

**READINGS****First Reading:** (Acts 10:45-46)

The circumcised believers who had accompanied Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit should have been poured out on the Gentiles also, for they could hear them speaking in tongues and glorifying God.

**Psalm :** (Ps 98)

The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

**Second Reading:** (1 Jn 4:8)

Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love.

**Gospel:** (Jn 15:13)

“No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.”

**MASS INTENTIONS**

C = CHESTER \* EG = ELLIS GROVE \* J = PR DU ROCHER

**Saturday, May 4 ~ Mass of Healing**

4:00PM (C) Gordon “George” Holley; Sister Rita

6:00PM (EG) Barb Brown

**Sunday, May 5 ~ Mass of Healing**

8:00AM (J) Shelba Kempfer

10:00AM (C) Jim Shields &amp; Leah Search

**1st Communion (C)****Monday, May 6 ~ Grades 1-4**

8:15AM (C) Bill Wingerter by The Parish

**Tuesday, May 7**

7:30AM (J) PSR students &amp; Teachers

**Wednesday, May 8 ~ All School Mass**

8:15AM (C) June Combs by The Parish

**Thursday, May 9**

8:00AM (J) Greg Limestall

**Friday, May 10**

No MASS

**Saturday, May 11**

4:00PM (C) Roger Holley

6:00PM (EG) Harold Haberman

**Sunday, May 12 ~ Happy Mother's Day**

8:00AM (J) All mother's living and deceased

Lucille, Dale &amp; Aaron Roy

10:00AM (C) All Mother's Living &amp; Deceased

**MASSSES:** If anyone would like to have a Mass for their family, living or deceased, please contact Jill or Tammy - \$10 per Mass.

**MASS SCHEDULE FOR MAY**

**Saturday:** 4pm: Chester    **Sunday:** 8am: Prairie du Rocher  
6pm: Ellis Grove        10am: Chester

**Online Giving:** St. Joseph - [www.stjoespdr.org](http://www.stjoespdr.org) and  
St. Mary's - [osvhub.com/maryhoc/funds](http://osvhub.com/maryhoc/funds)

**Join our Facebook Pages:** Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, Chester, IL; St. Mary's Catholic School, Chester, Illinois; St. Joseph's Catholic Church Prairie du Rocher

**FR. SEBASTIAN'S REFLECTIONS**

In the first reading (Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48), we see the Apostle Peter entering the home of a "gentile" Cornelius, to bring the message of the Gospel to his household. Peter later met the other disciples and relayed the impact of his visit to the home of a gentile. They were all pleased as Peter later informed them that he baptized them in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The second reading (1 John 4:7-10) reechoes the need for us to love one another. The Apostle John reminds us that our love for God and each other, should transcend every other consideration. It should remain our identity as Christians. We are able to love because God loved us first. Therefore, we cannot keep it to ourselves. It has to be given out to others.

In the Gospel (John 15:9-17) Jesus gives a new commandment to his disciples: "love one another". On our own, it may not be easy, but with God's grace and support, we can spread the word and the love. When we do so, we transcend the level of servants and become "dear friends". This is command from Christ! Love one another! Amen.

**PRAYER REQUEST**

*If you have a someone you would like add,  
please call the church office.*

The homebound, nursing home residents, cancer patients, our military, the lonely, the homeless, those incarcerated, Rick Grah, Jan Crow, Jewell Cheslick, Bruce Kettman, Marty Bert, Ryan Junger, Nicole (Dethrow) Doty, Marie Hess, Cathy Taylor, Evelyn Marquardt, Leila Keiser, Isabella DeSpain, Bill & Earlene Hanger, Tracey F., Susie Harms, Ina Doiron, Terry Laurent, Earlene Riechman, Lily & Lydia Smith, Fr. Dan Jurek, Jane Peiffer

*Please notify us when we are able to remove your loved one(s) from our prayer list. We would greatly appreciate it.*

**BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS**

Bev O'Toole 5/4, Jason Roy 5/4, Susan Stefani 5/5, Rose Jany ~ Happy 80<sup>th</sup>! Ben Sauer 5/6, Cathy Sauer 5/6, Alex Suhre 5/6, Carolyn Schneider 5/7, Barbara Junkin 5/7, Sue Colonel 5/7, Mary Brown 5/8, Rose Dethrow 5/8, Rhett Reiss 5/8, Lily Popejoy 5/8, Katie Mudd 5/9, Tammy Kribs 5/10, McKenna Roy 5/10

**Jeff & Sherry Bohnert 5/4****Jason & Heather Korando 5/5****Chris & Andrea Yarber 5/6****Danny & Bonnie Smith 5/6****PARTNERSHIP EVENTS****CONFESSIONS**

