ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

17784 State Route 676 (Churchtown)
Marietta, Ohio 45750-6530

Founded 1841—Completed 1867

A parish of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Steubenville

Faith - Tradition - Family

Office phone 740-896-3566
Fax 740-896-3567
Parish Senior Center 740-896-3610
Church email: stjohnchurchtown@yahoo.com
webpage: wwwstjohnchurchtown.com
Fr. David Gaydosik, Pastor
Cell number 740-391-1093

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 2, 2021

Fr. Walter E Heinz, retired/in residence
Fr. Dale Tornes, retired

Secretary: Pam Brooker

Maintenance & Grounds: Mike Francis

Bulletin deadline: no later than 10:00 am on Monday.

Confessions: one half hour before Mass or on request.

Sick Calls & Hospital Visitation: please contact parish office as soon as possible when a member of your family becomes sick or hospitalized.

Rosary before each Weekend Mass

Parish Council meets in the Sr. Center as announced. Mr. Ferris Arnold, President

Catholic Women's Club meets the 2nd Monday of the month (Sept-May) Mass and meeting at 6:30 pm in Sr. Center. Mrs. Marilyn Kern, President

Cemetery Association meets the Last Sunday of June. Mr. Andy Miller, President

Euchre: Euchre is held every other Wednesday during the month at 6:30 pm unless otherwise noted.

Senior Citizens meet the 1st Thursday of the month at 11 am in Senior Center. Mrs. Doris Brooker, President

Parish School of Religion (PSR) meets 10-11:15 a.m. on the first three Sundays of the month Sept-April.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) a program were individuals seek entrance into the Church. Meets as announced.

St. Vincent DePaul Society: If you are in need of the services of St. Vincent De Paul, please call the Rectory.

Baptism: Parents should schedule the baptism of their child at least 2 weeks in advance of the desired date.

Confirmation: to be confirmed must attend either the Parish School of Religion, Catholic School, or the RCIA.

Marriage: Couples wishing to be married at St. John's must contact Fr. David at least 6 months in advance of the intended wedding date.

Sponsor at Baptism or Confirmation: must be at least 16 years old; be an active Catholic who has been confirmed and leads a life in harmony with the faith.

Visitation of Sick or homebound: Please contact the parish office as soon as possible when a member of your family becomes sick or hospitalized.

St. John Central Elementary School: Mrs. Karen Pottmeyer, Principal. School number (740) 896-2697. The Central Catholic Grade School for the parishes of: St. John the Baptist, Churchtown; Our Lady of Mercy, Lowell; St. Ambrose Little Hocking; and St. Bernard, Beverly.

Home and School Association: Meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm at the school. Mr. Ryan Lauchard-President (614) 284-4851

St. John the Baptist Bingo held every Sunday at the Marietta Shrine Center (740-373-8881). Doors open at 4:00 pm and games begin at 6:00 pm. Proceeds help to support Catholic Education in our parish.

Knights of Columbus meet the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 7:30 pm at K of C Hall. Mr. Jeff Booker, Grand Knight

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 2, 2021

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	05/01	6:00 P.M.	+Mary Canterbury (Birthday 5/4) (Rick Canterbury and Family)	
Sunday	05/02	7:30 A.M.	+Pauline Zoller (Larry and Janet Schaad)	
Sunday	05/02	11:00 A.M.	+Matthew Arnold (Norbert and Sheila Schilling)	
Monday	05/03	8:00 A.M.	+Bob and +Edna Lang (Jeff and Lorinda Lang)	
Tuesday	05/04	8:00 A.M.	+Norbert Lang (Family)	
Wednesday	05/05	8:20 A.M.	+Bernard Thieman (Mary Lou and Family)	School Mass
Thursday	05/06	8:00 A.M.	+George Pooler (Bernard and Marilyn Schilling)	
First Friday	05/07	6:00 P.M.	+Mary Canterbury (Mary Brooker and Family)	Holy Hour 5-6:00 p.m.
Saturday	05/08	6:00 P.M.	+Howard Strahler (Tina Duff Family)	
Sunday	05/09	7:30 A.M.	+Lawrence and +Loretta Hendershot (Mike Schaad Family)	
Sunday	05/09	11:00 A.M.	+Rosemary Heiss (Bill and Alberta Wesel)	

