

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

INVEST JUST FIVE MINUTES A DAY, AND YOUR FAITH WILL DEEPEN AND GROW, A DAY AT A TIME."

SUNDAY, MAY 02, 2021 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER SEARCH FOR THE TRUTH

We've entered an age when discovering the truth feels more complicated than ever. Some of us are leery of "facts," knowing how easily they can be manufactured, massaged, or politicized. Traditional sources of truth—government, news media, even organized religion—have proven to be subject to the same failures to which we ourselves are prone. How do we sort out truth from all the political noise that distorts what we hear? John says the Spirit's been given to us for precisely this task. Pray for the gift of holy discernment. **TODAY'S READINGS:** Acts 9:26-31; 1 John 3:18-24; John 15:1-8 (53). "Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth."

MONDAY, MAY 03, 2021 FEAST OF PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES DON'T THINK LESS OF OTHERS

Poor James the Lesser. The other apostle named James—the Greater—got the better nickname. We don't even know anything about James the Lesser, other than his name and that Jesus picked him to be one of the 12—but that alone speaks volumes about this James. We've all experienced what it feels like to have labels attached to us that make us feel less in the eyes of others, if we even feel seen or known at all. But God looks past those labels to the truth of our identity. That's where you'll find your value and dignity, even if others don't seem to. Remember that, like James, you are God's chosen. **TODAY'S READINGS:** 1 Corinthians 15:1-8; John 14:6-14 (561). "Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?"

TUESDAY, MAY 04, 2021 EASTER WEEKDAY MAY THEIR FORCE BE WITH US

Today is Teacher Appreciation Day, recognizing teachers as a force for good—especially in this pandemic year. Through John Baptist de La Salle, patron saint of all teachers, we might say the best educators naturally follow a "Lasallian" philosophy of education. "The Lasallian tradition emphasizes the fact that all people, especially the young, have an inherent dignity which comes from their being created in the image of God," explains St. Mary's College of Winona. "Education is a means of developing this dignity for the well-being of each student

as well as for the well-being of our society." Thank a teacher today. **TODAY'S READINGS:** Acts 14:19-28; John 14:27-31a (286). "Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid."

WEDNESDAY, MAY 05, 2021 EASTER WEEKDAY CELEBRATE THE DIGNITY OF DIVERSITY

Though today's "Cinco de Mayo" celebrations commemorate but a single Mexican victory over France at the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862, in the United States it has become an opportunity to honor the heritage and culture of Mexican people. As folks revel in parades and festivals, enjoying Mexican cuisine and music, we recall these words from the Catechism of the Catholic Church: "Human interdependence is increasing and spreading through the world . . . embracing people who enjoy equal natural dignity." Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with a prayer of gratitude for the richness of human diversity. **TODAY'S READINGS:** Acts 15:1-6; John 15:1-8 (287). "I am the vine and you are the branches."

THURSDAY, MAY 06, 2021 EASTER WEEKDAY FOCUS ON THE ESSENTIALS

One of the earliest conflicts in the church had to do with whether Gentiles should have to follow the laws and customs of Judaism. Because Christianity grew out of Judaism, early church leaders had a hard time sorting out what was essential to the emerging Christian faith and what was simply the "way we've always done it." This question continues to vex church leaders to this day and has gone through many iterations—from questions about ritual practices, to prayers and social norms. What is essential to the faith? That we love God with our whole heart, mind, and soul, and love our neighbor as ourselves. Everything else may well be a matter of custom. When it comes to faith, take time today to get back to the basics. **TODAY'S READINGS:** Acts 15:7-21, John 15:9-11 (288). "It is my judgment, therefore, that we ought to stop troubling the Gentiles who turn to God."

FRIDAY, MAY 07, 2021 EASTER WEEKDAY CONNECT WITH CREATION AND CREATOR

If you have a garden, you might be checking the forecast these days to see if conditions are right for planting. Gardens play an outsize role in the Christian imagination. From the Garden of Eden to

the Garden of Gethsemane, key events happen in gardens. For centuries communities of sisters, brothers, and priests have cultivated gardens for food, edification, and connection to a major metaphor for spiritual development. Seek out a patch of green, and whether you plant a seed or enjoy a bloom, connecting with creation will connect you with the Creator.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 15:22-31; John 15:12-17 (289). "It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain."

