

May 9th 2021 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

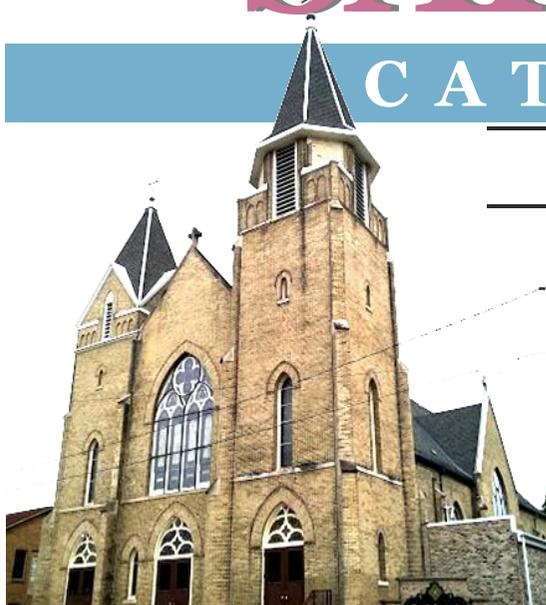
SAINT MARY'S

CATHOLIC CHURCH

117 JUNEAU STREET N. • LYNDON STATION, WI 53944

Fr. Clayton Elmhorst

Website: www.stmaryparishlyndon.com



PARISH OFFICE

Hours

Tuesday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Phone

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St. Mary Parish

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frclaytonstmaryschurch@gmail.com

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MASS SCHEDULE

Weekdays

Wed, Thurs, & Fri 8:30 am

Weekends

Saturday 7:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am & 1:00 pm

Adoration

Friday 8:00 - 8:30 am

Confessions

Saturday 6:00 pm

Rosary

Saturday 6:35 pm

Sunday 8:35 am

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Pat Mitchell (Chair)

Jeanette Crowley (Secretary)

