



CORPUS CHRISTI

PARISH COMMUNITY

234 SOUTHERN BOULEVARD
CHATHAM, NEW JERSEY 07928

(973) 635-0070 • Fax (973)-635-5518
www.corpuschristi.org

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Daily Blog: jmahoney.typepad.com

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Ray Maybert, Bill Coe, Maintenance Staff

ext. 721, maintenance@corpuschristi.org

Parish Office is Open

Office Hours Monday—Friday 9 am to 4 pm

MAY 23, 2021

PENTECOST SUNDAY

PENTECOST

Today is the end of the Easter Season and the Holy Spirit descends on the Apostles. They had been waiting in the upper room when a mighty wind blew, and tongues of fire came to rest on each of them. They began to speak in foreign languages. Suddenly they were able to speak boldly about Jesus and all that Jesus taught them.



Filled with the Holy Spirit, they left with all they needed to do what Jesus asked. These simple fearful and uneducated fishermen and others went out to take on the world. They succeeded!

Pentecost reminded them that the work of Jesus and proclaiming the Gospel is God's work first. They would not be able to go out and live the Gospel message on their own power. There are too many obstacles in our world. He knew they needed a helper—the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is the Paraclete (a Greek word that is translated as Counselor, Comforter, Helper, Encourager, or Enabler).

At our baptism, we receive the Holy Spirit and are asked to begin to walk in faith within the Church. At Confirmation, we are strengthened by the Holy Spirit to make our faith our own and to be active disciples in the world. To do this, we invite the Holy Spirit to use us daily: to forgive those who have hurt us, to make U-turns where we need, to encourage those who are down and out. The Holy Spirit is never afraid to stretch us so that we can do great things. Sometimes it is easy to look at the difficulties in our lives and to be self-focused. We rightly think that we don't have the strength, knowledge or ability to handle these situations. Yet when we lean on the Holy Spirit, we receive the unseen, all-powerful and unstoppable presence of God, the "ruah" that animates the work of the Church. The secret of all the saints and martyrs was that they leaned on the Holy Spirit and not on themselves.

Pentecost reminds us no matter what we are going through, that God is here for us. He wants to lead us to wholeness and healing. When we invite the Holy Spirit into our lives each day, there is no obstacle that cannot be cleared, no difficulty that can keep us from receiving the hope, peace and the comfort of where God wants to lead us. When we live out our faith with the help of the Holy Spirit, great things happen!

Fr. Kevin

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

In Person and Livestream

Sunday, May 23

7:30 a.m. For Our Parishioners
9:00 a.m. John & Josephine Bruno; Patricia Neff;
Mary & Richard Nolan
11:00 a.m. Sam & Stella Kuchar; Charles E. Walsh;
Gertrude Winkler

Monday, May 24

7:30 a.m. Maureen Alexander

Tuesday, May 25

7:30 a.m. Special Intention

Wednesday, May 26

7:30 a.m. Carmen Fusaro

Thursday, May 27

7:30 a.m. Stephen Miller

Friday, May 28

7:30 a.m. MaryAnn Stevens

Saturday, May 29

5:00 p.m. Mary Ellen Wagner; James McCurrie

Sunday, May 30

7:30 a.m. For Our Parishioners
9:00 a.m. Katherine Buonacore-Deo; Ricky Lubischer
11:00 a.m. Marybeth McKeown; Jack Matthews;
Charles E. Walsh

IN REMEMBRANCE

For the week of May 23, Sanctuary Lights burn for a Special Intention. Bread and Wine are offered in memory of Maureen Alexander. Blessed Sacrament Chapel Flowers are in memory of Maureen Alexander.

DRIVE UP COMMUNION AND DRIVE UP CONFESSION

Holy Communion is available after every Sunday 11 am Masses. Please "drive up" to the Prayer Garden side of the church and receive the Eucharist from 11:45 am to 12:15 pm every Sunday. Drive up to the Prayer Garden, receive in your car and feel free to then park for a moment in one of the parking spots for a prayer.

