

Saint Peter ^{the} Apostle CATHOLIC CHURCH



551 N. Rush Street | Itasca, Illinois 60143 | 630.773.1272 | www.stpeteritasca.com



May 21, 2023
The Ascension of the Lord

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am | 10:00 am | 11:30 am
Monday-Friday: 8:00 am

COMMUNION SERVICE

Friday: 6:20 am

CONFESIONS

Saturdays | 4:15 pm - 4:45 pm
Wednesdays | 8:30 am (*following 8:00 am Mass*)
First Saturdays | 8:30 am (*following 8:00 am Mass*)

PARISH CENTER BUSINESS HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 am - 2:00 pm
Friday-Sunday: CLOSED (or by appointment)

NEW PARISHIONERS

Please stop by or call the Parish Center (ext. 200) to register or visit the parish website.

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, FUNERALS

For details regarding planning a baptism, wedding, or funeral, please call the Parish Center (ext. 200) or visit the parish website.



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." - Mt 28:19-20

From the Administrator...

IN VERITATE ET IN CARITATE

We now begin the last week of the Easter season, and this weekend remember and celebrate the Ascension of the Lord. In the earlier days of the Church, the Ascension was always celebrated on the Thursday of the sixth week of Easter, forty days after His resurrection. In 1999, permission was given to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) to move this solemnity from the Thursday to the following Sunday. Our Diocese, along with many others in the United States, chose to do so, to encourage more people to participate in the mass in honor of this special moment.

Our Gospel readings for the last two weeks shared how Jesus was preparing His disciples for His Ascension. He gave them guidance, His commandments to love one another as He loves us, and told them of the challenges that they would face because of their devotion to Him. To be a follower of Jesus, then and today, is to face hardships and persecution from society. He did not promise an easy life; quite the opposite, He foretold that many would dismiss His teachings and persecute His followers.

But though He ascended bodily into Heaven, He promised to remain with us "...always, until the end of the age." Through the gift of the Eucharist, Jesus is fully present to us at every mass: body, blood, soul and divinity. When we receive Him worthy in Holy Communion, we unite with the physical presence of Jesus still in the world. When we spend time with Him in adoration, we gaze upon the living body of Christ. He is still with us as He promised and has also ascended bodily into Heaven.

Today the Easter season is drawing to a close. Next week, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Descent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. This day will mark the end of the Easter season, and the return to ordinary (counted) time. So, we still have one week of the Easter season to celebrate and share. Through the church, we continue to focus on the readings from the Acts of the Apostles and learn more of the trials that Saint Paul faced bringing the good news to the gentiles. We hear of the beginnings of the Church and the opposition that the early disciples encountered.

Today, we face similar challenges. Much of society opposes the teachings of the Church. We, like the first disciples, are mocked and persecuted for upholding our faith. So many truths of the Church are under attack, it seems overwhelming to take a stand. But in hearing of the origins of our faith, we can find hope. For over two thousand years, there have been many people, many societies, that oppose and deny the teachings of the faith. But the Church prevails; it endures. As we come to the end of our Easter season, let us be encouraged by the first disciples, hold true to our faith, and continue to share the good news and the truth of our Catholic Church.

In Truth and in Love,

Deacon Fred Maier

Acting Administrator, St. Peter the Apostle Parish

FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION...

will take place at St. Peter's Church
on June 2.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
will begin following 8:00 am Mass
and will conclude at 8:00 pm.

Come spend quiet time with Jesus
before this Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar.

This is a wonderful time to offer your
prayers of thanksgiving or prayers of petitions
for yourself or loved ones.

To ensure that two people are present at all times,
anyone able to commit to a one-hour time slot
is asked to sign up using the link available on
the parish website at stpeteritasca.com



HOLY HOUR OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION



Prayer for our priests and vocation to priesthood

"Support your priests with love and prayers, that they may always be shepherds after Christ's heart". - Pope Francis

EVERY THURSDAY EVENING -

7:00-8:00 pm | Prayer for Priests

8:00-9:00 pm | Silent Adoration

AFCM Media Center | 524 N Rush St (Old Parish Center) | Itasca
Contact: Reetha George at 630-744-9063

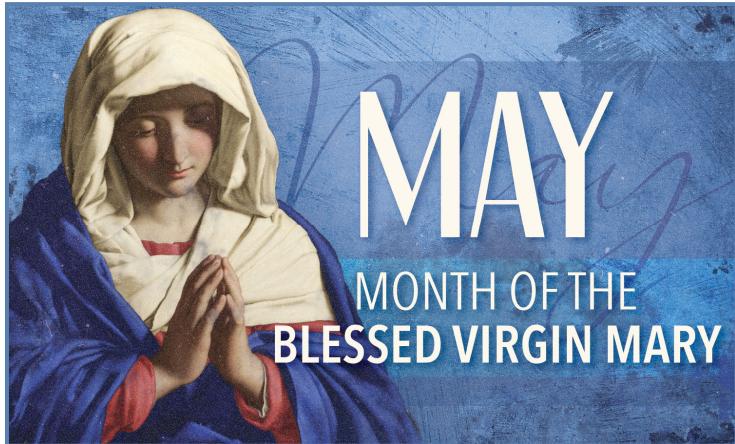


Deacon Anthony offers a Communion Service weekly on **Friday mornings at 6:20 am**.

The Communion Service does not replace the 8:00 am mass, but rather is an alternative for those unable to attend Mass.



All are welcome to stop by the Margaret Wood's Parish Hall weekly following all Sunday morning masses. Grab a doughnut, a beverage and some fellowship!



MAY
MONTH OF THE
BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



CELEBRATING OUR BLESSED MOTHER IN MAY

The Pilgrim Virgin of Fatima will be at St. Peter the Apostle for the entire month. Everyone is encouraged to embrace this opportunity to respond to Our Lady's call and spend time in prayer, in particular, to pray the Rosary.

Tuesday Rosary Ministry

The Tuesday Rosary Ministry meets weekly at 7:15pm. Attendees are welcome to lead one of the decades if comfortable and inspired to do so.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. Bring your Rosary, your personal intentions and your voice.

WEATHER PERMITTING... the Rosary will be prayed outside by the Blessed Mary grotto next to the school. Please bring a chairs if you wish to sit.

Thursday, May 25 | 10am
BIBLE STORYTIME
held at St. Peter's school building
Join us for faith, fellowship, and fun — exploring God's Good News through stories, songs, and crafts.

Questions? Please contact Rachel Scheck at 219-308-3007



Blessing of Motorcycles
Sunday, May 28
following the 11:30 am Mass
Saint Peter's Parking Lot

Summer is almost here, and with it, so is motorcycling season. St. Peter's will host the third annual blessing of motorcycles and cyclists in the parish parking lot on **Sunday, May 28, following the 11:30 am Mass, rain or shine.**

If you ride, or know someone who does, please consider being a part of this special ceremony.

BLOOD DRIVE



SCAN HERE
TO SCHEDULE



Saint Peter the Apostle Blood Drive

Sunday, June 11

8am-2pm

551 Rush St.

Itasca, IL 60143

Margaret Woods Hall

GIVE A PINT
GET A PINT



Presenting donors will receive a coupon for a FREE pint of Culver's frozen custard. Donors will also be automatically be entered into a drawing to win 1 of 2 \$10,000 prepaid gift card, redeemable by email.

Prepare:

- Eat Well
- Hydrate
- Bring ID

To make an appointment call Vitalant at 877.258.4825 or visit vitalant.org and use group code: ORDOG233 Or, you can [SCAN QR CODE](#).

Questions?
Contact Mike Nehf - mnehf@aol.com

Appointments Recommended. Walk-ins Welcome.

GIVE BLOOD TODAY | vitalant.org
Eligibility questions? Call 877.258.4825

vitalant



Bishop Hicks' Column

May 2023

Calling Joyful Shepherds Life



This year we will ordain five new priests for the Diocese of Joliet. While this quantity is outstanding, so is their quality. These five men are young, intelligent, faith filled, pastoral and enthusiastic, and they all strive for holiness. They easily could have followed one of many good and exciting career paths offered by the world. Counterculturally, they heard the call of the Lord and responded by choosing to follow the call to the vocation of ordained priesthood.

We are blessed in the Diocese of Joliet to have 23 seminarians studying for the priesthood. However, we cannot rest on our laurels. Encouraging young men to consider the priesthood is the responsibility of the entire people of God.

