

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, April 27**  
4:00PM (Red Bud)

**Sunday, April 28**  
8:00AM (P) Nancy (Eichenseer) Watts  
Tony & Billie Eichenseer

10:00AM (Red Bud)

**Thursday, May 2**  
10:00AM (P) Leta Rae & Gib Bauer

**Saturday, May 4**  
4:00PM (Red Bud)

**Sunday, May 5**  
8:00AM (P) Ralph Henry & Claude Simpson  
10:00AM (Red Bud)



**LITURGICAL ROLES**

**Gift Bearers**  
4/28 Children's/Young Adults  
5/5 Mike & Michelle Umbdenstock Family

**Lector**  
4/28 Children's/Young Adults  
5/5 John Parker

**Eucharistic Ministers**  
4/28 Hope, Julie, Dave E.  
5/5 Bev, Janet, Kim

**Servers**  
Please volunteer

**Ushers/Greeters for May**  
Dave & Pauline Eichenseer



**CHURCH SUPPORT- April 21<sup>ST</sup>**

Envelopes \$697 Loose \$235

**Year to Date 7/1/23-4/21/24**  
Env. \$71,593 Loose \$5,678 Avg. Wkly Env. \$1,746 (41wk)  
CSMA...Parish Goal \$3,692. To date: \$2,085-23 households

**PRAYER REQUEST**



All homebound & nursing home, Our Military & their families, Ruth Henry, Doris Wilson, Lola Depper, Roger & Carol Hess, Ruby Dickinson, Joan Schaefer, Fred Deterding, Chris Schwartz, Verona Schwartz, Sandy Duvic, ASC Community, Ray & Gladys Hess, Cooper Craddock, Roger Groth. George Epplin, Keith Bauer

**STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT**

In today's Gospel, Jesus says that God is glorified when a disciple, grafted in Christ, produces abundantly and bears much fruit. The disciple must then be a good steward of that abundance.

**MONTH OF MAY...DEDICATED TO MARY**

We will be praying the Rosary during the month of May, 20 minutes before Mass. Please join us.

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

**WE WILL NEVER OUTGROW OUR NEED FOR JESUS.**

**READINGS**



**First Reading**—Saul went back to Jerusalem, but the disciples were afraid of him. Barnabas told them how the Lord had conversed with Saul and how he had suffered in the name of Jesus. Then they welcomed and protected Saul. Acts 9:26-31

**Second Reading**—"Let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth." If our hearts do not condemn us, we can have confidence that God will grant our requests. 1 John 3:18-24

**Gospel**—Jesus said, "I am the vine, and you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit." Everyone else "will be thrown out like a branch and wither. John 15:1-8

**FROM THE DESK OF FR. DENNIS**

"I am the Vine, you are the branches," we hear Jesus tell his disciples this in today's Gospel. We are those branches now. Connected to the vine that is the Lord, we are expected to bear fruit. What fruit do we bear? Let us contemplate that question as we celebrate the Eucharist this weekend. May listening to God's word and sharing in the Eucharist nourish us as we strive to bear good fruit for the Lord.

On Wednesday we begin the month of May dedicated to our Blessed Mother. Let us seek her intercession as we pray for Peace in the World and for a greater Respect for all of Life! Mary, Help of Christians, pray for us! Have a blest week! Remember, don't worry so much, and know that you are loved! Fr. Dennis

**POPE FRANCIS SPEAKS TO OUR HEARTS**

(God Grants Strength to Our Weakness) There are no difficulties, trials, or misunderstandings to fear, provided we remain united to God as branches to the vine, provided we do not lose our friendship with him, provided we make ever more room for him in our lives. This is especially so whenever we feel poor, weak, and sinful, because God grants strength to our weakness, riches to our poverty, conversion and forgiveness to our sinfulness.

**APRIL...CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH**

**WEEK 4**-Did you know...The Catholic Church is deeply committed to protecting children from abuse and holding people accountable for inflicting such pain. In December 2021, the revised *Book VI of the Code of Canon Law* went into effect. This is the most recent of several documents that specifically address the issue of the abuse of children. Other documents include *Vos estis lux mundi* and *Vademecum*. These documents expand the acts which are considered abusive, clarify the manner in which the cases are processed, and hold people accountable for their action or inaction with regard to processing of a case. Of significant importance is attention given to the care of victim-survivors and all who have been harmed. Bishops in the US lead the way for these changes with the implementation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People 20 years ago. Today every diocese and eparchy must have in place systems for tending to those who have been harmed, protecting those in our care, and seeking restorative justice.