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND

MASS	ALTAR SERVERS	LECTOR	EUCH. MINISTER
SATURDAY 6:00 P.M.	Abby Henke and Emma Schaad	Virginia Dyar	Jerry Dyar
SUNDAY 7:30 A.M.	Sydney and Henry Huffman	Kelly Miller	Veronica Bosner
SUNDAY 11:00 A.M.	Gwendolyn Lang and Isabella Lang	Jerry Smith	Marilyn Kern

COLLECTION

Total Collection last weekend	$2,911
Needed to meet parish needs	$4,750

DPSC

Parish Goal	$27,651
2021 Collected to Date:	$29,495

(This includes money sent directly to the Diocese)

ONLINE GIVING

www.stjohnchurchtown.com
Thank you for your generosity!

ST. JOHN BINGO

May 2 - Group 6 with Jeff Canterbury
May 9 - Group 7 with BJ Davis

CWC WORK GROUPS

May: Group E-Susan Arnold

Saint of the Week

On one side, I saw the Lord calling me; on the other the world offering me its seducing charms and pleasures. How often did I embrace and reject, willed and not willed the same thing! But in the end Jesus Christ triumphed in me.
- St. Hilary of Arles, (401-449), Bishop, Patron Saint of Lawyers, Feast Day May 5

PLEASE PRAY

Please pray for the members of our parish who are ill and for all members of the military who are serving home and abroad.

COVID UPDATE FOR CHURCH

Please continue to practice safe social distancing and wearing a mask for Mass. Please be aware we cannot guarantee social distancing.

CWC
CWC monthly meeting will be held on Monday, May 10 at the Sr. Center with the Rosary to begin the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

EUCHRE
Euchre will resume at the Senior Center on Wednesday, May 12, at 1:00 p.m.

SCHOOL REGISTRATION
St. John Central School is now accepting registrations for the 2021-22 school year. St. John Centeral has been providing a quality education for our students for over 60 years. Our school is fully accredited, and we offer a complete academic program from Early Learning and Pre-Kindergarten (at the preschool) through K-8 at the grade school. For registration materials or additional information, please call the school office at 740-896-2607.

WE WELCOME
We welcome into our parish family through Baptism: Cooper James Arnold, son of Evan and Allie (Proctor) Arnold; Lilly Welton, daughter of Justine Welton; Watson Davis, son of Aaron Davis and Justine Welton. May God bless them always.

ST. JOHN SCHOOL
Pre-School Graduation will be held May 14 at 6:00 p.m. in the Church. Kindergarten Graduation will be held during school Mass on May 19 at 8:30 a.m. and 8th grade Graduation will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 19.

HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE GRADUATES
All graduating high school and college seniors will be honored at the 11:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, May 23. If you would like to participate, please wear your cap and gown and sit together in the front pews.

BINGO NEWS
St. John Bingo will will be starting back up at the Marietta Shrine Center on May 2 with Group 6 (Jeff Canterbury) working. May 9 will be Group 7 with BJ Davis. Workers will be required to wear face masks while on the floor. Social distancing protocols will be in effect. We look forward to your continued help with bingo!

GOLF OUTING
St John's Annual Athletic Booster Golf Outing is set for Saturday June 5th, 2021 at Lakeside Golf Course in Beverly, Ohio. Four Man Scramble - $60/person, $240/team, 18 holes w/ cart, dinner and raffle to finish! Contact Kristin Pottmeyer (304) 989-0729 or Jessica Strickler (740) 350-2996 to register your team or if you are a business owner and are interested in sponsoring a hole!

Please check out our webpage at
www.stjohnchurchtown.com

CONDOLENCES
Our prayerful condolences to the family and friends of Frank Schilling who passed away on April 25. May Frank be with the Lord in peace and light.

SCRIP CARDS
Scrip cards are still available to purchase and can be done so by calling the Rectory or going to www.shopwithscrip.com and placing an order. The school code is A9EDE85C1723L. Orders are put in on the first and third Sunday of each month.

ST. HENRY'S MOTHER'S DAY DINNER
St. Henry's Mother's Day Dinner will be held on May 9. drive-thru-pick-up dinners only will be available from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Meal cost is $10 each. Pre-order through the following link: https://forms.gle/tFQ4nMuSjEFQhKBN6 Pre-order deadline is May 1.

