

"We've come this far by faith"

ICSB NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER STAFF

RAMONA MOORE

JOANNE GORDON

CHIBUEZE ONWUNANKA

KEVIN O'HAGAN

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Essential workers, the sick, the deceased, those who are healing, and the unemployed.

ESSENTIAL WORKERS

Nathalie Pierre-Philippe, Dr. Anna Nwokelo, Dr. Kingsley Nwokelo, Bing Reeves Jr., Kahlai Stokes, Tayre Stokes, Adaora Chima, Penny Parris, Erika Augustine, Fabienne Fontenette, Thomas Fugate, Laura Fugate, & all employees and residents of St. Ann's Nursing Home.



HEALING

Myrna Barthelemy's mom, Anna, in thanksgiving for her healing. Myrna's friend, Gina who had a back injury.

Continued healing of Erskine Lattimore who was able to leave the hospital after 49 days of battling with COVID 19 and over 20 days on the ventilator- and a thankful praise to God!

Cedric Cusic, Brother of Pat Nguti, who is ill but thankfully on his way to recovery.

Joanne Gordon's aunt Rosena Bolden and her (Rosena's) sister-in-law Julia who both suffered strokes. Also, A prayer of thanksgiving for Joanne's cousin who is recovering from COVID-19.



UNEMPLOYED

People who are out of work and are seeking for ways to provide for themselves and their loved ones. Please pray for business owners who will be severely affected by this pandemic so that they may find recovery and/or new opportunities that will give them the stability they are seeking.





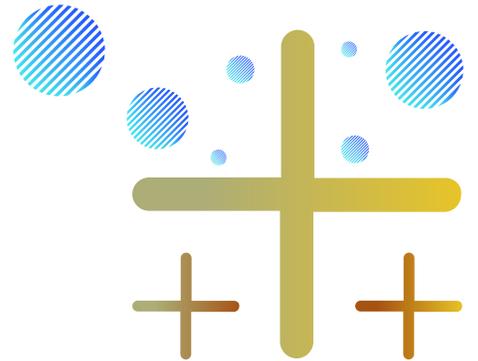
LET'S CELEBRATE

Happy 21st birthday to Kobe Barthelemy
Happy 23rd birthday to Julian Barthelemy

Congratulations to Kobe on finishing this challenging semester of college with a 3.9 GPA!

Congratulations to Chib for launching his website design company called Chib Designed It. Find his website at www.chibdesignedit.com

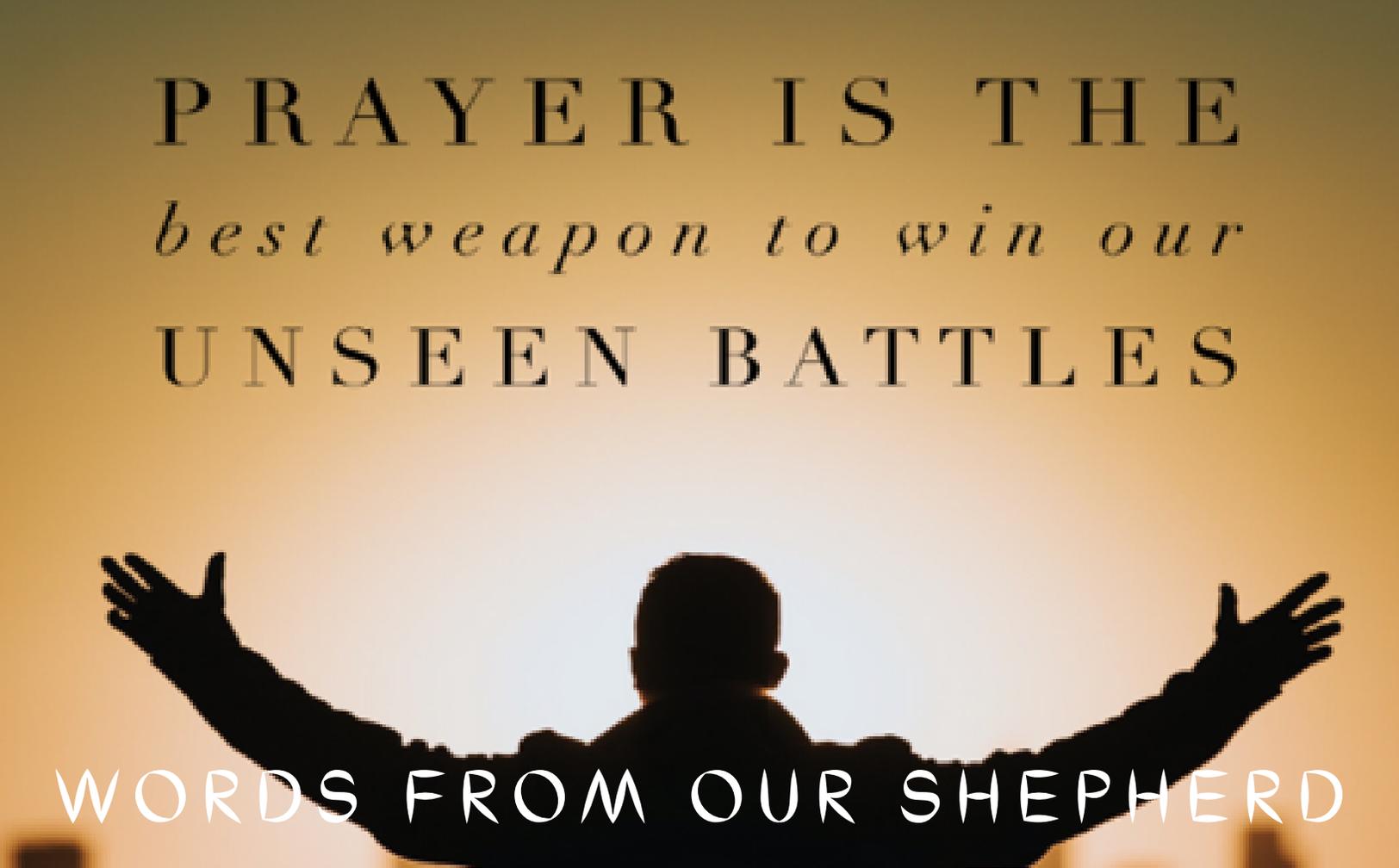
Please pray for continued success and joy for people of our parish and all around the world. If you have someone or something that you would like to celebrate, please let us know by emailing moore.ramona1@gmail.com.



