

ST. THERESE PARISH

5276 East 105th St.
Garfield Heights, Ohio 44125 • sttheresegarfield.org

MISSION STATEMENT

“We, the people of St. Therese Parish, are disciples of Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit and made one in our celebration of the Eucharist. Nourished by our faith and with a desire to serve others, we are to hear the word of God, keep it, and share the Good News.”

Rectory: 581-2852

OFFICE HOURS:

M, W, Thurs: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday: 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Email: st.therese@roadrunner.com

Religious Education Office: 581-3840

Credit Union: 587-0631

MASSES: Saturday Evenings: 4:30 (Fulfills Sunday Obligation)

Sunday: 8:30, 10:30

Weekdays: See schedule inside bulletin

Holy Days: See schedule inside bulletin

Monday: Recitation of the Holy Rosary at 6:10 p.m.

followed by Miraculous Medal Novena & Mass at 6:30 p.m.

The Holy Rosary is recited at 8:10 a.m. on First Fridays.

CONFESSIONS: Saturdays 3:00 to 4:00

and other times upon request.

HOLY COMMUNION TO THE SICK: Please call the rectory.

WEDDINGS: Please contact the parish one year prior to the date of the wedding. Time is necessary for instructions, paperwork and sacramental preparation.

BAPTISMS: The first Sunday of the month at 11:45 a.m. or at any Mass on the third weekend of the month. Please make arrangements in advance. Pre-Baptismal instruction required for parents. Please call the Religious Education Office for time of next class.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Please call or stop in at the Rectory to Register. If you move to a new address in the parish or out of the parish, please notify the Rectory.

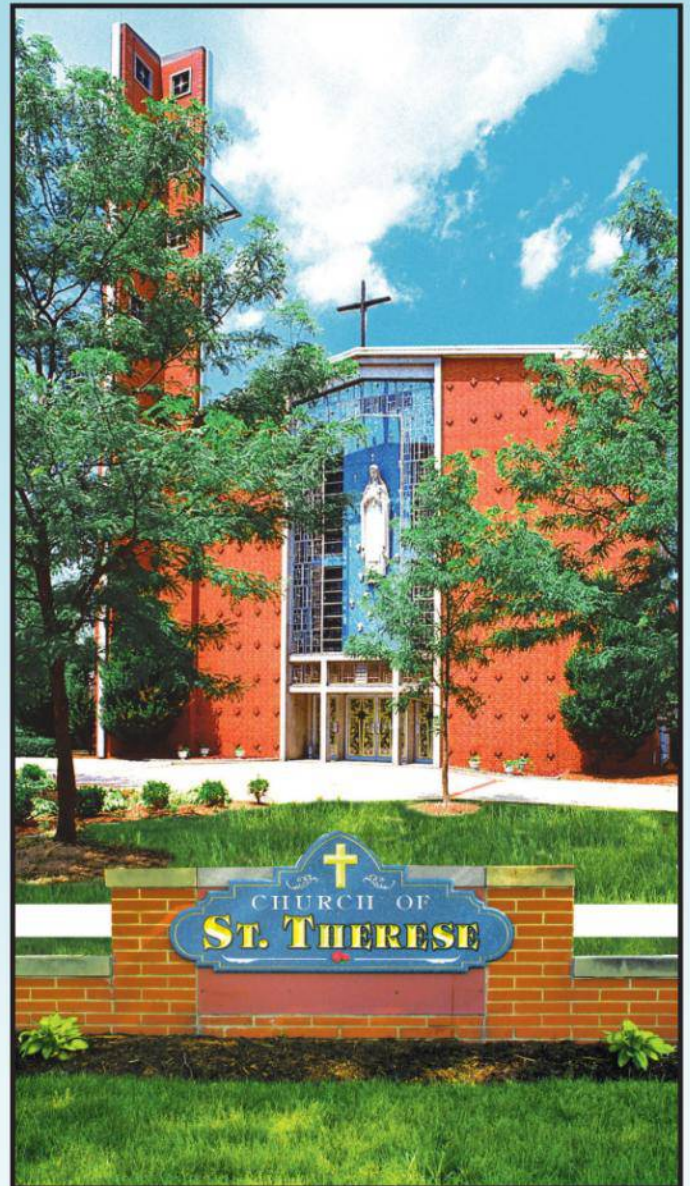
BULLETIN DEADLINE...MONDAY NOON.

