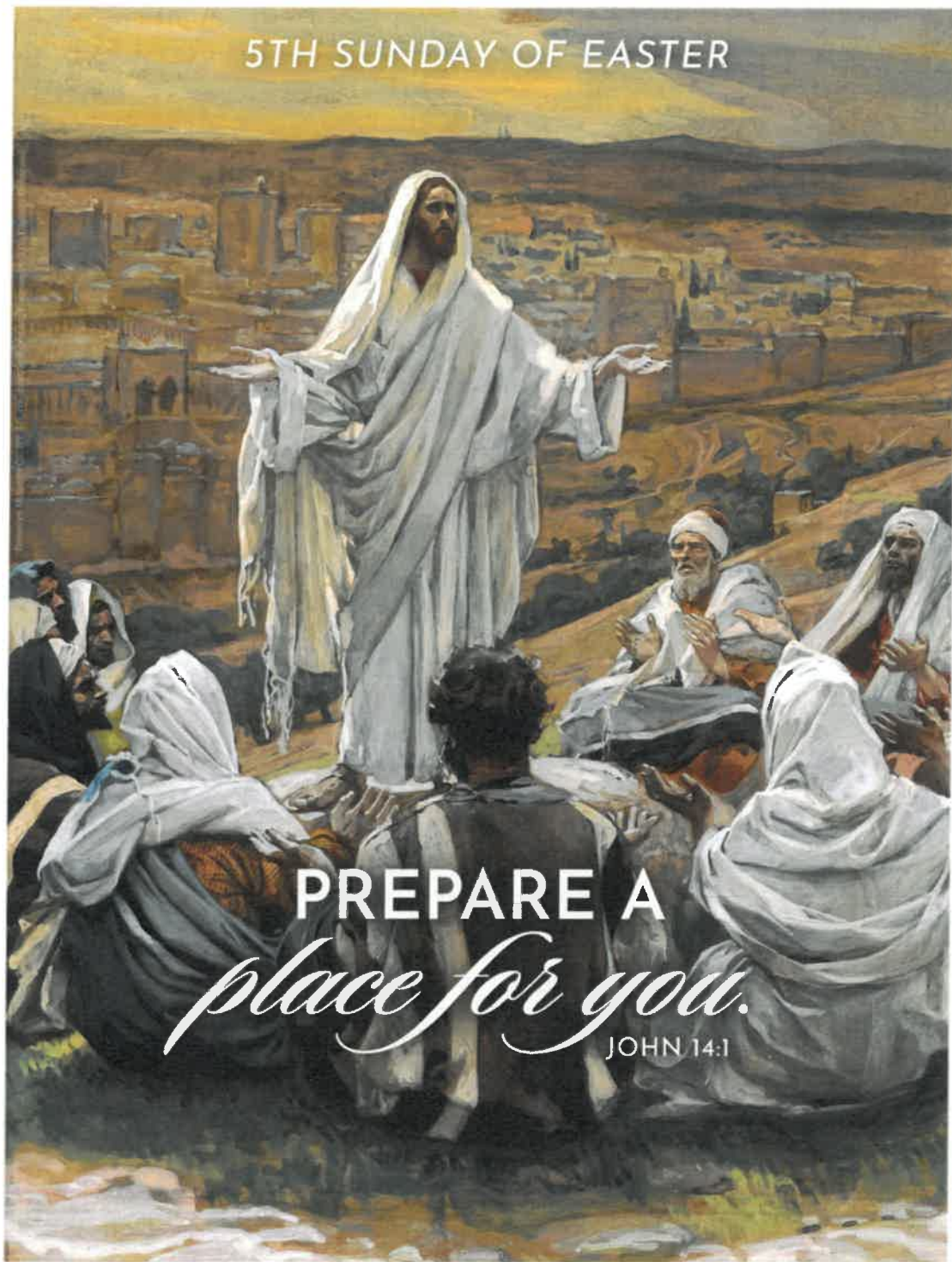


5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



PREPARE A  
*place for you.*

JOHN 14:1



# ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

14936 W. Wilmington - Peotone Rd.

Manhattan, Illinois 60442

## 5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 3, 2026

**Most Revered Bishop Dennis Spies**  
Administrator

Office Phone 815-478-3440

Facebook St. Patrick Church of Wilton Center

Website: [www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org](http://www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org)

