

Welcome to our

May 26, 2019

# St. Francis of Assisi Parish Family

Sharing the love of Jesus in the north Georgia mountains, and beyond.....

## Archdiocese of Atlanta

Father Gaurav Shroff, Parish Administrator

Email: [gshroff@archatl](mailto:gshroff@archatl)

Deacon Larry Casey

Deacon Paul Dietz

Deacon J.P. McGuire

Deacon John Barone

### **Mass Times:**

Sat: 4:30 pm

Sun: 8:30 am, 11:00 am &  
1:00 pm (Spanish)

### **Weekday Mass:**

Mon – Thurs: 9:00 am

### **Communion Svc:**

Fri: 9:00 am

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### **Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Saturday: 3:30 pm – 4:15 pm ( or by appt.)

### **Eucharistic Adoration:**

Mon. – Fri. 9:45 am – 12 noon

### **Church Office**

**Phone:** (706) 745-6400

3717 Hwy 515

Blairsville, GA. 30512

**Office Hours:** Mon – Thurs: 10:00 am – 4:30 pm

**E-mail:** [office@stfrancisblairsville.com](mailto:office@stfrancisblairsville.com)

**Website:** [www.stfrancisblairsville.com](http://www.stfrancisblairsville.com)

### **Office Manager**

*Jim Gioia*

### **Finance Assistant**

*Joan Furst*

### **Dir. Of Religious Education**

*Joe Kwiatkowski*

### **Adult Faith Formation**

*Colleen Orchanian*

### **Music Director**

*Marianne Engelmann*



*The* VISITATION  
*of the* BLESSED  
VIRGIN MARY

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

### May 26, 2019

#### Mass Intentions May 25<sup>th</sup> – June 1<sup>st</sup>

Sat 4:30 pm People of SFA

Sun 8:30 am + Simone Nicholson  
By Ed & Pat Williams

Sun 11:00 am + Harold Nicholson  
By Joanna McConnell

Mon 9 am Communion Service

Tue 9 am + Robert Wysocki  
By Pat Nuebert

Wed 9am + George Porter  
By Jean & Mike Borowski

Thur 9 am Curt Balchunas (Birthday)  
By Merry Balchunas

Fri 9 am Communion Service

#### Thursday

10:00 am	Divine Mercy Cenacle	Room 6
4:00 pm	Choir	Church
6:30 pm	Men's Group	Conf. Room

#### Friday

No scheduled events

#### Saturday

No scheduled events

#### WEEKLY CALENDAR MAY 27-31

##### Sunday

12:15 RCIA Conf. Room

##### Monday

Memorial Day – Office Closed

##### Tuesday

10:00 am	Light Weigh	Room 11
1:00 pm	Life & Dignity	Library

##### Wednesday

10:00 am	Prayer Group	Room 11
6:00 pm	Young Adult Dinner	Room 6
6:30 pm	RCIA	Conf. Room
7:00 pm	Spanish Prayer Group	Church

#### Offertory May 18<sup>th</sup> & May 19<sup>th</sup>

First Collection: \$6,658.00  
 Second Collection: \$1,121.04 Catholic Home Mission

#### Readings: The Week of May 26<sup>th</sup> – June 1<sup>st</sup>

##### Sunday

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29 Rev 21:10-14, 22-23 Jn 14:23-29

##### Monday – St. Augustine of Canterbury

Acts 16:11-15 Jn 15:26-16:4

##### Tuesday

Acts 16:22-24 Jn 16:5-11

##### Wednesday

Acts 17:15,22-18:1 Jn 16:12-15

##### Thursday

Acts 18:1-8 Jn 16:16-20

##### Friday – Visitation of the Blessed Mary

Zep 3:14-18 Lk 1:39-56

##### Saturday – St. Justin, Martyr

Acts 18:22-28 Jn 16:23-28



God, in his promises to hear our prayers, is desirous to bestow Himself upon us; if you find anything better than Him, ask it; but if you ask anything beneath Him, you put an affront upon Him, and hurt yourself by preferring to Him a creature which He framed: Pray in the spirit and sentiment of love, in which the royal prophet said to Him, 'Thou, O Lord, are my portion.' Let others choose to themselves portions among creatures, for my part, You are my portion, You alone I have chosen for my whole inheritance.

