



The Other Side of Love

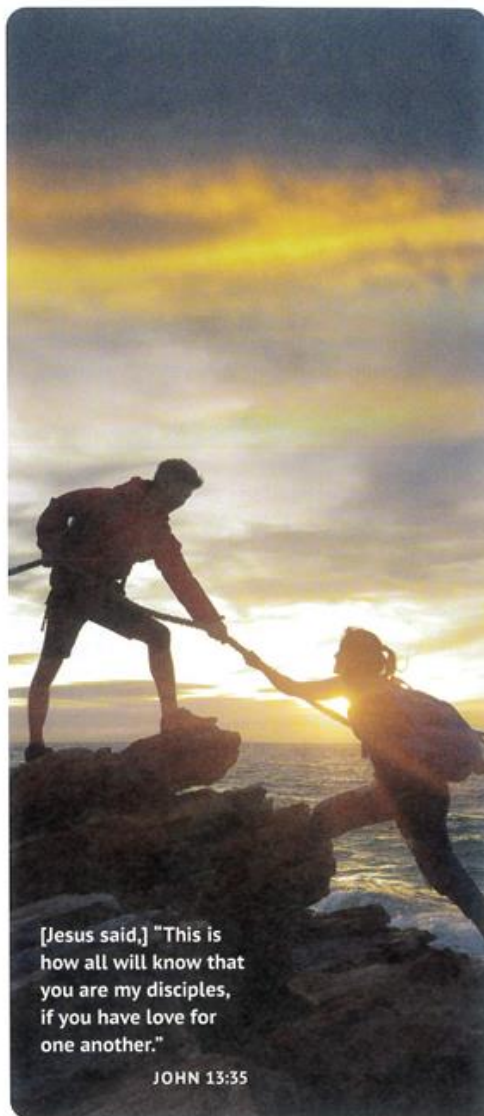
FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

We have an instinct to love; this is something woven into the foundation of human life. It's also a godly instinct, for anything embedded into the human spirit with such intensity must surely be of God. In fact, it is how God is creating a new heaven and a new earth, thereby making all things new as is written in the Book of Revelation. So intense is that inclination to love, we read in the first letter of John that God is love.

While our culture tends to romanticize love, the reality is that, all too often, if we are seriously committed to loving someone, it can also be a lonely effort. Love is not always romantic or satisfying. At times, it can be demanding and even harsh. One day, when I was meeting with an engaged couple in preparation for their marriage, I asked them, as I often do, for their definition of love. Usually, couples are tongue-tied when I ask that question. They know they're in love, and, to them, that seems to be enough. This time, however, the young groom-to-be did not hesitate. He said that love is caring for someone even when they are unlovable—an insightful definition, for it is precisely during such times that we need someone's love. It is the weakest moments of life that are in need of rebuilding, the loneliest moments of life that are in need of someone reaching out a hand, and the darkest moments of life that are in need of light. When that happens, creation is made new. ●

Reflect

***What is my definition of love?
How do I live it?***



[Jesus said.] "This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

JOHN 13:35

St. Agnes • St. Boniface • St. John the Evangelist

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Fifth Sunday of Easter (C) May 18, 2025

Today's Gospel again comes from the Gospel of John. Like last week, today we hear words spoken by Jesus before his death and Resurrection. Jesus is teaching at the Last Supper.

John's Gospel does not include an institution of the Eucharist narrative; instead, Jesus washes his disciples' feet. Immediately after, Jesus predicts his betrayal by Judas. Today's Gospel follows that prediction. It can be read as a continuing explanation of Jesus' act of washing his disciples' feet. It begins with the announcement that this is the moment when the Son of Man will be glorified. This theme continues throughout John's Passion. Jesus will be glorified in his death on the cross and in his Resurrection, and the disciples will glorify Jesus in the love they show.

John's Gospel does not present a sentimental view of love. This is a type of love that is shown in service and sacrifice. It is difficult to choose to love when faced with hatred and anger. Jesus tells the disciples that all will know that they are his disciples because of the love they show for one another. This description of the early Christian community will be repeated in the Acts of the Apostles: "See how they love one another." Christian love is the hallmark of Christianity. We see it lived in the witness of the martyrs. We see it in the example of the lives of the saints. We see it in the holy women and men who live and love daily, making small and large sacrifices for others.

