

## Father Michael' Musings

May 2025

As we progress from Lenten and Easter observances into the month of May, we have two very important remembrances that are dear to the Church. We begin the month honoring our Mothers, and we close the month with the solemn appreciation for those in our Armed Forces who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom on Memorial Day.

Of course, the church shares the observance of Mother's day with the secular world. It is impossible to overstate the influence, guidance and love we have been blessed to receive through our mothers. But for the church, Mother's day has an additional meaning. Jesus tells us that the mystery of marriage is that the bond that makes a man and a woman one in the eyes of God is given to us as a symbol of the way that we are made one in Christ through the marriage of God and His Church. It is through the Church that the sacraments that make us children of God and nurture us in our spiritual growth are administered. It is through the Church that His love is showered upon His Children, and it is through the Church that that love is reflected into the world. On May 11<sup>th</sup>, we will honor our natural mothers, and our spiritual mother, giving thanks and expressing our love for their blessings.

On a similar note, Jesus teaches us that there is no greater love that can be shown than that a man gives his life for his friends. The brave men and women who have given their lives in defense of our freedoms have shared with our Savior the greatest sacrifice that can be offered. We also remember the families of those brave warriors, understanding that no one serves their God or their country alone, and the loss of loved ones in the defense of freedom is also a great and reverent sacrifice.

I hope you will join us at St. Patrick's for these great remembrances, and give us the opportunity to receive you in love and share our blessings with you.

Yours in Christ,

Father Michael