

160 Ridge Rd Chadds Ford, PA 19317 Phone: (610) 459-2502 Fax: (610) 459-3942

Web: www.saintcornelius.org

Email: stcorn1@comcast.net ● Facebook: Like us on Facebook

Msgr. David Diamond, Pastor

Deacons: Harry Morris • John Todor (Ret.)

Parish Council Members

Agnes Arkus Michael Brisgone José Dominguez Franca Felcher Mary Jo Gordon John Guest Laurie Hays Jon Lippard Michelle Nardozzi David Ripsom

Business Manager: David Bauer, CPA

Pastoral & Administrative Assistant: Marie McGuigan

Office Manager: Douglas Kitson

Parish Religious Education Program: Abbie McCusker

Director of Music: Margie Melchiore

Saturday: Confessions 2:30 - 3:30 Vigil Mass 4:00 pm **Sunday**: 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 4:00 pm

Weekday Mass: 7:30 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Will return after Labor Day LiveStream https://vimeo.com/user123448673

St. Cornelius Early Learning Center

Abbie McCusker, Director Phone: (610) 459-8663 Website: www.scornelius.org

St. Cornelius Parish Summer Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday 8:00 am to 2:00 pm Friday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm Noon closed for Lunch 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

Thoughts from the Second Floor Front Pentecost Sunday June 8, 2025

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.

Enkindle in us the fire of your love.

Send forth your spirit and we shall be created and You will renew the face of the earth.

In her work *Season of Mercy: Lent and Easter* (1996), Catherine de Hueck Doherty wrote: "There is a tremendous love affair going on, of which the Holy Spirit is the witness. For what were we created? For a love affair with God! For a oneness with God that nothing can break. For this the Holy Spirit has come. For this, the symbol of the Wind is lifting us up. For this, the symbol of Fire cleanses us and makes our soul afire with love."

Today we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost. This is the birthday of the Church. The day on which the original band of followers of Jesus was emboldened to preach the gospel message throughout the streets of Jerusalem and beyond. It seems that they had, until Jesus' appearance, remained locked in the upper room in a sort of holy fear and longing. With His presence they no longer had the dread but seemed to be waiting for the direction. On this day they received the direction. They were to leave the security of that place where they had all gathered and move out to preach the gospel message to the world.

The question for centuries about the phenomenon of the people understanding the original *kerygma* in their native language, despite the international composition of the crowd that had gathered in Jerusalem, is this: Was the miracle in the speaking or the hearing? An argument could be made for either case. But no matter which side you favor there is no escaping that because *we* have heard the Spirit we, not unlike the leaders and members of the nascent church, are bound to preach the Word that has entered our lives.

This will, of course, come at a cost.

Perhaps the greatest cost is to our sense of self. That would be especially recognized in our contemporary culture which places so much emphasis on the importance of individuality and the centrality of "me." It is often a challenge to live the message of the gospel. The message pf the gospel is that our life only has meaning if it is lived for another. Our culture that seems all too willing to take advantage of the person who willingly gives of himself or herself for another. Yet, as disciples of the Lord Christ that is what we are called to do. In doing that, responding to the Grace available to us, building up the Kingdom of God, living the Gospel message we give testimony to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit's actions empower us to live the faith that we have embraced. We do not need to speak in foreign languages or visit far off cities in order to do this. Usually we have to go to work or school or simply go home. We are called to live and preach the gospel there as well.

The paschal mystery of dying with Christ is experienced when we risk our pride to seek or offer forgiveness, or when we lose ourselves, our time and energy to respond to the often-inconvenient needs of others. A determination to match each spiritual insight with some act of service is the ongoing basis for an authentic discipleship. If we live what we believe, we can grow day by day, offering by offering, act by act, into a full partner in the gracious work of Jesus with the strength and prompting of the Holy Spirit in our postage stamp of earth.

Faithfully,

Msgr. Diamond

Pentecost Sunday



JULY

St. Cornelius

Pig Roast

Eucharistic Adoration

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament flows from the sacrifice of the Mass and serves to deepen our hunger for Communion with Christ and the rest of the Church.

