

Abiding Press

Abiding Presence Faith Community

*A PARISH OF THE REFORMED CATHOLIC CHURCH
AN INCLUSIVE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
MAKING GOD'S LOVE KNOWN IN CENTRAL FLORIDA*

MAY 2024 VOLUME 3 #5

5330 Poinsetta Ave, Winter Park, FL 32792

321-594-4922

Office info@apfcwp.com

Sunday Mass is Celebrated at 12:30 pm

*The Sanctuary Building of the First United Church of Christ
4605 Curry Ford Rd., Orlando, Florida 32812*

Social Media

Web Site www.apfcwp.com

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1386619738179316/?ref=bookmarks>

YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP9i133esG31IRPfgk-Jn4w>

Clergy Serving the People of God

Pastor: Most Rev. William R. Cavins pastor@apfcwp.com

Kingsport TN Ministry: Rev. Fr. Lucas G. Brown RevLBrown@apfcwp.com

Palm Coast FL Ministry: Rev. Mr. Christopher M. Larsen DcnCLarsen@apfcwp.com

Volunteer Staff Serving the Parish

Gene L. Thompson II - Technology

Dennis Last - JMB Crock Pot Ministry

Klaus Stodtmann - Bread Baking

Mass Intentions & Prayer Requests

Please email the bishop if you want someone remembered at Mass or added to the Prayer Lists. It is at your discretion how much you donate to the support of our community. We also have Mass Cards for you to send to the recipients.

Upcoming Dates

- MAY 1 Breaking Open the Word 7:30 PM Zoom
MAY 5 Divine Worship – 6th Sunday of Easter 12:30 PM
Communal Celebration Anointing of the Sick within Mass
Intention: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
MAY 8 Breaking Open the Word 7 PM Zoom
MAY 9 Divine Worship – Solemnity of the Ascension 6:30 pm Bishop’s Residence
Intention: Peace on our Campuses
MAY 12 May Crowning 12:15 PM
Divine Worship – Seventh Sunday of Easter 12:30 PM
Intention: All Mothers (living and deceased) and those who have served
as Mothers
MAY 19 Divine Worship – Solemnity of Pentecost 12:30 PM
Intention: People of the Parish
MAY 21 Crock Pot Class 10 AM
Dedicated Senior Medical Center – 690 S. Goldenrod Rd., Orlando
MAY 22 Breaking Open the Word 7 PM Zoom
MAY 26 Divine Worship – Solemnity of the Most Blessed Trinity 12:30 PM
Intention: Deceased military members of the US Armed Forces
MAY 29 Breaking Open the Word 7 PM Zoom

*SCAP = Sunday Celebration in the Absence of a Priest

Financial Update as of 4/30/2024

Total Income Year to Date: \$ 6975.94. Total Expenditures Year to Date: \$ 8181.00.

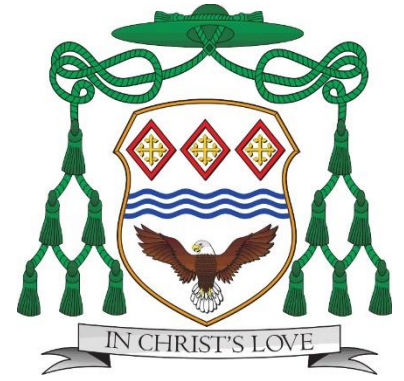
Difference **-1205.06**. Balance on hand: \$1212.89. **Please note this is the second month in a row our income and expenditures are in the red.**

From the Bishop’s Desk

I recall Julie Andrew singing “It’s May” in Camelot. The opening lines are:

*“Tra la, it's May, the lusty month of May
That lovely month when everyone goes blissfully astray...”*

As a youth I loved the month of May! Birds could be heard singing, lilacs, snowball hydrangea, forsythia, and other flowers were blooming. Windows and doors were thrown open and one could almost taste the end of school coming in 7 weeks.



It was also the month of Mary, our heavenly mother. First Communicants would process and help the Sisters of Loretto crown the image of the Virgin Mary. The Christian Mothers Sodality would have a corporate Communion Sunday, In the middle of the month We would mark my grandparents wedding Anniversary and my mother’s and my joint birthday. At the end of the month my grandmother would have me help her decorate all the family graves.