Mass Schedule & Intentions For the week of May 19, 2025

Mon.	May	19	6:30	PM	SJ	NO MASS
Tues.	May	20	7:00	AM	SJ	Luke Walz
Wed.	May	21	5:30	PM	SA	Lee Anne Taberski
Thurs.	May	22	5:30	PM	SB	Judy Rieff
Fri.	May	23	7:00	AM	SJ	Emily Allision
Sun.	May	25	8:00	AM	SJ	Misti Schacher
Sun.	May	25	9:30	AM	SA	Mark Pandorf †
Sun.	May	25	11:00	AM	SB	People of the Parish



Kenneth Wagner May 29th
Piper Boeser May 21st
Ann Lehmkuhler May 25th
Quincey Opela May 25th
Quinlee Weinman May 25th

Happy Anniversary

Mr. & Mrs. Bartley Brogan May 23rd
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Lehmkuhler May 24th

Ministry Schedule

Date: May 25th	St. Agnes	St. Boniface	St. John's
Time	<u>Sunday 9:30 AM</u>	<u>Sunday 11:00 AM</u>	<u>Sunday 8:00 AM</u>
Hospitality	Aleta & Conrad P.	Dan & Jo T.	Todd & Lyndi W.
Lector	Aleta P.	Caden P & Rod B.	Toby K.
Server		Dylan P. & Erin F.	Leo W. & Gregory W.
EMHC	Aleta & Conrad P.	Mike P. & Rod B.	Jim & Kristy O.
Communion to shut ins or Music		Mike P.	Music: Robin G.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>St. Agnes</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Our Gifts to God & Church May 11, 2025 <u>Total Collection:</u> \$717.00 <u>Diocesan Appeal</u> Dollar Goal = \$2345 of \$4014 Donor Goal: 5 of 16</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thrift Store Open May 23th 9AM to 4PM</p> <p>K Of C will host a late Mother's Day and Arnold Graduate celebration brunch on May 18th after mass.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION ASCENSION MAY 28TH 5:30PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>St. Boniface</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Our Gifts to God & Church May 11, 2025 <u>Total Collection:</u> \$1450.00 <u>Diocesan Appeal</u> Donation Goal MET!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION ASCENSION MAY 29TH 5:30 PM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>St. John's</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Our Gifts to God & Church May 11, 2025 <u>Total Collection:</u> \$248.00 <u>Diocesan Appeal</u> Donation Goal MET!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION ASCENSION MAY 29TH 7:00 AM</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Come and celebrate with</i> Father Elias Mary Mills <i>the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood,</i> <i>May 25, 2025 at 11 am Mass</i> Saint Mary's Catholic Church <i>Beaumont, NE 68860</i></p> <p>RSVP to Mary Snyder 308-870-0500 if you plan to attend the Reception and Dinner after Mass.</p>	<p>Don't Miss Dr. Ray Guaraldi as he tours Nebraska this June!! A familiar name to Spirit Catholic Radio listeners is coming to Nebraska this June. Catholic speaker, host of "The Dr. Is In" radio show, author, and family therapist, Dr. Ray Guaraldi, will tour the state giving different talks at four stops June 2-5 Find event details and reserve your seats at spiritcatholicradio.com/drgray. Tue Jun 3, 2025 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM St. Patrick Catholic Church, Talk: "The Logic of Being Catholic"</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Quote for Today May 22 – Saint Rita of Cascia Saint Rita of Cascia (1386-1457)</p> <p>"Since we offend our sweet Jesus, every day, in thought, word, deed and the omission of good works, we should pray every day, and every hour of the day, and weep for our offenses against so kind and loving a Father, Master and Spouse."</p> </div>	

Dear Padre,

I have gay/homosexual friends and coworkers. How do I respond appropriately when they announce they got married or are engaged, as we Catholics do not believe in same-sex marriage?

Context and perspective are always useful and necessary. It is also important to remember that your beliefs can often conflict with another person's belief system. It does not change the truth of what you believe, but it can be sobering. When you offer someone congratulations, it does not mean you are giving your approval or acceptance. It just means you are engaging in respectful social protocol. Let's assume that most people are mature enough to understand the difference between acceptance and protocol. Confusion arises when some people insist that you cannot be "both/and," as they reduce everything to "either/or." With this kind of perspective, life is a battle to be fought rather than an opportunity to live a life of graciousness and thanksgiving that invites us to celebrate. Be respectful. Be gentle. Be loving. Be compassionate. Each of those virtues speak much louder than judgment, rigidity, and a posture that proclaims, "I am better than you." •



PHILIP / PEXELS

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / Dear Padre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

We have heard what Jesus told his disciples before leaving this world.... He told us what it means to be a Christian: "Even as I have loved you, so you must love one another" (Jn 13:34). This is the legacy that Christ bequeathed to us, the ultimate criterion for discerning whether or not we are truly his disciples.

HOMILY, ROME, MAY 15, 2022

Monday

May 19
Easter Weekday
Acts 14:5-18
Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday

May 20
Easter Weekday
Acts 14:19-28
Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday

May 21
Easter Weekday
Acts 15:1-6
Jn 15:1-8

Thursday

May 22
Easter Weekday
Acts 15:7-21
Jn 15:9-11

Friday

May 23
Easter Weekday
Acts 15:22-31
Jn 15:12-17

Saturday

May 24
Easter Weekday
Acts 16:1-10
Jn 15:18-21

Sunday

May 25
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Acts 15:1-2, 22-29
Rv 21:10-14, 22-23
Jn 14:23-29