



*"He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained." (John 20:22-23).*

For those of us who go to confession regularly, there is often a familiar frustration: "Why do I keep confessing the same sins?" It can feel like a loop, cleansed but unchanged. Pentecost reveals a hopeful perspective. When the Risen Jesus breathes on His ashamed and fearful disciples and gives them the Holy Spirit, He echoes Genesis, when God breathes life into Adam. This is not just primarily the removal of guilt, but new creation.

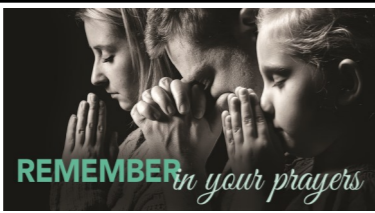
In confession, we receive more than forgiveness. We receive a fresh outpouring, the breath of the Spirit, and a renewed mission. Jesus does not say to us, "You're forgiven, now go back to your old life." He says, so to speak, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." (John 20:21). That is why penance is not just saying a few prayers. It is reorientation, it is the Spirit summoning us to live differently, with mercy and healing. Just as Adam was sent into the world, and the Apostles were sent out after Pentecost, so too we are sent from the confessional — not just clean, but consecrated.

**Pentecost Challenge:** After your next confession, ask the Holy Spirit for one way you can participate in Christ's healing will for you. Then take one small, concrete step, and do not look back. —Fr. John Muir

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR MAY 30 & 31, 2026**  
**Sat. May 30 @ 4:30PM @ St. Nicholas**  
 Reader: Brenda Tebbe  
 Music: Sally Rehberger, Barb Zaloga, & Colleen Lozier  
 Euch. Min.: Marce & Brenda Tebbe  
 Server: Pat Kalous

**Sun. May 31 @ 8:00AM @ St. Gertrude**  
 Reader: Katrina Korsmeyer  
 Music: Nick Worman & Randy Eckstein  
 Sacristan: Rich May  
 Euch.Min.: Larry & Tina Luitjohan & Debby Schwarz  
 Ushers: Bryan Rutz & Kevin Schwarz  
 Servers: Teagan & Maris Barr

**Sun. May 31 @ 10:00AM @ IC**  
 Reader: Lowell Wellen  
 Music: Joy Winkeler  
 Servers: Dylen Potthast & Landry Korte  
 Euch. Min.: Tim Schuette, Evelyn Knebel & Amy Gilomen



Members of our parish families who are recovering in the hospital & at home, for their strength and patience each day, and for all those who ask for our prayers for health or other issues. John Alberternst, Pat Beard, Ana Cantrell, Steve Crawford, Don Dapkus, Teresa Dickman, Garland Edwards, Jean Fields, Gabriel Frey, Jerry Fyke, Ed Gagen, Karen Grabowski, John Grubb, Eugene Henson, P.J. Hereford, James Hodge, Gene Jolliff, Pat Kalous, Val King, Janice Korsmeyer, Barrett Korte, Denny Korte, Randy Korte, Ruth Korte, Steve Korte, David Kuehn, Sue Luber, Christopher Marti, Taylor Marti, Barry May, Alex McCall, Eleanor Munie, Cody Neal, Jeannie Oestringer, Robin Pollmann, Marcia Rowe, Gunner Sadler, Abby Schrage, Bill Schroeder, Suzanne Steinbring, Brenda Usher, Marie Weis, Rich Weis, Ginny Werner, Dean Wernle, Melanie Wernle.

**FOR OUR PARISHIONERS IN NURSING HOMES:**  
 Delmar Knebel, Harold Schwarz, Barbara Weiss, Margie Zurliene and special people in our families.

**FOR THOSE CURRENTLY SERVING IN THE MILITARY:**  
 Adam Canfield, Tim Doll, Ensign Eli Jones, Chad Knebel, Michael Knebel, Dustin Korte, Solon McGill, Lt. Abigail Mesaros, Jerritt Mettler, Jimmy O'Boyle, Sgt. Joseph Patterson, Rickie Schuster, Joseph Schatte, Greg Spina, T.J. Waddington, Sgt. Tyler Wegman, Sgt. Zach Weiss.  
**If you would like to have someone added or removed from the prayer list please call the parish office.**

**Readings for the week of May 24, 2026**

**Sunday:**  
**Vigil:** Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24 and 35, 27-28, 29b-30/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39 or, for the **Extended Vigil:** Gn 11:1-9/ Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b/Ez 37:1-14/Jl 3:1-5/ Rom 8:22-27/ Jn 7:37-39 (see Lectionary for Mass Supplement, 62) **Day:** Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1 and 24, 29-30, 31 and 34/ 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13/Jn 20:19-23

