



May 25, 2025 Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23; John 14:23-29

Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him and we will come to him.

Jesus never promised being a follower of Him would be easy. If He did, he wouldn't have had to send the "Helper", the "Advocate", to walk alongside us as we travel throughout this world. In the Gospel for this Sunday, Christ is encouraging His disciples, and us, to embrace a deeper relationship with God that is not of this world. It must be a relationship of obedience and love, even in the face of uncertainty.

When my oldest daughter was younger, there was a moment when I was letting her meal cool off before serving it to her. She was one at the time, and was bawling at the table. I told her, "If you only knew. I know exactly what you need, but it's not safe for you to have it just yet." In my heart, I heard God say, "Hmm...". I immediately whispered, "Sorry God!". God wants us to have life and have it in abundance. He said so Himself, and he is Truth! Yes, life isn't always amazing, but we must be constantly working toward our future goal which is to live in heaven for eternity.

I love my children fiercely. I would run in front of a moving car to save them if they were in front of it. My love for my children is imperfect. God is the perfect Father. He is Love incarnate. Just imagine that kind of love. It's the exact love He has for YOU specifically. He died the worst imaginable death possible to save His children. As my children grow up, it feels like pieces of my heart are walking around the world. I want to guide them, protect them, and let them know they're loved with every step they take. God can. God does.

"Author of Scripture", "Comforter", "Counselor", "Advocate", "Seal", "Guide", "Indweller of Believers", "Intercessor", "Spirit of Truth", "Spirit of God/the Lord/Christ", "Spirit of Life", "Teacher", and "Witness". These are all names the Holy Spirit has been known by. Sometimes, you may know Him as the forgotten Person of the Trinity. I know Him as my best friend. He is yours too! I invite you this week to open your heart up just a little bit more. Let the Spirit dwell within you and work through you.

Next Week's Readings:

Acts 1:1-11; Hebrews 9:24-28; 10:19-23; Luke 24:46-53

PARISH OFFICE

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Tuesday-Friday

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School Website:

www.tinyurl.com/ndcschool

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, May 26 | No Mass
+Pray for Holy Marriages

Tuesday, May 27 | Mass
5:15 p.m. +Steve Kelly
Sacristan: Karen Hyke

Wednesday, May 28 | Mass
8:00 a.m. +Father Dennis Conway
Sacristan: Donna Ryant
Music: Jed Becker

Thursday, May 29 | Mass
9:00 a.m. +Tom Herold and John Gosch
Sacristan: Inez Kruse

Friday, May 30 | Mass
10:00 a.m. +Aaron Dusheck
Sacristan: Jerry & Barb O'Donnell

Saturday, May 31 | Mass
4:00 p.m. +Lynn and Dolores Schwade
EMHCs: Brian McGee; Mary Larson;
Becky McGee
Lectors: Brian McGee; Mary Larson
Servers: Cora Johnson
Music: Pam Daley; Polly Jones
Greeters: Neil & Cindy Grube
Hosts: Bootie Kapler
Ushers: Joe & Lynn Rose; Jim Murphy;
Steve Duerre
Sacristan: Brian McGee

Sunday, June 1 | Mass
8:00 a.m. +Elsie Busta and Joe Busta Jr.
EMHCs: Boyd Turnbull; Phil & Kim Walker
Lectors: Emily Dohlman-Govern; Boyd
Turnbull
Servers: Lincoln Manske; Raelynn Fortney
Music: Dee Hosek; Jamie Fisk
Greeters: Mike & Rachel Gooder
Hosts: Mike & Rachel Gooder
Ushers: David & Shannon Andera; Chris
Bina; Atley Bina
Sacristan: Stan & Connie Kepros

Sunday, June 1 | Mass
10:00 a.m. +Dan Courtney
EMHCs: Sue Runyan; Patty Elsbernd;
Sheila Slifka
Lectors: Nita Hackman; Sue Runyan
Servers: Raelynn Fortney; Isabella Vobr
Music: Melanie Vobr; Polly Jones
Greeters: Wayne & Janet Kreitzer
Hosts: Curtis & Kayla Head Family
Ushers: Brian McConnell; Richard
McConnell; Sue Sovereign; Jerry
Wilson
Sacristan: Melanie Vobr



Candle: For the People

Stewardship of Prayer

Please pray for the sick of our parish, including the following and those listed in the Book of Petitions.

