

April 28, 2024 Fifth Sunday of Easter



MASS INTENTIONS April 27 – May 5, 2024

27 Sat	8:30 am	Lisa Krom and the Intentions of the Women's Adoration Group
27 Sat	4:30 pm	Braxton & Jordan and Rebecca Carr
28 Sun	8:00 am	Miriam & Joseph Welty, Rick Topper, Patty Troxell
28 Sun	10:30 am	Carol Swam and Nancy & Pat Boyle
29 Mon	8:30 am	Mary Beth Sayles and for the Intentions of Brandon Farrell
30 Tues	8:30 am	Tommy Penn and for the Intentions of Don Briggs
1 Weds	8:30 am	Tina Ridenour and Cathy Tenace
2 Thurs	8:30 am	Intentions of Sandy Rosensteel
3 Friday	8:30 am	Ruth Anne Augustine
4 Sat	8:30 am	Miriam & Joseph Welty and Mary Beth Sayles
4 Sat	4:30 pm	Francis Myers and Michael & Fran Castaldi
5 Sun	8:00 am	Rick Topper, Robert Greenbaum and All of Our Parishioners
5 Sun	10:30 am	Larry Maruskin and Ron Valenti

REQUEST FOR PRAYERS

Please pray for: Don Briggs, Tony Saavedra, Seton (Joe) Cool, Tom Wivell, Brett Marshall, Audrey Watts, Luellen Maskeny, Maria Lewis, Angie Finneyfrock, Mick Major, Raymond Baker, Mike Shorb, Chris Cool, Theresa Ward, Patricia Weaver, Helen Reaver, Monroe Hewitt, Andrea Carter, Gloria Bauerline, John and Esther Hayes, Fr. Charlie, C.M. Teresa Meem, Jane Gjerde, Bob Seidel, Tom Miller, Rex Davis, Julie Fry, Connie Price, Fred Hoff, Jr., Joanne Kirby, Julie Sweeney, Ronnie Topper, Mark Cotton, II, Cecelia Dillman, Emily Lingg, Bob Rosensteel, Elaine Schmidt, Ross McIntire, Susan Murphy, Shawn Mort, Veronique Lieber, Joanne Mentz, Emily Mensch, Danielle Fink, Sandra Sjoberg, MaryAnn Fila, Jeanie Paschall, Tina Heffner, Nicholas Wivell, Callan Wivell, Don Upchurch, David Benjamin, Joseph Krenitsky, Sandy-Wivell-Paparo, Mary Louise Hoban, Ann Graupensberger, Pat Cairo, and for the Homebound and Caregivers. Pray for the men and women who serve in the Military throughout the world, for those who suffer in silence, and for the unborn babies and their mothers.

Please notify the Parish Office if a parishioner is in the hospital wants to see a priest, or if they cannot attend Church anymore but wishes to receive Holy Communion, or the Sacrament of the Sick.

Our former Pastor, Rev. Martin McGeough, C.M. passed away on April 24. Please keep his family, confreres, and friends in prayer.

From Fr. Alberto Barattero, IVE

In today's Gospel Jesus uses the beautiful image of the true vine and His Heavenly Father as the vinedresser. These statements in particular reveal the depths of the Father's love for us, and how He acts in our lives. For this, I would like to consider three elements: first, the relationship the vinedresser has to the vine, second, the vinedresser's actions, what it is he does, and, lastly, what it means for us, namely, that we must remain in Christ.

First, it helps to consider what sort of relationship the vinedresser had to his vines. Unlike other crops that are simply planted, cared for, and harvested all in one season, vines last for years, so it's not an exaggeration to say that a vinedresser would know his vines individually or personally, just as a shepherd knows his sheep. The Old Testament frequently compares Israel to a vine precisely because of her personal relationship to God the Father. Furthermore, vines require great care and constant attention: they grow very fast, but in order to have them produce the most and the best fruit, the ground beneath them needs to be perfectly clean, and they must be constantly checked and trimmed.

Even when mature, the vine is pruned twice a year in such a way that it is greatly reduced. All of this, though, is done under the watchful eye and tender hand of a vinedresser who knows his vines very well, and knows exactly what he is doing.

This leads to our second point, what it is that the vinedresser does: Jesus makes reference to two actions of the vinedresser. First, he cuts away the dead branches, so they don't spread disease or suck away the life of the vine, just as Christ prunes away our sins and failings. However, the vinedresser will also cut away living parts if these lower not just the quantity, but also the quality of the fruit. Sometimes the vines have so many fruitful branches that some are cut to make sure the remaining ones get the nutrients they need; otherwise, the grapes will be sour. Note that Christ says that the Father prunes each and every vine that produces fruit.

No fruit bearing branch is exempt. The Father's reason for doing so is out of love, even though the process is painful. Indeed, the process is so delicate and so important that sometimes vineyard owners would spend two or three years just training the pruners how, when, and where to cut.