**This is the
day that
the Lord has
made; let us
rejoice and
be glad in it.**

**- Psalm
118:24**

PRAYER IS THE *best weapon to win our* UNSEEN BATTLES



WORDS FROM OUR SHEPHERD

We read in our gospel for this Sunday that Jesus is praying to His God, His Father. It is a personal prayer for Himself and at the same time a prayer also for His disciples and the people that He dearly loved (which is all of us).

One sentence. So simple. So powerful. Jesus, two thousand years ago, prayed for me. Prayed for you. Prayed for us, on our journeys of life. Together. What is the usual method of your prayers? Is it a spontaneous prayer or do we follow a certain pattern when we pray? Whichever it is, what is important is that we put our hearts in our prayers before God. For a prayer that connects to the heart of God is a prayer that originates from our hearts.

When Jesus prayed to God, we too ought to pray also to both of them. We pray for our personal petitions before them, for example prayers for strength to face our daily challenges during this difficult time of the pandemic. Prayers to lighten the loads that we carry, prayers to heal our brokenness in our lives, and prayers for us not to store any form of hatred in our hearts and so forth.

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When we pray we allow God to heal us because through our prayers we allow God to dwell in us. Notice that after we pray from our hearts where we don't say a word yet we develop a connection with God. We feel light, we feel better and refreshed. Why? Because this is the miraculous effect of our prayers before God.

"I pray for them." Try replacing "them" with your name. He gets it. And he's never stopped praying to the Father on our behalf.

-Submitted by Deacon Rick

FAITH FORMATION CORNER



Note from Directors:

May is the month of Mary, so in her honor, remember to pray the Hail Mary. Stay safe until we meet again!

- Mrs Pierre-Philippe and Mrs. Fontenette.

My Catholic Kids

The brainchild of two graduates from Franciscan University in Steubenville, OH; the videos are brief and easy to understand discussions of various parts of the Mass and other related subjects, and the additional instructional material includes activities for younger children. During the current Coronavirus pandemic, the videos and activities are free for all who access them. Please visit <https://www.mycatholickids.com>.

The Catholic Blogger

Is a website with the title “The Catholic Tool Box,” providing downloadable and printable activities, crafts, puzzles, and lesson plans for sharing church teachings with younger ages.

<https://thecatholicblogger1.blogspot.com>

Our Sunday Visitor

Has a section entitled Teaching Catholic Kids that provides free downloads for family activities. Find the resources on www.osv.com

