



Sixth Sunday of Easter May 9, 2021

It was not you who chose me,
but I who chose you
and appointed you to go and
bear fruit.

— John 15:16

Acts 10:44 ASV
*While Peter yet spake these words,
the Holy Spirit fell on all them that
heard the word.*

THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

We have a unique episode in the Acts of the Apostles today. A whole roomful of people are baptized with the Holy Spirit before they are baptized with water! The verb used—"the Holy Spirit 'fell' on them" (Acts 10:44)—is characteristic of the way the Spirit works throughout the book of Acts: powerful and surprising. Though this "baptism" is not the normative way the New Testament describes baptism, it is still a good reminder today that the Holy Spirit is not controlled by whether or not we pour water, but rather that our sacramental signs reveal the presence of the Spirit at work among us. And we have a double reinforcement of how this work is accomplished from a Letter and a Gospel bearing John's name. It is love, self-sacrificing and self-giving love, that manifests the Spirit of Jesus in our midst. It is love that is the greatest of commandments. The Spirit is manifested equally through those who live in that love.

—J. S. Paluch Co.

FEAST OF FAITH

The Creed

Following the readings and the homily, we stand together and say or sing the Creed, our profession of faith. The Creed is a solemn statement of belief, a "rule of faith" (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 67). It states the core of what we believe about God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The language of the Creed is knotty and difficult at times, precisely because its purpose is to express with precision what we believe about God. The Creed that we pray most often, the Nicene Creed, came out of the earliest ecumenical councils: Nicea in 325 and Constantinople in 381. It originated in a time of great controversy about the divinity of Christ, and thus the longest section of the Creed relates to Christ, truly human and truly God.

The Creed is both communal and personal: it is "we," but it is also "I." In the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, it is only after listening to the teaching of the Church and professing faith in the Holy Trinity that the candidate is admitted to the sacraments. So it is every Sunday. We listen to the word, we profess our faith, and then we come to the altar.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Jn 15:26 — 16:4a
Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Jn 16:5-11
Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22 — 18:1; Ps 148:1-2, 11-14; Jn 16:12-15
Thursday: Acts 18:1-8; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 16:16-20
Friday: Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Ps 113:1-8; Jn 15:9-17
Saturday: Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47:2-3, 8-10; Jn 16:23b-28
Sunday: for Ascension, Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9;
Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 [1-7, 11-13]; Mk 16:15-20

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Sixth Sunday of Easter; Mother's Day
Monday: St. Damien de Veuster; St. John De Avila
Wednesday: Ss. Nereus and Achilleus; St. Pancras;
Thursday: The Ascension of the Lord (unless transferred to Sunday);
otherwise Our Lady of Fatima
Friday: St. Matthias
Saturday: St. Isidore

WEEKLY



Finance Corner: Your generosity is greatly needed and appreciated! For the month of **May** offerings: PLEASE mail to St.

Philip/St. Teresa Parish, P. O. Box 339, Occidental CA 95465. Or donate at our website www.stphilipstteresa.org via Paypal or card. Please include your offering envelope # [if you have one] with your donation. Bless you!

for April: 1st Collection: \$3697. Easter: \$6747. 2nd Collections: \$1213.

5/9: Operating Expenses. 5/16: Capital Expenditures & Ascension.

Mark your Calendar for Future Events & Meetings:

Parish Council [PC]: TBA Zoom

Finance Council [FC]: TBA Zoom

Liturgy Committee: TBA Zoom

St. Teresa Ladies Guild: Contact Diane, 823-6044

St. Philip Ladies Guild: Contact Penny, 559-367-7403

Centering Prayer ZOOM: Tues. noon/Fri. 9:30am - info www.stphilipstteresa.org

✠ ♥ ✠ Mass Intentions ✠ ♥ ✠ Schedule

Email or voicemail the office to request a future Wed/Thurs/Sun Mass Intention. (\$10 offering is mailed to PO Box 339, Occidental CA 95465.)

5/9 Sun. 8am Mass ✠ Lucille Munson

5/9 Sun. 9:30am Mass ✠ Brendan Smith

5/16 Sun. 8am Mass for the Papke Family Special Intention

5/16 Sun. 9:30am Mass ✠ Brendan Smith

Prayer Requests: Please leave a message at 707-408-2650 to add or remove a name from the next bulletin. Thank you.

Teresa K., Pat K., Thomas T., Susan B., Lorri McC., Sarah, Clifford J., Terri A., Fred P., Theresa S., Sara, Mary Anne P., Barbara, Dave C., Jim P., William, Parson P., Dave, Mary O., Bill Z., Daniel, Sally T., Michael D., Richard M., Kathleen, Peter, Rosa S., Susan B., Joyce D., Anita C., George H., Mimi H., Steve, Barry, Lorrin K., Hugh P., Robert S., Britney N., Chuck, Jacque W., Rebecca A., April K., Jacinta G., Leo A., Ed C. family, Kathy R., Donna W., Jim K., Sherry S., Papke family., Gail F., Marie N., Christine, James, Gary S., Peter R., Gerry N., Diane K., Janet K., Lela M.

