

My dear friends in Christ, May is the month dedicated to our Blessed Mother. I would like to share the story of our Lady of Fatima that we can develop a greater love for our Blessed Mother. I would like to remind you that we offer a Marian Mass and Rosary on every first Saturday of the month, and I encourage you to be part of this devotion so that we will bring more and more people to Jesus. Fr. Xavier Ilango

May 13 is the anniversary of the apparition of Our Lady to three shepherd children in the small village of Fatima in Portugal in 1917. She appeared six times to Lucia, 9, and her cousins Francisco, 8, and his sister Jacinta, 6, between May 13, 1917 and October 13, 1917.

The story of Fatima begins in 1916, when, against the backdrop of the First World War which had introduced Europe to the most horrific and powerful forms of warfare yet seen, and a year before the Communist revolution would plunge Russia and later Eastern Europe into six decades of oppression under militant atheistic governments, a resplendent figure appeared to the three children who were in the field tending the family sheep. "I am the Angel of Peace," said the figure, who appeared to them two more times that year exhorting them to accept the sufferings that the Lord allowed them to undergo as an act of reparation for the sins which offend Him, and to pray constantly for the conversion of sinners.

Then, on the 13th day of the month of Our Lady, May 1917, an apparition of 'a woman all in white, more brilliant than the sun' presented itself to the three children saying, "Please don't be afraid of me, I'm not going to harm you." Lucia asked her where she came from and she responded, "I come from Heaven." The woman wore a white mantle edged with gold and held a rosary in her hand. The woman asked them to pray and devote themselves to the Holy Trinity and to "say the Rosary every day, to bring peace to the world and an end to the war."

She also revealed that the children would suffer, especially from the unbelief of their friends and families, and that the two younger children, Francisco and Jacinta would be taken to Heaven very soon but Lucia would live longer in order to spread her message and devotion to the Immaculate Heart.

In the last apparition the woman revealed her name in response to Lucia's question: "I am the Lady of the Rosary."

That same day, 70,000 people had turned out to witness the apparition, following a promise by the woman that she would show the people that the apparitions were true. They saw the sun make three circles and move around the sky in an incredible zigzag movement in a manner which left no doubt in their minds about the veracity of the apparitions. By 1930 the Bishop had approved of the apparitions and the Church has approved them as authentic as well.

The messages Our Lady imparted during the apparitions to the children concerned the violent trials that would afflict the world by means of war, starvation, and the persecution of the Church and the Holy Father in the twentieth century if the world did not make reparation for sins. She exhorted the Church to pray and offer sacrifices to God in order that peace may come upon the world, and that the trials may be averted.

Our Lady of Fatima revealed three prophetic "secrets," the first two of which were revealed earlier and refer to the vision of hell and the souls languishing there, the request for an ardent devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, the prediction of the Second World War, and finally the prediction of the immense damage that Russia would do to humanity by abandoning the Christian faith and embracing Communist totalitarianism. The third "secret" was not revealed until the year 2000, and referred to the persecutions that humanity would undergo in the last century: "The good will be martyred; the Holy Father will have much to suffer; various nations will be annihilated". The suffering of the popes of the 20th century has been interpreted to include the assassination attempt on Pope John Paul II in 1981, which took place on May 13, the 64th anniversary of the apparitions. The Holy Father attributed his escape from certain death to the intervention of Our Lady: "... it was a mother's hand that guided the bullet's path and in his throes the Pope halted at the threshold of death."

What is the central meaning of the message of Fatima? Nothing different from what the Church has always taught: it is, as Cardinal Ratzinger, now Pope Benedict the XVI, has put it, "the exhortation to prayer as the path of "salvation for souls" and, likewise, the summons to penance and conversion."

Perhaps the most well known utterance of the apparition of Our Lady at Fatima was her confident declaration that "My Immaculate Heart will triumph". Cardinal Ratzinger has interpreted this utterance as follows: "The Heart open to God, purified by contemplation of God, is stronger than guns and weapons of every kind. The fiat of Mary, the word of her heart, has changed the history of the world, because it brought the Savior into the world—because, thanks to her Yes, God could become man in our world and remains so for all time. The Evil One has power in this world, as we see and experience continually; he has power because our freedom continually lets itself be led away from God. But since God himself took a human heart and has thus steered human freedom towards what is good, the freedom to choose evil no longer has the last word. From that time forth, the word that prevails is this: "In the world you will have tribulation, but take heart; I have overcome the world" (Jn 16:33). The message of Fatima invites us to trust in this promise. (CNA Catholic News Agency).

Today is Life and Dignity Sunday in the Diocese of Crookston. It is a day that Bishop Hoepfner has designated for us to focus on the Catholic responsibility of being engaged citizens who are forces of good in our communities. You have been invited and have the opportunity to register for the statewide Minnesota Catholic Conference (MCC) Catholic Advocacy Network, which is a faithful, compassionate, moral voice for life, dignity, and justice in our state. We thank you for registering, if you did; and for your patience, if you did not. If you did register, we hope that you will be diligent in responding to the occasional e-mails that the network will send asking you to help us "take action" on an important policy issues. If you missed signing up today, you can still register online at MCC's website: www.mncc.org. MCC is the public policy voice of the Catholic Church in Minnesota.



