



<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>May 16, 2020</b>
4:30 p.m.	Carl & Louise Niederer by family
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>May 17, 2020</b>
7:30 a.m.	St. Mary Parish
9:30 a.m.	Joyce McPhee by her husband
11:00 a.m.	Vilma Gerger by Mr. & Mrs. Jose Marques & grandchildren
<b>Monday,</b>	<b>May 18, 2020</b>
7:45 a.m.	John Sheehy by Barbara Kupchik
<b>Tuesday,</b>	<b>May 19, 2020</b>
7:45 a.m.	Ed Welcome by his wife Judy
<b>Wednesday,</b>	<b>May 20, 2020</b>
7:45 a.m.	Sebastian "Mike" Motta
<b>Thursday,</b>	<b>May 21, 2020</b>
7:45 a.m.	Helen Motta
<b>Friday,</b>	<b>May 22, 2020</b>
7:45 a.m.	Barbara & George Wolf by Judy Welcome
<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>May 23, 2020</b>
4:30 p.m.	James Van Hoof, Sr. by his family
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>May 24, 2020</b>
7:30 a.m.	St. Mary Parish
9:30 a.m.	Sebastian "Mike" Motta
11:00 a.m.	Helen Motta

**Members of St. Mary Star of the Sea:**

I want you to know how appreciative I am of how you have responded to our beloved parish during this time of trial. Many of you are now on-line with your giving. Others have sent in their offerings by mail. I thank you so very much for your kindness and generosity. God bless you.

*Monsignor Motta*

St. Mary Parish will continue to support Unionville's Crisis Pregnancy Center but without the baby bottles that were distributed previous years. The Center provides compassionate, loving and spiritual support to women helping them make plans to keep and parent their babies or make an adoption plan. The Crisis Pregnancy Center depends on donations and without financial support the Center would have to close.

Checks may be made out to Crisis Pregnancy Center and mailed to 30 Mill St., Unionville 06085. Thank you for supporting this great cause so generously every year. If you have questions, please contact Jane Peterson 860 673-3597.


**Readings for the week of May 17, 2020**

Sunday: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 [1]/1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21  
 Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 15:26—16:4a  
 Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [7c]/Jn 16:5-11  
 Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15  
 Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [cf. 2b]/Jn 16:16-20  
 Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20  
 Friday: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [8a]/Jn 16:20-23  
 Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10 [8a]/Jn 16:23b-28  
 Next Sunday: Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20

**Parish Support May 10, 2020**

Weekly	\$ 6,373.00
On-line giving	<u>\$ 3,620.00</u>
Total	\$ 9,993.00
Monthly	\$ 2,730.00
On-line giving	<u>\$ 953.00</u>
Total	\$ 3,683.00

*Thank you!*

*Thank You.* 

Despite the cancellation of this year's Meal Packing Event with Outreach Program on March 21 our parish still fed the hungry!

Meal packets of rice and beans and mac and cheese made at Outreach's warehouse in MA were picked up by St. Mary's volunteers and delivered to organizations supporting families during the COVID-19 crisis: Gifts of Love, Avon; Cathedral of St. Joseph, Hartford; St. Augustine, Hartford; FISH Torrington; The Fresh Place, Hartford; McKinney Shelter, Hartford; Loaves & Fishes, Hartford; Divine Providence Church, New Britain; Fern Street Backpack program, Hartford; United Labor Agency Backpack Program, Bristol & Hamden; Seventh Day Adventist Food Pantry, Plainville. Thank you to all for the generosity to serve others during times of need including large donations from the Women's Guild of St. Mary, Knights of Columbus, Unionville Lions Club and UNICO of Farmington.

May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
Sixth Sunday of Easter

We hope for many things: passing an exam, finding our true love, securing sustainable work, or surviving an illness. We often seek to have God be a part of what we hope for and desire, almost trying to convince Him that our agenda is what is ultimately important. While our particular hopes may appear to be what needs to be achieved in order for us to be happy, they really are not. Our lesser, more personal hopes can distract us from true hope.

When God became a human being, a powerful message was sent: all that is authentically human is found in the divine. As the human Jesus lived and died in order to show us that he truly is the universal Christ, we have to keep our sight focused on our eternal truth and destiny and who we truly are. We have to be careful when we allow our earthly concerns to distract us. True hope is found when we place our trust in Christ's promises and don't rely on our own strength. True hope focuses on striving toward the fulfillment of God's promises and not simply on achieving what we think we need in this life. Hope always travels with two friends — faith and love. In this trio of virtues, we find the very presence of God born in every human being. These are God's greatest gifts, and they lead us to the fullness of His presence.

As with faith and love, we cannot see hope with just our human eyes. We don't carry this virtue within us to use solely for our own personal agenda. Hope is not something that simply comes with the human package. As with faith and love, hope is a gift that is given to us to draw us closer to our eternal truth. Faith, hope, and love are signs that there is something far greater going on in us and something greater to persevere in obtaining. The true divine gift of hope is what will endure any hardship we encounter, especially those that will come from authentically living the Gospel. With all that is happening in our lives, in our church, and in our world, what is the reason for our hope? Ask God for the fortitude to see His eternal gift as the reason we get up in the morning and do the things we do.

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## For Your Information

### Prayer During A Health Crisis

Compassionate and Loving Father,  
In the face of confusion and concern  
impart to us the calm of your presence.  
In You allow us to find hope and healing.  
Be with those who serve the sick and give them Your caring  
hands.  
Be with those who lead and give them Your Spirit of wisdom.  
Be with those who have fallen ill and give them Your com-  
forting heart.  
Wrap your arms around our world  
and hold us in your love.  
Allow us at this time of trial to then  
serve as instruments of that love to all we meet.  
We ask this in Your Name.  
Amen.  
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**Did you Know?** Our parish bulletins are available on  
our website: [www.stmary-unionville.org](http://www.stmary-unionville.org)

### Laughter is the Best Medicine

#### Adam's Ribs

One weekend at Sunday School, they were teaching how God created everything, including human beings. Little Johnny seemed especially intent when they told him how Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs.

Later in the week his mother noticed him lying down as though he were ill, and asked him, "Johnny, what is the matter?"

"I have pain in my side," Johnny responded. "I think I'm going to have a wife."

#### The Army of the Lord

A man was coming out of church one Easter morning, and the pastor was standing at the door as always to shake hands. He grabbed the man by the hand and pulled him aside.

The pastor said to him, "Son, we need you to join the Army of the Lord!"

The man replied, "I'm already in the Army of the Lord, Father."

"Then how come I don't see you except at Christmas and Easter?" the pastor questioned.

He whispered back, "I'm in the secret service."