

May 7, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Easter

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 6

5:00 p.m. +**Theresa, John, and John, Jr. Adamiak**
By The Wyker Family

Sunday, May 7

8:00 a.m. +**Kathleen Finnerty**
By Brian and Gerry Moss

10:30 a.m. **60th Wedding Anniversary of
Vincent and Carmela Gallo**
By Their Children and Grandchildren

12:30 p.m. **Blessings for First Communion Children**

Monday, May 8

8:45 a.m. +**Jacqueline Jukins**
By Husband

Tuesday, May 9

8:45 a.m. +**Robert Galletti**
By Maria Iannelli

Wednesday, May 10 Saint Damien de Veuster

8:45 a.m. **In Honor of the Madonna of Health**
By Angela Gross

Thursday, May 11 **NO MASS**

Friday, May 12 Saints Nereus & Achilleus

8:45 a.m. +**Daniel Jukins**
By Dad

Saturday, May 13 Our Lady of Fatima

5:00 p.m. +**Rose Malet**
By The Saksa Family

Sunday, May 14

8:00 a.m. **Blessings for Susan Reynolds**
By Susan and Larry Rineer

10:30 a.m. +**Sabino and Antonietta Antinolfi**
By Maria Iannelli

later, are still the subject of intense interest. Two of the visionaries, siblings Francisco and Jacinta



Marto, died soon after the apparitions; the third, Lúcia dos Santos, went on to become a Carmelite Sister. Sr. Lúcia died in 2005. Pope Francis and a group of cardinals met in a consistory April 20 to approve the canonization of the Martos.

That meeting came just weeks ahead of the pontiff's visit to Fatima, Portugal, where he will celebrate Mass on the anniversary of the first apparition. Pope Francis dedicated his papacy to Our Lady of Fatima on May 13, 2013. St. Pope John Paul II attributed his survival of an assassination attempt on May 13, 1981, to the intercession of Our Lady of Fatima. He revealed the third secret of Fatima to the world in 2000, the vision of Sr. Lucia in which she saw a man she perceived to be a future pope get shot. The other two secrets had already been revealed and dealt with a vision of hell and communist Russia.

The most important dimension of the Fatima event was not the supernatural and preternatural phenomena but the content and the meaning of the message communicated to the children. By following this message their spiritual lives were elevated to the heights of sanctity, to which the beatification of Jacinta and Francisco testifies, and the hope and possibility of the conversion of the world from its ruinous course was offered to mankind.

This message can be seen as comprising two essential elements, to which all others can be related in some way. The first of these elements is the singular role of the Immaculate Heart. One in the economy of salvation, a dogmatic fact. God does not have whims, and so the request of the Almighty that devotion to the Immaculate Heart be established in the world must be founded on reality and presumes that such devotion is justly given to the Mother of God.



One hundred years ago, on May 13, 1917, the Blessed Virgin Mary first appeared to three small shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal and unleashed a flood of grace in the midst of a world shattered by World War I. Our Lady of Fatima, as

she came to be known, appeared six times, asking for repentance, the daily recitation of the Rosary and prayers that Russia would be converted. She also predicted another, even more brutal war if the world did not repent, and 21 years later the Nazis invaded Poland, sparking World War II. The Fatima apparitions became renowned for the prophecies, secrets and miracles associated with them, and a century

The second of these elements involves the practical order, the value of devotion to the Immaculate Heart for the individual life and for the future of the human race. To this element are connected the various spiritual practices encouraged by the Angel and by the Lady, as well as the prophetic content of the message, upon which the fate of the world depends. Without the first element, the dogmatic, the practical dimension of the message of Fatima would be entirely arbitrary.



Mary Month – Why May?

Some have pointed to the fact that, in classic western culture (both Greek and Roman), May was recognized as the season of the beginning of new life. In the Greek

world, May was dedicated to the goddess Artemis and associated with fecundity. Roman culture linked the month of May to Flora, the goddess of bloom and blossoms – this led to the custom of *ludi florales* (or floral games) which took place at the very end of April as a preparation for entering into the month of May.

It seems that this ancient tradition of connecting May with new life and fecundity, led to a realization that May is very much the month of motherhood – this may be the reason why Mother’s Day is celebrated during May not only in the United States but in many countries and cultures of both the East and the West. In the month of May, the winter comes to an end and the spring season begins (this was the official beginning of spring in Roman culture). This new beginning and new birth is a testimony to the motherhood of Mother Earth.

The connection between motherhood and May led Christians eventually to adopt May as Mary Month. May is the Month of our Lady precisely as the Mother of God.

OUR OFFERING

4/23/17: \$2,262. 2016: \$2,549.
 4/30/16: \$2,207.15 2016: \$2,395.50

Church & Religious Education Calendar

- Bible Study: Every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
- May 7, 12:30 p.m.: First Communion and Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- May 13/14: 2nd Collection: Little Sisters of the Poor
- May 14, 9 & 11:30 a.m.: Hospitality Sunday
- May 15, 6:15: All students in church for 2017 closing of Religious Education Program
- May 21, 11:30: Trustee and Pastoral Council Meeting
- May 27/28: Special Collection: National Shrine of Immaculate Conception Dome



Stephen, Bridget M., Savannah Paine, Bobby Gross, Keira Hedges, Peter, Zachary, Logan Peter Saksa, Anna Paine, Anna Saksa, Lauren Lane, Jay

Mildrum, Philip Kinney, Kerry Kraft, Peter S., Mary Supple, Mary Rupell, Patty Mahoney, Susan Reynolds, Millie B.

(Please inform Mary Rupell every six months if you wish a name to remain on the prayer list. Please update immediately if circumstances dictate a removal.)



The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

is the process by which adult converts are received into full communion with the Catholic Church. Normally, it starts in September and takes place in four stages. It gathers information, answers questions and corrects misunderstandings about Catholicism. It is a process of spiritual formation and introduction to the Catholic parish life. The RCIA program was initiated by Pope Paul VI on January 6, 1972. If you interested in learning more about the Catholic Church, are considering becoming a Catholic, or have any questions about the process, please contact Father Damian at 689-8318, ext. 4. Please give name and phone number if leaving a phone message.