



# ST MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Celebrate the Sacraments, Grow Disciples, Bring Christ to People

## Special Shelter in Place Edition: Week 10



SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2020

## PENTECOST SUNDAY

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." - Jn 20:21

### SUNDAY

#### Livestream Masses

Facebook.com/  
StMichaelParishLivermore

6:45 am Mass in English  
9:30 am Mass in English  
11:00 am Mass in Spanish

#### Holy Communion

7:30 am — 9:00 am  
10:00 am — 11:30 am  
12:00 pm — 1:30 pm  
6:00 pm — 7:00 pm

### MONDAY – SATURDAY

#### Livestream Masses

Facebook.com/  
StMichaelParishLivermore

8:00 am Mass in English  
12:00 pm Mass in Spanish

#### Holy Communion

9:00 am — 10:00 am  
1:00 pm — 2:00 pm  
6:00 pm — 7:00 pm

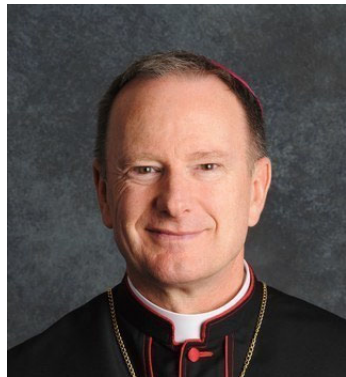
### DRIVE UP CONFESSION

Monday—Saturday  
3:00 — 4:00 pm (bilingual)

### ADORATION

Monday—Saturday  
in the Church  
3:00 pm—5:00 pm

# FROM BISHOP BARBER



People are asking me, "Bishop, when are you going to reopen our churches for public Mass?"

I have received many beautiful and respectful emails and letters from our parishioners expressing great longing to go to Mass and receive Our Lord in Holy Communion. One lady approached me in the Cathedral, when we reopened the doors for private prayer following a live-streamed Sunday Mass. Wearing a mask, she went down on her knees and begged me to receive Holy Communion.

My answer: I will reopen the churches for Mass in our diocese when it is safe to do so.

I understand the deep and holy desire to come together to worship the Lord in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, and to receive His Body and Blood in the Blessed Sacrament. But I do not want to put people at risk of sickness and even death by unnecessarily exposing them to the coronavirus.

In order to make my decision, I am following the advice of a devout Catholic who is a physician and Rear Admiral in the U.S. Public Health Service. I am also following the advice of the USCCB and the Thomistic Institute, which has assembled a team of experts in medicine, science, public health, and the sacraments and liturgy -- to give guidelines on how to safely administer Holy Communion and the sacraments with minimum risk.

This does not mean we can go back to "business as usual" immediately. We are envisioning a phased approach: limiting attendance, observing social distancing in seating, wearing masks, cleaning pews after each Mass, carefully distributing Holy Communion so as not to touch the

## **"I WILL REOPEN THE CHURCHES FOR MASS WHEN IT IS SAFE TO DO SO"**

communicant, etc. We are also looking at holding Mass outdoors, as they did during the Spanish Flu epidemic of 1918.

When it comes to the political situation, the Catholic bishops of California are working with the Governor's Office in Sacramento. When we last wrote Governor Newsom we advised him it would be very painful for the religious communities of California to witness a recovery process in

which large retail stores and office buildings are open in the coming months, yet public worship would still be prohibited, as some recommend. As bishops, we believe this would be unjust and counterproductive to rebuilding California.

On the city and county scene, I am working with an ecumenical coalition of 37 pastors of Protestant churches in Oakland to dialogue with the Mayor and Alameda County Board of Supervisors.

In the meantime, we continue to live stream Sunday and daily Masses. Some pastors are administering Holy Communion outside of Mass, following strict safety guidelines. I participated in a parking lot Sunday service, with Exposition, Liturgy of the Word, homily and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, at Santa Maria Parish in Orinda. We had about 90 cars in the lot, and the parishioners were very appreciative.

Another pastor has commenced First Holy Communion inviting three children and their parents to attend Mass every weekday evening, social distanced, etc. It will take him about six weeks to get through the whole class.

I performed an Ordination to the Diaconate for the Capuchin Franciscan Friars last weekend -- with only 10 in attendance, and live streamed. There are creative things we can do to safely worship God and practice our Faith, until we can fully reopen.