**St. Joseph:** Tuesday & Thursday mornings & Sat. evenings after Mass

**St. Mary's (C):** Sat. evenings before Mass 3:15pm-3:45pm  
*Any other confessions can be made by appointment.*

**ADORATION****St. Joseph:** First Wednesday of every month at 7:00PM**St. Mary's (C):** First Tuesday of every month at 7:00 PM ~  
**Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>****MASS OF HEALING****St. Joseph:** First weekend of the month immediately following either the 6PM or 8AM Mass.**St. Mary's (C):** First weekend of the month immediately following the 4PM and 10AM Mass.**St. Mary (EG):** First weekend of the month immediately following either the 8AM or the 6PM Mass.**Special Collections:** May 4/5 ~ Seminarian Education

May 11/12 ~ Catholic Communication

April 27/28 ~ Catholic Home Missions = \$397 (C)

**Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal:**

St. Joseph has met their goal and received a thank you letter from Bishop McGovern.

**\*Attention Parish Partnership Youth\***

I have registered 11 youth for the Steubenville youth conference July 12-14.

**We have a Facebook Page:** If you or your family would like to join, please let Jill Whelan (618-719-9344) or Dawn Walker (618-317-5104) know so we can send you an invite.

**STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION****COMMUNION**

If you are unable to attend Mass, whether homebound/hospital/assisted living, etc. and would like to receive communion, please call Diane Mudd #618-284-7150 (Ruma), Leonard DeRousse #618-284-6655 (day) or 618-284-2200 after 7pm (Prairie du Rocher), Rosemary Bert #618-615-6135, Rosemary Crain #618-615-5858, Paula Platt #618-615-5545, Martha McDonald #618-615-6624 or Barb Otten #618-615-2442 (Chester)

**PRAYER CHAIN**

If you need the emergency power of prayer or want to belong to the prayer chain, please call Marie Henry 618-282-2876 or 618-559-6511 (Prairie du Rocher); or Rosemary Bert 618-615-6135 or Martha McDonald 618-615-6624 (Chester)

**ST. JOSEPH, PRAIRIE DU ROCHER  
EVENTS****Weekly Tithes & Offerings****St. Joseph's: Weekly Goal: \$1700**

Envelopes (39): \$2,802, Loose: \$20,

Yearly total: \$28,900; Amount collected YTD: \$28,394

**Liturgical Ministers:**

**May 5<sup>th</sup>** (S) Katie & Lily, (L) Leonard, (B) Mary (C) Nancy & Carol  
**May 12<sup>th</sup>** (S) Alex & Mason (L) Steve S. (B) Jill (C) Steve & Lynne

**Welcome**

Eric Mathews welcome back to St. Joseph parish family.  
Glad to have you here!

**Donuts & Coffee**

Parish Council will host donuts and coffee outside after Mass on May 19<sup>th</sup>. If it is raining we will be in the hall.



**Last PSR Class will be May 7<sup>th</sup>.** The students will have a closing Mass. All families are welcome.

**PSR registrations forms** for next year will be have gone home. Please complete them and send them back. If you didn't get one, they are also in the back of church.

**Honor the Graduates: May 19<sup>th</sup>. RSVP by May 10<sup>th</sup>****Mother's Day Flowers**

Real & silk roses and carnations will be available for purchase after Mass on Sunday May 12<sup>th</sup>. \$3 for real \$2 for silk.

**Picnic Meeting**

1<sup>st</sup> Picnic meeting will be held Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm in the hall.

**BBQ THANK YOU'S**

Thanks to all who helped prepare, cook, bbq and serve with this fundraiser. Grand Total is ...\$2,340.00. Great job to all!

**Volunteers:**

Anyone interested in mowing the church yard and sometimes Fr. Sebastian's yard please let either Jill or Marvin Roy know. Mowing season is from April –October. Mowing is for one month and we provide mower and gas.

**ST. MARY'S CHESTER  
EVENTS****Weekly Tithes & Offerings****St. Mary's Weekly Goal: \$8,901**

Weekly Total: \$5,367 (93); \$395 Loose; Holy Days \$350  
Cemetery \$20 (2); Improve \$621 (52);  
YTD Actual Giving \$146,434, YTD Budget Diff (\$4,883)

*For days with no ushers or if you sit upstairs, you may drop your envelope(s) in the basket by the baptismal font.*

*Thanks!*



We ask for your cooperation in making sure that your cell phones are silenced before entering church for Mass (emergency personnel excluded). Cell phone usage during Mass distracts from the prayer environment for worship. Thank you so much!

