

ASCENSION OF THE LORD



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:

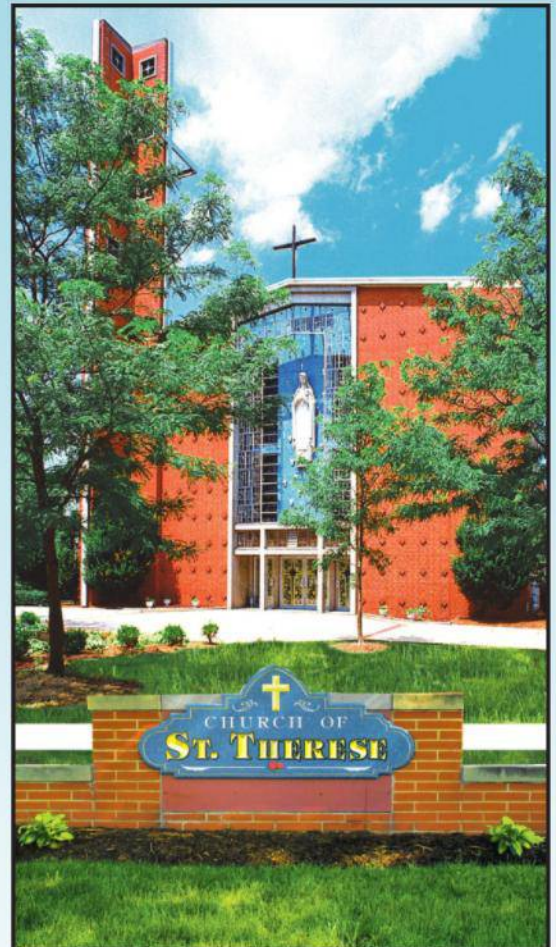
Bob Cermak 216-328-1258

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, SSJTOSEF, 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



Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY VIGIL, May 16

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

MONDAY, May 18 – St. John 1

Reading I: Acts 19: 1-8; Gospel: Jn 16: 29-33

6:30 p.m. Eva Rakoczy

TUESDAY, May 19

Reading I: Acts 20: 17-27; Gospel: Jn 17: 1-11a

7:00 a.m. Mother's Day Intentions

**WEDNESDAY, May 20 – St. Bernardine
of Siena**

Reading I: Acts 20 28-38; Gospel: Jn 17: 11b-19

**THURSDAY, May 21 – St. Christopher
Majallanes & Companions**

Reading 1: Acts 22: 30; 23: 6-11; Gospel: Jn 17: 20-26

8:30 a.m. Larry Kocevar

FRIDAY, May 22 – St. Rita of Cascia

Reading I: Acts 25: 13b-21; Gospel: Jn 21: 15-19

8:30 a.m. Harriet Drzal

SATURDAY, May 23

Reading I: Acts 28: 16-20, 30-31, Gospel: Jn 21: 20-25

Vigil Mass

4:30 p.m. Eva Deininger

SUNDAY, May 24 – Pentecost

Reading I: Acts 2: 1-11;

Reading II: 1 Cor 12: 3b-7, 12-13; Gospel: Jn 20: 19-23

8:30 a.m. Anthony Modzelewski

10:30 a.m. Bernadette Berdella
For the People of the Parish

**Welcome to the St. Therese Girl
Scouts, Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts
who are attending the 10:30 Mass!**

Collection-May 9/10

Collection: \$8,576.59* Envelopes Used: 348

Peter's Pence: \$10 St. Vincent de Paul: \$485

Office of Catechetical Services: \$239

Nepal Earthquake: \$1,313.39

*figure includes the following:

Restoration: \$130 Parish Use Only: \$1,201.99

School: \$30 Children: \$22.10

Mother's Day: \$174 Faith Direct: \$1,320

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, Joseph Sciko



Newly Baptized

Kelsie Drahan

May God bless her, her family, and her Godparents!

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

**If your name hasn't been included in our monthly
birthday calendar and you would like it to be,
please call the rectory at 216-581-2852.**

Peace and Justice Gem

It's a barren prayer that does not go hand in hand with alms.

St. Cyprian

Ascension of the Lord

Do you know? The name of Martha and Mary's brother, as found in the gospels?

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!

May Baby Bottle Collection



No woman should face a pregnancy without hope or help. The loose change you are putting in your baby bottle for Womankind allows this organization to offer needy

pregnant women free prenatal care and a full range of support services. If you missed the bottle distribution and would like to participate, bottles are available at the doors of the church. For more information about Womankind, go to www.womankindcleveland.com.

