



May 3, 2026 | VOLUME 56 NUMBER 18 | Fifth Sunday of Easter



A Letter From Our Pastor

5th Sunday of Easter/Festival

"Have I been with you so long a time, and still you do not know me, Philip?"



Puzzling words, indeed. A great inference to the Trinitarian nature of our God, as Jesus identifies Himself as the Father, and three verses later informs Philip that He is going to the Father. Separate and yet one!

Is this one of the quandaries of Scripture that has given you pause? It should have at some point.

I'd like to combine this passage with Gen 2:24, where God decrees that the husband and wife shall become one flesh (and Jesus later confirms in Mt 19:5). It all revolves around what truly defines us.

Male/female, tall/short, brilliant/dense, athletic/clumsy, etc., are labels we use to define ourselves. But they don't truly define us. These are the cards we are dealt in life; we have no control over them. We control how we play out our hand, and that is what defines us: what makes us attractive, irresistible, or repulsive. In short, the choices we make define us. A couple can choose to become one or struggle throughout their marriage. We can choose to follow Christ, who chose to follow His Father's will—demonstrating their shared nature—or we can settle for much less and take the "hard road."

I hope each of you—your relatives, friends, and acquaintances—chooses to attend our Festival this weekend! What a great time to enjoy our gift of life and live it to the fullest together.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Have a blessed week,

Fr. Eddie

It's here—May, when the earth bursts into bloom and we begin thinking of gardens, picnics, and vacations. It's also the Month of Mary.

For many Catholics, honoring Mary in May is a cherished tradition, rooted in both personal devotion and centuries of Church practice. The entire month is dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God—not just a single day.

This custom reaches far back in history. In ancient cultures, May was associated with life and growth, dedicated to goddesses of fertility and blossoms. By medieval times, traditions celebrating new life and renewal had developed, eventually evolving into Christian devotion. By the Baroque period, a month specifically dedicated to Mary took shape, and by the nineteenth century, May became firmly established as her month.

Today, Catholics honor Mary in many ways. Parishes often pray the Rosary daily, set up May altars, and hold May Crownings, placing flower crowns on statues of Mary as a sign of her beauty and virtue.

These practices aren't just for church—they belong in the home as well. Creating a prayer space, placing an image or statue of Mary, and even crowning her in a simple or meaningful way helps families live out their faith more fully. Why do this? Not just because it's tradition, or even for the graces it brings, but because Mary is our Mother—caring for us constantly and interceding for us in all things.

For that, she is worthy of a month in her honor.



—Adapted from Marge Fenelon, National Catholic Register

*You are warmly invited to join us in praying the Rosary on the first and third Sundays of each month
at 9:30 am, just before the 10 am Mass.*

In this prayer, we meditate on the mysteries of Christ's life through the loving intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, drawing closer to her Son and preparing our hearts more fully for the Eucharist.

IT'S FESTIVAL WEEKEND! JOIN US!

Friday, May 1, 2026

5:00 PM - Opening Prayer & Rides Begin
7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Pants Party
11:00 PM - Field Closes

Saturday, May 2, 2026

11:00 AM - Rides Open
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM Mike Broussard and the Night Train
7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Blue Crab Redemption
11:00 PM - Field Closes

Sunday, May 3, 2026

11:00 AM - Opening Prayer & Rides Begin
12:00 PM - Student Performances
4:00 PM - Closing Ceremony & Raffle Drawings



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GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

We generally approach life with the question, "What can this do for me?" We try a new workout, a low-carb diet, intermittent fasting, or a new career path, hoping it will make us healthier, stronger, happier. The assumption is that if I invest in this, I'll eventually reap some benefit, or I won't do it.

It is easy to think of faith the same way: if I really practice my faith, what will it do for me? Will it make me calmer, more moral, more successful?

But in today's Gospel, Jesus says something astonishing. He doesn't present himself as a teacher who shows us the way to life. He says, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life." (John 14:6) He is not merely a guide toward some higher benefit. He is the benefit itself. To know him is to know Life. Thomas Aquinas explains that every desire in the human heart — love, joy, meaning, all of our restless cravings — is really an indirect cry for life. Even despair testifies to this longing: people despair precisely because they feel they are not, and might never be, fully alive.

The good news is that Jesus is not simply the means to a better life; He is Life itself. To believe in him is to share in God's own eternal vitality. Not simply later but even now. Faith is not a transaction that produces results — it is a union that fills us with joy. To be in communion with Christ is to be truly, fully alive.