--Saint Augustine (Austin) of Canterbury

### Prayer Requests

John Plankey	Nick & Janice Barlotta
David Drake	Fr. G's mom
Fr. Gary Burkhart	Pam Terranova
Roseanne Ashley	Marge Breslin
Ken Voss	Emil Teranova
Bill Eckstein	Jean Hiler
Pat Smith	Judy Smith
Robert Hafer	Ray Fiore
Jack Gallagher	Margaret McCamy
Joan Tufford	JoJo O'Neil
Carol Eckstein	Donald Elyard
Bev Schutt	Irene Tisdale
Julie Waltz	Raymond Waltz

Names will be removed after 30 days unless requested to remain

### Prayer for Healing

Almighty and merciful Father, by the power of your command, drive away from them all forms of sickness and disease. Restore strength to their bodies and joy to their spirit, so that in the renewed health, they may bless and serve you, now and forevermore.



### History of Memorial Day

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in

military service for the United States.

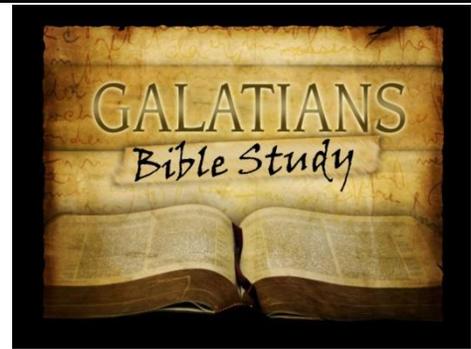
Many cities have laid claim to have begun Memorial Day, though President Lyndon Johnson officially declared Waterloo N.Y. as the birthplace of Memorial Day in May 1966.

While there is some dispute as to the origin of the day, the first was observed on May 30, 1868, under proclamation by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic. The first official observation involved

placing flowers on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery.

By 1890, it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war).

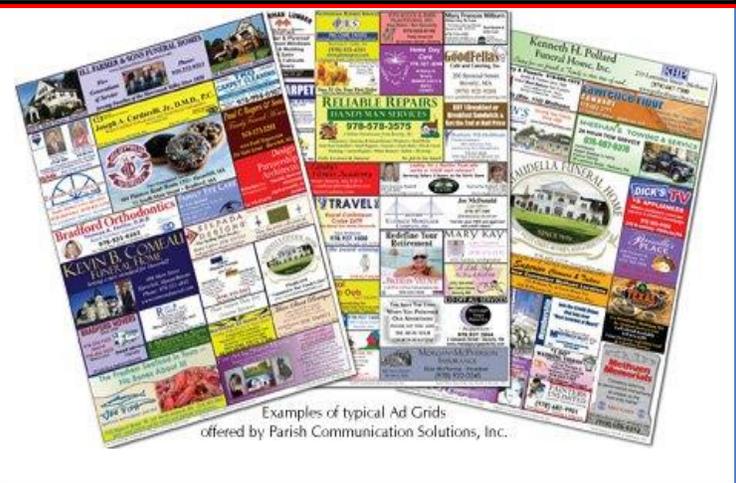
May God Bless the souls of all men and women who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for the freedoms that we enjoy in this country! Thank a veteran this Memorial Day.



Join us for our next opportunity to delve deeper into scripture with a study of St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians. The details of this study are as follows:

Start Date: Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Time: Classes at 10:00 am or 7:00 pm  
 Materials: \$25.