**Monday:**  
 Gn 3:9-15, 20 or Acts 1:12-14/Ps 87:1-2, 3 and 5, 6-7/Jn 19:25-34

**Tuesday:**  
 1 Pt 1:10-16/ Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/ Mk 10:28-31

**Wednesday:**  
 1 Pt 1:18-25/ Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/ Mk 10:32-45

**Thursday:**  
 1 Pt 2:2-5, 9-12/ Ps 100:2, 3, 4, 5/ Mk 10:46-52

**Friday:**  
 1 Pt 4:7-13/ Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/Mk 11:11-26

**Saturday:**  
 Jude 17, 20b-25/ Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6/ Mk 11:27-33

**Next Sunday:**  
 Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/ 2 Cor 13:11-13/Jn 3:16-18

*"To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."*  
**1 Corinthians 12:7**

To receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit you must open your heart and invite Him in! Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your thoughts, words and actions every day! Be grateful for all the gifts God has given you! Regardless of our individual circumstances, God has given all of us many blessings. What we do with those gifts is our gift back to God! By generously sharing everything we have and everything we are, we become more "God-centered" and less "self-centered" and our lives truly reflect God's light, love and mercy.

**IC Church is looking for a cantor for the 10AM Sunday Mass starting August 2nd, 2026. Anyone interested please call or email the parish office.**



**Observances for the week of May 24, 2026**

**Sunday:** Pentecost Sunday  
**Monday:** Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church; Memorial Day  
**Tuesday:** St. Philip Neri, Priest  
**Wednesday:** St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop  
**Friday:** St. Paul VI, Pope  
**Next Sunday:** The Most Holy Trinity

**St. Gertrude Chicken Dinner — June 7th**

We are asking ALL FAMILIES to make 3 cakes for the dinner. They can be any kind. Angel food, sugar free, or whatever you would like to make.

Help is needed on Saturday, June 6 to help set up for the dinner. We will start at 8am.

Chicken Dinner gift certificates are available for \$15.00 each if you would like to purchase any to be given to the special people in your lives as a gift. Please contact Dianne Leitschuh at 618-410-0144 to get yours before the dinner.



**Seminarian Padrick Mulligan was ordained to transitional diaconate on Friday, May 22nd.**

"Through the Priesthood, I hope to show people that the beautiful, saving essence of Jesus Christ is to make himself accessible to each of us."



**Padrick Mulligan**  
 Configuration III  
 Kenrick-Glennon Seminary



**Memorial Day Services — May 25, 2026**

8:00am Mass at Calvary Cemetery in Pierron  
 10:30am Service at the UCC Cemetery in Grantfork

Please bring lawn chairs.

Please note: if the grounds are too wet at the cemetery, Mass will be celebrated in the Church.



**Pics from St. Gertrude's Graduation Mass and Breakfast last Sunday!**

CONGRATULATIONS Graduates!



On left: Bryce Knackstedt, Laila Barr, Fr. Cal, Corrin Heilig & Katrina Korsmeyer



Mon. (May 25) 8:00am (CC)  
 Tues. (May 26) 8:00am (St.G)  
 Wed. (May 27) 8:00am (IC)  
 Thur. (May 28) 8:00am (St.N)  
 Fri. (May 29) 8:00am (IC)  
 Sat. (May 30) 4:30pm (St.N)  
 Sun. (May 31) 8:00am (St.G)

Sun. (May 31) 10:00am (IC)

**† Mass Intentions †**

† **George & Margaret Daiber** — Int. of Derek, Megan & Leo Frey  
 † **All Souls**  
 † **Charlie Korte** — Int. of Marvin & Pam Frey  
 † **Helen Kuehn** — Int. of Mark Williams  
 † **Linda Rivera** — Int. of Bill & Denise Trickey  
 † **Bill & Betty Haberer** —Int. of Linda Nooman  
 † **Lucille Schwarz & Marie Schwarz** — Int. of Schwarz & Rutz Families  
**For the People of St. Gertrude, St. Nicholas & Immaculate Conception**  
 † **Felix & Betty Wilke** —Int. of Denis Munie  
 † **Stephen Moran** —Int. of the Wirz Family

STN Collection	5/16/26
Envelopes/Loose	\$595.00
Ascension of the Lord	\$105.00
Retired Priests	\$20.00
Budget Goal	\$1,257.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	\$-557.00
Support Needed (budget)	\$57,822.00
Support Actual	\$63,166.27
Surplus/Deficit YTD	\$5,344.27

STG Collection	5/17/26
Envelopes/Loose	\$1,176.00
Maintenance Fund	\$10.00
Budget Goal	\$1,505.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	\$-329.00
Support Needed (budget)	\$69,230.00
Support Actual	\$66,956.27
Surplus/Deficit YTD	\$-2,273.73