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Karen Amato	216-856-1483
Karen Brayer	216-475-4122
Marlene Graham	440-465-7174
Cindy Kopinsky	216-587-3309
Virginia Langood	216-581-3359
Sandra Mastrodonato	216-441-6485
Bob Newton	216-663-1269
Fabiola Siciliano	440-289-5432
Norm Wells	216-441-2123
Mary Zenone	216-630-8027

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Bob Cermak	216-328-1258
Sandy Olczak	216-244-0488
Mike Satola	216-534-5937
John Sesek	216-662-2937
Dennis Siciliano	440-289-5431



Rev. Daniel R. Fickes, Pastor

Rev. Norman Gajdzinski, Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Mr. Robert Bugaj, Deacon

Sister DeAnne Zawadzki, SSJTOSE, D.R.E.

Mrs. Nancy Heineke, Youth Minister, youth412rocks@att.net

Mr. Frank Kozuch, Music Director

John Paul II Academy Phone: (216) 581-3080

Ms. Christine Lackney, Principal



THE MASS

Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY VIGIL, May 9

4:30 p.m. Frank & Eleanor Demski

SUNDAY, May 10 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

Reading I: Acts 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48

Reading II: 1 Jn 4: 7-10; Gospel: Jn 15: 9-17

8:30 a.m. For the People of the Parish
Mother's Day Mass Intentions

10:30 a.m. Vera Oblywaniuk
Holy Name Society Mass

MONDAY, May 11

Reading I: Acts 16: 11-15; Gospel: Jn 15: 26—16: 4a

6:30 p.m. The Hooper Family

TUESDAY, May 12 – SS. Nereus & Achilleus

Reading I: Acts 16: 22-34; Gospel: Jn 16: 5-11

7:00 a.m. Rudy N. Guzman

WEDNESDAY, May 13 – Our Lady of Fatima

Reading I: Acts 17: 15, 22—18: 1; Gospel: Jn 16: 12-15

THURSDAY, May 14 – St. Matthias

Reading 1: Acts 1: 15-17, 20-26; Gospel: Jn 15: 9-17

8:30 a.m. Joan Stefanko

FRIDAY, May 15 – St. Isidore

Reading I: Acts 18: 9-18; Gospel: Jn 16: 20-23

8:30 a.m. Edward Radkowsky

SATURDAY, May 16

Reading I: Acts 18: 23-28, Gospel: Jn 16: 23b-28

Vigil Mass

4:30 p.m. George Wagner
Anointing Mass

SUNDAY, May 17 – Ascension of the Lord

Reading I: Acts 1: 1-11;

Reading II: Eph 1: 17-23; Gospel: Mk 16: 15-20

8:30 a.m. For the People of the Parish

10:30 a.m. Richard Balla
Scout Mass



Collection-May 2/3

Collection: \$7,058.10* Envelopes Used: 312
Home Missions: \$23 St. Vincent de Paul: \$122
Office of Catechetical Services: \$25
PSR: \$20 Nepal Earthquake: \$25
*figure includes the following:
Restoration: \$71 Parish Use Only: \$1,699
School: \$75 Children: \$23.60
Easter: \$50 Ascension: \$57
Mother's Day: \$204

THANK YOU!

Pray for the Sick of our Parish:

Kathy Cool, Joshua Stebal, Elizabeth O'Donnell, Don Tews, Laverne Griffiths, Jess B. Palker, Michelle Cozens, Donna Gibney, Shirley Zwilling, Robert Thomas, Rita Pawloski, Raymond Pavlik, Naomi Conter, Michael Kobie, Keith Thomas, Jeannie Wolfendale, Dori Herout, Evelyn Maruna, Linda Voracek, Dolores DiBaggio, Richard Schultz, Larry Pentek, Robyn Buckley, Linda Antolik, Bruce Hutton, Charlotte Balla

Rest in Peace

Please pray for the soul of:

Lillian L. Mosinski

Mother of Barb Bydash & Grandmother of Connie Gibney

May our loving Savior grant her his peace.

Youth Ministry

A very "kind" evening is planned for grade 7-12 teens on Sunday, **May 17, from 6-8 p.m. at the St. Monica pavilion.** This is our last official meeting for the school year. We will have national speaker Bob Votruba, his dog Bogart, and the One Million Acts of Kindness bus *plus* food, games and prizes! Don't miss it!