It was my month!

This year, for the first time, I will mark my birthday without my mother’s earthly presence. I will most likely make the trip up to Enterprise’s Evergreen Cemetery and decorate her grave with white carnations. Yet her spirit and loving presence will remain with me.

I encourage all of you to spend time with your mothers if they are alive. Don’t just send a card. Send yourself. Time is the most precious thing you have to share with those who gave you life. If you are estranged from your mother, perhaps this year is the year to put it all behind you and reach out as you may have done as a child to be wrapped in a loving embrace.

In Christ’s Love

+*William*

Pastor

Online Giving

Donations can now be made online through our website. To make sure we get your full donation please utilize the **Zelle** method. If you choose one of the others, please send it as if to an individual. Our email address for all giving platforms is bkpg@apfcwp.com. Thank you for your generosity.

JMB Crockpot Ministry

Our current supply of crockpots is running low. To donate a crockpot or volunteer to conduct a class contact Dennis Last at 321-388-1572.

Our next Crock Pot Classes are scheduled for April 16, 2024, at 11 AM at the Dedicated Senior Medical Center -4270 Aloma Ave, Winter Park, and on April 23, 2024, and April 23, 2024, at 10 AM at the Dedicated Senior Medical Center – 690 S. Goldenrod Rd., Orlando. Enter to win a new Crock Pot at the end of class. Email Info@apfcwp.com to register.

Volunteer Opportunities

Are you looking to do more within the parish community in 2024? Here are a few opportunities broken down by day of the week. On Sundays, we need readers, musicians, singers, altar servers, and Eucharistic Ministers. On Mondays or Tuesdays, we usually schedule our Crock Pot Classes. Contact Dennis Last to become a presenter. On Tuesdays, we would like to have volunteers help out at Rebecca's Pantry in the morning. Then on Wednesdays, there is the Thrift Shop. On Saturday, once a month, we will be canvassing a different area around the Church building. So much to choose from. We could also use a few Special Ministers to the Sick which would be a new ministry. What is God calling you to do?

Prayer for Vocations

Creating God and Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in Christ's Kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth and young adults. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Priestly Ponderings by Rev. Lucas G. Brown

What's in a Blessing?

Have you been to mass recently (especially on a Solemnity like Christmas and Easter) and noticed that the blessing at the end of mass is different? You might ask “Why do we have different blessings for different days?” Well, much like everything in our Catholic Liturgy, it all has a time, place, and reason. Let's look more at the Episcopal or Apostolic Blessing.

The episcopal or apostolic blessing is a blessing imparted by a bishop, especially if using a formula given in official liturgical books.

Typically, it follows the following layout:

V. The Lord be with you. / R. And also with you.

V. Blessed be the name of the Lord. / R. Both now and forever.

V. Our help is in the name of the Lord. / R. Who made heaven and earth.

V. Final Blessings for that particular day

Within their own diocese, a Roman bishop may impart the apostolic blessing three times a year on solemn feasts. In exceptional circumstances, they can impart it also on other occasions. Bishop Cavins imparts his more often.

A plenary indulgence is granted to those who devoutly receive the blessing when imparted by their own bishop. It is granted also to those who are unable to be present at the rite itself and who instead follow it piously by radio, television, or the internet.

Even though confessed and forgiven sins will not send a person to hell, consequences remain to be paid on earth. A plenary indulgence frees the recipient from all of those consequences. Reception of an indulgence always springs from sincere repentance, the desire to live a holy life, reception of the sacrament of Holy Communion as soon as possible, and prayer. An indulgence cannot be bought, nor can one be obtained by going through the motions without sincerity.

Family Faith Activities
Courtesy of LTP's At Home With the Word 2024.

May 5, 2024 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

Questions

- ◆ St. John tells us that God is love, and Jesus says that we are to love one another. Who has shown you the love of God?
- ◆ Today's readings emphasize God's perfect love that reaches out to us even though we are sinners, enduring the cost of loving us even unto death. Is there anyone whom you find hard to love? How can you reach out to that person with the love of God?
- ◆ Love isn't a feeling, but a choice. Jesus tells us that choosing to keep God's commandments is love. Do you struggle with any of God's commands? How can seeing them as choices to love help in your struggle?

