

Mass Intentions from May 1-7, 2021

Sat. May 1/4:30 p.m. Mary Salmon - Norma Hayes

Sun May 2/10:30 a.m. Nick Baird - Teresa Baird
Alison Shanahan - Teresa Baird
Eileen Shanahan - Shanahan & Scott family
Debroah Vegh - Teresa Baird, Patrick Shanahan & family,
Kevin & Carole Shanahan & family

Wed. May 5/10:00 a.m. Francesco & Angel Antonia Palucci - Elisabetta Palucci

Memorial – St. François De Laval

Thur. May 6/10:00 a.m. Francesco Nardi & Francesco Andreacchi - Elisabetta Nardi

Fri. May 7/10:00 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Baird, Shanahan, Scott,
Ryan, Malone, Faherty, McGarry & Kostner Family - Teresa Baird

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - (Year B)

“Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty.”

First Reading (Acts 9:26-31)

Saul's first attempt to join the disciples after his conversion.

Second Reading (1 John 3:18-24)

Those who keep God's commandments live in God, and God lives in them.

Gospel (John 15:1-8)

In the imagery of the vine and branches we are given a beautiful depiction of the intimate relationship between the Father, Jesus and his followers.

We can be confident of the Lord's continuing presence in the world.

Reflection:

Open your hearts to Christ and let his life and his Spirit come into you. Through our prayers here today we are strengthened in our belief that Christ is the vine and we are the branches, and that through the strength of God's love for us, God's relationship with us, we are able to produce fruit. We are branches which must remain attached to the Vine of Jesus. Without being bound to the Lord Jesus, we will not bear fruit. We, too, must often be pruned of our deadness so we can produce a rich harvest, not just for ourselves but also for others. Our fruits will be in working for the common good, and in caring for each other, creation and the wider world. Over this week we may be teaching children gardening skills and care of the environment, or we may be supporting a charity reaching out to vulnerable people. These are all fruits of the true vine.

May you continue to grow and bear much fruit as you draw life-giving sustenance from the Lord Jesus.



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week giving thanks to The Lord.

LETTER OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS TO THE FAITHFUL FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The month of May is approaching, a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this “family” aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.

For this reason, I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May. This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow.

I am also providing two prayers to Our Lady that you can recite at the end of the Rosary, and that I myself will pray in the month of May, in spiritual union with all of you. I include them with this letter so that they are available to everyone.

Dear brothers and sisters, contemplating the face of Christ with the heart of Mary our Mother will make us even more united as a spiritual family and will help us overcome this time of trial. I keep all of you in my prayers, especially those suffering most greatly, and I ask you, please, to pray for me. I thank you, and with great affection I send you my blessing.

Rome, Saint John Lateran, 25 April 2020
Feast of Saint Mark the Evangelist
Pope Francis

First Prayer to Our Lady

O Mary,
You shine continuously on our journey
as a sign of salvation and hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the foot of the cross,
were united with Jesus' suffering, and persevered in your faith.
“Protectress of the Roman people”,
you know our needs,
and we know that you will provide, so that,
as at Cana in Galilee, joy and celebration may return
after this time of trial.
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform ourselves to the will of the Father
and to do what Jesus tells us.
For he took upon himself our suffering,
and burdened himself with our sorrows
to bring us, through the cross, to the joy of the Resurrection.
Amen.

We fly to your protection,
O Holy Mother of God;
Do not despise our petitions in our necessities,
but deliver us always from every danger,
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.

The second Prayer

“We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God”.

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our Mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to God, the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency, and are risking their lives to save others. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus.

Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course.

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.

SPIRITUAL QUOTES

*I am never in control of what happens around me,
but
I am always in control of what happens within me.*