

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
May 10, 2020 ~ Bulletin No. 20~ Vol. XXXVI

**CALENDAR ~ May 9-17 , 2020**

Sat 9	5:00pm	Mass for Mothers
Sun 10	9:00am 11:30am 3:00pm 7:30pm	Mass for Mothers Mass for Mothers Mass for the Parish AA Meeting, call 289-6336 for information
Mon 11	9:00am	Mass for Living & Deceased Members of the Colhouer Family by Karen Greene
Wed 13	7:00pm	Mass for the Burke Family
Thurs 14	12:10pm 1:00pm 7:00pm	Mass for ROS Ethel Meyer by Floyd & Ginny Kunkle Eucharistic Adoration, Chapel Rosary and Benediction, Chapel
Fri 15	12:10pm	Mass for ROS Deceased Members of the Paluszak Family by the Giggie Family
Sat 16	5:00pm	Mass for ROS Irene Schlemmer by Chuck & Janet Hill
Sun 17	9:00am 11:30am 3:00pm 7:30pm	Mass for the Date Family by Terry & Sharon Date Mass for ROS Anil Athougies by Amideus & Monica Athougies Mass for the Parish AA Meeting, call 289-6336 for information

*From the Holy Fathers*

*"I plead with you-never, ever give up on hope, never doubt, never tire, and never become discouraged. Be not afraid."*  
~ St. Pope John Paul II ~



*Wisdom of the Saints*

*"A single 'Blessed be God' when things go wrong, is of more value than a thousand acts of thanksgiving when things are to our liking."*  
~ Saint John of Avila ~  
Feast Day May 10



**For Annulment Information Contact:**  
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## Announcements

### COLLECTION CONTRIBUTIONS

We encourage parishioners to make their contributions by mailing them in to:

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION RC CHURCH  
1024 W. Main Street  
Forest City, NC 28043

You can make online donations through the following link:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/immaculateconceforestcity>.

### THE FIRST SEVEN DEACONS

We are familiar with Saint Stephen, (feast December 26) the first martyr. We may also be familiar with Saint Philip, (feast October 11) also known as the Evangelist, who baptized the queen of Ethiopia. The other 5 are lesser known.

Saint Prochorus is said to be one of the 70 disciples sent out by Christ. He went to Asia Minor and eventually became Bishop of Nicomedia. He died a martyr in Antioch. Saint Nicanor (feast January 10) is said to be a man of admirable faith. He died a martyr in Cyprus. Saint Timon (feast April 19), known for his gift of healing, taught at Berea, was set to flames in Corinth but remained unharmed. He was martyred by being fastened to a cross. Saint Parmenas (feast January 23) preached until he was martyred in Philippi under Trajan. Nicholas of Antioch (not a saint) may or may not have been the source of origination for the Nicolaitans, a heretical sect that was opposed by the early Church before the end of the first century.



### Institution of the Diaconate

*"So the Twelve called together the community of the disciples and said, 'It is not right for us to neglect the word of God to serve at table. Brothers, select from among you seven reputable men, filled with the Spirit and wisdom, whom we shall appoint to this task, whereas we shall devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.' The proposal was acceptable to the whole community, so they chose Stephen, a man filled with faith and the Holy Spirit, also Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicholas of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these men to the apostles who prayed and laid hands on them."*

### Collection Information for May 3, 2020:

Regular Offering: \$5,435.00  
Building Repair: \$30.00



From  
Father Burke  
Deacon Andy  
Deacon Dave  
Deacon Steve



## Joseph, Model of Workers

Pope Pius XII established the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker as May 1. This suggests why Joseph, Model of Workers, was identified as the attribute of Saint Joseph for the month of May.

From the diocesan website we read:

*We must not simply intend love, we must labor to fulfill love's demands. Beneficence, laboring for the good of another, in Joseph's case was direct labor for God. Working in Adam's curse by the sweat of his brow was replete with purpose as it was all done to feed, to clothe, to shelter God Himself.*

Scripture tells us that Joseph was a carpenter. His acknowledged Son was called "son of the carpenter". (Mt 13: 55; Mk 6: 3)

Just as it is today, work was required in the 1st century in order to provide for a family. According to ancient Jewish tradition, a child goes from the care and tutelage of his mother to the tutelage of his father, at the age of 12, to learn a trade. Since it was the duty of a father to prepare a son with a trade, Jesus would have apprenticed with Joseph as He learned the skills of a carpenter.

With Joseph as His teacher, Jesus, the carpenter, "teaches us to make work a means of our sanctification, since through work we cooperate with the Father's will for us." (*The Mystery of Saint Joseph* by Father Marie-Dominique Philippe, O.P.)

In 1920, Pope Benedict XV established Saint Joseph as Patron of Workmen. It was hoped that this declaration would be a remedy for the devastation left after World War I.

Years later, Pope Pius XII wrote about Saint Joseph "He belongs to the working class, and he bore the burdens of poverty for himself and the Holy Family, whose tender and vigilant head he was." In 1955, Venerable Pius XII called upon the aid of Saint Joseph in his battle against Communism when he announced to a gathering of Italian workers that May 1st would from then on be celebrated as the Feast of Saint Joseph the Worker. The date was selected for a specific reason. May 1st had already been celebrated by Communists as Communist's Worker Day. In his declaration, Pius told his audience: "We do institute the liturgical feast of Saint Joseph the Worker, assigning it to the 1st day of May. Are you pleased with this our gift, beloved workers? We are certain that you are, because the humble workman of Nazareth not only personifies before God and the Church the dignity of the man who works with his hands, but is always the provident guardian of you and your families."

Pius XII initiated the meeting with the Italian laborers, And Saint Pope John XXIII, known as the Pope of Saint Joseph, continued the practice. In 1960, he closed the audience with the following prayer:

*O Saint Joseph, guardian of Jesus, chaste spouse of Mary, who passed your life in the perfect fulfillment of duty, sustaining the Holy Family of Nazareth with the labor of your hands, protect kindly those who trustingly turn to you. You know their aspirations, their miseries, their hopes, and they have recourse to you because they know that they will find in you one who will understand and protect them. You too have known trial, labor and weariness. But, even in the midst of worries of the material life, your soul was filled with profound peace and it exulted in unerring joy through intimacy with the Son of God entrusted to you, and with Mary, his most sweet mother. Make those whom you protect understand that they are not alone in their labor, but show them how to discover Jesus near them, to receive him with grace, to guard him faithfully, as you have done. And assure that in every family, in every factory, in every workshop, wherever a Christian works, all may be satisfied in charity, in patience, in justice, in seeking to do well, so that abundant gifts may descend from heaven.*

**Saint Joseph, Model of Workers, pray for us.**



**YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH**

**DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE**