

Dear Friends,

Most of us do not fully take advantage of the opportunities we have when we are young. We think we have all the time in the world and don't take things very seriously. We put off for later things that we could easily do at the present moment. By the same token, we gravitate toward doing only those things that we are interested in and avoid what we view with disinterest.

As a youngster, I, like my brother, was given the opportunity to take music lessons. My brother opted to learn to play the piano. When it was my turn, I shunned the piano and instead chose the guitar, because people who played the guitar were way more cool. I had become so captivated by a guitar I had seen while on a family vacation in Mexico that I had to have it. I convinced my parents to buy it for me. It only seemed logical that I learn to play it.

I took guitar lessons for some time, but like most things I eventually lost interest and moved on to other things. I eventually regained my interest while in college and took a couple of classical guitar classes.

For some years now, I have regretted that I never took piano lessons and have secretly held a desire to do so ever since. The other day, I finally "bit the bullet" and became determined to learn. I got my hands on a beginner piano book, given to me by David Sutanto, and started wading through the exercises to learn proper hand technique, musical notation, and scales. Not only has this been very relaxing, but it has become a welcome diversion from the everyday work routine.

I am having so much fun learning to play the piano that I wonder why I never did it before. I certainly can't say that I am becoming a virtuoso, especially after only one week, but I feel like I am progressing rather quickly. It doesn't hurt to have a background in music and the ability to read notes. Let's hope the fire that I have now continues to burn.

Interestingly, while I learn to play the piano, I am learning a few other lessons too. First, I am learning patience. Knowing how to read music, I find that I have a tendency to want to skip ahead faster than I should. I try to resist the temptation knowing that if I do, I will not adequately develop the proper skills unless I master the basics. In some ways, I feel like a baby taking my first steps. Patiently repeating the exercises helps me develop dexterity in my finger movement and reinforces my familiarity with the keyboard. Secondly, I am learning to build upon fundamentals. Each exercise establishes a foundation on which to build. As I progress, I am, little by little, moving from simple to more complex exercises. Thirdly, I am learning to value discipline. I see how applying myself to this endeavor each day enables my playing to become second nature.

It's funny how we don't realize the value of these things when we are young. Even so, we are never too old to learn. Our celebration this weekend is Pentecost Sunday, and in it we celebrate the gifting of the Holy Spirit to the Church. God has blessed us with gifts to be used. Let's not squander those gifts or take them for granted. Instead, let us be good stewards and make good use of what God has given us while we can. As we honor our high school and college graduates this weekend, let us pray that they too will not waste the opportunities ahead of them. May they respond to God's call to use their gifts with generosity and love. Congratulations graduates! Our prayers are with you! God bless!

Fr. Paul



**Saturday, May 30, 2009**

8:00 AM +Roel Garcia  
by Maria F. Rivera  
4:30 PM In Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart  
by Alicia Salinas

**Sunday, May 31, 2009**

**Pentecost Sunday**

8:30 AM +Gordon R. Griffin  
by St. Patrick's Autumn Leaves  
11:00AM The Fallen Knights of Columbus  
6:00 PM Parishioners & Benefactors

**Monday, June 1, 2009**

8:00 AM +Ellen Ericksen  
by Monty & Molly Raben

**Tuesday, June 2, 2009**

8:00 AM +Elias V. Garcia  
by Family

**Wednesday, June 3, 2009**

8:00 AM Richard Eickelberry - Happy Birthday  
by Kathy & Don Deis

**Thursday, June 4, 2009**

8:00 AM +Robert Marion Black  
by Mr & Mrs Dan Burkhardt

**Friday, June 5, 2009**

8:00 AM In Thanksgiving  
by Mry Jones

**Next Saturday, June 6, 2009**

8:00 AM +Roel Garcia  
by Nora R. Castillo  
4:30 PM +Mr & Mrs Ted Hinojosa & Nick  
by Blanca Salazar

**Next Sunday, June 7, 2009**

**The Most Holy Trinity**

8:30 AM In Thanksgiving  
by Laura Gardner  
11:00 AM +Blanche Soucek  
by Dolores & Marlin McMorow  
6:00 PM Parishioners & Benefactors

**Readings for the Week of May 31, 2009**

**Sunday Pentecost Sunday**  
Day: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13  
or Gal 5:16-25; Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15

**Monday**  
Saint Justin, martyr  
Tb 1:3; 2:1a-8; Ps 112; Mk 12:1-12

**Tuesday**  
Saints Marcellinus and Peter, martyrs  
Tb 2:9-14; Ps 112; Mk 12:13-17

**Wednesday**  
Saint Charles Lwanga, martyr,  
and his companions, martyrs  
Tb 3:1-11a, 16-17a; Ps 25; Mk 12:18-27

**Thursday**  
Tb 6:10-11; 7:1bcde, 9-17; 8:4-9a; Ps 128; Mk 12:28-34

**Friday**  
Saint Boniface, bishop, martyr  
Tb 11:5-17; Ps 146; Mk 12:35-37

**Saturday**  
Saint Norbert, bishop  
Tb 12:1, 5-15, 20; Tb 13:2, 6; Mk 12:38-44

**Sunday**  
The Most Holy Trinity  
Dt 4:32-34, 39-40; Ps 33; Rom 8:14-17; Mt 28:16-20

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH ...**



Paul Koehler, Elizabeth Eicher, Chris Perez, Marlin McMorow, Beatrice Ferrell, Joseph A. Eicher, Agnes Parker, Bernie Broyles, Elida Salas, Edward Nemecek, Elodina M. Flores, Sgt. William McAbee, Erica Bush, Oscar Soliz, Gus Blomquist, Jimmy Alvarez, Jesse Buentello, Florence Fuertez, John Kelly, Sharon Reeves, Phyllis Stubbs, Susan Bletz, Nicole Roberts, Cameron Marshall, Elena Marshall, Patty Cash, Felicita Moreno, Alyssa Smith.

