

MAY 22, 2011: FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him." ... Jn 14:6-7

Scripture from the Holy Bible, New Revised Standard Version, © 1989, 1995, 2002, 2003

LITURGY

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Sunday, May 22 (Acts 6:1-7/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12)

8:00 am- Don Zimmerman

10:30 am- Anton & Agnes Kubena (HHS Baccalaureate)

5:00 pm- For our Parish Family (Spanish Mass)

Monday, May 23 (Acts 14:5-18/Jn 14:21-26)

7:00 am- Emogene Kahanek

10:00 am- Alice Thomas (H'ville Rehab)

Tuesday, May 24 (Acts 14:19-28/Jn 14:27-31a)

7:00 am- Louis & Mary Rother

Wednesday, May 25, Sts. Bede the Venerable, priest & doctor of the Church, Gregory VII, pope, Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi, virgin (Acts 15:1-6/Jn 5:1-8)

7:00 am- Alois & Rosie Schneider & Frances Gilmore

8:05 am- Keith David Matula

Thursday, May 26, St. Philip Neri, priest (Acts 15:7-21/Jn 15:9-11)

7:00 am- Randy J. Zavesky

10:00 am- Ora Nell Satsky (Stevens)

Friday, May 27, St. Augustine of Canterbury, bishop (Acts 15:22-31/Jn 15:12-17)

7:00 am- Alfred Jahn

8:05 am- Carl, Sr., Carl, Jr. & Ronnie Christen

Saturday, May 28 (Acts 16:1-10/Jn 15:18-21)

5:30 pm- Alvin J. Grahmann

Sunday, May 29 (Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21)

6:30 am- For our Parish Family

8:00 am- Living & deceased members of Christian Mothers Society

10:30 am- Srs. Anne & Constance Kubena, Sr. Florence Broz

Bulletin Sponsor: In memory of Anton & Agnes Kubena by Bob Kubena.

Radio Broadcast Sponsor & Vigil Light: In memory of Alois & Rosie Schneider & Frances Gilmore by Leo & Evelyn Hoffer.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of *Ora Nell Satsky* of our parish family. *May she and all the faithful departed rest in the peace of Christ.*

Our Gift to God: Envelopes-\$6,440; Home Missions-\$458; Loose-\$1,100; Children-\$27.

Promise of Marriage: Jessica Tankersley and Peter Murphy on June 4th.

Anniversaries:

Michael & Darlene Appelt 35 years May 22

Richard & Judith Rothbauer 40 years May 22

Calendar Membership: May 12: Calvin & Jeanette Albrecht-\$100; May 13: William & Charlene Bradbury-\$100; May 16: Victor & Doris Janak-\$50; May 17: Carol Reiler-\$50; May 18: Irene Szwarc-\$100.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, MAY 22

-Baptism Preparation Class, 9:00 a.m., in the Rectory.

Please call the Rectory in advance to register.

-Covered dish supper after Spanish Mass, Family Center.

MONDAY, MAY 23

-Rosary & evening prayer, 5:30 p.m. in church.

-Parish Finance Council mtg., 6:00 p.m., Mary's House.

-Parish Advisory Council mtg., 6:30 p.m., Mary's House.

-Men's ACTS meeting, 7:00 p.m., Sweet Home.

TUESDAY, MAY 24

-Quilting Circle, 9:00 a.m., KC Hall of Fame Room.

SUNDAY, MAY 29

Sacred Heart Parish Spring Picnic at the KC Hall. Fried Chicken & Stew Dinner with homemade cornbread dressing & all the trimmings, serving 10:30am-1:30pm. Adults \$7.50, Children \$4. Drive thru plates-to-go (Adult plates only) 10:30am-1pm. Inside the air-conditioned KC Hall, bingo (noon-6pm), cake walk, country store & religious articles booths. Auction 1pm. Kiddie rides & games all afternoon. Tractor churned homemade ice cream. Guinea Pig Plop sponsored by Sacred Heart Youth. Washer Pitching Tournament begins 5pm. Music on Main Pavilion 11am-1pm by J & S Playboys. Free dance on Polka Pavilion-Biergarten 1-9pm by The Red Ravens & Jodie Mikula Orchestra. Delicious hamburgers, french fries, nachos, popcorn, funnel cakes, sno-cones, soft drinks & cold refreshments all afternoon!

