FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 10, 2020

Due to the current public health crisis, Hours of Operation and the Schedule for Masses, Confessions, and Devotions have been adjusted as follows:

MASSES ON THE LORD’S DAY
All public Masses have been suspended
LiveStreaming of Sunday Mass offered at 10:00 am

WEEKDAY MASSES
LiveStreaming of Daily Mass offered at 8:00 am Monday - Saturday
OPEN DAILY
9:00 am – 5:00 pm

CONFessions
12 noon - 1:00 pm (Monday through Friday)
3:30–5:00 pm (Sat)
9:00 am–12 noon (Sun)

PERPETUAL HELP DEVOTIONS
Livestream at 8:45 am (Monday through Friday)
Mother’s Day Blessing

“God the Father, through His Son, the Virgin Mary’s child, has brought joy to all Christian mothers as they see the hope of eternal life shine on their children. May He bless the mother of this child. She now thanks God for the gift of her child. May she be one with him/her thanking God forever in Heaven, in Jesus Christ our Lord.”

With these words, the Church blesses the mother of the newly baptized infant at the conclusion of the liturgy of Baptism. We repeat those same sentiments in prayer today as we bless the mothers in our midst. We commend you to the care and solicitude of the Lord’s own mother and remind you that what you are helps us all to understand “holy Mother Church.” We appreciate your ancient and ever new role in the life of the world.
Dear Parishioners,

This past week, we lost one of our long-time parishioners, Stephen Eckelkamp, to a long battle with cancer. Steve and his wife, Cherie, have been very active in the life of this parish for many years. Both have long been members of our choir, and for years, Cherie has served as lead coordinator for the parish Sunday Coffee and Donuts gathering and Steve has been a member of our Finance Committee. Funeral arrangements are still pending, but I kindly ask you to pray for the repose of his soul and for the family that is mourning this great loss.

While we are not able to have public Masses at the Cathedral Basilica, last weekend was quite busy for us. On Friday, the Cathedral Concerts hosted a live-stream benefit concert for Catholic Charities. At the conclusion of the concert, they had raised a little over $20,000 and more donations are still coming into Catholic Charities. A huge thank you to Cathedral Concerts and to John Powel Walsh, John Korak, and Scott Kennebeck for all their hard work. If you were unable to catch it live, you may check it out on our website.

Last Saturday, we welcomed 6 seminarians to the Cathedral who were ordained to the Transitional Diaconate by Archbishop Carlson. It was a small congregation that gathered and was only comprised of the parents of each man being ordained. At the conclusion of the ordination, each man received his assignment letter from the Archbishop and I am pleased to announce to you that the Cathedral will be getting one of the newly ordained, Reverend Mr. Edward Godefroid. He will be joining us next week, and please join me in extending a warm Cathedral parish welcome to him.

I also have some other wonderful news to share with you. One of our young parishioners and a member of Anima Christi, Thomas Jackson, received a great honor from congress as one of his works of art was chosen for the Congressional Art Award. This work of art - which is pictured on page 6 of this bulletin - will hang in our Nation’s Capitol for one year. Please join me in extending to Thomas a hearty congratulations for this wonderful honor.

Let us continue to keep each other in prayer, and to pray for an end to this pandemic.

Monsignor Henry Breier

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Most Reverend Robert Carlson

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IN-RESIDENCE
Reverend Kent Pollman

DEACONS
Deacon John Curtin
Deacon John Stoverink
Reverend Mr. Edward Godefroid

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EVENTS MANAGER
Mrs. Mary Ann Fox
314.373.8208

TOUR-GIFT SHOP MANAGER
Sister Pat Donnelly, CSJ
314.373.8241
BEFORE THE CROSS | Cooperating with God’s pruning allows to bear better fruit

Our sufferings can be united with the sufferings of Christ on the Cross to help redeem the world

I want to mention two things this week.