If you are interested, please contact Colleen Orchanian at [adultformation@stfrancisblairville.com](mailto:adultformation@stfrancisblairville.com). Don't miss this opportunity!



Examples of typical Ad Grids offered by Parish Communication Solutions, Inc.

### BULLETIN ADVERTISERS:

Anyone interested in advertising in our parish bulletin for the upcoming year, (7/1/19-6/30/20), is asked to contact the office, at (706) 745-6400. Our deadline is May 31st.

Rate information is as follows:

Ad Size	Pricing	Cost per week
¾" x 2¾"	\$200	\$3.84
1½" x 2¾"	\$360	\$6.92
2¼" x 2¾"	\$500	\$9.61
3" x 2¾"	\$650	\$12.50

We will be going to a **full color** format!!!  
Additionally, ads will be featured on the website posting of the bulletin, and on Flocknote as well.

**Bigger.....Bolder.....Better!**



## Anointing of the Sick

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated after all Masses the weekend of **June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>**. All those fully disposed and discerning the need to receive this Sacrament are asked to remain after Mass.

## Counsel of Jerusalem: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Sixth Sunday of Easter

Readings:

[Acts 15:1-2, 22-29](#)  
[Psalm 67:2-3, 5-6, 8](#)  
[Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23](#)  
[John 14:23-29](#)

The first Church council, the Council of Jerusalem we hear about in today's First Reading, decided the shape of the Church as we know it. Some Jewish Christians had wanted Gentile converts to be circumcised and obey all the complex ritual and

purity laws of the Jews.

The council called this a heresy, again showing us that the Church in the divine plan is meant to be a worldwide family of God, no longer a covenant with just one nation.

Today's Liturgy gives us a profound meditation on the nature and meaning of the Church.

The Church is one, as we see in the First Reading: "the Apostles [bishops] and presbyters [priests], in agreement with the whole Church [laity]."

The Church is holy, taught and guided by the Spirit that Jesus promises the Apostles in the Gospel.

The Church is catholic, or universal, making known God's ways of salvation to all peoples, ruling all in equity, as we sing in today's Psalm.

And the Church, as John sees in the Second Reading, is apostolic—founded on the Twelve Apostles of the Lamb.

All these marks of the Church are underscored in the story of the council.

Notice that everybody, including Paul, looks to "Jerusalem [and] . . . the Apostles" to decide the Church's true teaching. The Apostles, too, presume that Christian teachers need a "mandate from us." And we see the Spirit guiding the Apostles in all truth. Notice how they describe their ruling: "It is the decision of the Holy Spirit and of us."

Knowing these truths about the Church, our hearts should never be troubled. The Liturgy's message today is that the Church is the Lord's, watched over and guarded by the Advocate, the Holy Spirit sent by the Father in the name of the Son.

This should fill us with confidence, free us to worship with exultation, inspire us to rededicate our lives to His Name—to love Jesus in our keeping of His Word, to rejoice that He and the Father in the Spirit have made their dwelling with us.

## El abogado de Jerusalén: Scott Hahn reflexiona sobre el sexto domingo de Pascua

Lecturas:

[Hechos 15: 1-2, 22-29](#)  
[Salmo 67: 2-3, 5-6, 8](#)  
[Apocalipsis 21: 10-14, 22-23](#)  
[Juan 14: 23-29](#)

El primer concilio de la Iglesia, el Consejo de Jerusalén del que escuchamos en la primera lectura de hoy, decidió la forma de la Iglesia tal como la conocemos.

Algunos cristianos judíos querían que los gentiles conversos fueran circuncidados y obedecieran todas las complejas leyes rituales y de pureza de los judíos. El consejo llamó a esto una herejía, y de nuevo nos muestra que la Iglesia en el plan divino está destinada a ser una familia mundial de Dios, ya no es un pacto con una sola nación.



La liturgia de hoy nos da una profunda meditación sobre la naturaleza y el significado de la Iglesia.

