

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

200 Front Street, Pierce City, MO 65723

May 2, 2021 - Fifth Sunday of Easter

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Pastor: Fr. Matthew Rehrauer 476-2827ext. 102
Office Mgr: Shelly Wroblewski 476-2827ext. 101
PCP: Cody Washam 489-5450
DRE: Martha Randall 489-4589
E-Mail: st_marys@live.com
Website: www.stmaryspcmo.com

St. Mary's Catholic School

Principal: Jason Kramer 476-2824ext. 106
School Sec.: Gina Debes 476-2824ext. 107
Cafeteria: Lanea Haase 476-2180ext. 108
SMSBP: Fares Masri
E-Mail: jason.kramer@stmarys-piercecity.org
Website: www.stmaryspcmo.com

SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR MAY 1 – MAY 9

ST. MARY'S

Saturday	4:00 p.m.	St. Mary's Parish Family
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	St. Mary's Parish Family
Monday	8:15 a.m.	Rosary & Communion Service
Wednesday	8:15 a.m.	+Leo Vincent Bartsch
	7:30 p.m.	Justice and Peace
Friday	8:15 a.m.	+Poor Souls in Purgatory
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	For the health of Jerry Gasser
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	For Mother's of the Parish

ST. AGNES

Tues.	8:30 a.m.
Thurs.	8:30 a.m.
Sun.	10:30 a.m.

EVENTS OF THE WEEK:

Monday, May 3

Feast of Saints Philip and James, Apostle
8:15 a.m. Rosary & Communion Service

Wednesday, May 5

8:15 a.m. Mass
PSR Classes 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.
7:30 p.m. Mass

Thursday, May 6

Knights of Columbus Meeting at 8:00 p.m. in the C.R.
National Day of Prayer

Friday, May 7

8:15 a.m. Mass

Saturday, May 8

Fr. Matt's 29th Ordination Anniversary

Sunday, May 9

St. Mary's School Art Show 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Mother's Day

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, May 10

8:15 a.m. Rosary & Communion Service

Tuesday, May 11

6:30 p.m. Mass
PCCW Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the C.R.

Wednesday, May 12

8:15 a.m. Mass
PSR Classes 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

Friday, May 14

6:30 p.m. Mass
St. Mary's Parish Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the C.R.

Saturday, May 22

Feast of Saint Matthias, Apostle
8:15 a.m. Mass

Sunday, May 23

8th Grade Graduation
High School Graduates Mass

OUR GIFT TO GOD LAST WEEK: Collection Counters in May: Joe & Denise Crowell

Our weekly budget is \$7,800.00

Last Week's Collection: \$ 3402.00

DDF: The annual Diocesan Development Fund appeal will be held on May 1 and 2. This effort is conducted in every parish of the diocese to help finance the activities and ministries of the Catholic Church in southern Missouri. Our parish goal is \$ 22,882.00. We ask you to keep the DDF campaign in your prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS Jerry Gasser, Charlotte Sloan, and all the sick and shut-ins of our parish.

THANK YOU: We would like to thank the choir for the wonderful music, and we like to thank the PCCW circle for a wonderful meal. We would also like to thank everyone for the prayers during this difficult time. I praise God for the love in each of your hearts, and your good works. I can't say thank you enough. The Steve Heeter Family

FR. PETER'S NEW ADDRESS: Springfield Villa, 1100 E. Montclair, Room 326, Springfield, MO 65807

PICNIC NEWS: Picnic planning is still underway. Monetary donations towards the prizes are still welcome. Contact the rectory, Mellanie Carder, or Frances Boman on how you can do this. Thank you to those who have already contributed.

Raffle tickets are available for pickup in the back of church. Please pick these up. As in the past, each family is asked to sell 4 books of adult and 2 books of children. We all need to do our part to make this picnic a success. If you need more tickets, let us know.

Things will look a little different this year, but many the same. Mark your calendars now for Sunday, June 6th, to come enjoy family, friends and neighbors.