Join us for Adoration on Friday mornings after Mass in the chapel. You are welcome to visit anytime during the day until we repose the Blessed Sacrament at 4:00 PM.

Adoration will return after Labor Day, September 5, 2025



When's the last time you gave your marriage a tune-up? Keep your engines running by getting away together on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend! Let the light of your marriage sacrament shine for all. Make your light bright by attending the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. The next in-person experience will be **June 20-22** at St. Mary of Providence Center, Elverson.

For more info visit: www.wwme-philly.org.

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Did you realize St. Cornelius has a Facebook page?

Like us on Facebook to stay up to date with information about upcoming events, how you can become active on committees, and other parish news.

Welcome to the Matthew XXV Garden Season 5

Matthew XXV

A FEW GOOD MEN NEEDED:

We would like to form a small group of volunteers who would take turns mowing the grass in the Matthew XXV Garden.

If interested please TEXT Steve Muntz at 610-454-8937 and he will be happy to fill you in with what needs to be done.

Again, thank you,





An Invitation from Archbishop Pérez

On January 5, the Feast of St. John Neumann, Fourth Bishop of Philadelphia, Archbishop Nelson J. Pérez released a pastoral letter, at the core of which is a call to a pastoral change of heart, a conversion to the lifestyle and mindset of a missionary disciple. The letter also shares with us the Archbishop's vision for the future of the Church of Philadelphia and invitation to all Catholics to be a part of the conversation about what that will look like.

To read the letter, watch the Archbishop's video and sign up for a consultation session, visit trustandhope.org or scan the QR code with your smart phone.

PENTECOST SUNDAY



Come, Holy Spirit

O God, ablaze with love, you sent forth your Holy Spirit to kindle the hearts of your people. May your Spirit illuminate our minds and teach us your mercy and compassion. Melt our frozen hearts and wills so that the Light of Christ may burn brightly within us. Bestow upon us your sevenfold gift, with gifts that bring us to serve those most in need, a grace that helps bind wounds and heal divisions. Let us taste the Spirit's sweet refreshment and burn with passion to share your Holy Word. Grant that we, who follow your commands, may be filled with abundant joy and boldly proclaim your marvelous deeds. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Written by Timothy A. Johnston

Sunday, June 8, 2025 Come, Holy Spirit

Exodus 19:3–8a, 16–20b or Ezekiel 37:1–14 or Joel 3:1–5; Psalm 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30; Romans 8:22-27; John 7:37–39. During the Day: Acts 2:1–11; Psalm 104:1, mans 8:8-17; John 20:19-23 or 14:15-16, 23b-26.

It's hard to imagine what the Pentecost experience was like for the disciples. The First Reading depicts a bit of chaos with the driving wind and tongues of fire. In Baptism, we too received the fullness of the Holy Spirit, the Advocate promised by Jesus. Like all those before us, the Holy Spirit teaches us the ways of Christ and calls us to live out our

baptismal promises by sharing the Good News of salvation.

Reflecting on these readings, I begin to wonder where the Today's Readings: At the Vigil Mass: Genesis 11:1-9 or inbreaking of the Holy Spirit is most needed today? If we look around our neighborhoods, and even throughout the whole world, there is much violence and oppression. People still suffer and haven't heard the Word of God. We 24, 29-30, 31, 34; I Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Ro- need, just as did those who witnessed Christ's Paschal Mystery, for the Spirit to shower gifts upon us and to renew us in our mission to proclaim salvation with our lives. As we know from our Lenten reflection, it is easy to become distracted and turn from God, but the Holy Spirit is here to help guide our hearts on the right path. Let us give thanks for our many gifts!

Timothy A. Johnston

Baptismal Font

The Baptismal font is the womb from which Christians are born. As physical birth happens only once, so does our spiritual birth. Although fonts originated as part of the furnishings for cathedrals, today virtually every Christian church building maintains a font to facilitate the welcome of new members.

