

St. William Parish

5411 Mahoning Ave. NW Warren, Ohio 44483-1133

www.stwilliamchampion.org 330-847-8677



May 17, 2020 ~ Sixth Sunday of Easter



Pastor's COLUMN

As we celebrate this Sixth Sunday of our Easter Season, Jesus tells us twice in today's gospel passage that our actions matter most in our life of discipleship. We might speak or act devoutly, or foster good intentions, but in the end it is how we keep the commandments of Christ that will determine if we are in true relationship with Jesus or not. Jesus tells us plainly, *"If you love me, you will keep my commandments."* The life of discipleship that Jesus is calling us to is one that will stretch and challenge us. To truly keep Jesus' command to love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength and to love our neighbor as ourselves is to be constantly drawn beyond ourselves. As we continue to cope with these unusual and different circumstances we are being challenged and stretched beyond our normal way of life. While this situation can easily lead to a sense of hopelessness and despair, we must remain confident and strong in our quest to overcome these feelings. Our gospel passage concludes today with the words, *"and whoever loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love you reveal myself to you."* As we muddle through these days of uncertainty, we need to remember the goodness of Jesus Christ in our lives and each other that happens each and every day!

In the coming week a letter will be sent to you outlining all of the precautionary measures and necessary changes that will be implemented to *"welcome"* you back to Church on May 30/31 – the feast of Pentecost. These will also be posted on our parish website. Every effort is being made to provide the safest environment for us to worship and pray together. However, for those who are at greater risk or are uncomfortable the dispensation to attend Sunday Mass remains in place for the time being.

Finally, next weekend we will celebrate the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord. Traditionally this feast has been celebrated on Thursday between the 6 and 7 Sunday of Easter, however a few years ago the Bishops of the United States were given the option to transfer the Feast of the Ascension from Thursday to the following Sunday. The Bishops of Ohio agreed to this option; therefore the Feast of the Ascension will take place next weekend in place of the Seventh Sunday of Easter.



Have a Good Week and Stay Safe!
Fr. Balash

WITH SINCERE GRATITUDE...

Many thanks to all who continue mail, drop off, or use myEoffering to make their current weekly contribution. Your response in these unusual circumstances has been overwhelming and most generous. I very much appreciate and am grateful for your support in helping us to meet our financial obligations.

THANK YOU!
Fr. Balash

Regular Office Hours Resume Monday

Regular Office hours will resume on Monday, May 18 – 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Please use the mailbox ONLY if you are dropping off your contribution after hours.

OFFERTORY SUMMARY ~ May 10, 2020 (WK 45)

	LAST WK	YTD
Sunday Collection	\$ 6,883.00*	\$ 323,344.00*
Amount Needed	\$ 7,100.00	\$ 319,500.00
Difference	\$ (217.00)	\$ 3,844.00
Performance	97%	101%

* Includes MyEoffering: \$ 1,312.00 LAST WK — \$ 32,396.00 YTD
Envelopes ~ 165 out of 552
Children's Envelopes ~ \$ 2.00 (2 out of 62)

Pot-of-Gold: #168 drawn on 5/13/20.
No Winner: \$488.00

OHIO BISHOPS EXTEND SUSPENSION OF MASS

The Bishops of Ohio extended the temporary suspension of all Masses and liturgies through May 29, with the hope of publicly celebrating together the Solemnity of Pentecost on the weekend of May 30/31. All are dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass during this period and are encouraged to view Mass on television or on-line. As details become available regarding initiatives for welcoming back everyone to Sunday Mass and other gatherings they will be posted on our parish website and published in the bulletin.

LIVE-STREAM MASS FROM ST. COLUMBA EVERY SUNDAY

Every Sunday Mass is live-streamed for from Saint Columba Cathedral at 10:30 a.m. on WFMJ-TV's website. Go to www.wfmj.com and click on "Weekly Faith Services."

†† RECENT DEATH ††

Our Sincere Sympathy

In your prayers for the departed, please remember

Fay Graham

Mother of Nora Millik

May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

Scripture that will be proclaimed THIS WEEKEND
or visit www.usccb.org for the Readings

~ May 17, 2020 ~
Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8: 5-8, 14-17

Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed the Christ to them. With one accord, the crowds paid attention...

1 Peter 3: 15-18

Beloved: Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts. Always be ready to give an explanation ...