CONNIE FRANA	MATT DUERRE	JERRY SMITH	TONY WICKS
JODENE VAN DYKE	JOYCE KAPLER	BETTE SULLIVAN	TESS SHEEHY
ETHAN PEPERA	DEB WILKINS	BRENT NEWMAN	MARY STEVENSON
LISA PETER	DIANE KOVARIK	MALISSA KAPPES	VICKI MCGEE
CLARE STEJSKAL	CHARLENE RYAN	ED KOVARIK	
STU GORDON	PAULA GROWDEN	MATTHEW FERRIE	

Our Call to Share - Thank you

Thank you for taking the time to learn about the ministries highlighted in our Our Call to Share - Spring Collection these last few weeks. Your willingness to consider a gift to these ministries means so much—not only to us, but to the many individuals and families your generosity will directly impact.

Every contribution, no matter the size, plays a vital role in supporting the mission of the Church and uplifting those in need throughout our Archdiocese.

Your openness to giving to these causes is a beautiful reflection of your faith and compassion.

We are deeply grateful for your prayerful consideration of a gift, and hope you feel the joy that comes from sharing Christ's love with others. May God bless you abundantly for your generosity and kindness during this Easter season.

Stewardship of Offering

MAY 18, 2025

Total Stewardship Contributions/Offertory Income	
Needed each week:	\$ 10,827.00
Last week's Envelope Contribution Income:	\$ 3,626.00
Last week's ACH Contribution Income:	\$ 7,280.00
Last week's offertory income:	\$ 535.45

Today's reading from Revelation offers a vision of the City of God, the new Jerusalem. "But," the bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship reminds us, "that 'life to come' is in continuity with this present life through the human goods, the worthy human purposes, which people foster now."

Disciple Maker Index Survey Report (Part 4)

for



This past December (2024), our parish took part in a 75-question survey administered by the Catholic Leadership Institute. The purpose of this survey was to give us a deeper perspective on four factors of a thriving parish which include:

- Spiritual Practices
- Missionary Impulse
- Sunday Experience
- Leadership Indicators

PART 4 FOCUS: Leadership Indicators

In this report, we will focus on the specific questions related to the parish leadership.

These include how well the parish leadership:

- involves the community
- is financially transparent
- provides opportunities to serve the community

366

RESPONDENTS

366 people took this survey, which is a good sample size both in respect to our number of registered families (896) and our average Sunday Mass attendance (~462 over a weekend).



RELIABLE DATA

The Catholic Leadership Institute considers anything over 10% of average Sunday Mass attendance as statistically significant.

Notre Dame Parish's Current Leadership Indicators

The role of the Leadership in the parish is to help us worship God and most effectively minister to one another. Here are some items that you indicated our parish leadership is succeeding in, and some ways we can grow.

Legend

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree



Involving the Community in Decisions



Financial Transparency



Recommend Parish to a Friend



Recommend Pastor





Community Involved in Decisions

Even though this category had the most room to grow, our results were higher than the Archdiocesan average for this category, as well as parishes of similar size.

We would like to thank in a special way our **Pastoral Council, Finance Council, Catholic School Board***, Faith Formation Commission, Circles of Faith, Buildings and Grounds Committee, Stewardship Committee, Liturgy Committee, and our Emergency Management Team. These are all ways parishioners are able to assist in decision making for the good of the parish community.

*Bold lettering indicates elected/appointed committees.

We can still grow!

Other than our elected/appointed committees, there are many different committees you can join at any time. The ones that currently could use more members are: Stewardship, Faith Formation Commission, and the Liturgy Committee.

If you'd like to share your thoughts, ideas, or suggestions, scan the QR code to join one of the leadership committees.



Financial Transparency

We currently publish an End of Year Report, mid-year reports, the summary of the Finance Council meetings, and our weekly budget contributions. We are exploring ways to become more financially transparent in the future.

We would like to thank in a special way our Business Manager, Mindy Jones, and our Finance Council who have done an excellent job in being stewards of our parish resources.

We can still grow!

Finance Committee is an appointed committee that meets quarterly. If you would like to be part of this decision-making team, please contact Father Jacob.

Get to know those who are on the Finance Council by scanning the QR Code



Recommend Parish to a Friend

A parish is the people in a geographic area that join together weekly to worship God in the Liturgy. The Eucharist is the center of all we do both at Mass and within our daily lives.

How can we grow?

As we saw in previous report, we have a strong social community with many different events where we share in fellowship with one another.

- What about this parish would you recommend?
- Do you feel complete when you leave the Mass?
- Have you read the Sunday readings?
- Do you have a favorite memory of the parish?

Share that with one other person this week.

Use the QR code to view our Parish Facebook page to view our parish in action and keep up with parish events.



Recommend Pastor

We are blessed to have Fr. Jacob Rouse continue to be our pastor. The primary focus of a Catholic priest is to offer the sacraments on behalf of the people and be the shepherd of our parish.

