

## Attn: First Communicants

Don't hang those fancy clothes up in the attic quite yet! Dress up in your First Eucharist finery and join us for Mass this Sunday. Arrive about 9:40 and we'll talk you through everything you need to know about our May Crowning: a traditional way that we Catholics honor our mother, Mary.

Just let Mrs. McDonald (cmcdonald@olschurch.com) know if you can attend and she'll be sure to order your child a flower to present to Mary.



## Help Out or Just Join Us!

**10:00am Family Mass**  
**Sunday, May 10th**

OLS's Family Mass is coming up this Sunday, May 10th. (AKA Mother's Day for those of you who may need a friendly reminder.) Some of our First Communicants will be returning to Crown Mary, so be sure to come out to see how great they look in their finery. And afterward, reward yourself (and mom) by stopping downstairs in St. Joseph's Hall for some coffee and a donut.



## **The End of CCD Has Arrived!**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

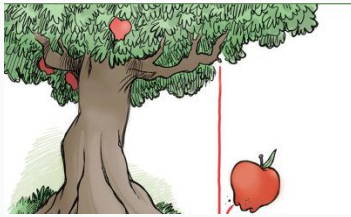
As we come to the end of another wonderful CCD year, I want to sincerely thank you for your continued support of our religious education program. Your commitment to bringing your children to class regularly and your partnership in reinforcing what we teach at home truly make a difference in their faith formation.

We are especially grateful for the encouragement you provide in your homes—taking time to talk about lessons, praying together, and helping your children grow in their understanding of God’s love. This shared effort between home and parish is what makes our program so meaningful.

All students should have brought their workbooks home at the end of the year. I encourage you to keep these books accessible over the summer and use them as a simple way to revisit what we’ve covered together. In particular, the prayers included in the workbooks are a wonderful resource to help children continue building a strong foundation in their prayer life. Every good relationship is based on communication and that's what prayer is - communication with God. So, please, pray with your children in the time they are away from CCD in order to build that critically important relationship.

Thank you again for a great year. It has been a blessing to work with your children, and I look forward to continuing this journey of faith together. - Jen Noll

PS - Remember, learning about your faith never ends! Registration for the coming year will begin after Memorial Day.



## Gospel Reflection Sticker

Each week, all of our in-person CCD students receive a sticker with an image relating to our Sunday Gospel reflection when they first enter the church. This week's sticker featured the image of an apple falling from a tree. **Each week, a great dinnertime follow-up question after CCD is: "Why did Mrs. Noll give you a sticker with X on it?"** Well, the image is based on one of Mrs. Noll's mother's favorite sayings: "The apple doesn't fall far from the tree." This saying is a tie into Sunday's Gospel where Jesus tells his followers that it is possible to learn about God the Father by knowing his Son. This should make sense in a world where "the apple doesn't fall far from the tree" and children often look like their parents and develop the same habits, sayings, interests and mannerisms of their parents. Jesus is the "way, the truth and the life." The children were reminded that they should continue to apply the lessons they have learned about Jesus all year to their interactions with all those they encounter this summer.

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## Homeschooling Connection

If you haven't finished your work yet, please do so sooner rather than later. **The *Christ in Us* student portal will not be active after July 11th, so all assignments must be submitted by then.**

End of the year discussions will begin after Memorial Day. As a reminder, these discussions are only about 20 minutes long and are a generally faith-based discussion and review of the homeschooling year rather than a quiz.

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*Congratulations to Our Lady of Sorrows  
First Communicants*