La Iglesia es una, como vemos en la Primera Lectura: "los Apóstoles [obispos] y los presbíteros [sacerdotes], de acuerdo con toda la Iglesia [laicos]".

La Iglesia es santa, enseñada y guiada por el Espíritu que Jesús promete a los Apóstoles en el Evangelio.

La Iglesia es católica, o universal, dando a conocer los caminos de salvación de Dios a todos los pueblos, gobernando a todos con equidad, como cantamos en el Salmo de hoy.

Y la Iglesia, como ve Juan en la segunda lectura, es apostólica, fundada en los Doce Apóstoles del Cordero. Todas estas marcas de la Iglesia están subrayadas en la historia del concilio.

Note que todos, incluyendo a Pablo, miran a "Jerusalén [y]... Los apóstoles "para decidir la verdadera enseñanza de la Iglesia. Los apóstoles también suponen que los maestros cristianos necesitan un "mandato de nosotros".

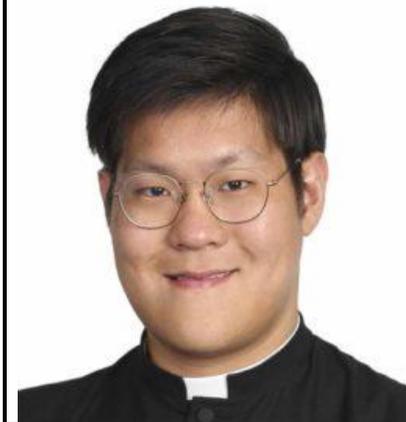
Y vemos al Espíritu guiando a los apóstoles en toda verdad. Observe cómo describen su decisión: "Es la decisión del Espíritu Santo y de nosotros".

Conociendo estas verdades acerca de la Iglesia, nuestros corazones nunca deben estar perturbados. El mensaje de la liturgia de hoy es que la Iglesia es del Señor, vigilada y custodiada por el Defensor, el Espíritu Santo enviado por el Padre en el nombre del Hijo.

Esto debería llenarnos de confianza, liberarnos para adorar con júbilo, inspirarnos a volver a dedicar nuestras vidas a Su Nombre, a amar a Jesús en su cumplimiento de Su Palabra, a regocijarnos de que Él y el Padre en el Espíritu han hecho su morada con nosotros .

## Summer Seminarian

Juno  
Lee



As a reminder, Juno Lee, a seminarian of the Archdiocese of Atlanta, will be spending a few months with us this summer. From this Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, thru July 28<sup>th</sup>. If you see Juno around campus, make sure to say "Hi", and show him the warmth and hospitality that our parish is famous for. Let's keep him in our prayers!

## St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop



An Italian Benedictine monk who became the "Apostle of the English," Saint Augustine of Canterbury is honored by the Catholic Church on May 27.

Under the direction of Pope Saint Gregory the Great, Augustine founded the famous See of Canterbury and preached the Catholic faith to the country's Anglo-Saxon pagans during the late sixth and early seventh centuries.

He is not to be confused with the earlier St. Augustine of Hippo, the famous author of the "Confessions" and "City of God."

Most likely born in Rome, to a noble family, he entered monastic life as a young man. The community he joined had been recently founded by a Benedictine monk named Gregory, who would go on to become Pope and eventually be known as St. Gregory the Great. The friendship between Gregory and Augustine had great historical consequences, as it was the Pope who would eventually send his fellow monk to evangelize England.

Around 595, Pope Gregory set to work on a plan for the conversion of the English people. The Catholic faith had already been preached and accepted among England's original Celtic inhabitants, in earlier times; but from the mid-fifth century onward, the country was dominated by Anglo-Saxon invaders who did not accept Christianity, and were not converted by the small number of isolated Celtic Christian holdouts. Thus, England largely had to be evangelized anew.