Mrs. Nancy Heineke, Coordinator of Youth Ministry
4750 Turney Road, Garfield Hts., OH 44125
216-662-8685 ext. 123

A cluster ministry of St. Martin of Tours, St. Monica, SS. Peter & Paul and St. Therese

Please note that the Ascension of the Lord will be celebrated on Sunday, May 17.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Peace and Justice Gem

Unless it extends the circle of compassion to all living things, humanity will not itself find peace.

Michael Nagler

Do you know? Which country, after Italy, has provided the greatest number of popes?

Answer below.

Now Enrolling!

John Paul II Academy is accepting applications for the 2015-2016 school year for PreK through grade 8. Please call Miss Lackney at the academy (216-581-3080) to set up an appointment. The future starts today at John Paul II Academy!

Mother's Day Mass Intentions

You can remember your mother (living or deceased) in a series of masses to be said at our church. Enrollment envelopes are at the front and back entrances to the church and at the rectory. Please write your envelope number or your name on the envelope.

May Baby Bottle Collection

"Loose Change Changes Lives" – Help us change the lives of an expectant mom and her baby by participating in the Womankind Baby Bottle Fundraiser sponsored by the Social Concerns Commission. This weekend we have baby bottles (one per household) at the entrances of the church. We're asking you to take them home, fill them with your loose change (or a check payable to Womankind), and return them to the church the weekend of May 30/31. The funds generated will help Womankind provide free prenatal care and a full range of support services to pregnant women in need. For more information about Womankind, check out their website at www.womankindcleveland.com.

Honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary

During the month of May we honor the Blessed Virgin Mary. At the beginning of May and continuing throughout the month, everyone is welcome to bring flowers and place them in the vases that surround her statue near the altar as a form of honor and affection. Also, beside her statue will be blank blue cards to write any intentions you want to present to her. These blue cards can be placed in the basket provided near her statue. Each week during May these intentions will be offered up at the weekend masses.

Answer: France, with 16.

Council Corner

The Parish Council met on Monday, April 27. Various committee and commission members gave their reports. These reflect the active sharing of time, treasure and talent by all those involved. The success of the parish depends on these volunteers and the entire parish family. The Appreciation Dinner was a success and a wonderful opportunity to say "thank you" and "we need more people like you." Council will be holding the discernment process to fill the vacant seats on the Parish Council. Children are preparing to receive First Holy Communion and Confirmation. We need to remember them in our prayers. Father, together with the finance council, will be reviewing the e-giving program, which has not been readily accepted by the parishioners. Council encourages everyone to try and participate in the activities and events offered to enhance our spiritual life and social life. Feel free to express your thoughts and feelings to Parish Council members. Your "view from the pew" is important in helping council serve the parish. May our Blessed Mother watch over you during this month of Mary.



Busy making plans for your summer vacation? Don't forget to include St. Therese in your vacation plans! Sign up today for eGiving through *Faith Direct* to make sure you remember your gifts to St. Therese while you're off enjoying the summer breeze and sunshine. Enrolling is easy--just go to www.faithdirect.net and use our church code OH617. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family with your time and talents as well as treasure!

God bless you,
Fr. Dan



Holy Name Society News

Join the Holy Name Society in the church hall after the 10:30 Mass today for coffee and donuts. All are welcome! Our next meeting is Monday, May 11, at 7 p.m. in the church hall.

Divine Mercy Holy Hour

There will be a Divine Mercy holy hour on Sunday, May 17, at 2:30 p.m. in St. Monica Church. All are welcome!



The following children made their First Holy Communion at St. Therese on Saturday, May 9:

Philip Chermonte
Nathan Eddy
Ethan Haug
John Hill
Jacob Kostal
Kyle Krawczyk
Randy Lara Cardona
Jack Laski
Dominic Marsh
Justin Mintz
Alex Nemeth
Benjamin Piller
Paige Preibe
Alexandria Quinones
Olivia Radosavljevic
Macgowan Rott
Grace Sibits
Brayden Smith
Haylee Smith
Trenton Terlop
Kiara Webb

May God bless them and their families!

CD's & Books

Have you noticed our new addition to the gathering room? The Spiritual Development Commission now has CD's and books you can purchase. Please stop by and pick up 1 or more, including children's titles. All are priced as marked. These would be great for gift giving!

Special Second Collection

A second collection will be taken this weekend, May 9/10, for the benefit of the people of Nepal following the earthquake of April 25 which caused devastating damage to a large area and has taken more than 5,500 lives. Please make checks payable to St. Therese Parish with the memo marked "Earthquake relief." Thank you for your generosity!