Friday Confession

Feeling disconnected? Confession helps to restore peace, hope, freedom and calm in our lives. It strengthens us to be able to meet our daily challenges. Consider going to Confession. We offer it every Friday, Noon to 1:00 pm outside near the Prayer Garden. Also by appointment call 973-635-0070 ext. 5 for Fr. Kevin or ext. 6 for Fr. Andrew.

Be not afraid – but accept the peace that comes with God's healing through this beautiful Sacrament!

MAY 23, 2021 PENTECOST SUNDAY

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

In person only Monday and Wednesday 1-3 pm

Eucharistic Adoration is also offered by streaming
12 to 1 pm everyday on our
Website, Facebook and YouTube

Today

PJ Collection all month
9:00 a.m. Teen Bell Choir
11:45 a.m. Drive-up Communion
2:00 p.m. *"Psalms for Corpus Christi" Vocal Recital*
(Livestream Only)

Monday, May 24

1-3 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration/Private Prayer
(In Person)

Tuesday, May 25

4:15 p.m. Junior Handbells
5:30 p.m. Adult Handbell



Wednesday, May 26

1-3 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration/Private Prayer
(In Person)

Thursday, May 27

7:00 p.m. Bible Study on the Sunday Gospel (Zoom)
7:00 p.m. Adult Choir (Church and Zoom)

Friday, May 28

Parish Offices Closed (Memorial Day Weekend)
12:00 p.m. Confessions

You are welcome to come for private prayer
on Mondays and Wednesdays 1—3 p.m.
Enter by way of the First Main Entrance

Drive-Up Confession

Every Friday from 12—1 p.m.
On the Prayer Garden side of the Church

Mass Schedule

In Person and Livestream Masses in the Church

May 22/23

Saturday, 5:00 pm Msgr. Mahoney
Sunday, 7:30 am Fr. Kevin (In Person Only)
Sunday, 9:00 am Fr. Kevin
Sunday, 11:00 am Msgr. Mahoney

May 29/30

Saturday, 5:00 pm Fr. Andrew
Sunday, 7:30 am Fr. Andrew (In Person Only)
Sunday, 9:00 am Msgr. Mahoney
Sunday, 11:00 am Fr. Kevin

You are invited to attend a

*Luncheon
To Honor
Sister Margaret Dincher*

at

*Fairmount Country Club
400 Southern Boulevard
Chatham, New Jersey*

on

Sunday, June 13, 2021

12:30-3:30 p.m.

*\$35 per person
Cash Bar*

*Due to Covid-19 limitations,
reservations are limited to 150 persons*

Please RSVP by Monday, June 7, 2021

Please reserve _____ seats at \$35.00 per person. \$ _____

Name(s) _____

*Please detach and return with your check made payable to: Corpus Christi Church
234 Southern Boulevard
Chatham, New Jersey 07928*

CORPUS CHRISTI PARISH NEW PAJAMAS DRIVE

(to benefit Local Women's Shelters)



*Please Help a Mom in Crisis by donating
NEW PAJAMAS*

*ALL SIZES NEEDED
(for women, babies, children, and teens)*

*You can help provide comfort, warmth and safety
in a time of need.*

*Please bring your donations to the special bins in the
atrium starting Saturday, May 8 and
continuing the entire month of May.*

*You can also arrange
delivery of your on-line pajama purchase to:*

**Corpus Christi Church
234 Southern Boulevard
Chatham, NJ 07928
Attn: PJ Drive**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CARE AND SUPPORT
OF MOTHERS AND THEIR CHILDREN!**

TEXT CORPUS CHRISTI YOUR PRAYER INTENTIONS!!

***We are inviting everyone to text their
prayer intentions.***

Our Media Ministry will gather a small sample of intentions to be highlighted during our weekend Masses, and be assured that all intentions will be remembered. Please put this number in your phone and text us whenever you need, or someone asks for prayers.