*Oriel Odopa-Owura Amoani*

*Edward William Berman*

*Mateo Josue Chavez*

*Zuriel Omar Chavez, Jr.*

*Camila Grace Checo*

*Cayson Isaiah Cole*

*Madeline Colleen Connolly*

*Travis Dylan Corpuz*

*Mark Christopher Dixon*

*Chase Alexander Egipciaco*

*Maximillian Chisimdi Eke*

*Corinne Nicolle Finnerty*

*Dermot Michael Flanagan*

*Ann Josephine Gachko*

*Kellen Christopher Gousse*

*Sebastian Winston Greenaway*

*Piper Genevieve Haines*

*Kaia Lenore Jackson*

*Stella Rose Jankura*

*Olivia Chele Jones*

*Eloise Taylor Klare*

*Scarlett James Kraus*

*Emma Elizabeth LaMonica*

*Jaylen Michael Leneus*

*Mirabel Zancan Mathis-Lilley*

*Grace Anne Murray*

*Wesley Patrick Nelson*

*Scarlett Kathleen Nish*

*Eamonn Paul Norris*

*Charlotte Azelie Ortega*

*Charlotte Rose Pascarella*

*Geneses Medelin Ramos*

*Simone Frances Ratliff*

*Lucas Jacob Rios-Lopez*

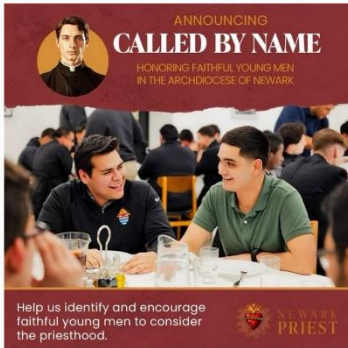
*Wesley Dean Sison*

*Lucas Marco Teti*

*Emma Victoria Trzcianowski*

*Nora Louise Wittleder*

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## Called By Name Continues

The Archdiocese of Newark's *Called by Name* initiative is underway. The goal of the *Called by Name* campaign is to identify faithful young men ages 15-35 who love Christ and the Church and who may be open to the priesthood. Parishioners are invited to submit the names of young men they would like to honor. Slips to nominate a young man are available in the church you can also nominate someone online by clicking [HERE](#).

Men whose names are submitted will receive a letter of recognition from Cardinal Tobin, invitations to discernment events, and ongoing support from the Vocation Team.

For the past several years, our CCD program has been the pastoral assignment for pairs of seminarians discerning the priesthood. This year, our Monday grade 5 class was taught by Kevin Bornemann and one of our 8th grades classes was led by Juan Vazquez. Please keep these young men in your prayers.

If you would like to view the official *Called By Name* video which features Fr. Patrick, Fr. Andrew, Kevin Bornemann and our beautiful church prominently, click [HERE](#).

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## **SAINT / FEAST OF THE WEEK**

### **Our Lady of Fatima**

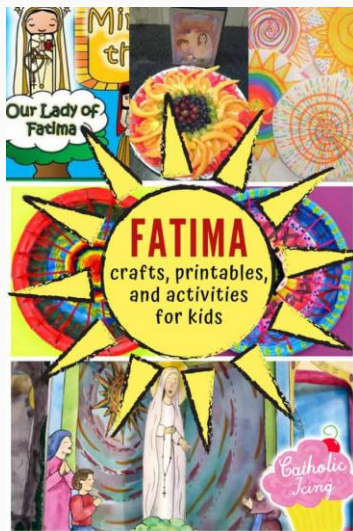
**Feast Day:** May 13th

The month of May has long been cherished in the Catholic Church as a time especially devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary. As spring brings new life and beauty, we are invited to reflect on Mary's role in God's plan and her gentle guidance in our own lives. It is especially fitting, then, that the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima is celebrated on May 13—right in the heart of this Marian month—reminding us of Mary's continued presence and care for her children.

Our Lady of Fatima refers to a series of apparitions of the Blessed Mother in 1917 to three young shepherd children—Lucia, Francisco, and Jacinta—in Fatima, Portugal. Appearing six times from May through October, Mary brought a message centered on prayer, repentance, and conversion. She urged the children, and all of us, to pray the Rosary daily, to make sacrifices for the conversion of sinners, and to trust in God's mercy. One of the most enduring aspects of the Fatima message is Mary's call to peace, reminding the world that turning back to God is the path to true and lasting peace.

For families, the message of Our Lady of Fatima is both simple and powerful. Mary reminds us that faith is lived out in everyday moments. Praying together as a family—even something as simple as a decade of the Rosary—can help build a strong spiritual foundation in the home. Encouraging children to offer small sacrifices, like sharing willingly or being patient with siblings, teaches them to think of others and grow in virtue. Most importantly, Fatima calls us to make our homes places where God is remembered, loved, and trusted.

