

*st mary's catholic church
greenville, south carolina*



*fifth sunday of easter
3 may 2026*

Entrance Antiphon

Psalm 98.1, 2

O sing a new song to the Lord, alleluia; for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

Entrance Hymn

Jesus Christ is Risen Today



1. Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2. Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3. But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
4. Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



Our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
Un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
Our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
Praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!



Who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
Who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
Now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!
Praise him, now his might con - fess, Al - le - lu - ia!



Suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
Sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
Where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it blest. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: St. 1, *Surrexit Christus hodie*, Latin, 14th C.; para. in *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; st. 2, 3, *The Compleat Psalmist*, c.1750, alt.; st. 4, Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Tune: EASTER HYMN, 77 77 with alleluias; *Lyra Davidica*, 1708



Penitential Act

Confiteor

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

All strike their breast, saying:

through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;

therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Priest May almighty God have mercy on us,
 forgive us our sins,
 and bring us to everlasting life.

People Amen.

Kyrie

The musical score for the Kyrie consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: Ky-ri - e, * e - le - i - son. Chri - ste, e - le - i - son. Ky-ri - e, e - le - i - son. Ky-ri - e, * ** e - le - i - son.

Music: Vatican Edition VIII; acc. by Richard Proulx



Gloria

Gló-ri - a in ex-cél-sis De - o. Et in ter - ra pax ho - mí - ni - bus
bo - nae vo - lun - tá - tis. Lau - dá - mus te.
Be - ne - dí - ci - mus te. A - do - rá - mus te.
Gló - ri - fi - cá - mus te. Grá - ti - as á - gi - mus ti - bi
pro - pter ma - gnam gló - ri - am tu - am. Dó - mi - ne De - us, Rex cae -
lé - stis, De - us, Pa - ter om - ní - po - tens.
Dó - mi - ne Fi - li u - ni - gé - ni - te, Je - su Chri - ste.
Dó - mi - ne De - us, A - gnus De - i, Fí - li - us Pa - tris.
Qui tol - lis pec - cá - ta mun - di, mi - se - ré - re no - bis.
Qui tol - lis pec - cá - ta mun - di, sú - sci - pé de - pre - ca - ti - ó -
nem no - stram. Qui se - des ad déx - te - ram Pa - tris,
mi - se - ré - re no - bis. Quó - ni - am tu so - lus San - ctus.
Tu so - lus Dó - mi - nus. Tu so - lus Al - tís - si - mus,
Je - su Chri - ste. Cum San - cto Spí - ri - tu,
in gló - ri - a De - i Pa - tris. A - men.

✠ LITURGY OF THE WORD ✠

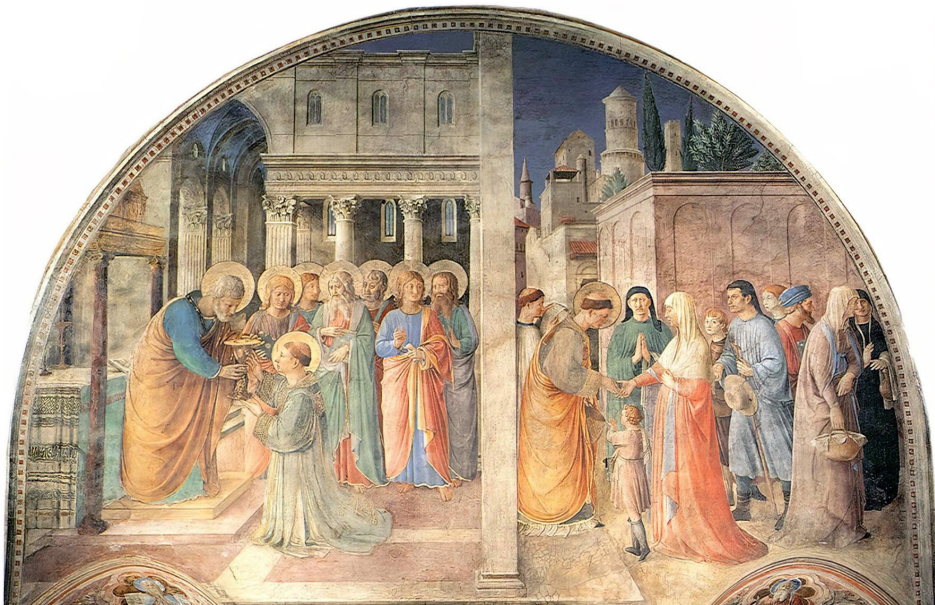
First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 6.1-7

As the number of disciples continued to grow, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. So the Twelve called together the community of the disciples and said, “It is not right for us to neglect the word of God to serve at table. Brothers, select from among you seven reputable men, filled with the Spirit and wisdom, whom we shall appoint to this task, whereas we shall devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” The proposal was acceptable to the whole community, so they chose Stephen, a man filled with faith and the Holy Spirit, also Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicholas of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these men to the apostles who prayed and laid hands on them. The word of God continued to spread, and the number of the disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly; even a large group of priests were becoming obedient to the faith.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.