***Together let us share in the strength
that prayer offers.***



MUSIC MINISTRY

Contact: Robert Long 973-635-0070 x716 (phone);
973-635-5518 (fax); email: rlong@corpuschristi.org.
Elizabeth Nowik email: liz@corpuschristi.org.

"Psalms for Corpus Christi"

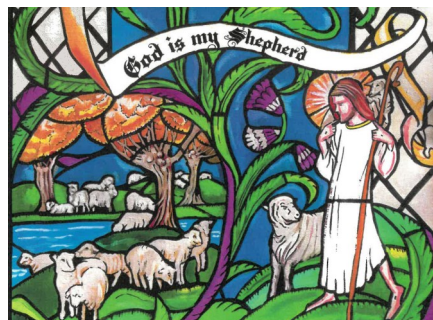
Vocal Recital

**Sunday, May 23, 2021
2:00 p.m.**

Dedicated to Sister Margaret

***Patty Ruggles, mezzo-soprano
Bob Long, piano***

Livestream - www.corpuschristi.org



JOIN THE WEEKEND LIVESTREAM MEDIA TEAM!

Our Communications and Media team is looking for volunteers to support our Saturday and Sunday enhanced livestream and public Masses.

Familiarity with media production is preferred but not required. Our pastoral team will provide training, support and supervision.

Please prayerfully consider joining this ministry. This is a great opportunity to express your creative skills and evangelize the Gospel through visual arts. We are looking for adult and young adult volunteers.

For more info, please contact Dominic Ambrosio at dambrosio@corpuschristi.org.

