

Intentions for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Saturday, May 29, Trinity Sunday (Vigil)

5:00 pm Joseph Betts (Birthday Remembrance)

Sunday, May 30, Trinity Sunday

9:00 am Rose Yandolino

12:00 pm Frank Hems (Birthday Remembrance)

Monday, May 31, Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

10:00 pm Deceased Members of the Armed Forces

Tuesday, June 1, St. Justin

12:00 pm Compton Phillips

Wednesday, June 2, weekday in Ordinary Time

12:00 pm Rev. Msgr. Edward M. O'Brien
(48th Anniversary of Ordination)

Thursday, June 3, St. Charles Lwanga & Companions

12:00 pm Ian Crombie

Friday, June 4, weekday in Ordinary Time

12:00 pm For Priests in the Year for Priests

Saturday, June 5, Corpus Christi Sunday (Vigil)

5:00 pm James J. & Mary Weadock

Sunday, June 6, Corpus Christi Sunday

9:00 am For the Unborn & Their Parents

12:00 pm Marie Krzywicki

Attendance and Collections

Our attendance for Sunday, May 23, was 163. The regular collection was \$1334. Thank you for your generosity.

Please Pray for the Sick of Our Parish

Please pray for our sick parishioners: Patti Adcroft, Mary Barone, Mary Billings, Anne Cahill, Kara Jean Fleming, Margaret Flynn, Sister Eileen McCabe, Carol Mohler, Jacqueline O'Grady, Clara Rancier, Matthew John Ruiz, Fred Serafini. If you know of a parishioner who is sick, please contact the Rectory.

Visit to the Sick, Homebound, or Hospitalized

If you or someone you know is sick, homebound, or hospitalized and would like a visit from a priest for Confession, Communion, or Anointing of the Sick, please call the Rectory.

Trinity Sunday

Trinity Sunday is the first Sunday after Pentecost, instituted to honor the Most Holy Trinity. In the early Church, no special Office or day was assigned for the Holy Trinity. When the Arian heresy was spreading the Fathers prepared an Office with canticles, responses, a Preface, and hymns, to be recited on Sundays. In the *Sacramentary* of Pope St. Gregory the Great, there are prayers and the Preface of the Trinity. The *Micrologies*, written during the pontificate of Gregory VII, call the Sunday after Pentecost a *Dominica vacans*, with no special Office, but add that in some places they recited the Office of the Holy Trinity composed by Bishop Stephen of Liège (903-20). Pope Alexander II (1061-1073) refused a petition for a special feast on the plea that such a feast was not customary in the Roman Church which daily honored the Holy Trinity by the Gloria, Patri, etc., but he did not forbid the celebration where it already existed. Pope John XXII (1316-1334) ordered the feast for the entire Church on the first Sunday after Pentecost. Since it was after the first great Pentecost that the doctrine of the Trinity was proclaimed to the world, the feast follows that of Pentecost.

Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Assuming that the Annunciation and the Incarnation took place about the vernal equinox, Mary left Nazareth at the end of March and went over the mountains to Hebron, south of Jerusalem, to wait upon her cousin Elizabeth, because her presence and much more the presence of the Divine Child in her womb, according to the will of God, was to be the source of very great graces to the Blessed John, Christ's Forerunner.

The event is related in Luke 1:39-57. Feeling the presence of his Divine Savior, John, upon the arrival of Mary, leaped in the womb of his mother; he was then cleansed from original sin and filled with the grace of God. Our Lady now for the first time exercised the office which belonged to the Mother of God made man, that He might by her mediation sanctify and glorify us. St. Joseph probably accompanied Mary, returned to Nazareth, and when, after three months, he came again to Hebron to take his wife home, the apparition of the angel, mentioned in Matthew 1:19-25, may have taken place to end the tormenting doubts of Joseph regarding Mary's maternity.

