

Sunday, May 10th, 2020



5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?" - Jn 14:2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

- Sat. May 9 † Stanley Bryk (Stan & Gloria Rutyna)
- Sun. May 10 Missa Pro Populo
- Mon. May 11 Special Intention (Teresa Walters)
- Tues. May 12 † Mike Cioffi (Bianco Family)
- Wed. May 13 † Anthony Fernandes (Marguerite Fonseca)
- Thurs. May 14 † Ray Kardas (Jay Yurcich)
- Fri. May 15 † Anthony Fernandes (Marguerite Fonseca)
- Sat. May 16 † Nicola Colangelo (Rosa Colangelo & Family)
- Sun. May 17 Missa Pro Populo

Fifth Sunday of Easter

When earthly lives end, especially when the person is younger, we tend to focus upon and consider what was lost. We think of lost opportunities — things they won't be able to see, babies they won't be able to cradle, and adventures that now must go undiscovered. Our minds create this chasm between earth and heaven that sees the losses of this life

as permanent ones, never possible to achieve again. This perception causes many folks to remain stuck in their grief as they ponder all of the missed opportunities and regrets.

This is not resurrection thinking. All of the love that we can give and receive, the joy and elation that can be experienced, the adventures that can be undertaken, and the possibilities to be discovered are all part of a continuous journey. They are not ends in and of themselves but are all part of the unfolding of a relationship we have with God, who not only makes all of these wonderful things possible now but sustains them and fulfills them into eternity. The perception and experience of loss is really an illusion, because in God's eternal kingdom and in God's time, nothing is ever lost.



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drawn to him. Lastly, we must never lose hope. Many have walked long journeys alone only to find God far down the road. What will it take to bring someone to Christ? It might be an action, a word, or an emotion. We never know how certain people will be touched. That loved one is a gift from God in your life. Place them back in God's hands, and let Him pick them up if they have stumbled and fallen.

Even the most intimate and tender of moments we can conceive of sharing with another human being are only part of a journey toward perfect intimate and tender moments to be shared with God in our resurrected life. We become like God and see God as He is in eternity. What greater joy, love, and hope can ever be discovered as we walk down our often dimly lit paths in this world.

This is an awesome wonder and magnificent news to behold. Call to mind someone you have lost in death. How do you see them now? How do you see yourself in heaven? Remind yourself, again, that God is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Our happiness is not going to be fully realized in this world, and there is nothing we can find here that cannot be found one hundred fold in eternity. It's all about relationship, and not solely about the relationships we have with each other, ourselves, and the world in which we live. It's about our relationship with God. If we realize how special that one relationship really is, then there is only one particular of heaven and life eternal that really matters: namely, that we fall into love eternal and discover truth. For when we finally close our eyes in death, then all will be well as long as we are with God. There are no losses, only gains.



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Witnesses for Jesus

This journey of faith is not always easy. Sometimes the greatest wounds are those we suffer when family members and friends wander away from God and leave us behind. The faith they had when they were younger is now strained, or they see the daily walking with Jesus to be too difficult. For them, Jesus becomes what Peter wrote about when he described Jesus as the stone that causes people to stumble and the rock that makes them fall. Our journey is hard enough, but watching a loved one stumble and fall is heart-breaking.

What are we to do in such a situation? Most importantly, we pray. We must realize that God is more powerful than us, and even if we can't make them see the truth, He can. Then we witness to the transformative power of Jesus by our own lives. We need to serve him in word and deed. We should let a joy of being a disciple enlighten our faces. Allow Jesus to work through us so that others may be drawn to him. Lastly, we must never lose hope. Many have walked long journeys alone only to find God far down the road. What will it take to bring someone to Christ? It might be an action, a word, or an emotion. We never know how certain people will be touched. That loved one is a gift from God in your life. Place them back in God's hands, and let Him pick them up if they have stumbled and fallen.

A very Happy Mother's Day to everyone!

Heavenly Father, from the beginning you have chosen to entrust the human person to mothers in a special way. We thank and praise you for the gift of mothers; for their tenderness, care, and compassion, for their intuition and encouragement, for commitment and sacrifice. Bless all mothers this day. Keep, strengthen, and refresh them in your loving care. May they be blessed by our open-hearted love and gratitude. Amen.

