

# The Roman Catholic Community of Elizabeth, Glassport, South Allegheny Area, 213

*One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic*



## 7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER



Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come. Give glory to your son, so that your son may glorify you." - Jn 17:1

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

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Prayer for the Church  
Holy Virgin of Guadalupe,  
Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Church.  
We fly to you today as your beloved children.  
We ask you to intercede for us with your Son,  
as you did at the wedding in Cana.

Pray for us, loving Mother,  
and gain for our nation and world,  
and for all our families and loved ones,  
the protection of your holy angels,  
that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted, we ask you  
to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.  
Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful,  
wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing,  
teach all of us in the Church  
to love one another and to be patient and kind.  
Help us to bring the peace of Jesus  
to our land and to our hearts.

We come to you with confidence, knowing that you  
truly are our compassionate mother,  
health of the sick and cause of our joy.  
Shelter us under the mantle of your protection,  
keep us in the embrace of your arms,  
help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus.

## May 24, 2020

Website: [ElizabethSouthAlleghenyCC.org](http://ElizabethSouthAlleghenyCC.org)

### Saint Mark

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust  
3210 Liberty Way  
McKeesport, PA 15133  
Phone 412-678-6275  
Fax 412-673-1393  
Email: [saintmarkparishdiopitt@gmail.com](mailto:saintmarkparishdiopitt@gmail.com)

Saint Eugene Church (StE)  
3210 Liberty Way - Liberty



Faith Formation

### Saint Michael

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust  
101 McLay Drive  
Elizabeth, PA 15037-2363  
Phone 412-751-0663  
Fax 412-751-2161  
Email: [stmichael11@verizon.net](mailto:stmichael11@verizon.net)

Saint Michael Church (StM)  
101 McLay Drive - Elizabeth

Elizabeth, Glassport, South Allegheny Area, 213  
Faith Formation - Adult - Children - Youth

101 McLay Drive Elizabeth, PA 15037 412-754-0886

Email: [213FaithForm@gmail.com](mailto:213FaithForm@gmail.com) Facebook: [FaithFormation-EGSA](#)

### Queen of the Rosary

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust  
530 Michigan Avenue  
Glassport, PA 15045  
Phone 412-672-7209  
Fax 412-672-6390  
Email: [qorglasspt@comcast.net](mailto:qorglasspt@comcast.net)

Queen of the Rosary (QoR)  
530 Michigan Avenue - Glassport



**Looking For A Faith Community?** Wherever you are on your faith journey, we welcome you to join our community. You may register by calling the Faith Community Office.

### Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.  
Be our defense against the wickedness  
and snares of the devil; may God rebuke him,  
we humbly pray; and do thou O Prince  
of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God,  
thrust into hell Satan and all the other evil spirits  
who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.

## Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 24, 2020

### What does faith and religion do for us?

Ultimately, they remind us of some truths we conveniently forget:

- we are created by a loving God,
- we have imperfections,
- we sin, we need to be forgiven,
- we have a mission and a purpose,
- it's not just about us,
- and we hunger for the joy of salvation.

These are human truths that are not dependent upon whether we like them. Ignoring them places us on the paths of comfort and satisfaction as we blindly pursue the busyness and superficiality of our empty lives. Instead of pursuing supernatural and lasting pleasure, we choose things that are easier and quicker to obtain: sex, drugs, travel, houses, cars, fame, popularity, self-achievement and satisfaction, physical enjoyment, and the like.

We may also find ourselves falling victim to more negative responses to what life brings us: anger, envy, lust, pride, gluttony, greed, and apathy. Human hearts can become so hardened to the truth that violence becomes the response of first choice. **Being a Christian is hard!** Yet, as Pope Francis reminds us, the Church needs to be a field hospital that has to be prepared to provide people with the remedy they need. **What we need is Jesus Christ.** The Church, with all of the glory of the sacraments, exists to help make Christ present and real for us. Once we find Christ, we find joy. Joy is a matter of the heart that is beyond pleasure and happiness. It is not found in some earthly satisfaction, only in Christ.