Fonts have many traditional shapes. Some are round, recalling a mother's womb. Some are cruciform, showing our sharing in the death of Christ. Others are tomb-shaped for the same reason. Still others form an octagon, reminding us that Christ rose on the "eighth day" of the week, a day outside normal time, like the eternity we will share with him through our Baptism.

The font may be placed in one of many traditional locations. Some are in a room to themselves. Originally, fonts were in separate buildings. At the Easter Vigil, the assembly would go out to the font to attend the Baptisms, and then bring the newly baptized into the church for the Eucharist. Some of our fonts, are placed in or near the sanctuary for better visibility, or near the door of the church to symbolize our entry into the Christian community. In churches where the faithful enter each Sunday past the baptistry,

they may use it to sign themselves with holy water. We remind ourselves of our Baptism in Christ each time we enter our churches.

Many fonts are large enough for full immersion of the candidate. Others are small to accommodate pouring water over the head of

an infant. Both forms of Baptism are permitted, but a renewed interest in immersion in the universal church is introducing larger fonts in full view of the assembly, suitable for fully symbolizing our death and rising in Christ.

Some fonts resemble fountains, with flowing water even when Baptisms are not celebrated. The running water symbolizes life in Christ.

The font is one of the most sacred

areas of our churches. It deserves the reverence of the faithful, for it is there where we are reborn, where our family grows, and where we first meet Christ, whose resurrection is our destiny.

Pentecost Sunday



In our charity, let us pray for the repose of the soul of

Shirley Polk

A long time member of the parish, and a friend to many.

Eternal rest grant to her, O Lord.

May she rest in peace.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK



When: Saturday, June 14 at the 4:00 pm Mass and Sunday, June 15 at the 11:00 am Mass.

Where: Please sit in the 6 front pews all around the front of the church. You may have one other person with you if you wish.

Who: Please let us know if you wish to receive this Sacrament by emailing the PLC at

stcorn1@comcast.net or by calling the PLC at 610-459-2502. This will give us an idea of how many people wish to participate and help us to record who has received the Sacrament.

Why: When the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is given, the hoped-for effect is that, if it be God's will, the person be physically healed of illness. But even if there is no physical healing, the primary effect of the Sacrament is a spiritual healing by which the sick person receives the Holy Spirit's gift of peace and courage to deal with the difficulties that accompany serious illness or the frailty of old age. A person should not wait until they are at the point of death to receive this Sacrament.

HEED THE CALL



VOCATION OFFICE FOR DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD Visit our website WWW.HeedTheCall.org

33 Days of Eucharistic Glory

As we close out the three-year National Eucharistic

Revival on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, let us prepare our own heart to fall deeper in love with Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament by making a personal consecration to Our Eucharistic Lord on Sunday, June 22, 2025.

We will use Matthew Kelly's book, 33 Days to Eucharistic Glory. If you want to follow along in the book, it may be pur-

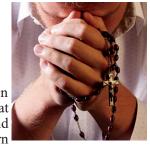
DAYS OF RICHARISTIC GLORY

chased on Amazon at https://a.co/d/gFZEu20. Purchase is not essential. We will begin preparing on Tuesday, May 20.

To sign up for daily messages for your 33 days of preparation, please send an email to Michelle at virginmaryfiat@gmail.com with "2025 Eucharistic Consecration" in the subject line, and in the body of the email, put your name and parish, St. Cornelius. Please send an email if you have any questions. Invite a friend to join you in growing closer to Jesus.

Sunday June 15 11:45 AM

Join our Parish Pro-Life Group in the church on Sunday, June 15, at 11:45 AM, as we pray a Rosary and the Litany of Loreto for the unborn



and an end to abortion. It is a perfect way to perform a spiritual work of mercy for the most vulnerable.

This event is scheduled every 3rd Sunday so please mark your calendar now. Bring a friend.