BAPTISMS

We welcome into the Church through the sacrament of Baptism, **Liam Charles Detweiler**, son of Michael and Caroline; **Shannon MaryJo Lay**, daughter of Benjamin and Sarah; **Lucas Martin Feeney**, son of Kevin and Jacqueline; **Tessa Olivia Johnson** daughter of Christopher and Colleen.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Patty Westerzelt, Brian Deasy, Mon Cassius, Trish Dowling, David Natale, Megan O'Neil, Christopher Ciufu, James Greendonner, Jeffrey Dowling, Donna Conforti, Wayne Parisi, Debby Conti, James J. Price, Pat Pierson, Florence and John Hefelee, Hank Campbell, Amy Fitzgerald, Mary McHale, Father John O'Brien, Dorothy M. Torick, Howard Daly, Katherine Brown, Conor Jennings, Barbara Layman, Craig Wisdo, John Petite, Raymond O'Connell, Joseph Doria, John Fleming, Donna Kugelman, Jeffrey Hodgeson, Kiran Kenney, Helen Dwyer, Margaret Pittaluga, Tina Errico, Nick McGann, John (Jack) Kaplan, Marie Orgo, Lucy Ryan, Joann Uibelhoer, Beth Abella, Nicholas Ciufu, Peter Elder, Lori Abrams, Brandon Glynnyoung, David Carey, Marylou Perrini, Alan Fischer, Sarah Addison, Carol Murphy, Likeu Lee, Susan Kosinski, Camille Moran, Michael Turinchak, Dorothy Norton, Sr. Barbara Takacs, Diane Allen, Nora and Callum Lemanski, Lucas Reiling, Dominic Ursino, Andrew Jenkins, Debbie Dwyer, Bridget Noe, John Cunningham, Abigail Brady, Frances Smith, Claudia Fernandez, Tom Warren, Marty Erickson, Mary Beth Bonkowski, Carey Jenkins, Aurora Tremaroli, Aubrey Baumbach, Christopher Green Cunningham, Ethel Gasda, Patrick Ford, Patrick Murphy, Jr., Helen Huk, Cathy Caputo, Rui Boos, Joseph Todisco, Marie Skurka, Arianna Khelil, Dorothy Craig, Stephanie Quiroga, Sal Guidone, Judy Broyhill, Tony Rios, Lois McGuire, Gina Pagnotta, Helen Huddleston, Mary Ann Allen, Mary Ellen Wagner, Ed Lord, Thomas Singer, Gregory Malzberg, Kristine Ryan, Luis Gallardo, Susan McGeough, Joseph Cirella, Donna Gocking, Marti Sullivan, Lauren Gardner, Edward Cameron, Marie Viteri, Steven Hensle, William Cody, John Keelin, Richard Delaney, Charlie Roussel, Jay Conroy, Richard Pelillo, Ryan Lowe, Dominick Canavaro, Larry Califano, Frank Intagliato, Don Stauber, Marie Meister, Marlene Teixeira, John Crisp, Don Spagnuolo, Maddie Niebanch, Anthony Careccia, Henry Von See, Michelle Benaim, Kevin and Dorothy Franken, Adriana Martins, Eugene Iannocelli, Everett Farren, Connie McNamara, Ann Zerga, Cheryl Maiorini, Alfri Rundio, Barbara Marvin, Beth Cintron, Andrew White, Adeline Lombardi, Caitlin Murray, Giovanna Tagliaferri, Nancy Merola Miller, Ann Gilroy, Stephanie Windsor, Rosemarie Moeller, Patricia Marceterre, Connie Prince, Bud Jeannette, Georgina Weiland, Anna West, Maddi Kinney, Michele Carney, Patti Mahoney, Robert Bruce, Richard Terranova, Diana Nazelli, Elizabeth Yanis, Peter Paul Perla, Greg Romais, Timothy Finnegan, Mary Mulhall, Jim Tsakonos, Denis Schreiber, Carmela Mino, Nicholas Storms, Ron Leonardis, Jonathan Schwanwede, Tom Kerr, Steve Karasoulis, Angie Dincher, Virginia Lutz, Keith Thomas, Max Leyn, Pat Fitzpatrick, Victor Rispoli, JoAnne Felicit, Christine Marinello, Amy Hefelee, John Dory, Margaret DiPopolo, John Savarese, Richard Pigott, Edna Torsiglieri, Marianne Conod, Jade Navarro, Kay Rittweger, Carol Lovelock, Betty Ann and Ron Henning, Nancy McKiernan, Maire O'Donnell, Amy Hefelee, Ryan Smith, Brian Carpenter, Amy Wert.

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE GONE HOME TO THE LORD



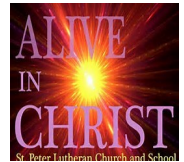
SPIRITUALITY-FAITH DEVELOPMENT



Contact:
Sister Margaret Dincher, SCC
973-635-0070 x 714 (phone)
973-635-5518 (fax)
email: marga@corpuschristi.org

LECTORS, EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND ALTAR SERVERS

We are in need of additional Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Servers. If you feel God is calling you to serve in these ministries please email or call Sr. Margaret to set up a meeting.



*May we share our gifts and time
to become the Eucharist
we Celebrate.*

Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors will meet for training with Sister Margaret.

Altar Servers will meet for training with Fr. Kevin.

PASTORAL CARE



The Sacrament of the Eucharist is brought weekly to the Homebound. If you wish a visit, call or email Sister Margaret.

If you or someone you know needs the Sacrament of the Sick, please call Terri at the parish office, 973-635-0070 x710 or Sr. Margaret.

BIBLE STUDY ON THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

An evening of scriptural reading, meditation and prayer to promote communion with God and to increase the knowledge of God's word.

Thursdays at 7:00 pm via Zoom

Contact Sister Margaret for more information. See Zoom information below to join.

Meeting ID: 990 8740 4077

<https://zoom.us/j/99087404077>

ABIDE

Abide is a monthly program to help one breathe in the Word of God. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday each month at 7:00 pm. Next meeting is June 8th in the Atrium. If you are interested in joining the group please email Sr. Margaret at marga@corpuschristi.org.

Presenters are Diane Radwill and Sister Margaret.

