



December 24, 2024 -  
December 28, 2025

**May 18, 2025**  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

First Reading: Acts 14:21-27 Responsorial  
: Psalm 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13 Second  
Reading: Revelation 21:1-5a Gospel:  
John 13:31-33a, 34-35

## Building Faith@HOME

### The Fifth Sunday of Easter - Love and Service

How do we show love to one another? In his gospel, John shares an important statement Jesus said at the Last Supper, *I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another.* Let's take a look at the context of this reading by beginning a little earlier in John 13. This was the Last Supper narrative in the Gospel of John. It begins with Jesus washing the feet of the disciples, then the prediction of Judas' betrayal. Jesus then shares that he will come into glory through his death, and the disciples will glorify Jesus in the love they show. "John's Gospel does not present a sentimental view of love. This is a type of love that is shown in service and sacrifice. - Jesus tells the disciples that all will know that they are his disciples because of the love they show for one another. This description of the early Christian community will be repeated in the Acts of the Apostles: "See how they love one another." Christian love is the hallmark of Christianity." (Loyola Press, Sunday Connection)

The new commandment is not a replacement for the Ten Commandments but a deepening and fulfillment of them. It calls for a love that is not just a matter of following rules but a transformation of the heart, leading to a life of love, service, and self-sacrifice, as exemplified by Christ.

### Family Table Talk

- How did the early Church support each other, and how can we do the same today?
- What does Jesus' command to love one another mean to you personally?

### Did you know Pope Francis was a Scientist?

Pope Francis studied chemistry in college, and worked as a chemist prior to preparing for the priesthood. As Pope, he took a stand on combating climate change and caring for the environment with his encyclical *Laudato Si: Caring for our Common Home*. With his background as a food chemist, he was able to discuss the importance of feeding humanity, and the impact that climate change might have on the agricultural industry.

(Retrieved from Diocese of Rochester, Family Zone)

Learn more about Landfill Emissions: with this science lesson and experiment.

<https://bit.ly/Science-Experiment>

### Scripture Memory Verse

This is how all will know  
that you are my disciples,  
if you have love for one  
another.

John 13:35



### ACT OF LOVE

Pray this everyday as a family!

O my God, I love you above all things with my whole heart and soul,  
because you are all good and worthy of all my love.

I love my neighbor as myself for the love of you.

I forgive all who have injured me and I ask pardon of those whom I have injured.

Amen.



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DIOCESE OF SYRACUSE

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# More Faith Builders!



Wake up each morning with the refrain to this fun song!

**Rise and Shine and give God the glory, glory!**  
**Rise and Shine and give God the glory, glory!**  
**Rise and Shine and (clap once) give God the glory, glory!**  
**All you Children of the Lord!**

The whole song tells the story of Noah.

You can listen to the song here:

[bit.ly/Rise-and-Shine-Song](https://bit.ly/Rise-and-Shine-Song)



## The Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary

The Glorious Mysteries help us see the amazing glory of Jesus and Mary through important moments in their lives.

**The Resurrection of Jesus** - Jesus showed His true glory when He rose from the dead!

**The Ascension of Jesus** - After Jesus showed everyone He was alive again, He went up to Heaven to be with His Father. He is in a place of great glory.

**The Descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost** - Pentecost reveals the glory of the Church as the Body of Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit to spread the Gospel to the world.

**The Assumption of Mary** - Because Mary was so close to Jesus and always said 'yes' to God, she was taken up to Heaven to be with Him. This is the Assumption, and it shows that Mary is special and shares in Jesus' glory in Heaven.

**The Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven** - The Coronation is the culmination of Mary's glory, as she is crowned Queen of Heaven and Earth.



In this Sunday's Gospel (John 13:31-33a, 34-35), Jesus speaks about being glorified, which means showing the greatness of God's love through His actions, especially His sacrifice for us. Glory means the greatness, beauty, and light of God's love. It describes God's power, goodness, and presence—so immense and beautiful that we stop and say, "Wow, God is amazing!" We glorify the Lord!

We hear the word glory and glorify throughout the Mass:

... in the "**Gloria**"

... in the "**Holy, Holy, Holy**"

... during the **\*\*Doxology\*\*** ("Through Him, with Him, and in Him...")

## Glory Counting

As you attend Mass, see who can count the most times they hear the words "glory" and "glorified." Share your counts after Mass!

How many times did you hear Glory/glorify?

## Think and pray about it

Jesus teaches us that God's glory is found in how we love one another. In today's Gospel, He calls us to love each other just as He loves us. **Every time we choose to be kind, forgive, or help someone, we are sharing God's love with the world, and that brings glory to God!**

## Pilgrims of Hope - The Church Prays Together, join the prayers of the faithful!

Sundays and Wednesdays are designated to pray the Glorious Mysteries of the Church. People all over the world pray the Rosary in different languages. Use this video with your family this Sunday!

With young children, just pray one mystery each day. This week is a good time to focus on the Glorious Mysteries.

<https://bit.ly/Glorious-Mysteries-Kids>

