

## Readings for the week of May 26, 2024

### Sunday:

Dt 4:32-34, 39-40/Ps 33:4-5, 6, 9, 18-19, 20, 22 (12b)/Rom 8:14-17/Mt 28:16-20

### Monday:

1 Pt 1:3-9/Ps 111:1-2, 5-6, 9 and 10c/  
Mk 10:17-27

### Tuesday:

1 Pt 1:10-16/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/  
Mk 10:28-31

### Wednesday:

1 Pt 1:18-25/Ps 147 :12-13, 14-15, 19-20/  
Mk 10:32-45

### Thursday:

1 Pt 2:2-5, 9-12/Ps 100:2, 3, 4, 5/  
Mk 10:46-52

### Friday:

Zep 3:14-18a or Rom 12:9-16/  
Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6/Lk 1:39-56

### Saturday:

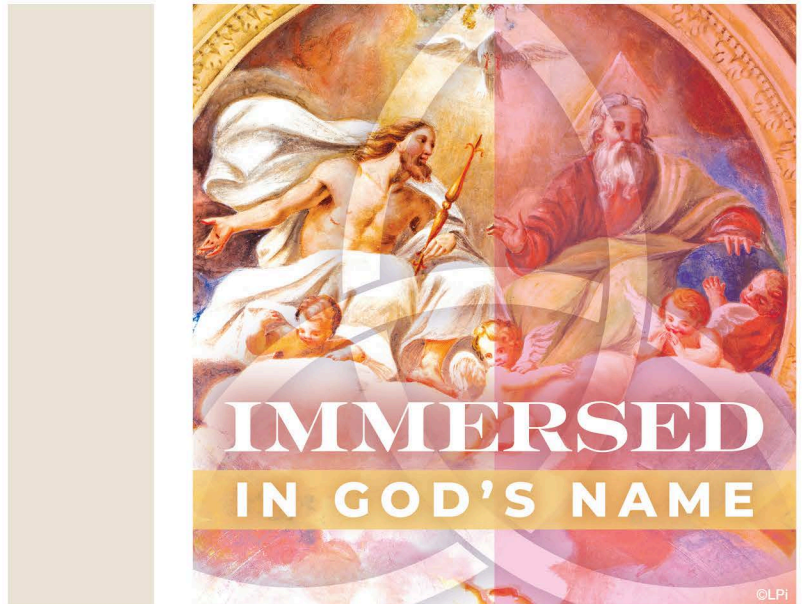
Jude 17, 20b-25/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6/  
Mk 11:27-33

### Next Sunday:

Ex 24:3-8/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16, 17-18 (13)/  
Heb 9:11-15/Mk 14:12-16, 22-26



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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Once I was at a meeting with representatives of various religions. On a coffee break, a man from another religion mused to me: “You know, with all our differences, all religions are really about being good people.” I lowered my cappuccino and said as warmly as I could, “That’s not what mine’s about.” His quizzical look begged for clarification. “Mine is about plunging into the life of God,” I said.

Just before Jesus ascends into heaven, he commands the eleven apostles, **“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”** (Matthew 28:19-20). The word “baptize” means “to immerse in, to plunge into.” It presupposes the use of water. But what does it mean to be immersed in God’s name? In the Bible, God’s name is identical to God Himself. So, to be baptized into water, using Jesus’ formula, is to be plunged into the life of God. Said another way, it is to die with Jesus and rise with him as a member of his body.

The Trinity isn’t a doctrine simply to accept and ponder. It’s more like an ocean: a mystery into which we are baptized ... inserted, immersed, dunked, plunged. Baptism gives us power to live our lives as beloved children of God, patterned after Jesus himself, who is always with us, until the end of the ages. Hardly the same as being good people. Stranger, but much better.

— *Father John Muir*

## ( PRACTICING ) CATHOLIC

### Precious Things

I once wrote an article about a school that embraced the Reggio Emilia approach to education. This meant, in practice, a lot of fascinating things, and it was a fun piece to work on. But all these years later, I could not accurately describe the Reggio Emilia style of learning to anyone except to say this: they give the kids glass bowls and china plates.