In the meantime, we have postponed our diocesan Ordinations to the Priesthood, originally scheduled for May 29, to Saturday, Sept. 5, at 10 a.m. at the Cathedral. We are postponing the Diocesan Eucharistic Congress from this summer until the Feast of Corpus Christi, June 6, 2021. As of now, we still planning on ordaining our transitional deacons on Saturday, Aug. 8 -- but it still remains unclear as to how many we can invite to attend.

Just as going to Safeway is essential for the health of our bodies, so going to Mass and Communion is essential for the health of our souls. Health care workers in particular are writing me saying they need to receive Holy Communion to receive the spiritual strength to perform their essential work of saving lives. The charitable work of the Church continues in our St. Vincent de Paul soup kitchens, food pantries, Catholic Charities social work, and Catholic Worker outreach to the homeless. I am pressing for the day when we can safely reopen our churches to engage in divine worship - so we can love God with the same fervor as we are currently loving our neighbor.

Most. Rev. Michael C. Barber, SJ

See original post:

<https://oakdiocese.org/news/reopening-a-statement-from-bishop-barber>

## ABOUT BISHOP BARBER

Bishop Barber has deep roots in the East Bay. His father, Adlai Barber, was born in Oakland and his mother, Dolores, in San Francisco. Bishop Barber himself was born in 1954 in Salt Lake City, Utah, during a temporary job assignment for his father. As a child the bishop lived in San Francisco, Novato and Sacramento, graduating from St. Pius X Preparatory School in Galt. He has fond memories of holidays spent with relatives in Oakland, San Leandro and Castro Valley, and of teaching at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park.

Bishop Barber entered the seminary of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) in 1973. He received his undergraduate degree from Gonzaga University in Washington, and graduate degrees in theology from Regis College at the University of Toronto and the Gregorian University in Rome.

After being ordained a priest in San Francisco in 1985, Bishop Barber

continued his studies in Rome and at Oxford University. In 1991 he became a commissioned officer in the United States Naval Reserve and achieved the rank of Captain in 2012. He has served as Group Chaplain for the Marine Aircraft Group, as Deputy Division Chaplain for the 4th Marine Division and Deputy Force Chaplain for Reserve Affairs for Marine Forces Pacific, among many other assignments. Locally, Bishop Barber has been Director of the School of Pastoral Leadership in the Archdiocese of San Francisco. From 2002-10 he taught at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park and was Director of Spiritual Formation there. Immediately prior to his appointment as Bishop of Oakland, he served as Director of Spiritual Formation at St. John's Seminary in the Archdiocese of Boston. In addition to his native English, the bishop speaks Italian, French, Samoan and liturgical Spanish.

## DIOCESE LINKS

### **Bishop Barber's Homilies and Interviews**

[Oakdiocese.org/homilies-interviews](https://oakdiocese.org/homilies-interviews)

### **Mass Livestream from the Cathedral of Christ the Light**

[Facebook.com/ctlcathedral.org/live](https://facebook.com/ctlcathedral.org/live)

### **The Weekly: Diocesan News**

[Oakdiocese.org/the-weekly](https://oakdiocese.org/the-weekly)



# NEWS

## NEW WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### Livestream Mass — Communion—Confession

Based on the guidelines by Bishop Michael Barber, this new schedule is effective Pentecost Sunday, May 31, until we enter Phase 3 as determined by Alameda County health officials.

#### HERE'S WHAT'S NEW

- Two livestream daily Masses, Monday - Saturday: one in English and one in Spanish.
- Three livestream Masses on Sunday: two in English, one in Spanish.
- Communion by walking into the church only (no more Drive-Up Communion).
- 4 hours of Communion opportunities on Sunday.
- 3 hours of Communion opportunities Monday – Saturday.
- Communion to the sick and elderly available by appointment Monday – Saturday and to be administered by priests or deacons only.
- Drive Up Confession available Monday – Saturday at 3:00 pm only: bilingual, with two priests available.