Faith Formation

PRAY FOR OUR FIRST COMMUNION CHILDREN

Some of our youngest parishioners will celebrate their First Communion during the Saturdays in May

Communion Days:

May 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd

Masses are at 12 noon and 2 PM

Please join these children with your prayerful support via our livestream on www.corpuschristi.org or our facebook page



Parents: Please send us your photos of this happy day, so we can share them with the community! Please email them to bhanley@corpuschristi.org

Contact: Brigette Vohden email: bvohden@corpuschristi.org for PreK—Grade 6

Contact: Haley Heiberger email: haley@corpuschristi.org for Confirmation Prep Grades 7—10; Youth Ministry

IT'S OFFICIAL!

"THE MINISTRY OF CATECHIST"

Pope Francis has formally instituted the office of catechist as a ministry within the Church. released on May 11, 2021, the Pope established the lay ministry, and announced that the Vatican would soon publish a ritual for the commissioning of catechists.

IS GOD CALLING YOU TO THIS MINISTRY?

To meet the needs of the children, we're in need of at least 70 volunteers

We'd love to have you! Training and materials are provided.

CONTACT BRIGETTE OR HALEY IF YOU'D LIKE TO BE A PART OF THIS MINISTRY IN THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

THE CATHOLIC CHARITIES CLOTHING DONATION BOXES ARE AVAILABLE!

We welcome the donation of gently used clothing and small household items such as working appliances.

Your donations will be sold to a company that in turn sells the items in thrift stores in Ohio. The money from the sale of these items is used to fund the many support services for the needy in our Diocese.

If you have large quantities of clothes, any household appliances or furniture to donate, call 877-343-3651 for a pickup at your home.



Four bins—pickup twice a week!

MOUNT SAINT MARY ACADEMY WATCHUNG, NJ

Mount Saint Mary Academy in Watchung, NJ, will be offering an exciting state of academic and athletic summer programs for girls who are entering the fifth through eighth grade. Enrichment courses will focus on STEM, science, math, Python coding, art and more! The Athletics Camp is designed for all levels of players. Contact Joanne Cadigan-Peters at (909) 757-0108 or jcadigan@mountsaintmary.org.

Register Online at: <https://www.mountsaintmary.org/admissions/summer-academy>.

Reflection...

by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

“Red is the color of my true love’s hair.” A lyric of the country music ditty based on an old Scottish song. No matter the actual color of a loved one’s hair, we must admit that red is a powerful, straightforward color. It bespeaks of confidence and clarity of purpose; energy and enthusiasm; power and purpose. Red can underscore the importance of events. Picture the red carpet spread out on the airport tarmac for distinguished visitors to walk upon as they arrive at a pre-arranged destination. Red is not the clothing color for the timid or those doubtful of their self worth.

For us Catholic Christians, red is meant to recollect the blood sacrifice of Christ and the martyrs who followed Him to the end. Remember how you saw it in the vesture and church decor for Palm Sunday and Good Friday.

But today, this fine Pentecost Sunday, you see it used also to signify the presence of the Holy Spirit. The Book of the Acts of the Apostles recalls His dramatic arrival among the struggling members of the little group who formed the embryonic Church.

This is the day that we call “the Birthday of the Church.” It is also the fiftieth day (what the word “Pentecost” means) since the Feast of the Resurrection. The great three month Lent-Easter cycle of high celebration comes to its inevitable end. Weather wise, we have come from snow clogged roads to dry streets of macadam; from overcoats to no coats; from virus to vaccination; from penance to a party-like celebration marking God’s promises come to fulfillment.

What Pentecost means is tantamount to rediscovering the purpose of our earthly lives, complete with their chapters of joy and sadness. As a Church we have gained the Holy Spirit’s inestimable insight to help us find our way forward to the eternal destiny Jesus promised.