IC Collection	5/17/26
Envelopes/Loose	\$1,557.00
Ascension of the Lord	\$75.00
Communications	\$20.00
Cemetery	\$200.00
Budget Goal	\$2,672.00
Weekly Surplus/Deficit	\$-1,040.00
Support Needed (budget)	\$122,912.00
Support Actual	\$125,451.20
Surplus/Deficit YTD	\$2,539.20



Guess who?? Circa 1975

**Hitz Home Auxiliary Presents: June Salad Luncheon on Friday, June 5th at 1pm.** Join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship at Hitz Home Activity & Dining Room in Alhambra; Donation is \$8.00. We invite you to bring your favorite appetizer, dish, or dessert (a variety of meats will be provided). Share a delicious meal, silent auction, entertainment and raffle.



**Alton Deanery Council of Catholic Women Gathering Friday, June 5th**

Hosted by Ss Peter and Paul Parish Ladies Auxiliary of Collinsville Knights. 207 Vandalia St., Collinsville. Registration: 9:30am at the Church gathering space. Donation of \$5 to assist host parish with expenses. Proceed to church lower level (elevator is available) to Beveridge Hall. 10:00AM—Welcome: Prayer, breakfast refreshments. Guest Speaker: Sgt. Breanna Kemper Damm from the Swansea Police and Public Service Department. Sgt. Breanna's topic will be "Awareness of internet use and children". Brief business meeting will follow: Prayer, pledge of allegiance, introduction of officers, reports. Event concludes with a First Friday noon Mass celebrated by Father Michael Haag. For reservations please RSVP by May 31 and provide your name and parish. Via phone to Chris: 618-530-6469. If no answer please leave name and parish Via email to Kristi: altondeaneryccw@gmail.com.

Dear Friends in Christ, Each year on the feast of Pentecost we rejoice that the gifts of the Holy Spirit are given to the Church in every age. As we celebrate this feast, I ask you to consider a generous response in the Retired Diocesan Priests Collection to meet the immediate retirement and health care needs of our priests.

Please pray for our priests who serve so generously in various apostolates throughout our diocese. Please thank God for all that we have received from our priests who are now retired, many of whom continue to offer generous service in every way that they are able throughout our diocese.

If you are unable to make an in-church contribution, please make your donation online at [dio.org/give](http://dio.org/give). At this location, please designate your gift in the instructions for this particular collection. You can also mail your donation to your parish office.

Thank you in advance for your support this year. May the Holy Spirit give us every gift we need to build up the Body of Christ in our time and place.

With every best wish and prayers, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ, Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki  
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois

**Country Store at St. Gertrude's Chicken Dinner**

Catholic Fraternal Life is bringing back the Country Store at STG's chicken dinner on Sunday, June 7th. We are asking for donations of baked goods, crafts, homemade jellies, produce, plants, & canned goods. Bring the items to the hall the day of the dinner. You do not have to price the items. Profit from this fund raiser is used for many programs like Matching Fund, Matching Gift, Hearts and Hands and Silver Star. If you have any questions call Wendy Essenpreis 618-530-0927, Kris Hundsdorfer 618-977-1570, Gail Ohren 618-830-1384 or Judi Rode 618-791-8204. **We appreciate your help!** Tickets for the CFL Country Store quilt raffle are currently available. To request additional tickets, please contact Kris Hundsdorfer or Wendy Essenpreis.



**PENTECOST SUNDAY MAY 23 & 24, 2026**



Saint Nicholas - Pocahontas



Immaculate Conception—Pierron



Saint Gertrude—Grantfork

**PENTECOST SUNDAY**

"And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them." Acts 2:2-3

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD ©LPI

+BISHOP  
THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI  
DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD  
IN ILLINOIS

✠  
REV. CALLISTUS OSIAGA  
PASTOR

SONYA CURRY  
SECRETARY

**Mailing Address:**  
PO Box 410  
Pierron, IL 62273

E-mail Address:  
[icpierron@parish.dio.org](mailto:icpierron@parish.dio.org)  
Website:  
[www.icstnsta.org](http://www.icstnsta.org)  
Office: 618-669-2391  
Rectory: 618-654-2789

Office Address:  
401 E State Street,  
Pocahontas  
Office Hours:  
Mon.—Thurs. 9am to 4pm  
Fridays 9am to 1pm

**Mass Times**  
**Immaculate Conception**  
Wed. & Fri. —8:00am  
Sunday —10:00am

**Saint Nicholas**  
Thursday — 8:00am  
Saturday — 4:30pm

**Saint Gertrude**  
Tuesday — 8:00am  
Sunday — 8:00am