LENDING LIBRARY

You may not be aware of the Lending Library that exists in our ambulatory, near the large stain glass windows overlooking the family portico. The cart pictured to the right contains a variety of reading material that you are welcome to take with you. You may also find a variety of holy cards, prayer pamphlets and novenas.

Please feel free to take what you like.

St. Cornelius Early Learning Center

Our Pre-K friends have been busy getting ready for Memorial Day with lots of patriotic fun! They created beautiful flag crafts using red, white, and blue paper, proudly waving their handmade flags as they learned about the importance of honoring our heroes. To keep the energy high, the little ones also enjoyed some festive dancing—twirling, clapping, and moving to the beat of patriotic music. It was a joyful and meaningful way to help them understand the spirit of the holiday while celebrating with creativity and movement!













Assisted Hearing Devices

We have assisted hearing devices, which connect directly to the sound system. They are located inside the church, along side the wall to your left as you view the altar.

Easy to operate: the ear pieces are already attached. Just turn it on, a green light will blink and then remain on, adjust the volume.

Comments from satisfied users:

Wow - That is the first time in a long Time that I have heard everything at Mass.



YOUNG CATHOLIC PROFESSIONALS

Working in Witness for Christ™

In a world that can be void of meaning and leave young adults restless and dissatisfied, Young Catholic Professionals Philadelphia brings together young professionals in their 20s and 30s into a community of belonging, support, and encouragement at all stages of your faith journey. Young Catholic Professionals empowers and equips you to live your Catholic faith through everyday work and to perform all work with excellence for the glory of God.

Our patron saint is Saint Joseph the Worker. Our mission calls upon the intercession of Saint Joseph the Worker, a simple carpenter who reminds us of the importance of stillness, reflection, and prayer.

Young Catholic Professionals mission is to challenge, train, and inspire young adults working in various professional careers to work in witness for Christ. For more information go to our local Philadelphia website at www.ycpphiladelphia.org/cpages/home



Help provide home cooked meals to neighbors in need! Caring for Friends (formerly Aid for Friends) is collecting frozen meals and soups for homebound seniors and food insecure individuals. Meal trays and soup containers can be found in the utility closet on the right of the side door of the narthex. Consider putting aside an extra dinner or soup portion, freeze it and then bring it to the freezer also located in the utility closet. PLEASE sign the meals and soup in on the list attached to the shelves next to the freezer. The food is distributed all over the Greater Philadelphia Area. This effort is ongoing at our parish. We invite you to contribute what you can. If you have questions, please contact Nancy Todor 609-234-1193

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CRS NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT

At the age of 5, Stephen Ucembe lost his mother to violence. He also lost his sense of a home when he was sent to stay in an orphanage in Kenya. Stephen and two of his siblings lived in the orphanage despite the fact their father was still alive in another part of the country. Stephen also had other siblings. "The social worker really never made an effort to actually find them and make sure that they visited us," Stephen says. Orphanages overseas

often operate as businesses, and they will often deceive parents into giving them their children and sometimes pay parents to give them their children in order to raise money from foreigners.



Stephen says his father visited him once in the institution. The next time he heard about him, his father was dead. He died in an accident at his place of work, but Stephen didn't find out until 10 years later. Stephen lived in the orphanage for 14 years. He says it was a place of loneliness and uncertainty as children would come and go. There was sexual and physical abuse by the older boys, especially in the evenings, as staff would frequently leave for the evening. Catholic Relief Services is addressing these problems with partners who are committed to family-based care for orphans and vulnerable children, particularly in the developing world. The goal is to keep children from entering residential care in the first place. Visit www.crs.org for more information!