### MASS INTENTIONS

Mass is celebrated on Saturday evening only

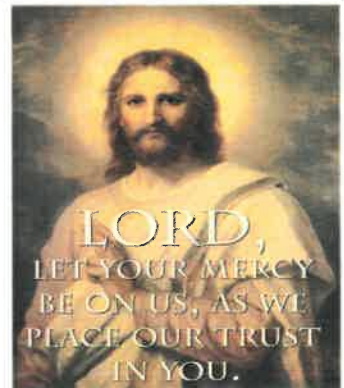
May 2	5:45pm	<b>MAY CROWNING</b> +Gladys Meyer req. by The Family +Eleanor Price req. by Ken & Cindy Smith Parish Family of St. Patrick
May 6	5:30pm	Parish Family of St. Patrick
May 9	5:45pm	Mothers of St. Patrick +Gladys Meyer req. by The Family +Grace Niemiec req. by The Family
May 13	5:30pm	Parish Family
May 16	5:45pm	+Gladys Meyer req. by The Family +Grace Niemiec req. by The Family Parish Family of St. Patrick

### LITURGICAL MINISTERS

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Minister</u>
May 2— 5:45pm	Mark May	C. Smith
May 9— 5:45pm	Jerry Kinsella	C. Kinsella
May 16-5:45pm	Sherrie Ashley	P. Engler

### SERVERS & USHERS

Please volunteer at the Mass you are attending



**Scripture Readings  
For the Week of May 3, 2026**

**Sunday Fifth Sunday of Easter** Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; 1 Pt 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12

**Monday** Acts 14:5-18; Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16; Jn 14:21-26

**Tuesday** Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21; Jn 14:27-31a

**Wednesday** Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5; Jn 15:1-8

**Thursday** Acts 15:7-21; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10; Jn 15:9-11

**Friday** Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12; Jn 15:12-17

**Saturday** Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5; Jn 15:18-21

**Sunday Sixth Sunday of Easter** Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20; 1 Pt 3:15-18; Jn 14:15-21

**WEEKLY OFFERING FOR  
4/26/2026**

**Sunday - \$1,216.00**

**Maintenance - \$100.00**

**Home Missions - \$65.00**

**Our weekly budget goal is \$1211.54**  
Thank you for your faith filled support.

**HOLY FATHER INTENTION FOR  
MAY**

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.



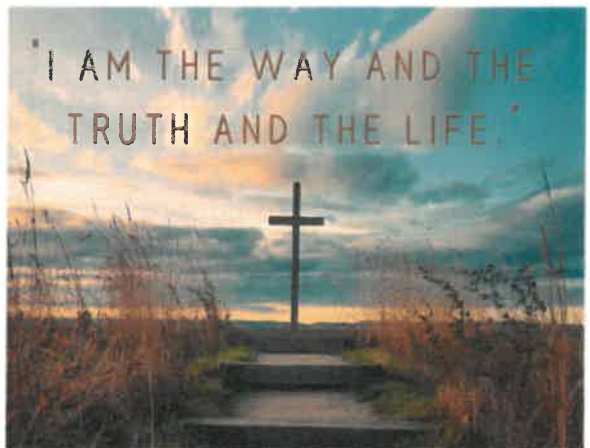
**Our Blessed Mother  
Candle  
Is burning for  
THE PARISH FAMILY  
OF ST. PATRICK**



**Our St. Joseph Candle  
Is Burning for  
A SPECIAL INTENTION FOR  
DEREK HECKLER  
Req. by Don & Sue Nugent**

**Please Remember our sick: especially:**  
Dan Phelan, Greg Harnois, Jim Kreske, Ann Marie & Tori Jasinski, Lisa Price, Barbara Schriver, Leslie Lund, Joe & Carol Price, Bernice & Dominick Marino, Tom Lane, Peggy Schiesow, Haley Donzella, Ken Smith, Laura 'Hanson, Steve Niemiec, Nancee Long, Shay Phelan, Lisa Bernard.