May is the Month of Mary!

As the Mother of God, the Virgin Mary has a unique position among the saints, indeed, among all creatures. She is exalted, yet still one of us.

Redeemed by reason of the merits of her Son and united to Him by a close and indissoluble tie, she is endowed with the high office and dignity of being the Mother of the Son of God, by which account she is also the beloved daughter of the Father and the temple of the Holy Spirit. Because of this gift of sublime grace she far surpasses all creatures, both in heaven and on earth. At the same time, however, because she belongs to the offspring of Adam she is one with all those who are to be saved. (Lumen Gentium, no. 53)

Mary embraces God's will and freely chooses to cooperate with God's grace, thereby fulfilling a crucial role in God's plan of salvation. Throughout the centuries, the Church has turned to the Blessed Virgin in order to come closer to Christ. Many forms of piety toward the Mother of God developed that help bring us closer to her Son. In these devotions to Mary, "while the Mother is honored, the Son, through whom all things have their being and in whom it has pleased the Father that all fullness should dwell, is rightly known, loved and glorified and . . . all His commands are observed." The Church honors her as the Mother of God, looks to her as a model of perfect discipleship, and asks for her prayers to God on our behalf.

CHURCHTOWN BINGO GROUP WORK SCHEDULE
2020-21

DATE		GROUP		DATE		GROUP
Nov	1	4		**May**	2	6
	8	5			9	7
	15	6			16	8
	22	7			23	1
	29	8			30	2
Dec	6	1		**June**	6	3
	13	2			13	4
	20	3			20	5
	27	4			27	6
Jan	3	5		**July**	4	7
	10	6			11	8
	17	7			18	1
	24	8			25	2
	31	1		**Aug**	1	3
Feb	7	2			8	4
	14	3			15	5
	21	4			22	6
	28	5			29	7
Mar	7	6		**Sept**	5	8
	14	7			12	1
	21	8			19	2
	28	1			26	3
Apr	4	Easter-No Bingo		**Oct**	3	4
	11	2, 3			10	5
	18	4			17	6
	25	5			24	7
					31	8

Team 1
Jeff Brooker 749-3538

Team 2
Jessica Henke 896-3705

Team 3
Randy Schilling 525-5008

Team 4
Derek Pottmeyer (304) 533-6334
Alex Pottmeyer (304) 989-0729

Team 5
Michelle Schwendeman 525-7925
Kenley Schwendeman 525-7466

Team 6
Jeff Canterbury 984-4827

Team 7
B.J. Davis 819-3613

Team 8
Russ Lang 336-0800

If you are unable to work your scheduled shift,
please let your captain know and find a replacement.

FROM THE PASTOR...

The World Needs Jesus Christ The world in which we are now living seems to have been turned upside down. The values for which we have lived our lives for the past century are being challenged by those who are presently running society today. The government, the media, the entertainment industry, and the high-tech industry are all setting standards that are completely foreign to what we learned as children. We are told that we are not to mention God, in our conversations, (except when we want to curse). We are not allowed to follow the Ten Commandments because they might offend someone. We are not allowed to disagree with the establishment, because only they know what is the real truth. Finally, we must cancel all of history that took place before the twenty-first century. Who would have ever thought that we would be living in this situation today? But there is an answer. Jesus Christ came into a world just as "mixed up" as this when He came over two thousand years ago. Instead of secularists running the society, it was pagans who did so. When He came, the values that most people lived their lives by were just as immoral. He did not let this distract Him from His mission. He started with a small group of Apostles. He taught them how to live their lives by putting the love of God and the love of neighbor in the forefront. He founded the Catholic Church, and He commissioned the Apostles to hand His teaching on to the entire world. What happened was incredible. The world became a better place to live. You, as members of St. John the Baptist and Our Lady of Mercy Churches, have the same task today, as did the original Apostles. The world needs to know that there is another way to live than by the standards we are being taught by our culture. You need to let the world know that you believe in Jesus Christ by your words, and by your actions. The world needs Jesus Christ, and that is your mission as parishioners. Don't ever be afraid to take a stand for Jesus Christ.