BIBLE STUDY CORNER



Luke: 24:46-48

(Jesus) said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

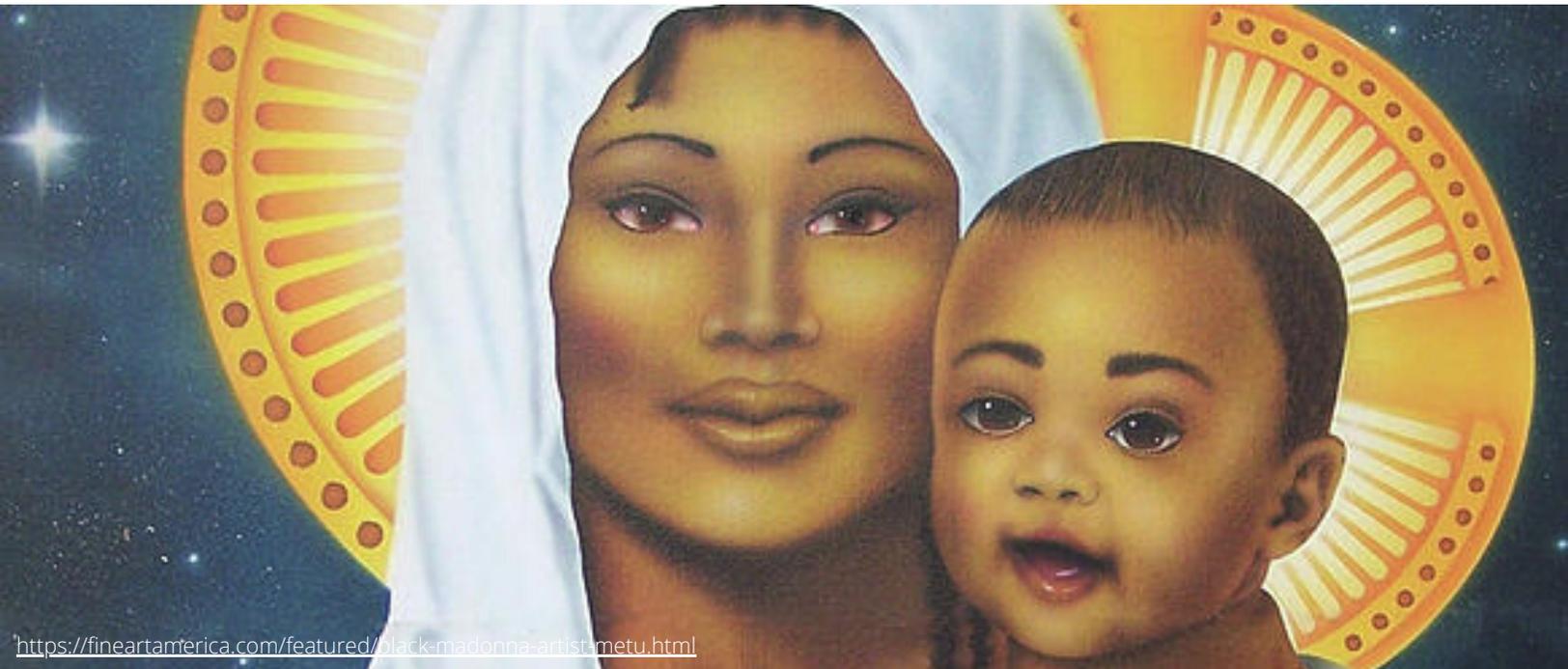
Reflections: We cannot keep secret some experiences in life. Our personal encounter with the risen Jesus is also a life-changing experience. It is too extraordinary to be kept private. Our belief in the resurrection of Jesus keeps our lives open to the transforming power of God's love, compassion, forgiveness, and peace. Everyday we have an opportunity for an ongoing life-changing experience. We need to share the joy and excitement of our experience of the risen Jesus with others when we encounter the risen Jesus in prayerful reading of the scriptures.

Ponder: Why am I afraid to share my faith with others?

Prayer: Risen Lord, your resurrection and ascension give witness to God's power. May my life bear witness to God's love, compassion, forgiveness, and peace.

Practice: Today I will be open to an opportunity to share my faith with others.

LIVING/LEARNING OUR FAITH



As we continue to dedicate the month of May to Our Lady, we recognize the role and influence she has had in the growth of her son, Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, as well as the Catholic Church. The Church recognizes this fact, citing four doctrines that we hold close to this day: Mary as the Mother of God, initially confirmed at the council of Ephesus in 431; The Immaculate Conception, having been conceived without original sin (or its' stain), affirmed by Pope Pius IX in 1854; Mary's perpetual virginity, first noted in the "Protoevangelium of James (around 120 AD), and; Mary's Assumption, body and soul, into heaven, affirmed by Pope Pius XII in 1950. St. John Paul II wrote his encyclical "Redemptoris Mater," in March 1987, providing a comprehensive explanation of Mary and her roles, both as the "Mother of Our Redeemer (Mary in the Mystery of Christ)," as well as the "Mother of God as the Center of the Pilgrim Church." Through the ages, Mary continues to have a profound effect on the growth of the Church, as well as on those who seek her wisdom and intercession. Mariology is a theological look/study at Mary, the devotion to her, as well as a look at her influence in the teachings of the church and other parts of our faith. For those that may be interested, you may find more information in the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the Redemptoris Mater, and websites such as Catholic.com (Catholic Answers), CatholicExchange.com (part of Sophia Institute Press) and, CatholicNewsAgency (research arm). There are other sites dedicated to Marian studies, many linked to the sites noted.

GOOD TO KNOW

Readings for The Seventh Sunday of Easter:

First Reading: Acts 1:12-14

Psalms: Psalms 27: 1,4,7-8

Second Reading: 1 Peter 4:13-16

Gospel John 17:1-11a

Daily readings can be found at www.usccb.org.

