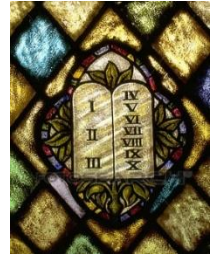


THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2026



Dear Friends in Christ,

In the Gospel of the Sixth Sunday of Easter, the Church gives us the words of Jesus to His disciples in preparing them for His departure: “If you love me, you will keep my commandments;” “Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me,” and they will receive another Advocate - “the Spirit of Truth” from the Father.

Our love for Jesus Christ must be expressed through our remembering to: “Do this in memory of me” which is now the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, our accepting, and keeping/observing/practicing His commandments. In other words, faith and work go together! Our work is the concrete expression of our faith in Jesus. No one will misinterpret our faith through our work. We have to prove to Jesus that we love Him not just by words (sometimes or often they are just empty words) but also by good deeds, by keeping God’s commandments.

The Holy Spirit - the Spirit of Truth - will remind the Church what Jesus’ commandments are, and He will also guide the Church into the Truth and protect her from any errors, so she will continue to live in the Truth. The whole truth Jesus has entrusted to His Church under the leadership of the Rock - Peter and his successors with the *absolute assurance* of the *whole truth* by the Holy Spirit - the Advocate.

The Holy Spirit does not appear to everyone in a dream, nor will he appear over us as the tongues of fire, to tell us what Jesus’ commandments are or what the truth of Christ is. Jesus gave that authentic authority to His Holy, One, Catholic, and Apostolic Church and again with the assurance of the guidance and protection of the Spirit of Truth.

The Church could be wrong or make a mistake in the administration of the visible Church, but she is never ever wrong in teaching the Truth (Faith and Morality). When Peter’s

successors - the Popes - sit on the CHAIR of Peter and teach solemnly, we listen and embrace it with faith, love, trust, and humility. Though we have had “bad popes” throughout the history of the Church, none of them taught anything wrong in terms of FAITH and MORALS. We can see the Holy Spirit has been working effectively in the Church since the first Pentecost.

The Church will tell us the meaning of Jesus’ commandments and how to observe them. Therefore, there is an unbreakable connection between Jesus Christ and His Church - the Roman Catholic Church. The Holy Eucharist is itself another warranty of this unbreakable “link.” When, however, the Church stops celebrating the Holy Eucharist, when people stop going to Mass, when people get bored at Mass or say they do not get anything out of the Holy Mass (for they see the Church as a theater and the Holy Mass as a play and expect to be **entertained!**) that is when we and the Church allow the devil to take over the Church and our life. Then, there will be a “big harvest” for Satan.

If we love Jesus, we have to love His Church; if we obey Jesus, we have to obey His Church; if we want to remain in Jesus, we have to remain with the Church guided by the Spirit of Truth.

Next Sunday we will celebrate the Ascension of the Lord, and the Sunday after we will celebrate Pentecost. To prepare ourselves for these important celebrations of our faith, let us try to remain in Jesus’ love by keeping/observing His commandments through the authentic teaching of the Roman Catholic Church.

Come, Spirit of Truth, and remain with us!

Peace in Christ,

Fr. Tien





OCIA Catholic Adult Education on Monday night May 11th at 7 PM. Continued **Mystagogy**. We continue to unpack and explore the spiritual treasures contained in the sacraments by continuously reflecting on their meaning and significance in our personal lives of faith. Catholicism Series Video by Bishop Barron and discussion. Come join your fellow parishioners in the spirit of fellowship. Snacks provided. Deacon David and the Education team

The Ladies Guild will meet next Monday, May 18', at 10:00 a.m. All women are invited to attend.



The Parish Office will be closed this Thursday, May 14th. There will still be daily Mass that day.

Thank you to all who participated in our Lenten Almsgiving. We raised over \$2,200 for the Smoky Mountain Pregnancy Care Center. All bottles (including empty) should now be returned to the church office.



Please remember to keep Saint Francis Parish in your will.

Donations made easy! Here is our QR Code that you can scan with your phone.



Pray for healing: Donna Barbaro, Dolores Botti, Chad Cook, William Crunkleton, Susan Darby, Lillianne Duong Davis, Tony Frede, Dariel Hellerer, Wayne Hirsch, Sarah Holloran, Bill Holten, Guyla Ivers, Anette ML Jigla, Sandra Kanter, Georgette Lee, Terry McConnell, Michelle Mercer, Dee Moffitt, Delphine Moss, Monica Moya, John Ontiveros, Freeman Robinson, Josette Roisin, Kathleen Rogers, Mike Scarborough, Bill Shaw, Roxanne Lumia Smith, Wanda Stamey, Irene Tisdale, Art Todesco, Alan Tucker, Ruby Christina Tucker, Joe and Charlene Youdell, Rosalie Perreault, David Ramsey, Susie Lopez Pineda, Kamri Peck, Kathy Tallent, Denise Burkart, Steve Keener, Connie Blackburn, Sharon Beals, Josephine Jennings, Dominga Feria Lopez, Bill Garbinski, Nick Birchard



Please pray for our parishioners and all men and women in the armed forces: Angel Avila, Stephen Fox, Lauren Richards, Christopher Richards, Jesus Rodriquez and Elizabeth Scoon



Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday, May 9

5:00 P.M. † Holy Souls in Purgatory

Sunday, May 10

Sixth Sunday of Easter

9:00 A.M. † Antonio, † Melissa Scarborough Ball
11:30 A.M. † Marcos, † Antonio, † Gregoria,
† Alfonso Trujillo, † Guillermina Nunez
† Leticia Gonzalez Ramirez, † Holy Souls

Monday, May 11

9:00 A.M. † Randy Field, † Mike Krone

Tuesday, May 12

Saints Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs

NO MASS

Wednesday, May 13

Our Lady of Fatima

5:30 P.M. † Holy Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, May 14

Saint Matthias, Apostle

9:00 A.M. † Mike Krone, † Bob & Sara Potts
Lexi and Brendan Fox

Friday, May 15

Saint Isidore

9:00 A.M. † Shirley Allegretti by Claudette Oliver
† Bob & Sara Potts, † Jim & Anne Pierson

Saturday, May 16

5:00 P.M. † Bob & Sara Potts, † Jim & Anne Pierson
† Frank Laux

Sunday, May 17

The Ascension of the Lord

9:00 A.M. † Felipa Ramos Diaz
† Miguel Angel Ramos Diaz,
† Guillermo Ramos Diaz
11:30 A.M. † Sergio Montero, † Antonio Cruz Arango
† Jose Juan Montero Luna

Rosary is prayed ½ hour before every Mass.

Adoration every Friday after our 9:00 a.m. Mass with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 11:30 a.m. and benediction till noon.
Reconciliation ½ hour before Vigil Mass and Wednesday at 6:15 p.m.