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St. Joseph The Worker Parish, Russell, MB      St. Theresa's Parish Rossburn, MB

**Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 145):** I will bless your name for ever, my King and my God.

### **St. Joseph The Worker News:**

**Please remember in your prayers** those who are sick in hospitals, care homes, or in their homes & those who care for them. If you wish to receive the Sacraments of Anointing, Confession, or Holy Communion – please call the parish office & leave a message: 204-773-2924.

**The Pope's Prayer Intention May:** *For working conditions:* Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfillment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanized.

### **Mass Intentions For This Week:**

#### **5th Sunday of Easter**

Saturday	May 17	7:30 p.m. Russell Special Intentions req by Irene Deschamps
Sunday	May 18	9:00 a.m. Russell <b><u>Zoom on-line Mass 9:00 a.m. and YouTube after 10:15 a.m.</u></b> Melvin & Julie Zimmer req by your great grandchildren 11:00 a.m. Rossburn For all parishioners req by Father Paul
Monday	May 19	No Mass
Tuesday	May 20	No Mass
Wed	May 21	No Mass
Thurs	May 22	10:30 a.m. Rossburn Adoration 11:00 a.m. + Suffering Souls in Purgatory req by Rose & family
Friday	May 23	8:30 a.m. Russell Adoration 9:00 a.m. Health of Family & friends req by Jean Goba



#### **6th Sunday of Easter**

Saturday	May 24	7:30 p.m. Russell + Bernard Trinder req by Louise Trinder & family.
Sunday	May 25	9:00 a.m. Russell <b><u>Zoom on-line Mass 9:00 a.m. and YouTube after 10:15 a.m.</u></b> For all parishioners req by Father Paul 11:00 a.m. Rossburn + Suffering Souls in Purgatory req by Rose & family

This year marks St. Joseph's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary! If anyone has any ideas as to how we could celebrate this great milestone, please get in touch with the church office. Thank you!

**Marian Month:** For the month of May, the CWL will lead the Rosary. Please come early to join them as they will start leading in prayer at 8:40 a.m. Thank you!



**Coffee Sunday** will be held next Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup> after 9 a.m. Mass following **First communion** celebrations! *All are welcome to join us to celebrate this great day with the First Communicants from our Parish! We hope to see you there!*



The CWL are hosting a come and go tea in celebration of their 70 years of membership in St. Joseph's parish. This will be held in the church basement on June 14<sup>th</sup> from 2 – 4 p.m. This is open to all parish members and anyone who wishes to attend. Please mark your calendars for this day!

**Congratulations to Charles Maguire** and to his parents Lehm and Rheazel Maguire! Charles was baptized yesterday at St. Joseph the Worker Parish in Russell.



### **World Day of Prayer for the Church in China – May 24**

In May 2007, Pope Benedict XVI asked that May 24 be observed as a Day of Prayer of the Church in China. He chose this day since it is the traditional Feast of Our Lady of Help of Christians, venerated at the Shrine of Sheshan in Shanghai.

### **Food for Thought:**

The first reading, taken from the Acts of the Apostles, describes how the small Christian communities helped the work of renewal in their members by their *agápe* love, imitating the *agápe* love of Paul and Barnabas. The second reading, from the Book of Revelation, explains how God renews His Church, *the New Jerusalem*, by being present in her members, in their parish communities, and in their liturgical celebrations. “*See, I am making all things new.*” Today's Gospel passage gives us the secret of Christian renewal as the faithful practice of Jesus' new commandment: “*Love one another as I have loved you*” (Jn 13:35). Jesus has added a new element to the Old Testament command of love by teaching us that the true test of discipleship is to love other people in the same way that he has loved us, with sacrificial, selfless, self-giving and unconditional, *agápe* love. Hence, the renewal of Christian life means a radical change of vision and a reordering of our priorities in life. Such a renewal brings us to embrace new attitudes, new values, and new standards of relating to God, to other people and, indeed, to our whole environment.

