

**MAY 17, 2020 ~ HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH AUSTIN, TX.
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

“Invest just five minutes a day, and your Faith will deepen and grow, a day at a Time.”

**Sunday, May 17, 2020
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Hope is nourishing

Especially in these trying times, we may be tempted to dismiss hope as something akin to wishful thinking. Yet hope is a theological virtue, along with faith and love. These three put us into position for personal union with God. Hope, in particular, orients us perpetually in a Godward direction no matter where life takes us. As Cistercian monk Aelred of Rivaux declared: “What is hope but food for the journey to support us in the miseries of this life?” Cultivate hope by weeding out habits of negativity and cynicism.

TODAY’S READINGS: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; 1 Peter 3:15-18; John 14:15-21(55). *“Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope.”*

**Monday, May 18, 2020
MEMORIAL OF JOHN I, POPE, MARTYR
Lean on the Lord**

Pope John I was frail when he was elected to the papacy in 523, and he did not survive imprisonment by a heretical king. From permanent disabilities to occasional illness, from aging to chronic fatigue to widespread viral infection, we all experience physical weakness at some point and know that it can feel like a prison. When we hit the limits of our bodies, our inner strength can wane too. At that time—and at any time—lean on the Lord to carry you through.

TODAY’S READINGS: Acts 16:11-15; John 15:26—16:4a (291). *“The Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, he will testify to me.”*

**Tuesday, May 19, 2020
EASTER WEEKDAY**

Always at our side and on our side

When Jesus promised his disciples the Holy Spirit, he used an interesting word. He called their holy helper a “paraclete,” the Greek word for *advocate*—literally “called to one’s side.” It was used in courts of law to describe an intercessor or counselor. From the Book of Job, we also know paraclete can mean “comforter.” What a rich, meaningful name to give that Spirit who guides us still—by our side even when we’re as clueless as can be.

TODAY’S READINGS: Acts 16:22-34; John 16:5-11 (292). *“If I do not go, the Advocate will not come.”*

**Wednesday, May 20, 2020
MEMORIAL OF BERNARDINE OF SIENA, PRIEST**

The best witness is a joyful heart

Do you know of someone whose energy and joy attracts followers of all kinds? Franciscan priest and theologian Saint Bernardine of Siena (1380-1444), whose feast we celebrate today, was one of those people. He was a human dynamo whose preaching drew thousands of fans throughout Italy even as he challenged them to practice voluntary poverty and denounced the sins of the day. His joyful eloquence defined his ministry and was impossible to ignore. Can you bring others to God through a joyful spirit?

TODAY’S READINGS: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1; John 16:12-15 *“They were to seek God, yes . . . though he is not really far from any one of us.”*

**Thursday, May 21, 2020
SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

This isn’t goodbye

After listening to the nightly news, a friend recently (and understandably) gasped: “We need Jesus!” Most believers would agree. Which is perhaps why the Ascension doesn’t feel like an event we’re much inclined to celebrate. Jesus *departs*; this sounds like a terrible idea from every standpoint except the truth—because Jesus promises to send us his Spirit as an indwelling presence. If we still feel like orphans, remember Jesus’ words: “I am with you always.” See Jesus all around: in word and sacrament, in the assembly of faith, in the disadvantaged sister and brother.

TODAY’S READINGS: Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 1:17-23; Matthew 28:16-20. *“And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”*

**Friday, May 22, 2020
EASTER WEEKDAY
Identify escape routes**

During stressful times and increased family togetherness, such as global “stay-at-home” orders, domestic abuse increases. Special hotlines and secret havens are set up to assist victims, and abusers are encouraged to seek help as well. Saint Rita of Cascia, whose feast we celebrate today, was mentally and physically abused by her husband for years. In the Middle Ages, she had little recourse. She chose to respond with kindness, patience, and humility. Her virtues did little to change her husband’s behavior, but she did her best to escape her situation, at least spiritually. With the many resources available today, be aware of the signs of abuse and encourage loved

ones to seek both physical and spiritual refuge.

TODAY’S READINGS: Acts 18:9-18; John 16:20-23 *“No one will take your joy away from you.”*

**Saturday, May 23, 2020
EASTER WEEKDAY**

Here’s to life

As we adjust to new ways of living, the Easter season offers much-needed hope. Resurrection changes everything, not only in salvation history but also here and now. Life coming out of death. That is the mystery of our faith, and the mystery of the world we live in. For every story of greed and ineptitude, there are many more stories of generosity and competence. Celebrate those victories. That is the life that comes out of death.