**PLEASE CALL THE PARISH OFFICE TO HAVE A  
LOVED ONE ADDED TO THE PRAYER LIST.**



**SPECIAL COLLECTION**— The Special Collection this week is to help defray the cost of repairing our gutters. Thank you for your help.



Next week (May 9) Bishop Spies asked there be a Special Collection to help with the Kankakee Conty Storm Damage. Thank you



Kankakee County Storm Damage  
3/10/26



### Healing From the Inside Out

Your support of the Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal funds counseling services at Daybreak, Catholic Charities' shelter for those experiencing homelessness. In two years, nearly 200 clients have received therapy, coping skills, and the compassionate care they need to heal — and hold on to — a stable home.

### The 2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal

Monthly pledge payments are due in the next few days. These payments are essential to reaching our parish goal. Once we reach our goal in paid pledges, 70% of the amount over goal will be returned to our parish four our needs .

PARISH GOAL: 10,500.00

AMOUNT PLEDGED: \$702.00

AMOUNT PAID: \$3,145.00

REMEINING BALANDE: \$500.00



**Watch the video and see the good your donation to the CMAA brings to our community**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

If there is such a thing as a Catholic “trademark” it is the sign of the cross, first traced on the senses of catechumens as they begin the journey to baptism, or on the forehead of an infant who is brought to the doors of the church at baptism.

As early as the third century, Christians were tracing the sign of the cross on their bodies. At first, the cross was traced on the forehead during times of prayer and daily occupations. We use a similar small cross today as we trace the cross over on the forehead, lips, and heart at the Gospel during Mass. Much later, the full-body sign traced from forehead to heart to shoulders took shape, perhaps copying the priest’s gesture of blessing with the consecrated host during Mass. Today, this superb baptismal gift is a sign of belonging to Christ and the community, a way of focusing our attention, of asking for God’s blessing, of tracing on our shoulders a willingness to find meaning in life’s burdens. In the sign of the cross, we have an ever-available means of expressing gratitude for our baptism.

— Rev. James Field



**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO  
SUGGESTED NONIMEES  
FOR OUR MAY CROWNING**

**THIS YEAR  
TOM AND PATTY NUGENT  
WERE NONIMATED TO CROWN MARY**  
Tom and Patty are lifelong parishioners  
And are very active in keeping our  
parish strong.

## A Reflection of the Father

Do you remember that famous line in Genesis (1:27): "In His image he created them"? This means that we are a direct reflection of the face of Christ. We receive Him even more closely in the sacraments of Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation. Jesus gave us a direct path to holiness through the sacraments and the moral guidance of the Church. If we follow this path we can be so closely united to Him that others can't help but notice the presence of the Lord in us.

In the Gospel today Jesus says to Thomas "No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father." Then later He says to Philip, "Whoever has seen me has seen the Father."

I like to put myself into this Gospel by reminding myself that when people see me, they see the Father because Jesus is in me. I carry His image within my own. What a responsibility! By people knowing me, they should also know the Father through me.

Most of the reasons I've heard of why people have left the faith have to do with the ugliness they've seen in some people who claim to carry Christ in them. This makes me reflect on how I live everyday life. When I walk through the grocery store, do I show people kindness? When I'm in a conversation, do I listen with compassion?

Every encounter we have, we should remember that our role is to help others see the Father, and grow in relationship with Him.

