



December 24, 2024 -  
December 28, 2025

**May 25, 2025**  
**Sixth 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

## BuildingFaith@HOME

### Jubilee Year - Faith Fun

**The Sixth Sunday of Easter** - This portion of John's Gospel comes near the end of the first of four chapters that make up Jesus' long farewell discourse at the Last Supper. John teaches us that a Christian's life is not shaped by Jesus' absence but by God's abiding presence; a presence of love, not fear.

Jesus is preparing his disciples in advance for his absence so that they will continue to believe in him and not feel all alone after his return to the Father. After the initial excitement of his Easter appearances, Jesus will remain with his followers in a very different way throughout the centuries. As our celebration of the Easter season is coming to an end, the liturgy reminds us that Jesus remains with us through the Holy Spirit, who teaches us everything we need to know, reminds us of all that Jesus taught, and brings us peace. [Loyolapress.com](http://Loyolapress.com)

### Pope Leo XIV - An Augustinian Priest

Our new pope was first ordained as an Augustinian priest. What does this mean?

Pope Leo XIV, was an Augustinian priest, which means he belonged to the Order of Saint Augustine. This religious order is a group of men and women who follow the teachings of Saint Augustine, a famous early Christian bishop and theologian. Augustinians focus on living in community, prayer, and serving others, especially those in need. They strive to grow closer to God through their actions and by sharing their faith with others. Pope Leo XIV was ordained as a priest on June 19, 1982.

The prayer to the Holy Spirit, below, by St. Augustine, connects beautifully with the Gospel for the 6th Sunday of Easter Year C, John 14:23-29. In this Gospel, Jesus promises the Holy Spirit, who will teach and remind us of His teachings.

St. Augustine's prayer asks the Holy Spirit to guide our thoughts, actions, and hearts towards holiness. It reflects the role of the Holy Spirit as our helper and teacher, as mentioned in the Gospel. This prayer helps us seek the Holy Spirit's guidance in living a holy life.



### Family Table Talk

- **Jesus says that the Holy Spirit is a teacher and a reminder. What would you like the Holy Spirit to teach you? What are some things you want to be reminded of by the Holy Spirit?**

### Ascension Thursday: May 29



Try this activity to visualize the Ascension of Jesus.

<https://bit.ly/Ascension-Craft>



Enjoy making and eating this easy "cloud" desert as you reflect on the Ascension of Jesus. [Jello Cloud parfaits](https://bit.ly/Jello-Cloud-Parfait)

<https://bit.ly/Jello-Cloud-Parfait>



### Prayer to the Holy Spirit by St. Augustine

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.  
Act in me, O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy.  
Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, that I love but what is holy.  
Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy.  
Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy.  
**Amen.**



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# More Faith Builders!

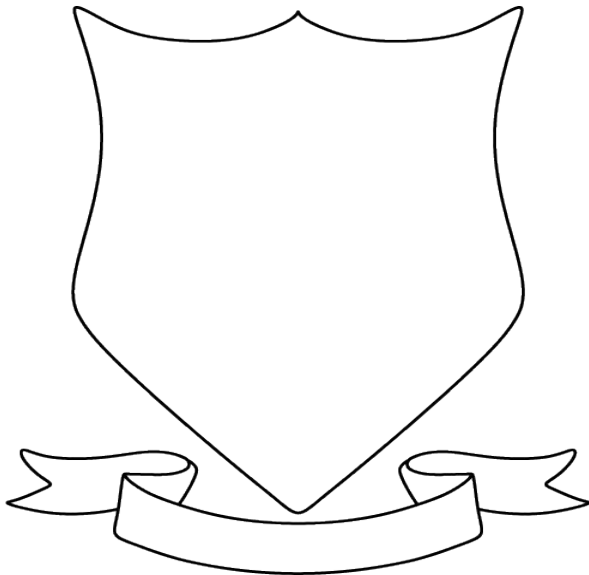
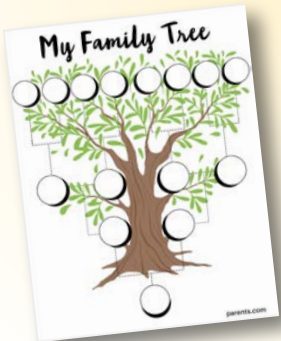


**May 30 - June 1 is the Jubilee of Families, Children, Grandparents, and the Elderly Jubilee of Families, Children!**

## Create Your Family Tree!

Download this Family Tree Activity and share the stories of your family history.

<https://bit.ly/Family-Tree-Sheet>



Many shields of past popes included their "family emblem" Visit:

<https://bit.ly/Papal-Coat-of-Arms>

What would be your family emblem?



Parents' Corner

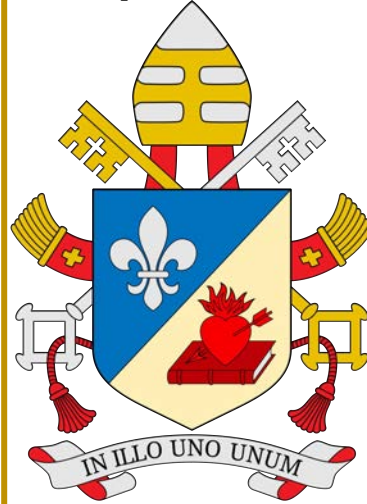


## Pilgrims of Hope - The Church celebrates Family!

As a mom of 4 little ones years ago, I remember the challenges of bringing my crew to Mass...talk about a pilgrimage! It took planning, collaboration with my husband, timing, packing necessities. But the pilgrimage was always worth the joy it brought. The article below is for the families with young children with tips for your Sunday pilgrimage. Let us all remember the joy of having the gift of these beautiful children in our midst. Rejoice when you hear the fidgety, crying, babbling babies and toddlers. Offer a prayer of gratitude for the gift of life. Together, we are one family, pilgrims of hope, leading each other to Christ.

<https://bit.ly/Taking-Children-to-Mass-Tips>

## Pope Leo XIV - Coat of Arms



In a pope's Coat of Arms there is always:

1. **Crossed keys of gold and silver** symbolizing the Keys of St. Peter, with spiritual and temporal power.
2. **A Mitre or "triple tiara"** with 3 bands of gold representing the three powers of the Supreme Pontiff: Sacred Orders, Jurisdiction, and Magisterium.
3. **The Shield** carries symbols connected to the person.

The ribbon with a motto is customary of heraldry, but it is not a required element of the Coat of Arms. Pope Leo's motto translated is: "In the One, we are one" which reflects echoes of St. Augustine's sermon on Psalm 127, where he explains that "although we Christians are many, in the one Christ we are one." The symbols on the shield include a lily symbol for his devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the Augustinian symbol of the pieced heart transformed by the Word of God. (Vatican News, 5.14.2025)

**AS A FAMILY...** what would your Coat of Arms look like?

Things to consider:

- Does your family name have a significant meaning or translation that can be symbolized?
- What spiritual devotions are important to your family?
- Do you want a symbol for each family member?
- Are there certain skills that can be symbolized?
- Are there symbols to connect your family heritage, places of origin, important achievements, etc?
- Consider symbols that reflect the family's core virtues and values.
- Colors have significant meanings as well:  
Gold: Generosity, wisdom; Silver: Peace, sincerity; Red: Courage, passion; Blue: Loyalty, truth; Green: Hope, vitality; Black: Constancy, grief

Use the template to the left or create a large one of your own.