

Jesus leads I will follow

- SATURDAY, May 16, 2009 VIGIL: Sixth Sunday of Easter
 4:00 PM †Ruth Dupuis & Dorothy Symancyk req by the family
 †Zdroykowski family req by Mr. & Mrs. Rene Pepin
- SUNDAY, May 17, 2009 Sixth Sunday of Easter
 8:00 AM †Alcide & Aldea Bernier req son & family
 †George Opalenik req by Paul & Nancy Kwiatkowski
 10:30 AM †Maurice Hickey req by Arleeda Hickey
 †Knights of Columbus Council req by SFO
- MONDAY, May 18, 2009
 8:00 AM †George Opalenik req by Chris McGinnis
 †Lawrence Wagner req Everett Tovet
- TUESDAY, May 19, 2009
 8:00 AM †George Opalenik req by Everett Tovet
 †Frances Trudeau req by Rita Vadnais
- WEDNESDAY, May 20, 2009 VIGIL: Ascension of the Lord
 8:00 AM †John Antonovitch req by Everett Tovet
 †Carole Kamins req by Terry & Ray Couture
 6:30 PM †Vigil Mass, Ann Thompson req by Christ family
- THURSDAY, May 21, 2009 Ascension of the Lord
 7:00 AM †Jackie Benham req by her sister
 12:10 PM †John Antonovitch req by Beth Buczko
 †Barbara Superski Birthday Remembrance req by Pat & Stanley Antonovitch
- FRIDAY, May 22, 2009
 8:00 AM †Morning Prayer
- SATURDAY, May 23, 2009 VIGIL: Seventh Sunday of Easter
 4:00 PM †Marge Pelkey req Mr. & Mrs. Rene Pepin
 †Michelle Kowalski req by her parents, Anthony & Josephine Pisano
- SUNDAY, May 24, 2009 Seventh Sunday of Easter
 8:00 AM †John Antonovitch req by Chris McGinnis
 †George Opalenik req by the Racicot family
 10:30 AM †Stanley Borowski & Stanley Drewniak req by Dan & Linda Drewniak
 †John Burley req by the Grady family



"If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete."

- Jn 15:10-11

*Scripture Readings for May 23-24, 2009
 Acts 1:15-17,20 26/1 Jn 4:11-16/Jn 17:11-19*

The Pastor's Thoughts...

-Congratulations to the members of our First Communion Classes who have received their First Holy Communion this weekend. Our thanks to Linda Racicot, our coordinator, to the teachers and aids who assisted and, most of all, to the parents who have nurtured these children in the Faith and have now brought them to the table of the Lord. On behalf of all the members of the parish we thank all the members of the First Communion Class of 2009 for the gift of a tree for our church property.

Prayer for First Communion

Lord Jesus, bless all those who are receiving You in Holy Communion for the first time. May each one of them know Your love and mercy in a personal way. May all Your people open their hearts to receive You that they might be transformed by Your love.
 AMEN

-Note change in schedule – This coming Thursday is the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord, May 21st. The schedule of Masses for this Holy Day of Obligation will be **Wednesday evening at 6:30PM** and on **Thursday at 7AM and 12:10PM**. Note that the 6:30PM Mass will be a Vigil Mass on Wednesday and not on Thursday.

-I have received word from our Diocesan Vocation Office that we will once again have a seminarian with us for a few months of the summer. On May 30th we will welcome Peter Naranjo who is completing his First Year of Theology at Blessed John XXIII Seminary in Weston. He will be with us until the 2nd of August. As always we are delighted to welcome our seminarians and to assist them in their preparation for service to our Diocese.

-A Rosary Procession: *To Jesus. Through Mary, for Grace* will take place on Sunday, June 7th, beginning at 2PM at Sacred Heart Church at 99 King Street in Northampton and will process up Main Street to St. Mary's Church at 3 Elm Street, concluding with Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, ending at 4:30PM. A reception lunch will follow. For more info or questions, call George & Brenda D'Astous at 413-296-0033.

-A word of congratulations to all the winners of our recent Building Fund Raffle and a big "thank you" to everyone who participated. Please note the listing of winners in today's bulletin.

-Regarding the new rectory, I am waiting to receive word from the Diocesan Building commission for permission to "go out to bid." We have received several inquiries from various contractors in the parish who wish to submit a bid; this is good. In the mean time I am meeting with a land engineer who will assist us with setting the house on the land and with environmental issues, etc.