First: Jesus tells us that the Father “takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does He prunes so that it will bear more fruit.”

Notice: It’s not the dead branches that are pruned. The dead branches are simply thrown away. It’s the branches that are alive and fruitful that are pruned. That means less essential things are cut away in order to concentrate the growth in the most important places. That pruning makes the branch more fruitful.

Well, what have we been learning these last two months? Some things have been pruned from our lives by external necessity. But once those external restrictions are lifted, are there things we don’t want to go back to — things that may be good, but are less essential?

God has allowed our lives to be pruned. When the external world returns to some sense of normalcy, staying pruned will require our intentional, deliberate cooperation. Will we rise to that challenge, making the discipline of pruning our own? Jesus says He chose us and appointed us to go and bear fruit that will remain. We need to cooperate with the Father’s pruning in order to bear the fruit that Jesus intends.

Second: The Church observes the feast of the martyrs Sts. Nereus and Achilleus this week (May 12). On that day St. Augustine offers some important insights into suffering. He says: “The sufferings of Christ are not in Christ alone; yes, but the sufferings of Christ are only in Christ.”

His reasoning, though poetic, sounds odd at first. How can the sufferings of Christ be only in Him, and yet not in Him alone?

St. Augustine’s reasoning is rooted in the Scriptural conviction that, by baptism, we become members of the Body of Christ. Based on that belief, ancient Church tradition distinguished between “the unique Christ” — meaning Jesus, the head of the body alone — and “the whole Christ” — meaning Jesus the head, united with the members of His body.

In light of that ancient understanding, St. Augustine is saying that the sufferings of the unique Christ on Calvary are not the whole story. Rather, the cross becomes the focal point for the sufferings of the whole Christ — His entire body — throughout all history.

That means we don’t have to go it alone. Every one of our sufferings, whether large or small, can be united with the sufferings of Christ on the cross and put to use for the redemption of the world. So, St. Augustine says: “Each one of us in his own measure pays his debt to what may be called this commonwealth of ours. In proportion to our store of strength we contribute, as it were, a tax of suffering.”

That insight is dear to me. It’s part of what my episcopal motto means: “Before the Cross there is no defense.” The cross is the ultimate source of power in the world. But it’s a paradoxical kind of power, isn’t it? It’s not the power the world expects.

Jesus offers us — as members of “the whole Christ” — the chance to join Him in exercising the power of redemptive suffering. But, as with the pruning mentioned before, it requires our cooperation. As we look back on the last two months, do we notice any places we may have missed the invitation? If so let’s look ahead and try to accept the invitation more quickly and completely the next time it comes.

*Note: this column appeared in the St. Louis Review for May 11-17 and may be read in the print edition or at https://bit.ly/35ejDXr.*
PRAY FOR THE SICK

It is our responsibility in the Lord to remember the sick, who are especially close to the Redeemer in their suffering.

Margaret Aubermann  Dorothy Quinn
William H. Bachmann  Terri Reason
Alex Burns  Teresita Sanchez
Sydney Cole  Sr. Patricia Sevik
Sandy Dubuque  Rita Sheftall
Sidney Edwards-Cole  Rose Teran
Alvin Griffin  Willa Washington
Paula Littleton  Richelle Weisbrod
Lenore Molloy  Mary Anne Work
Marie Mosher  Betty Ytzaina
Janice Noack

A Thought on The Sanctity Of Life

“O Blessed Mother, you received the good news of the incarnation of Christ, your Son, with faith and trust. Grant your protection to all pregnant mothers facing difficulties.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, “A Prayer for Pregnant Mothers”

The Way, The Truth, and The Life

How do we know the way to God the Father? Only because Jesus has shown it to us by His life on earth, His Passion, death, and Resurrection. How do we know that Jesus is the Truth? Because all He said and prophesied came to pass. He is faithful to His promises. How is Jesus the Life? Building upon last week’s Gospel, because we can truly live only by obeying His commandments and walking with Him in humility. In the world today, in which philosophies, ideologies, and political agendas do everything but lead us to the truth and show us how to live, Jesus gives us the simple solution. How do we know what to do and how to live our lives in a fallen world? Because Jesus has shown us and told us that the one who trusts in Him shall not be put to shame (Isaiah 28:16, Romans 10:11).