Anointing Mass

On Saturday, May 16, at the 4:30 p.m. Mass we will have Anointing of the Sick for anyone with serious health problems. This sacrament is a beautiful reminder of God's care for all who carry the heavy burden of illness.

Social Justice and Advocacy

Advocating for social justice is part of our responsibility as Christians. Our elected officials answer to us, and it's important that we share with them on the matters that affect

our communities. Considering that the gospels reveal to us Jesus' special concern for the poor and marginalized, this is a quality we also should cultivate. Research about the impact of advocacy shows that receiving personalized letters does have a decided influence on legislators if they haven't yet come to a firm conclusion on an issue. If this is something that interests you, please contact Fr. Dan.

SS. Peter & Paul Church Blood Drive



SS. Peter & Paul Church will hold an American Red Cross Blood Drive in their parish hall on Friday, May 22, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. "The need is constant. The gratification is instant. Give Blood."

Catholic Charities Appeal

Winter storms in February made it difficult for faith-filled people to respond to this year's Catholic Charities Annual Appeal in their parish setting, so next weekend all parishes are conducting a second in-pew appeal on behalf of Catholic Charities. Giving to Catholic Charities transforms the lives of people in need and is a tremendous way to respond to the bounty of God's gifts in our own lives. Won't you answer the call of our beloved Pope Francis to open your hearts to live joyfully and generously and support the Annual Appeal?: Gifts may be made by filling out an in-pew pledge form, responding to the letter or email or telephone solicitations, or directly by contacting Meghan McGuan at 800-869-6525 ext. 1049. Gifts made on the in-pew pledge form or online at www.catholiccommunity.org/challenge qualify for the \$100,000 Challenge Grant – new and increased gifts will be doubled! Thank you and may God bless us all with his enduring joy!

Liturgy Committee Talks

Currently, at our weekend liturgies the Parish Liturgy Commission is presenting talks about the Mass. The talk last week was about the Gospel. The word alleluia means praise the Lord and it's addressed to Christ. The alleluia serves as the greeting of welcome of the assembled faithful to the Lord who is about to speak to us. It is to be sung. When not sung, then it is to be omitted. We are expressing our readiness to hear the gospel reading. It is an attribute to Christ who comes again to speak to us through the word of the Gospel. The alleluia is sung throughout the year except during Lent.

The Gospel is the high point of the liturgy of the word – "the Good News." The Gospel book is placed on the altar at the beginning of Mass. The deacon is to read the Gospel. When there is no deacon, then the priest reads the Gospel. The priest or deacon takes the book from the altar, raises it and goes to the ambo with it. The congregation stands for the reading to show honor to the Gospel book.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

On some occasions the priest incenses the book to show reverence. The one who reads the Gospel greets the people and announces the reading. We, the deacon, and the priest make a sign of the cross on our foreheads to understand and remember what was read, on our lips to spread the good news, and on our hearts to keep what we heard in our being. The Gospel is a special part of God's holy word. It is he, himself, speaking to us. It is the Good News being announced to us. It's Christ present among his own, who continues to speak to his people as he calls them to faith and a spiritual change to a good life.

At the end of the Gospel, the priest or deacon says "Gospel of the Lord" and we answer, "Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ." When we say these words, they are directed to the Lord Jesus Christ who spoke to his fellow countrymen and speaks to us today. It is he who still announces the Gospel. At the end of the reading the deacon or priest kisses the book and closes it.

St. Ephrem, a deacon, compared the Bible to a source of living water. "Let us continually come back there to drink," he said, "and every time we will find fresh water."

Today's topic is the homily while next Sunday's is the profession of faith and the prayers of the faithful.

From Fr. Dan:

Happy Mother's Day to all you moms, grandmas, godmothers, and women who have served as a mom in somebody's life. What a crucial role you play! As Jesus "advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man" (Luke 2: 52), thanks a great extent to Mary and Joseph, so do we because of our parents' love. I grew up in a time when many mothers stayed home. My mother was with us kids all day, first with the oldest four, who came in quick succession after my folks married, and then with the two that arrived later. I didn't appreciate how challenging that was until, many years later, I came upon a journal she'd kept. Reading it opened my eyes to the hunger she'd felt for outlets of self-expression. That was an ah-hah moment as to why she took up some of those crafts that I'd wondered about. None of those diversions lasted long except for her love of writing and her volunteerism in local politics.