The earliest evidence of the existence of the feast is its adoption by the Franciscan Chapter in 1263, upon the advice of St. Bonaventure. With the Franciscan *Breviary* this feast spread to many churches, but was celebrated at various dates—at Prague and Ratisbon, 28 April; in Paris, 27 June, at Reims and Geneva, 8. It was extended to the entire Church by Urban VI, 6 April, 1389, with the hope that Christ and His Mother would visit the Church and put an end to the Great Schism which rent the seamless garment of Christ.

Memorial Day

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service. There are many stories as to its actual beginnings, with over two dozen cities and towns laying claim to being the birthplace of Memorial Day. While Waterloo, NY, was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in May 1966, it's difficult to prove conclusively the origins of the day. It is more likely that it had many separate beginnings; each of those towns and every planned or spontaneous gathering of people to honor the war dead in the 1860's tapped into the general human need to honor our dead, each contributed honorably to the growing movement. It is not important who was the very first, what is important is that Memorial Day was established. Memorial Day is not about division. It is about reconciliation; it is about coming together to honor those who gave their all.

Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on May 5, 1868, by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his General Order No. 11, and was first observed on May 30, 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the War between the States to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war). It is now celebrated in almost every State on the last Monday in May (passed by Congress with the National Holiday Act of 1971).

In 1915, inspired by the poem "In Flanders Fields," Moina Michael replied with her own poem:

We cherish too, the Poppy red
That grows on fields where valor led,
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies.

She then conceived of an idea to wear red poppies on Memorial Day in honor of those who died serving the nation during war. She was the first to wear one, and sold poppies to her friends and co-workers with the money going to benefit servicemen in need. Later a Madam Guerin from France was visiting the United States and learned of this new custom started by Ms. Michael, and when she returned to France, made artificial red poppies to raise money for war orphaned children and widowed women. This tradition spread to other countries. In 1921, the Franco-American Children's League sold poppies nationally to benefit war orphans of France and Belgium. The League disbanded a year later and Madam Guerin approached the VFW for help. Shortly before Memorial Day in 1922 the VFW became

the first veterans' organization to nationally sell poppies. Two years later their "Buddy" Poppy program was selling artificial poppies made by disabled veterans. The use of red poppies continues, and Memorial Day is now celebrated on the last Monday in May. Please pray for the repose of the souls of all those who died in military service for our country.

The Angel Diaries

Patti Adcroft

(a parishioner who is seriously ill)

I am surrounded by angels. They come and go clad in designer jeans and heels, in madras shorts, tee shirts and pumas, in business suits and biking outfits. They herald news of the world outside my West Village apartment but also make dinner, fly to the drugstore, wash dishes and launder bedclothes. They carry me off to doctors' appointments, to emergency rooms, and in the case of one pair of angels, to my dying mother's bedside.

They have been harkened by my own prayers, yes, the prayers of a seriously ill middle-aged woman used to living on her own, used to being fleet of foot and sharp-eyed and sharper of tongue. But these angels have also been summoned by the thousands of other prayers offered up those too far away to aide me, by those too frightened by this failing body to attend to it themselves. I understand that it is hard to watch the wobbly stance, the shaded eyes, the bony limbs, to listen to the fading voice. The voice that most times can manage a Hail Mary, but not an entire Rosary.

There's no doubt these angels could be doing other things. Strolling the High Line, viewing the art in Chelsea, sitting in the audience at a Broadway play. Most have full time jobs; many have children, too. That I am a priority is testament to their goodness and God's grace. A thank you is inadequate; my gratitude seems a pittance. Perhaps what they deserve is a testimonial—I am hoping this suffices. Do not for a second question that we humans also possess an angelic side. I have been lucky enough, blessed enough, to witness it time and again.

St. Justin, Martyr

St. Justin is the patron saint of philosophers. He was a Christian apologist, born at Flavia Neapolis, about 100, converted to Christianity about 130, taught and defended the Faith in Asia Minor and at Rome, where he suffered martyrdom about the year 165. Two "Apologies" bearing his name and his "Dialogue with the Jew Tryphon" have come down to us.

Saint Justin Martyr, pray that in our search for the Truth, God will open the gates of light for us the way God did for you and give us the wisdom no human being can give. Amen