

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 2026

I am the vine,
you are the branches!

Masses For The Week

Sun 03 Fifth Sunday of Easter

09:00 am +Gilbert & June Leyendecker (Sandra Leyendecker)
+Francisco & Juanita Mancha (Mancha Family)
+Anselma Aldaco (Mancha Family)

Thr 07 Easter Weekday

12:05 pm NO MASS

Fifth Sunday of Easter

The Lord Jesus has "called us out of darkness into his wonderful light." We hear him do that very concretely in the Gospel today. He reassures us with these words: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Have faith in God and faith in me. Where I am you will be. I am the way, the truth, and the life. Whoever believes in me will do the works I do." This is the Word of God that "continued to spread" so that the number of disciples "increased daily." The risen Christ continues to increase the Church through the ministry of priests and deacons. "Come to him; let yourselves be built into a spiritual house."

The Sanctuary Candle



This Week will be Burning for
+All Souls in Purgatory (Sandra Leyendecker)

Good News!

May 3, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter (A)

Acts 6:1-7 / 1 Peter 2:4-9 / John 14:1-12

ANN M. GARRIDO

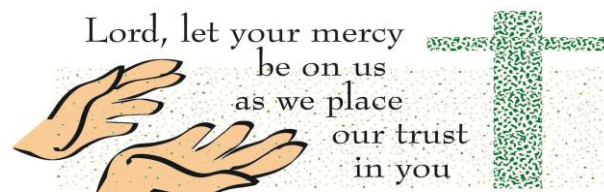
When I was a child, my parents taught me to pray with my hands pressed together, fingers pointed upward toward God. But somewhere along the way, I learned a different posture for prayer: seated, with my palms facing upward on my lap. It's a gesture of openness—an acknowledgment that I come before God in humble need, ready to receive whatever he wants to give.

In today's gospel, Philip approaches Jesus in a similar stance of openness. "Show us the Father," he says, "and that will be enough for us" (John 14:8). Jesus responds that Philip has already seen the Father because Jesus' words and actions are the Father's words and actions. Philip needs no more—he has already received "enough."

Sometimes, I need this reminder myself. I long for a new insight into God that perhaps one more book or one more lecture will give me. Don't get me wrong: lifelong learning is a wonderful thing, and there is always more of God to discover! But it is important to acknowledge that, like Philip, I have already come to know the Father through Jesus, and everything I need to live the Christian life is already in place. Rather than more knowledge, it is a question of putting into action what I've been taught.

Of late, when I pray, I have embraced a new prayer posture: turning my hands downward, resting my palms on my knees. It helps me remember that with Jesus as my shepherd, I "shall not want." I already have all I need. ●

© 2026 Liguori Publications. Imprimi Potest: Fr. Kevin Zübel, CSSR, Provincial, Denver Province, the Redemptorists. Liguori Publications, a nonprofit corporation, is an apostolate of the Redemptorists. To learn more about the Redemptorists, visit Redemptorists.com. No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from The New American Bible, Revised Edition © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved. Printed in USA. Visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521.



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Cristina Zarate, Mina Aldaco, Ramona Alaniz, Edna Flores, Ana Maria Finley, Mary G. Finley, Margarita Inocencio, Lucia Rodriguez, Maria Teresa Cassiano, Dotty Guffey, Rodrigo Medina, Armando Colchado, Elida Aldaco and Michelle Angela Nelson.

MOTHER'S DAY MASS REMEMBRANCE



Pick up your *Mother's Day Mass Remembrance* envelopes located in the entrances of the church. Please deposit them in the collection basket. Mother's Day will be celebrated on Sunday, May 10, 2026. Remember to include living and/or deceased.



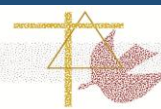
Blue Mass
TO HONOR THE WORK OF ALL PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL

The Diocese of Laredo will be celebrating the Annual Blue Mass at San Agustín Cathedral on Monday, May 11, 2026 at 12:00 pm, noon. The Annual Blue Mass honors men and women in law enforcement who admirably fulfill their duty to serve and protect our community. Everyone is invited to attend!

2026 Catholic Sharing Appeal Report as of March 2026 IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH



\$ 8565.00 - Our Gifts to Date
\$ 12,145.00 - Our Pledges to Date
\$ 2,996.00 - Our Parish Goal
30-Families Participating



Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.

©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

Last Sunday's Collection
Envelopes: \$ 1,389.00
Loose: \$ 167.00
Children's Envelopes: \$ 00.00

Total Sunday Collection: \$ 1,556.00

Total Expenses Last Week: \$ 2,719.48

Dear Padre

May 3, 2026

I have one daughter and a grandchild who say they are bisexual and very much into the LGBTQ lifestyle, where they feel like they belong. I do not know how to handle all of this. They left the Catholic faith years ago. I do not believe they are atheists. Please help.

You are not alone in your struggle to know how to "handle all of this." It's hard for parents when their children choose a different lifestyle.

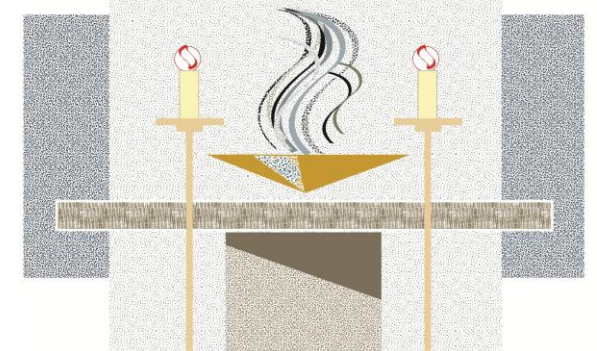
Try not to confuse gender expression with faith. Try not to confuse sexual orientation with faith. Just because a person is attracted to someone of the same sex does not mean they are not a person of faith. They may believe in God and even worship God in their own way. It sounds like your daughter and grandchild are honest with you. If they are willing, perhaps talking with them about how they experience God in their lives would be a fruitful conversation.

Whatever you do, the best practice is to love. Love your daughter and grandchild. When they express to you what they believe to be true about themselves, they are not asking for your permission. They are entrusting you with what they believe they have learned about themselves. Perhaps that very openness with you is a lesson that you taught them and a sign that they want to share with you what is important to them. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org

© 2026 Liguori Publications. Imprimi Potest: Fr. Kevin Zübel, CSSR, Provincial, Denver Province, the Redemptorists. Liguori Publications, a nonprofit corporation, is an apostolate of the Redemptorists. To learn more about the Redemptorists, visit Redemptorists.com. No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from The New American Bible, Revised Edition © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved. Printed in USA. Visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521.

We are a chosen race, a royal priesthood,
a holy nation, a people of the Lord's own,
so that you may announce the praises of
the Lord who called you into the light.



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.