Motherhood for my mom's generation was different from her mother's, and it is just as different for my sister's and her daughter's. Nevertheless, its incredible importance hasn't changed. I continue to perceive more clearly my mother's pivotal influence on me, as I suppose is true for most of us. Though there are some things I wish she'd done differently in rearing me and my siblings, what a debt I owe her! I hope all of you can say the same about your moms. So let us pray for our mothers, whether they continue on their earthly journey or, like my mom, already have gone to the Lord. All mothers need our prayerful

support, for this vocation hasn't gotten any easier. If yours still draws breath, I urge you to spoil her! Sirach, that wise man of the Old Testament, counsels us: "He stores up riches who reveres his mother" (Sirach 3: 4), and "He obeys the Lord who brings comfort to his mother" (Sirach 3: 6).

Next Saturday at the Vigil Mass we will celebrate the anointing of the sick. Anointing, one of the seven sacraments, once was known as extreme unction. This means "last anointing", a name that refers to the one-time understanding that it was administered only to someone nearing death. However, the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s revised this sacrament. Now the Church teaches that, though it is for persons close to death, it also is for individuals who are seriously ill or whose health is deteriorating on account of old age. Therefore, someone with cancer would be a candidate for anointing next Sunday. So would an elderly person who has grown noticeably weaker. If you are struggling with a severe depression or are in the grips of addiction, I advise that you take advantage of this sacrament. Receiving it is inappropriate for a condition that isn't life-threatening, such as a sore throat or a broken arm.

The Church always has been concerned for the bodily and spiritual welfare of the faithful who fall ill. Anointing helps the sick person to unite his or her sufferings with those Christ endured in his struggle against evil. Oil always has been associated with healing, which explains its use in this sacrament. The oil of the infirm is one of the three sacred oils blessed by the bishop at the Chrism Mass during Holy Week. It is highly recommended that the sacrament be administered at the start of a serious illness, so the sick person can participate actively. The presence of family members also is quite beneficial. In the minds of many, anointing is the preeminent sacrament for the dying, but this is incorrect. The sacrament proper to a dying Christian is eucharist as viaticum: food for the passage through death to eternal life. It is the last sacrament of Christian life, and a Christian in danger of dying is bound by the precept to receive it.

The Week Ahead

Sunday, May 10

Coffee & Donuts with the Holy Name Society after 10:30 Mass, H

Monday, May 11

Boy Scout Parents Meeting 7 p.m., R

Holy Name Society Meeting 7 p.m., H

Tuesday, May 12

PSR 6:30 p.m., S

AA 8 p.m., H

Wednesday, May 13

Choir Practice 6:45 p.m., C

Boy Scout Meeting 7 p.m., H

Thursday, May 14

PTU General Meeting 6:30 p.m., S

Bingo 6:45 p.m., H

Spiritual Development Meeting 7 p.m., S

Saturday, May 16

Anointing Mass 4:30 p.m.

KEY: H: parish hall **R:** rectory **C:** church **S:** school



Bringing Home the Word



Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 10, 2015

Any Love We Show Comes First From the Love God Has for Us

By Janel Esker

Could there be any sweeter words in the English language than “I love you?” OK, perhaps “Would you like some free chocolate?” are a very close second (or for salt-loving types like my husband, “Hot buttered popcorn coming right up!”) But whether the words are between grandchild and grandparent, people falling in love, or friends after an argument, they are tender and powerful and can be life-changing.

Sunday Readings

Acts 10:25–26, 34–35, 44–48

The Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the word.

1 John 4:7–10

God is love and show his love for us by sending his Son as expiation for our sins.

John 15:9–17

Jesus tells us that as the Father loves him, so also he loves us.

Liturgical Note: When the Ascension of the Lord, traditionally on a Thursday, is celebrated on the following Sunday, the second reading and the Gospel from the seventh Sunday of Easter may be read on the sixth Sunday of Easter (1 John 4:11–16 / John 17:11b–19).

How often, though, do we let ourselves hear God saying these words to us? We think of “I love you” as being exchanged most regularly between humans or from us to God. But do we remember, in an ongoing way, how much God loves *us*? We hear this clearly from John in our second reading and from Jesus in the Gospel. We’re told pointedly that any love we show comes first from the love God has for us.