That's what stuck with me, and that's what sticks out in my memory amidst the hundreds of intervening articles and interviews on other equally fascinating topics. I remember those glass bowls and cups lining the shelves, the fine china dishes, the beautiful shiny cutlery the children used for lunch.

This was a pre-school, and these students were three-year-olds. "If they drop a cup and it shatters, then they learn that glass can break. We clean it up," the teacher said with a shrug. The idea was that a child will never learn to handle a fragile, precious thing — and grow into an adult who can respect and cherish a fragile, precious thing — if they are not sincerely trusted with a precious thing whose fragility they bear personal witness to.

The breaking, you see, was part of the education.

*The disciples worshiped, but they doubted.* And yet, Christ gave them the Great Commission anyway, something fragile and important, something that could be easily dropped and easily broken. Christ knew who they were, what they were. They were mere human beings, deeply imperfect, scared and hesitant, a little slow on the uptake. He knows that's exactly what we are, too. But he gives us the Great Commission just as he gave it to them. Because that is what the Faith is: it is something perfectly beautiful, passed from one flawed person to another, throughout the ages — constantly dropped, constantly broken, and constantly, miraculously, pieced back together again.

*"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations."  
— Matthew 28:19-20*

- Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

### Question:

At a parish council meeting, our pastor mentioned the need for deacons. It is something I am considering. How do I know if I have a vocation? What steps should I take next?

### Answer:

Any and all gifts that the Holy Spirit gives to the church are for the good of the community. As members of the Body of Christ, what one member does affects all. What the body does also affects each member. A vocation or call to ministry is tested and verified by the church. Through prayer, instruction, and service, a vocation is tested, and then acknowledged by the official call to orders or to service.

If you are considering becoming a deacon, the first step would be to talk to your pastor. He will be able to give you more specific information on the program in your diocese, what is expected of you, and how you apply. You might also begin to see a spiritual director, someone who can help you with your faith journey and vocation discernment. They do so by focusing on prayer, your relationship with God, and spiritual practices. Finally, you'll need to see the diocesan vocation director in charge of deacons to apply. Best wishes!

# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

"This is why you must now know,  
and fix in your heart, that the LORD is God  
in the heavens above and on earth below,  
and that there is no other." (Dt 4:39)

### Psalm:

Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own. (Ps 33)

### Second Reading:

For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear,  
but you received a Spirit of adoption,  
through whom we cry, "Abba, Father!" (Rom 8:15)

### Gospel:

"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations,  
baptizing them in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." (Mt 28:19)

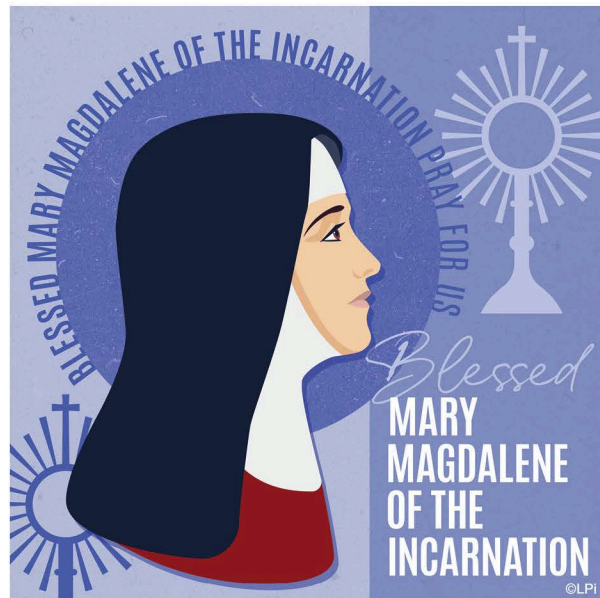
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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

We are children of God, and as His children God shares with us a magnificent inheritance: suffering that becomes glory, fear that becomes strength, death that becomes life. With this mighty gift in our hearts, let us go confidently into the world.