The Equality Act – HR 1 – Very Bad Idea Recently the U.S. House of Representatives passed the "so called" Equality Act. It promotes the exact opposite of its title - Equality for all American citizens. This Bill, which will soon come before the U.S. Senate, promotes gender rights that are opposed to the Natural Law of God. If it becomes the law of our nation, it would lead to unjust discrimination against persons of all Christian beliefs, it could close most Catholic Institutions, and it could lead to the destruction of the most basic Morals of our civil society. Cardinal Timothy Dolan, in his article published in "Our Sunday Visitor", (p.6) encouraged all Catholics to strongly oppose the "Equality Act". This legislation, which has been proposed by the U.S. House of Representatives, "forces a highly contested understanding of human nature on all people and it goes out of its way to target people of faith". The law radically challenges the understanding of marriage according to the definition that God has given in the Book of Genesis – between a man and a woman. It portrays marriage based on a strong affection between any two people. It also portrays that a person's "gender" does not have to be tethered to his/her biological sex. "While Catholics must accompany all individuals, we cannot accept an ideology of gender which, as Pope Francis says, 'denies the difference and reciprocity in nature of a man and a woman and envisages a society without sexual differences, thereby eliminating the anthropological basis of the family'. This law would have a great effect on destroying our view of family relationships. Also, this legislation would cause serious problems of conscience for those who are told they must obey it. The Catholic Church teaches: "Religious freedom means that all people are to be immune from coercion on the part of individuals or of social groups and of any human power, in such ways that no one is to be forced to act in a manner contrary to their own beliefs, ...within due limits". The Equality Act has declared war on Religious Freedom in the name of gender identity. In 1993 Congress passed the Religious Freedom Restoration Act which guaranteed Religious Freedom in America. The Equality Act, with its provisions, destroys the intent of this law, especially when it comes to persons who do not want to live under the constraints of a secular morality based on transgender politics. Some examples that could occur if this Equality Act becomes the law of the land include forcing Catholic women shelters to house men who claim to be women; Church owned buildings to be open for same sex marriages; Catholic doctors being forced to perform abortions; Catholic Schools being forced to teach moral values contrary to our Faith. As Catholics, we believe that all persons are created by God in His image and likeness. We have the obligation to treat every individual with respect, dignity, and compassion. We should be willing to stand against all forms of discrimination. But the Equality Act goes well beyond these norms of morality. It promotes religious intolerance when it comes to people who want to practice their own Christian beliefs. The Equality Act – HR 1 – is a very bad idea .

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Pray for our Priests

April 25
Fr. James Dunfee

April 26
Fr. Sam Saprano

April 27
Fr. Jonas Schell

April 28
Msgr. Mike Campbell

April 29
Fr. Michael Gossett

April 30
Msgr Tom Petronek

May 1
Fr. Robert Gallagher

May 2
Bishop Monforton

May 3
Fr. Gaydosik

May 4
Fr. Tim McGuire

May 5
Fr. Leonard Cencula

May 6
Fr. Thomas Hamm

May 7
Fr. Tom Venneti

May 8
Fr. Nicholas Ward

May 9
Bishop Sheldon

May 10
Fr. Dale Tornes

May 11
Fr. Chester Pabin

May 11
Fr. Vincent Huber

May 12
Fr. Josh Erickson

May 13
Fr. David Cornett

May 14
Fr Virgil Reischman

A story of St. Isadore
A story often told about St. Isidore (feast day May 15) was his practice of often coming late to work in the fields because he would first attend Mass every morning. Yet his work never suffered and he always met the tasks demanded of him. His master, Squire de Vergas, decided one day to observe Isidore at his work. The squire hid himself in some bushes near the field where his laborers were working. As usual, Isidore arrived late and then began driving his oxen without forcing a hurried pace. The master's anger soon turned to astonishment. Two angels, one on either side of Isidore, appeared and joined their faithful companion in plowing the fields.

The Honor Roll for the 2020-21 Third Grading Period at St. John Central School in Churchtown:

Principal's List (All A's)
Grade 4: Devin Pottmeyer
Grade 5: Adalyn Eichmiller, Maycee Lang, Baleigh Pottmeyer, Brynnlee Pottmeyer
Grade 6: Tyson Franchino, Reese Lang, Avery Pottmeyer
Grade 7: Weston Hennes, Ella Schweikert
Grade 8: Wade Brooker, Mason Francis

All A's and B's
Grade 4: Abigail Henke, Jaleigha Kennedy, Finnegan Lauchard, Declan Schaad
Grade 5: Camren Clark, Blake Lang, Evie Pennock
Grade 6: Joseph Henke, Parker Kern, Connor Lauchard, Finnley Pennock, Kayla Schwendeman, Chloe Stewart
Grade 7: Grace Francis, Miles Schaad, Addison Strickler
Grade 8: Lucas Henke, Payton Wilson

Congratulations — well done!