— Father John Muir, ©LPi

Thank you for Easter flower donations

M/M Alvin Madere, in memory of Newman Roblin, Paula Roblin, Alvin and Ruth Madere, Reese Madere; M/M Thomas Hirschey, in memory of Margaret Hirschey, John Scardina; M/M Ralph Drouin, in memory of Leonard and Loretta Drouin, Lester and Rita Strate; M/M Donnie Hayes, in memory of Carlos Hayes, Alfred Christophe, Nicole Hayes, Veronica Victorian; M/M Jean Baptiste Dodor; Carol Roberts, in memory of Billy Roberts, Chad Roberts, Frank and Marie Schittone; M/M Joseph Ingraham; M/M Joseph Nguyen, in memory of Joseph Q. Nguyen, Paul Maria Nguyen, Inataxio Nguyen, Theresa Maria Nguyen; M/M Jose Vasquez, in memory of family members; M/M Frederick Russell; M/M David Bonaventure; M/M Brian Douglas; M/M Robert Robinson Sr., in memory of M/M John Pecoraro Sr.; M/M Shawn Luke, in memory of T.J. and Rose Lukose, Lee and Jean Roueche; M/M William Galloway, in memory of James McLin, Sybil McLin; M/M James Tennyson; Myra Broussard, in memory of Nicholas Broussard Sr., Rose Broussard, Joshua Roussell; M/M Timothy Seiler; Gerrie Villemarette, in memory of Stewart Villemarette, Mona Villemarette; M/M Jeff Purpera, in memory of Purpera, Debetaz, and Grezaffi Families; Joan Carona, in memory of Jack Carona, Anna Thrower; Billie Boltin; M/M Cuong Vu, in memory of Vu Dinh Hien, Vu Thi Hien; Carmelite Provine, in memory of John Provine Jr. and Sr., Moise Simoneaux Sr.; M/M Stipo Matkovic, in memory of Matkovic-Fabian-Sarafina, Mrvonja Stipepan - Ruza, Marko - Pavo Pero; M/M Peter Chukwuemeka; M/M Daniel Killeen, in memory of Manuel Fernandez, Gloria Killeen, James Killeen, Maria Lourdes Fernandez; M/M Don Linarello; Ethel Charrier, in memory of Curtis Charrier, Keith Sr. and Keith Jr. Charrier, Criag Charrier, Charrier and Cheek Families, Carlos and Rosa Lazarus; Richard Ulrich, in memory of Charlotte Ulrich, Ruth Ulrich, Camilla Barlow, Donald Ulrich; Aida Fernandez; Judith Whitt, in memory of Alvin Lopez Sr., Eunice Diaz Family, Laura Trevigne Family, Henrietta Dubois Family, and in honor of Amancio Lopez Family; Katherine Morris; J. T. Meyer, in memory of Thelma and Louis Abadie; Sandy Baker, in memory of Violet Herberg and Mary Ann Mortenson; Teenie Bajon, in memory of Calvin Bajon, Lena and Joe Maggio, Sidney and Elodie Bajon, Donia Marie Harrell; M/M Heil Jr.; M/M Edgardo Merle, in memory of Michele Merle Lacour, Joan Hopper, Merle Family, Brousee and Lacour Families; M/M Tri Pham; Ampara Casas; Barbara Sanders; Fred Nackley; Linda Favaro, in memory of Anthony H. Favaro, Felix and Angela LeBlanc; M/M Bruce Hernandez; David Magee; Jules Noel III; Julie Nguyen; Veronica Stanek; Renee Scheurich; Diane Cormack; Geralyn Thibodeaux; Giang Nguyen; Eric Thai; Susan Young; Jimmy Mathes; Ashley McDaniel; Melissa Godso; Thomas Hoffman; Patrick Dietrich; Barry Hunt; Susanne Booth-LeDoux



FLOWER DONATION

The flowers on the altar beneath the crucifix are donated in memory of Thomas Kleinpeter the weekend of May 9-10, as requested by Woman's Hospital Labor and Delivery Unit.

SANCTUARY LIGHTS

The sanctuary light in the church will burn in memory of Mary Lois Graves the week of May 3, as requested by Tootie St. Romain.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, May 5 - 6 p.m.: Lester and Mary Lois Graves, Mary Lee Culotta, Aline Ellis, Deceased Members of Edmond Landry Family, Paula Ramagos, Edwin Reboja; Special Intention: Thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph for their intercession and the gift of peace.

