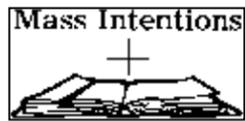


Recognizable Offering.....\$4,134.00
 Loose Cash..... \$481.00
 Total Weekly Offering.....\$4,615.00
 Mass Attendance Apr 16/17 296



Apr 25 - May 1
 MondayVincent Byrne(+)
 TuesdayJim & Laura Smith(+)
 Wednesday..... William Schroeder(+)
 ThursdaySteve Lange(liv)
 FridayWayne Parker(+)
 SaturdayStephen Fowler(+)
Sunday.....Barbara Kirschten(liv)(8:00 a.m.)
.....St. Peter Parishioners(10:30 a.m.)

The parish is still in need of a Director of Faith Formation. Ideally, this person would work full time and coordinate all of the youth faith formation programs within the parish—K-12, Sacramental preparation, Children's Liturgy of the Word, VBS, etc. The position does require a person who is a practicing Catholic, fully adhering to, and modeling, the Church's teachings in faith and morals. The ideal candidate would have a BA in Religious Education, Theology, Pastoral Studies or Education with catechetical and administrative experience. Our previous search did not turn up the "perfect" fit. If you, or someone you know, are interested in this position and are reasonably qualified for the job, please contact Paul Johansen for more details.



"Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."
 Our candidates have been preparing all year long to receive their First Holy Communion. Join them as they celebrate this joyous occasion on Sunday, May 1, 2016 during the **10:30 a.m. Mass. Pray that they remain in Jesus' loving company through this life and into eternity.**



Weekly Calendar of Events

- 4/24 K-5 Faith Formation - 9:15 a.m.
MS/HS Meetings - 6:00 p.m.
Divine Mercy Study - 6:00 p.m.
- 4/25 Rosary - after 8:00 a.m. Mass
- 4/26 Rosary - after 8:00 a.m. Mass
- 4/27 Legion of Mary - 8:30 a.m.
- 4/28 Adoration - 8:15 a.m.
Women's Study Group - 9:30 a.m.
- 5/1 First Holy Communion - 10:30 a.m. Mass
Crowning of Mary statue after 10:30 a.m. Mass

Shepherd's Trust Collection

There will be a second collection next weekend, April 30-May 1, 2016 for our Diocesan Retired Priest's Fund, The Shepherd's Trust. The proceeds from this collection will help provide a better standard of living for those priests who have dedicated their lives to serving the people of Northwest Florida. Please be generous and remember to support our retired priests with both your financial assistance as well as your prayers.

Parishioners who do not receive offertory envelopes and wish to contribute can use an envelope in the pew. If you are using electronic giving you can log on to your account and make a onetime gift or use an envelope in the pew, if you prefer.

Pro Life Activities Joint Letter to Congress: 26 Organizations Urge Passage of Conscience Protection Act of 2016

Did you know that health care workers in this country can be forced into participating in an abortion even if it violates their religious belief? The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) joined twenty-five other major pro-life, religious, and health care organizations on April 19 urging the U.S. House of Representatives to pass the Conscience Protection Act of 2016 (H.R. 4828). H.R. 4828 addresses several "loopholes" in current federal laws that have allowed violations of conscience rights to continue.

Please consider contacting your member in the House right now to urge support for this much-needed legislation.

More information on the Bishops' promotion of conscience rights are available at: www.usccb.org/conscience.

+ April 24, 2016

dear Padre

Use wine wisely

Monday
APRIL 25
St. Mark, Evangelist
1 Pt 5:5b-14
Mk 16:15-20

Tuesday
APRIL 26
Easter Weekday
Acts 14:19-28
Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday
APRIL 27
Easter Weekday
Acts 15:1-6
Jn 15:1-8

Thursday
APRIL 28
Easter Weekday
Acts 15:7-21
Jn 15:9-11

Friday
APRIL 29
St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church
Acts 15:22-31
Jn 15:12-17

Saturday
APRIL 30
Easter Weekday
Acts 16:1-10
Jn 15:18-21

Sunday
MAY 1
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Acts 15:1-2, 22-29
Rv 21:10-14, 22-23
Jn 14:23-29

My evangelical friends don't drink and even use grape juice for communion. Catholics use wine and drink all the time. Isn't the Church condoning alcoholism?

The abuse of alcohol is a serious vice, and it has caused untold damage. When we celebrate the Eucharist we are commemorating the Last Supper, at which Jesus offered wine and unleavened bread according to the Jewish Passover tradition, changed it into his Body and Blood, and gave us this command: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes" (1 Corinthians 11:25-26). While the properties of wine remain, including alcohol content, the substance becomes the Precious Blood

of Christ. Therefore, the ingestion of a sip or two seems trivial compared to the divine presence received therein. Those with medical or psychological reasons for abstaining should discuss those matters with their pastor and specialist(s). Jesus turned water into wine at the wedding in Cana (John 2:1-11), but he obviously doesn't condone alcoholism. God has given us many things to enjoy: food, love, and leisure to mention a few. As Catholics we are called to rightly use these gifts for the greater and common good. To abuse them is sinful; to use them as they are intended is a way to give thanks.