It should be glaringly obvious, but still worth pointing out, that devotion to the Holy Spirit should be part of our spiritual lives. Without Him we can easily become victims of confusion. We have so many “why questions” that beg for answers. Without the Spirit, we only have our insular insights. If we fail to get some answers, we might flounder in our faith. We might act almost like a blind person in a dark room at night.

Sometimes, we can become so disoriented by our lack of devotion to the Spirit that we are tempted to fill the vacuum by turning to clever but faulty imitations of His authentic guidance. So we might rub our rabbit’s foot in our anxiety. Worse, we may turn to astrology for the answers and analysis we need. The Bible tells us, on Pentecost, to “Look to the Spirit, and you will find what you need.” For He covers our minds and hearts with light. He colors our world not only with red but all the colors of the rainbow. He leads us where to go.

The late great humorist Erma Bombeck told the story of what happened to her in church one Sunday... *“I was intent on a small child who was turning around and smiling at everyone. He wasn’t gurgling, spitting, humming, kicking, tearing the hymnals, or rummaging through his mother’s handbag. He was just smiling.*

Finally, his mother jerked him about and in a stage whisper that could be heard in a little theater off Broadway said: ‘Stop that grinning! You’re in church!’ With that, she gave him a belt, and as tears rolled down his cheek, she added, ‘That’s better,’ and returned to her prayers. We sing, make a joyful noise unto the Lord while our faces reflect the sadness of one who has just buried a rich aunt who left everything to her pregnant hamster.

Suddenly I was angry. It occurred to me the entire world is in tears, and if you’re not, then you’d better get with it. I wanted to grab this child with the tear-stained face close to me and tell him about my God, the happy God, the smiling God, the God who had to have a sense of humor to have created the likes of us. I wanted to tell him that our God is an understanding God who understands little children who turn around and smile in church.

By tradition, I suppose, one wears faith with the solemnity of a mourner, the mask of tragedy. What a fool, I thought, this woman sitting next to the only sign of hope—the only miracle—left in our civilization. If that child couldn’t smile in church, where was there left to go?”

Sunday, May 23, 2021

SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST

Sing a new church into being

Pentecost celebrates crowded places, multiple languages, and diverse people uniting in one Spirit. It's a hard feast to celebrate during a pandemic in an era clouded by social conflict. All the more reason to challenge ourselves by celebrating not only what makes us the same, but also what makes us different. God showers on the world "gifts that differ," as Benedictine hymnist Delores Dufner declares. So "Bring the hopes of every nation;/ bring the art of every race. /Weave a song of peace and justice;/ let it sound through time and space." And let the church say: Amen!

TODAY'S READINGS: Day: Acts 2:1-11; Galatians 5:16-25 or 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13; Sequence Veni Sancte Spiritus; John 20:19-23 (63). "There are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone."

Monday, May 24, 2021

MEMORIAL OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

The mother of all feasts

In 2018, Pope Francis created the new Marian memorial that the universal church celebrates today, the Monday after Pentecost. The title "Mother of the Church" was bestowed on Mary in 1964 by Pope Saint Paul VI at the closing of the Second Vatican Council. Her role as mother of the church goes back to when Jesus, on the cross, gave her and the beloved disciple to one another and to when she became the mother of Christ, whose body we are all members of. Not everyone has a mother figure to rely on—know that you can always rely on the mother of us all.

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14; John 19:25-34 (572A). "When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved, he said to his mother, 'Woman, behold, your son.'"

Tuesday, May 25, 2021

MEMORIAL OF MARY MAGDALENE DE' PAZZI, VIRGIN

A Spirit for the dry season

When Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi became a Carmelite nun in 1583, she couldn't foresee the great physical suffering from an unknown disease that would besiege her. Nor could she foresee having the same type of ecstatic religious visions—followed by years of "spiritual dryness"—as did another Carmelite saint, Teresa of Ávila. Magdalene's bout of spiritual dryness, so severe that she considered suicide, ended on Pentecost in 1590. With Pentecost 2021 so recently behind us, pray as she did: "Come, Holy Spirit . . . Come, as you descended on Mary, that the Word might become flesh and work in us through grace."