The question becomes, "How do we invite and encourage others to discern a life to the priesthood or religious life?" Most of us, I hope, feel comfortable praying for vocations and donating to our Seminarian Endowment Fund to help cover the costs of seminarian formation. However, when it comes to proactively inviting others to it, we can become tongue-tied and need help as to what we should say and do.

For that reason, I just recently sent an inspiring little book to all the priests in the Diocese of Joliet called, *Five Conversations about the Priesthood*, by Father Michael Pratt. Studies show that the local priest is one of the most influential factors for their parishioners discerning a vocation to the priesthood or religious life.

This book provides a simple and solid roadmap to intentionally encourage others to discern a priestly vocation.

Father Pratt's book gives five practical ways to talk about the following:

1. Priestly identity.
2. The Eucharist in the priest's life.
3. The Sacrament of Penance.
4. Preaching.
5. Parish priesthood.

While this book is geared to our priests, you might also want to consider reading it. A quick internet search of the title, or a visit to <https://vianneyvocations.com> will provide ordering instructions.

Just about all recently ordained priests throughout the country commonly report one of the reasons they took the leap of faith to actively discern the priesthood and to enter the seminary is that someone specifically invited them to do so. Just one voice has the power to break through all their doubts, fears and negative messaging about becoming a priest. My hope is that before we approach eternal life, we will be able to name someone specifically that we encouraged to discern the priesthood or religious life.

This may be hard to believe, but there are many parents who explicitly discourage their sons from considering the priesthood. While some parents claim it is because they want grandchildren or because they want their son to pursue a more prestigious profession and make a lot of money, the most common factor for their lack of support is because they think their son will be unhappy as a priest. Most parents' greatest desire is for their children to be happy. If they think that priesthood is the road to unhappiness, then they tend to actively discourage the possibility of it.

Most studies reveal that priests are happy. While there are exceptions to this rule, most of us know many happy and well-adjusted priests. I, for example, empathically declare that as I celebrate 29 years of priesthood, I am happy! I say so without being naïve or sugarcoating the challenges. The priesthood, like all vocations, comes with an experience of suffering. But these moments of the cross also lead us through and to the joy of the resurrection.

In 2010, after completing five-years of living and working in El Salvador, I spoke with Cardinal George in eager anticipation of my next assignment. I clearly remember him saying to me, "Fr. Ron, I am assigning you to Mundelein Seminary to be the Dean of Formation." Quickly brushing off my initial shock, I responded, "Well, thank you for that assignment. You know that I am obedient and will go wherever you send me. However, after spending five years in Central America and becoming fluent in Spanish, why are not sending me to be a pastor in a large, Hispanic parish, and instead sending me to the Major Seminary?" His answer surprised me, "Fr. Ron, you are a joyful priest...and the seminarians need to see your joy."

As we give thanks for our five new priests, please join me in expressing my gratitude to the priests in the Diocese of Joliet. With them, let us all strive to joyfully and intentionally encourage others to consider a vocation to the priesthood or religious life. To learn about priestly vocations and also for ways to encourage them, please go to our website at www.diojoliet.org/vocations or contact our Office of Vocations at 815-221-6171.

The Ascension of the Lord

REFLECTION - GOSPEL READING:

Matthew 28:16-20

Jesus charges his disciples to make disciples of all nations and promises to be with them forever.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel is taken from the conclusion of the Gospel of Matthew. Matthew's Gospel quickly moves from the disciples' discovery of Jesus' empty tomb, to Jesus' appearance to Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, to the commission that Jesus gives his disciples in today's Gospel.