#### SUNDAY

##### Livestream Masses

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StMichaelParishLivermore*

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1:00 pm — 2:00 pm  
6:00 pm — 7:00 pm

##### Drive Up Confession

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm  
In the courtyard  
Two bilingual priests available

##### Eucharistic Adoration

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm  
In the church



## COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

- Pray the Mass on Facebook either live or previously recorded.
- Park in the courtyard during one of the Communion hours.
- Face coverings are required.
- People will be instructed, three cars at time, to exit their vehicles to walk into the church through side door, closest to Maple Street.
- Walk up the center aisle, remaining at least 6 feet from others.
- Receive Communion by hand (preferably) or on the tongue (priest will wash his hands with sanitizer and dry it with a purifier).
- Immediately exit through the door to the breezeway.
- Return to your vehicle and exit the courtyard.
- (Those who wish to just receive a blessing can remain in their vehicles. A member of the clergy will come to the vehicle to

# REMINDERS

## ADDITIONAL COMMUNION REMINDERS

### *Dispensation:*

Bishop Michael Barber has dispensed all the faithful in the Diocese of Oakland from celebrating Mass and receiving Communion until further notice. Those who do not wish to receive Communion in the church or who cannot receive are encouraged to pray the Mass via livestream, recording or on television.

### *Those at Risk for COVID 19:*

Those who are elderly, immuno-compromised or otherwise at risk for contracting COVID 19 should not enter the church for Communion.

### *Sick, Elderly and Homebound:*

Communion to the sick, elderly or homebound will be made available by appointment only, Monday through Saturday, and to be administered by a priest or deacon only. Please call 925-667-4052 for an appointment.



## FACE COVERINGS ARE REQUIRED

to enter the church or when around others.

## STAY CONNECTED!



[Office@StMichaelLivermore.com](mailto:Office@StMichaelLivermore.com)



[Facebook.com/StMichaelParishLivermore](https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelParishLivermore)



[YouTube.com/StMichaelLivermore](https://www.youtube.com/StMichaelLivermore)



Pastoral Emergencies: 925-521-4117



Live Chat: [StMichaelLivermore.com](https://www.stmichaellivermore.com)



## SANITIZE HANDS

before and after leaving public areas.



## KEEP SIX-FEET APART

when in the Church or around others.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## WELCOME FR NATHANIEL!

Fr Nathaniel Gentizon (Father "Nat") joins our St Michael Community and will stay with us through mid August. He is a Filipino priest who was studying in Rome. With the backlog of Filipinos attempting to go home, the time in quarantine can last months while waiting to process. So he will visit with us for a while before returning home.

Fr Nat will help celebrate Masses and hear confessions while staying with us. He will also partner with seminarian, Candelario Jimenez, in offering our community a virtual retreat on Zoom for a 33-day preparation to consecrate ourselves to Jesus through Mary. When you see Fr Nat on livestream Masses, be sure to comment with a warm welcome!



## WELCOME HOME, CANDELARIO JIMENEZ!

Candelario is one of our own St Michael parishioners who is a Theology IV seminarian at St Patrick Seminary in Menlo Park. He has returned to us and will stay through the summer, expanding his experience in pastoral ministry.

He is hoping to be ordained a transitional deacon on August 8 and is blessed to be in his home parish. Please keep Candelario in your prayers and send him welcome messages when you see him on Facebook!



## COLLECTION REPORT

**May Goal**  
\$103,558.82

**May 24 Collection**  
\$13,192.00

**Percentage Reached**  
102%

**Maintenance May Goal**  
\$9,500.00

**May Maintenance  
Collection to Date**  
\$6,771.00

**Percentage Reached**  
71%



# WEEKLY PRAYER

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 31, 2020

- SUN 5/31** **Vigil:** Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/  
Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 [cf. 30]/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-  
39. **Extended Vigil:** Gn 11:1-9/Ps 33:10-11, 12-13, 14-15/Ex  
19:3-8a, 16-20b/Dn 3:52, 53, 55, 56 [52b] or Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/  
Ez 37:1-14/Ps 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [1]/Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24,  
35, 27-28, 29, 30 [cf. 30]/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39. **Day:** Acts  
2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 [cf. 30]/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13/  
Jn 20:19-23
- MON 6/1** Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14/Ps 87:1-2, 3 and 5, 6-7/Jn 19:25-34
- TUE 6/2** 2 Pt 3:12-15a, 17-18/Ps 90:2, 3-4, 10, 14 and 16 [1]/Mk 12:13-17
- WED 6/3** 2 Tm 1:1-3, 6-12/Ps 123:1b-2ab, 2cdef [1b]/Mk 12:18-27
- THR 6/4** 2 Tm 2:8-15/Ps 4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [4]/Mk 12:28-34
- FRI 6/5** 2 Tm 3:10-17/Ps 119:157, 160, 161, 165, 166, 168 [165a]/  
Mk 12:35-37
- SAT 6/6** 2 Tm 4:1-8/Ps 71:8-9, 14-15ab, 16-17, 22 [cf. 15ab]/Mk 12:38-44
- SUN 6/7** Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 [52b]/2 Cor 13:11-13/  
Jn 3:16-18