#### Servers Schedule

**Sat. May 4** ~ Natalie Shipley, Lucas Maes

**Sun. May 5** ~ Ty Tindall, Penelope Seymour, Brandon & Kevin Korando

**Sat. May 11** ~ Brynn Berkbuegler, Lucas Maes

**Sun. May 12** ~ Jackson Powell, Nancy & Vanessa Jardines

#### Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers Schedule

**Sat. May 4 ~ L:** Candy Caron **Host:** Ron Caron

**Chalice:** Candy Caron, Rob Wingerter, Martha McDonald, Kathy Albrecht

**Sun. May 5 ~ L:** Dainelle Powell **Host:** Greg Crain

**Chalice:** Kevin Grau, Sam Jany, Barb Otten, Todd Moeller

**Sat. May 11 ~ L:** Joanie Heffernan **Host:** Larry Gross

**Chalice:** Megan Berkbuegler, Mike Heffernan, Paula Platt, Marlene Verdun

**Sun. May 12 ~ L:** Greg Crain **Host:** Madi Kribs

**Chalice:** Matt Grau, Bill Gross, Greg J & Sue Crain

#### Congratulations

Congratulations to the following students who are receiving their First Holy Communion this Sunday at the 10:00AM Mass. May this day be a reminder to always be thankful for the blessings of faith and the love of Jesus. May God's guidance be with you on this special day and throughout your life!

**Anthony Armenta, Gavin Baker, Ezra Gaertner, Gavin Gross, Tyson Hernandez, Maren Jany, Ryan Lopez, Ariel Martinez, Martin Martinez, Piper Seymour, Addie Surman, Jensen Uhrhan**

**Honoring the Graduates:** We will be honoring our parish graduates (8<sup>th</sup> grade and 12<sup>th</sup> grade) on Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at the 10am Mass. Letters have been sent out to RSVP. Please make sure to reply by **May 6<sup>th</sup>** if you are planning to attend.

**KC Mother's Day Chicken Fry:** We will be taking preorders for whole fried chickens at \$14 each. Orders **must be placed** by May 7<sup>th</sup>. Pickup on Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup> between 11am & 2pm. Call 618-826-3316 to order.

**Registration Forms:** If you are new to our parish (or a parishioner who hasn't previously filled out a form) there are forms located at the church entrance. If you would like to receive collection envelopes, we can begin sending them once we have your address. We also offer Online Giving. The link is listed above. Your gifts are tax deductible. We thank you!

**St. Mary's Gym Improvement Fund:** As of 4/26/2024 we have raised \$90,395.10 towards our goal. The Hawks thank you so much for the kind donations. We will continue working toward our \$150,000 goal. God Bless!

#### St. Mary's End of Year Party at the KC Hall:

"Everyone" is invited to come join the teachers, staff and students from St. Mary's School to celebrate the end of a wonderful year *and to honor retirees: Janelle Robinson, Jane Lochhead, Brenda Congiardo, and Jeanne Wagner.* Thank you for your many years of devotion to St. Mary's! May you be blessed with good health and happiness at this remarkable milestone! There will be food, fun and fellowship!

**KC Hall Monday Lunches:** \$11 per plate; serving from 11am to 1pm.

**Knights of Columbus Meetings:** Third Thursday of every month @ 6pm.

**Women's Support Group:** The next meeting will be Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup> @ 10am at Linda Stern's home, 106 Hillcrest Dr., Chester. Come and connect with others who are making their way since losing their spouses. If you have any questions call Linda (618-201-2957) or Martha McDonald (618-615-6624).

#### With Deepest Sympathy

We would like to offer our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Marla Cushman. May you find peace and comfort in Christ during this most difficult time.