### Go forth and make disciples of all peoples

—Matthew 28:19

Please keep in mind, in these extraordinary times that, although we cannot attend Mass, the Church's financial obligations remain. We ask that you continue to support your Church as you are able and look to the time when we can gather together again in faith. Some options:

- Mail or deliver offertory envelopes & Parish Share pledges to your church office (or secure mailbox).
- Set up your church as an automatic bill payee through your online banking.
- Donate through Online Giving for your church on our grouping website, [www.elizabethsouthalleghenycc.org](http://www.elizabethsouthalleghenycc.org)

Click on the ONLINE GIVING tab on the red bar at the top of the webpage, select your church, and complete the online form.

Visit our grouping website for the latest news, weekly bulletin, links to Daily Mass and Readings.

Blessings, Fr. Wagner



Once we accept that we are destined to be in Christ, then we will discover eternal life. Namely, **that they should know you, the only true God, and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ.** It is easy to conveniently forget truth and pursue illusions immediately within our grasp, but at what price? A man celebrating 60 years of marriage remarked that it took so much effort and so many attempts to convince his wife that they were meant to be together. Even his friends told him he was foolish. He easily could have given up and pursued other interests. He chose to persevere and is so grateful that he made that choice because he now has a pearl of great price. Do we see a value in persevering in our faith regardless of the cost? If we don't take the risk, we could lose more than we know. ©LPI



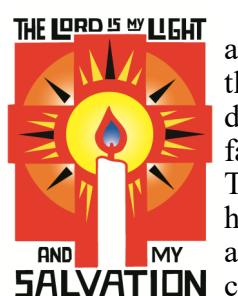
## Sixth Sunday of Easter

As Jesus prepared the apostles for the time when he would no longer be with them physically, and knowing that they would face hardship, trials, and persecution in the future, he promised them an Advocate, the Holy Spirit. Through baptism that same Spirit dwells within us, always with us to guide us in

the truth of God's love and strengthen us so that we may know Christ and live as Christ's people. Now, as in every time, God knows it is not always easy to live as a Christian. With the assurance of the Holy Spirit's presence, we find the grace to love Jesus and to keep the Lord's commandments.

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## Strengthened to Live as Christ's Own

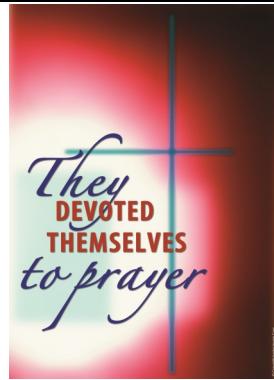
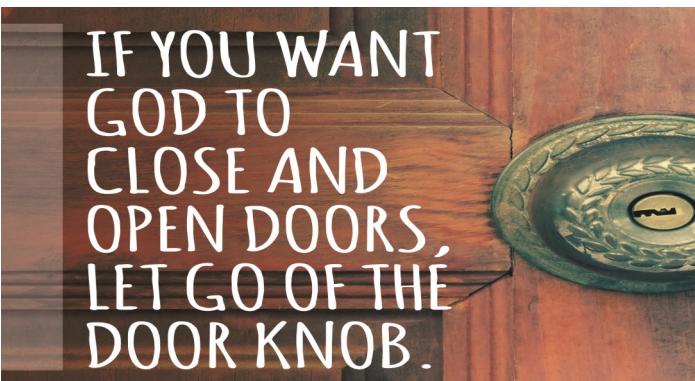


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We might look at the world around us and conclude that this is the most challenging time in history during which to live as a person of faith. Yet we know this is not so. Throughout the ages, people of faith have faced mockery, persecution, and even death as a result of their commitment to Christ. Still, it is

important for us to acknowledge the challenge of living as a Christian today, when faith is viewed with ambivalence at best, and often with antagonism. Some do not understand how faith and reason can sit side by side, even though many of the world's greatest scientific discoveries have been made by people of faith. Others see the failures of the Church or its leaders and discount faith as a result. We rely on the powerful presence of the Holy Spirit to be with us when we are mocked or simply misunderstood on account of our faith in Jesus Christ. Through the Holy Spirit, we will find the grace to live with conviction as Christian people.