As we continue through this Marian month of May, the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima offers a beautiful opportunity to renew our devotion to Mary and to deepen our family's prayer life. By following her gentle guidance, we can grow closer to her Son and bring a spirit of peace, faith, and love into our homes.



### **Our Lady of Fatima Activities for Kids**

The feast day of Our Lady of Fatima lands each year on May 13, and this is a super fun feast day to celebrate when living the liturgical year at home with your Catholic kids. (The anniversary of the miracle of the spinning sun is on October 13, so that is a great day for these activities as well.) It's an amazing story to share with kids and thankfully Catholic Icing has loads of fun and engaging ways to celebrate and bring the story to life for kids. Click [HERE](#) for some great ideas. (I love the simple sun shaped fruit platter!)



**Knights of Columbus  
"Day at the Races"  
Saturday, May 30**

Spend a Saturday afternoon at Monmouth Park Race Track enjoying seating in a reserved picnic area watching horse racing (and betting if interested).

Event is RAIN OR SHINE.  
No refunds due to inclement weather.  
Full payment required to reserve spaces.

Included with payment of Adult Rate (13 & up) - \$65:  
admission, program, pen, food, drink, and t-shirt.

Child Rate (12 & under) - \$10  
includes: admission, food, drink (NO program, pen, or t-shirt)

To register: use the QR code below or  
send an email to Council4066@gmail.com

**Early bird registration by Sunday May 10 to guarantee your shirt size!**  
Registration closes on Thursday, May 28

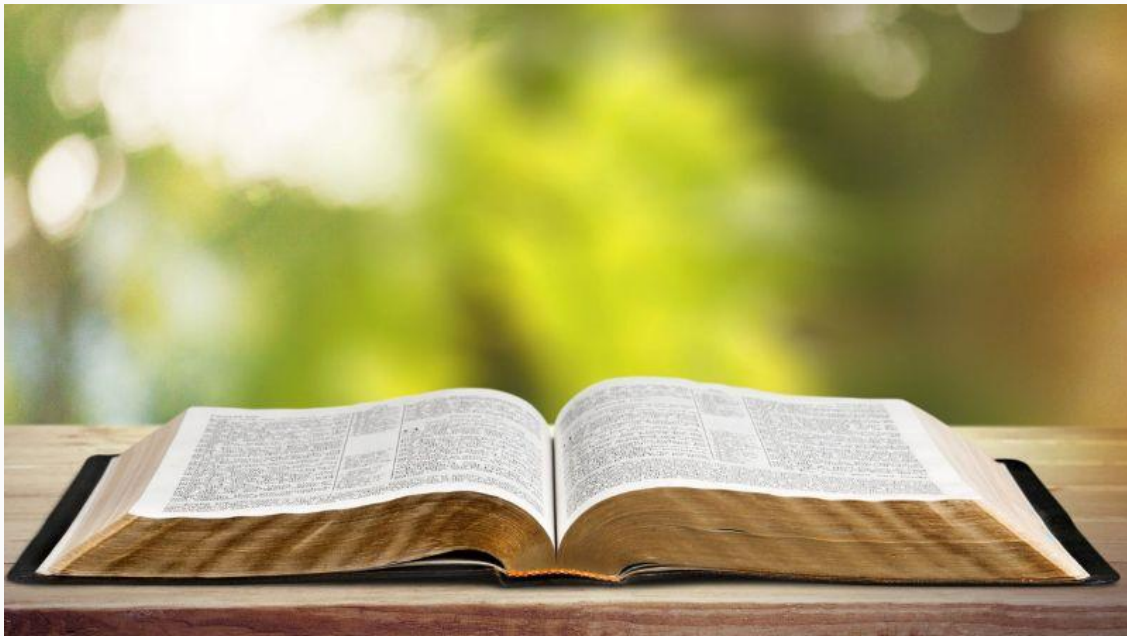


Scan this QR code with your phone to make a secure payment with PayPal, Venmo or Apple Pay



## "A Day at the Races" Saturday, May 30th

The Kentucky Derby may be over for the year (congratulations team Golden Tempo), but that doesn't mean that there can't be more horse racing action in your future! The OLS Knights of Columbus is hosting an upcoming day at Monmouth Park. See the flyer for complete event details.