Great food!! Great music!! Great time for all ages!!

Among our sick: Edna Key, Frank Fishar, Helen M. Appelt, Faith Del Castillo, Michael Gerdes, Marge Rehm, Renae Ross, Hubert & Mary Grahmann, Odessa & Doug Blumberg, Danielle Grady, John Pavliska, Rose Thumann, Dr. Michael Moore, John D. Henneke, Bill Gohlke, Monica Barnes, Sterlin Ritchie, Brenda Grahmann, Ed Aulick, Ricky Skelton, Larry Appelt, Victor Pavliska, Robert Butschek, Derrick Berger, Alexis Hines, Victor Steffek, Anita Bohuslav, Anita Kallus, Daniel Wick, Josephine Janak, Paul & Leona Najvar, Betty Hernandez, Gene Drozd, David Demny, nursing home residents & the homebound.

Perpetual Adoration – adorers are needed at 5:00 a.m. on Thursdays and at 3:00 a.m. on Fridays. If you are able to spend this hour in adoration with our Lord, please call Charlene Bradbury at 798-3224.

Tickets for a 2011 Chevrolet Silverado LT 1500 4x4 Z-71 Crew Cab Truck (value \$37,240) & 13 other prizes are available for purchase at the Rectory. Drawing will be held at the Picnic on May 29. Tickets are \$100 each.

Picnic Notice: Workers are desperately needed in the hamburger stand!! If you have not yet signed up to work at the picnic, please consider helping in this area. This is also a great opportunity to earn Confirmation service hours! If you can help, please call Donna Leopold 798-5734 or Lisa Dworsky 798-2000. **Thank you!!!!**

Congratulations to all of our graduates. We thank God for your having come this far on your journey and we continue to pray for you and your success in the future.

Our parish picnic is next weekend. Please help wherever you can. Many people work many hours to make the picnic a success. We ask everyone to pitch in and do your share so we don't have to depend on just a few. Thank you to all who help in any way.

Fr. Tommy will be gone on vacation until June 10.

**Religious Education (CCD) -- Office 798-3124
Angela McConnell, Coordinator**

May 22: HHS Baccalaureate, 10:30 a.m. Mass.

June 8: VBS Crew Leader meeting, 6:00 p.m., Cafeteria.

June 14: VBS Crew Leader meeting, 6:00 p.m., Cafeteria.

June 20-24: Vacation Bible School.

Ready for a little PandaMania? Then come along to Vacation Bible School! The fun begins June 20-24, 8:30 am-12pm. Forms may be picked up in church or at the Rectory. We are in need of an adult volunteer for the Sports Station and a Craft Leader on Thursday and Friday (all materials will be provided and ready). A big **BLESS YOU!** to all the returning adults and the 50+ student volunteers. We are going to have an awesome week! All youth that signed up should plan to attend a crew leader meeting Wednesday June 8th or Tuesday June 14th @ 6PM in the cafeteria. Call Angela McConnell at 798-3124 or cell 741-8730 to volunteer or for more information.

Courses that meet the requirements for religion teachers & catechist hours will be offered at Sacred Heart:

July 12&13: 6 hrs of Liturgy, 6-9pm, Jr. High Library.

Aug. 2&4: 6 hrs of Sacraments, 6-9pm, Jr. High Library.

Sacred Heart Catholic School (Office: 798-4251)

May 25: 8th Grade Recognition Day, 7:00 p.m. in church.

May 26: K-8 Gr. bad weather make-up day. Dismissal 12:00 noon.

May 27: Last day of school. Dismissal at 9:30 a.m.