NOTES FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:

Congratulations, to our children who received their First Communion last Sunday. What a treasure and what a blessing they are to the church. Thank you to everyone involved in preparing them for the sacrament and everyone involved in the ceremony.

This weekend concludes the Angels Among Us drive for the school. We would like to thank each and every one of you for participating and contributing to our great little school. The amount of support that we receive is very overwhelming. Thank you again.

Please join us after Mass on May 8th. The St. Mary's student Art show will be set up in the gym from 5:00-7:00. We invite you to come over and stroll through the exhibits. Ms. A. and the kids do some pretty amazing things.

APPOINTMENTS

If you are unable to make your appointment, please find a replacement

Saturday, May 8 4:00 p.m. Mass

Readers: Madeline Ceselski, Beverly Miller

Ushers: Michael Abramovitz, Larry Carver, Leonard Fenske, Larry Gasser

Sunday, May 9 8:30 a.m. Mass

Readers: Rachelle Brown, Jennifer Eaton

Ushers: Jim Barchak, Ian Brottlund, Levi Cooper, Jesse Cooper

Good News

INSPIRATION FOR DAILY LIFE

5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:26-31
Ps 22:26-27-28,30-32
1 John 3:18-24
John 15:1-8

Monday May 3
Sts. Philip and James
1 Corinthians 15:1-8
Ps 19:2-5
John 14:6-14

Tuesday May 4
Acts 14:19-28
Ps 145:10-11,12-13ab,21
John 14:27-31a

Wednesday May 5
Acts 15:1-6
Ps 122:1-2,3-4ab,4cd-5
John 15:1-8

Thursday May 6
Acts 15:7-21
Ps 96:1-3,10
John 15:9-11

Friday May 7
Acts 15:22-31
Ps 57:8-9,10,12
John 15:12-17

Saturday May 8
Acts 16:1-10
Ps 100:1b-2,3,5
John 15:18-21

The Gospel reading tells us that all who belong to Christ are fruit-bearing branches of one vine. Jesus is the vine, and because we are all attached to him, we share the same calling: to bear good fruit. And not just any fruit that seems good, but the same fruit that Jesus produced.

However, most of us underestimate how important this is! You are more valuable than you know. God wants you to produce Christ's fruit — and more of it.

Today too many Christians are settling for mediocrity. As long as we get some personal satisfaction from being Christian, we feel all too easily satisfied. As long as we're helping some people with our kindness or generosity or love, we think God is satisfied with the good fruits we're producing.

Have you ever asked why there's so much evil in the world? Why doesn't God

raise his almighty hand against war, against corruption in government, against the greed of high-salaried managers who lay off their employees while giving themselves huge bonuses, against the perpetrators of physical and emotional abuse, against legislation that discriminates against Christian faith, against rising crime rates, or against any evil that's corrupting our world?

Why doesn't God do something?

Actually, *he does!* However, he does it the same way



he grows grapes. The life force of the vine (Jesus) travels through the vine to the little twigs (you and me and all Christians) that hold the grapes. The more open we are to receiving nourishment from Christ, the more fruit Jesus produces through us. But the grapes are not supposed to stay there!

We're nourished by Christ in order to take his fruits abundantly out into the world. We must grow strong and healthy, branch out, and use everything we've received from Christ for the sake of others.

Evil is stopped to the extent that we Christians continue Christ's earthly ministry. Victory over evil comes from Christ, that is, *through* us from Christ. Holiness in the world comes from Christ's Holy Spirit actively transforming it through our holiness.

Reflect & Discuss:

1. Are you doing enough to grow the best fruit on your branch of Christ's vine? How healthy is your connection to Christ?
2. What in your life needs to be pruned off because it's not producing full, abundant fruit?
3. Name some of the things we do that fertilize the vineyard. What has helped your branch grow stronger and bear more fruit?
4. How does ignoring the need to prune ourselves hinder the growth of good fruit — fruit that defeats evil?