RURAL FOOD PROGRAM UPDATE for April 2021:

On Tuesday, April 12, 47 families (28 children, 22 seniors, 64 adults) received nutritional support during our drive through distribution at the St Philips Parking lot. Rural Food volunteers distributed over two thousand pounds of fresh produce and other nutritious food to support those who attended. Volunteers surveyed our clients about the reasons for a reduced attendance at our distribution in the past several months. We gained valuable insight and ideas from our clients and will be working on implementing the suggestions we received. If you are aware of a family which needs nutritional assistance, please let them know about our program. Leave a message at the parish voicemail phone: 707-408-2650 to get additional information.

This program is funded through the Rural Food Collection each month, private donations and the dedicated, awesome volunteers. Thank you for your generous donations as we strive to meet the nutritional needs of all attendees at our food distributions.

RURAL FOOD VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES in the Parish Hall and parking area Saturday, May 8, 9-10:00 am repackaging; Monday, May 10, 9:00 - 11:00am set up and Tuesday, May 11, 7:30a - 11:00a to distribute food to clients.

Pastor Speaks...

We ask that you refrain from talking aloud when you enter church prior to Mass and leave church after Mass, out of respect for the presence of the Blessed Sacrament and respect for those who wish to pray. If you must talk, please keep it to a whisper. This will be greatly appreciated.

From Sunday May 16, we will resume our practice of distributing Holy Communion during Mass with due restrictions and procedures.

Thank you.

Fr. Bala.



Statue of St. Anthony of Padua (Photo by [Il ragazzo on Catholicic](#))

Deacon-structing Doctors of the Church, Part 5

by [Deacon Pedro](#)

For the last month we have been learning about a group of saints that the Church calls “doctors” for their vast contributions to the teaching body of the Church. [We started with](#) St. Gregory the Great, St. Ambrose, St. Augustine, St. Jerome, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. John Chrysostom. They were named “doctors” between the 13th and 16th centuries.

[Then we looked at](#) St. Basil the Great, St. Gregory of Nazianzus, St. Athanasius, St. Bonaventure, St. Anselm, and St. Isidore of Seville, who were named “doctors” in the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries. In [part three](#), we learned about the next six to be named “doctors”: St. Peter Chrysologus, St. Leo the Great, St. Peter Damian, St. Bernard of Clairvaux, St. Hilary of Poitiers, and St. Alphonsus Liguori.

[Last week](#), we learned about St. Francis de Sales, St. Cyril of Alexandria, St. Cyril of Jerusalem, St. John Damascene, St. Bede the Venerable, and St. Ephrem. They were named “doctors” in the late 19th and early 20th century.

Today we continue with six more doctors. They were given that title between 1925 and 1959.

Peter Canisius was a Dutch Jesuit priest who lived in the 16th century during the Protestant Reformation. He was the first Dutchman to join the Society of Jesus, and his preaching and writings were very influential at the time. He established the first Jesuit colleges in Germany. He attended several sessions of the Council of Trent. Much of his work is dedicated to clarifying the Catholic faith, as a response to the rising tide of Protestantism. His most notable works are *A Summary of Christian Teachings*, *On the Incomparable Virgin Mary*, and his *Catechism*, which he wrote in German so as to make it more accessible to readers.

“I want to reawaken in others and in myself a greater fervour so that the Catholic deposit of faith, which the Apostle did not entrust to us without reason and which

is preferable to all the riches of this world, is kept treasured, intact and authentic, because on it depend Christian wisdom, overall peace and human holiness.”

– St. Peter Canisius

John of the Cross is known as the Mystical Doctor. He was a Carmelite priest, mystic, and reformer who lived in Spain in the 16th century. It was St. Teresa of Avila who persuaded him to lead a reform movement which brought new energy to the Carmelite Order. His poems and mystical writings are considered among the greatest in all Spanish literature. His most famous ones, *Spiritual Canticle*, *Ascent of Mt. Carmel*, and *Dark Night of the Soul*, are considered masterpieces.

“Whenever anything disagreeable or displeasing happens to you, remember Christ crucified and be silent.”

– St. John of the Cross

Robert Bellarmine was also a Jesuit priest. He was the Cardinal Archbishop of Capua (in present-day Italy) from 1602 to 1621. Bellarmine also lived during the Counter-Reformation. He was a professor of theology and rector of the Roman College (now the Gregorian University). He supported many reforms from the Council of Trent. He wrote *Disputationes de Controversiis Christianae Fidei*, which covers the main disputes between Catholics and Protestants. He also published a Catechism, in two versions, on which the famous Baltimore Catechism is based. He also wrote *The Mind's Ascent to God*, *The Art of Dying Well*, and *The Seven Words on the Cross*.