SAVE the date: July 13 - 6:00 PM – In celebration of the beatification of Pope John Paul II, Sacred Heart Youth Group is sponsoring a parish Movie Night on Wednesday, July 13 at 6pm in the Sacred Heart Family Center. The featured film will be Pope John Paul II, starring Academy Award- and Golden Globe- winning actor John Voight as the pope. The movie was made in cooperation with the Vatican and received a blessing from Pope Benedict XVI. Bring your family and friends! Admission and pop-corn are FREE. Other movie concessions will be sold to benefit our parish Youth Group. Copies of the DVD and other JP II materials will be available for sale. Free-will donations are welcome. Doors will open at 5:30pm and the movie will promptly begin at 6pm.

Dressing: Please come to the KC Hall at 7:00 a.m. on Friday, May 27th to help make the dressing.

Potato Peeling: Please come to the KC Hall at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 28th to help peel potatoes.

Raffle Books: Don't forget to turn in your raffle books. You may drop them off at the Rectory by 4:30 pm on Friday or bring them to the picnic. *Thank you!!!*

Please bring to the KC Hall on Sunday morning:

Auction: You may bring auction items to the auction trailer on the Main Pavilion.

Bingo: Please bring bingo prizes to the stage.

Cake Walk: Please bring at least 2 cakes.

Country Store: Items are needed – crafts & handmade items, fresh & canned vegetables, jellies, baked goods, noodles, etc.

Pickles, Cakes & Kolaches are needed for the dinner. Please bring these items to the kitchen.

SACRED HEART CHURCH PICNIC, MAY 29

Cattle: Marcus & Marjorie Grahmann-16 mon. Angus cross heifer; Wink & Ida Bludau- 9 mon. crossbred heifer; Charles & Kathy Haas- cow & calf; Don & Barbara Rainosek- 19 mon. bred black Brangus heifer; Franklin Chovanetz, Chovanetz Ranching- 16 mon. pure bred Brangus bull; Dorothy Pawkett- Pygmy Goat.

Auction: Fr. John Peters- 55" Sony flat screen TV; David & Karen Wysocki Family- Cross; Irene Szwarc-collectible Barbies; Tim Pavliska-Smokey Joe Charcoal Grill; Hubert & Agnes Gerlich-Waterbridge Place Bench; Steve & Betty Orsak-3 antique parlor chairs made in Czechoslovakia circa 1900; Anonymous-framed portrait "Holy Family's Flight to Egypt"; Henrietta Fabian Estate-Girl in Flowers picture & cut glass pitcher; Ronald & Marie Ridgeway- Igloo Ice Chest filled with picnic items & picnic blanket, & Baker's Basket with mixer, cake pan, cookie sheet & other baking items; Eddie & Catherine Kosh- Bulova 1 year Anniversary Clock; Leona Labay-baby afghan; Fr. Tommy- Cooking Asian session for 6 couples.

Cash Donations: Magdalene Steffek-\$100; Georgia Henke-\$100; Judy Renger-\$300; James & Antonia Brooks-\$125; Elizabeth Barnabei-\$100; R.L. & Elsie Orsak-\$100.

Hot Auction Items offered by Fr. John & Fr.

Tommy!!! For your viewing pleasure, Fr. John is offering a brand new 55" Sony flat screen LCD digital color T.V.! It would look great in your living room or game room! For your culinary delight, Fr. Tommy is offering "Cooking Asian with Fr. Tommy" for 6 couples. He will come to your home to teach you how to cook some of his favorite Asian dishes, which include (but not limited to) fried rice, sweet & sour chicken, stir-fried vegetables & egg drop soup. *Yum! Yum!* So, bring

your checkbooks and wallets, and be prepared to bid on these great items!!

Parish Council & School Board election results:

Parish Council – Mary Leopold, Pam Dolezal, John Henke, Jr. & Jerry Timm.

School Board – Christine Haas & Chris Shimek.

Diocese of Victoria Pastoral Institute is offering summer classes. To view the full listing and to register online, go to www.victoriadiocese.org or call 573-0828.