John 14: 15-21

Jesus said to his disciples: "If you love me, you will keep my commandments" ...

SUMMER MASS SCHEDULE BEGINS ON "WELCOME BACK" SUNDAY!

Just a reminder that our Summer Mass Schedule will begin on "Welcome Back" Sunday, May 31. Masses for the summer will be 5:00 p.m. Saturday, and 8:30 a.m. and **10:30 a.m.** beginning on May 31.

Spiritual Communion via Televised or On-Line Mass

The Act of Spiritual Communion is made when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion at Mass. The way to make an Act of Spiritual Communion is listed below and can be adapted based upon personal and family needs:

1. Gather with others in your household and begin a time of prayer with the sign of the cross.
2. Watch Mass on television or on-line, or if unable, take time to read and reflect upon the readings from Sunday Mass. Scripture readings can be found at www.usccb.org. A schedule of televised Mass is available at www.doy.org under Media tab.
3. Share prayer intentions quietly or aloud.
4. Pray the Lord's Prayer.
5. Offer a prayer for healing, strength, or forgiveness or any prayer available during the coronavirus pandemic. If viewing Mass, offer a prayer during the normal time of Communion.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

6. Close with the sign of the cross.

THANKS FOR YOUR COOPERATION...

The Church building remains closed for the time being. It is asked that no one enter the building without checking at the office first. The Parish Office is now open and has resumed regular hours; however you are still encouraged to conduct any business by phone or mail. In the coming weeks as the building becomes more accessible, proper and frequent cleaning and sanitizing will be done. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Check the parish website from time to time for information about what is happening at the parish...

www.stwilliamchampion.org



PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

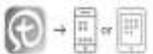
Call the Parish Office at 330-847-8677 or email parishoffice@stwilliamchampion.org



PARISH APP

SEEING MORE ACTIVITY...

Missing out on news, updates and information? Put your smartphone to good use and sign up for our Parish APP. It's FREE and EASY! Simply text **APP** to **88202** to download **myParish APP**. Select our parish and follow the easy instructions or visit our website for more information. During this time it is important to stay connected. Circumstances change daily and the **BEST** way to stay in touch, get news, and keep you informed is through the Parish APP. Questions??? Call the Parish Office.



Download myParish App on your smartphone or tablet!



Online Mass

Daily Mass is available at www.CatholicTV.org

“SHEPHERDING ONE ANOTHER”

In anticipation of returning to Church on May 30/31, our “shepherds” are reaching out this week to all parishioners as your “contact” to provide updates and information about parish happenings and to also make sure everyone is doing OK in these unusual circumstances. These courtesy phone calls are just another way to stay in touch as we physically distance!!

myEoffering?

PARTICIPANTS INCREASE

 Many thanks to those who have recently signed up for *myEoffering*! There has been an increase in parishioners taking advantage of this opportunity. This is an easy and convenient way to remain current on your weekly offerings. Electronic giving is safe and secure. Sign up for *myEoffering* today! Follow the easy sign-up registration and instruction steps found on the parish website: www.stwilliamchampion.org to establish your account. Questions??? Call the Parish Office.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS???

Out of Town? Temporarily? Seasonally? Are you a Snowbird? Remember to let the Parish Office know ahead of time. We can send mail directly to a temporary or seasonal address. Mail returned to us incurs a hefty charge. Help keep our costs down by letting us know your address changes!

A PRAYER FOR ALL OF US DURING THIS TIME

by Pat Maciejewski

Lord, God,
creator of all good things,
help us in these days of concern and unrest,
of the unknown and maybe even panic.
Be with all medical personnel,
and all in charge of keeping us safe and calm.

We trust in you, O Lord,
to give us the strength and courage,
words and actions,
that we might need in the days and weeks ahead.

Keep us prudent in caring for ourselves,
our loved ones, and all others,
We implore you, O God, to send
your healing and spirit into the whole world.
Remain with us, grant us peace.

AMEN



“Welcome Back”

Sunday

May 30 – 31

Solemnity of Pentecost

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.



All are welcome to join us as our parish family gathers to pray, sing, and celebrate giving thanks to God for His blessings and goodness.

Special precautionary measures will be in place to ensure a safe environment, however for those most vulnerable, especially those who are sick, or at high risk of becoming sick or who remain uncomfortable; the dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains in effect for all Catholics for the time being.

Further details and information will be available next week in the bulletin and on the parish website.