

PRAYERS IN THE PEW™ MONTHLY

FAITH IN ACTION CALENDAR / HIGHLIGHTS

FRIDAY MAY 10	St. Damien de Veuster, Priest
MONDAY MAY 13	Our Lady of Fatima
SUNDAY MAY 19	PENTECOST SUNDAY

Faith Formation Companion to Prayers in the Pew™

→ MONTHLY SYNOPSIS ←

May 2024 – May begins with St. Joseph the Worker (May 1) and ends with the Visitation of Our Lady to St. Elizabeth (May 31). It is a month full of blessings which will bring us through the great post-Easter feasts (Pentecost/Trinity) as well as the feasts of numerous wonderful saints. Let us open our hearts to receive so many blessings!

THE ANGELUS

A beloved but lesser-known Marian prayer of our Catholic faith is the “Angelus”, a Latin word which means “angel”. The prayer is in the form of three verses and responses which repeat the dialogue of the Archangel Gabriel with the Blessed Virgin Mary at the Annunciation (Luke 1:26-38), each of which is followed by the recitation of the **Hail Mary**.

The custom of praying the Angelus three times during the day (at 6 am, noon, and 6 pm) included the ringing of the Angelus bell which called people to take time out of their busy workdays to pray. This custom has its roots in the great monastic traditions of the Benedictines and the piety of the Franciscans dating back at least to the 11th century in its current form. The prayer especially reminds us of the Incarnation of our Lord and the roles of the angels and Our Lady in the work of salvation.

THE ANGELUS

- V. *The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,*
R. *And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.*
(Hail Mary...)
- V. *Behold the handmaid of the LORD.*
R. *Be it done unto me according to thy word.*
(Hail Mary...)
- V. *And the Word was made flesh.*
R. *And dwelt among us. (Hail Mary...)*
- V. *Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.*
R. *That we might be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*

The Angelus is meant to be prayed in groups of two or more with a leader reciting the verse and the others offering the response, however it may be prayed individually with great spiritual benefit to the one who prays.

Let us pray: Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts; that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ, Our Lord. **Amen.**

— BIBLE BASICS —



Judith 14:7 Blessed are you in every tent of Judah! In every nation, all who hear your name will be struck with holy fear.

Luke 1:38 “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

— THE SCHOOL OF SAINTS —



“A servant of Mary will have a tender devotion to St. Joseph, and by his pious homage of respect and love, will endeavor to merit the protection of this great saint.”

~ *St. Madeleine Sophie Barat*

“It is not hard to obey when we love the one whom we obey.” ~*St. Ignatius Loyola*

SPIRITUAL CHALLENGE

In this Month of Mary, let us challenge ourselves to spread devotion to Our Lady in whatever way we can. Let us also pray for our brothers and sisters who are suffering for their faith around the world. Our Lady has a special love for all those who follow her Son, and we must have that same concern for persecuted and threatened Christians everywhere.

CALENDAR OF FAITH | May

MAY 1 <i>Wed</i>	St. Joseph the Worker
MAY 2 <i>Thu</i>	St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
MAY 3 <i>Fri</i>	Sts. Philip and James, Apostles
MAY 9 <i>Thu</i>	ASCENSION THURSDAY (or Sun, May 12)
MAY 10 <i>Fri</i>	St. Damien de Veuster, Priest
MAY 13 <i>Mon</i>	Our Lady of Fatima
MAY 14 <i>Tue</i>	St. Matthias, Apostle
MAY 15 <i>Wed</i>	St. Isidore the Laborer
MAY 18 <i>Sat</i>	St. John I, Pope and Martyr
MAY 19 <i>Sun</i>	SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST
MAY 20 <i>Mon</i>	St. Bernardine of Siena, Priest
MAY 21 <i>Tue</i>	St. Christopher Magallanes and companions, Mexican Martyrs
MAY 22 <i>Wed</i>	St. Rita of Cascia
MAY 25 <i>Sat</i>	St. Gregory VII, Pope; Venerable Bede, Priest and Doctor
MAY 26 <i>Sun</i>	St. Phillip Neri, Priest
MAY 26 <i>Sun</i>	TRINITY SUNDAY
MAY 27 <i>Mon</i>	St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop
MAY 31 <i>Fri</i>	The Visitation

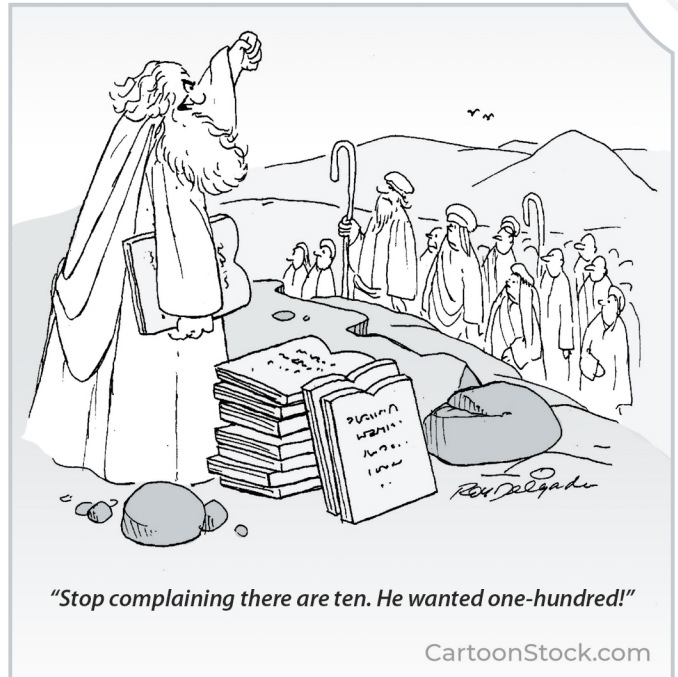
Praying with the National Eucharistic Revival

Prayer After Receiving Holy Communion

My Jesus, I love and adore You. You have come to me; I am one with You. I want You to remain with me forever, in this life and in the next. Thank You for allowing me to share Your Divine Life. May I become more like You through this Sacred Food. Let me never take You for granted, but always pray for those whose lives are dark with sin and ignorance and selfishness. Let me remember, in the words of Saint Paul, that "there, but for the grace of God, go I." Each day, I can become more like You, O Lord. And each day I can pray for those who have never heard the Gospel, or who have heard it and rejected it. **Amen.**

[Prayers concerning the Eucharist can be found on the Official Prayers in the Pew Eucharistic Revival Edition Prayer Card.]

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FAITH FUNDAMENTALS



The Ten Commandments

The Ten Commandments are displayed in courthouses, churches, or other public places as two stone tablets with three Roman numerals on the left and seven on the right. The first tablet stands for the three commandments that apply to God. The second tablet represents the seven that apply to our neighbor.

The Catechism calls the Ten Commandments our "fundamental duties" (CCC, 2072) toward God and man. They indicate where God makes some basic demands on all His children, but His demands are hardly burdensome. In eight out of ten cases, the commandments simply tell us what to avoid for our own good and the good of our neighbor!

Here is a refresher course on God's Law:

- 1 "I am the Lord thy God, thou shalt not have any strange gods before Me."
- 2 "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain."
- 3 "Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day."
- 4 "Honor thy father and mother."
- 5 "Thou shalt not kill."
- 6 "Thou shalt not commit adultery."
- 7 "Thou shalt not steal."
- 8 "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor."
- 9 "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife."
- 10 "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's goods."