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## Devoted To Prayer

Today, as we await Pentecost, we come to the end of the baptismal homily from Peter that we have heard over the past few weeks. This homily was written by a realist who knew the joy and the glory of a Resurrection faith, but also knew that the strength of that faith would be put to the test and tried in

suffering. Earlier this year we heard Jesus preach, **Blessed are you when they insult you . . . because of me** (Matthew 5:11) and this is echoed today by Peter. These words are also formed in the image of Christ who prays to the Father in heaven today, a prayer that is placed in John's Gospel right before Jesus endures his suffering and death. Our awaiting the Spirit, awaiting our mission for Christ means that we are, most likely, awaiting some sort of trial and suffering. We don't endure the same degree of persecution that Peter and John knew, but each of us has our faith put to the test eventually. And it is for this reason that we, like Jesus and like those faithful followers gathered in the upper room, devote ourselves to prayer.

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## The Reason for Our Hope

Saint Peter admonishes us, **Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope.** One of the greatest gifts of faith in our lives is our hope in Christ Jesus. Through Christ, we keep our eyes on the wider view of life here on earth and everlasting life with God. We know that the trials and challenges of today do not have the final word, and do not have power over us. With the presence of the Advocate, we have the help we need to live as God directs and desires, so that the world might come to know Christ through the witness of our lives. This is a hope-filled, meaningful way of life. When so much of our surrounding culture speaks of impermanence and momentary distractions, we have the hope of meaning and purpose today and the promise of eternal life to come.

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### Mary of Nazareth Catholic School

**1640 Fawcett Ave. White Oak, PA 15131**

Pre-School 3 & 4, Kindergarten, First - Eighth Grade

If you have any questions or would like more info,  
please call the school office, 412-672-2360.

Webpage: [www.maryfnazarethschool.org](http://www.maryfnazarethschool.org)

## Some Easter Thoughts

We have witnessed the Resurrection and the Ascension of the Lord Jesus. Once again Jesus prays for his followers, all of us, asking the Father to send the Spirit to guide us as we continue the mission.

In Baptism, we join in the mission, each of us have a specific role to play in the unfolding of Salvation History. How is God calling us to uniquely live out our call? How are we in our mission responding to the prayer of Jesus?

As we open our hearts and lives to God, our lives become a direct response to God's Spirit within us.

After Jesus ascended to heaven, the disciples asked the question: **What's next?** Gathered in prayer and filled with the Spirit of God, the disciples began to understand the message and the mission of Jesus. As disciples of Jesus, men, women, young and not so young, all are called to share in the mission to continue the work of Jesus. All the Baptized share in the mission and the work of building the Kingdom of God in our world. After Jesus ascended into heaven, our work begins, a lifelong commitment.

Our personal relationship with God defines how we live out the mission. We need to share our story (gospel) to make the real loving, compassionate, merciful, forgiving presence of God known.

When we come to a true and better understanding of **Who is this man Jesus?** We come to a better understanding of who God really and truly is.

We begin to understand our relationship with God when we see how Jesus accepted others—outsiders, outcasts, etc. He forgives, even those who crucified him. If that is how God acts, how Jesus acts, then we are called to act and live the same way.

If we are in a life-giving relationship with Jesus, then we have a different view of the world. We wear God glasses. As Christians, we are called to reflect the presence of God in our hearts and our world.

If Jesus belongs to God and we belong to Jesus, then we are all brothers and sisters, sons and daughters. As God grieves over our brokenness, we are to grieve over all who are broken. We are called to respond to all who are broken - feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, to name a few. As God grieves, so we should grieve over the brokenness of others.