Sunday Mass may be viewed:

Sundays, 5:30 am News 10 NBC & at 8:00 am on MeTV (channel 10.2 or 1245) as well as:

Mass with Bishop Matano

www.youtube.com/user/CatholicCourier

Mass with Fr. Anthony Bozeman in New Orleans, Louisiana at St. Raymond and St. Leo the Great Church.

srschurch.com

Mass with Fr. John Judie's Church

<https://www.facebook.com/HolySpiritLouKY/videos/1158042877866522/?vh=e&d=n>

Readings for Pentecost Sunday (5/31):

First Reading: Acts 2:1-11

Psalm: Psalm 104:1,25,29-30,31,34

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13

Gospel John 20: 19-23

Readings can be found at www.usccb.org.

History of the Rosary:

For those who are interested in learning the history of the rosary, please visit:

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_the_Rosary



GOOD TO KNOW

COVID 19

Questions on COVID-19? Go to :

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

<https://www.nih.gov/health-information/coronavirus>

<https://www.fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/counterterrorism-and-emerging-threats/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>

Complete the 2020 Census:

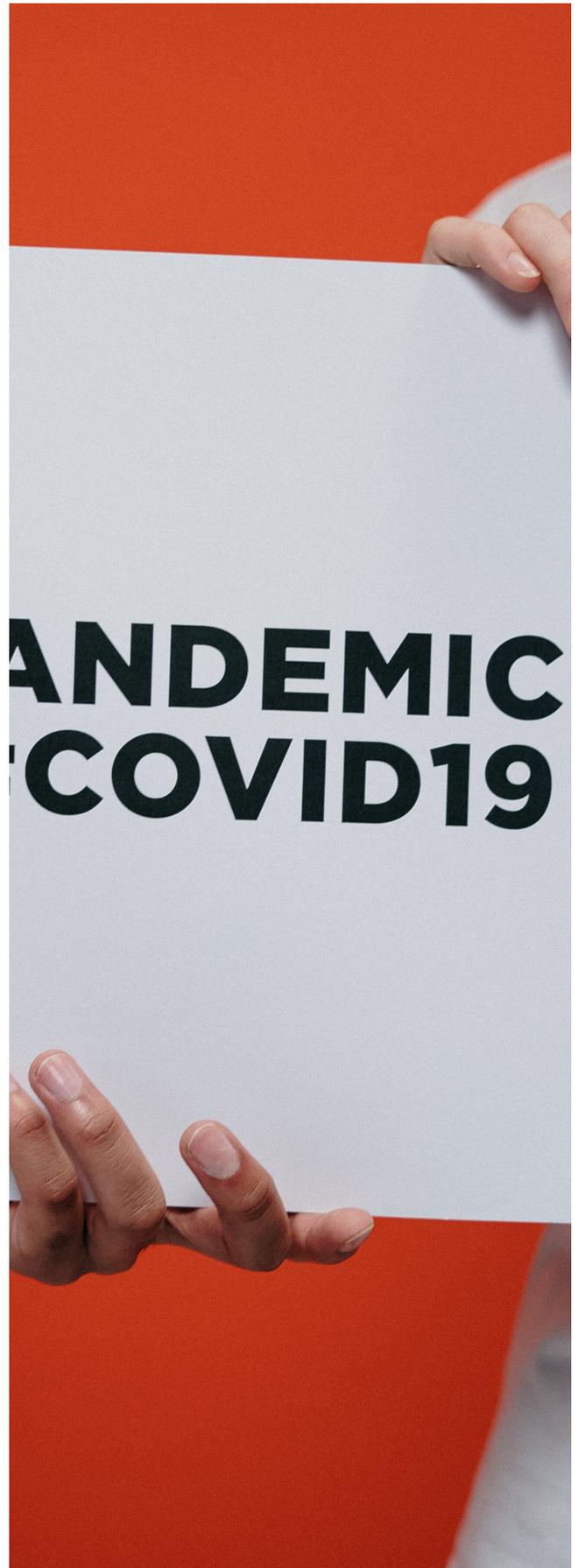
Stand up and be counted! Please fill out your census form. Go to www.2020Census.gov

Help Picking Up Groceries and More

Two of our parishioners, Adaora Chima and Chib Onwunaka have offered to help those who may be at risk or who may have difficulty running errands and can not get out to do their own shopping at this time. Adaora can be reached at: adaorachima@yahoo.ca & Chib can be reached: conwunaka1914@gmail.com

FINANCIAL SUPPORT:

If there is any member of our church family who is experiencing an immediate financial need, please email Ramona at moore.ramona1@gmail.com