Exult, you just, in the LORD;
 praise from the upright is fitting.
 Give thanks to the LORD on the harp;
 with the ten-stringed lyre chant his praises.

Upright is the word of the LORD,
 and all his works are trustworthy.
 He loves justice and right;
 of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.

See, the eyes of the LORD are upon those who fear him,
 upon those who hope for his kindness,
 to deliver them from death
 and preserve them in spite of famine.

Second Reading

1 Peter 2.4-9

Beloved: Come to him, a living stone, rejected by human beings but chosen and precious in the sight of God, and, like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it says in Scripture: *Behold, I am laying a stone in Zion, a cornerstone, chosen and precious, and whoever believes in it shall not be put to shame.* Therefore, its value is for you who have faith, but for those without faith: *The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone, and A stone that will make people stumble, and a rock that will make them fall.* They stumble by disobeying the word, as is their destiny.

You are “a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises” of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



I am the way, the truth and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, except through me. *Response.*

Gospel

John 14.1-12

Deacon: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Deacon: A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. 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? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be. Where I am going you know the way.” Thomas said to him, “Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” Philip said to him, “Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on my own. The Father who dwells in me is doing his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else, believe because of the works themselves. Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these, because I am going to the Father.”

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

Profession of Faith *(spoken slowly and reverently)*

The Apostles' Creed is the baptismal profession of faith of the Holy Roman Church, which is used in the administration of Baptism and at the renewal of our baptismal promises at Easter. For this reason, we use this text throughout Lent and Eastertide to profess our faith.

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

Bow profoundly during these two lines:

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

The Bidding Prayers

The Collection

The offering is for the support of the parish and for the Campaign for Buildings and Grounds. You may donate online using the link below:

[Please Click Here to Make a Donation to Saint Mary's Church](#)

Offertory Antiphon

Psalm 66.1, 2, 16

Shout with joy to God, all the earth; sing a psalm to his name. Come and hear, all who fear God, and I will tell you what great things the Lord has done for my soul, alleluia.

Offertory Hymn

Praise to the Holiest in the Height



1. Praise to the Ho - liest in the height, and in the
 2. O lov - ing wis - dom of our God! When all was
 3. O wis - est love! that flesh and blood, which did in
 4. And that the high - est gift of grace should flesh and
 5. Praise to the Ho - liest in the height, and in the



depth be praise; in all His words most
 sin and shame, a sec - ond Ad - am
 Ad - am fail, should strive a - fresh - a -
 blood re - fine: God's pres - ence and His
 depth be praise; in all His words most



won - der - ful, most sure in all His ways!
 to the fight, and to the res - cue came.
 gainst the foe, should strive, and should pre - vail;
 ve - ry self and es - sence all - di - vine!
 won - der - ful, most sure in all His ways!

Words: John Henry Newman (1801-1890), alt.
Music: Newman, Richard Runciman Terry (1865-1938)