For more, visit archstl.org/live-the-faith.

Daily Readings for the Week...

The readings are included each week so that the parishioners who are unable to join us for daily Mass will be able to consider and pray them in union with the whole Church.

Readings for the Week
May 10, 2020 through May 17, 2020

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28  Ps 145:10-13, 21  Jn 14:27-31
Thursday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26  Ps 113:1-8  Jn 15:9-17
Friday: Acts 15:22-31  Ps 57:8-12  Jn 15:12-17
Saturday: Acts 16:1-10  Ps 100:1-3, 5  Jn 15:18-21
Sunday: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17  Ps 66:1-7, 16, 20  1 Pt 3:15-18  Jn 14:15-21

You Can Help Carry the Burden

Our Parish is blessed with significant demographic diversity. While many of us live comfortably, a significant number within our Parish boundaries are not nearly so fortunate. The Poor Box, located near the main aisle in the rear of the church, is the primary source of funding for the assistance provided by the Cathedral Chapter of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Any help you can give is greatly appreciated.

Infant Baptism

According to the mind of the Church, parents are obliged to see that infants are baptized within the first weeks after birth. As soon as possible after the birth, or even before it, parents should request the sacrament for their child and should arrange to be properly instructed in preparation for it. Godparents are also encouraged to attend baptismal preparation before the child is born. If you are a registered parishioner who is or is about to become a parent or godparent, please contact the parish office at 314-373-8202 to schedule a baptism or to register for a baptismal preparation class.
An Artist Among Us
Each spring, the Congressional Institute sponsors a nationwide visual art competition to recognize and encourage artistic talent in the nation and in each congressional district. Since the Artistic Discovery competition began in 1982, more than 650,000 students have participated.

We are thrilled to announce that a work of art created by Mr. Thomas Jackson, one of our young parishioners and a member of Anima Christi, has been awarded the 2020 Congressional Art Award. In addition to having his incredible talent recognized on a state and national level, Thomas’ art (pictured below) will hang in our nation’s capitol for one year.

Congratulations, Thomas!

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Weekly Thoughts on Giving
“The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.” (1 Pt 2:7)

Every person has been given gifts from the Holy Spirit. These are called “charisms” and they are used to build God’s kingdom on earth. While many people are able to recognize their natural talents and abilities, they may be unsure of their charisms. If you know someone who is struggling for a direction in life, give them a little encouragement. Help them discern their charisms and how God is calling them to use them. Remember - no gift is too small or insignificant in God’s salvation plan.

Have You Considered Online Giving
On Line Giving is a secure and convenient web-based service to make your weekly or monthly contributions to Cathedral Parish from your computer, or lap top, or tablet. Simply access the Cathedral web site (www.cathedralstl.org) and click on the bright red DONATE button on the home page. Watch the 5 minute “Watch Help Video” and follow the easy instructions to set up your secure account and authorize your contributions to be automatically withdrawn from your bank account on the date you specify. All of information is encrypted and stored securely.
WELCOME TO THE CATHEDRAL PARISH, REVEREND MR. EDWARD GODEFROID

Age: 33

Family: Parents, Bill and Mary Godefroid; siblings, Marla, Bill, Maria, Marissa and Marcia

Home Parish: St. Catherine Laboure in Sappington

Education: St. Catherine Laboure; St. Mary’s High School; Kenrick-Glennon; currently studying theology with the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum) in Rome

The Call: As a young professional working in the golf industry in Atlanta, I felt a gnawing and persisting question eating at my mind, “Is this all there is to life?” It was then that I began reading and learning more about the riches of the Catholic faith that I had always believed blindly as a faithful Catholic but never took seriously. A desire for truth and true happiness began to pierce my heart, and it is then that I began to dive deeper into my faith and tried to live it out in my daily life. At that time God providentially put three faithful and joyful priests in my life which made me for the first time ask what first appeared as a daunting question, “Is God calling me to be a priest?” After a few years of discernment, talking with faithful priests, and immeasurable amounts of prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament, I was finally free enough to say “not my will, but yours be done” (Luke 22:42).