Women Growing in Faith – May 31

Our next gathering for Women Growing in Faith will be **Sunday, May 31**. Please join us for an "afternoon of prayer for women" presented at the Jesuit Retreat House by Sr. Mary Ann Flannery. We can meet in the St. Therese parking lot at 12:30 p.m. to share a ride. Otherwise, you can arrive at the Jesuit Retreat House by 1 p.m. The cost is \$12, which includes the prayer service and light refreshments. We also have access to the JRH grounds before and after the prayer session. This includes the beautiful chapel and easy walking paths. The Jesuit Retreat House is located at 5629 State Road (between Snow and Brookpark Roads). If you have any questions, please call Nancy Simpson at 216-570-7510. You may pay at the door.

Save the Date!!

St. Therese Parish will host a "Dining for Dollars" event at Applebee's in Garfield Hts., 9225 Vista Way, on Tuesday, June 16, from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. to support our ongoing fundraising efforts. Applebee's will donate 15% of each check to the parish when diners present a flyer to their server. Flyers will be inserted in the church bulletins the weekend prior to the event and will also be available at the rectory. Flyers cannot be distributed in the restaurant. And don't forget, Applebee's gift cards can also be purchased at the rectory.

Answer: Lazarus



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



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.

Seniors

There is a Seniors' meeting on Monday, May 18, at 1:30 p.m.

Picnic Delayed

Normally, our annual summer picnic takes place the third Sunday of July. However, neither this day nor any nearby date was available at Klima Gardens in Cuyahoga Hts., where we have held it for the past few years. Therefore, we have decided to hold the picnic on September 20, in conjunction with our Corn Roast. The drawing for our annual parish raffle also will occur then. Please reserve this date on your calendar!

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.

Coming up in June



The Stewardship Committee will hold a fun-filled evening on Saturday, June 13, after the 4:30 Mass. More information about the event, Stars & Stripes, Balls & Strikes, will be in future bulletins. Keep watching for it, and save the date!



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 this 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!

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."



Trinity Athletic Camps



Trinity High School invites students entering grades 3-9 in the fall of 2015 to participate in its athletic camps this June! Choose from boys' and girls' basketball, volleyball, football, and girls' soccer. Get more information and register online at www.ths.org/SummerCamps.

Suicide Prevention Training

How do you recognize a crisis and warning signs that someone may be contemplating suicide? Attend a FREE Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) training for members of the faith-based community in Cuyahoga County to learn how you can help save a life from suicide. This event will take place on Tuesday, May

26, from 8:30 a.m. to noon at the Hilton Garden Inn at 1100 Carnegie Avenue in downtown Cleveland. This is a free event, but registration is required: <https://qprfaith2015.eventbrite.com>. A complimentary breakfast and free parking will be provided. The goal of QPR training is to help prevent deaths by suicide in Cuyahoga County and reduce the stigma associated with mental illness.

Next weekend is donut weekend, hosted by the Spiritual Development Commission. Come down to the hall for coffee & donuts after all masses! Gift cards will be available for purchase.



Hear About Catholic Relief

The Diocesan Social Action Office is pleased to announce that Dr. Carolyn Woo, the President and CEO of Catholic Relief Services, the official overseas relief and development agency of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and a member of Caritas International and the National Catholic Development Conference, will speak at St. Clarence Parish, 30106 Lorain Road on Thursday, June 4, from 7-8:30 p.m. This FREE talk, titled **Faith, Action, Results** will describe how CRS responds to the call of the Gospel to serve the poorest and most vulnerable on behalf of the Catholics in the United States. The presentation will provide an overview of the challenges and progress which has been made pertaining to global poverty. Plan to attend to hear Dr. Woo. Foreign Policy (May/June 2013) featured her as one of the 500 Most Powerful people on the planet and one of only 33 in the category of "a force for good!"

Wednesday Night Dinners

The next Wednesday night dinner at K of C Club 4130 will be on May 27 from 4-7 p.m. and will consist of breaded pork chops, scalloped potatoes, vegetable, salad, rolls and butter. The cost is \$9 for adults and \$7 for children under 12. Reservations are required by May 24 at 8 p.m. Call 216-662-2277 Mailbox #2. Dinners by Wal-Tam Grand Ballroom. Also the **Knights of Columbus Outdoor Rosary** is set for May 27 at 7:15 p.m. at Council's shrine.

Sacred Steps Living Waters Pilgrimage Retreat

There will be a retreat for all separated and divorced persons in the diocese on Saturday, May 30, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (with 4:30 Mass) at St. Joseph Church, 12700 Pearl Road in Strongsville. The cost is \$25. To register call Jane at 216-334-2978. For more information about the retreat, please contact Carol Petro, MSW, LSW at 216-334-2975.