Jerome Senzig, Sandy Madland,

Joan Holig-McCormick, &

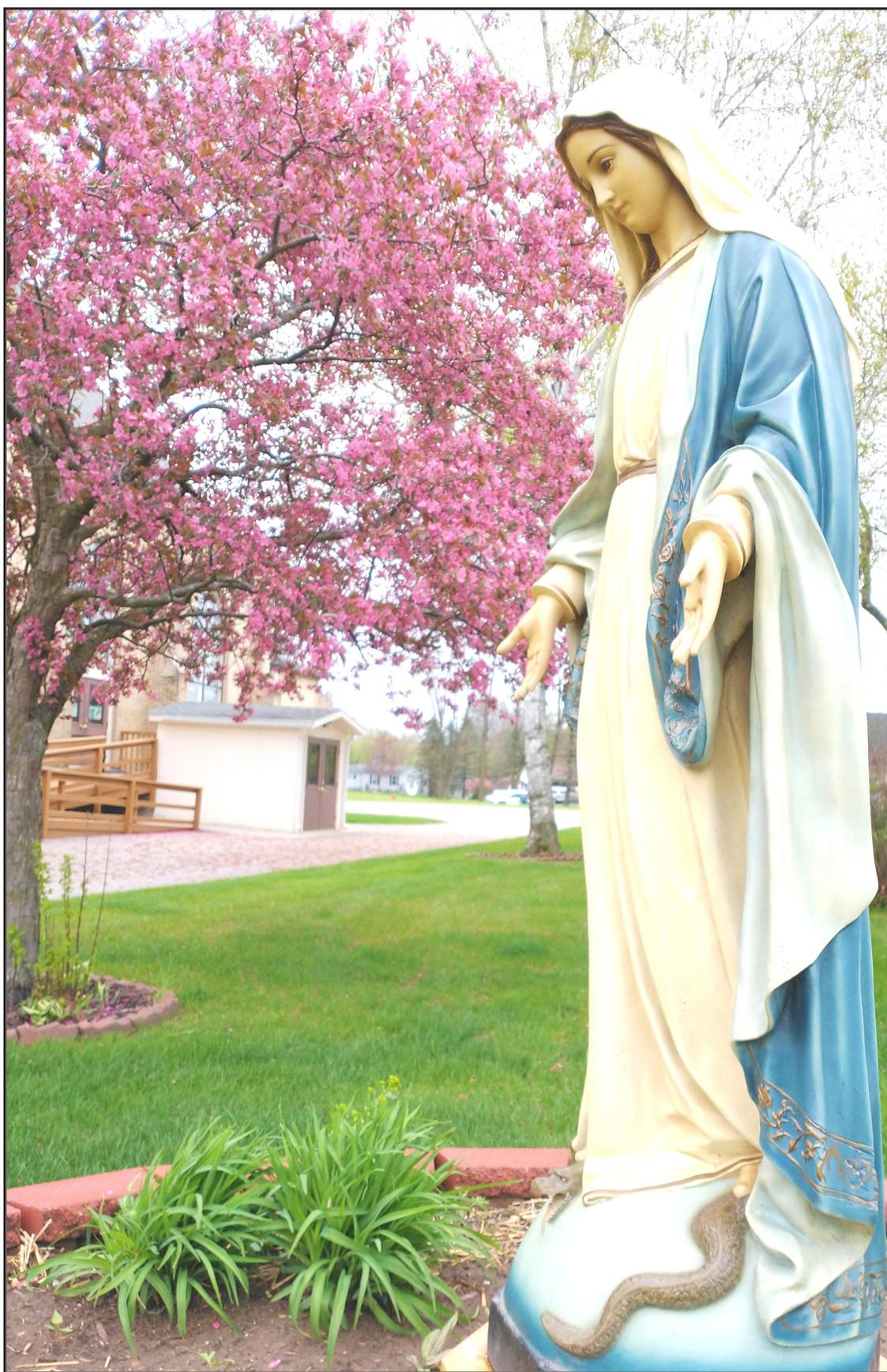
Linda Lochner

FINANCE COUNCIL

Kim Betthausen (Chair)

Sheri Guyse (Secretary), Cory Holig,

Tanya Walsh-Laehn, & Mike Gruszka



“Behold, your mother.”

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, May 11

No Mass

Wednesday, May 12

8:30 am Word & Communion
with Deacon Tom; No Mass

Thursday, May 13

8:30 am Word & Communion
with Deacon Tom; No Mass

Friday, May 14

8:30 am Word & Communion
with Deacon Tom; No Mass

Saturday, May 15

7:00 pm † Leo Schneider
By: Helena & Gene Bielski

Sunday, May 16

9:00 am † Dennis Moore
By: The Sauter Family

1:00 pm Parishioner Mass

Feast Day of the Ascension



May 13, 2021

Upcoming Events

Cemetery Clean-Up

May 11th @ 4:00 pm

Parish Pastoral Council

May 11th @ 6:30 pm

Farmers Mass

May 15 & 16 (All Masses)

Confirmation

May 18th @ 6:00 pm

St Francis of Assisi - Necedah

Buildings & Grounds

May 20th @ 6:30 pm

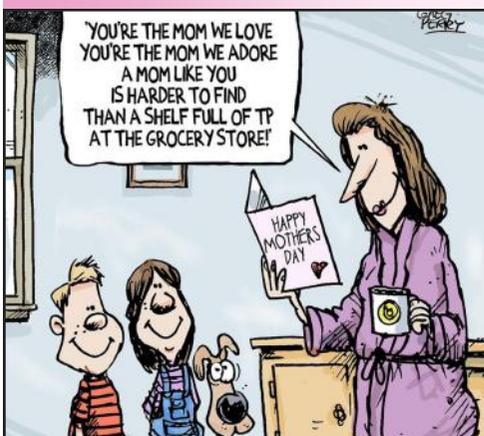
Memorial Day Mass

@ St. Mary's Cemetery

May 30th 9:00 am

Parish Finance Council

June 8th @ 6:30 pm



Gospel Reflection for the Sixth Sunday of Easter

In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son as expiation for our sins.

Saint John, the Beloved Disciple, in his letters and Gospel account, fleshes out his description of God as “love”. In the last sentence of today’s Second Reading, St. John does this very poignantly, telling us that **“In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son as expiation for our sins.”**

The first part of St. John’s description here insists on the primacy of God’s love.

When St. John says that love consists in the truth that God loved us, and not that we first loved God, he’s pointing out that God doesn’t wait to love you until He determines whether you will love Him back. God doesn’t stop loving you if you stop loving Him. In every sense of the word, God’s Love is primary. Our love for Him can only be a response, and cannot diminish His love for us if our love is in some way lacking.

But we all know from experience that confusion arises here. Human beings feel at times that God does not love them. One reason for this is that love—at least, divine love—is itself not a feeling. When people expect God to make them feel good, they can easily become confused about the real meaning of God’s love. This doesn’t mean that our feelings are illusory, or that God cannot manifest Himself through emotions. It’s to say, rather, that divine Love is not identical with positive emotions. God’s love transcends feelings, and can be present amidst the worst of feelings.