How can we grow?

As a baptized Christians, we were anointed as priest, prophet, and king. Father Jacob's role is to offer the sacraments on behalf of us, and our role is to take that out into the world. We can be miniature priests in the world by:

- loving one another
- sharing the Good News with others
- treat all humans with dignity and respect
- be kind and merciful
- serve one another
- glorifying the Lord with your life

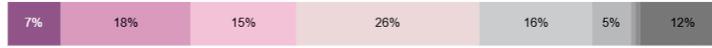
Use the QR code to view our Parish YouTube channel.



Survey Demographics

Get to know your parish!

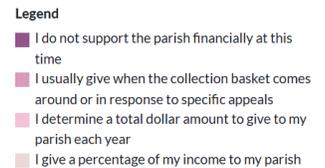
Household Contributions



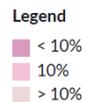
Household Income



Approach to Financial Giving



Giving Percentage



Ways to Give!

Gifts of Grain

Weekend Offertory

Contribution Envelopes

Endowment/ Legacy Gift

IRA Rollover

Estate Planning

Online Giving

Memorials

\$5 or \$500, the Lord sees your generosity. We thank you for the financial support you give to our parish! If you have any questions about the different ways to give, please contact the Parish Office.

TAKE NOTE:

Rolicky Making If you would like to help make rollicky for the Notre Dame Fair Stand on Tuesday, May 27th, please contact the Parish Office and use extension 3 or email m.jones@dbqarch.org.



Totus Tuus, our week-long summer program for children and teens in 1st-12th grade will be held from July 27-August 1st. For more information and to register, go to: <https://notredamecresco.com/totus-tuus>

Trivia Night, Save the date for Trivia Night 4! It will be held in the Parish Hall on July 11th from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Teams can enroll online and profit goes to the Youth Ministry Program of Notre Dame!



This Week at Notre Dame

Card Party will be held on Monday, May 26th, at 2:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

6 Ways Catholics Can Celebrate Memorial Day

Because of one man's sacrifice, we are privileged to choose and live our faith. Christ died freely and willingly to save us. Then the saints and martyrs followed in His footsteps, devoting life and death to this same privilege.

Memorial Day echoes these sacrifices, in the millions of military men and women who gave their lives freely, so we might live that way. Sacrificial love is not so popular in our day, but as Christ's followers, we aspire to live this theological virtue.

More than just a long weekend or a great day to grill out, Memorial Day can be a time to reverence and remember those who modeled self-sacrifice so courageously. It can also inspire us to greater sacrificial love.

1. Pray for the Dead

*"Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."
-John 15:13*

2. Go to Mass

3. Observe the National Moment of Remembrance

In 2000, Congress passed the National Moment of Remembrance Act. It asks all Americans to pause at 3 p.m. for one minute of silence, honoring those who died in service to our country. (3 p.m. is also the Hour of Mercy.)

4. Support Families of Fallen Soldiers

5. Special Prayer Intentions

6. Teach Children Gratitude

Let this and every Memorial Day be a calling to us as followers of Jesus. May we—in the company of the saints and martyrs and in the light of the fallen patriots whose lives we revere and whose courage and heroism we celebrate—aspire to the sacrificial love He modeled.

Hadley, C. (2024, May 2). 6 ways for Catholics to celebrate Memorial Day. The Catholic Company®. https://www.catholiccompany.com/magazine/6-ways-for-catholics-to-celebrate-memorial-day/?srstid=AfmB0ooSHQzpkAr9Rcm-O3gtudm60JK0rtgNiWoM9xqdF4j_4Zsy5Eo

In the Community

St. Wenceslaus Annual Garage Sale. Saturday, June 7, 7am-1pm. at St. Teresa of Calcutta school gym, Spillville. Books, garden tools, kitchen items, toys, small desk, book shelf, and lots and lots of miscellaneous items. We have a large assortment of items from an estate sale including Dvorak and Czech items. Something for everyone. Also a bake sale with kolaches, Rohlichy, cookies, etc.

Chicken Dinner, hosted by the Elma IC Church, will be held at the Elma Memorial Home on Sunday, June 8th from 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Serving: Mike Reicks' fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, coleslaw, rolls and butter, dessert, and beverage. Cost is \$15/person. Dine in or carryout. Delivery is available within city limits if called in by June 7th to 641-330-8288.

NOTRE DAME'S TEE TIME FOR TECH

GOLF TOURNAMENT

All Proceeds Benefit Notre Dame School Technology Program

Contact Heather Johnson: 547-5100 or heather@campsterv.com for more info!



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