

5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

“In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?” - Jn 14:2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

May 10, 2020

Our mission at Immaculate Heart of Mary - is to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ and to praise His name, by being a Christ-centered, welcoming, unified community. Called to holiness, we celebrate the love of God through prayer and worship, the Eucharist and other sacraments, catechesis, evangelization and service to all. Always His people, we strive to be good stewards of our time, talent and treasure.

Gospel Meditation, Deeper Understanding of Scripture Fifth Sunday of Easter

When earthly lives end, especially when the person is younger, we tend to focus upon and consider what was lost. We think of lost opportunities — things they won't be able to see, babies they won't be able to cradle, and adventures that now must go undiscovered. Our minds create this chasm between earth and heaven that sees the losses of this life as permanent ones, never possible to achieve again. This perception causes many folks to remain stuck in their grief as they ponder all of the missed opportunities and regrets.

This is not resurrection thinking. All of the love that we can give and receive, the joy and elation that can be experienced, the adventures that can be undertaken, and the possibilities to be discovered are all part of a continuous journey. They are not ends in and of themselves but are all part of the unfolding of a relationship we have with God, who not only makes all of these wonderful things possible now but sustains them and fulfills them into eternity. The perception and experience of loss is really an illusion, because in God's eternal kingdom and in God's time, nothing is ever lost. Even the most intimate and tender of moments we can conceive of sharing with another human being are only part of a journey toward perfect intimate and tender moments to be shared with God in our resurrected life. We become like God and see God as He is in eternity. What greater joy, love, and hope can ever be discovered as we walk down our often dimly lit paths in this world.

This is an awesome wonder and magnificent news to behold. Call to mind someone you have lost in death. How do you see them now? How do you see yourself in heaven? Remind yourself, again, that God is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Our happiness is not going to be fully realized in this world, and there is nothing we can find here that cannot be found one hundred fold in eternity. It's all about relationship, and not solely about the relationships we have with each other, ourselves, and the world in which we live. It's about our relationship with God. If we realize how special that one relationship really is, then there is only one particular of heaven and life eternal that really matters: namely, that we fall into love eternal and discover truth. For when we finally close our eyes in death, then all will be well as long as we are with God. There are no losses, only gains. ©LPi

✠EASTER FLOWER MEMORIAL and/or MOTHER'S DAY REMEMBRANCE ✠

The Easter Flower Memorial and Mother's Day Remembrance listings for 2020 have been prepared with the names that were submitted on the envelopes. If any parishioner would like a copy(s) of either listing, please contact Judy; (518) 273-6020 ext. 301 and leave your name, address & envelope number or email: jpope@ihm.rcpw.org. A copy of the list(s) will be sent to you.

Immaculate Heart Of Mary Pray for Us

The PARISH OFFICE is CLOSED until further notice. Parishioners may still continue to mail in their weekly parish envelopes OR drop them off at the 7th Ave Entrance Door MAIL SLOT.

Your continued commitment in supporting the parish is greatly appreciated, thank you and God bless you.

IHM PRAYER MINISTRY~ We believe as faith-filled people, prayer matters and offers hope. The prayer tree ministry is made up of a group of people who pray for others — if you would like prayers said for a family member, relative, or friend contact Brenda at 518 271-6184. **Let us also continue to pray for one another and for an end to this virus that has afflicted so many people in our community and around the world.**

DON'T COUNT THE LOSSES

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr Don Rutherford, Pastor

Deacon Mark Leonard

Shawn Allen, Business Administrator

sallen@ihm.rcpw.org

PARISH LIFE CENTER

2416 7th Avenue

Watervliet, NY 12189

(518) 273-6020

Fax: (518) 273-3978

Email: info@ihm.rcpw.org

Website: www.rcpw.weebly.com

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

CLOSED

Administrative Assistant

Judith Pope

jpope@ihm.rcpw.org

Secretary

Mary Beth Knapik

Archivist

Thomas Hanley

thanley@ihm.rcpw.org

Facility Manager

Matthew Carabis

FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH

MINISTRY CENTER

2425 7th Ave. Watervliet, NY 12189

(Direct Phone) - (518) 328-0427

Coordinator

Sharon Kowalski

skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org

Call for information or appointment

First Reading:

The word of God continued to spread, and the number of the disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly. (Acts 6:7a)

Psalm:

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you. (Ps 33) or Alleluia

Second Reading:

You are "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises" of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. (1 Pt 2:9)

Gospel:

Jesus said to him,


"I am the way and the truth and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through me." (Jn 14:6)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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In Memoriam ~ 2020-21		
 <p>In loving memory of our Families: The Carlsons, The Mardigans, The Foleys & The Butlers requested by Bob & Carol Carlson 2/7/21</p>	<p>In loving memory of Albert P Morelli, Donald & Eileen Gallagher Hogan requested by Don & Patti Hogan 1/10/21</p>	<p>In loving memory of Joseph V Germano requested by the Family 1/10/21</p>
<p>In loving memory of John A O'Brien requested by the Family 10/25/20</p>	<p>In loving memory of William T Sr, Julia F and Robert A Fahr requested by the Family 8/23/20</p>	<p>In loving memory of Bryan T Roberts (son) Raymond & Helen Werner (parents) requested by Judith Pope 7/19/20</p>
<p>In loving memory of The Barron & Rys Families requested by the Family 7/19/20</p>	<p>In loving memory of John T Sherlock requested by his wife and Family 7/19/20</p>	<p>In loving memory of the Edward Brooks Family, Foglia Family & Monticup Family requested by Rose Brooks & Family 5/24/20</p>

Please Note: Since all regularly scheduled Masses are canceled until further notice, we will NOT be scheduling any new Mass intentions until the diocesan directive is lifted. Intentions that have been previously reserved will be rescheduled at a later date before any new intentions are taken. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding of this situation.

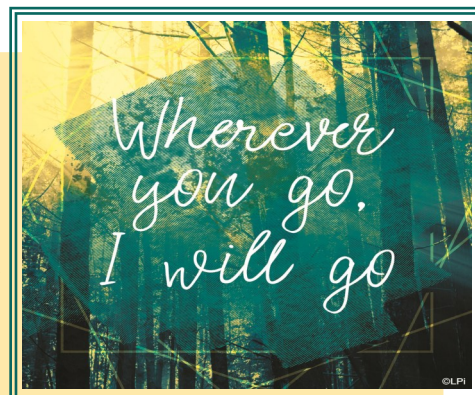
In loving memory of
Adam & Katherine Novak
John & Rosalie Novak & Florence Szpot
requested by the Family
5/10/20

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS ~

Witnesses for Jesus

This journey of faith is not always easy. Sometimes the greatest wounds are those we suffer when family members and friends wander away from God and leave us behind. The faith they had when they were younger is now strained, or they see the daily walking with Jesus to be too difficult. For them, Jesus becomes what Peter wrote about when he described Jesus as the stone that causes people to stumble and the rock that makes them fall. Our journey is hard enough, but watching a loved one stumble and fall is heart-breaking.

What are we to do in such a situation? Most importantly, we pray. We must realize that God is more powerful than us, and even if we can't make them see the truth, He can. Then we witness to the transformative power of Jesus by our own lives. We need to serve him in word and deed. We should let a joy of being a disciple enlighten our faces. Allow Jesus to work through us so that others may be drawn to him. Lastly, we must never lose hope. Many have walked long journeys alone only to find God far down the road. What will it take to bring someone to Christ? It might be an action, a word, or an emotion. We never know how certain people will be touched. That loved one is a gift from God in your life. Place them back in God's hands, and let Him pick them up if they have stumbled and fallen. —Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



PRAYER FOR MOTHERS

Heavenly Father,

From the beginning you have chosen to entrust the human person to mothers in a special way.

We thank and praise you for the gift of mothers; for their tenderness, care, and compassion, for their intuition and encouragement, for commitment and sacrifice.

Bless all mothers this day.

Keep, strengthen, and refresh them in your loving care.

May they be blessed by our open-hearted love and gratitude.

Amen.



Readings for the Week of May 10, 2020

Sunday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 [22]/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12

Monday: Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16 [1ab]/Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21 [cf. 12]/Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5 [cf. 1]/Jn 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [8]/Jn 15:9-17

Friday: Acts 15:22-31/Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12 [10a]/Jn 15:12-17

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5 [2a]/Jn 15:18-21

Next Sunday: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 [1]/1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21

Watch your local Watervliet 1303 TV station for the video of Immaculate Heart of Mary Weekend Mass.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Contributions received the week of: April 23-29, 2020—\$5255.00

This total includes the tithing envelopes and Electronic Giving (We Share).