## Observances for the week of May 26, 2024

- Sunday:** The Most Holy Trinity
- Monday:** St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop;  
Memorial Day
- Wednesday:** St. Paul VI, Pope
- Thursday:** St. Joan of Arc
- Friday:** The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Saturday:** St. Justin, Martyr
- Next Sunday:** The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ



## Saint of the week

Blessed Mary Magdalene of the Incarnation was an Italian sister who founded the Order of the Sisters of Perpetual Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament. After many ecstatic visions of Jesus, she knew her life's mission would be to make Christ in the Eucharist available to everyone.

## Prayer of the Trinity

What a mystery you are, God.  
God the Father, help me to root  
my identity in You as my father.  
God the Son, help me to live as  
Your beloved.  
God the Holy Spirit, help me to  
know You as closely as the breath  
in my lungs.  
Amen.

Then Jesus approached and said to them, “All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”  
- Mt 28:18-19

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## Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

### First Reading:

Moses taught the Israelites the best response we can give to God’s fidelity and love is to keep His statues and commandments. How do you respond to God’s generosity in your life?

### Second Reading:

Paul taught the Romans that as believers we are led by the Spirit of God. Where do you sense God’s Spirit leading your family?

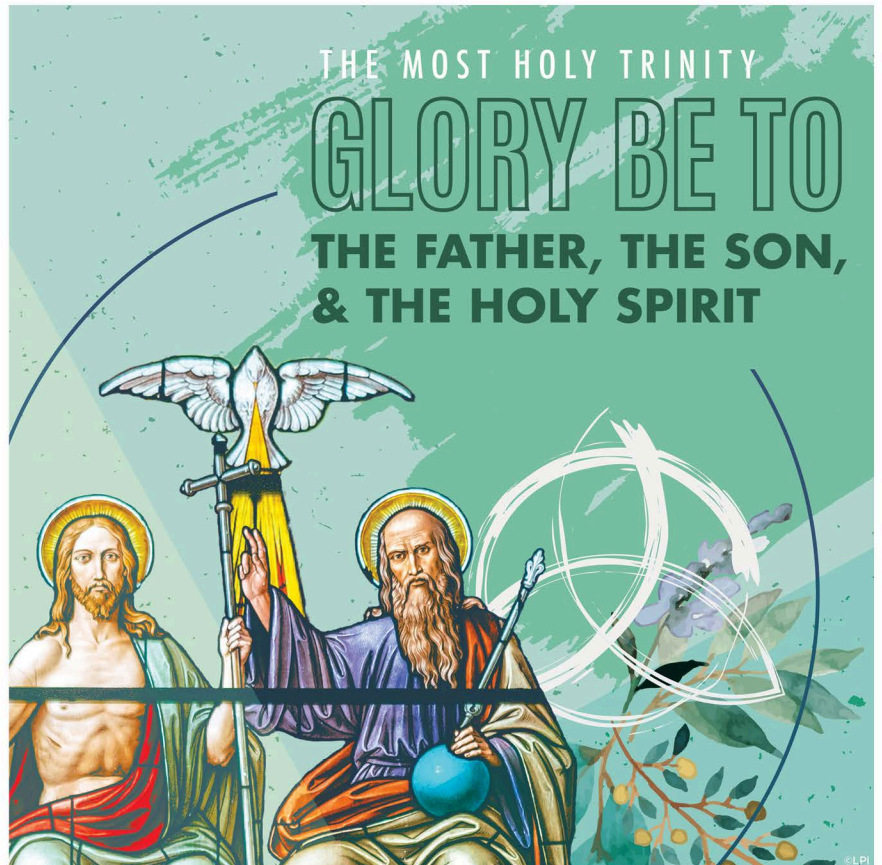
### Gospel:

Jesus’s final command to his followers is to make disciples of all nations and baptize them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. How can we encourage others to follow Jesus?



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A person wearing a blue t-shirt and a grey baseball cap is seen from behind, looking out over a large, powerful waterfall cascading down a rocky cliff. The scene is lush with green moss and vegetation. The text is overlaid on the upper portion of the image.

# BLESSED THE PEOPLE THE LORD HAS CHOSEN.

PSALM 33

“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”  
- Mt 28:19-20

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