As God rejoices over our fragile attempt to build the kingdom in our time and place, so should we.

As Jesus commissions his disciples, may all of us come to better understand our role in Jesus' Last Supper mandate: **Do this in memory of me.**

**May the Risen Christ hold you  
in the palm of His hand until we gather around  
our Family Table in the Holy Eucharist.**

## Marriage Moments by Susan Vogt

Does your marriage sometimes feel like the Tower of Babel - each of you speaking but not understanding each other? Gary Chapman identified **5 Love Languages** that couples often use: words of affirmation, acts of service, giving gifts, quality time, and physical touch. Which is your strongest?

## Parenting Pointers by Susan Vogt

**I am with you always, until the end of the age** (Mt 28:20). Children will be children which means they will make mistakes, disobey, be selfish... (actually so do we adults). Today reassure your child that you will always love them, no matter what.

## A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

As Jesus appointed apostles, he also appoints parents to represent Him in the family: **make disciples of your children, baptizing and teaching them all I have taught you. Don't worry, I am with you always.**

Our decisions create our style of living and what kind of person we are. That's the awesome power of free will. As we celebrate Memorial Day it is a good time to ask ourselves; **How do I want to be remembered?** The power is in your hands, or rather in your decisions.

## May God Bless Our Service Personnel



We pray for and remember our Service Men and Women who are serving on active duty in the Armed Services, especially: **LCpl. Peter A. Barrante, USMC; Maj. Damian Baskerville, USAF; Col. Richard Collage, PA NG; Staff Sgt. Nicholas DeLuca, Army; Ens. David DeMaio, USCG; Capt. Craig Dolhi, Army; Capt. Anthony Formica, Army; Jacob Formica, E-4, Army; 2nd Lt. John Formica, Army; SPC Samuel Formica, Army National Guard; Capt. Markus Gibson, USMC; 2ndLt. Miles Gibson, USMC; PO2. Mason Gibson, USN; T/Sgt. Michael Goodman, USAF; E5 Sgt. Brian Imundo, Army; Sgt. Russ Langley, Marines; Staff Sgt. Raymond Massung, Jr., USAF; Staff Sgt. Timothy Oeler, USAF; ENS Timothy Ragan, USN; Amn Stephanie A. Reichenbach, USAF; PFC David R. Saunders, Army National Guard; Sgt. Brandon R. Smith, USAF Pararescueman; Amn. Adam Stitt, USAF; Capt. Andrew Tkac, Army.**

If you would like to add or update an active Service member, please call the Parish Office.

**Thank you for your service!**

**May We Never Forget . . . Freedom is Never Free!**

**May God Bless Our Health Care Workers  
and All First Responders.**

## Sacraments

### Baptism of Infants & Children

Baptism is a joyous event in the life of the church. Baptism is celebrated any Sunday after Mass. **Parents are required to attend a Pre-Baptism Class.**

Previous arrangements are necessary.

### Instruction in the Faith - R.C.I.A.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Program is offered for those interested in the Catholic Faith. For more information, please contact Fr. Wagner.

### Reconciliation

**St. Eugene Church, Liberty**

**Tuesday, 7 - 7:30 pm**

**St. Michael Church, Elizabeth**

**Saturday, 11-11:30 am**

### Queen of the Rosary Church, Glassport

**Saturday, 1- 1:30 pm**

**St. Michael Church, Elizabeth**

**Saturday, 3:15-3:45 pm**

**St. Eugene Church, Liberty**

**Saturday, 5:15-5:45 pm**

### Marriage

The prospective bride and groom are to make arrangements with the priest or deacon at least 6 months prior to the proposed date of the wedding. Diocesan regulations require all couples to attend an approved pre-marriage preparation program.

### Anointing of the Sick

the Anointing of the Sick is celebrated communally on the Second Sunday of the Month.