Let us pray for our Men and Women serving in the Armed Forces. Especially for:

SSG Ana Brunal SPC Mike Canfield Cpl Michael Castle Lt. Connor Cleary Fr. Joseph Coffey (Chaplain) Maj Robert B. Cusick, Jr. Capt Joshua deFreitas SSGT Michael DiVernieri Cadet Emily Fanning Lt. Ryan Gallagher SSG. Eric Gardner Capt Matthew Gibbons Ens Patrick Gibbons Ens John Paul Gibbons Maj Rachel Gonzalez SPC Logan Hannum Sgt Andrew Hart Devin J. Hunt PO1 Nathan R. Keller 1st Lt Lauren Kinnee Spc. Andrew Koehler Capt Daniel Kohli Maj. Chris Love Maj. Megan Love Sgt Jason Lyons

2nd Lt. Kevin Malone Sgt Alexander Marlow PFC Zachary Marlow CPT. Travis Mauer Lt. Cmdr Daniel McCadden Capt Jonathan McGrath LT Molly K. McGuckin LCDR Ryan A. McGuckin Maj. Sean P. Noll Lt. Col Brian J. O'Shea Lt. Cmdr Inga O'Shea Maj James O'Shea Sgt. Maj. Justin Rogowski PFC L Roland LTJG Christian Samulewicz 1st Lt. Olivia Samulewicz Capt. Neal F. Schubert Ens Nicholas Spadaccini MSG Thomas Stone Cpl Mark Truex Lt. Christopher Vish Capt. Aidan Walsh PFC Ellianna Welsh Capt Jennifer Wynn

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL AND THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM

Luzmarina Lalli, Regina Smith, Marianne Leader, Sandy Fecondo, Dominique Copper, Brian Walheim, Bob McKinney, Mindy Tumolo, Angelo Tiberi, Dorothy Brady, James Egner, Joan Carrington, River Agren, Rosemarie Tangi, Kathryn Howland, John Faulkner, Sr., Janice Letourneau, Lorraine Farrugia, Amy Hartranft, Patricia Ackerman, Doris Wysocki, Peyton Lott, Brittany Lott, Ed Lovell, Lillian Corbett, Eileen Kane, C. McCollum, Joshua Gidlewski, Denise Banta, Patty Burke, Tom Eno, Diana Duffy, Isaac Burks, Nancy Cunningham, Jay Holland, Thomas Drane, Kara Ulatowski, Harold Von Brockdorff, Mary Helen Arthur, Anne Spetzer, Carolyn Duffy, Carleen Peters, Marian Short, Matthew Hess, Bryan Thompson, Paul Lucas, Carla Santoleri, Richard Meccarrielli, Edward Field, Judy Field, Joyce Monaco, Matthew Hurst, Leonard Smith, Jr., Jim Waters, Kathie Buckley, Bernice & Arthur Hindle, Sean Mulvey, Patricia Wells, Kathy Williams, Michael Gibbons, Shirley Masse, Ellen Brisgone, Laura O'Brien-Black, Elizabeth Kephart, Tina Landis, Bill & Theresa Sherwin, Michelle Dillione, Chris Roe, Frank Kuders, Dave and Ronnie Pryce, Rosemary Brennan, Ellie May McGrath, Vicki Wojdak, Andrea Bateman, Brandon Heacock, Nancy Young, Billy Lott, Nanci Ehmer, Ken Rudert, Ed Shell, Ellie McCreight, Ellie Griem, Gregory Varacchi, Michael McKinnen, Connie Carney, Luke Post, Jim Buckley, Jerome Lienhard



The Ministry of Consolation

A St. Cornelius community response to the needs of people grieving the death of a significant person/persons in their lives, the ministry honors the words and example of the Lord Jesus:

"Blessed are they who mourn; they shall be consoled" (Matthew 5:4).

A team of four St. Cornelius church members have been trained to set up and facilitate a Support Group for the Consolation Ministry.

On June 21, 2025, the Consolation Group will meet at the Parish Life Center, Fr. Simon Room from 2:30pm to 3:30pm.

Contact Joan Holliday for any questions dochollisv@aol.com or call (610) 717-2180.



SAINT CORNELIUS

Early Learning Center
ENROLLMENT OPEN FOR THE
2025 - 2026
SCHOOL YEAR!

At Saint Cornelius Early Learning Center we are dedicated to educating each child to learn academic and social skills for success in their future. Our energetic teachers and staff create a nurturing, creative and exciting environment for children to learn, grow, and thrive!