Before we ever knew God, God loved us. Before we ever did anything meaningful, before we ever spoke a word, before we ever emerged from our mother’s womb, God loved us. God loved us simply because we existed and because we belonged to God. It can be a bit overwhelming to think about—perhaps that’s why we don’t always let ourselves remember this love.

But in today’s readings, Jesus firmly challenges us to “remain in my love.” Remaining in God’s love means not ignoring the deep love God has for us. It means choosing actions each day that reflect that love rather than straying from it. It means trusting that even in our moments of feeling most unlovable, God truly loves and treasures us.

Hear those words from God today—I love you—and let their sweetness transform you. †

REFLECTION
QUESTIONS

ONE QUESTION
REFLECTION

- What prevents me from listening to God and keeping his commandments?
- How did I come to know God?

PRAYER

Risen Lord,
you command us to
love one another.
Help me to show
your love to
all people.
Amen.

A Divine Invitation to Love

By Fr. Mathew Kessler, CSSR

I grew up on a small farm in Kansas at a time when small farms were disappearing. During the summer I would walk into the grove of cottonwood trees that grew in the abandoned pasture that bordered the abandoned barn and watch as hundreds of butterflies inked the sky. That living palette of white and orange stopped my breath every time. They weren't working at being something they weren't; they were busy being exactly what they were, floating with a kind of abandon, yet knowing they had a mission. And while they seemed content to share time with me, I was forbidden to herd them in any way.

The mission for our life becomes known as we examine our values and passions. But human self-knowledge is imperfect and distorted, and we know full well that our self-knowledge increases with the years. Yet when we look at our lives and try to distill the important lessons, we sometimes discover a spiritual insight: We needn't be anything other than who God has made us to be.

Embracing that insight brings the freedom—and the responsibility—to undertake the work of our life: making choices that result in a life that harmonizes with the ways of God. What propels us into this work is an invitation pressed into our lives, waiting to be opened each day—an invitation that whispers, *you're not finished growing*. Look at our faith tradition in the Bible,



and recall the many stories and parables of men and women who learned that God asks us to grow again and again.

Jesus preached and lived in a way that shows men and women how to overcome the distortions and sins that prevent them from living in the kingdom. To be a follower of Jesus means to grow into the kind of person who is available for others, takes on their concerns, and witnesses to a love stronger than death. The Gospels and other New Testament writings are filled with examples of people, St. Paul for example, who struggled to live fully as a follower of Christ.

As long as we draw breath, our journey toward wholeness continues. Along the way we'll experience moments of beauty, goodness, truth, and service—markers that we've been true to the work of discovering and delighting in the person God has invited us to become. †

Love: a Powerful Force

By Rev. Warren J. Savage
and Mary Ann McSweeney

Love is the foundation of family life. Love brings people together and builds community. Love nurtures and sustains friendships. Love enlightens us to value life. Love moves us to show compassion to those who are suffering and in pain. Love enables us to feed the poor, to visit the sick and the imprisoned, to shelter the homeless, and to welcome the stranger. Love gives us the courage to work for peace and justice. Love humbles us to offer forgiveness to others.

When love is absent from our hearts, we feel empty, afraid, sad, and hopeless. When we refuse to love others, there is conflict and division, violence and war, racial discrimination and hatred, misery and poverty. When we withhold love from the poor, the sick, and the suffering, people die. When we fail to teach our children and youth how to love others, life is endangered.

Jesus' resurrection is God's gift to us. To believe in it is to believe in God's love as the source and foundation of the universe. The risen Jesus is the living presence of God's love in the world. The universal message of the resurrection is that God's love is available to all people and that we have been given the power to love one another.

There is great hope for us and the world. We can overcome all obstacles with love. Believers and unbelievers alike can experience the transforming power of the resurrection and know God when we love one another. †


WEEKDAY READINGS

May 11–16

Mon. Acts 16:11–15 / John 15:26–16:4a
Tues. Acts 16:22–34 / John 16:5–11
Wed. Acts 17:15, 22–18:1 / John 16:12–15
Thurs. The Ascension of the Lord, Acts 1:1–11 /
Ephesians 1:17–23 or 4:1–13 or 4:1–7,
11–13 / Mark 16:15–20

Note: The Boston, Hartford, New York, Newark, Omaha, and Philadelphia provinces celebrate the Ascension on Thursday; other provinces celebrate it on May 17.

Fri. Acts 18:9–18 / John 16:20–23
Sat. Acts 18:23–28 / John 16:23b–28

Bringing Home
the Word 
May 10, 2015

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