Diocese of Steubenville Vocation Links
Twitter @dsvocations
Facebook: www.facebook.com/dsvocations
Diocesan Website: http://steubenvillevocations.com
Fr. Joshua Erickson, Vocation Director

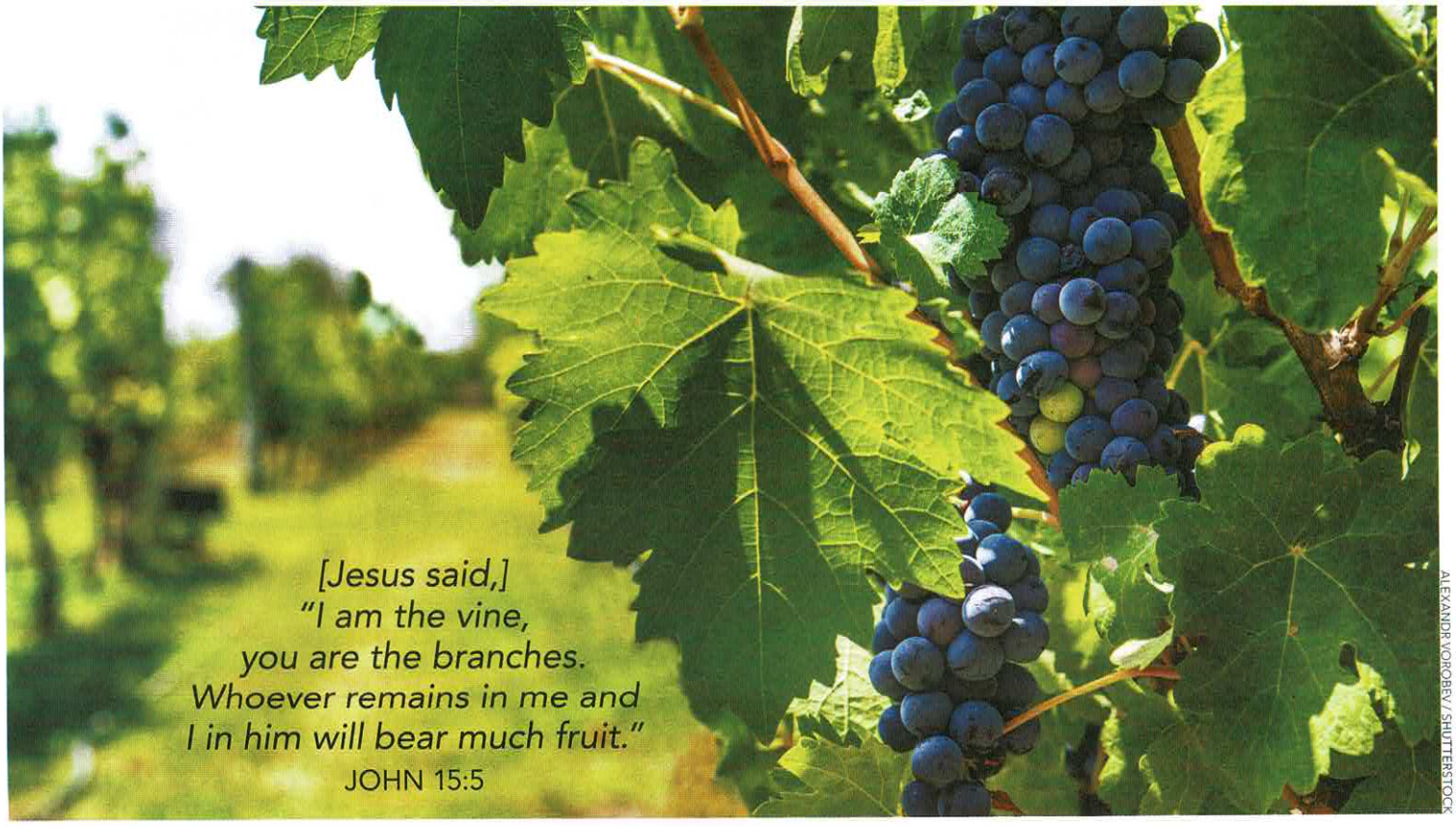
Sunday Sunshine

*A sign in a Shoe Repair Shop in Vancouver read: "We will heel you... We will save your sole... We will even dye for you.."