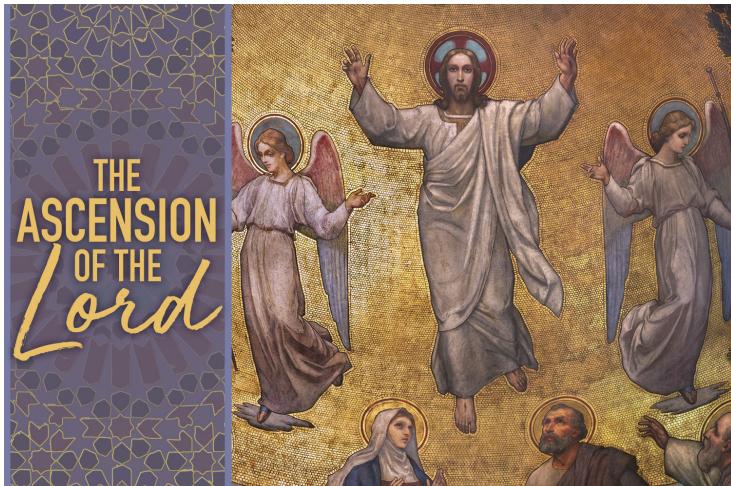
The Final Commission, as this Gospel is sometimes called, is given on the mountaintop. Throughout Scripture, the most important events happen on the mountaintop, and Matthew has used this motif throughout his Gospel. Earlier in Matthew's Gospel, Peter, James, and John had seen Jesus transfigured on the mountaintop (Matthew 17:1-8). Also in the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus taught the crowds from the mountaintop in what we now call the Sermon on the Mount.

Here we are told that the eleven disciples go the mountaintop in Galilee, as Jesus had instructed through Mary Magdalene and the other Mary (cf. Matthew 28:9-10). They see Jesus, and both worship and doubt at the same time. Jesus approaches them and commissions them to baptize and teach, "to make disciples of all nations." It is a task which Jesus had previously prepared his disciples for; recall that Jesus had sent the twelve apostles to preach the Kingdom of God and to heal (cf. Matthew 10:1-15). However, earlier the Twelve were sent only to the House of Israel; in this Final Commission, the eleven are told to go to "all nations." The mission of Jesus is now to be taken to all people; the task now is to baptize and to teach.

Jesus commissions his disciples to baptize in the name of the Trinity, one of the clearest attestations found in Scripture for baptism in the name of the Trinity. In the Acts of the Apostles and in the Letters of Paul, baptism is more frequently offered "in the name of Jesus."

The ending of Matthew's Gospel can be understood as the beginning of the Church. Jesus commissions his disciples to continue to teach in his name and to bring others into the community of disciples through baptism. The Gospel ends, as it had begun, with the promise that Jesus will continue to be Emmanuel, "God with us" (cf. Matthew 1:23), for all eternity.

Loyola Press



Diocese of Joliet Office of Divine Worship

FOUNDED IN FAITH, CALLED TO WITNESS, SENT FORTH TO SERVE

The Diocese of Joliet is preparing to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Announcement of the Establishment of the Diocese.

The Anniversary year will begin on December 11, 2023, and will conclude on December 8, 2024. As the people of the Diocese of Joliet in Illinois we have much for which to be grateful and we are asking every person in our Diocese to enter into the prayer of this celebration.

Thus, we are inviting you to draft a prayer asking God's blessings upon our Anniversary Year and the Diocese. As you pray with the theme of this Anniversary, "**Founded in Faith, Called to Witness, Sent Forth to Serve**", write down your reflections, then use them to develop a prayer text that can be easily prayed aloud in a group setting. The Anniversary Prayer will be translated into the languages used for prayer in the Diocese, so write your prayer in your spoken language.

We encourage all people to spend time in prayer developing our Anniversary Prayer—children, teens, young adults, adults of all ages, priests, deacons, religious. Catholic School teachers and Religious Education catechists might make this a class project. Parents might make this a family project. Parish Organizations might also make this a group project.

All prayers should be sent to the Office of Divine Worship via USPS or email by June 1, 2023. Please include name, address, phone number as well as name of parish or institution. The 75th Anniversary Prayer will be created by the Anniversary Committee using the prayers received from the people of the Diocese.

Should you have any questions please contact Sister Sharon Marie Stola, OSB at the Office of Divine Worship, by email at ssstola@dioceseofjoliet.org or by phone at 815-221-6230.

Free Medical Clinic

The clinic is free and open to the public. This event is intended to help those who cannot afford their healthcare. Families and children are welcome.