Ascension of the Lord

Liturgy Committee Talks

Currently, at our weekend liturgies the Parish Liturgy Commission is presenting talks about the Mass. The goal is to help our parishioners to understand the Mass better, as a way of enhancing our worship. Last Sunday's subject was the homily, which is part of the Liturgy of the Word and follows the proclamation of the gospel. Considering that the first Christians were Jews, the roots of the Mass are in the Jewish synagogue service, which included an explanation of the day's reading from Scripture. In the early Church's weekly gathering to share in Eucharist, an explanation of the Scripture reading likewise was given. Today we know it as the homily.

The homily's importance waned after the early centuries of Christianity, and it played but a minor role in the Mass during the Middle Ages and later. Resurrected by the Second Vatican Council, today the homily is a key element in the Liturgy of the Word, and the guidelines for the Mass say that it can be omitted from the Sunday liturgy only for a serious reason. Applying God's word to the people's concrete experiences is crucial. Ancient though the Bible is, this word of God is timeless in the light it sheds on our lives. The goal of the homily is to clarify for the listeners how God is at work in their lives, and the point of departure for that explanation is the readings or the prayers/text of the Mass itself. The homily is not just to explain the readings or to provide a moral exhortation. Primarily it is to be a joyful proclamation of God's saving deeds in Christ. In the preaching, Christ himself is present and active, just as he is during the readings.

The minister presenting the homily usually is the priest presiding at the Mass, though sometimes the deacon preaches. The homilist is called upon to prepare carefully, meditating about the word he will preach. The homily is to be neither too long or too short and suited to those who are present, even children and the uneducated. Following the homily, it is appropriate that there be a period of silence, to allow those assembled to meditate on what they heard.

From Fr. Dan:

The other day a young man came to see me about getting a sponsor's certificate from the parish. A friend of his has asked him to be his newborn's godfather. What a great honor this is—as well as a responsibility! A godparent's role is to be a good example of living as a Catholic Christian for his or her godchild. Unfortunately, this man hasn't received the sacrament of confirmation, which means he cannot serve as a godfather. Along with baptism and eucharist, this is one of the sacraments of initiation. In order to fully bear witness to Jesus as our Lord and Savior,

every Catholic needs God's help, and the sacraments are a crucial means by which that help comes to us. Baptism makes us Christians, eucharist joins us intimately to Jesus and nourishes us in spirit, and confirmation completes our baptismal grace so that we can courageously testify about our faith.

For one reason or another this man was not confirmed at the usual time, which in our diocese is in grade 8, 9, or 10. However, he still can be confirmed, which is what I urged him to pursue. Having already received communion, all that he needs is some instruction in what confirmation is about. At St. Therese Parish, Sr. DeAnne, the director of religious education, meets a few times with adult candidates for this sacrament. In Catholic practice only a bishop can administer this sacrament, and this happens only once a year in most parishes. This means that anyone who is asked to be a godparent but has yet to be confirmed can't just resolve the matter in a couple weeks.

Besides confirmation, taking part in the life of the Church is also a prerequisite to serve as a godparent. Weekly participation at Sunday Mass equips us to follow in Jesus' footsteps, along with confession and daily prayer. We are to imitate Jesus but can't hope to do so apart from the grace we receive, particularly from Mass and eucharist. Mass deepens our bonds to one another and God. This unity is crucial, because only if we support each other will we have the strength to obey the Lord's command to love one another.

If you're an adult who hasn't been confirmed, I urge you to contact the rectory office so we can help you to ready yourself for this beautiful sacrament!

The Week Ahead

Sunday, May 17

Scouts attending 10:30 Mass
Choir Practice after 10:30 Mass

Monday, May 18

Seniors' Meeting 1:30 p.m., H
Parish Council 7 p.m., H

Tuesday, May 19

PSR Mass & Social 6:30 p.m., C & H
St. Vincent de Paul Meeting 6:30 p.m., R
Social Concerns Meeting 7:30 p.m., St. Rita Room

Wednesday, May 20

Choir Practices moved to Sundays after 10:30 Mass
Boy Scout Meeting 7 p.m., H

Thursday, May 21

Finance Council meeting 7 p.m., R
Webelos Meeting 7 p.m., R
Bingo 6:45 p.m., H

Friday, May 22

Girl Scouts 6:30 p.m., H

Saturday, May 23

Donuts after 4:30 Mass

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



Bringing Home the Word



Ascension of the Lord / Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2015

The Power of God

By Janel Esker

It's intriguing what qualifies as power in our world. People debate about the right to carry concealed weapons. Whether such a right keeps people safer is in question, but certainly it

Sunday Readings

May 14 (Thursday)

**The Ascension of the Lord,
Solemnity (Holy Day of Obligation)**
**Acts 1:1-11 / Ephesians 1:17-23 or
4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13 /
Mark 16:15-20**

Acts 1:1-11

Lord, are you at this time going to restore the Kingdom to Israel? As they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight.

Ephesians 1:17-23

May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened, that you may know what is the hope that belongs to his call.