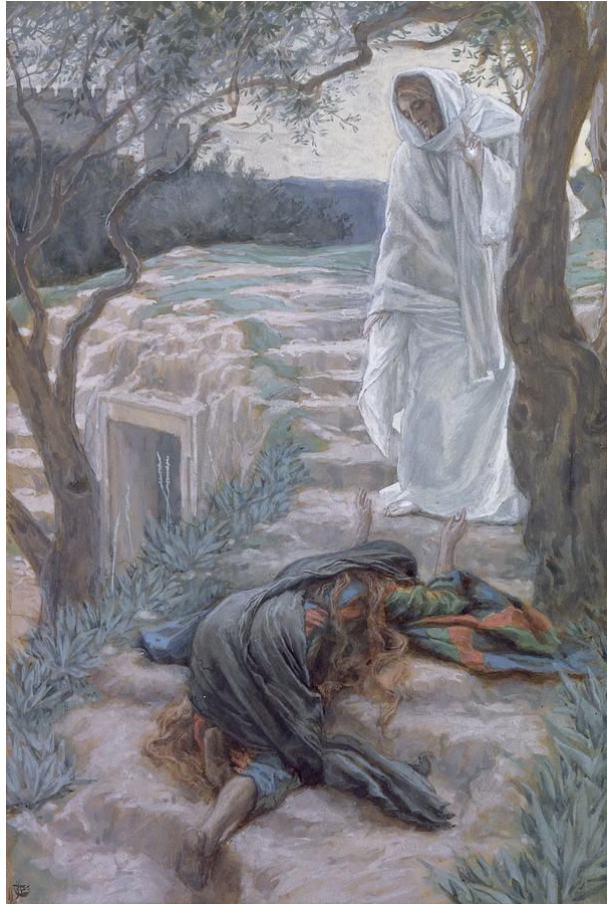


Offertory Anthem

Surrexit Christus hodie

Samuel Scheidt

Christ is risen today Alleluia! For the comfort of all people. Alleluia! Rejoice in this Easter Day. Alleluia! Let us give thanks to God. Alleluia!



Prayer Over the Offerings


 EUCHARISTIC PRAYER
 

Preface Dialogue

Priest: The Lord be with you. *Assembly:* And with your Spir - it.

Priest: Lift up your hearts. *Assembly:* We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Assembly:* It is right and just.

Sanctus

San - ctus, * San - ctus, San -

ctus Dó - mi - nus De - us Sá -

ba - oth. Ple - ni sunt cae - li et

ter - ra gló - ri - a tu - a. Ho - sán -

na in ex - céel - sis Be - ne - dí - ctus qui

ve - nit in nó - mi - ne Dó - mi - ni. Ho - sán -

na in ex - céel - sis.

Music: Vatican Edition VIII; acc. by Richard Proulx

 COMMUNION RITE 

Priest At the Savior's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

***People* Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

Priest Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

***People* For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.**

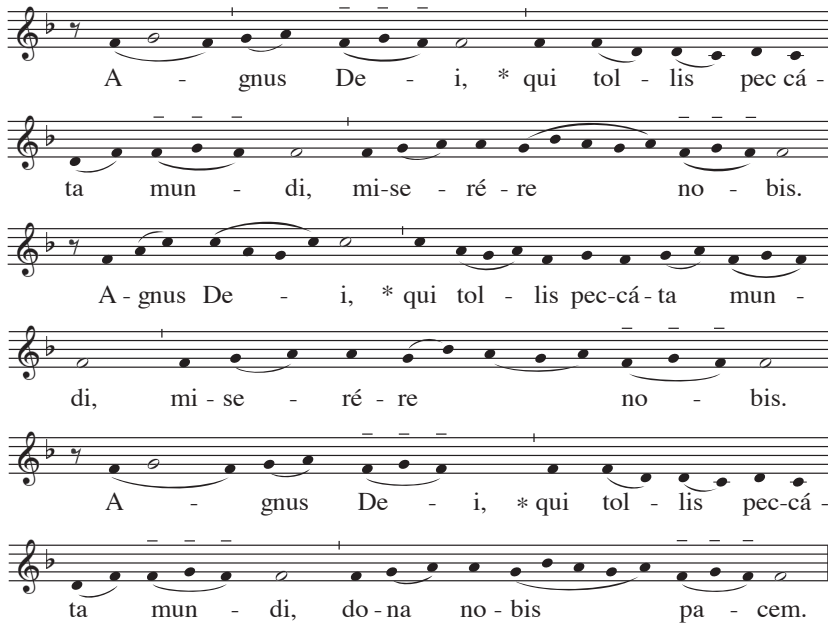
Priest Lord Jesus Christ,
who said to your Apostles:
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,
look not on our sins,
but on the faith of your Church,
and graciously grant her peace and unity
in accordance with your will.
Who live and reign for ever and ever.

***People* Amen.**

Priest The peace of the Lord be with you always.

***People* And with your spirit.**

Agnus Dei



A - gnus De - i, * qui tol - lis pec cá -
ta mun - di, mi - se - ré - re no - bis.
A - gnus De - i, * qui tol - lis pec - cá - ta mun -
di, mi - se - ré - re no - bis.
A - gnus De - i, * qui tol - lis pec - cá -
ta mun - di, do - na no - bis pa - cem.

Music: Vatican Edition XVIII; acc. by Richard Proulx



Priest Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

People **Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.**

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.



AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

LORD JESUS, I LOVE YOU ABOVE ALL THINGS.
HOW I LONG TO RECEIVE YOU WITH MY BROTHERS
AND SISTERS AT THE TABLE YOU HAVE PREPARED.
BUT SINCE I CANNOT AT THIS MOMENT RECEIVE YOU IN
THE HOLY SACRAMENT OF YOUR BODY AND BLOOD,
I ASK YOU TO FEED ME WITH THE MANNA OF YOUR HOLY SPIRIT
AND NOURISH ME WITH YOUR HOLY PRESENCE.