GOOD TO KNOW

FINANCES

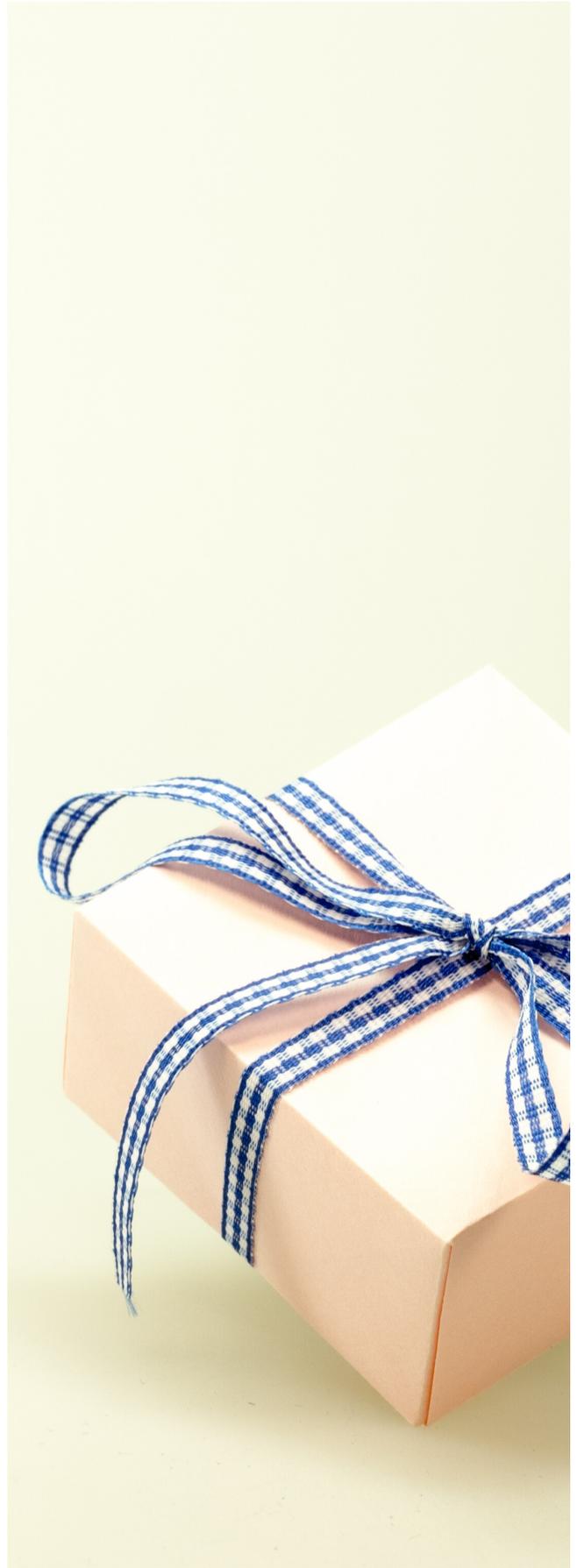
This is a good time to remind ourselves of the important principles of stewardship, which will keep our parish vibrant during this difficult time. Through stewardship, we thank God for all our blessings by returning to God a portion of the time, talent, and treasure given to us. Your continued financial support of Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's Church is vitally important, perhaps more important than ever, during this period of uncertainty.

OFFERING:

You may send in your regular offering to:
Immaculate Conception/St. Bridget's Church,
445 Frederick Douglass St. Rochester, NY 14608.
Keeping this funding stream going is important especially at this time.

FINANCIAL REPORT

<u>YTD</u>	<u>GOALS</u>	<u>ACTUALS</u>	<u>VARIANCE</u>
Thru			
05.03.20	2,140	390	-1,750
05.10.20	2,140	150	-1,990
05.17.20	2,140	935	-1,205