UChicago MedicineAdventHealth's healing mission calls us to extend care to all people – especially those in our local communities. It's a way we can fulfill our mission at home – directly to those who need medical care but can't afford it. Join us to receive free medical services, including:

- Chiropractic care
- Dental exams
- Diabetes and Nutrition Education
- Eye exams
- Laboratory screenings: glucose, urinalysis and pregnancy
- Orthopedics
- Pediatrics: school/sports physicals (immunizations not included)
- Pharmacy: Free medication (based on exam at event)
- Physical Therapy
- Podiatry
- Primary Care

We also will provide access to other care services such as:

- Access DuPage, Hamdard Health Alliance, Access Community Health Network and VNA Health Care: connecting patients with a medical home, specialty referrals and access to affordable medications.
- Counseling services referrals
- Food pantry referrals
- Social Service evaluation and referrals



Pre-registration is preferred to ensure an appointment time. Use the QR code to sign up for the event and request your time slot.

Saturday, June 3, 9 am - 4 pm

Glendale Heights Sports Hub
250 Civic Centre Plaza
Glendale Heights, IL 60139



**UChicago
Medicine**

 **Advent Health**



Stewardship of Treasure

St. Peter the Apostle

Fiscal Week 46: Sunday Collection (05/14/2023)..... \$ 9,284.00

If you have any questions concerning the collection numbers, please feel free to contact the Business Office by email at business@stpeteritasca.com or by phone at 630-773-1272 (ext. 204).

DONATE NOW
with GiveCentral

Please visit the parish website and look for the GiveCentral icon to link to the secure online giving portal.



You can also connect directly by using the QR code provided or visiting the website directly at givecentral.org/location/1251

Please keep Saint Peter the Apostle Parish in mind when making out your Will and in doing your Estate Planning. Remembering the Church is a beautiful and fitting way to make a lasting memorial statement of faith for future generations.



Transitional Housing Ministry

The Transitional Housing family is doing well – thanks to the support of all who have donated and prayed for them. The mom is exploring educational opportunities that will allow her to improve her career and get long-term stable housing.

Thank you to all who have provided support to the family by means of donations of diapers, wipes, clothes, money, and other items needed by the family. This generosity has greatly helped the family move forward.

For anyone looking to offer additional support, at this time the family needs are as follows:

- Appliances – vacuum cleaner
- Furniture – end table

Donations can be brought to the Parish Center.

For additional information or to donate an item in need, please contact , Adam Stephan at adam.stephan@gmail.com or 847-715-8326.



Monthly Diocesan Loan Balance May 2023

As of May 10, 2023, the \$2 million dollar diocesan loan balance for our capital project stands at \$134,773.51 .

Thank you for your stewardship and prayers.

This Week at St. Peter's...

Sunday

12:30 pm

May 21

Faith & Fellowship (*after all masses*) (MW Hall)
Baptisms (*Church*)

Tuesday

8:30 am

May 23

Be Formed Bible Study (PC Conference Room)
Tuesday Evening Rosary (*Church*)

Wednesday

8:30 am

May 24

Confessions (*Church*)

Thursday

10:00 am

May 25

Bible Story Time (*School*)
Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration (AFCM Center)

Friday

6:20 am

May 26

Communion Service (*Church*)

Saturday

4:15 pm

May 27

Confessions (*Church*)

Sunday

12:30 pm

May 28

Faith & Fellowship (*after all masses*) (MW Hall)
Blessing of Motorcycles (*Parking Lot*)



SCHEDULE

Saturday, May 27 | Sunday, May 28

Celebrants

- | | |
|----------|--------------------|
| 5:00 pm | Fr. Larry Brunette |
| 8:30 am | Fr. Slawek Ignasik |
| 10:00 am | Fr. Larry Brunette |
| 11:30 am | Fr. Larry Brunette |

Communion Ministers

- | | |
|----------|------------------|
| 5:00 pm | Reetha George |
| | Deacon Anthony |
| 8:30 am | Dorie Calip |
| | Deacon Fred |
| 10:00 am | Ann Fleming |
| | Mel Gerard |
| 11:30 am | Carmela Graziano |
| | Michael Graziano |

Lectors

- | | |
|----------|-------------------|
| 5:00 pm | Lou Casolari |
| 8:30 am | Chris Nagle |
| 10:00 am | Franco Casella |
| 11:30 am | Stella Capobianco |