TODAY’S READINGS: Acts 18:23-28; John 16:23b-28 (296). *“For the Father himself loves you because you have loved me and have come to believe that I came from God.”*

**Next Sunday
Sunday, May 24, 2020
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

Right where you belong

TODAY’S READINGS: Acts 1:12-14; 1 Peter 4:13-16; John 17:1-11a (59). *“They belonged to you, and you gave them to me.”*

**CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING CORNER
May 16-17 -- Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Through the Risen Christ, we are given the gift of the Holy Spirit. It is the Spirit that fills us with hope and joy, even in the face of suffering. This same Spirit showers us with a love and truth that is beyond “worldly” standards and wisdom. It is God’s Spirit that transforms us from a mere collection of isolated individuals or strangers into a community of brothers and sisters. This solidarity, the fruit of the Spirit, “presumes the creation of a new mindset which thinks in terms of community and the priority of life of all over the appropriation of goods by a few.” (The Joy of the Gospel, 188)



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MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2020

Mass of Thanksgiving for Barbara Scott, requested by Beryl Wainwright

TUESDAY, MAY 5

WEDNESDAY MAY 6

THURSDAY MAY 7

FRIDAY, MAY 8

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 17, 2020

**SUNDAY 10:00AM
WEEK DAY MASSES 12:00 NOON**

Weekends May 10, 2020

OFFERTORY	\$4355.00
E-GIVING	3661.82
SVDP(E-GIVING)	\$161.00
SVDP	400.00
MSP(E-GIVING)	126.00
FLC/Debt Retirement	717.00
DR (E-GIVING)	\$252.00
DR	175.00
Needs of the Parish(E-GIV)	480.00

MONTHLY IGBO MASS

Cancelled until further notice

RESPONSE TO CORONA VIRUS

Sunday Mass will be streamed on line. Please go to Holy Cross facebook for live Sunday Mass streaming and check our church website for posting.

DUE TO THE CORONA VIRUS THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULED EVENTS HAVE CANCELLED

- Public Mass on Sundays and Weekdays
- Week Day Noon Masses
- Men's ACTS Retreat
- Good Friday Fish Fry
- Stations of the Cross
- Bible Study
- Pastoral Council Meeting (Will now be conference Call)
- Acts Bingo
- CCD Classes
- Any ministry Meeting exceeding 10 people

THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES WILL GO ON

- RCIA Class for the 3 candidates preparing for the Sacraments
- Any meeting not exceeding 10 people.

NEEDS OF THE PARISH COLLECTION

This collection helps to pay things like repairs, intervention, and other needs of the parish. This collection happens every last Sunday of the Month. We would like you to convert much of your gift to St Vincent the Paul to the needs of the Parish as the parish funds St Vincent the Paul monthly. Thanks for your generosity.

Ethics and Integrity in Ministry (EIM)

Workshop Notice

If you are currently signed up to attend an EIM Workshop between now and May 1st. Please note that all EIM Workshops in the Austin Diocese scheduled between now and May 1st are postponed. However the EIM Office has created a [Temporary Online EIM Training](#) to fulfill the compliance requirement for those who already have an EIM account and are due or past due to attend an EIM Workshop.

DEBT RETIREMENT COLLECTION

This collection helps us pay our FLC loan with the diocese and other expenses. Our monthly target is \$4000. This collection is every Second Sunday of the month. Thanks for your generosity.

Parishioner Deborah Griffis request:

Hello Faith Community, We hope everyone is safe and doing well! As a valuable member of our family and communal village, Averill and I would like to invite you to be a part of an exciting educational sponsorship opportunity. Please accept the associated letter and accompanying information for specific details. And know that your contribution can make a change. We will be contacting you with a follow-up call in the next couple of weeks. In the meantime, if you have questions, feel free to call at 512-300-6466. We appreciate your consideration. Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you soon. Thanks again, Deborah Griffis

HOW YOU CAN HELP OUR PARISH DURING THIS CHALLENGING TIME

Remember, the Church depends on your weekly donation for paying bills, and maintaining of the Church facilities. Even though Masses and other events are cancelled, the Church is still operating. Your weekly offering and donations are direly needed.

If you are not online giver, you can still do so by going to www.holycrossaustin.org and give your donation. You also can mail it if you are

able to. Thank you for your faith and commitment.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Ella Adams	Mary Anthony
Evelyn Battle	Mildred Carter
B.J. Dukes	Jude Ekpc
Vanessa Downey-Little	Bernie Little
Monica Godsey	Lester Johnson
Vonnye Rice-Gardner	Doris King
Marie Mason	Bernadette Phifer
Ella Pease	Betty Ridley
Mary Sobers	Mary Waters
Charlene Postell	Gladie Stelly
Cornelius Harris	Mercedes LaCour Comacho

Family Life Center Now Available for Renting

For all your events like:

- Wedding Party**
- Birthday Party**
- Graduation Party**
- Wakes**
- Coporate Events**
- Ministry Events**
- Meetings**
- ETC**

Contact the Church Office for details
5124723741



CONSIDER HOLY CROSS IN YOUR WILL
Call the Church Office
512 472 3741