For this task the Pope chose a group of around forty monks – including Augustine, who was to represent the delegation and communicate on its behalf. The group

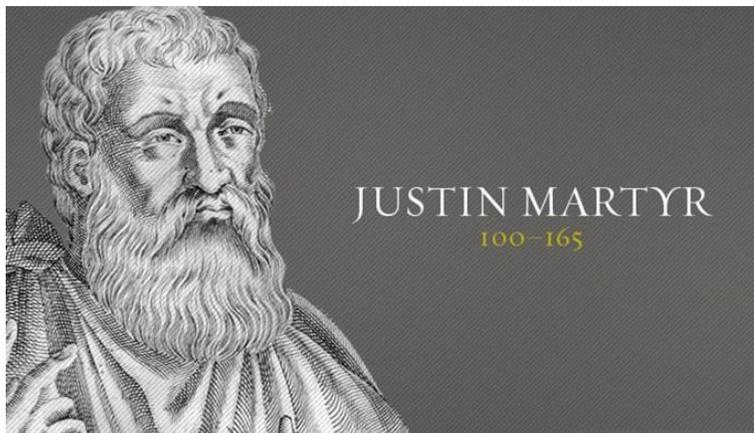
left for England in June 596, but some of the missionaries lost their nerve after hearing fearsome reports about the Anglo-Saxons. Augustine ended up returning to Rome, where he got further advice and support from the Pope.

Persuaded to continue on their way, the missionary-monks reached their port of departure and set sail for England in spring of 597. After arriving they gained an audience with King Ethelbert of Kent, a pagan ruler whose Frankish wife Queen Bertha was a Christian. Speaking with the king through an interpreter, Augustine gave a powerful and straightforward presentation of the Gospel message, speaking of Christ's redemption of the world and his offer of eternal life.

Ethelbert would later convert, and eventually even be canonized as a saint. But his initial response to Augustine's preaching was only mildly positive: he would receive the missionaries with hospitality, and permit them to evangelize without any restriction. Despite his early ambivalence, however, the king became a generous patron of the monks. They made their home in Canterbury, after dramatically entering the city in procession with the Cross and an image of Christ.

The Canterbury community lived according to the Rule of St. Benedict, as they had in Italy, but they also preached in the surrounding area in accordance with their mission. Augustine and his companions succeeded in converting King Ethelbert himself, while Queen Bertha also became more zealous in her practice of the faith after her husband's baptism. Augustine traveled to Gaul, where he was consecrated as a bishop for the English Church. By Christmas of 597, over ten thousand people were actively seeking baptism from the missionaries.

Through his written correspondence, Pope Gregory continued to guide the work of Augustine – the first Archbishop of Canterbury – and the other Catholic missionaries. The great Pope, and the "Apostle of England," would both die during the same year, 604.



## St. Justin Martyr, Feast day: June 1

"We are slain with the sword, but we increase and multiply; the more we are persecuted and destroyed, the more are deaf to our numbers. As a vine, by being pruned and cut close, shoots forth new suckers, and bears a greater abundance of fruit; so is it with us." – St. Justin Martyr

Born in Flavia Neapolis (in Palestinian Syria) around 100; conversion to Christianity around 130; martyred in Rome in the year 165, under Marcus Aurelius.

Saint Justin Martyr (as he is commonly referred to) is the best known 2nd century Father of the Church. He was born a pagan, in a pagan region of what is now the Middle East, and was well, if ecclectically, educated in philosophy.

An avid lover of truth, he sought it through different philosophical schools, none of which satisfied his thirst, even though he was moved by the moral discipline of the Stoics and inspired by the speculative power of the Platonists.

At around the age of 30 he happened to cross paths with an old man walking along the beach who questioned him about his beliefs and especially about the sufficiency of philosophy as a means of attaining truth. This old man introduced him to Revelation and argued that although philosophers could talk about God, the Prophets, inspired by the Holy Spirit, had experienced and known God and could bring others to Him.