Activities

- ◆ People often have a negative view of laws, including God's commandments, seeing them as restrictive or bossy. Choosing not to do what's wrong, however, frees us to enjoy many things that are right. Discuss the Ten Commandments and write the positive things that come from following each in love. Not coveting, for example, frees us to experience gratitude for all that we have, to rejoice in someone else's good fortune, and to experience an increase in our happiness. Discuss the joy to which we're lovingly called by God's commandments.
- ◆ Practice acts of kindness at home this week. See who can be the first to voluntarily clear the table, take out the trash, or walk the dog. Tuck loving notes in each other's lunch bags, and find other creative little ways to share love. Note the difference between love and preference. We might say that we love chocolate, but we really mean that we prefer it. Love requires self-giving. When we say that we love another person, what do we really mean?
- ◆ Resolve to bring extra love into all you do this week, from the way you drive to the way you treat others at work, school, or in the community. Look for opportunities to give a little more of yourself and ask a little less of others. Discuss your experiences with each other.

May 9, 2024 - Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

Questions

- ◆ Jesus' ascension into heaven wasn't the end of the story. He gave his followers a mission to witness to his Good News until he returns. If Jesus returned this moment, what would he find you doing to help the world prepare for him?
- ◆ Jesus told his disciples to proclaim the Good News to every creature. What is the Good News? How can you proclaim it to every creature?

◆ What are some ways that you can witness to and proclaim the Good News of Jesus every day without saying a word?

Activities

◆ Every Mass ends with us being sent forth on a mission. Help your child listen for this sending forth. What words are used? How can we live out this mission? Discuss how the liturgy prepares us for this important undertaking. Talk about how we're fed, body and soul, on the Word, and how the Eucharist strengthens us for this task. How well do we burst forth from our spiritual revival, on fire with the desire to spread the Good News and prepare for Christ's return? Can everyone see that we're on a mission?

◆ Whip a package of cream cheese together with a small jar of marshmallow cream to make a heavenly cloud fruit dip. Serve with slices of your favorite fruit as a special treat to celebrate the Ascension of the Lord and the sweetness of heaven.

◆ Proclaim the Good News to others by making a heavenly cloud windsock to hang outside your home. Help your child draw a cloud shape on white construction paper, poster board, or a white paper plate, and cut it out. Print across it: "Until he comes again" which is from 1 Corinthians 11:26. Glue or tape blue streamers or strips of tissue paper so that they hang from your cloud. Punch a hole in the top and hang it from ribbon or yarn. For extra fun, make a second one to give to someone special.

May 12, 2024 - Seventh Sunday of Easter

Questions

◆ By our baptism, we've removed our lives from the ordinary and given them over to the purpose of God. How can others tell that your life is consecrated to God in truth, that you've been called to be a disciple?

◆ Reread Jesus' prayer for you in today's Gospel. What does it mean for you in the circumstances of your life today?

◆ How are you one with your family and the Church as Jesus and his Father are one? What separates people from one another? How can we find unity in Christ?

Activities

◆ As a priestly people, we're called to pray for others as Jesus prayed for us. Invite your child to pay special attention to the universal prayer (sometimes called the prayer of the faithful) at Mass today. Note the pattern of response and include it in home prayers so your child becomes familiar with it.

◆ Include in your family prayers intercessions for the Church, the nations of the world, your local community, and the poor, sick, and lonely. Include individuals you personally know who are in special need at this time, and all those whose needs are known to God alone. Use the same pattern of response that's used in your parish.

◆ Jesus knew better than anyone how difficult our mission can be. That's why he prayed for us. This week, notice how the people who serve your spiritual needs are treated by others. Note when those in ordained life are depicted in a negative light by the media or are made the butt of jokes. Identify the lay people in your parish who serve in ministerial roles without receiving much, if anything, in the form of compensation. Let these people know how much you appreciate them and their service. In addition to praying for them, as a family, think of acts of community service or small sacrifices you will make on their behalf.

May 19, 2024 - Pentecost Sunday

Questions

- ◆ From the mighty wind that swept the waters at the creation of the world to the mighty wind that filled the house where the disciples hid at Pentecost, the Holy Spirit has moved throughout the history of the God-human relationship. How many scriptural appearances of the Holy Spirit can you name?
- ◆ From the wasteland that preceded creation to the fear that preceded Pentecost, the presence of the Holy Spirit has drawn order out of chaos. How have you experienced this spirit of order in the tumultuous times of your life?
- ◆ How do you listen for and respond to the guidance of the Holy Spirit?