TODAY'S READINGS: Sirach 35:1-12; Mark 10:28-31 (348). "Give to the Most High as he has given to you, generously."

Wednesday, May 26, 2021

MEMORIAL OF PHILIP NERI, PRIEST

Now is the time to do good

In the middle of Rome in the 16th century lived a man whose joyful nature made him something of a people magnet for both the powerful and the poor. Saint Philip Neri was a deeply spiritual man who exuded natural warmth, listened well, and in loving generosity, led others to know God. This spiritual director, priest, and confessor was known to ask, "Well, when shall we begin to do good?" It is no surprise that Neri, known as the "Apostle of Rome,"

inspired followers to join him in caring for the sick and the poor. Where can you do some good today?

TODAY'S READINGS: Sirach 36:1, 4-5a, 10-17; Mark 10:32-45 (349). "For the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve."

Thursday, May 27, 2021

MEMORIAL OF AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY, BISHOP

Can't win them all

Augustine of Canterbury, memorialized today, is remembered as a major figure in evangelizing England. The renowned Canterbury Cathedral was built on the site of a church and monastery he built around the end of the sixth century. In spite of his stature now as "Apostle of the English," he met with bitter disappointment, too. His efforts to bring the English bishops in line with Rome were roundly rebuffed, a disappointment he took to his death. Can you let go of your failures, knowing that, like Augustine, they do not define your life?

TODAY'S READINGS: Sirach 42:15-25, Mark 10:46-52 (350). "He began to cry out and say, 'Jesus, son of David, have pity on me.'"

Friday, May 28, 2021

Give a fig!

Figs are a popular fruit in the Bible, from Genesis with Eve and Adam wearing fig leaves clear through the Book of Revelation's apocalyptic falling of winter figs. Why so many figs? The fig itself is sweet and has lots of dietary fiber, calcium, and various minerals and vitamins. It is a great source of energy and flavor. Perhaps because it is so plentiful, delicious, and nutritious, the fig is also rich in symbolism for health and abundance. In the gospels, Jesus expects us to be like figs—to be "nutritious" to others and abundant in our presence and giving. Let us go forth to nurture the world!

TODAY'S READINGS: Sirach 44:1, 9-13; Mark 11:11-26 (351). "As they were leaving Bethany Jesus was hungry. Seeing from a distance a fig tree in leaf, he went over to see if he could find anything on it."

Saturday, May 29, 2021

MEMORIAL OF PAUL VI, POPE

A Pentecostal pope

The ecumenical movement received a much-needed boost during the papacy of Saint Pope Paul VI (1963-78). After the Second Vatican Council in the mid-1960s, Pope Paul went out of his way to promote ecumenical dialogue and partnership. When asked by a cardinal for permission to initiate a joint Catholic-Protestant translation of the Bible, Paul is said to have responded, "I am totally in favor!" He issued formal approval later that year on Pentecost Sunday, our recently celebrated feast commemorating the moment when the Holy Spirit allowed believers of all backgrounds and languages to truly understand each other. Come, Holy Spirit!

TODAY'S READINGS: Sirach 51:12cd-20; Mark 11:27-33 (352). "By what authority are you doing these things?"

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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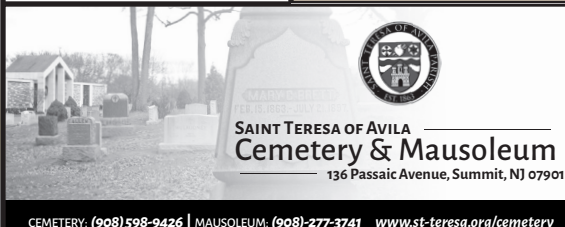
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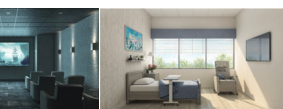


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