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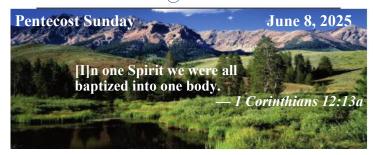
For more information or to schedule a tour, please email Abigail McCusker at

akohlbrenner@scornelius.org or call the Early Learning Center office at (610) 459 - 8663.



Monsignor's Thursday Email

Msgr. Diamond's weekly Thursday Email is a popular weekly newsletter for our parishioners. Currently there are **over 1,148** people who receive his email each Thursday afternoon. If you would like to be on our distribution list, please call the office at (610) 459-2502 or send your request to be added to our distribution at Stcorn1@comcast.net.





The Sunday collection is very important for us to maintain our fiscal responsibilities. So, if you are away on a Sunday, *ENJOY*; but remember *YOUR* church.

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June	•		<i>'</i>

WeShare eGiving \$9,529.40 Envelope Offering \$13,359.50 \$22,888.90

May 25, 2025

WeShare eGiving \$6,939.40 Envelope Offering \$8,748.50 \$15,687.90



"For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be."

Luke 12:34



Helping Hands and Hearts

This ministry offers temporary help (meals, errands, etc.) to individuals and families in need! If you are aware of someone in need or would like to be a volunteer helper, please contact Marilyn Gustin at mgustin05@gmail.com (484) 947-7295.

Prayer Shawl Ministry... Come, Join US!



Did you know that each baby baptized at St. Cornelius receives a hand-made blanket made by our Prayer Shawl Ministry? You are welcome to join us in this rewarding ministry. We also make shawls, blankets, scarves, hats, mittens etc. for elderly homes, the Giving Tree and anyone looking for a comforting gift.

Every 4th Monday of each month 1:30pm to 3:00pm, Parish Life Center

We find ourselves in need of white acrylic yarn or funding to help continue this wonderful ministry. Please prayerfully consider donating to our ministry or purchasing a "Pound of Love" or "Caron Pound" of white acrylic yarn. We have a basket set up in the narthex, below the large TV monitor, to offer our works and for your donations. Also, you are welcome to drop off any yarn donations to the Parish Life Center. Donations are greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, please contact

Valerie Childs (610) 213-0515 and Vickie Gambino (317) 440-5210



CAMP CORNELIUS

Location: Saint Cornelius Early Learning Center 160 Ridge Road Chadds Ford, PA 19317

Cooking Art STEM Sports



This summer we are excited to bring four weeks of summer fun!

Half day: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Full day: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

> PreK3 to 2nd grade Week of June 16th Week of June 23rd Week of July 7th Week of July 14th





A summer camp experience for children ages PreK3 through 2nd grade.
Volunteer opportunities available for older students.

Half Day Camp (9am-12pm) \$225 per week

Full Day Camp (9am-3pm)
\$365 per week
Before care (8 AM) and After care (until 5 PM)
are available

Questions? Contact:
Director: Debbie Anderson
danderson@scornelius.org / 610-459-8663

Sunday Mass Intentions

7:30 AM Arleen R. Patrone 9:00 AM Genevieve Smalley

11:00 AM Rose Lovell4:00 PM Joseph Wurm

Weekly Mass Schedule (Week of June 9 - June 13)

Saturday Vigil / Sunday Morning

Intention: *Missa pro populo (Mass for the people)*Reading: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34; 1
Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Rom 8:8-17; Jn 20:
19-23 or Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26

Monday 7:30 AM Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

Intention: Peter & Frances Cunningham

Reading: Gen 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14; Ps 87:1-2, 3 and 5, 6-7; Jn 19:25-34