Ephesians 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13

We are one body and one Spirit; we were called to the one hope of our call; one Lord, one faith, one baptism.

Mark 16:15-20

Go into the whole world and proclaim the gospel to every creature.

makes people feel more powerful. Our democratic process is marvelous, but the campaigns to determine who gets presidential power are, sadly, messy and undignified. We have the ability to wield power, but we often forget that ultimate power belongs to God. Our Ascension readings remind us that no human power can compare with "the surpassing greatness of his power for us who believe" (Ephesians 1:19). As if Jesus' Incarnation and resurrection weren't enough of a display of God's power, now Jesus ascends to heaven to his glorified place with the Father. God's mighty actions make our guns, authority figures, and defenses seem weak.

Perhaps we forget God's great power because it's not as visible as our human displays of power. Yet God continues to work mighty deeds—we know of amazing miracles that can be ascribed only to God's power. But also, God's power works in us—the Church. We have to be open enough to let God work through us, and that can be a challenge.

But Jesus promised to be with us always. If we trust in his very real power moving through us, we'll be amazed at what can be accomplished in our friendships, families, neighborhoods—even in our world. †

REFLECTION
QUESTIONS

ONE QUESTION
REFLECTION

- What is my mission in life?
- Why am I afraid to share my faith with others?

**PRAYER**

Risen Lord,
your resurrection and
ascension give witness
to God's power. May
my life bear witness to
God's love, compassion,
forgiveness, and peace.

Amen.

Robert Bellarmine, Proclaiming the Gospel in Difficult Times

By Mary Lee Barron, PhD, RN

The sixteenth century was a particularly difficult time in the Catholic Church. Consider the many Catholic reformers and saints God provided during that period: Ignatius of Loyola, Francis de Sales, Teresa of Ávila, John of the Cross, and Philip Neri. Robert Bellarmine was an important theologian of the Counter-Reformation era.

Robert Francis Romulus Bellarmine (Bellarmino) was born in 1542, in Tuscany, to a noble family of modest means. His uncle was Marcello Cardinal Cervini, a leader in the Counter-Reformation who later became Pope Marcellus II. At eighteen, Robert joined the Jesuits and enrolled in the Roman College (now known as Gregorian University) to study philosophy.

Bellarmino suffered poor health much of his life. He was known as the “boy preacher” to many who heard his early sermons. His Jesuit superiors, Francis Borgia and Charles Borromeo, recognized his gifts. Bellarmine studied and later taught at the prestigious University of Louvain. In 1576, he was appointed “Chair of Controversial Theology,” which included participating in theological disputes that divided the Christian church. During this time, Bellarmine wrote *Disputations on the Controversies of the Christian Faith*. The document is considered an important text of Catholic



theology and apologetics and has been described as the most complete defense of Catholic teaching ever written. Pope Clement VIII commissioned Bellarmine to write two catechisms of Catholic doctrine. The first, an instruction manual, was used by Jesuit missionaries all over the world. It was published in 1598 and translated into sixty-two languages. The second catechism was in use for 300 years.

To Robert's amazement, the pope appointed him a cardinal and assigned him to head an archdiocese (unusual for an order priest). Later, he was recalled to Rome and became head of the Vatican library, where he continued to write in defense of Catholic doctrine.

In all of his posts, Bellarmine was known for his kindness, fairness, and generosity—especially to those in need. Bellarmine was also in the forefront during the famous controversy between the Church and Galileo. He argued for

the Church and against Galileo about the earth-centered versus sun-centered model of the universe. Because the two men were friends, Bellarmine was able to approach Galileo and suggest the need to distinguish hypothesis from proven truth. He advised Galileo to be patient in publishing. Galileo did not take his friend's advice, lost his professorial post, and was placed under house arrest. Bellarmine was a mediating influence at Galileo's trial. Bellarmine's early works in defense of the Church might be considered polemic, but his middle years were often pastoral. In his final years, he wrote devotional works aimed at ordinary Christians. Bellarmine believed that the writing of his class works, *The Ascent of the Mind to God* and *The Art of Dying Well*, helped him grow closer to God as he prepared for death.

Robert Bellarmine died in Rome in 1621 at the age of seventy-nine. He was canonized in 1930 and named a doctor of the Church in 1931. †

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WEEKDAY READINGS

May 18–23

Mon.	Easter weekday Acts 19:1–8 / John 16:29–33	Thurs.	Easter weekday Acts 22:30; 23:6–11 / John 17:20–26
Tues.	Easter weekday Acts 20:17–27 / John 17:1–11a	Fri.	Easter weekday Acts 25:13b–21 / John 21:15–19
Wed.	Easter weekday Acts 20:28–38 / John 17:11b–19	Sat.	Easter weekday Acts 28:16–20, 30–31 / John 21:20–25