FR. PATRICK KEYES, CSSR
sundaybulletin@liguori.org

A MEDITATION FOR SPRING

True love is reaching out to the wider world and pouring into it whatever goodness we can find within ourselves, just like a spring blossom opens its petals as wide as it can and pours out its fragrance and its color and its promise of new life. This is true love, forgetting oneself and simply giving. And this is beautiful.

—From *Spring Meditations* by Fr. John Bartunek, LC (825613)
 To see sample pages from this book, call us at 800-325-9521 or visit Liguori.org and type the title or 825613 in the search bar.

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Fifth Sunday of Easter C 1
Acts 14:21-27

Words of Encouragement

Everyone needs a little encouragement now and then. When you are hired or chosen for some special work, you feel excited about the new responsibility. In time, though, the work becomes challenging. You doubt your ability to continue. The vision of success fades.

Possibly, everything is all right. When enthusiasm wears down and hard work steps up, it is normal to wonder about success. In this situation, perhaps all someone needs is a little encouragement.

At one point in their missionary journey, the apostles Paul and Barnabas retraced their steps. They went back to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch. They met again with the disciples they had formed, and the apostles exhorted the new believers to remain firm in their faith. Hardships are not just normal. Hardships are necessary, they say.

To help out, Paul and Barnabas appointed elders for each community. They also gathered the community to pray and fast at the time these elders were appointed. With organization, prayer, and sacrifice, Paul and Barnabas strengthened the disciples.

If you have helped someone in the past, this may be a good time to offer additional encouragement. Ask how it is going. Provide direction if you can. Pray. Fast. Give encouragement to those whose strength may be weakening. It is necessary to undergo hardships to enter the reign of God.

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Fifth Sunday of Easter C 2
Revelation 21:1-5a

Rehab Heaven

Many cities have had to build anew because of tragedies that befell them. Floods, earthquakes, tornadoes, and hurricanes have wiped away centuries of civilization. In times of war, aggressors have done the same thing. New buildings sometimes mask the difficulties of the past, the need that forced a people to build again.

Many individuals have personally endured trauma that forced them to start again. They have had to relearn how to walk, use their hands, speak, or think. Whether they endured physical damage to their bodies or emotional damage to their minds, they touched bottom and started all over again.

Near the end of the Book of Revelation, John envisions an entirely new Jerusalem. This one comes down out of heaven, and it becomes the dwelling place of God. The **One who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." But new things often come at a price. We may not want to pay, but often we have to.**

Starting over again is a challenge no one wants to face. Whether your hard drive crashes or your basement floods, no one wants to have to start over.

But when we do, good things can happen. We sort out what is really important. We learn about our capacity for times of distress. And we reinvigorate our belief in the One who brings us from death to life, the One who proclaims, **"Behold, I make all things new."**

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Weekend of Apr 30/May 1

5:00 p.m.

Altar Servers: aidan Murray, Paul Gagnon III
Extraordinary Ministers: Al Perreault, Ken Olson, Ron Berthelette, Patty Shawbitz, Alice Thompson
Lectors: Ana Fails, Mary Pinsoneault
Ushers: Cora Podrang, Mickey Shawbitz, Bob Flanagan
Greeter: John Fails
Sacristan: Doug Hoover
Elijah Cup: Sheila and Aidan Murray

8:00 a.m.

Altar Servers: Alina Schorzman
Extraordinary Ministers: Shelia Casselberry, Patsy Soto, Bobby Stockbridge, Kathy Stockbridge, Eden Carter
Lectors: Joshua Soto, Paul Landry
Ushers: Arnold Soto, Kathy Cauley, Tina Henderson, Dan Cauley
Greeter: Deidre Henderson
Sacristan: Jean Jordan
Elijah Cup: Aurora Zierden
Coffee & Donuts: Steve Berthelette

10:30 a.m.

Altar Servers: Austin Wise, Joseph Sweeney, Devony Ross
Extraordinary Ministers: Rick Grecco, Alicia Grecco, Jean Schlitt, Elaine Tennyson
Lectors: John Fay, Carolyn Alaniz
Ushers: Ray Schlitt, Donna Fetter, Ron Fetter, Patrick Sweeney
Greeter: Terri Turnbull
Sacristan: Therese Sweeney
Elijah Cup: Jim and Mery Wise
Coffee & Donuts: Tom Blossman, _____

Saint Peter Parish Prayer Chain: For prayer needs, please contact Susi Evers at 664-9165 or email her at saintpeterparishprayerchain@gmail.com

Hospitalized Parishioners: If you or a family member are hospitalized, please call the Parish Office, otherwise we have no way of knowing who in our parish is there.