God Bless you this week! Fr. Vern

Religious Vocation Corner – The greatest love story that ever happened: God's continuing love for His people. All God asks is "Love one another as I have loved you." The world really needs to see people who are trying to love others with all their hearts. Priests and religious can be excellent examples of this love. If you are willing to answer God's call, call Fr. Gary Dailey at 413-452-0816 or E-Mail: g.dailey@diospringfield.org. Pray for each of us that we may listen to God's call and reach out to others in love.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

*In Gratitude to God for His many gifts,
the members of this parish have returned
the following resources in support of the parish
and its ministries...*

The Sunday Collection for May 9-10 was.....	\$6,863.75
Weekly Sunday Average	6,451.39
Weekly Sunday Goal.....	6,500.00
Mortgage & Expansion Collection for May 3-10.....	5,170.50
Monthly Mortgage & Expansion Goal.....	6,000.00
Monthly Mortgage & Expansion May shortfall	829.50

Eucharistic Adoration and Visitation - The Adoration Info Line number is 323-6272 Extension 6. Please, always call just before coming in for your hour to see if Adoration has been closed due to extreme cold or bad weather. The Adoration Chapel (entrance around the rear of the church) is open to all parishioners for a visit before the Blessed Sacrament. Hours of Adoration are 8:00 AM – 10:00 PM Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. If you would like to be a part of our Adoration program, either as an assigned adorer or substitute, please call Pam at 323-7416. **The following hours are in need of an Adorer: Monday 1:00 – 2:00 PM; Tuesday 12 Noon – 1:00 PM and Tuesday 1:00 – 2:00 PM.**

Liturgical Roles

Weekend of May 23-24, 2009

Lectors

4:00 PM Campbell
8:00 AM Viglione & Rumanowski
10:30 AM Desilets

Ministers of the Eucharist

4:00 PM Racicot, Beaupre, Buczko, Couture, Carney, Lemire, Racine
8:00 AM Kielbasa, McGinnis, Miffitt, Moran, Ricardi, Tovet, Waniewski
10:30 AM Groux, Lattrell, Lawrence, Letendre, Rose, Tyler, Adams

Altar Servers

4:00 PM D. & R. Racicot, S. Grady, S. Zoufaly
8:00 AM B. Patel & D. Nauman
10:30 AM C. & S. Grady, A. Young, H. Lussier

RCIA at St. Francis – Are you interested in completing your sacraments in the Church? Do you know anyone who has expressed a desire to convert to our faith? We have begun a new RCIA process with three candidates. Contact Judy Trickey if you would like to join them – 323-6272, x 2. If you have a desire to support a candidate on their faith journey, we'd love to hear from you. We are in need of sponsors for our candidates.

St. Francis Food Pantry is in need of cold cereals. All donations are greatly appreciated.

*Some people are always grumbling because roses have thorns:
I am thankful that thorns have roses.*



Brick Corner – We would like to thank the following parishioners who have “purchased a brick” for our new church, either in their name or in the name of a loved one: Carole Fisher – One Brick In Memory of Frances Trudeau. Thank you for your support and please remind your friends that they, also, can “buy a brick”. They are only \$10.00 each.

And the winners are: The drawings for our Parish Cash Raffle were held on May 10th. The winners are as follows: \$500 – Michael Collins; \$100 each – Jennie McCullough and Maureen Paul; \$50 each – Marion Masse, Kathy Scherpa, Lillian Suprenant and Bernard Mathieu, Jr.; \$25 each – Fred Bozoglos, Art Gauthier, Rebecca Giguere and Kim Pacheco. Our parish thanks everyone who participated in this successful fundraiser for our Building Fund. A final report of income from the raffle will be included in next week's parish bulletin.

Parish Tag Sale August 29th – Rain or Shine – It's time to start collecting and packing saleable items for our annual Tag Sale which is our biggest fundraiser of the year. The drop off dates to deliver them to the Pine Room of the Parish Social Center are August 1st through the 24th. Please do not deliver them before August 1st because there are many activities in the Pine Room prior to that date. Ray Coulombe (323-7224) is the General Chairman this year. There will be a need for storage space in the weeks prior to the sale. Please contact Ray if you are aware of available space or for other information. The Tag Sale also requires many volunteers from August 1st throughout the month and particularly on Friday and Saturday, August 28th-29th. You are invited to attend an organizational meeting at 7 PM, on June 10th, in the K of C building at 11 Jabish Street. That will be the time to offer suggestions or criticism. Once plans are set it will be difficult to deviate from them. A list of items which cannot be accepted will be published in next week's parish bulletin.

