

## DAILY REFLECTIONS

**MONDAY: [JOHN 15:26-27](#)**

**Reflect, today**, upon these prophetic words of Jesus. Though these words were initially spoken to the Twelve, Jesus also speaks these words to you today. He wants you, too, to be a witness to Him, giving testimony to others so that they will come to believe. Reflect upon how well you fulfill this prophetic calling. Where you are lacking, pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in your life so that God can reach many hearts through you.

**TUESDAY: [JOHN 16:5-7](#)**

**Reflect, today**, upon anything that our Lord may be asking of you in regard to a change in your life. Are you open, ready and willing to do whatever He asks? Or are you fearful or grieved by the thought of some change. Be open to anything our Lord asks of you and know that the full embrace of His holy will is the only path to true happiness in life.

**WEDNESDAY: [JOHN 16:12-13](#)**

**Reflect, today**, upon these essential questions. If you have had God the Holy Spirit speak clearly to You, then humble yourself before that truth. Pray for more wisdom and more knowledge of all that you do not know. And if you cannot relate to the idea of there being so much more that is beyond you, then humbly turn to our Lord and beg Him to begin to open your mind to all that He wants to say to you. The infinite mind of our God awaits you to be discovered and embraced. Begin the process today and let Him guide you into all truth.

## DAILY REFLECTIONS

**THURSDAY: [JOHN 16:17-18](#)**

**Reflect, today**, upon whether you struggle at all with indifference toward the mysteries of life. If so, commit yourself to be more like these disciples who intentionally grappled with all that Jesus spoke. Do not be afraid to admit your confusion and to place that confusion before our Lord. Strive to have the gift of faith and allow that spark of faith to become the pathway for your deeper understanding of the many mysteries of life.

**FRIDAY: [JOHN 16:21](#)**

**Reflect, today**, upon any form of anguish you are currently enduring for the glory of God, or anything you are currently avoiding because it seems difficult to do. Do not shy away from these difficulties. See them as a means to a glorious end. Endure the “labor pains” of the purification and mission God is calling you to by looking beyond the difficulties you initially experience so that you will see the end result that awaits you.

**SATURDAY: [JOHN 16:25](#)**

**Reflect, today**, upon Jesus’ burning desire to lift the veil of His teaching and to reveal to you, clearly, the depth of the Father’s love for you. Allow the Holy Spirit to open your mind to this revelation as it is given through the Crucifixion. Pray for that gift. Listen to Jesus tell you He desires to give you this understanding and then await the grace you need to see and understand the very heart of the Father and His divine love for you.

# ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
MAY 5, 2024**

### MISSION STATEMENT

**Our mission is to form Christian Communities that will glorify God by our loving and serving one another, and to extend our love, support, and compassion to the needy.**

**Most Rev. Jacques Fabre-Juene  
Bishop of Charleston**

**Rev. Jesuprathap Narichetti  
(Father JP)  
Pastor**

**Email:  
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(843) 731-1162**

**Parish Secretary Becky Chaski**

### MASS SCHEDULE

**Sunday 8am & 9:30am  
Wednesday 9:00am  
Friday\* 9:00am**

**\*Adoration following Mass  
on the 1st Friday**

### RECONCILIATION

**Sunday 7:15-8am  
Wed/Fri 8:30-9am**

**Diocesan Office of Protective Services  
(843) 261-0430  
Diocese Victim Assistance Ministries  
(843) 856-0748**

**PARISH NEWS AND ACTIVITIES**

**WELCOME:** WE WELCOME ALL OUR VISITORS TO ST. MARY'S! WE TRUST YOU WILL FIND US A WELCOMING AND SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY AS YOU JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE MASS TODAY. COFFEE IS AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH CENTER AFTER MASS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO GETTING TO KNOW YOU!

**MASS INTENTIONS:** Today's 8am mass is in **Memory of Jefferson Watson**, on behalf of Virginia Watson.

**NO BAKE SALE FOR THIS MONTH:** Bake Sale will resume June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**NO WEEKDAY MASS:** There will be no weekday Masses, April 28<sup>th</sup> - May 27<sup>th</sup>, while Fr. JP is away. Please be sure to welcome Fr. Augustin Torm, from St. Peter's Church in Beaufort.



"Please remember Father JP in your prayers while he is away. Ask God to keep him safe & healthy, to help him have a wonderful time with his family." In case of an emergency in Father JP's absence, please contact Reverend Derrick Sneyd at (843)642-5541.