In Your Daily Prayers, Please Remember our parishioners who are deployed and:

Monday Johanna Adam*, Charles Cummings*, Steve Lange, Mike and Jeanne Trueting, Julie Bourg

Tuesday Lynn Graham*, Thomas Holdsworth, Pam Stockbridge, Ashley Marie Code, Mary Eichler

Wednesday Gordon Pritchard*, Ken and Bette Dellner*, Caroline Frederick, Pam Holt, Barbara Kirschten*, Wilda Mayhew*

Thursday Gene and Pam Bauchwitz*, Robert Welniak, Theresa Stegall, Connie Jordan, Lucille Kesler, Clare Van Zelfden

Friday Lloyd Biehl*, Doug Babiak*, Sharon Lewis, Shannon Anderson, Vera Thornburg*

Saturday Peter Adam*, Mary Anyel*, Joel & Leo Grieves*, Dan Brenton*, Harriett Warren

Sunday Theresa Fowler*, Jeff Harp, Ann Hart, Russell Clawson

*Indicates our parishioners.

Please call the church office if you or a family member can be removed from this prayer list.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES HOSTING ANXIETY GROUP

Catholic Charities of Northwest Florida is hosting a 12 week group program for those suffering with anxiety. This is **an excellent opportunity to learn more about anxiety, healthy ways to cope, and to realize you're not alone. Tools and skills are developed to manage anxiety.** Discuss identifying and challenging thoughts/self-talk that lead to anxiety. Review relaxation, exposure, and mindfulness techniques and learn to apply these to a variety of anxiety disorders such as: Panic Disorder, Social Anxiety, OCD, Generalized Anxiety Disorder. The 12 week program is ongoing and divided into 3 modules of 4 weeks each, allowing new people to join at the start of any module (if there is space), and cover all topics at the end of 12 weeks.

Meetings are scheduled for Mondays 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. at the Fort Walton Beach office. There is availability for 10 people and the cost is \$15.00 per group. For any questions or to join the group, please feel free to contact Shari Adams at (850) 417-7886.

God proclaims at the end of our Second Reading from the Book of Revelations, “Behold, I make all things new.” That is a good thing to remember on this Fifth Sunday of Easter. In the opening verse of this reading from Holy Scripture, John also says, “I...saw a new heaven and a new earth.” Easter reveals this newness to us, and we must always keep it in mind.

The Greek word used for what is translated as “new” is *kaine*. As is normally the case, that particular Greek word has multiple meanings, one of which is “fresh.” We are not speaking of a heaven and earth which did not exist before, but of a heaven and earth which are fresh in their newness. This is not just a “new” perspective, but a better one.

If we strive to live out our lives as disciples of Christ, if we make a complete effort to be His disciples, we inherit this new heaven. In it, as also indicated in our Second Reading, God expresses His desire to be in close fellowship with us, and we in turn must desire to be His people. Being God’s disciple should be the whole purpose of our lives. That is not easily achieved, nor is it without obstacles and hurdles for us, but it is what our purpose should be.



Living God’s Word

All of our efforts to remake life can only be meager strivings. In the end it is God who makes all things new, and we are but sparks of God’s creation who seek to live in harmony with the Spirit set free by Jesus who is Lord.

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Last Saturday this year’s First Communion candidates spent a good part of their day at their first retreat. Fr. Paul, Stacy Fralic and Leisly Robles spent their time teaching, explaining and answering our candidates’ questions. The students had time to meditate and realize the importance of proper preparation, understanding and the joy of receiving this Sacrament of Initiation.



I was fortunate to do my hospital chaplaincy rotation with a young seminarian who was ordained about three years after our summer experience. Tom and I became good friends. He came to my wedding and I went to his ordination. My children forever referred to him as young Fr. Tom. He has been a blessing to me and my family.

When he was ordained, I tried my hand at writing a song as a gift for him. He was so eager and willing to preach the Gospel wherever he was sent that I wanted to mark that in some way. One lyric I wrote went like this: “Finding our homes where we can share your word, only to leave again when it’s been heard...to be your people.” Fr. Tom serves in Africa now, training other seminarians, and I often think of him and of that song because I have come to realize that we are all called to share God’s word whether we are in a comfortable place or a strange one. Perhaps part of our challenge is to leave the areas where we are comfortable and welcomed for those where the path is rougher and less clear, but the need for the Good News is all the greater.

Today our models are Paul and his companions, who travel from place to place to preach the Gospel and move on when they have done what they can. They follow Jesus’ command to love and find the glory of the Lord in that work and in whom they serve. If we are to be God’s people, we, too, must spread the hope of God’s love to all we meet, even if we have to travel far to do so.

MARY KATHARINE DEELEY
sundaybulletin@liguori.org



A Word From Pope Francis

“Every Christian is called to go out to meet others, to dialogue with those who do not think as we do, with those who have another faith or who have no faith. To encounter all, because for what we all share in common is that we were created in the image and likeness of God.”

—Address to Pontifical Council for Promoting the New Evangelization, October 14, 2013



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