Wednesday, May 6 - 12 p.m.: Holy Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, May 7 - 8:45 a.m.: Karen Macus

Friday, May 8 - 12 p.m.: Frances Smith

Saturday, May 9 - 4:30 p.m.: For All Mothers, Living and Deceased

Sunday, May 10 - 8 a.m.: For All Mothers, Living and Deceased; **10 a.m.:** For All Mothers, Living and Deceased; **5 p.m.:** For All Mothers, Living and Deceased

PRAYER LIST FOR THE SERIOUSLY ILL

Kindly remember in your prayers the following individuals who are seriously ill: Louis LaBauve, Becky Cline, Tim Bonnin, Joe Bonnin

PRAYER LINE FOR IMMEDIATE PRAYER REQUESTS

For serious or urgent prayer requests, call Sharon Hebert at 225.978.1246 (leave your name and phone number if there is no answer), or send a request by email to kennysnar69@att.net.

ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PRAYER LIST

Please remember in your prayers:
Capt. Austin Starks, PFC Alyssa Richardson, SSG Brian Edwards, SPC Havyn Henley, PO3 Tytan Henley, MAJ Nate Conlon, MASA Landry Helmke, E-5 David Meyers, SGT Nicholas Lee, SSgt Carlos Burn, CPO John W. Arceneaux
(Add/edit: receptionist@stmbr.org.)

Sacramental Preparation Registration for 2026–2027

We are pleased to announce that registration for Sacramental Preparation for rising second graders for the 2026–2027 year will open on June 1st. Families may register using a link found at: <https://www.stmbr.org/news/sac-prep-reg>

Important Schedule Dates

Please note the following scheduled parent meetings:
Sacramental Prep Parent Meeting on Sept. 30 @ 6 pm
1st Communion Parent Meeting on Feb. 3 @ 6 pm

Also available online at [stmbr.org/news/sac-prep-reg](https://www.stmbr.org/news/sac-prep-reg) are detailed schedules for Reconciliation & 1st Eucharist.

We encourage all families to review these dates carefully and mark their calendars. Additional details and updates will continue to be posted on the website as they become available.

Parish School of Religion (PSR)

The Parish School of Religion has been a vital ministry of our parish since its founding, providing ongoing faith formation for children and youth.

Students in grades 1–5 participate in a home-based program that highlights the role of the Domestic Church, recognizing parents as the primary teachers of the faith. Families are given resources to help guide their children in learning and living the Catholic faith at home.

Students in grade 6 and above take part in Confirmation preparation, with classes held on campus.

Throughout the program, children and youth grow in their faith through prayer, service, and the teachings of the Church, with guidance from both catechists and parents. All parish families with children attending public or private schools are strongly encouraged to enroll.

Registration opens June 1 via link found at [stmbr.org/news/psr](https://www.stmbr.org/news/psr)

Blessing of Peace

Dear Lord,
You have said,
"Do not let your hearts
be troubled."
Bless me with Your peace.
Fill my heart with trust in You,
and hope in Your promises.
Be my rock in times of distress,
my light in times of darkness,
and my rest in the storm.
Amen.



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OUR PARISH FAMILY

IN SYMPATHY

We extend our heartfelt condolences and prayers to the family of **Myrtly Joyner**. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

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DAILY MASSES

Tuesday: 6:00 pm; Wednesday: 12 noon (Rosary @ 11:30 am)

Thursday: 8:45 am; Friday: 12 noon (6 pm during Lent)

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 4:30 pm Vigil; Sunday: 8 am, 10 am, and 5 pm

RECONCILIATION

Tuesdays of Lent from 5:00 - 5:45 pm; Wednesdays from 11:15 - 11:45 am

Thursdays from 8:00 - 8:30 am; Saturdays from 3:15 - 4:15 pm

- and by appointment -

Emergencies After Hours:

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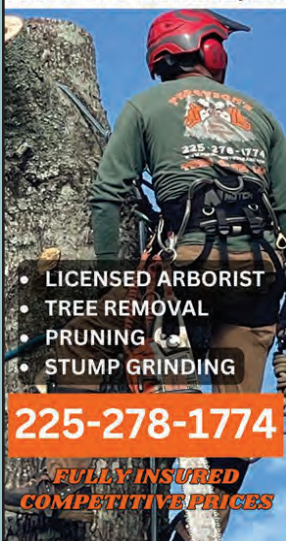
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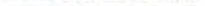
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