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 31, 2020

- Sunday:** Pentecost Sunday
- Monday:** The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church
- Tuesday:** Sts. Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs
- Wednesday:** St. Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs
- Friday:** St. Boniface, Bishop and Martyr
- Saturday:** St. Norbert, Bishop

## LIVE THE LITURGY

### Inspiration for the week

With Pentecost, the disciples significantly changed. They were charged up and ready to go. They received the Holy Spirit and no longer harbored fear and apprehension. They knew who they were and what needed to be done. With the peace of the Lord and the power of the Spirit within them, they set out to do amazing things with simple means. We have received the Holy Spirit as well. What keeps us from truly understanding the mission of Christ and continuing the advancement of the Gospel? Some may think this was a work of the past and not relevant now. Others may believe that the work set before me is simply about doing what I need to do to merit heaven and has little to do with my brothers and sisters. Take a good look at the world. More are in need of hearing the Good News than there ever were. We have the power to get up and out and start doing life changing things!



*And they  
were all filled  
with the  
Holy  
Spirit*

-ACTS 2:4





### FIRST READING

And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim. (Acts 2:4)



### PSALM

Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth. (Ps 104) or Alleluia



### SECOND READING

As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. (1 Cor 12:12)



### GOSPEL

And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." (Jn 20:22-23)

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## WORSHIP & MEDITATION



### GOSPEL MEDITATION

#### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

You can feel so small standing by the seashore. The vastness of all that is before you expands much farther than your eye can see. What is happening on the other side? As tides continue to ebb and flow, what occurs as they come and go remains largely a mystery and the effects of their presence unknown in your sight. Yet, things are moving and changing as you gaze upon the water, as the thumbprint of their presence is left behind. The greater the wind and wave, the greater the effect. But even a gentle breeze leaves its humble mark upon the seashore on which you stand. The smallest pebble still makes a ripple in the great blue expanse of ocean waters. It doesn't need to be big.

You never know the full impact of your smallest gesture or simplest of words. A yes or no, agree or disagree, here or there, this or that can influence time and history in ways you may never know. The Holy Spirit is like that: fierce and torrential, and then almost still and silent, creating and recreating nonetheless. Coming as a gentle breeze or a gusty wind, God's Holy Spirit continues to move over, around, and into the waters of our lives. The Spirit brings fruit and unknown possibilities to what we humbly bring with us and that same Spirit eventually brings all to fulfillment in Christ.

The first disciples didn't have much. They possessed simple faith and a willingness to go into uncharted territory with a love of their friend-God, humble offerings, and a knowledge that they were not alone. This allowed them to do amazing things with very little. Do you believe that you are being led and that you have a purposeful life? We often do not realize our value because we do not think that the little we have is good enough. How wrong we are! A little flour mixed with water and embraced by a prayer of blessing transforms simple offerings into the magnificent Eucharistic presence of God. If the Holy Spirit can do such amazing things with these humble gifts of the earth, even more can happen with you. Don't underestimate the value of the smile you gave a stranger, the door held open for an elderly widow, the listening ear offered to one who was lonely, the tolerance given to the wounded soul who is angry, and the loving shoulder you offered as a cradle under the head of someone in pain. Modest gifts offered with love can be transformed by the Spirit into wondrous blessings you may never know. It's Pentecost. Trust. You are not alone.



## LITURGICAL LIFE

# RESPONDING *to the Call*

### EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

#### Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments

##### *We Are Never Alone*

My children want my help sometimes, and other times, not so much. I remember being a teenager and young adult myself. At times, I thought I knew everything. I didn't need help because I was just so darn smart. Truth is, I needed to find my own way. I needed to stretch my wings and prove to myself and my family I could fly. I assume that is what is happening with my own children as well. It just seems so different now that I'm the parent.

Human beings need help. We need community, and we need to rely on one another. At Pentecost, we reflect on Jesus sending to the Church a helper, the Holy Spirit. God interacting with us in this manner means we are never truly alone. We focus most of the time on the Spirit of God as the assistance we need, and we do need Him for sure. However, since it is that very same Spirit that turned us into "Church" from a band of people looking to carry on after Jesus' ascension, at Pentecost we gained more than divine help: we gained each other.