SATURDAY, MAY 08, 2021 EASTER WEEKDAY ELEVATE YOUR SPIRITUAL GAZE

Blessed Teresa Demjanovich (1901-27) has been called America's "Little Flower." Like Thérèse from Lisieux, France, Teresa from Bayonne, New Jersey was a spiritual writer of great insight who also died young. Because of her virtue, her writings, and a miracle healing attributed to her intercession, she was beatified in the Newark cathedral in 2014, the first-ever such ceremony held in the United States. Her elevation to sainthood awaits confirmation of a second miracle. Teresa's mother died in the 1918 pandemic, which killed well over 500,000 Americans. Sound sadly familiar? Ask Blessed Teresa's intercession for all who have suffered because of COVID-19.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 16:1-10; John 15:18-21 (290). "You do not belong to the world, and I have chosen you out of the world"

Next Sunday SUNDAY, MAY 09, 2021 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER SEE THROUGH GOD'S

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; 1 John 4:7-10; John 15:9-17 (56). "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever . . . acts uprightly is acceptable to him."

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING CORNER

May 1-2 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

What is the fruit that we bear? As part of the vine of Christ, grafted onto him and filled with his life, we are given the grace to bear the abundant and lasting fruit of justice, charity, faith and hope. This fruit is manifested in both word and action – as the letter of John reminds us – so that when others see us, they see God working in and through us to bring unity, love and peace to the world. As members of the vine of Christ will be bring forth the fruit of Christ's life or will the world only see a withered cut branch?

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY MAY 02 8:00AM

Healing Grace for Jude Ekpe

For the repose of the soul of Chief Patrick Onyiaovute, and traveling grace for his family

SUNDAY, MAY 02, 10:00AM

In Loving Memory of Damien Raney on the anniversary of his death, requested by Deidra Raney and the family.

Healing Grace for all Holy Cross Sick and Shut-In Parishioners, praying that God will restore them back to good health.

THURSDAY, MAY 6, NOON MASS

For the repose of the Soul of Ben Aguzie on the anniversary of his death.

SIR, CHIEF PATRICK ONYIAOVUTE.

Praying that God will welcome him into His kingdom, and grant his soul eternal rest. Chief Onyiaovute was laid to rest on Friday, 04/30/2021 in Africa.



ONLINE EIM TRAINING [EN ESPAÑOL]

The pandemic in no way lessens the sacred obligation of those who serve in ministry, both virtual and in-person, to make the Church safe for all [Online EIM Training](#) Online EIM Training is available for all persons who are due to update/renew their EIM compliance. New employees, and new volunteers currently active in ministry. If you aren't comfortable with the online workshop, contact EIM site administrator regarding the availability of an EIM Workshop at Holy Cross.

HOLY CROSS ROSARY HOUR

Please join us on Zoom, <https://zoom.us/j/98265193279> Sunday's at 8:30PM for our Holy Cross Family Rosary.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

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|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Ella Adams | Mary Anthony |
| Evelyn Battle | Mildred Carter |
| B.J. Dukes | Jude Ekpe |
| Vanessa Downey-Little | Bernie Little |
| Monica Godsey | Lester Johnson |
| Marion Welch | Sam King, Jr. |
| Vonnys Rice-Gardner | Bernadette Phifer |
| Ella Pease | Betty Ridley |
| Mary Sobers | Mary Waters |
| Charlene Postell | Gladie Stelly |
| Cornelius Harris | Jim Castro |
| Pearl Cox | Brent Brown |
| Frances Brown | Naomi White |
| DeKarlos Blackmon | |

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday Mass

8:00am – 10:00AM

Rosary Hour – 8:30PM

Week Day Mass 12 Noon Tue - Fri



HOLY CROSS 2021

GRADUATES

MAY 30, 2021

- Jake Abam
 Michael Agwuncha
 Jalyn Ellison
 Dasia McClain
 Patrick Onyia Jr.
 JaRayl Peoples
 Esperance Asoka Ukanda
 Emeka Nwachukwu

**Holy Cross Catholic Church
 Annual Scholarship**

Save the Date!

Scholarship Application available online - Website	April 18 th , 2021
Scholarship Application Submission Deadline	May 16 th , 2021

Please contact Dr. Dokpe Ogunsanya if you have any question: 512.990.9508 or dupsy@msn.com

APRIL 25, 2021

OFFERTORY	\$2617.00
SVDP	15.00
E-GIVING	1848.12
SVDP(E-GIVING)	66.00
FLC(E-GIVING0	52.00
MSP(E-GIVING)	26.00
MSP	10.00
FLC/Debt Retirement	450.00
NEEDS OF PARISH(E-GIV)	51.00
NEEDS OF PARISH	635.00
GIFT STORE	40.00

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 can mail to the church.

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