*Always Remember This: You don't stop laughing because you grow old, You grow old because you stop laughing!

Our Parish COMMUNITY

May 2, 2021
Fifth Sunday of Easter (B)
Acts 9:26–31
1 Jn 3:18–24
Jn 15:1–8



ALEXANDR VOROBEV / SHUTTERSTOCK

In or Not at All

The little word *in* appears eleven times in the Greek text of today's short passage from John's Gospel (ten times in most translations), and it has the same meaning in all cases. It refers to an intimate relationship: We are in Christ; Christ is in us. This being *in* does not mean "inside," like being in a room or in a country. It means being an intimate aspect of something, like the relationship of a branch to the vine. Perhaps a way of understanding this intimacy is to remember that the branch cannot exist by itself, and there is no vine if there are no branches. We cannot be partially in. We are either in or out.

If we want to live and thrive, we must cherish and protect our relationship with Christ, who is our source of life and nourishment. Otherwise we risk being nothing more than dead branches, the usefulness of which is mere fodder for the fire. This sounds like a harsh punishment. However, it is not really punishment. Rather, it is the inevitable consequence of cutting ourselves off from our supply of life-giving nourishment. Furthermore, being cut off does not happen accidently; we choose it deliberately.

Finally, this metaphor of vines and branches is an image of the Church. Though each of us, by grace, is "in Christ," our source of life, the risen life of Christ surges through members of his body. Thus, when we are united to Christ by grace, we live in him as Christ lives in all of us.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- *Think for a moment of the ways Christ lives in you.*
- *Now think of how you might live in Christ.*

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Dear Padre,

Why is the Church considering a word change to the Our Father? It seems fine as it is.

Of the two versions of the Lord's Prayer in Luke 11:2–4 and Matthew 6:9–13, Luke's is more concise. The petition, "and lead us not into temptation" in Greek means both "do not allow us to enter into temptation" and "do not let us yield to temptation" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2846). The *Catechism* includes the explanation from James 1:13: "God cannot be tempted by evil and he himself tempts no one," to certify that God "wants to set us free from evil. We ask him not to allow us to take the way that leads to sin." Consequently, Pope Francis reportedly approved the English wording, "do not let us fall into temptation" to replace "lead us not into temptation."

THE TEMPTATION OF CHRIST BY THE DEVIL, BY FÉLIX JOSEPH BARRIAS, 1860 / WIKIPEDIA

"It is not a good translation because it speaks of a God who induces temptation," the Pope said in 2017. "I am the one who falls. It's not him pushing me into temptation to then see how I have fallen." On the contrary, "a father helps you to get up immediately," he added. "It's Satan who leads us into temptation—that's his department."

However, unlike the change in the Italian Lord's Prayer that will appear in their third edition of *The Roman Missal*, no immediate plans have been made to change the wording in English-speaking countries.

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Let us not forget that the Our Father is the prayer of the poor. Our asking for bread expresses our entrustment to God for our basic needs in life. Everything that Jesus taught us in this prayer expresses and brings together the cry of all who suffer from life's uncertainties.

FIRST WORLD DAY OF THE POOR, NOVEMBER 19, 2017

Calendar

Monday
MAY 3
Sts. Philip and James, Apostles
1 Cor 15:1–8
Jn 14:6–14

Tuesday
MAY 4
Easter Weekday
Acts 14:19–28
Jn 14:27–31a

Wednesday
MAY 5
Easter Weekday
Acts 15:1–6
Jn 15:1–8

Thursday
MAY 6
Easter Weekday
Acts 15:7–21
Jn 15:9–11

Friday
MAY 7
Easter Weekday
Acts 15:22–31
Jn 15:12–17

Saturday
MAY 8
Easter Weekday
Acts 16:1–10
Jn 15:18–21

Sunday
MAY 9
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Acts 10:25–26, 34–35, 44–48
1 Jn 4:7–10
Jn 15:9–17

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