In the Liturgy of the Word, the Church feeds the people of God from the table of his Word. Previewing the readings before Mass is then a bit like looking over the menu before you get to a restaurant: you have a better idea of what you can expect so that you can enter into the experience more fully prepared. And like a good discussion during a meal, discussing the readings and how they can be applied to your family's daily life helps your family to truly go out and proclaim the gospel after leaving the church.

**Here are a few resources to help your family delve deeper into the Liturgy of the Word:**

[USCCB: Sixth Sunday of Easter](#)

[Loyola Press: Sunday Connection](#)

[Sadlier: This Week's Liturgy](#)

[MaryKnoll Brothers Reflection: Feeling Abandoned? Stay the Course!](#)



**Mark 10 Mission Little Liturgies**

Sunday is the sixth of Easter and in the Gospel, Jesus makes a promise. He says that he will never leave us as orphans and that the Holy Spirit will come to us. What a wonderful encouragement to share with children - that wherever they go, no matter how alone they feel, they can always call upon the Holy Spirit to be their comfort and guide.

[Invite the Holy Spirit \(Kids Under 8\)](#)

[You Are Not Alone \(Kids 8-12\)](#)

# May Catechist Magazine Calendar

LivingFaithKids Pause + Pray + Play with Scripture Every Day

# KIDSCALENDAR

MAY 2026



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Word of the month:</b> <b>Canticle</b> A sacred chant from Scripture.						
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Philip wants Jesus to show him whom? (SEE MAY 7) John 14:1-12				The Father	SAINT JOSEPH THE WORKER	SAINT ATHANASIUS, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER What should we "keep" if we love Jesus? (SEE MAY 10) John 14:15-21	His Commandments	SAINTS NEREUS AND ACHILLEUS, MARTYRS SAINT PANCRAZ, MARTYR	OUR LADY OF FATIMA	THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD SAINT MATTHIAS, APOSTLE	ST. ISIDORE	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Where was Jesus looking when he prayed? (SEE MAY 20) John 17:1-11	SAINT JOHN I, POPE AND MARTYR		SAINT BERNARDINE OF SIENA, PRIEST	SAINT CHRISTOPHER MAGALLANES, PRIEST, AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS	SAINT RITA OF CASCA, RELIGIOUS	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
PENTECOST SUNDAY What did Jesus first say to his disciples today? (SEE MAY 26) John 20:19-23	THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH	SAINT PHILIP NERI, PRIEST	ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY, BISHOP		SAINT PAUL VI, POPE	Eternal life
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
THE MOST HOLY TRINITY What does God promise for belief in his Son? (SEE MAY 30) John 3:16-18	LivingFaithKids Saints Meet Pope Leo XIV	LivingFaithKids With faith-filled puzzles and lessons that stick, our sticker booklets make learning about the Catholic Faith fun for children! Call 1-800-325-9414, or visit CreativeCommunications.com to order.				
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[Download the May 2026 Calendar Here](#)

## Catholic Trivia

**Question:** How many young people will be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation at the 5:30 Mass this Saturday?

- a) 17
- b) 37
- c) 57
- d) 67

**Answer: b** This year OLS had 38 First Communicants and has 37 Confirmandi.

*Lord Jesus Christ, send down your Spirit upon me.  
When I am uncertain, grant me wisdom.  
When I am confused, grant me understanding.  
When I am ignorant, grant me knowledge.  
When I am wandering, grant me counsel.  
When I am afraid, grant me fortitude.  
When I am separated from you, grant me piety.  
When I am selfish, grant me the fear of the Lord.  
I ask for an outpouring of your Spirit with all of these gifts in your name. Amen*

## Joke of the Week

### Observation:

The banana is no longer the food item that looks most phone-like.

It is now the Pop Tart.



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**[Our Lady of Sorrows Website](#)**