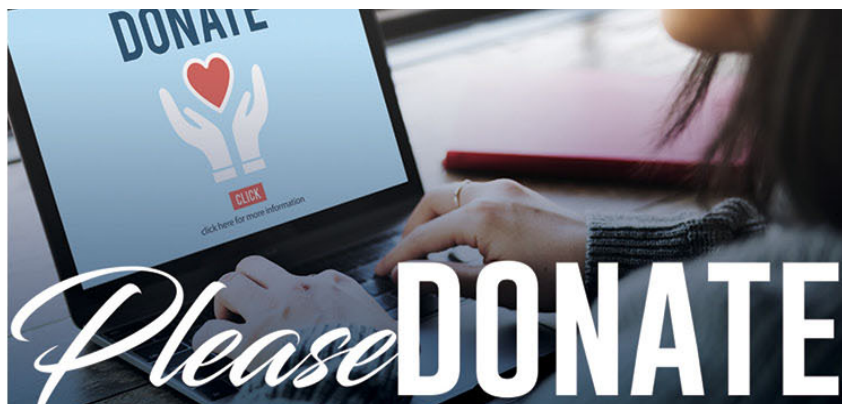
Today, the Church needs help in a profound way. We need to lean on the Holy Spirit to blow through the Church with a profound renewal. But we cannot forget that we have been given each other to lean on as well. We are a gift to each other, and together with the Spirit's help, we are the Body of Christ here on earth. We must be strong and stand for one another. If we do that, this Pentecost will bear fruit that will be with us for many Pentecosts to come.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

### PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING

**Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!**

**FaithDirect.net Church Code CA602**



### WHY DO WE DO THAT?

#### Catholic Life Explained:

##### *Tithing vs. Stewardship*

#### Question:

What is the difference between tithing and stewardship?

#### Answer:

Both tithing and stewardship are part of a spiritual way of life that calls us to use all of our resources for the service of the Gospel. Everything we are and everything we have comes from God. Offering back to God what He has given us is part of how we worship and give thanks to God.

Tithing is the practice of giving back 10 percent of what we earn. It comes from the Old English word for "ten." The first Scriptural example of tithing came from Abraham who gave a tenth of his possessions to the priest Melchizedek. He did so as an act of thanksgiving to God.

Stewardship as a way of life calls us to use well all that we have and all that we are, placing all things in service of others and God. Stewardship helps us see the good we can accomplish by making God and our spiritual life the most important values in our life. Whatever we accumulate in this life stays here. We can't take it with us! Both tithing and stewardship help us remember that nothing is mine or even ours ... all belongs to God.



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Jesus said to them again,  
"Peace be with you. As the  
Father has sent me, so I send  
you." And when he had said  
this, he breathed on them and  
said to them, "Receive the Holy  
Spirit. Whose sins you forgive  
are forgiven them, and whose  
sins you retain are retained."

— Jn 20:21-23

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass  
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## LITURGICAL LIFE

### QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

**Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture**

#### First Reading

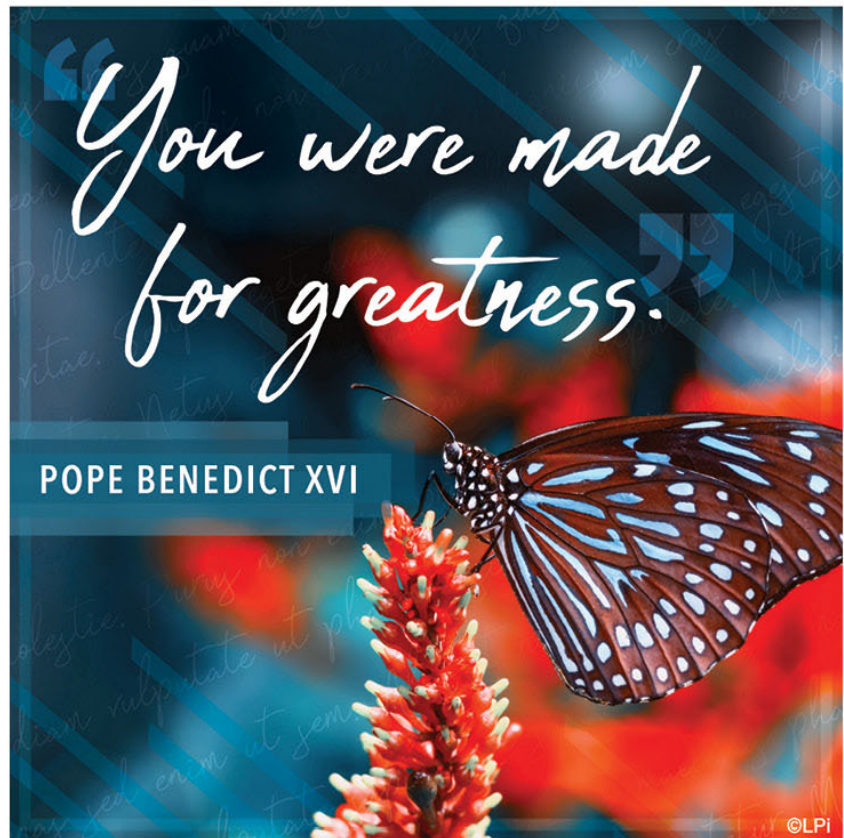
The birth of the Church occurs with the descent of the Holy Spirit onto the Apostles. Luke presents this as an experience of unity. How do you see your faith community promoting unity of mind and spirit?