GOOD TO KNOW

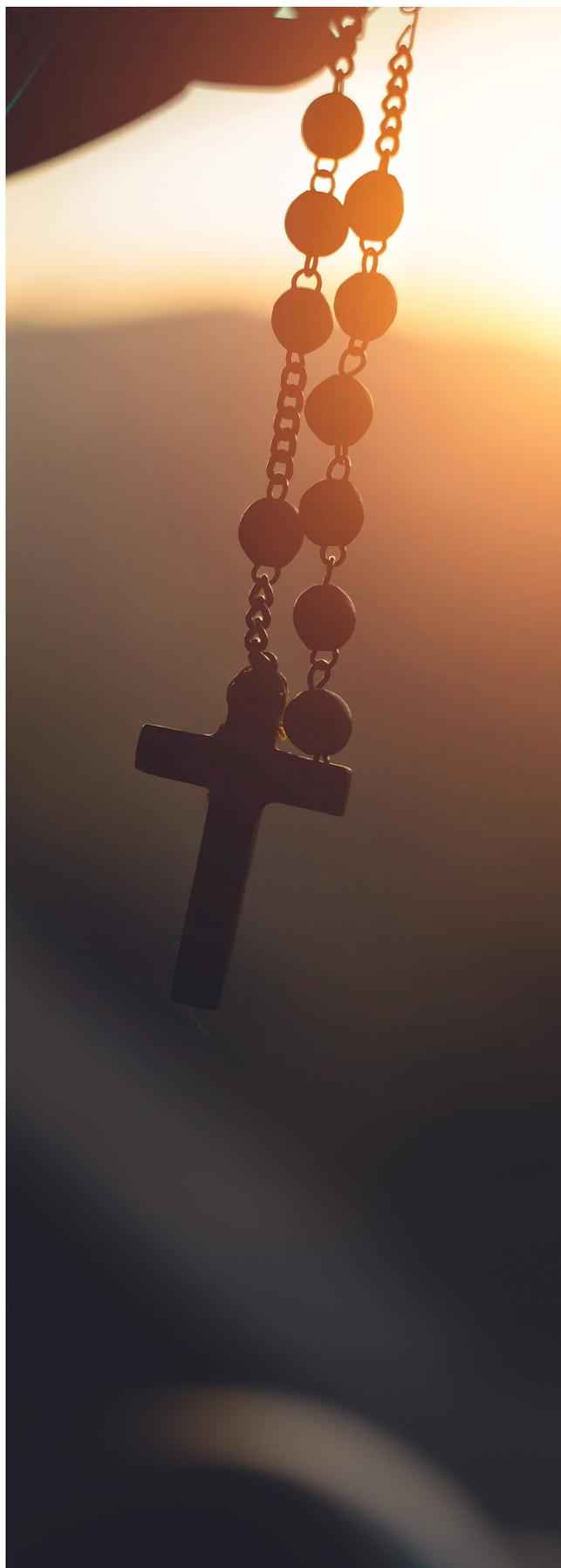
A NEW NORMAL

Although churches in New York state remain closed for “congregant worship” for the time being due to the New York State on PAUSE executive order, Bishop Salvatore R. Matano has instructed parishes to begin planning changes in preparation for the eventual resumption of public Masses in the Diocese of Rochester. State officials have not yet notified diocesan leaders when houses of worship will be permitted to reopen in New York, but Bishop Matano is asking parish leaders to take steps to facilitate reopening under social-distancing guidelines.

Some things we should all contemplate are listed below but a full comprehensive list can be found by following the link:

- Cry rooms and nurseries will be closed, and unnecessary chairs, tables and furniture will be removed to limit cleaning.
- Missalettes, hymnals, prayer cards and other papers will be removed from pews.
- Holy water fonts and baptismal fonts and pools will be empty, and water will be changed and blessed for each baptism.
- Those attending Mass must bring and wear their own face masks.
- Collection baskets will not be passed from person to person. Instead, parishioners will be encouraged to give online or to place their contributions in collection points near the entrances.

[CLICK HERE FOR FULL ARTICLE](#)



GOOD TO KNOW

ST. JOSEPH'S HOUSE

We (ICC/SB) have continued doing St. Joe's for the last couple of months. The major change is that we have switched to take-out meals. The menu is the same with meatloaf, potatoes, corn and now juice boxes. The volunteers have been great, donating bags, styro-foam containers and juice boxes for the take-out meal. Fr. Ray has stopped by the garage on Sunday morning during food distribution for the last 2 months and he even stopped by St. Joe's last month while we were distributing meals.

We have minimized the number of on-site volunteers needed to prepare the take-out Saturday meal. People who cook the food just drive up and someone comes out to pick up the food from their car. There is an assembly line set-up in the kitchen to fill the food containers and bag the meals. A table is placed in front of the South Ave. door and it is opened at 11:30. Clients line up (6ft apart) and pick up a to-go meal. Harry (St. Joes) keeps people 6ft apart and Pete Favre (Joanie's husband) hands out the meals. All volunteers wear face masks and gloves. Volunteers have been great,

Our day at St. Joseph's is the fourth Saturday of every month with meat and potatoes for preparation being distributed the Sunday before the 4th Saturday. Please contact either Vince Stroud (vdstroud0104@yahoo.com) or Don Toyer (dtoyer@rochester.rr.com) if you wish to volunteer.