June 2: *Getting Started as a Catechist, Roles of the Catechist, & Person of the Catechist*, 6-9pm, O.L. Sorrows CCD Building, Victoria.

June 2&9: *Sacraments*, 6-9pm, O.L. Mt. Carmel CCD Building, Wharton.

June 4: *I Believe, We Believe*, 9am-3pm, O.L. Lourdes Education Building, Victoria.

June 8: *Getting Started as a Catechist*, 6-9pm, St. John CCD Building, New Taiton.

June 11: *Getting Started as a Catechist, Roles of the Catechist, Person of the Catechist*, 9am-12pm, O.L. Sorrows CCD Building, Victoria.

June 13&20: *Intro to the Scriptures*, 6-9pm, St. Joseph CCD Building, Boling.

June 13: *Getting Started as a Catechist*, 6:30-9:30pm, Assumption of BVM Family Center, Ganado.

June 14: *Methods for Grades 1-2, 3-4*, 6:30-8:30pm, Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Hall & Diamond Center, Frelsburg.

June 14&16: *Church*, 6-9pm, Chancery, Large Meeting Room, Victoria.

June 15&16: *Intro to the Learner*, 6-9pm, St Agnes Parish Hall, Edna.

June 15: *Roles of the Catechist*, 6-9 pm, St. John CCD Building, New Taiton.

June 18: *Prayer & Spirituality*, 9am-3pm, St. Patrick CCD Building, Bloomington.

June 20: *Roles of the Catechist*, 6:30-9:30pm, Assumption of BVM Family Center, Ganado.

June 21&23: *Intro to the Scriptures*, 9am-12pm & 6-9pm, O.L. Victory RE Office, Victoria.

June 21: *Methods for Grades 5-6, 7-8*, 6:30-8:30pm, Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Hall & Diamond Center, Frelsburg.

June 21&23: *Intro to the Learner*, 6:30-9:30pm, St. Rose Family Life Center, Schulenburg.

June 22: *Person of the Catechist*, 6-9pm, St. John CCD Building, New Taiton.

June 22&23: *Sacraments*, 6-9pm, St. Anthony Family Center, Palacios.

June 27: *Person of the Catechist*, 6:30-9:30pm, Assumption of BVM Family Center, Ganado.

June 28&30: *Intro to the Learner*, 6-9pm, St. Joseph Library, Yoakum.

June 28: *Methodology 1-2 & 3-4*, 6:30-8:30pm, Chancery

June 30: *Methodology 5-6 & 7-8*, 6:30-8:30pm, Chancery

SACRED HEART EARLY CHILDHOOD & DAYCARE

In memory of Emogene Kahanek:

Gaynelle & Charles Bucek 35.00

Andy & Mary Chapman 20.00

Lucille (Gus) Werner 20.00

In memory of Walter Hemmi: James & Mary Lee Honish 10.00

FINANCIAL REPORT – APRIL, 2011

Church Income:

Sunday Collections	\$ 31,460.14
Other Donations	3,035.22
Family Center Rental	275.00
Religious Articles	1,267.50
Catholic Relief Collection	525.00
Seminary Collection	730.00
Holy Land Collection	2,457.00
Rice Bowl Collection	3,213.00
Interest	1,015.64
Picnic Transfer	<u>15,000.00</u>
Total Church Income	<u>\$ 58,978.50</u>

School Income:

PreK-12 th Tuition	\$ 56,115.00
Student Fees	275.00
Extended Care	2,410.00
Catholic Education Envelopes	2,322.00
Memorials	640.00
Shop Donations	20.00
Donations & Gifts	2,465.00
Magazine Drive	375.92
Miscellaneous Donations	<u>240.00</u>
Total School Income	<u>\$ 64,862.92</u>

Church Expense:

Salaries	\$ 7,366.65
Utilities	1,135.71
Church Expense	2,256.34
Rectory Expense	343.37
Office Expense	2,034.44
Religious Articles	1,097.03
Building Insurance	1,719.97
Vehicle Insurance	362.00
Family Center Expense	230.34
Special Collections	6,925.00
Medical Insurance & Retirement	2,946.00
Repairs & Maintenance	<u>483.78</u>
Total Church Expense	<u>\$ 26,900.63</u>

