

May 2017



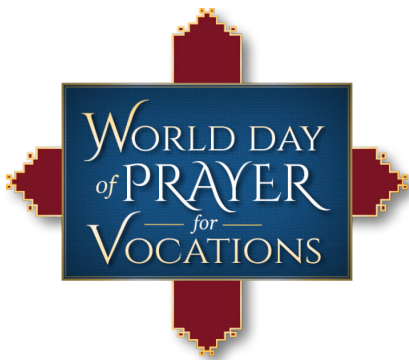
*In the Spirit of
St. Camillus*

Notes from Pastoral Care

The month of May is dedicated to the Blessed Mother



Memorare - Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to Your protection, implored Your help, or sought Your intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto You, O Virgin of Virgins, my Mother. To You I come, before You I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in Your mercy, hear and answer me. Amen



May 7th - World Day of Prayer for Vocations

LORD of the Harvest,
BLESS young people
with the gift of
courage to respond
to your call. Open
their hearts to great
ideals, to great
things.

INSTILL those in religious life, parish ministries, and families with the confidence and grace to invite others to embrace the bold and noble path of a life consecrated to you.

UNITE us to Jesus through prayer and sacrament, so that we may cooperate with you in building your reign of mercy and truth, of justice and peace. Amen.

INSPIRE all of your disciples to mutual love and giving - for vocations blossom in the good soil of faithful people.

- Pope Francis



May 13th - Feast of Our Lady of Fatima

Most Holy Virgin, who has deigned to come to Fatima to reveal to the three little shepherds the treasures of graces hidden in the recitation of the Rosary, inspire our hearts with a sincere love

of this devotion, so that by meditating on the mysteries of our redemption that are recalled in it, we may gather the fruits and obtain the conversion of sinners, the conversion of Russia, and this favor that I so earnestly seek, (mention your request) which I ask of you in this novena, for the greater glory of God, for your own honor, and for the good of all people. Amen.



May 14th - Mother's Day

Mother's Day is a celebration honoring the mother of the family, as well as motherhood, maternal bonds, and the influence of mothers in society.

It is celebrated on various days in many parts of the world, most commonly in the months of March or May.

Prayer to the Mother of the Lord for all mothers

Mary, on this day when we honor all mothers, we turn to you. We thank the Lord whom you serve for the great gift of motherhood. Never has it been known that anyone who sought your intercession was left unaided by grace. Dear Mother, thank you for your "Yes" to the invitation of the angel which brought heaven to earth and changed human

history. You opened yourself to God's word and the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

Dear mother, intercede for all of our mothers. Ask your Divine Son to give them the grace of surrendered love so that they could join with you in giving their own "Fiat." May they find daily strength to say yes to the call to the sacrificial love- the very heart of the vocation of motherhood. May their love and witness be a source of great inspiration for all of us called to follow your Son.

On this Mother's day, Mother of the Word Incarnate, pray for us who have recourse to you...

In the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen



May 25th - The Birth of St. Camillus de Lellis

PRAYER TO ST. CAMILLUS DE LELLIS

St. Camillus, the Lord has filled your heart with a firm love for God and a self-sacrificing love of neighbor.

In fact, it was above all for

the love of God that you spent your life in love and service of the poor, the sick and the dying. In our life,

we know that love of God and love of neighbor are the principal commandments and yet often we live our life in selfishness. We ask you, St. Camillus, to intercede for us to the same God you love. Let our hearts be filled with that love that comes from God; and let our concern be always for God's love and for service to our neighbors. Now we would like to pray for the following persons... Through your intercession may their needs be granted. We also pray for all the sick and the needy. Amen.



May 28th - Ascension of our Lord

Pope Francis -Vatican City - The “keyword “ of the Feast of the Ascension is “going” or rather “leaving” ... : Jesus leaves to be with his Father, the disciples leave to go out into the world”.

This is how Pope Francis

described the Solemnity of the Ascension, which is celebrated 40 days after Easter (or the following Sunday). The Pope explained, “Jesus leaves, he ascends to heaven, that is, returns to the Father from whom he had been sent into the world. But this is not a separation, because He remains with us forever, in a new form ... Jesus remains present and active in the affairs of human history with the power and the gifts of his Spirit. He is right beside each of us: even if we cannot see him with our own eyes, He is there! He accompanies us, guides us, He takes us by the hand and raises us when we fall. The risen Jesus is near to the Christians who are persecuted and discriminated against; he is close to every man and woman who suffers “. Together let us all say: The Lord is with us. Do you believe this? Let us say together: the Lord is with us”.

The Pope underlined then the disciples “leaving”, which is very close to what has become his motto on the Church must “move out to the margins of society”. But Jesus is also present through the Church, which He sent to extend His mission. The last words of Jesus to his disciples is the mandate:” Go therefore and make disciples of all nations “(Mt 28:19). This is a clear mandate, it is not optional! The Christian community is an “outgoing”, “outward bound” community. And you may say: But what about the community of cloistered yes, those, too, because they are always “outward bound” in prayer, their hearts open to the world, the horizons of God, and the elderly, the sick? They too, through prayer and union with the wounds of Jesus”.

“Jesus says to his missionary disciples - he added - “I am with you always until the end of the world” (v. 20). Alone, without Jesus, we can do nothing. Our strengths, our resources, our capabilities are not enough in apostolic work, even if they are necessary. Without the presence of the Lord and the power of his Spirit, our work, even though well-organized it is ineffective “.



May 29th - Memorial Day

Memorial Day is a federal holiday in the United States for remembering the people who died while serving in the country’s armed forces. The holiday, which is currently observed every year on the last Monday of May,

originated as Decoration Day after the American Civil War in 1868, when the Grand Army of the Republic, an organization of Union veterans founded in Decatur, Illinois, established it as a time for the nation to decorate the graves of the Union war dead with flowers. By the 20th century, competing Union and Confederate holiday traditions, celebrated on different days, had merged, and Memorial Day eventually extended to honor all Americans who died while in the military service. It marks

the start of the unofficial summer vacation season, while Labor Day marks its end.



MEMORIAL DAY PRAYER

With a sober heart we come before You this Memorial Day. We pause for a moment and call to mind all the men and women who have died in the service of our nation.

Dear God, please look with mercy on our brave and selfless brothers and sisters, who did not shirk from their tasks but gave themselves completely to the cause of defending and protecting us all. Bless all who have given their lives for the sake of liberty, and grant them eternal rest with You.



May's Thoughts to Ponder

“I have learned this secret, so that anywhere, at any time...I have the strength to face all conditions by the power that Christ gives me.” (Philippians 4:12-13)

Character cannot be purchased, inherited, rented, or imported from afar. It must be homegrown.
(E. C. McKenzie)

We must preach to the poor with our hands before we preach with our lips. (Saint Peter Claver)

A Christian should aspire to do the will of God: nothing more, nothing less, nothing else.
(Author unknown)

God has given us two hands---one to receive with and the other to give with. We are not made cisterns for hoarding; we are channels made for sharing. (Billy Graham)

What I have will belong to another someday. But what I am will be mine for all eternity.
(Author unknown)