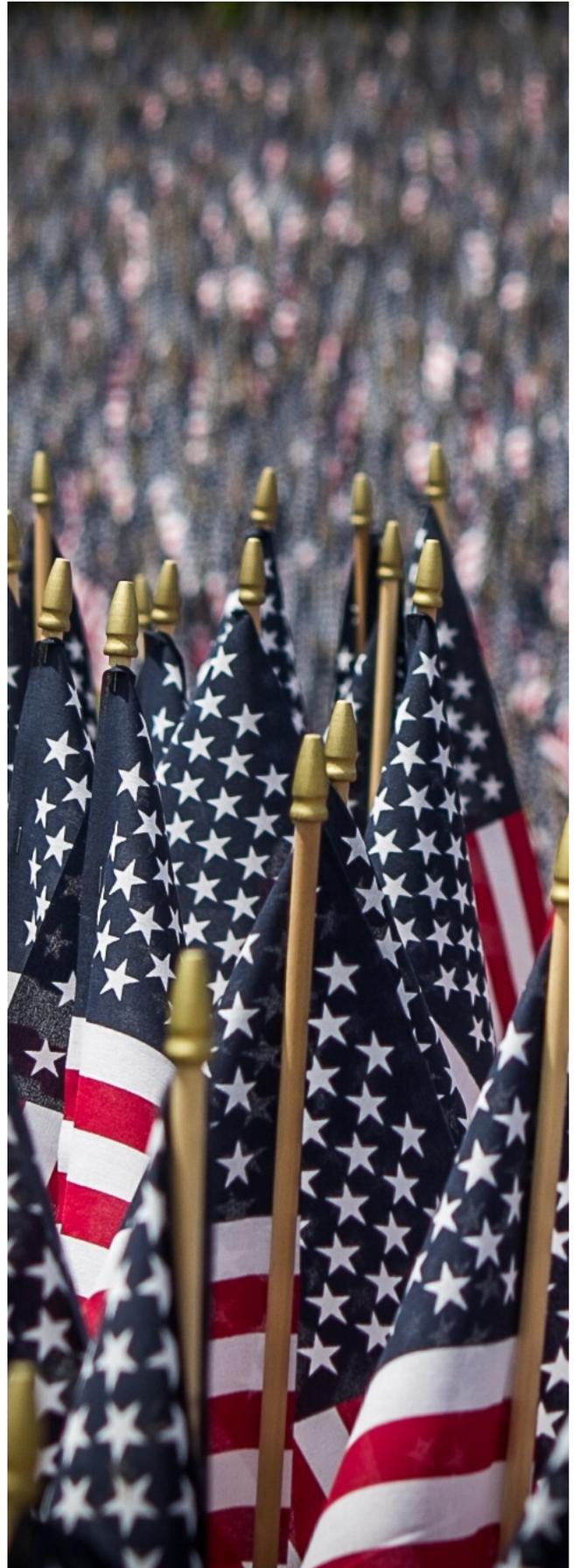


MEMORIAL DAY

Monday, May 25th will be our nation's celebration of Memorial Day, which is the day we have set aside to honor those who have given their lives in service to our country.

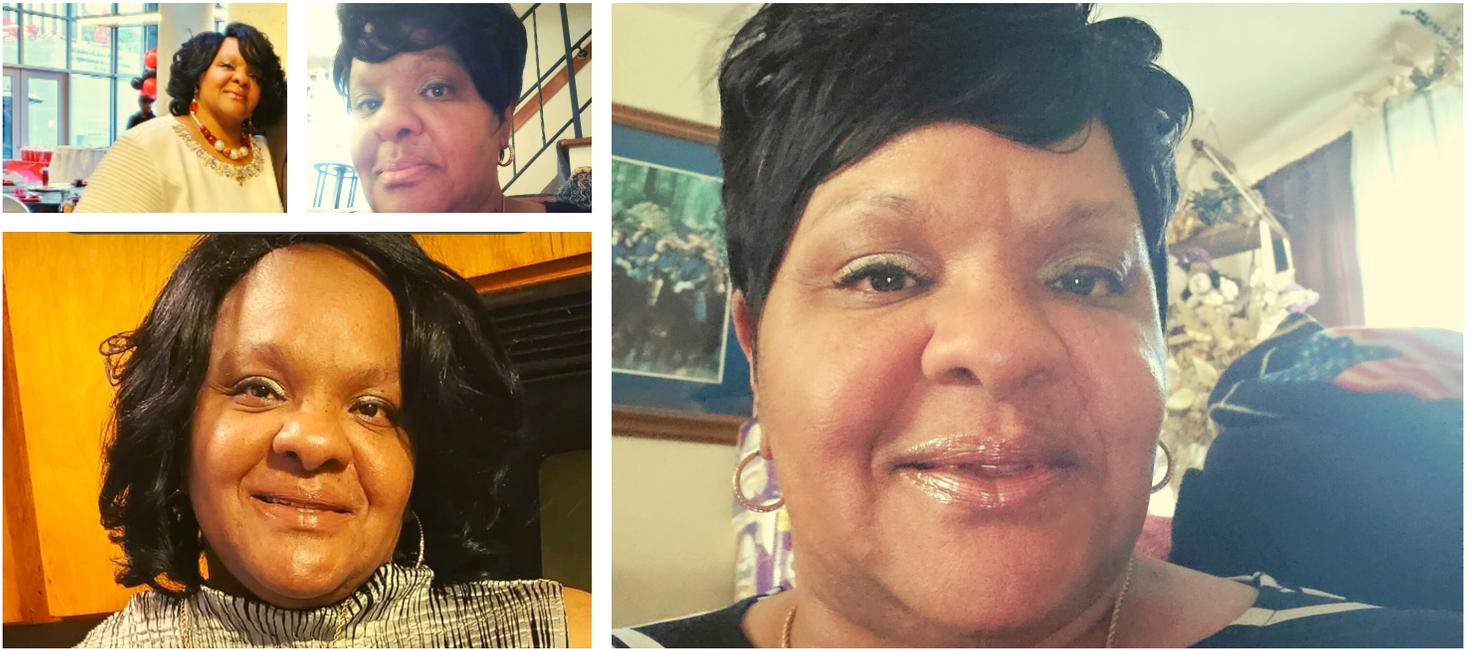
Memorial Day was first widely celebrated as Decoration Day on May 30, 1868, to honor soldiers that were killed in the Civil War. The graves of the soldiers were decorated with flowers.