School Expense:

Salaries	\$ 75,610.44
Contracted Services	449.24
Office & Teaching Expense	947.75
Postage	257.08
Library Expense	954.60
Utilities	2,412.74
Plant Repairs	1,211.49
Bus & Vehicle Expense	4,807.86
Custodial Expense	1,109.53
Payroll Taxes	5,743.98
Medical Insurance	14,069.40
Retirement	3,450.00
Property Insurance	2,706.72
Convent Expense	561.85
Acquisition of Equipment	1,686.62
Miscellaneous	235.50
Technology	218.15
Marathon Expense	654.96
Magazine Drive	<u>7,476.26</u>
Total School Expense	<u>\$124,564.17</u>

Parish Income	\$ 123,841.42
Parish Expense	- 151,464.80
Parish Deficit	\$ (27,623.38)

PRAYER FOR RAIN – Heavenly Father, we believe that it is You who created our world with all of its beauty and life. We believe that it is You who put into place the systems of nature that sustain, nurture and renew this work of Your hands. We believe that it is You who hears Your children when they call upon You. Hear, then this prayer which comes from a heart filled with confidence and trust. Grant to us and to all Who seek it, the gift of a bountiful rain. Water our lands so that they may once again spring to life and reflect the beauty of your creation. Fill our lakes and rivers with sufficient rain so that they may continue to provide life giving and refreshing water to all who depend upon it for their livelihood and well being. Please do not let many more days pass without sending us this most needed blessing of rain. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Your Son, who lives, and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever. Amen.



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER –



Robert Frost's famous poem "The Road Not Taken" is studied in many English classes. Countless school children have memorized and recited back the four stanzas that constitute the work. The 1920 composition is remembered most for its final three lines: "Two roads diverged in a wood, and I- / I took the one less traveled by, / And that has made all the difference." Taking the road less traveled has become synonymous with making bold choices in life that are in some ways counter-cultural.

Thomas and Philip were also a bit confused in today's Gospel. Jesus had to make plain to them that He is the way and the truth and the life that leads to the Father. Jesus clarified His interaction with the Father when He said to Philip, "Whoever has seen Me has seen the Father" (Jn 14:9). But the ultimate promise that Jesus makes in today's Gospel is about the power that resides in the Christian. Jesus says that whoever believes in Him will do greater works than His because He is returning to the Father.

When John wrote his Gospel he was not shy about the gift of the Holy Spirit that Jesus handed over to believers. That Spirit of God dwells in each of the baptized and empowers us to do the works of Christ. Those who were baptized at the Easter vigil just a few weeks ago, now share in that same out-pouring of the Holy Spirit that is within all of us who renewed our baptismal promises. God is there ready to work within us. Let's take that road!

2011 Liturgical Publications Inc

SACRED HEART CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Emogene Kahanek:

Otto "Jimmy" & Betty Ann Borchers	20.00
Robert & Ida Bucek	25.00

In memory of Ora Nell Satsky:

Anita & Leroy Etzler	20.00
Louis & Dorothy Nagelmueller	10.00
Charles & Dorothy Jansky	10.00

SACRED HEART CHURCH MUSIC FUND

In memory of Lou Kubena:

Marcus & Marjorie Grahmann	50.00
Everett & Kay Renger	100.00

In memory of Walter Hemmi:

Leroy & Lillie Loth	15.00
Kubena Funeral Home	20.00
Paul & Theresa Voelkel	5.00
Allen & Arlene Becan	10.00

In memory of Walter Hemmi:

Arthur & Rose Mary Etzler	20.00
Mark & Gina Blackway	25.00

In memory of Ora Nell Satsky: Bob Kubena 20.00

SACRED HEART CCD PROGRAM

In memory of Ora Nell Satsky:

Thomas & Mary Ann Douglas	50.00
Travis Etzler Family	20.00
Robert & Leona Steffek	15.00
Darwin & Barbara Jacob	20.00