By Lily Hooper

**MASS IS CELEBRATED WEDNESDAY AT 5:30PM  
COME AND PRAY FOR OUR PARISH**



**"NO ONE COMES TO  
THE FATHER  
EXCEPT THROUGH ME."**

## Spiritual and Religious

The question is often asked why you need religion at all. Can't you just be a spiritual person and go directly to God? Especially in the wake of scandal, doesn't it seem like all human institutions have failed in one way or another to transmit the Gospel to all people at all times?

Years ago a very popular Youtube video showed a man speaking poetry claiming that he loved Jesus but hated religion. This seems to be a modern response to the horrible tragedies that have happened in religious institutions over the course of history, and these tragedies should not ever go unnoticed or the victims of these tragedies be forgotten.

Though it may be coming from a genuine place of concern for people to say they don't need religion, it is clear from the very beginning that Jesus founded a religion, a visible Church. He knew better than anyone that people could come directly to him, but he didn't set it up that way. In today's First Reading we hear a beautiful story of the early Church organizing and ordaining more priests in order to serve the growing needs of the flock. Right from the very beginning in Acts 6 we see the need for a visible Church that can bring the visible Christ to visible people with tangible needs.

Of course we can always go directly to God, but as human beings we often get in our own way. I know many Protestant friends who ask God directly for forgiveness and then have to struggle through mental games wondering if they truly are sorry and repentant. One of the benefits to a visible Church and visible sacraments is that we don't need to guess. Even Catholics can go directly to God and make a perfect act of contrition, but we are required by Canon Law to confess our sins to a priest, not because the Church wants to assure that we feel embarrassed about our sins, but so that we can have the assurance of forgiveness.

Though the Church is not perfect because it is full of very sinful people, myself included, being spiritual and not religious constantly leaves us wondering or worried about where we stand before God. With the Sacraments we need not worry, we have the assurance of Christ.

So take hope during this Easter season that God has set up a Church, that it is a visible body with authority, and that by living in this Church we can be assured that God is working for our salvation, despite the things we do or the lies we believe. Why not have the best of both worlds? Let's make it a point this Easter season to be spiritual and also religious, clinging to the hope that Jesus brings through his death and resurrection.



LORD. LET YOUR MERCY  
BE ON US. AS WE PLACE  
OUR TRUST IN YOU.

## Fifth Sunday of Easter Greater Things Than Jesus?

Of all the promises Jesus made to his disciples, I sometimes find the one at the end of today's Gospel to be the most amazing of all. Jesus tells his disciples that they would do greater works than he did. What could be greater than walking on water, curing a blind man, raising the dead, or feeding five thousand people with only a few loaves of bread?

First, we have to ask what Jesus would think is greater. The apostles performed many miracles because of their faith in the Lord. They cured the sick, and Peter even brought a dead woman back to life (Acts 9:40). Paul resuscitated a young man after practically boring him to death (Acts 20:7-12). But even these signs are not greater than what Jesus did.

I think Jesus meant greater in the sense of the true work of a disciple. When he sent the disciples out to cure the sick and cast out demons, his main purpose was to have them preach the Good News. Getting people to change their hearts and follow him was more important than impressing them with his miracles or amusing them with his parables. The disciples started right after Pentecost, when they received the power of the Holy Spirit. Peter went outside and began preaching to the people – not just any crowd, but those who called for Jesus to be crucified (Acts 2:14-41). The story ends with three thousand people getting baptized.

I wonder if we have the same kind of trust in Jesus that the apostles had. Would we be able to speak to a large crowd of non-believers and get them to all be baptized? Maybe we have to start like the apostles did. They talked about their experience of finding the empty tomb. They prayed, they discussed what had happened, and they looked for Jesus to appear to them. We can do those same things. We can talk about our faith with our families, in a parish discussion group, or helping with the OCIA. We can pray to be filled with the gifts of the Spirit and to see Jesus in other people. And we can look for God to act in our lives so that we can share God's love, which has been given to us, with those who do not know the Lord.

Tom Schmidt