“Prosperity and adversity, wealth and poverty, health and sickness, honours and humiliations, life and death, in the mind of the wise man, are not to be sought for their own sake, nor avoided for their own sake. But if they contribute to the glory of God and your eternal happiness, then they are good and should be sought. If they detract from this, they are evil and must be avoided.”

– St. Robert Bellarmine

Albert the Great is known as the Universal Doctor. He was a Dominican friar, Bishop of Regensburg, Germany, and a contemporary of Thomas Aquinas. He has been called the greatest German philosopher and theologian of the Middle Ages. As well as being a theologian and spiritual writer, he was a scientist, philosopher, astrologer, and diplomat and wrote on many subjects including botany, geography, astronomy, zoology, physiology, justice, law, and music.

“Mary is the Divine Page on which the Father wrote the Word of God, His Son.”

– St. Albert the Great

Anthony of Padua was a Portuguese Franciscan who is known as the Evangelical Doctor. He lived in the 13th century. One of his greatest successes was preaching in France and Italy and converting heretics. He was the first member of the Franciscans to teach theology to his brothers. He is venerated all over the world as the patron of finding lost things. He is most well known for his collection of *Sermons*.

"Do you want to have God always in your mind? Be just as he made you to be. Do not go seeking another 'you'."

- [St. Anthony of Padua](#)

Lawrence of Brindisi was a Franciscan priest and superior and diplomat, known as the Apostolic Doctor, who lived in the 16th century. He taught theology and was an accomplished linguist, being fluent in seven languages, and he became famous as a forceful preacher. He wrote many works explaining the Faith. Among them *Mariale*, *Lutheranismi Hypothesis*, *Adventus*, *Dominicalia*, and *Sermones de Tempore*.

"All things are possible for him who believes, more to him who hopes, even more to him who loves."

- St. Lawrence of Brindisi

Come back next week for the last six doctors: the ones most recently named doctors, including the four women Doctors of the Church. Do you know who they are?



Every week, Deacon Pedro takes a particular topic apart, not so much to explore or explain the subject to its fullness, but rather to provide insights that will deepen our understanding of the subject. Contact: pedro@saltandlighttv.org.



An angel on the bus? [Everyday Miracles]

by [Erminia Malvestutto](#)

When my son was 16 years old, he was accepted into a summer French immersion program in Chicoutimi, Quebec.

He was excited to participate in this program, but this entailed a 12-hour bus ride with a total of three transfers. The first bus was to leave Toronto at midnight. Phil had never travelled on his own before, but I told him not to worry, that I was sure that the bus would be full of students attending the same program. He was happy and relieved to hear it.

When we arrived at the bus station at 11:45 pm, we realized that there were no other students waiting to board. They were all adults. As we waited, Phil started to become anxious, asking where the other students were. Everyone started to board, and we kept looking desperately for young people travelling to the same destination. On the verge of tears, my son told us that he could not make the journey on his own. We didn't see anybody, so I started praying: "Lord, if it is Your will, please send an angel to go with Phil." My husband asked what we were going to do. I

told him, "Please pray with me, ask the Lord to send an angel." We prayed.

Suddenly, a young lady showed up out of nowhere and dropped her bags almost at our feet. I thought she was too close, almost rude, but she said, "Is this bus going to Montreal?"

"Yes," I hurried to answer. "My son is travelling to Montreal, and this is his first time."

She said, "This is my first time, too."

"My son is going to Quebec City," I added.

And she said, "I'm going to Quebec City, too."

So I asked, "Can my son go with you, please?"

She said, "Sure, come on Phil," and offered him her hand.

They jumped on the bus, and my son looked at us through the window with a big smile on his face. The bus pulled out, and we were left wondering where this young lady had come from. I didn't have time to ask for her name or where she was from.

The next day, my son called from Chicoutimi. He had arrived, and he sounded very happy.

Before he hung up, I asked him, "Who was the lady who travelled with you? Where was she from? What was her name?"

He answered, "I don't know, Mom. She was a little bit strange. She didn't talk during the trip. We arrived in Montreal, and she said, 'Come on, Phil, let's get on the bus to Quebec City.' When we arrived in Quebec City, she took me to the bus that was heading to Chicoutimi, and she said, 'This is the bus going to Chicoutimi, and it is full of students like you going to the same program. Go ahead and get on. I have to get back.'"

At that moment I understood that she had been the answer to our prayers.

Erminia Malvestutto is a mother of three grown children and a doting grandmother of three. She lives in Oakville, Ontario, and volunteers at St. Vincent de Paul at St. Michael's Church.