I UNITE MYSELF COMPLETELY TO YOU;
NEVER PERMIT ME TO BE SEPARATED FROM YOUR LOVE.

AMEN.

Communion Motets

This Joyful Eastertide

Dutch Carol; arr. William Harris

This joyful Eastertide, away with care and sorrow! My Love, the Crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow. Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst His three day prison, our faith had been in vain; but now hath Christ arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen! My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a season slumber; till trump from east to west, shall wake the dead in number. Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst His three day prison, our faith had been in vain; but now hath Christ arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen! Deaths flood hath lost his chill, since Jesus crossed the river: lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver. Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst His three day prison, our faith had been in vain; but now hath Christ arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen!

Psalm 80

Chant; James Biery

O shepherd of Israel hear us, you who lead Joseph like a flock: You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it. Before it you cleared the ground; it took root and filled the land. The mountains were covered with its shadow, the cedars of God with its boughs. It stretched out its branches to the sea; to the river it stretched out its shoots. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine you right hand has planted, the song of man whom you yourself made strong. May your hand be on the man at your right hand, the son of man whom you yourself made strong. And we shall no more withdraw from you, give us new life, and we will call upon your name.



Communion Hymn

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation



1. Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and
 2. To this tem - ple where we call you, Come, O Lord of
 3. Grant, we pray, to all your peo - ple, All the grace they



cor - ner - stone; Cho - sen of the Lord, and pre - cious,
 hosts, to - day; With your wont - ed lov - ing kind - ness
 ask to gain; What they gain from you for ev - er

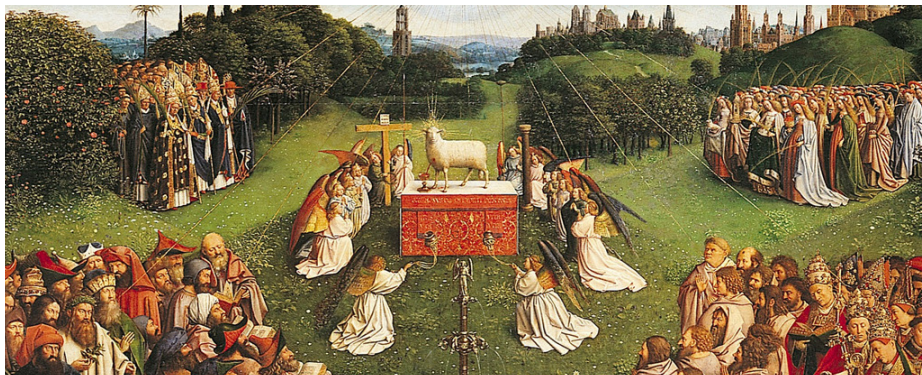


Bind - ing all the Church in one; Ho - ly Zi - on's
 Hear your ser - vants as they pray, And your full - est
 With the bless - ed to re - tain, And here - af - ter



help for ev - er, And her con - fi - dence a - lone.
 ben - e - dic - tion Shed in all its bright ar - ray.
 in your glo - ry Ev - er - more with you to reign.

Text: *Angularis fundamentum*; 11th C.; Tr. by John M. Neale, 1818-1866, alt.
 Tune: WESTMINSTER ABBEY, 8 7 8 7 8 7; Adapted from an anthem of Henry Purcell, 1659-1695



✻ CONCLUDING RITES ✻

Priest The Lord be with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

Priest May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People **Amen.**

Deacon Go in peace. Alleluia. Alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

During Mass at St Mary’s, the priest and people face the same direction at the altar, a custom that was once universal in the Catholic Church but is now rare in the celebration of the modern liturgy. For an explanation of this practice, please visit our parish website, smcgvl.org, and look in the section called *Parish Links* for the essay entitled *Facing East to Pray*.



Page one: Tissot. *The Last Sermon of Our Lord*. (19th century).

Page five: Fra Angelico. *Ordination of Saint Stephen by Saint Peter*. (1447).

Page ten: Tissot. *Touch Me Not*. (19th century).

Page fifteen: Émile Bégule. Church of Saint Pothinus, Lyon-France. (19th century).