**OUR FAITH**

Pruning is hard work. It takes deliberate and focused effort. Sometimes, you have to take what seems to be good branches and cut them so they will either grow in a specific direction or will bear future fruit.

A good pruning can enable us to do what Paul suggest: Love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.

Paul knew of what he was preaching. In his encounter with God on the road to Damascus, he had been pruned and transformed into a different person—once a persecutor of Christians, now a follower and bold witness to Christ.

Can we trust that God only prunes so that we will become a more true witness?



**STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL**

We will be holding our Strawberry Festival this year on May 19<sup>th</sup>. Festival meal will include chicken dinner, dressing, along with the rest of our sides...strawberries and ice-cream, country store, silent auction and the Balloonatic lady. **Please keep this date open. We need your help to make this event possible!!**

**WE ARE IN NEED OF 3 CASES OF 1/2 PINT JELLY JARS-8oz...USED OR NEW AND WHITE OR WHEAT BREAD FOR THE DRESSING. Please start baking those country store goodies that you can freeze...the country store can also use crafts, plants, fresh fruits, canned goods, breads, baked goods, etc. Drop offs for the country store can be made at Elite Ag on East Mill in Ruma or at the Church. Start shopping for your silent auction items. ALSO NOTE THAT THE PICNIC WILL BE FROM 11AM-2:30PM SO THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE SHIFT FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE POSITIONS. Contact Diane or Sandy for questions.**



**COOKIE BAKING DAY**-We will be having a baking day on May 15<sup>th</sup> starting at noon in the parish hall to help supply goodies for the country store. **We are in need of 2 large cans of shortening yet.** Help is appreciated.



**ST. PATRICK'S PARISH SPRING CLEAN UP DAY** Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> beginning at 8AM weather permitting. In case of inclement weather, date will be Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. We will be power washing the parish hall and fence, trimming trees, pulling weeds etc. **LOTS OF HELP IS APPRECIATED!!!**

**PICNIC MEETING**

Monday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the Red Brick School. More input would be appreciated, if you can attend.

**MONTHLY ASSISTANCE**

St. Patrick's Parish monthly takes a set amount (\$100) from the collection and donates it to a needy charity/family, locally or globally. **March/April's donation will go to The Musketeer Market...an organization set up thru the Red Bud High School where kids can shop for everyday needed items...including food for lunch and supper.** If you would like to make a donation, please mark it and place it in the collection basket. Contact Sandy if you know of someone in need.

**KUDOS**

- To Caleb Mudd & Brinley Mudd, who received the gifts of the Holy Spirit last Thursday at St. Mary's, Chester.
- To our Catechists Dave Eichenseer, Mary Havel, Cheryl Scherle, Margaret Simpson.
- To Hi-Way Motor Co., our bulletin advertiser of the week.

**BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS**

Jennifer Mudd 4/29  
Roger & Carol Hess 4/31/1960...64 yrs.  
Kirk & Liz Mudd 5/1/2004...20 yrs.

**THE NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL**

If you have been reading this bulletin, you know that something special is going to happen this summer in Indianapolis! From July 17-21, tens of thousands of passionate Catholics will experience an outpouring of grace on a scale this generation has never seen. The National Eucharistic Congress will be a turning point for the Church in America, filled with rich prayer experiences, fellowship, and world-class teaching from Bishop Robert Barron, Fr. Mike Schmitz, Sr. Josephine Garrett, Sr. Marian James Heidland, and many more incredible Catholic voices! This is the spiritual family reunion you've been waiting for. Whether you attend for one day or all five, your presence is a public witness that Jesus is truly present and active in our midst. Register online at [EucharisticCongress.org](http://EucharisticCongress.org). Closer to home, join us for the EMMAUS DAYS July 7 & 8 at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows and the Cathedral of St. Peter. For more info go to the Diocesan Website: [www.diobelle.org](http://www.diobelle.org).

**THE MESSENGER**

Memorial Day is fast approaching, and we hope to do a story related to this holiday. If anyone in your parish has a story to tell about someone they knew or a relative who died in war, please let us know. We also print the names of military service members who were killed in action (WWII onward) in The Messenger. We have a list from years past, but if we have missed anyone, please send that person's name, rank if it is known, and the war in which they served and died. In addition, we would like to include a list of military service people who are presently serving in harm's way, asking for prayers for their safe return home. **Please submit any info that you would like me to forward to The Messenger by April 29. Sandy**