### Ministry to the Sick and Shut In

Homebound members of the Parish should call the Parish Office to make arrangements to receive Holy Communion at home.

### Sponsorship Forms

Only registered, practicing, fully-initiated Catholics are eligible for sponsor certificates. Please call the Parish Office.

### Bulletin Information Deadline

2 weeks in advance of publish date.

elizabethsalleghenybulletin@gmail.com

### Moving

Please call or email your new address to the Parish Office.

**Child Abuse Hotline 1-888-808-1235**

## Mass Intentions For The Week

**StE St. Eugene Church, Liberty    StM St. Michael Church, Elizabeth**

**QoR Queen of the Rosary Church, Glassport**

**May 24 - 31, 2020**

### Saturday, 23, Vigil, Seventh Sunday of Easter

**Fr. Tom      Larry & Terri Piekut - 50th Wedding Anniversary - Family**

**Fr. Miro      Frank & Palmerina Molinaro - Mia Dainty & Family**

### Sunday, 24, Seventh Sunday of Easter

**Fr. Tom      Jack, Anna, Eugene Vitori - DeChiccis Family**

**Fr. Miro      Deceased of the Crossen & Mullaly Families - Crossen Family**

### Monday, 25, Easter Weekday

**Fr. Miro      Ruth Rushe - Charles & Jackie Galley  
Novena - Infant of Prague**

**Fr. Tom      Anna Mae O'Brien – Family**

### Tuesday, 26, Easter Weekday, Philip Nere, priest

**Fr. Tom      Edward Buzek - Barbara**

**Fr. Miro      Julia Perkoski - Mike & Cathy Partyka**

### Wednesday, 27, Easter Weekday

**Fr. Miro      Dorothy Golembiewski - Sister, Gerry**

**Fr. Tom      Dennis Kapisak - Family**

**Novena - Michael the Archangel**

### Thursday, 28, Easter Weekday

**Fr. Miro      Kenny Kaczka - Joe, Karen, Michael Kaczka**

**Fr. Tom      Ed & Sophie Laskowski - Len & Millie**

### Friday, 29, Easter Weekday

**Fr. Miro      Clara B. Palumbo - Maria Chiarizio**

**Fr. Tom      Helen Gogoel - Gloria & Ed Duval**

### Saturday, 30, Vigil, Pentecost Sunday

**Fr. Tom      Dave & Mary Ann Rossi - 50th Wedding Anniversary - Family**

**Fr. Miro      Jack Gosney - Joseph Kish**

### Sunday, 31, Pentecost Sunday

**Fr. Tom      Robert & Mary Null - Bobby, Mark, Shelly, Jay & Anthony**

**Fr. Miro      George Kovtun - Wife & Children**

***We remember . . .* In your charity,**

**please remember all those who have died, especially:**

**Janet Formica, mother of Jeff Formica, Sarah Ank,**

**Caroline Hilson, Joseph Strinich, all who will die today,**

**and those who have no one to pray for them.**

**Resting in Paradise.**

**Eternal Rest grant unto them O Lord.**

**And Let Perpetual Light Shine on them.**

### **May Rosary Intention**

That deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

## 6 Elizabeth, Glassport, South Allegheny Catholic Community



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

### Sunday, May 24; Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:12-14; 1 Peter 4:13-16; John 17:1-11a

**Right where you belong**—We each have a need to belong that doesn't start with the playground or end with the work shift. Psychologist Abraham Maslow categorized the need to belong as number three on a hierarchy of essentials: right behind physical needs (food, clothing, and shelter) and safety. Catalog the people who are essential to your happiness and the social groups that include you as a member. Then consider this: God has chosen you to be one of God's people. And Jesus counts you as one who belongs especially to him. **They belonged to you, and you gave them to me.**