Page sixteen: Hubert & Jan Von Eyck. Detail of altarpiece, Saint Bavo’s Cathedral, Ghent, Belgium. (1432).

from the office of readings for the fifth sunday of easter

Christ is risen! He has burst open the gates of hell and let the dead go free; he has renewed the earth through the members of his Church now born again in baptism, and has made it blossom afresh with men brought back to life. His Holy Spirit has unlocked the doors of heaven, which stand wide open to receive those who rise up from the earth. Because of Christ's resurrection the thief ascends to paradise, the bodies of the blessed enter the holy city, and the dead are restored to the company of the living. There is an upward movement in the whole of creation, each element raising itself to something higher. We see hell restoring its victims to the upper regions, earth sending its buried dead to heaven, and heaven presenting the new arrivals to the Lord. In one and the same movement, our Savior's passion raises men from the depths, lifts them up from the earth, and sets them in the heights.

Christ is risen. His rising brings life to the dead, forgiveness to sinners, and glory to the saints. And so David the prophet summons all creation to join in celebrating the Easter festival: *Rejoice and be glad, he cries, on this day which the Lord has made.*

The light of Christ is an endless day that knows no night. Christ is this day, says the Apostle; such is the meaning of his words: *Night is almost over; day is at hand.* He tells us that night is almost over, not that it is about to fall. By this we are meant to understand that the coming of Christ's light puts Satan's darkness to flight, leaving no place for any shadow of sin. His everlasting radiance dispels the dark clouds of the past and checks the hidden growth of vice. The Son is that day to whom the day, which is the Father, communicates the mystery of his divinity. He is the day who says through the mouth of Solomon: *I have caused an unfailing light to rise in heaven.* And as in heaven no night can follow day, so no sin can overshadow the justice of Christ. The celestial day is perpetually bright and shining with brilliant light; clouds can never darken its skies. In the same way, the light of Christ is eternally glowing with luminous radiance and can never be extinguished by the darkness of sin. This is why John the evangelist says: *The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never been able to overpower it.*

And so, my brothers, each of us ought surely to rejoice on this holy day. Let no one, conscious of his sinfulness, withdraw from our common celebration, nor let anyone be kept away from our public prayer by the burden of his guilt. Sinner he may indeed be, but he must not despair of pardon on this day which is so highly privileged; for if a thief could receive the grace of paradise, how could a Christian be refused forgiveness?

- From a sermon by Saint Maximus of Turin, bishop (b. 380; d. after 465)

from the pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

Catholics who were at least teenagers by the late 1960's or earlier remember when every parish church was not just the center of religious and educational life for everyone in the congregation; the parish was also the center of social life for children, teens, and adults of every age. Parish groups hosted dinners, dances, parties, athletic events, game nights, Mardi Gras Balls, pancake suppers, and assorted other gatherings often organized by age, sex, and marital status, and everyone was encouraged to invite others from outside the parish to join in these events. It was in many ways a golden age of parish life in the United States, but that age has passed and will not return in our time. There are now too many activities available to everyone and too many opportunities beyond the parish for the local church to be the hub of social life even for deeply committed Catholics, and while we may regret this fact of life, we would also do very well to accept it as the starting point for asking a crucial question: What can we do to make the parish more than the place where we come for Mass on Sunday?

All people naturally crave the company of others and the fostering of real bonds of friendship and fellowship, and when a community of people is knit together by overlapping lines of this sort, the result is a palpable sense of belonging with others, of being accountable to others, and of being responsible for others. That is what changes a crowd into a congregation, and then when you come to Mass on Sunday, you won't be sharing the pews with strangers or just with familiar faces; instead, you will be worshipping with brothers and sisters in the Lord. You will learn about their joys and sorrows, and they will learn about yours. You will feel an authentic human connection to others who may or may not move in your professional or social circles, but you will know that you share a bond with them that is deep and real and permanent because it flows from our Baptism. And that is the basis for everything that follows.

But no one can form this experience of community for us; we must do it ourselves. Introduce yourself by name to someone you see at Mass but cannot yet call by name. Join a group in the parish, even if it's a bit out of your comfort zone. Read the eBulletin rather than wave it off as a nuisance in your inbox. Look for opportunities to serve others or contact me to suggest a new group or activity in the parish. Decide to do something more than pop in for one hour on random Sundays to get what you want, or fulfill a dreary duty, or get someone else off your back by going to Mass. Instead, make a commitment to be part of something larger than yourself. Our parishes will never again look as they did in the 1950's when people could leave their doors unlocked all night, and most families had only one income, and 70% of Catholics came to Mass on Sunday. But we can build something real and life-giving for those who do come here to give rather than take, and from such an authentic Christian community, who knows what blessings will flow!

Father Newman