#### Second Reading

Paul speaks to the Christians in Corinth of the gifts and benefits of the Holy Spirit for believers. What Spirit-driven gifts do you possess?

#### Gospel Reading

John tells us how the resurrected Jesus gave the gift of the Holy Spirit directly to the disciples, empowering them to forgive sins. How often do you use the gift of forgiveness?



#### PENTECOST



**SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2020 | PENTECOST SUNDAY**

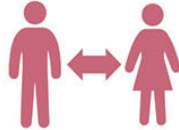


# HEALTH AND WELLNESS

## 3 EASY STEPS

### To Keeping Yourself & Others Healthy!

We are cautioned to be especially careful during the Coronavirus outbreak. Here are some simple ways to keep sickness away.



#### Wash Your Hands

Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water. If you can't wash your hands, use hand sanitizer frequently.

#### Don't Touch Your Face

Especially around the eyes, nose and mouth. If you must sneeze, use a tissue or your arm.

#### Keep Your Distance

Practice social distancing during this epidemic and stay away from large groups. Instead, call, email or check up on family and friends using social media.



*Jesus stood up and  
exclaimed, "Let  
anyone who thirsts  
come to me and drink.*

*As Scripture says:*

*Rivers of living water  
will flow from  
within him who  
believes in me."*

*He said this in  
reference to the Spirit  
that those who came  
to believe in him  
were to receive.*

*- Jn 7:37b-39a*

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass  
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**SAINT  
BONIFACE**

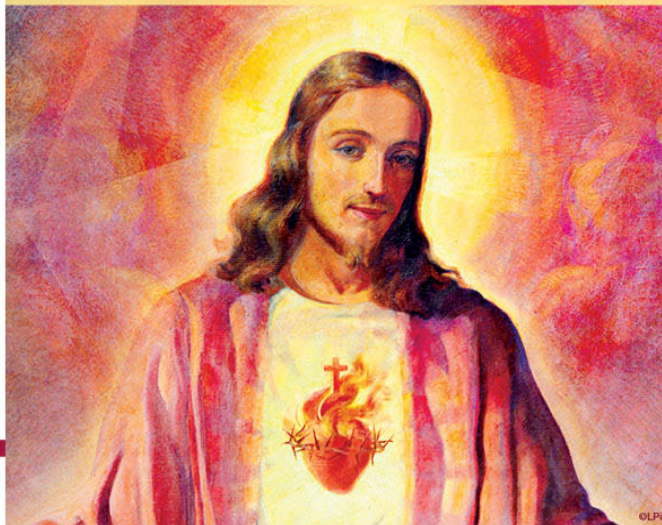
**JUNE 5**

*Chosen  
for  
Greatness*

## PRAY

*Remember in Your Prayers*

**ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY THE CORONAVIRUS  
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD**



Compassionate and Loving Father,  
In the face of confusion and concern  
impart to us the calm of Your presence.  
In You allow us to find hope and healing.  
Be with those who serve the sick and  
give them Your caring hands.  
Be with those who lead and give them  
Your spirit of wisdom.  
Be with those who have fallen ill and  
give them Your comforting heart.  
Wrap Your arms around our world  
and hold us in Your love.  
Allow us at this time of trial to then  
serve as instruments of that love  
to all we meet.  
We ask this in Your Name.  
Amen



**AD PAGE**

**AD PAGE**