*We pray for each other. In your time of prayer, please remember the following people and intentions:*



Helaine Ahern, Hazel Basilio, Chester Broton, Jr., James Butski Jr., Allison Condon Chappell, Jack Cooper, Cherry Constable, Maryanne Cortez, Colleen Cremin, Sonia Dees, Teresita Y. Domingo, Jacob Matthew Dupree, Frances Enos, Victoria Flanders, Ken Fleming, Sally Gorman, J. Gould, Jamekia Grampus, Krist Groover, Emily Meyer Hall, Petrina Jacques, Mary & Rod Jaros, Eileen Killennerger, Yvonne Livingston, Gus Long, John Lucas, Susan Mance Kelly Meyer, Patti McDermott, Ann Mitchum, Jane Morley, Suzy Patterson, Nirmala Mary Narichetti, John North, Sarah Proulx, Elizabeth Smith, Landon Smith, Bill Smyer, Diane Stokes, Eloise Stroud, Sandy Unger, Larry Walker, Mary Walker, Ellie Wilson, Mary Wilson, Edward Wolf, Jose Yabut, and All Parishioners of our parish family.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Father JP welcomes your mass intentions for celebrating a special occasion, on behalf of a family member or friend, or a deceased loved one. A Mass request can be submitted by the following:

- Calling our Parish office at 843-889-8549. You may leave a message with your contact information.
- Completing a Mass Intention Envelope, checking the calendar located in the back of the church for date availability and placing your envelope in the box above the calendar.
- Requesting a Mass Card be mailed directly to you, for whose All Mass Intentions are voluntary offerings, since the Holy Eucharist is the universal prayer of all the church. The typical offering is ten dollars.

Stipends for Mass Intentions may be brought or mailed to the Parish office (cash or check).

**RECORD OF FAITHFULNESS**  
**April 28, 2024**

	AMT		AMT
Envelopes	\$1,430	CASC	\$
Loose	\$90	Home Missions	\$326
Votives	\$93	Maintenance & Repair	\$15
	\$	Catholic Relief	\$
Sub Total	\$1,613		\$
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$1,954</b>	Sub Total	<b>\$341</b>

8am	31	9:30am	32	Total	63
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**GOSPEL REFLECTION**

There are many images we use for God. We call Him Father, Savior, Master, Lord, King, Redeemer, Spirit and Friend. When it comes to God as our divine Friend, it is important to understand the nature of that friendship properly. Jesus' friendship is not one that simply makes us "buddies." Friendship with our Lord is not the same as a friendship between two equals. He is God. And because He is God, our friendship with Him takes on unique characteristics that are not present in other friendships. With that said, there could be no greater friend than the Lord Himself.

Among humans, our friendships have various foundations. It could be that two people have mutual interests and they enjoy engaging in those interests together. It could be that two people have spent much pleasant time together since childhood. Or it could be that two people have endured some difficulty together and that experience has bonded them together. But according to Saint Thomas Aquinas, friendship in its purest form is based on just one thing: mutual charity.

Charity is the form of love that is purely selfless. It's a way of relating to another in which a person's sole focus is the good of the other. It is not based on one's own self interests. It's not a matter of "what do I get out of it?" In [1 Corinthians 13:4-8](#), St. Paul defines the love of charity this way: "Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, it is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails." This is not only the definition of charity, it is also the only foundation for true friendship.

When you consider all of these qualities of charity, you will find that God relates to us in each of these ways. For that reason, God offers us the purest friendship possible. Whether or not we reciprocate these qualities to God will determine the depth of the bond of friendship that we establish with Him. But there is more. When we love God, we must love Him in a way that is proper and proportionate to Who God is. For example, if we offer charity to God, we seek to fulfill only God's interests and rejoice in the Truth of Who He is. Thus, the charity we offer to God comes in the form of worship. He is God and is worthy of worship, adoration, surrender, trust and perfect obedience. When it is God we are loving, the very essence of the Person we love requires these responses.

One beautiful and consoling thing to recognize with this form of charity given to God is that it also establishes a true friendship with God. When we offer our worship to God, we are in a position to receive the very life of God in return. And the giving of ourselves, coupled with the reception of the life of God, establishes a bond of holy friendship that will transform us, unite us with Him and fulfill us to perfection. Friendship with God makes us one with Him and opens us to receive everything that He shares with us—namely, His very Self.