The second reason that someone might believe that God no longer loves him is the fact that it’s not unusual for God to be absent from the human soul. Yet God being absent from someone’s soul does not mean that God does not love that person. In fact, there can be very different reasons for this absence, one negative and one positive.

On the one hand, the absence of God from a human soul can be the result of mortal sin. A mortal sin that’s freely and knowingly chosen destroys all the grace dwelling in that soul. What’s more, the presence of a mortal sin prevents the reception of further graces. Ironic though it may seem, it’s a sign of God’s love that He endows the human person with a free will strong enough to keep His love at bay.

On the other hand, the absence of God from someone’s soul can be a sign of growth. This might seem counter-intuitive. Many saints, in writing about the three basic stages of the spiritual life, note that God often spurs the human person towards growth by temporarily removing Himself from the person’s soul.

It’s not that this person is no longer in a state of grace, but rather that the Christian has no sense or perception of God in her soul. Only darkness appears. But God wants His disciples to transcend appearances. He does this in order to increase the human person’s longing for Him: that is, in order to teach the human person to live for God alone.

One of the saints who wrote profoundly about the spiritual life was Saint Bernard of Clairvaux. In addition to serving as one of the first abbots of the Cistercian religious order, he also wrote many commentaries on Scripture. He often wrote about divine love, and also often wrote about the connection between knowledge and divine love. In one place St. Bernard writes:

“... there are some who want knowledge for the sole purpose of knowing, and this is...curiosity. And there are some who seek knowledge in order to be known themselves; and this is...vanity...and there are...those who seek knowledge in order to sell their knowledge...for money or for honors; and this is [greed]. But there are also those who seek knowledge in order to edify [others], and this is charity.”

Charity—the love of Christ—urges us forward throughout the course of earthly life, and even to death and Heaven’s gates. It’s to convince us of this simple truth that we hear Jesus today: “I command you: love one another.” He commands us to love not as we wish to love, but as He loves: sacrificially.

-Fr. Thomas Hoisington

God Bless our First Communicants!

Last Sunday, May 2nd, three of our second graders received Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time. Please keep them in your prayers!

Pictured from left to right are: Jax Bluhm, Anton Erickson, Fr. John Potaczek, Fr. Clayton, and Mathilda Dziewior in front.



FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

May 13th is the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord. In the past, this was a Holy Day of Obligation. It has since been transferred and this year will be celebrated the weekend of May 15 & 16.



Memorial Day Mass

Mark you calendars for Sunday, May 30th. Weather permitting, the 9am Mass will be celebrated at St. Mary's Cemetery. There is plenty of room to social distance, so bring a lawn chair or blanket and join us as we remember those who have served our country as well as our own departed loved ones. In the event that it rains, Mass will be at St. Mary's Church.



Farmers Mass



To celebrate St. Isidore's feast day and the start of spring planting, bring your seeds, plants, garden statues, etc. to the 7:00 pm, 9:00 am, and 1:00 pm Masses to be blessed on May 15th & 16th!! Bring your items to the icon of "Our Lady of Czestochowa" by the Sanctuary before Mass and they will be blessed during Mass.

At the 9:00 am Sunday Mass, **tractors, lawn mowers, outdoor equipment, etc.** will be blessed following Mass. Please park them in the back parking lot.



Financial Stewardship

May 2, 2021

Adult Envelopes.....	\$2280.00
Student Envelopes.....	\$14.50
Offertory.....	\$313.00
Utility Envelopes.....	\$40.00
Holy Days.....	\$20.00
Votive Candles.....	\$80.00
Total	\$2747.50

Weekly Budget \$2,548.07

(160 registered families)

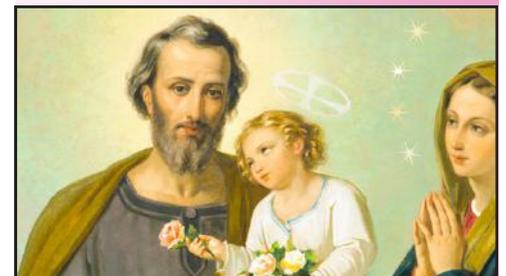
Year-to-date*

Budgeted	\$112,115.08
Contributed	\$127,141.02

Time to go to St. Joseph

St. Joseph protected the Holy Family & we can trust ourselves, to him at a time when fatherhood is so needed. We can ask him to help strengthen our families – as well as the bonds of our parish during this time of hardship.

-St. Joseph, Pray for us!



2020-21 Annual Appeal

Goal:	\$15,810
Total Pledged & Received:	\$12,635.00
Percent of Goal Pledged:	79.92%

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