### Monday, May 25; Gregory VII, pope

Acts 19:1-8; John 16:29-33

**Cherish your freedoms**—Pope Gregory VII fought hard for the separation of church and state because he lived in a time (11th century) when the church was subject to civil authorities, and abuses of power were rampant. In the face of enormous opposition, this great reformer extricated the church from the control of external rulers and strengthened the unity of the whole church under the centrality of the papacy. On this Memorial Day, remember that religious freedom is one of the founding principles of our country, worthy of the sacrifice of many. And one that our faith demands that we respect for all. **In the world you will have trouble, but take courage, I have conquered the world.**

### Tuesday, May 26; Philip Neri, priest

Acts 20:17-27; John 17:1-11a

**God provides**—It's fitting Philip Neri was canonized in 1622 with Ignatius of Loyola, Francis Xavier, and Teresa of Ávila. Ignatius was a friend, Francis was an influence, and Philip took to heart Teresa's quip: **From . . . sour-faced saints, good Lord, deliver us!** The affable Philip won over so many different kinds of people for Christ in 1500s Rome—using humor, humbleness, and holiness—that he's called, with Peter and Paul, an apostle of Rome. **Cast yourself into the arms of God,** he said, **and be very sure that if he wants anything of you, he will fit you for the work and give you strength.** That is comforting at a time when many of us feel stretched to the limit. **I revealed your name to those whom you gave me.**

### Wednesday, May 27; Augustine of Canterbury, bishop

Acts 20:28-38; John 17:11b-19

**Look for God in unexpected places**—Lest Saint Augustine of Canterbury be confused with Saint Augustine of Hippo: the two are not the same. Augustine of Hippo was a fourth-century doctor of the church. Augustine of Canterbury was a sixth-century Benedictine missionary sent by Pope Gregory the Great to Christianize the British Isles. He is known as the **Apostle to the English**, and his legacy includes an approach to

evangelization and conversion that shows a respect for indigenous practices. Rather than condemning, he consecrated and incorporated popular Anglo-Saxon rites into Christianity. What practices from popular culture today might we consecrate into contemporary Christian practice? **As you sent me into the world, so I sent them into the world.**

### Thursday, May 28; Easter Weekday

Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; John 17:20-26

**Celebrate our finest gifts**—**Shavuot, or the Feast of Weeks**, which our Jewish friends observe today, has a connection to the Catholic Solemnity of **Pentecost**. Just as **Pentecost** this Sunday comes **seven weeks after Easter**, **Shavuot** is celebrated **seven weeks after Passover**. In the biblical era, important dates for planting and harvesting were marked by religious holidays. Shavuot celebrated the wheat harvest seven weeks after Passover. Christians thank God for the abundant gift of the Holy Spirit. **I pray not only for them, but also for those who will believe in me through their word.**

### Friday, May 29; Easter Weekday

Acts 25:13b-21; John 21:15-19

**Keeping the peace**—In 1972, Pope Saint Paul VI declared, **If you want peace, work for justice.** Today we observe the **International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers**. The U.N. deploys peacekeepers around the world to provide a **unique and dynamic instrument . . . To help countries torn by conflict to create the conditions for lasting peace.** The work of Catholic social justice organizations like **Catholic Relief Services, Catholic Worker, and Cross Catholic Outreach** go a step further by **tending the sheep** of the poor, the oppressed, the refugee, the dispossessed. Do your part today to support the social outreach of your church. **Tend my sheep.**

### Saturday, May 30; Easter Weekday

Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; John 21: 20-25

**Just do it!**—Some argue that “believing the right things” is enough of a response to the call to discipleship. But Jesus emphasized **doing**. **Orthopraxy** (right practice) goes hand in hand with **orthodoxy** (right belief). In this time of global suffering, our faith response is required. It flows out of our faith **assent**, but we can’t stop with professions of faith. Take your faith out to meet the great need you find around you today. **There are also many other things that Jesus did, but if these were to be described individually, I do not think the whole world would contain the books that would be written.**

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