Tuesday 7:30 AM

Intention: Joseph Wurm

Reading: 2 Cor 1:18-22; Ps 119:129, 130, 131, 132,

133, 135; Mt 5:13-16

Wednesday 7:30 AM Memorial of Saint Barnabas, Apostle

Intention: Deacon Richard Wirth

Reading: Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6; Mt 5:17-19

Thursday 7:30 AM

Intention: Albert Wurm

Reading: 2 Cor 3:15-4:1, 3-6; Ps 85:9ab and 10,

11-12, 13-14; Mt 5:20-26

Friday 7:30 AM Memorial of Saint Anthony of Padua, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Intention: Helen Scullion

Reading: 2 Cor 4:7-15; Ps 116:10-11, 15-16, 17-18;

Mt 5:27-32

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PILGRIM STATUE

06 - 08 - 2025 Kathy Howley

06 - 15 - 2025 Stephanie Fuss

06 - 22 - 2025 Carla Santoleri

The dates for July 6 to December 28 are now available on the sign-up.

Call Carla Santoleri at (610) 361-8447 for more information.

RECONCILED DIVERSITY

Pope Francis took a day off to visit privately with church, there were no firm rules for using colors. Only some old friends, whose identity took Catholic Italy wealthy churches could afford a full array of colors, by surprise: Evangelical Protestants. They welcomed and most places used the best vestments, no matter the Francis to their Pentecostal Church of Reconciliation, color, for the greatest feasts. The Church spelled out where Francis asked pardon for Catholic persecutions an exact plan for color, including red for Pentecost, and celebrated the Holy Spirit's "pentecostal work." Unlike Satan, declared Francis, who creates division 1800s. among God's children, the Holy Spirit creates a diversity rich and beautiful. And unity; not uniformity, Francis specified, but unity in diversity. Francis named the Spirit's gift "reconciled diversity." Pentecost's rich treasury of scriptural readings, for Saturday's vigil and Sunday's morning liturgy, traces the Holy Spirit's work from creation's beginning, through Jesus' resurrection, into the church's earliest days, now into our days. Kindled in our hearts, the Spirit's gentle fire is ours to share generously, even with those most strikingly different from us. All hearts are Spiritwarmed by reconciled diversity.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Today we are at the fiftieth day of the Easter cele- of passion and bration: seven weeks of seven days, a week of weeks, commitment. now culminating in a festival fiftieth day. While the

#ThankYouForYourPriesthood

liturgical color of the Easter season is gold, on this last A few years ago, during Rome's quiet summer, day we have red. For the first thousand years of the only in 1570, but local differences held on until the

> Color experts tell us that red is a hot color, best used for fast-paced, upbeat, active experiences. It is hard to be neutral before red, as any matador will tell you. It invites commitment, draws you in. It is a stimulating color, engaging the eye, stirring hunger. It is the most fitting color for this day when we celebrate

the descent of the Holy Spirit into our lives, dynamic presence overturning neutrality in favor





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For further information, please call the parish office.



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RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEK

Witnesses to Hope

Religious freedom allows the Church, and all religious communities, to live out their faith in public and to serve the good of all. Beginning June 22, the feast of Sts. Thomas More and John Fisher, the USCCB invites Catholics to **pray**, **reflect**, and **act** to promote religious freedom.



June 22 Political Polarization

Pray that Catholics will have the courage to put the truth of the gospel and fidelity to the Church above partisan politics.



June 26 Parental Choice in Education

Pray that governments would strengthen the ability for parents to direct the education of their children.



June 23 IVF Madness

Pray for couples who suffer fertility challenges, and that political leaders would promote therapies that respect the dignity of all human persons.



June 27 Immigration Services

Pray that the Lord would protect vulnerable migrants and refugees, and that the Church enjoy the freedom to carry out the ministries that Christ has handed to her.



June 24 Catholic Healthcare

Pray that governments will respect the consciences of all people who care for the sick and vulnerable.



June 28 Freedom to Serve the Common Good

Pray that government leaders would recognize the contributions that religious charities make to the common good.



June 25 Nicaragua

Pray for Christians in Nicaragua, where the Catholic Church faces brutal government persecution.



June 29 Nigeria

Pray for our brothers and sisters in Nigeria who are suffering violent religious conflict.