The process hurts the vine, to be sure, but, under the hand of the master, the result is something much better than anticipated. In our lives, too, God works with His grace not only to remove our sins and faults, the dead branches, but also to take away those things that, while not necessarily sinful, prevent us from producing the fruit that He desires. It might be an attachment I have, some imperfection, or a way of seeing things that Christ continues to challenge. It might even be something great, but if it's not what God wants, it must be removed.

This is why Christ tells us to remain in Him, our third point. Christ tells us that we must remain in Him. In fact, in the eight verses of the Gospel, He uses the verb remain eight times. Aquinas says that we remain in Christ by believing, obeying, and persevering, and that Christ remains in us by giving enlightenment, help, and perseverance.

Let us pray, through the intercession of Mary, the Handmaid of the Lord, for the grace to let God prune us and so bear the fruit that He desires.

Next week-end, (May 4 & 5) the priests will be talking at all the Masses to explain the 2024 Outreach Parish Mission that will take place June 16-29 for our parishioners.

On May 11 and 12 the IVE Seminarians and sisters will be visiting St. Joseph Church.

Raffle to Benefit WorkCamp (All proceeds go for supplies to repair home)

Tickets are for sale after this weekend Masses

First Prize: 3 Night stay in Ocean City MD

Second Prize: \$100.00 cash

Third: Designer handbag filled with goodies

Contact Lori Carter at 240-285-2615 for further information.

Confirmation May 3, at 5:30 pm St. Anthonys Shrine Parish

Mark your Calendars....

*Vacation Bible School begins June 17 thru
June 21st..... Watch for details!*



Upcoming Events: April & May 2024 (Parish Hall and Church)

Coffee & Donuts : Sunday, May 5 after 10:30 am
(****Looking for a volunteer to host****)

Faith Formation Every Sunday: 9:00 am Parish Hall

*****Every Thursday-Holy Hour Adoration** 7:00-8:00 pm

First Friday Adoration: May 3, 9:00-am -7:00 pm

First Saturday Adoration: May 4, 9:15-10:15 am with confession opportunity.

Women's Night of Mercy and Adoration: 7-8:00 pm St. Joseph's Church; April 29

Legion of Mary: 10:00-11:30 -Saturdays (Parish Hall)

Parish Council Meeting: May 7, 7:00 pm

St. Vincent DePaul/ Our Lady of Grace: May 15, at 7:00 pm

Ladies Sodality Meeting: May 20, 6:00 pm

Everyone is Welcome to attend! The IVE Third Order Social Gathering and Potluck Dinner

May 19, 5:45-7:30 pm Parish Hall
Contact person: Sister Peace (240)-357-7582
c.ourladyoflourdes@servidoras.org

STEWARDSHIP REPORT April 20 & 21, 2024

First Collection: **(Envelopes & Loose)** \$ 3,549.02
On-line Giving: \$ 1,567.39
Total Collection: \$ 5,116.59
Second Collection: **School Support** \$ 438.00

Thank you for your continued generosity! It is recommended that each household contribute to the first collection an equal amount to one hour's wage from each wage earner.

Please give what you are able to give, no gift is too small, but we do need your support.

Community Blood Drive

Date: May 1st **Time:** 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Location: Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish Center
103 N Church Street Thurmont, MD 21788

Contact Information: Dan Glancey 301-471-1489



NEED A HAND AROUND THE HOUSE?

Students from Gonzaga High School are returning to the Fairfield/Emmitsburg/northern Thurmont area for a single-week of service, June 17-20 thru Seton Center, Inc. These dedicated students wish to partner with low-income neighbors in need of muscle for general yard work, small household repairs, painting (no higher than a step ladder), moving items, spring cleaning, etc. They are not permitted to use extension ladders or gas-powered equipment, with the exception of a push mower/small trimmer. You are responsible for any materials needed. Requests will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. To register your project, Seton Center, Inc.'s volunteer Manager Missy Miller at 301-447-6102 ext. or melissa.miller@doc.org no later than Friday, June 7.

Saint Katherine Drexel Catholic Church presents...A unique presentation, "Invisible Systems" an experience of Privilege & Racism through Story and Song on Sunday, April 28 at 2:00 pm at 8428 Opossumtown Pike, Frederick MD.

Great reviews, Thought Provoking."

Archdiocese of Baltimore News

Seek News Coverage – Please visit Archdiocese of Baltimore website www.archbalt.org for the latest information on, "Seek the City", a proposal of merging certain churches.

United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Maryland

**In re: Roman Catholic Archbishop of Baltimore
Case NO 23-16969**

Claims Notice for Victims of Sexual Abuse and Others with Claims Against the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Baltimore

If you were sexually abused by any person or entity connected with the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Baltimore (also known as the Archdiocese of Baltimore), a Roman Catholic parish or Roman Catholic school within the geographical area of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Baltimore, or have any claim against the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Baltimore, you must file a claim by **May 31, 2024**. If you fail to file a timely claim, you may lose the right to assert a claim at a later date. For U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Maryland information, visit: <http://www.mdb.uscourts.gov/> For more Diocesan information, visit: <https://www.archbalt.org/> or <https://dm.epiq11.com/RCABaltimore.db.uscourts.gov/>