In honor of all past & present CCD teachers:

Edward & Gail Kallus	100.00
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SACRED HEART SCHOOL ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of Emogene Kahanek:

Justin & Amy Powell & family	50.00
Dorothy Kouba	20.00
Frankie & Lucille Klekar	10.00
Phillip & Evelyn Bujnoch	25.00
Alton & Marlyn Sevcik	10.00
Mr. & Mrs. David A. Bujnoch & family	10.00

In memory of Walter Hemmi:

Phillip & Rosemary Hemmi	10.00
Urban & Theresa Hemmi	10.00

SACRED HEART SCHOOL OPERATING FUND

In memory of Vernon Linn: Frank & Bernadette Bludau 10.00

In memory of Walter Hemmi:

Margaret Bludau	10.00
Ronnie & Janet Hornischer	10.00
Ella Mae Bludau	10.00

In memory of Darrell Darley & W. Ray Adams:

S.E. & Mary Golsch	20.00
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In memory of Lou Kubena, Ann Gerlich, Delores Ludwig, & Emogene Kahanek: Ella Mae Bludau 40.00

In memory of Ora Nell Satsky:

Mike & Sandy Konvicka	5.00
Henry & Carolyn Janak	25.00

SACRED HEART SCHOOL BAND FUND

In memory of Emogene Kahanek: Keith & Joan Mudd 15.00

SACRED HEART SCHOOL VOCATIONAL AG SHOP

In memory of Emogene Kahanek: A.W. Spies, Jr. 20.00

DOROTHY HENNEKE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Ora Nell Satsky:

Gary & Carol Pustejovsky	20.00
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REESE & RILEY MANNING SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Walter Hemmi: Johnny & Anna Havel 25.00

CAROLYN DWORSKY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Ora Nell Satsky:

Emil & Joyce Hermes	10.00
Dennis & Lisa Dworsky & family	20.00

WAYNE JANAK SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Emogene Kahanek, Eunice Jurena Evers, Ora Nell

Satsky, Benjamin Satsky, Ann Gerlich, Joyce Briseo:

Guntram & Elaine Janak Family 60.00

In memory of Ora Nell Satsky: Leo & Evelyn Hoffer 20.00

The Word of God This Week

Set time aside each day this week with other members of your household, with other members of your parish or alone to listen to and reflect on the living Word of God. Use these passages from the Lectionary that are assigned for Liturgy this week. Reflect on how the Lord is inviting you to a deeper union with him.

TODAY

Acts 6:1–7
1 Peter 2:4–9
John 14:1–12

MONDAY

John 14:21–26
“... the Holy Spirit ... will teach you everything ...”

TUESDAY

John 14:27–31A
“I do not give to you as the world gives.”

WEDNESDAY

John 15:1–8
“Abide in me as I abide in you.”

THURSDAY

John 15:9–11
“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you.”

FRIDAY

John 15:12–17
“I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.”

SATURDAY

John 15:18–21
“... you do not belong to the world ...”

Living Stones

Today's reading from the Gospel of John focuses on the words of Jesus at the last supper. Imagine yourself in this setting with the eventuality of Jesus' death overshadowing the meal. Those gathered are struggling with questions: “How will we survive without you? What is going to happen next?”

Jesus reassures the disciples and us that: whoever believes and has faith in him “will also do the works that [he does] and . . . will do greater works . . .” (14:12). In other words, we are called to be the ‘living stones,’ or part of the ‘spiritual house’ with Christ as the corner stone.

Furthermore, Jesus proclaims that we will all share an eternal future with him if we have faith: “I will come again and will take you to myself . . .” (14:3).

The need for faith is a thread that runs throughout this Gospel. The anxiety of the disciples at this last gathering is calmed with the reassurance that faith in God and faith in Jesus are one and the same. The opposite of faith is anxiety or worry. Thomas and Philip's worries are similar to our own apprehensions, but their questions serve to reveal the true nature of Jesus.