Mass Intentions For The Week



Sunday	May 21 (The Ascension of the Lord)
8:30 am	†Carol Keegan
10:00 am	†Christopher Kosk
11:30 am	†Vincenzo Avolio †Joseph Bratta †Gaspare Bruno †Michael Campanella †Anthony "Tony" DeStefano †Andrzej Szymikowski Anthony Arboleda - Special Intention
Monday	May 22 (Easter Weekday; St. Rita of Cascia, Religious)
8:00 am	†Fr. Robert Noesen
Tuesday	May 23 (Easter Weekday)
8:00 am	For an End to Abortion
Wednesday	May 24 (Easter Weekday)
8:00 am	†Richard Lynch
Thursday	May 25 (Easter Weekday; St. Bede the Venerable, Priest and Doctor of the Church; St. Gregory VII, Pope; St. Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi, Virgin)
8:00 am	†Patricia DeBella
Friday	May 26 (St. Philip Neri, Priest)
8:00 am	†Ken Koleto
Saturday	May 27 (Vigil: Pentecost Sunday)
5:00 pm	†Rocco Vincent Calella †Patricia DeBella †Anthony Pontillo
Sunday	May 28 (Pentecost Sunday)
8:30 am	†Zbigniew Bielczyk
10:00 am	†Andrzej Szymikowski
11:30 am	†Vincenzo Amitrano †Joseph Collinet †John Elia
	†Bruce Gariti †Maria Terracciano

Readings for the Week

Sunday:	Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6)/ Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20 Seventh Sunday of Easter: Acts 1:12-14/ Ps 27:1, 4, 7-8 (13)/1 Pt 4:13-16/Jn 17:1-11a
Monday:	Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab/Jn 16:29-33
Tuesday:	Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21/Jn 17:1-11a
Wednesday:	Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab/ Jn 17:11b-19
Thursday:	Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/ Jn 17:20-26
Friday:	Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab/Jn 21:15-19
Saturday:	Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5 and 7/Jn 21:20-25
Next Sunday:	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 (see 30)/ Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39 Extended Vigil: Gn 11:1-9/Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b/ Ez 37:1-14/Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 (see 30)/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39 Day: Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 (see 30)/ 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13/Jn 20:19-23

Please Pray for the Sick of our Parish Family

Sue Bobka	Mel Gerard	Loretta Nicolini
Rosaleen Bradley	Gary Grote	John North
Ginger Busato	Joe Halac	John O'Dea
Joe Busato	Martha Hayes	June Pautsch
Rocco Busato	Cambria Helle	Cliff Peters
Elio Campanella	Ken Hemstreet	Bonnie Pollock
Bill Carpenter	Michael Jasiak	Brendan Reidy
Danny Clements	Mary Kelly	Wayne Slowiak
Regina Conti	Sylvia Kleinedler	Belinda Sobucki
John Cozzi	Cathy Kolf	Dan Sobucki
Mary Cummins	Rickie Kruzel	Randy Szweda, USMC
Mike Cummins	Judah Kuhlman	Dennis Torii
Paul Cummins	Sue McNamara	Marlene Torii
Charlie DeFranco	Maria Mizera	Fr. Miroslaw Stepien
Beth Dobose	Richard Mrugacz	Holly Vana
Geri Gerard		Carol Zell

*Published prayer requests require permission from the named individual or their family.
Names will be listed for six weeks, after which time you may call the Parish Center to renew your request.*

Join our Holy Father, Pope Francis, in his May prayers for the Church and for the world:



For church movements and groups.

We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

*Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands.
Protect them as they protect us. We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen*

PFC Ryan Caspary, US Army 101st Airborne

Cpl James J. Cullotta, US Marines

SGT Michael D'Andrea, US Army

MAJ Joseph DeHaven, US Army

PFC Collin Ensing, US Marines

SGT Michael Helle, US Army

Cpl Brandon Helm, US Marines

PVT Aleksandra Juzwiak, Army National Guard

CMC Mike Kaszubowski, US Navy

ENS Sean Kaszubowski, US Navy

SGT Jacob Los, US Army

MAJ Ryan L. Morrissey, US Army

1stLt John Kenneth Murphy, US Marines

Kevin Noesen, US Coastguard

MAJ Gary Owen, Army National Guard

GySgt Marcin Platek, US Marines

2LT Megan Putze, Army National Guard

SGT MacLean Read, Army National Guard

SGT Michael Schatzman, US Army

LTJG Albert J. Schrautemyer III, US Navy Pilot (Persian Gulf)

SSGT Jeremy Schumacher, US Marines

LT Robert P. Woods, US Navy

Thomas Zablocki, US Marines