**Life messages:** 1) Let us learn to love ourselves so that we may learn to love each other. The old commandment says: “*Love your neighbor as yourself*” (Lv 19:1-2, 9-18). We cannot learn to cherish others and care for them if we have never learned to do the same for ourselves. We live in a world that denies our basic human worth. How do we reclaim our basic worth? We can become whole, and hol, only when we learn to love ourselves properly, acknowledging the fact that we are children of God and that the Triune God resides in our souls, making our body the “*temple of the Holy Spirit.*”

2) Let us love others in our daily lives: We are asked to love as Jesus loved, in the ordinary course of our lives. We love others by responding to their everyday needs with love and compassion. We love others by comforting and protecting those who have experienced loss. We love others by serving others in every possible way, no matter how small, seeing the face of Jesus in each of them. We love others by forgiving rather than condemning, and by challenging rather than condoning. Finally, we love others by sacrificially sharing our time, talents, and blessings with them.

3) Let us demonstrate our love for others in our gatherings and parish assemblies: When we are assembled as a religious or social community, we have an opportunity to demonstrate our love for one another. People must see Christians as people who interact with a love and concern for one another that reveals their strong love and appreciation for each other. They should see in us a quickness to appreciate and a readiness to forgive, even as Christ has forgiven us. *Fr Tony* <https://frtonyshomilies.com/>

**Mother Teresa's love:** One day, as St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa) and her Missionaries of Charity were tending to the poorest of the poor on the streets of Calcutta, they happened across a man lying in the gutter, very near death. He was filthy, dressed in little more than a rag and flies swarmed around his body. Immediately, Mother Teresa lovingly lifted him up him, cleaned his body, spoke to him softly and laid him comfortably in her ambulance. A passerby was repulsed by the sight of the man and exclaimed to Mother Teresa, “*I wouldn't do that for a million dollars.*” Her response was immediate, “*Neither would I!*” — She demonstrated the type of love that Jesus wants from Christians.



Dear Padre,  
*I have gay/homosexual friends and coworkers. How do I respond appropriately when they announce they got married or are engaged, as we Catholics do not believe in same-sex marriage?*

Context and perspective are always useful and necessary. It is also important to remember that your beliefs can often conflict with another person’s belief system. It does not change the truth of what you believe, but it can be sobering. When you offer someone congratulations, it does not mean you are giving your approval or acceptance. It just means you are engaging in respectful social protocol. Let’s assume that most people are mature enough to understand the difference between acceptance and protocol. Confusion arises when some people insist that you cannot be “both/and,” as they reduce everything to “either/or.” With this kind of perspective, life is a battle to be fought rather than an opportunity to live a life of graciousness and thanksgiving that invites us to celebrate. Be respectful. Be gentle. Be loving. Be compassionate. Each of those virtues speak much louder than judgment, rigidity, and a posture that proclaims, “I am better than you.” ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / Dear Padre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about Dear Padre.



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*We have heard what Jesus told his disciples before leaving this world.... He told us what it means to be a Christian: “Even as I have loved you, so you must love one another” (Jn 13:34). This is the legacy that Christ bequeathed to us, the ultimate criterion for discerning whether or not we are truly his disciples.*

HOMILY, ROME, MAY 15, 2022



PIXABAY / PEXELS

Our Parish  
COMMUNITY

May 18, 2025  
Fifth Sunday of Easter (C)  
Acts 14:21–27 / Revelation 21:1–5a / John 13:31–33a, 34–35



The Other Side  
of Love

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**W**e have an instinct to love; this is something woven into the foundation of human life. It’s also a godly instinct, for anything embedded into the human spirit with such intensity must surely be of God. In fact, it is how God is creating a new heaven and a new earth, thereby making all things new as is written in the Book of Revelation. So intense is that inclination to love, we read in the first letter of John that God is love. While our culture tends to romanticize love, the reality is that, all too often, if we are seriously committed to loving someone, it can also be a lonely effort. Love is not always romantic or satisfying. At times, it can be demanding and even harsh. One day, when I was meeting with an engaged couple in preparation for their marriage, I asked them, as I often do, for their definition of love. Usually, couples are tongue-tied when I ask that question. They know they’re in love, and, to them, that seems to be enough. This time, however, the young groom-to-be did not hesitate. He said that love is caring for someone even when they are unlovable—an insightful definition, for it is precisely during such times that we need someone’s love. It is the weakest moments of life that are in need of rebuilding, the loneliest moments of life that are in need of someone reaching out a hand, and the darkest moments of life that are in need of light. When that happens, creation is made new. ●

Reflect

What is my definition of love?  
How do I live it?



[Jesus said,] “This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

JOHN 13:35

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