John reveals the essence of Jesus' identity. Jesus is “the way, and the truth and the life.” Jesus himself is God's self-revelation. He is the image of the invisible God. To know Jesus is to know the Father; they are one, dwelling in one another.



The Faith of the Church

We are in communion with Christ. His whole life was a model for us, calling us to follow him and to imitate him. We are to be one with him, living in him as he lives in us. Jesus came to this earth to do the will of the Father, that is, to fulfill God's plan for our salvation. His whole life was a submission to the Father's plan of redeeming love (Cf. *Catechism of the Catholic Church* 519–520, 606–607).



Questions of the Week

During the Easter season, the Gospels move from intimate and personal encounters with Jesus to an outward-looking focus. The outward focus of today's Gospel is the universal challenge that we are to be the way, truth and life for others, following in the footsteps of Jesus.

Adults

In what ways does my personal relationship with Jesus, thrust me into a role of service?

Children

How would I describe Jesus?

Responding to God's Word . . .

To have faith is not merely to know all of the Church's doctrines and dogmas. Rather, it is a matter of the heart and soul to trust that God is good, involved in our lives, and on our side. The opposite of faith is fear and anxiety. In a culture that continually batters us with fear, we can rise above panic and fright, resting in the confidence of God's gracious love.

Just as Christ is the living stone, the foundation of the community of believers, we are to become living stones for our generation. Through faith, we can live a life of service to

others. As 'living stones,' Christians are engaged in a faith that trusts in Christ as the way, the truth and the life and believes in the active ministry proclaimed in the reading from Acts.

Faith feeds our service. To be in intimacy with Christ and the Father propels us to respond in the Spirit of love, caring for and about others. In the faces of the poor and the needy, we see the face of Christ.

To live in the 'in-between' of a world racked with war, violence, and intolerance and still trust in God's presence is very difficult. Yet this is the heart of faith.

SUGGESTIONS

Use one of these suggestions or one of your own to respond to God's Word this week.

In the home. Create a centerpiece of stones with the names of each family member to keep in mind that we are all "living stones" for the sake of others.

In the workplace or in school. Share the message of Christ's constant care with another who may be fearful or anxious.

In the community. Visit or volunteer at a local hospice to learn what you can do to comfort the dying and those in the despair of grief.



Meditation Moment

In 1965 huge areas of Canada and the United States were blacked out by the failure of an electric fuse the size of a football. All power to those huge areas funneled through that single fuse. Later, someone compared the fuse to Jesus, saying, "As that tiny fuse was the passageway by which power went forth to the United States and Canada, so Jesus is the tiny passageway by which we go forth to the Father."

For reflection . . .

To what extent is my own life and faith reflected in this statement: "When we have traveled all ways, we shall come to the End of all ways, who says 'I am the way'?"

JESUS IS THE WAY TO THE FATHER,
THE TRUTH ABOUT THE FATHER,
AND THE LIFE OF THE FATHER.

SAINT ANDREW

FROM VISION BY MARK LINK, SJ

Make Us into Living Stones

Create in us,
O God, a living faith
in your gracious love and
constant presence. Trusting
in your Spirit, make us into
living stones that form the
foundation of your holy people
during this time of struggle and
unrest. Relying upon the indwelling
Christ, shape us into a living
temple and a caring gift for the
sake of the world. May our
lives follow the Way,
the Truth and the Life
that is Jesus.
Amen.

Carry this thought in your heart
as a guide for your faith journey
this week.

Very truly, I tell you, the
one who believes in me will
also do the works that I do
and, in fact, will do greater
works than these, because
I am going to the Father.

John 14:12

Profile in Faith

Philip the Apostle

Philip obeyed the call of Jesus and later brought Nathaniel as a new disciple. He was a questioning, shy and serious character. He seemed to want to understand more about the nature of God. The feast of Saint Philip is celebrated along with Saint James on May 1.

NIHIL OBSTAT
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† Most Reverend Kevin J. Farrell, DD, Bishop of Dallas
January 26, 2011

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS
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