#### AROUND THE DIOCESE

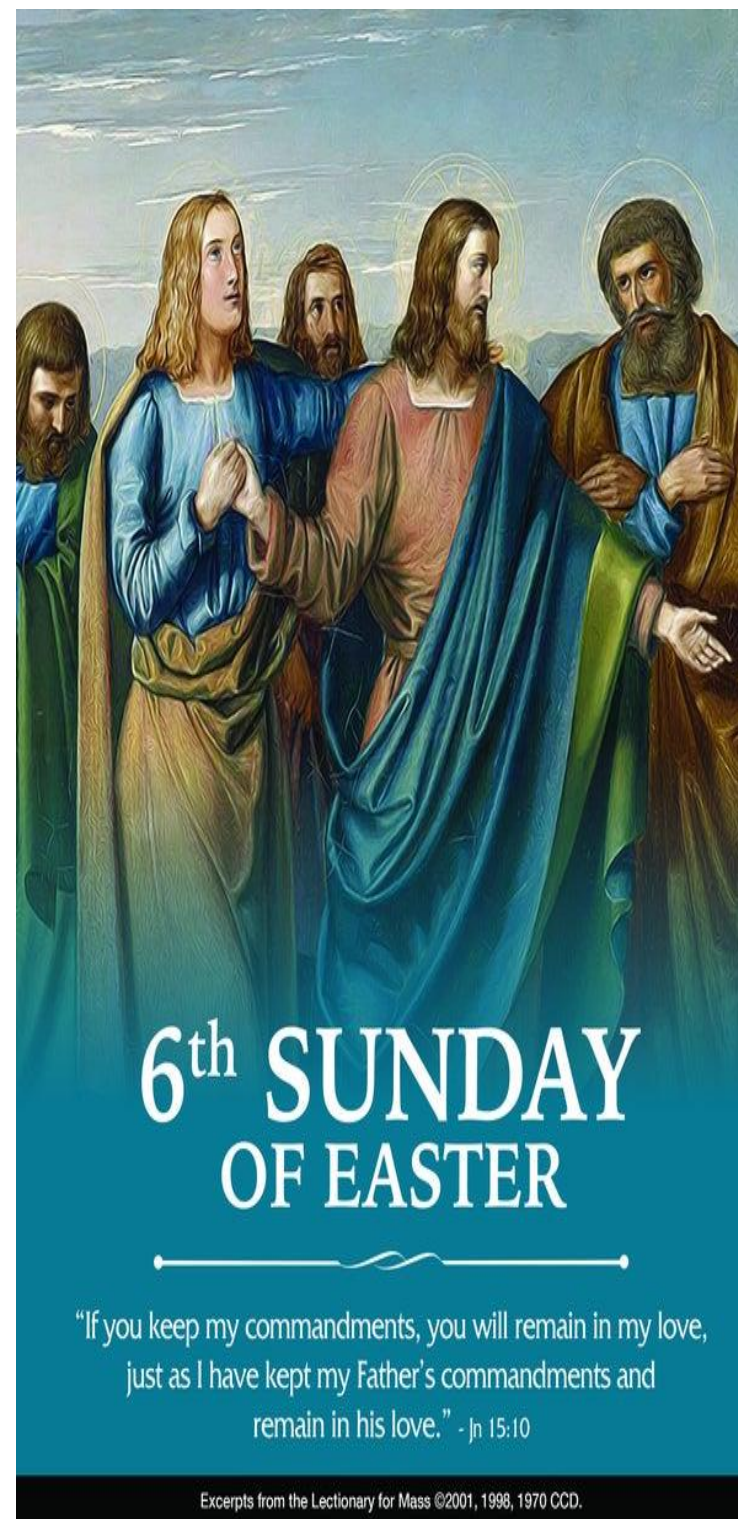
##### Prairie Du Rocher American Legion Fish Fry:

May 17 Serving from 4:30-8pm; Fish and all the fixins'.

**Rally On The River:** You are invited to join the Evansville Knights of Columbus and Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital on Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup> for the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Rally on the River. Flyer with informational letter located at the church entrance.

**Catholic Speed Dating:** A social event for single young adult Catholics ages 21-33. Hors d'oeuvres and drinks will be provided. \$10 admission fee. Registration in required. Thursday, May 23 at Holy Trinity Parish, 505 Fountains Parkway, Fairview Heights, IL. Check in at 6:30pm/Starts at 7pm. Sponsored by Diocese of Belleville, Office of Life, Marriage, & Family. <https://www.diobelle.org/marriage-enrichment>

**Strawberry Festival:** St. Patrick's Ruma is hosting their Annual Chicken Dinner & Strawberry Festival on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. Serving from 11am-2pm. Dine in or Carry out. No drive thru!



All are welcome!

**PASTOR: FR. SEBASTIAN UKOH, CM**  
**Parish Partnership Website:** [www.stjoespdr.org](http://www.stjoespdr.org)

#### Mary Help of Christians

911 Swanwick St, Chester, IL 62233

Parish Secretary: Tammy Kribs

Parish Phone: 618-826-2444

School Phone: 618-826-3120

Email: [stmaryschester@yahoo.com](mailto:stmaryschester@yahoo.com)

#### St. Mary of Divine Maternity

7362 Shawneetown Trail, Ellis Grove, IL 62241

Parish Secretary: Gerry Valleroy

Deacon Al Dubois

Parish Phone: 618-859-3541

#### St. Joseph

802 Middle St, Prairie du Rocher, IL 62277

Parish Secretary: Jill Whelan

Parish Phone: 618-284-3314

Email: [sjospdr@htc.net](mailto:sjospdr@htc.net)

Website: [www.stjoespdr.org](http://www.stjoespdr.org)

*We extend a very warm welcome to all those who are new to our parishes. We would love for you to become permanent members of our Parish Partnership Family! Please contact the Parish Secretary at the office number listed above.*