Family Life – the next meeting of the Family Life Commission is Tuesday, May 19th, at 7 PM in the Tovet Room. We look forward to welcoming many new members.

Helping Hands – If you are able to help out with food shopping or transportation to doctor's appointments, please contact Beth at 323-5910. We have a request from a parishioner who needs transportation to U-Mass Medical Center for cancer treatment. If you could do this one day a week or even just once to help out, please call Beth at 323-5910. We would like to thank those who have been able to help out so far.

Pro Life Corner – “Our president ought to look at what abortion has done to poor and minority women in this country. ‘The abortion rate for black women is almost five times that of white women,’ according to Susan Cohen of the Alan Guttmacher Institute. Cohen also notes that ‘the abortion rate among Hispanic women is double the rate among whites.’”

Please pray that the God of love may forgive us for rejecting so many of His unborn children, given as gifts of His love and for mothers who devote their lives to their handicapped children.

MAY 17, 2009

Michael Sweeney Prayer Line

From May 4 through May 11, 2009, the following intentions were added to our already long list of requests for prayers. Won't you please join us in praying for them all.

Successful eye surgery for Juanita 5/11.

Thanksgiving for the birth of Michael, a new great-grandson.

Thanksgiving for good health for Aiden, who was baptized on Easter.

For Laura to have good medical results, peace and healing.

That Austin will be able to cope with his mother's illness.

For a woman who is greatly stressed by her co-worker's silliness.

Thanksgiving for successful surgery for Paul.

For successful surgery for a friend.

Healing and relief of pain for Cindy.

A good diagnosis for Matt Crawford.

That Eileen's temperature will be brought under control so her surgery can proceed.

Thanksgiving for a safe trip home from Hawaii for a couple.

That Lisa will have a safe pregnancy and a normal healthy baby.

Healing and relief of pain for a woman who has fallen downstairs.

Thanksgiving for the life of Ray Goff. Please pray for the repose of his soul and for his family and friends in their bereavement.

Thanksgiving for all God's Graces and His answers to the requests of the prayer line. If you would like to have the prayer line members pray for you or a loved one, please call Chris McGinnis, 323-6622, Louise Groux, 323-4046 or Marion Masse, 323-7169.

The Fairview K of C #4044, Memorial Drive, Chicopee will hold its Semi-Annual Candlelight Living Rosary Service on Wednesday, May 20th, at 7 PM, in their banquet facility, led by Council Chaplain Rev. Roland J. Galipeau. This short but meaningful ceremony features a live music program and light refreshments afterward.

"Love one another as I love you." – Do you love your spouse with the same kind of love that Jesus loves us? Take time now to learn this kind of love for each other. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends in New England are June 19-21, July 17-19 and September 25-27. For more information call Ralph and Jane Becker at 1-800-710-WWME or visit our webpage at www.wmwMA.org.

A retreat for married couples will be held May 27-29 (Wednesday through Friday) at the Marie Joseph Spiritual Center (on the ocean) in Bidderford Pool, Maine. Father Marc Montminy will be the retreat director. Over the years Father Marc has begun an extensive couples ministry in his parishes with over 150 couples currently involved. For further information, please contact Paula and Harold Brunault at 534-1596 or Rosemary and Ed Amo at 533-4668.

St. Mary's Parish will conduct its 25th Annual Carnival on the grounds of St. Mary's School, South & Charles Streets in Ware, on June 12th-14th. Entertainment on Friday evening will be the Mark VI band; on Saturday evening Eddie Forman; and Sunday from 3-7 will be Musical Magic for your dancing and listening pleasure. There will be games of skill and chance, arts/crafts, rides and delicious Polish & American foods. Polka Mass on Saturday, June 13th, at 4:30 PM with the Eddie Forman Orchestra. Sunday from 11:30-1:30 a Chicken Barbecue will be held on the school grounds. Tickets are \$10.