Sacred Heart Catholic Church

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Mass Times
 Monday 5:30 p.m.
 Tuesday-Thursday
 9:00 am
 Friday 7:30 AM
 (Care Center)
 Saturday 5:30 pm
 Sunday 8:30AM

CONFESSIONS:
 Saturday 4:30PM
ADORATION:
 Tuesdays: 9:30AM-6 PM

 Holy Family Icons pictures are available. If you would like to purchase one, the picture alone is \$2.00, and the framed one is \$10.00. These are the pictures that were gifted to those signed up for the Marriage Mass and breakfast. If you did not receive your picture yet, please contact Cheryl

 The Church has recently purchased copies of *Saint John Paul The Great--His Five Loves* written by Jason Evert. Evert has collected many unpublished stories about the former Pope and compiled them into this book. Francis Cardinal George said, in "reading this book, those who knew him will find themselves smiling and nodding; those who never met him will come to know him." These books are available in the kiosk of the church for a \$2.00 donation.

 There will be **training and commissioning for Eucharistic Ministers** at the 5:30 pm Mass on Monday, May 26. *All current and new Eucharistic Ministers must attend.*

The Year of Marriage Pilgrimage to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Crookston is set for July 12, 2014. We will leave from the Church parking lot on an Anderson bus at 9:30 am and return around 3:45 pm. The cost is \$15/person or \$25/couple. There are both an agenda and a sign-up sheet in the vestibule. Please sign up if you plan to attend so we know how many to plan for.

Parishioners' Prayer Requests
 Parish families have asked us to keep in our prayers their loved ones who are ill
 Please pray for:
 -Jim Wallace -Emily Martin
 -Luella Baumgart -Dan Hodgson
 -Casey Courneya -Ron Jensen
 -Dave Goebel -William Swan
 -Terri Quittschreiber -Roger Wolden
 -Tammy Soyring -Norman Buseth
 -Kenny Sprouts -

Collections	May 11, 2014	Attendance:	Needed per Week to Reach Budget:
Collection Basket		337	\$4,202.29—This figure includes all sources of parish income (i.e., funerals, flower collections, fall dinner, etc), not just the Sunday collections.
Adult	\$2,579.00		
Loose	257.50		
Children	10.00		
Total:	\$2,846.50		
Other Budgeted Income			This week's Total:
Vigil Lights	\$ 15.50		\$ 2,846.50
VBS	30.00		116.50
ARISE books	11.00		331.00
Building Fund	60.00		\$ 3,294.00
Total	\$ 116.50		
Other Parish Fund Raisers:	FACC—\$331		
Non-Parish Collections:	Catholic Communications/Catholic University—\$21		

UPCOMING:

May 18: Altar server training, commissioning and appreciation starting at 11:00 am
May 19: KC Officer's meeting 7:00 pm at Church
May 21: St. Thomas Aquinas Book Club, 7:00 pm at Church
May 24: Confirmation at 5:30 pm Mass
May 25: Parish-Wide Bake Sale after Mass
May 26: Eucharistic Minister Commissioning at 5:30 pm Mass
May 27: Finance Council meeting 7:00 pm at Church
Jun 2: Circle Leader's meeting after 5:30 pm Mass

Ministry Schedule for May 25, 2014

	5:30 PM	8:30 AM
FCC— Glenn and Beverly Roberts (Confirmation)		
Ministers Of Holy Communion	Russell Karasch Linda Mack Ruth Ann Lehmann Jeanne Riley Kathy Ulschmid	Heather Mitchell Mark Byer Paul Guck Sharon Guck Tracy Roforth
Lectors	Confirmation Class	Virginia Thompson
Ushers	Don Ulschmid Carey Alger	Kyle Wothe Dan Giefer
Servers	Cath. Jaroszewski Grace Jaroszewski Brett Alger Carson Alger	Ethan Wothe Zach Roforth Ricky Roforth

Circle 4 is in charge of donuts in May
 Circle 5 will be in charge of donuts in June

May 2nd Collections: 18th—Catholic Communication/Catholic University

May 18, 2014

*** Youth ***

Confirmation: May 24, 5:30 pm Mass

Discipleship Week 2014: Duluth, June 9-12 (Mon-Thurs); Cost Per Student: \$230. Register online by May 10, www.dioceseduluth.org/d-week. Download all forms & follow all directions. Mail completed forms and payment to: Diocese of Duluth, Attn: D-Week 2014, 2830 East Fourth Street, Duluth, MN 55812.

Saint JPII Middle School Camp, Sunday, July 6-Thursday, July 10, for students entering grades 7-9.

Vacation Bible School for all children currently in grades preschool through fifth grade—June 2 through 6. Sign-up sheets are in the back of the Church. Please complete registration as soon as possible so we can order supplies.

The **St. Thomas Aquinas Book Club** will meet May 21st @ 7:00 pm in the Hall of Saints. This will be our 1st meeting of the season. We will continue reading and enjoying discussions from the book *No Faith No Miracles: What Jesus Asks of You*. Join us as we grow in faith and friendship. Everyone is welcome to come as you can. You may pick up a book from Father Ilango.

Christian Mothers:
 Christian Mothers will sponsor a **parish-wide bake sale** on Memorial weekend. Items may be dropped off on Saturday, May 24, but bake sale will only be on May 25 after Mass. The money raised from the bake sale will go to the steeple/window fund

Our annual **Cedar Chest** raffle tickets are available after weekend Masses. The drawing will be held on July 27, 2014. Items you would like to donate for the Cedar Chest may be dropped off in the church hall. Thank you.

Weekday Mass Schedule May 19-25

Mon: 5:30 p.m. +Cecil Hensel, Sr
 Tues: 9:00 a.m. Christian Mothers
 Wed: 9:00 a.m. +Cecil Cook, Jr.
 Thurs: 9:00 a.m. +James Schultz
 Fri: 7:30 a.m. +Carol Lormis
 Sat: 5:30 p.m. +Gordon Sanders
 Sun: 8:30 a.m. Pro Popolo