In 1971, Memorial Day was declared a national holiday by an act of Congress to honor all war dead, and it was placed on the last Monday of May. It is traditional to decorate the graves of soldiers with flowers and flags. (www.pbs.org/
www.va.gov).



MEMBERS' HIGHLIGHT

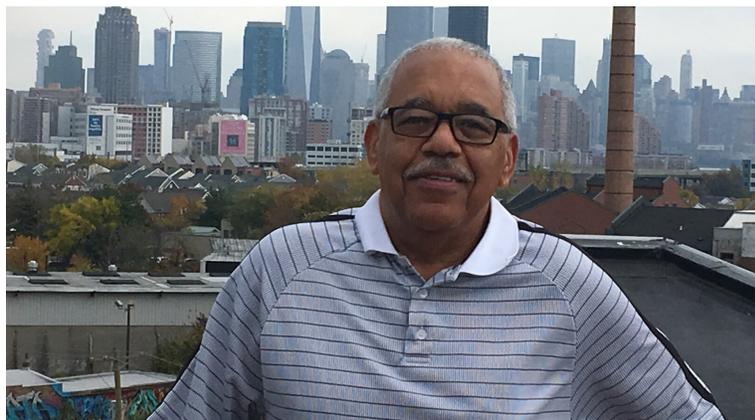
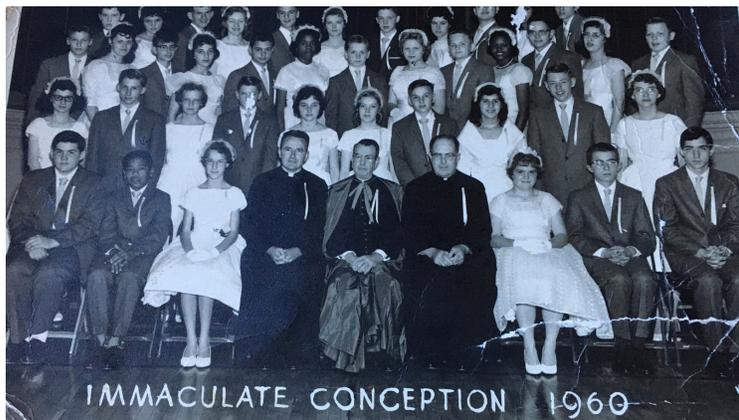
YVETTE REEVES



Shout out to: Yvette Reeves from Myrna Barthelemy. Yvette has been praying every morning (8:30am) with a group of folks and saying Psalm 91 to bless and cover our church family, our own nuclear families, the sick and our government. Yvette and husband Bing, who is a Hospitality Minister, came to ICSB about 9 years ago and have become important fixtures in our Church. You can usually find Yvette commandeering a table during coffee hour with a lot of laughter and sometimes getting cards signed for the sick. Also, Yvette is famous for her 16 Bean Soup which she often shares with us. Fr. Bradler is still trying to find all 16 beans, so she gave him an index card with the names of all the beans to help him! Thank you, Yvette, for being our prayer warrior and for your kind, loving and helpful ways!

MEMBER'S HIGHLIGHT

GEORGE FONTENETTE



George Fontenette was born in Rochester, and was baptized, received First Communion, Reconciliation, and Confirmation at Immaculate Conception Church. He went to Immaculate Conception School from Kindergarten through 8th grade and graduated from the school in 1960. He was an altar Server at the Church. Indeed, his family is rooted in Immaculate and his grandparents, Alpheus and Eunice Vallot, have their names engraved in a plaque in the vestibule of our Church. The Vallot, Fontenette, Stamps, Mitchell and DeRouen families are all connected and have deep, meaningful roots in the Rochester Community and Immaculate Conception history.

George was later married at Immaculate Conception to Myrtle (Precious) and their sons, Adrian and Andre, received all of their sacraments at Immaculate Conception. The roots continue to deepen as Andre was recently married at Immaculate and Adrian brought his infant son, Augustus, to be baptized at Immaculate.

George is devoted to ICSB, which is seen in his participating in the Hospitality, Finance, Cornhill, and St. Joseph's House of Hospitality Committees and in his work with Altar Servers, being the co-chair of the Parish Picnic Committee and recently being the Catholic Ministry Appeal Coordinator for our Parish. George led our Church to a successful appeal in which we raised beyond the goal amount.

George loves the ICSB community, which is shown in his unwavering support for every aspect of our Church. George, we appreciate you, your energy to serve and your humor, which makes you a great person to work with! Can't wait to see you again!