Activities

- ◆ Invite your child to notice the signs of Pentecost at Mass: red vestments, the special Pentecost sequence sung before the Gospel acclamation, hymns that emphasize the Holy Spirit, and so on. Explain that the Holy Spirit is often described as wind or fire and invite your child to listen for these words in today's readings.
- ◆ Celebrate the Holy Spirit by wearing red to church today. Have a picnic, serving red foods on a red tablecloth, and light a red candle. Blow bubbles, fly a kite, make a windsock, or find other ways to enjoy playfulness in the wind and air. Breathe in deeply, and feel the air fill your lungs. The Spirit of God is closer to you than the air. Breathe in the love of God and breathe out anything that threatens to come between you and that love.
- ◆ The Holy Spirit prompted the disciples to proclaim the Gospel of Christ in many languages. Learn to say peace in other languages: Hebrew (shalom), Latin (pax), Arabic (salām), French (paix), Italian (pace), Napali (shanty), Polish (pokój). Find more on the internet. Make a poster or banner that expresses the peace of God, which is beyond understanding, in a variety of languages.

May 26, 2024 - The Most Holy Trinity

Questions

- ◆ All of today's readings speak of God initiating a relationship with his people repeatedly throughout history. How has God initiated a relationship with you personally throughout your life?
- ◆ What are some ways that you have responded to God's initiative in your life?
- ◆ The Gospel tells us that the disciples worshiped, but they also doubted. Even those who knew Jesus and personally witnessed his miracles found it hard to believe. Yet their doubts didn't stop them from proclaiming what they'd seen. How do you proclaim the Good News, even when it seems too good to be true?

Activities

- ◆ Help your child bless himself or herself with holy water when entering church, saying the words of the blessing slowly and consciously. Invite your child to notice liturgical color changes in your church. This week, the vestments are white in honor of the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. There may also be green decor to note the beginning of Ordinary Time. Tell your child to listen closely to the readings, prayers, and hymns for the names of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- ◆ God is so good that even his name is a blessing. Make the sign of the cross slowly and deliberately each time you pray this week. Bless your child by tracing the cross on his or her forehead while saying: "May God bless you—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit." Show your child photographs of his or her baptism, the white candle, the garment he or she wore, the certificate you received, and other reminders of the celebration of the sacrament. Talk about your memories of the day that the whole community welcomed your child into the Church.
- ◆ The Trinity is a community of perfect love. Our baptism welcomes us into this community and calls us to be community to others. Do you know someone who needs a ride to church, help with yard work, or an invitation to Sunday brunch? Proclaim God's goodness by reaching out in his name.

Sensational May Saints

We begin the month celebrating the Feast of Saint Joseph the Worker,. His feast is followed on May 2 with the memorial to St Athanasius. The Feast of the Apostles Philip and James occurs on May 3. Saint Damien Joseph de Veuster is commemorated on May 10. May 13 is the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima. May 14, we honor the Apostle Saint Matthias. Saint Isidore the Farmer is recalled on May 15. Pope Saint John I is honored on May 18. Mary, Mother of the Church, is recalled on May 20. On the 21st we remember Saint Christopher Magallanes and Companions. Saint Rita of Cascia is memorialized on May 22. May 25 is the feast of the Venerable Bede, Pope Saint Gregory VII, and Saint Mary Magdalene de Pazzi. Saint

Augustine of Canterbury is honored on May 27. We bring the month to a close with the Feast of the Visitation.