Justin had always admired Christians from a distance because of the beauty of their moral lives. As he writes in his Apologies: "When I was a disciple of Plato, hearing the accusations made against the Christians and seeing them intrepid in the face of death and of all that men fear, I said to myself that it was impossible that they should be living in evil and in the love of pleasure."

He had been persuaded of the superiority of the Christian creed over all other beliefs and philosophies, and seen this belief made manifest in the witness of Christians who "preferred truth to life." Martyrdom was for him the highest proof of the truth of Christianity. Nobody, he said, died for the teaching of Socrates.

His heart burned within him as he realized that he had finally found the Truth he had searched for all his life.

He became a Christian and a great apologist, engaging in debates and writing numerous works about the faith, most

famously two apologetical treatises called "Apologies" and "Dialogue with Tryphon."

Following his conversion he taught school in Ephesus and in Rome, where in 165 he was condemned to death with six companions, Chariton, Charito, Evelpostos, Pæon, Hierax, and Liberianos during the persecution of Marcus Aurelius.

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### COUPLES CELEBRATING

50<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

IN 2019

The Archdiocese of Atlanta would like to honor couples married in 1969 and 1959 with an invitation to a Golden/Diamond Wedding Anniversary Mass on Saturday, October 5, 2019, at 12:00 Noon at St. Brigid Catholic Church. A reception will follow the Mass for the anniversary couples and their families. Space is limited. Please go to <http://tiny.cc/anniversarymass> to RSVP for this event and for additional information.

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**Food  
Pantry  
Needs**

### FOOD PANTRY WEEKEND

Next weekend, June 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will once again have the opportunity to assist our brothers and sisters in need in our community. Collections for the food pantry can be dropped

in the kitchen, located on the inside of the church entrance. We, along with those we help, are eternally grateful for the never ending generosity of the parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi, who never fail to show the love of Jesus in their support of this effort.



## EUCCHARISATIC ADORATION

When you look at the crucifix, you understand how much Jesus loved you then. When you look at the Sacred Host, you understand how much Jesus loves you now. - *St Teresa of Calcutta*

Adoration: Monday – Friday (9:45- 12 Noon)

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## Laudate

The #1 Catholic App. And the best part is.....it's FREE.



Download the app today and fall more deeply in love with your Catholic faith. You'll be glad you did! From the Bible, Catechism, Liturgy of Hours, Catholic Calendar, Rosary and Chaplets, Daily Mass readings, reflections, prayers, Papal encyclicals, Saints of the Day, Code of Canon Law, Vatican documents, links to Catholic media outlets, online Bible studies, Marian devotionals, and so much more.....you'll always have what you need, right at your fingertips.



## **Sung High Mass**

Tuesday, June 4 - 6:00 pm

Come and experience the beauty of the Catholic faith. Fr. Gaurav will celebrate a Sung Mass, or High Mass in the Extraordinary Form (the Traditional Latin Mass) on Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, at 6PM. Members of St. Francis de Sales Parish in Mableton, GA (which celebrates the traditional liturgy exclusively) will be assisting at this Mass. Don't miss this opportunity to embrace and experience a beautiful tradition of our Catholic faith!

## **ASCENSION THURSDAY**



Ascension Thursday, also known as the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord, is a Holy Day of Obligation for Catholics around the world. On this day, the faithful celebrate Christ's ascension into Heaven on the 40th day after His Resurrection.

For 2019, Ascension Thursday is May 30<sup>th</sup>.

In most dioceses of the United States, Ascension Thursday (sometimes called Holy Thursday) has been transferred to the following Sunday, so many Catholics think that the Ascension is no longer considered a holy day. It's also sometimes confused with another Holy Thursday, which takes place the day before Good Friday. The Archdiocese of Atlanta is one of the dioceses that has transferred this Holy Day of Obligation to Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, therefore it is not required to attend Mass on May 30<sup>th</sup>.