After seven years of seminary formation, I am still struck by how God continues to call me closer to His Most Sacred Heart. The countless prayers of many faithful people have been a true blessing and support to me that have not gone unnoticed; and it is the love of Christ that impels me in my journey to conform my life ever more to His holy priesthood. The one desire that I have carried through since the first time that I thought God was calling me till now, is to bring Jesus and His teaching to His people.

Priesthood Ordination

As with the upcoming Feast of Pentecost, the faithful of the Archdiocese will give witness to the special gift of the Holy Spirit on Saturday, May 23, when Archbishop Robert Carlson will ordain two young men to the priesthood at a special Mass here at the Cathedral Basilica. Transitional deacons scheduled to be ordained are:

Reverend Mr. Christopher Smith

Reverend Mr. Dane Westhoff

While the ordination ceremony will be private due to current social distancing restrictions, you will be able to watch the livestreamed ceremony from home on the Cathedral’s website at www.cathedralstl.org.

Please pray for these and all of our newly ordained as they begin their journey as God’s own shepherds.

A Lasting Gift

Looking for a special gift to memorialize a loved one, or celebrate a birth, wedding, or other important event? Consider a commemorative brick in the Cathedral Basilica Jubilee Prayer Garden! Contact the parish office at 314-373-8202 for more information.
LIGHT A CANDLE

Lighting a candle for loved ones or the personal intentions we hold within our hearts, is a longstanding tradition in the Catholic Church.

We invite you to join us in this faithful tradition by lighting a candle at the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis.

Vigil candles burn in the Blessed Mother Chapel, All Souls Chapel, and at the Shrine of the Sacred Heart. Each burning flame represents the faith of the supplicants and their fervent prayers. We consider it an honor to light a vigil candle for you and pray for your intentions, which will be kept in confidence.

Thank you for your generous and prayerful support. To light a candle or for more information, visit our website at www.cathedralstl.org or call the parish office at 314-373-8202.

AN EXCLUSIVE PILGRIMAGE OF FAITH

HOLY LAND

JOIN MSGR. HENRY BREIER AND FATHER THOMAS KELLER
OCTOBER 15 – 26 2020

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May 2020 Liturgical Calendar

5/1 Saint Joseph the Worker
Watch: On Pilgrimage with Father Emil Kapaun
Listen: Saint Joseph - Patron of the Universal Church

5/2 Saint Athanasius
Listen: Lessons from the Early Church Fathers
Listen: Holiness is Always in Season

5/13 Our Lady of Fatima
Watch: Fatima - Hope for the World
Listen: Fatima - Living the Message
Kids: Brother Francis - The Rosary

5/14 Saint Matthias
Listen: Acts of the Apostles
Listen: The Apostle's Creed

5/22 Saint Rita
Watch: Saint Rita of Cascia - A True Story
Pray: Novena of Surrender (Start today to finish on Pentecost!)

5/24 Ascension of the Lord
Pray: Sunday Mass
Watch: Shade the Series
Study: Why Believe? - Volume 2, Chapter 15

5/26 Saint Philip Neri
Watch: True Reformers - Saint Philip Neri
Read: The Life of Saint Philip Neri

5/31 Pentecost
Pray: Sunday Mass
Watch: The Wild Goose with Father Dave Pivonka
Study: Lectio: Evangelization

*available in both English and Spanish

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