May Recipes

Strawberry Butter

Ingredients:

- 1 stick unsalted butter $\frac{1}{2}$ cup, softened.
- 4 strawberries fresh or thawed, room temperature.
- 1 Tablespoon sugar
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt

Directions:

1. Add ingredients to a food processor and pulse to mix. Or use a hand blender, pastry blender, or fork to combine.

Sunday French Toast Casserole

Ingredients:

For the casserole:

- 10 cups bread in 1-2 inch cubes
- 5 large eggs
- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups whole milk
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup granulated sugar
- Zest of 1 medium orange
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons ground cinnamon
- $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt

For the topping:

- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter melted
- 3 tablespoons dark brown sugar packed
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- Pinch salt

Directions:

1. Preheat the oven to 200°F. (You'll increase the temperature later.)

2. Cut the bread into 1-2 inch cubes, leaving the crusts on. Spread the bread cubes on a baking sheet and put them in the warm oven to dry out while you prepare the rest of the ingredients.
 3. Combine the eggs, milk, sugar, orange zest, cinnamon, and salt in a blender jar and blend to combine (or use a bowl and whisk).
 4. To make the topping, melt the butter in a measuring glass, and whisk in the brown sugar, cinnamon, and salt.
 5. Butter or spray a 2- to 3-quart baking dish.
 6. Retrieve the bread cubes from the oven and increase the temperature to 375°F.
 7. Add the bread to the baking dish and pour the egg mixture over the top, wetting all the bread. Mix it around a bit if some bread is still dry.
 8. Slowly drizzle the topping over the bread and egg mixture.
 9. Cover with foil and bake for 40 minutes.
 10. Uncover and bake for an additional 5 minutes or so to brown the top a bit.
- Enjoy!

Orange Dancing Sun Cupcakes in honor of Our Lady of Fatima

Ingredients:

For cupcakes:

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- ¼ cup cornstarch
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ½ cup melted butter
- ¾ cup superfine caster sugar*
- ¼ cup whole milk room temp
- 2 large eggs room temp
- 3 Tablespoons orange juice
- Zest of ½ medium orange
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

For the orange buttercream:

- 1 cup whole milk
- ¼ cup all-purpose flour
- Peel of 1 orange no pith, cut in strips**
- 1 cup unsalted butter
- 1 cup superfine caster sugar*
- ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon orange zest

For pineapple “suns”:

- 1 whole pineapple

Directions:

Make the pineapple suns:

1. To cut the whole pineapple, chop off the top and bottom first, then slice down the sides to remove the outer “skin” layer.
2. Use a spoon (a small teaspoon works well) to remove the brown eyes from the pineapple, so that only the yellow flesh remains.
3. Blot the pineapple with a towel and then turn it on its side and use a sharp serrated knife to cut it into 1/16-inch slices. (The thinner they are, the faster they will dry!).
4. Blot the slices well with paper towels to remove as much excess juice as possible.
5. Put the slices on a cookie sheet and place in the oven at 225° F for 30 minutes. After that time, gently turn the slices over and put them back in the oven for 30-40 more minutes, until very dry.
6. Take them out and let them cool until warm, not hot, and then press the slices into an empty muffin tin. Press them gently at the center so they form a slight flower shape and let them cool that way.

Make the cupcakes:

1. Preheat the oven to 350° F.
2. Line a muffin tin with cupcake liners.
3. Whisk the dry ingredients together.
4. In a separate, large bowl, mix together the melted butter and sugar until just combined. Add milk, eggs, orange juice, zest, and vanilla and whisk well.
5. Add the dry ingredients to the wet and stir through gently with a spatula until just combined.
6. Fill the cupcake liners with batter and bake for 20 minutes.
7. Transfer immediately to a cooling rack.

Make the frosting:

1. Whisk the flour and a little bit of milk in a small saucepan until it forms a paste.
2. Add the rest of the milk, ½ cup of sugar, and the orange peel.
3. Heat over low heat, stirring constantly until the consistency is thick, like pudding. Be careful not to let it get stuck to the bottom!
4. Press this mixture through a strainer into a bowl and discard the orange peel.
5. Cover the pudding with plastic wrap pressed to the surface and cool until it's room temperature.
6. In the meantime, beat together the butter and the remaining ½ cup of sugar until light and creamy, about 5 minutes.

7. Add 1 spoonful of the pudding mixture at a time, making sure that each spoonful is entirely incorporated before adding more.
8. Beat on low until all the pudding is added, and after that, continue to mix for 5-7 minutes on medium speed until the frosting is whipped and creamy.
9. Add the vanilla and orange zest and mix gently with spatula.
10. Add to a piping bag or use a knife to decorate the cupcakes, once they are cool.
11. Once the cupcakes are iced, gently press the pineapple suns to the top (or use candy corns to create sun shapes on top).