral Mass & burial
12:05 pm. - Mass
6:45 pm. - Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00 pm. - Confirmation Practice

Saturday, May 20,

9:00 am. - Mass
3:30 pm. - Confessions
5:30 pm. - Mass

Sunday, May 21,

8:00 am. - Mass
9:30 am. - Confirmation (St. Henry)
10:00 am. - Mass
12:00 pm. - Mass
2:00 pm. - Confirmation Mass



Adoration of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in our Basilica's Chapel of the English Martyrs. this week on Wednesday and Friday from 8:15 am. until 7:00 pm. Jesus remains in the Blessed Sacrament to refresh and love us.

MOTHER'S DAY DINNER AT SAINT HENRY'S



On Mother's Day next Sunday, we celebrate the women of our parish. Why not take them out for a wonderful chicken dinner at Saint Henry Church in Harrietville, Ohio. The annual Chicken Dinner is well known in the area. The parishioners have been preparing for the dinner for several weeks. The money this year will be used for a necessary roof on the church building. Plan on a trip on

Mother's Day. St Henry's is only 24 miles from here.



STATUE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

This week, a beautiful 100-year-old statue of the Blessed Virgin will be installed at the new entrance to our school on Fourth Street. The statue will be a wonderful addition to the building. The statue will be dedicated to the memory of Bishop John King Mussio – our first Bishop of Steubenville.

Diocesan Catholic Woman's Convention

The 78th Anniversary DCCW Convention will take place on June 7, 2023 at Holy Family Church in Steubenville. The theme of the convention is "Wherever You Go, I Will Follow." All women of the Diocese are invited to the convention. There will be a Basket Raffle for the benefit of our seminarians.



"We are of such value to God that he came to live among us ... and to guide us home. He will go to any length to seek us, even to being lifted high upon the cross to draw us back to himself. We can only respond by loving God for his love."

—St. Catherine of Siena



THE BASILICA OF SAINT MARY

4TH STREET • MARIETTA OH 45750 • 740-373-3643



May 14, 2023

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend, we celebrate "Mother's Day" - a day to honor all women. We honor especially our own mother. Mother is the one who gets up in the middle of the night to soothe cries from the crib. She is the one who sits at the side of the bed with a cool hand on forehead of a small child. She works at home, or away from home, from morning until night yet she has time for every problem - no matter how small. Mother is the one who bandages skinned knees and stubbed toes. She's the one who can kiss pain away. She is the one who will do the most for you and in return ask the least. And no matter how far away you go, no matter how much she is neglected, she is always there to do whatever you ask. After she is gone, life is never the same; yet if you look inside of you to the best characteristics of your life - she is there. She planted them long ago.

On this Mother's Day weekend, we honor Mothers who have lost their children. Every seven minutes a mother loses her child to miscarriage, still birth or unanticipated death after birth. We remember the grief of these mothers who remember their pain and who remember the hopes and dreams that had for their child.

On this Mother's Day weekend, we honor women who wanted to have children but couldn't have them, and we honor recently divorced, single mothers and widowed mothers who are having difficulty adjusting to the situation she has been forced to accept.

On this Mother's Day, we also remember and pray for mothers who have aborted a child. They feel extreme pain and loss and wonder what their child could have been.

I believe that on this Mother's Day weekend it is important to remember all mothers living and dead. Thinking about them not in some morbid sense, but rather remembering the genuine love and care that she could give - remembering all the good and tender moments - cherishing them until you meet her in eternity.

Finally on this Mother's Day weekend, if you are fortunate enough to have your mother, thank her for giving birth to you. Let her know that you care. Thank her for all of the time, all the care, all the sleepless nights, all of the work that went into making you what you are today. Thank her today, because tomorrow she may be gone!

Happy Mother's day.

Msgr. John M. Campbell
(Rector)

LITURGICAL FEASTS THIS WEEK:

Monday, May 15, Saint Isidore (Farmer)

Isadore was a layman whose wife is also a saint. He was a farm laborer associated with miracles. He died in 1130.

Thursday, May 18, Saint John I. (Pope & Martyr)

Pope John was from Tuscany. He introduced the Alexandrian computation of the date for Easter. He tried to settle the problem of the Arians in the East, and worn out from his travels, he died a wretched man. He is buried in Rome, his epitaph reads "a victim for Christ."

Saturday, May 20, Saint Bernadine of Siena (Priest)

Bernardine was a famous reformer and an eloquent preacher who traveled through Italy encouraging devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus. He is known for his use of the monogram HIS, (an abbreviation for the Greek name of Jesus).



Deceased priests of the Diocese of Steubenville:

On Tuesday, we remember the 17th anniversary of the death of Fr. John McCarthy. On Wednesday, we remember the 41st anniversary of the death of Fr. Robert Krauter.

THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION



The feast of the Ascension ranks with Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost in the universality of its observance among Christians. This Feast celebrates the ascent of Jesus Christ into heaven on the 40th day after his Resurrection. The Feast of the Ascension The feast has been celebrated 40 days after Easter in both Eastern and Western Christianity since the 4th century. Prior to that time, the Ascension was commemorated as a part of the celebration of the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The Feast celebrates the glorification and exaltation of Jesus following his death and Resurrection, as well as from the theme of his return to God the Father. Thus, the Gospel According to John uses both the sayings of Jesus and his post-Resurrection appearances to indicate a new relationship between Jesus and his Father and between him and his followers, rather than a simple physical relocation from earth to heaven. In a very few dioceses, the Feast is celebrated on Thursday, but in most dioceses, the Feast is celebrated next Sunday.



SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks are in order to Gerald Cooke and Geraldine Pouzide for their work and donation of beautiful flowers and trees near the shrine of our Lady between the basilica and the rectory. Many people are attracted to this area and are amazed by its beauty. The donation is in memory of Margaret Cooke who loved to visit this area.

Mexican bishop expresses Church's concern for unaccompanied child migrants



Auxiliary Bishop Francisco Javier Acero of the Primate Archdiocese of Mexico expressed the Church's profound concern over the "waves of migrants" crossing the country and stressed that those who suffer the most are "unaccompanied minors." Acero said that faced with the complexity of the drama of the migrants, "we are there as a Church accompanying them."

The bishop pointed to the efforts of the Josephine Sisters who run the Home for Welcoming, Training, and Empowering Women and Migrant Families and Refugees, and praised the "commendable work of Sister Magdalena" and of the entire community, who receive migrant minors traveling alone and care for them. He said: "during this time, which goes from a little before Easter up to now, the average number of the people who are cared for in all these homes goes from 600 to 900 daily." In addition, there are minors cared for by CAFEMIN who have been getting help with their schoolwork for two years. Working with lawyers, the ministry reunites the minors with the parents or relatives who live on the other side of the border.

According to the United States Customs and Border Protection, from July 2022 to March 2023 more than a million undocumented migrants have been detained at the southern border. Of these, 67,596 were unaccompanied minors.

According to the nongovernmental organization Save the Children, the majority of unaccompanied minors attempting to cross the U.S.-Mexico border "are asylum seekers left with no choice but to flee their homes." Many of them, the organization indicated, are fleeing "unimaginable violence" as well as "crushing poverty" in countries such as El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.

The auxiliary bishop expressed his desire to establish "a humanitarian corridor" between Canada, the United States, Mexico, Central America, and South America. "This is a little more complex, since it takes a process, many meetings, meetings between the responsible bishops to see how they can help with the Churches and between the Churches," Acero said.

Faced with those who think that migrants aren't "worthy enough," the prelate urged that "we as Catholics must be protagonists of this rescue. Every person has human dignity" and "the right to love."

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE MEMBERS OF OUR TWO
PARISHES WHO ARE ILL!**

Pope Francis: Jesus calls us to set our sights on heaven

Pope Francis on Sunday warned against the danger of living life without a sense of purpose or a destination to set our course by, reminding the faithful that Jesus is “our compass for reaching heaven,” our true home. Before the Ascension, He saw the “the disciples’ distress and their fear of being abandoned, just as it happens to us when we are forced to be separated from someone we care for. And so, he says: ‘I go to prepare a place for you ... that where I am you may be also,’” the pope said.

“In the Father's house there is space for you, you are welcome, you will always be received with the warmth of an embrace, and I am in Heaven to prepare a place for you” Francis said.

“Keeping in mind “where life is headed” is the way to get through the experiences of “fatigue, bewilderment, and even failure. When we lose sight of what makes life worth living for, we “compress our life into the present,” the pope said. We merely seek maximum enjoyment and “end up living day by day, without purpose, without a goal. Our homeland, instead, is in heaven; let us not forget the greatness and the beauty of our destination!” he urged. If we know the goal, we also have to know how to get there, the pope continued. When we face problems or when there is the “sensation that evil is stronger,” we ask, like Thomas, “What should I do?”

The pope responded: “Let us listen to Jesus’ answer: ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life’ ... He is the way and therefore faith in him is a road to be traveled, a journey to undertake. He is the way that leads to unfailing happiness,” the pope said, and imitating him is “the compass for reaching heaven: loving Jesus, the way, becoming signs of his love on earth.”



“The Resurrection opens up the new space that transcends history and creates the definitive. In this sense, it follows that Resurrection is not the same kind of historical event as the birth or crucifixion of Jesus. It is something new, a new type of event.”

- POPE JOHN PAUL II

St. Peter's Basilica hosts weekly candlelight Rosary processions during May

On Saturdays in May, St. Peter's Basilica is hosting a weekly candlelight Rosary procession. The prelates scheduled to lead the processions are Archbishop Vittorio Francesco Viola (Secretary of the Dicastery for Divine Worship, May 6), Cardinal Fernando Vérgez Alzaga (President of the Governorate of Vatican City State, May 13), Cardinal Mario Grech (Secretary General of the Synod of Bishops, May 20), and Archbishop Edgar Peña Parra (Substitute of the Secretariat of State, May 27).