## Pentecost Sunday

### Please Pray For Our Troops



Sgt. Roger Elkins, Glen Turner Jr., Sgt Matt Maufin, Aaron Philipchuck, Dwayne Solis, Charles Krohn Jr., Oscar Rossi Billy Swatzell, James O'Donnell, Paul Adame, Brandon Felton, Zicorian Coleman, Wendy Hand, D'Aldo Alaniz, Paul Walton, Joseph Yglesias, Jaime Robles, Rudy Hoyt, Roseann Guerrero, Sr. Airman Charlie Stevens, Sr. Airman Patrick Scheuter, Matt Hettinger, Mike Brown, Erik Garza, Damian Saldivar, Maj. Chuck Taylor, Alex Saucedo, Jay Alvarez, John Rodriguez, Jr., Jimmy Karjian, Orlando Rodriguez, Ken Demick, Yvette T. Demick, Scott Nielsen, Timothy Johnson, Mr. Rogers, Lt. jg John Dolby III, Michael Nelson, Michael A. Berry, Gabriel Reza, Mike Llamas, Manny Olvalle, Luis Martinez, Lt. Hector Jude Garcia, Lt. jg Kristopher McAbee, Capt. John A. Malley, Chris Hesse, Natalie Manzano, Capt. Cristian Alejandro Pinzon, David D. Ruiz, Melissa Davila, Ramon Panganiiban, Jr.

### Ministry Schedules

This Week's Lectors:	Next Week' Lectors
4:30 pm Anissa Hernandez	4:30 pm Leonard & Jackie Lee
8:30am Lillian Cardiel	8:30am Alonzo Rivera
11:00am Karen McIntire	11:00am Ronnie Sepulveda

This Week's EM's:	Next Week's EM's:
4:30 pm Samantha Mora, Tracy Mora, Mary Mora, Anita Joya	4:30pm Janie & Ed Salinas, Sally Escobar
8:30am Leila & Roland Longoria, Teena Bracco, Bill & Jane Cheesman	8:30am Mary Carrillo, Maricela Spencer, Ronnie Balderas
11:00am Ed Salinas, Olaya Soliz, Judy Cruz, Beto & Minnie Peña, Cindy Morin, Bonner Dorsey	11:00 am Julio Dimas, Beto & Minnie Peña

This Week's Ushers:	Next Week's Ushers:
4:30pm James Coburn, Virginia Haasl, George Fegan, Arnold Barrera	4:30pm Linda Hite, Michael Hite, Patty Dolan, Richard Dolan
8:30am Lawrence Balderas, Rhonda Balderas, David Berlanga, Elizabeth Berlanga	8:30am Roland Longoria, Leila Longoria, Lawrence Balderas, Ronnie Balderas
11:00am Henry Lamb, Roberto Moreno, Vanessa Bedoya, Victoria Bedoya	11:00am Michael O'Flynn, Albert Lichtenberger, Eddie Cruz, Henry Lamb

### Sunday Collection



*Gifts for God*

Envelope & Loose  
Vines & Branches

May 24, 2009

\$ 7,756.15  
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### St. John's Parish Dates to Remember

May 31 – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Blood Drive  
June 05 – 5:30 pm – Healing Mass  
June 06 – 8:00 AM – Guadalupe's Holy Communion  
June 07 – 12:15 PM – Baptism Class

### Car Wash



The youth in our parish will be having a car wash on **Saturday, June 6, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm**, (Donations only) at the *Make It Shine Car Wash* on Weber & Gollihar. Please come have your car washed and make a donation to support the youth on their trip to the Steubenville Conference.

### Mother Theresa Homeless Shelter



We will be making a delivery to the shelter on **Wednesday, June 10**. They continue to need paper products, hand sanitizer, personal hygiene items, coffee and especially laundry supplies. With the present economy the shelter has an increased number of clients seeking their help. Sister Rose and all who work with those in need thank you for your continued generosity.

### Vacation Bible School 2009

Mark your calendars now! Our second Vacation Bible School will be held on **Monday, June 15-19 from 9 a.m. to noon**. All children who have completed Kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to join in on the fun! Registration is limited to St. John the Baptist Catholic Church registered families. Participation is limited, so be sure to register now! Registration is available on-line at [www.vacationbibleschool.com/stjohnthebaptistcc](http://www.vacationbibleschool.com/stjohnthebaptistcc) or after all masses on June 13 & 14. We are still in need of adult and teen volunteers!! Please contact the office if available.

### Guadalupe's Candle Sale



The Guadalupe's will be selling candles with the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe and of our Lord this weekend after all Masses. The candles are \$3.00 each.

### Pro-Life Corner

Could the tide finally be turning? Two recent polls conducted by Gallup and Fox showed that more Americans are pro-life as opposed to pro-abortion. With Obama preparing to most certainly appoint a pro-abortion nominee to the Supreme Court, our prayers and actions are needed more than ever. Please sign up at, and bookmark the website, [Lifenews.com](http://Lifenews.com) which provides the latest Pro-life news and information. Staying informed is critical.

### Youth Ministry Announcements

**ALL YOUTH GRADES 6 – 12:** School is finished! So come to youth events this summer to fight off boredom. Go to [www.spiritandlifeyouth.com](http://www.spiritandlifeyouth.com) or ask Angie for a summer schedule.

**PARENTS & ADULTS:** If you would like to help with any summer activities or be a part of our weekly youth events next school year, contact Angie.